

# CHAPTER 2

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## PREFIXES

## KEY COMPETENCIES

*Upon completing this chapter and the review exercises at the end of the chapter, the learner should be able to:*

1. Define a prefix and state the rule for using prefixes in words.
2. Correctly identify at least 20 prefixes that deal with numbers, colors, measurements, and negatives.
3. Correctly identify at least 10 prefixes that deal with position and direction.
4. Correctly identify at least 30 other prefixes.
5. Demonstrate the ability to create at least 10 new words using prefixes by completing the applicable exercises at the end of the chapter.

## OVERVIEW

Have you ever drawn a **diagram**? Have you ever taken a **pretest**? Have you ever taken **antibiotics**? Have you ever received a blood **transfusion**? Have you ever thought about the many prefixes we use on a daily basis?

While studying this chapter, you will discover many new prefixes. You will also find that some of the prefixes that are part of your regular vocabulary are also used in medical terminology.

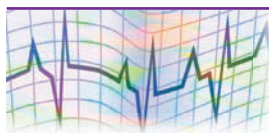
Every medical word has a root. Every medical word has an ending, which is either a suffix or a root that is itself a word. Not every medical word, however, has a prefix. However, when prefixes are used they are attached directly to the beginning of the word.

The meaning of a prefix will not change from word to word. For example, *hyper-* always means “excessive or more than normal.” Any word that has *hyper-* as its prefix will mean “in an excessive or more than normal state.” Words with the same root, however, will have different meanings depending on the prefix attached. Look at the following example. Although each word has the same root (*pne*, meaning “breathing”), the addition of different prefixes gives each word a different definition.

Word	Prefix	+	Root	+	Ending	=	Definition
dyspnea	<b>dys</b>		pne		a	=	<b>difficult</b> breathing
apnea	<b>a</b>		pne		a	=	<b>absence of</b> breathing
bradypnea	<b>brady</b>		pne		a	=	<b>slow</b> breathing

Prefixes are attached to words to express numbers, measurements, position, direction, negatives, and color. This chapter concentrates on various categories of prefixes and their meanings. This is not a complete listing of prefixes. Additional prefixes are introduced throughout the text in relevant chapters.

## Numbers

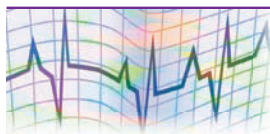


Prefixes that express numbers indicate, for example, whether there is one, two, or three; whether it is single, double, or half. Look at some of the more commonly used prefixes and see how they relate to numbers.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
bi-	two, double	<b>bicuspid</b> (having two cusps or points)
hemi-	half	<b>hemiplegia</b> (paralysis of one side [half] of the body)
milli-	one-thousandth	<b>milliliter</b> (one-thousandth of a liter)
mono-	one, single	<b>monocyte</b> (a white cell with a singular nucleus)
nulli-	none	<b>nullipara</b> (a woman who has borne no children)

Prefix	Meaning	Example
primi-	first	<b>primigravida</b> (first pregnancy)
quadri-	four	<b>quadriplegia</b> (paralysis of all four extremities)
semi-	half	<b>semiconscious</b> (half conscious)
tetra-	four	<b>tetraplegia</b> (paralysis of both arms and both legs; also known as quadriplegia)
tri-	three	<b>triceps</b> (“a muscle” having three heads)
uni-	one	<b>uninuclear</b> (“a cell” having one nucleus)

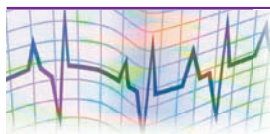
## Measurement



Prefixes that express measurement indicate quantity such as much, many, or excessive. They often refer to multiples without specifically referring to a number. They also refer to excessive (above normal) conditions. The following prefixes relate to measurements.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
hyper-	excessive	<b>hyperlipemia</b> (an excessive or above normal level of blood fats)
hyp-	under, below, beneath, less than normal	<b>hypoxemia</b> (less than normal blood oxygen level)
hypo-	under, below, beneath, less than normal	<b>hypoglycemia</b> (less than normal blood sugar)
multi-	many	<b>multipara</b> (to bear many “children”)
poly-	many, much	<b>polyarthritis</b> (inflammation of many joints) <b>polyuria</b> (the excretion of large amounts of [much] urine)

