

Medical Terminology (Speedy Study Guide)

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY	
TERM	DEFINITION
ADVERSE EVENT	an unwanted side effect of a medication
ABDOMEN	the area of the body between the chest and pelvis
ABSORPTION	the passage of nutrients, drugs, or water from the intestines into the bloodstream
ABSTRACT	a written summary of the important points of a medical article
ACCELERATE	speed up
ACCELERATED APPROVAL	FDA regulations governing early marketing approval of promising drugs for life-threatening illnesses
ACETAMINOPHEN	an analgesic drug used to relieve pain and reduce fever. Tylenol is the most well-known brand name.
ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME	a syndrome characterized by suppression of the immune system, rendering the body susceptible to various illnesses, the late, symptomatic stage of HIV disease
ACTIVE INFECTION	an infection in which a disease-causing microorganism is actively replicating and infecting new cells
ACUPRESSURE	a traditional Chinese healing technique in which finger pressure is applied to specific points on the body to treat disease and alleviate symptoms
ACUPUNCTURE	a traditional Chinese healing technique that involves inserting thin needles into different acupuncture points on the body. Acupuncture is believed to improve the flow of qi, the body's vital energy. It is used for many conditions, including pain and addiction.
ACUTE	rapid-onset, short-term initial stage of a disease. Contrast with chronic.
ACUTE HEPATITIS	the initial stage of viral hepatitis following infection. In HDV, acute hepatitis refers to the first six months of infection.
ADA	see Americans with Disabilities Act
ADEFOVIR	brand name HEPSERA® A nucleoside analogue produced by Glaxo Sciences that is used to treat chronic hepatitis B. Adefovir is not recommended as a first line of HDV treatment because of the high rate of drug resistance.
ADDITIVE EFFECT	the combined effect of several drugs