## Position and/or Direction

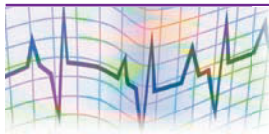


Prefixes that express position and/or direction are used to describe a location. The location may be in the middle of, between, under, before, or after a particular body structure—or it may be around, upon, near, or outside an area or structure. The prefixes listed are examples.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
ab-	from, away from	<b>abduct</b> (to move away from the midline of the body)
ad-	toward, increase	<b>adduct</b> (movement toward the midline of the body)
ambi-	both, both sides	<b>ambidextrous</b> (able to use both hands well)

Prefix	Meaning	Example
ante-	before, in front	<b>antecubital</b> (“the space” in front of the elbow)
circum-	around	<b>circumoral</b> (around the mouth)
de-	down, from	<b>descend</b> (to come down from)
dia-	through	<b>diagnosis</b> (knowledge through testing)
ecto-	outside	<b>ectopic</b> (outside of its normal location)
endo-	within	<b>endocervical</b> (pertaining to the inner lining of the cervix)
epi-	upon, over	<b>epigastric</b> (upon the stomach)
ex-	out, away from, outside	<b>extract</b> (to remove a tooth from [away from] the oral cavity)
exo-	outside, outward	<b>exogenous</b> (originating outside the body)
extra-	outside, beyond	<b>extrahepatic</b> (outside of the liver)
hypo-	under, below, beneath, less than normal	<b>hypoglossal</b> (under the tongue)
in-	in, inside, within, not	<b>intubate</b> (to insert a tube inside [into] an organ or body cavity)
infra-	beneath, below, under	<b>infrapatellar</b> (below the knee)
inter-	between	<b>intercostal</b> (between the ribs)
intra-	within	<b>intravenous</b> (within a vein)
juxta-	near, beside	<b>juxtaarticular</b> (pertaining to a location near a joint)
meso-	middle	<b>mesoderm</b> (the middle of the three layers of the skin)
para-	near, beside, beyond, two like parts	<b>paracervical</b> (near, or beside, the cervix)
peri-	around	<b>perianal</b> (around the anus)
pre-	before, in front	<b>precordial</b> (the region “of the chest wall” in front of the heart)
pro-	in front, before	<b>prognosis</b> (knowledge before)
re-	back, again	<b>reactivate</b> (to make active again)
retro-	backward, behind	<b>retroflexion</b> (an abnormal position of an organ in which the organ is tilted backward)
sub-	under, below	<b>sublingual</b> (under the tongue)
supra-	above, over	<b>suprapubic</b> (above, or over, the pubic area)
trans-	across, through	<b>transurethral</b> (across, or through, the urethra)

# Color



Prefixes that express color can (for example) indicate color in reactions, the color of growths or rashes, and the color of body fluids. Some of the following word elements are pure prefixes. Others are combining forms used as prefixes. Most dictionaries identify these forms relating to color as “combining forms,” not as prefixes. However, their constant placement at the beginning of the word identifies them more as a prefix than as a combining form—and thus the reason for their insertion in this section. The list contains examples of prefixes, and combining forms used as prefixes, that express color. The list is summarized in Table 2-1 for easy reference, listing only the color and the prefix/combining form.

**Table 2-1** Prefixes and Combining Forms for Color

Color	Prefix/Combining Form
black	melan/o
blue	cyan/o
gray, silver	glauc/o poli/o
green	chlor/o
purple	purpur/o
red	erythr/o eosin/o rube-
white	alb- albin/o leuk/o
yellow	cirr/o jaund/o xanth/o

Prefix	Meaning	Example
alb-	white	<b>albino</b> (person who has a marked deficiency of pigment in the eyes, hair, and skin; has abnormally white skin)
albin/o	white	<b>albinism</b> (condition of abnormally white skin; characterized by absence of pigment in the skin, hair, and eyes)
chlor/o	green	<b>chlorophyll</b> (green pigment in plants that accomplishes photosynthesis)
cirr/o	yellow, tawny	<b>cirrhosis</b> (chronic degenerative disease of the liver with resultant yellowness of the liver and of the skin)
cyan/o	blue	<b>cyanoderma</b> (slightly bluish, grayish, slate-like, or dark discoloration of the skin)

Prefix	Meaning	Example
eosin/o	red, rosy	<b>eosinophil</b> (bilobed leukocyte that stains a red, rosy color with an acid dye)
erythr/o	red	<b>erythrocyte</b> (mature red blood cell)
glauc/o	gray, silver	<b>glaucoma</b> (disorder of the eye due to an increase in intraocular pressure; creates a dull gray gleam of the affected eye)
jaund/o	yellow	<b>jaundice</b> (yellow discoloration of the skin)
lute/o	yellow	corpus <b>luteum</b> (a yellow glandular mass on the surface of the ovary that forms after the ovarian follicle ruptures and releases a mature ovum)
leuk/o	white	<b>leukoplakia</b> (white, hard, thickened patches firmly attached to the mucous membrane in areas such as the mouth, vulva, or penis)
melan/o	black	<b>melanoma</b> (darkly pigmented cancerous tumor)
poli/o	gray	<b>poliomyelitis</b> (inflammation of the gray matter of the spinal cord)
purpur/o	purple	<b>purpura</b> (collection of blood beneath the skin in the form of pinpoint hemorrhages appearing as red/purple skin discolorations)
rube-	red	<b>rubella</b> (contagious viral disease characterized by fever, coldlike symptoms, and a diffuse, fine, red rash)
xanth/o	yellow	<b>xanthoderma</b> (yellow coloration of the skin)

## Negatives

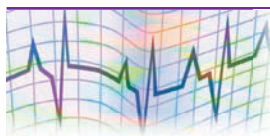


Prefixes that express negatives indicate such things as not, without, lack of, and against.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
a-	without, not, no	<b>apnea</b> (without breathing) <b>Note:</b> When <i>a</i> is used as a prefix it means “without, not, no”; <i>a</i> can also be used as a suffix.
an-	without, not, no	<b>anesthesia</b> (without feeling)
ana-	not, without	<b>anaplasia</b> (without formation or development)
anti-	against	<b>antidote</b> (a drug or other substance that opposes [works against] the action of a poison)
contra-	against	<b>contraceptive</b> (any device or technique that prevents [works against] conception)

Prefix	Meaning	Example
dis-	free of, to undo	<b>dis</b> charge (to release a substance or object [to free it from its location])
im-	not	<b>im</b> potence (an adult male's inability [not able] to achieve penile erection)
in-	in, inside, within, not	<b>in</b> competent (not capable)
non-	not	<b>non</b> invasive (pertaining to a diagnostic or therapeutic technique that does not require the skin to be broken [not invaded] or a cavity or organ to be entered)

## Common Prefixes



An alphabetical listing of prefixes commonly used in medical terminology is included here for easy reference. As you read the list, note that the prefixes just discussed in the “categories” sections are repeated. In addition, some of the prefixes appear throughout the text as they relate to discussions of specific body systems.

**Note:** The combining forms used as prefixes to express color have also been included in this list.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
a-	without, not, no	<b>a</b> pnea (without breathing)
ab-	from, away from	<b>ab</b> errant (wandering away from)
ad-	toward, increase	<b>ad</b> duct (movement toward the midline of the body)
alb-	white	<b>alb</b> ino (person who has a marked deficiency of pigment in the eyes, hair, and skin; has abnormally white skin)
albin/o	white	<b>albin</b> ism (condition of abnormally white skin; characterized by absence of pigment in the skin, hair, and eyes)
ambi-	both, both sides	<b>ambi</b> dextrous (able to use both hands well)
an-	without, not, no	<b>a</b> nesthesia (without feeling)
ante-	before, in front	<b>ante</b> cubital (“the space” in front of the elbow)
anti-	against	<b>anti</b> dote (a drug or other substance that opposes [works against] the action of a poison)
auto-	self	<b>auto</b> graft (a graft transferred from one part of a patient's body to another)
bi-	two, double	<b>bi</b> cuspid (having two cusps or points)
bio-	life	<b>bio</b> logy (the study of life)
brady-	slow	<b>brady</b> cardia (slow heartbeat)
chlor/o	green	<b>chloro</b> phyll (green pigment in plants that accomplishes photosynthesis)



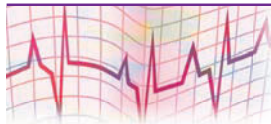
Prefix	Meaning	Example
circum-	around	<b>circum</b> duction (movement around in a circle)
cirr <sup>h</sup> /o	yellow, tawny	<b>cirr</b> hosis (chronic degenerative liver disease with resultant yellowness of the liver and skin)
con-	together, with	<b>con</b> genital (born with)
contra-	against	<b>contra</b> indication (against what is indicated)
cyan/o	blue	<b>cyan</b> oderma (slightly bluish, grayish, slate-like, or dark discoloration of the skin)
de-	down, from	<b>de</b> scend (to come down from)
dia-	through	<b>dia</b> gnosis (knowledge through testing)
dis-	free of, to undo	<b>dis</b> location (the displacement [undoing] of any part of the body from its normal position)
dys-	bad, difficult, painful, disordered	<b>dys</b> pnea (difficult breathing)
ecto-	outside	<b>ecto</b> pical (outside its normal location—as in an ectopic pregnancy, which occurs in the fallopian tubes instead of the uterus)
endo-	within, inner	<b>endo</b> scope (instrument used to look inside the body)
eosin/o	red, rosy	<b>eosin</b> ophil (bilobed leukocyte that stains a red, rosy color with an acid dye)
epi-	upon, over	<b>epi</b> gastric (pertaining to the region over the stomach)
erythr/o	red	<b>erythr</b> ocyte (mature red blood cell)
eu-	well, easily, good, normal	<b>eup</b> nea (normal breathing)
ex-	out, away from, outside	<b>ex</b> hale (to breathe out)
exo-	outside, outward	<b>exo</b> genous (originating outside the body)
extra-	outside, beyond	<b>extra</b> hepatic (outside of the liver)
glauco/o	gray, silver	<b>glauco</b> ma (disorder of the eye due to increased intraocular pressure; creates a dull gray gleam of the affected eye)
hemi-	half	<b>hemi</b> plegia (paralysis of one side [half] of the body)
hetero-	different	<b>hetero</b> geneous (composed of different or unlike substances)
homeo-	likeness, same	<b>homeo</b> stasis (a relative constancy [likeness] in the internal environment of the body)
homo-	same	<b>homo</b> genesis (having the same origins)
hydro-	water	<b>hydro</b> cephalus (an abnormal accumulation of fluid [water] within the head)



Prefix	Meaning	Example
hyp-	under, below, beneath, less than normal	<b>hypoxemia</b> (less than normal blood oxygen level)
hyper-	excessive	<b>hyperemesis</b> (excessive vomiting)
hypo-	under, below, beneath, less than normal	<b>hypoglycemia</b> (less than normal blood sugar; low blood sugar level)
idio-	individual	<b>idiosyncrasy</b> (an individual sensitivity to effects of a drug caused by inherited or other bodily constitution factors)
im-	not	<b>impotence</b> (an adult male's inability [not able] to achieve penile erection)
in-	in, inside, within, not	<b>incompetent</b> (not capable) <b>inborn</b> (acquired during intrauterine life)
infra-	beneath, below, under	<b>infraorbital</b> (beneath the bony cavity in which the eye-ball is located)
inter-	between	<b>intercostal</b> (between the ribs)
intra-	within	<b>intravenous</b> (within a vein)
jaund/o	yellow	<b>jaundice</b> (yellow discoloration of the skin)
juxta-	near, beside	<b>juxtaarticular</b> (pertaining to a location near a joint)
leuk/o	white	<b>leukoplakia</b> (white, hard, thickened patches firmly attached to the mucous membrane in areas such as the mouth, vulva, or penis)
melan/o	black	<b>melanoma</b> (a darkly pigmented cancerous tumor)
meso-	middle	<b>mesoderm</b> (the middle of the three layers of the skin)
meta-	beyond, after	<b>metacarpals</b> (pertaining to the bones after the carpal [wrist] bones; i.e., the hand bones)
milli-	one-thousandth	<b>milliliter</b> (one-thousandth of a liter)
mono-	one	<b>monocyte</b> (a white cell with a singular nucleus)
multi-	many	<b>multipara</b> (to bear many "children")
non-	not	<b>noninvasive</b> (pertaining to a diagnostic or therapeutic technique that does not require the skin to be broken [not invaded] or a cavity or organ to be entered)
pan-	all	<b>pancarditis</b> (inflammation of the entire heart [all])
para-	near, beside, beyond, two like parts	<b>paracervical</b> (near, or beside, the cervix)
per-	through	<b>percussion</b> (striking through)
peri-	around	<b>perianal</b> (around the anus)

Prefix	Meaning	Example
poli/o	gray	<b>poliomyelitis</b> (inflammation of the gray matter of the spinal cord)
poly-	many, much, excessive	<b>polyarthritis</b> (inflammation of many joints) <b>polyuria</b> (the excretion of large amounts of [much] urine)
post-	after, behind	<b>postcibal</b> (after meals)
pre-	before, in front	<b>precordial</b> (the region “of the chest wall” in front of the heart)
primi-	first	<b>primigravida</b> (first pregnancy)
pseudo-	false	<b>pseudoanorexia</b> (“false anorexia”; a condition in which an individual eats secretly while claiming a lack of appetite and inability to eat)
purpur/o	purple	<b>purpura</b> (collection of blood beneath the skin in the form of pinpoint hemorrhages appearing as red/purple skin discolorations)
quadri-	four	<b>quadriplegia</b> (paralysis of all four extremities)
re-	back, again	<b>reactivate</b> (to make active again)
retro-	backward, behind	<b>retrocecal</b> (pertaining to the region behind the cecum)
rube-	red	<b>rubella</b> (a contagious viral disease characterized by fever, coldlike symptoms, and a diffuse, fine red rash [also German measles])
semi-	half	<b>semiconscious</b> (half conscious)
sub-	under, below	<b>subcutaneous</b> (under the skin)
supra-	above, over	<b>suprapubic</b> (above, or over, the pubic area)
sym-	joined, together	<b>sympathetic</b> (displaying compassion for another’s grief; literally, “joined in disease”)
syn-	joined, together	<b>syndrome</b> (a group of symptoms joined by a common cause; “running together”)
tachy-	rapid	<b>tachycardia</b> (rapid heartbeat)
trans-	across, through	<b>transurethral</b> (across, or through, the urethra)
tri-	three	<b>triceps</b> (“a muscle” having three heads)
ultra-	beyond, excess	<b>ultrasound</b> (sound waves at the very high frequency of more than 20,000 vibrations per second)
uni-	one	<b>uninuclear</b> (“a cell” having one nucleus)
xanth/o	yellow	<b>xanthoderma</b> (any yellow coloration of the skin)

# Chapter Review Exercises



The following exercises provide a more in-depth review of the chapter material. Prefixes and combining forms used as prefixes are treated the same and are called prefixes in the exercises. Your goal is to complete each section at a minimum 80% level of accuracy. A space has been provided for your score at the end of each section.

## A. Matching

Match the prefixes on the left with the appropriate definition on the right. Each correct answer is worth 10 points. Record your score in the space provided at the end of the exercise.

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| _____ 1. bi-     | a. across, through     |
| _____ 2. hemi-   | b. first               |
| _____ 3. mono-   | c. two                 |
| _____ 4. primi-  | d. half                |
| _____ 5. tri-    | e. outside             |
| _____ 6. ab-     | f. before, in front of |
| _____ 7. ante-   | g. around              |
| _____ 8. circum- | h. from, away from     |
| _____ 9. ecto-   | i. one                 |
| _____ 10. trans- | j. three               |

**Number correct** \_\_\_\_\_ **× 10 points/correct answer: Your score** \_\_\_\_\_ %

## B. Select the Term

Circle the letter of the term that correctly identifies its meaning. Each correct answer is worth 10 points. Record your score in the space provided at the end of the exercise.

- The prefix that means without is:
  - anti-
  - a-
  - endo-
  - ab-
- The prefix that means against is:
  - anti-
  - a-
  - endo-
  - ab-
- The prefix that means not is:
  - dys-
  - ambi-
  - non-
  - pan-

4. The prefix that means bad or difficult is:
  - a. endo-
  - b. dys-
  - c. non-
  - d. post-
5. The prefix that means both or both sides is:
  - a. ambi-
  - b. hemi-
  - c. tri-
  - d. mono-
6. The prefix that means between is:
  - a. ecto-
  - b. post-
  - c. pan-
  - d. inter-
7. The prefix that means false is:
  - a. dys-
  - b. pseudo-
  - c. endo-
  - d. anti-
8. The prefix that means all is:
  - a. pan-
  - b. post-
  - c. tri-
  - d. hemi-
9. The prefix that means after or behind is:
  - a. pseudo-
  - b. pan-
  - c. post-
  - d. ante-
10. The prefix that means within is:
  - a. ecto-
  - b. endo-
  - c. hemi-
  - d. primi-

**Number correct** \_\_\_\_\_ **× 10 points/correct answer: Your score** \_\_\_\_\_ %

## C. Create a Word

Using the prefixes listed, create a word that best completes each statement dealing with position and direction. If you need assistance, refer to your list of prefixes within the chapter. After you have determined the correct prefix, write the word (without the divisions) in the space provided. Each correct answer is worth 10 points. Record your score in the space provided at the end of the exercise.

inter-	intra-	ambi-	peri-
epi-	dia-	hypo-	supra-
trans-	ab-		

Create a word that means:

- To move away from the midline of the body  

	+	duct	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	=	(complete word)
- Able to use both hands well  

	+	dextr	+	ous	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)
- Around the mouth  

	+	or	+	al	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)
- Knowledge through testing  

	+	gnos	+	is	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)
- Under the tongue  

	+	gloss	+	al	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)
- Within a vein  

	+	ven	+	ous	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)
- Above the pubis  

	+	pub	+	ic	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)
- Across, or through, the urethra  

	+	urethr	+	al	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)
- Pertaining to the region upon the stomach  

	+	gastr	+	ic	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)
- Between the ribs  

	+	cost	+	al	=	
(prefix)	+	(root)	+	(suffix)	=	(complete word)

Number correct \_\_\_\_\_ × 10 points/correct answer: Your score \_\_\_\_\_ %

## D. Crossword Puzzle

Complete the crossword puzzle by entering the applicable prefix for each definition in the spaces provided. Each crossword answer is worth 5 points. When you have completed the puzzle, total your points and enter your score in the space provided.

ACROSS		DOWN	
2 One	10 Around	1 Within	8 Rapid
3 First	13 Same	2 One-thousandth	11 Many
4 Against	14 Across, through	3 Many, much	12 Together, with
6 Slow	16 Half	5 In, within, not	15 Joined, together
9 Three	18 Between	7 Backward, behind	17 Upon, over

Number correct \_\_\_\_\_ × 5 points/correct answer: Your score \_\_\_\_\_%

## E. Proofreading Skills

Read the following consultation report and identify 10 misspelled prefixes by circling them in the script. Lines that have errors are numbered and are printed in bold. After you have identified the errors, write each prefix correctly and define it in the space provided. Each correct answer is worth 10 points. Record your score in the space provided at the end of the exercise.

- Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_
- Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_
- Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_

PATIENT: Ms. Kelli Greene

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 620378

DATE: February 25, 2007



SUMMARY: Ms. Kelli Greene is a 26-year-old female who was seen by Dr. George White numerous times for repeated complaints **(1) of epygastric pain and was referred to me after** the last episode. She states that the pain radiates to her shoulder and back, and is so severe at times that she experiences diplopia.

**(2) Physical examination shows no tachycardia, no cyanosis of nail beds.** Blood pressure is 120/78 mmHg; pulse 82; respiration 14. Visual acuity examination reveals that patient **(3) has ambeopia. Microscopic examination of urine reveals no erythrocytes.**

Leukocyte count is within normal range except for slight elevation of eosinophil level. This appears to be negligible. **(4) Patient has no complaints of polyuria.**

A slight case of acrodermatitis is noted on the left side in **(5) particular, with some hiperplasia of skin and scaling.** Will prescribe cortisone cream for this. Close examination of the right arm reveals a darkly pigmented mole, which could possibly be a melanoma. This was removed in my office and sent to the regional laboratory for further testing.

**(6) Past history reveals that this patient had endocarditis at age 14** following a streptococcal infection. Her recovery has been uneventful. She expressed fear that this may be resurfacing. I see no evidence of this, however.

Palpation of the epigastric region was met with resistance and an expression of considerable discomfort. Ms. Greene was **(7) referred for an upper GI series and an ultersound of the gallbladder.** The results confirmed my suspicions of inflammation of the gallbladder with presence of gallstones.

**(8) The fact that Ms. Greene is a primagravida in her first (9) trymester of pregnancy,** did not create a need for delaying the surgery. She was scheduled for a laparoscopic cholecystectomy on the 28th of this month. The gallbladder was slightly edematous but was removed without complications under **(10) general annesthesia. There were several stones blocking the** common bile duct. The patient tolerated the procedure well and was discharged three days later.

Two-week follow-up visit revealed no complications. Patient is progressing well. Pathology report of mole on right forearm was negative. No further visits are deemed necessary and patient was instructed to return to family physician and personal obstetrician as needed.

DIAGNOSIS: 1. Acute cholecystitis with cholelithiasis  
2. Possible melanoma of right forearm

TREATMENT: 1. Laparoscopic cholecystectomy  
2. Excisional biopsy of mole on right forearm, negative

FOLLOW-UP 1. Return to family physician as needed  
2. Copy of consultation report mailed to Dr. George White on 2-25-07.

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Cole Black, M.D.



4. Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Correct spelling of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Definition of the prefix: \_\_\_\_\_

**Number correct** \_\_\_\_\_  $\times$  **10 points/correct answer: Your score** \_\_\_\_\_ %

## F. Completion

Complete each statement with the most appropriate prefix. **Note:** Because you are just beginning your study of medical terminology, the meaning of the prefix has been italicized for you. Each correct answer is worth 10 points. Record your score in the space provided at the end of the exercise.

1. A tooth having *two* cusps or points is known as a \_\_\_\_\_ cuspid tooth.
2. A person who is paralyzed on *one half* (one side) of the body is known to have \_\_\_\_\_ plegia.
3. A woman who is pregnant for the *first* time is termed a \_\_\_\_\_ gravida.
4. The excretion of large amounts of urine (*much* urine) is known as \_\_\_\_\_ uria.
5. The medical term that means “being *without* pain,” or refers to an agent that is given to relieve pain, is \_\_\_\_\_ algesic.
6. A person who is able to use *both* hands well is said to be \_\_\_\_\_ dextrous.
7. A medication that is placed *under* the tongue is a \_\_\_\_\_ lingual medication.
8. An \_\_\_\_\_ venous medication is one that is administered *within* a vein.
9. The term \_\_\_\_\_ charge means “release of a substance or object in order *to free it from* its location.”
10. A diagnostic or therapeutic technique that does not require the skin to be broken (*not* invaded) or a cavity or organ to be entered is said to be a \_\_\_\_\_ invasive procedure.

**Number correct** \_\_\_\_\_  $\times$  **10 points/correct answer: Your score** \_\_\_\_\_ %

## G. Word Search

Read each definition carefully and identify the appropriate word from the list that follows. Enter the word in the space provided, then find it in the puzzle and circle it. The words may be read up, down, diagonally, across, or backward. Each correct answer is worth 10 points. Record your score in the space provided at the end of the exercise.

poly	circum	inter	intra
anti	hyper	hydro	many
first	four	half	

Example: A prefix that means many, much, excessive.

poly

1. A prefix that means “around.”

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2. A prefix that means between.

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3. A prefix that means within (other than endo-).

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4. A prefix that means against (other than contra-).

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5. A prefix that means excessive.

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6. A prefix that means water.

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7. The prefix multi- means.

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8. The prefix primi- means.

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9. The prefix quadri- means.

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10. The prefix hemi- means.

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**Number correct** \_\_\_\_\_ **× 10 points/correct answer: Your score** \_\_\_\_\_ %

# Word Search Puzzle

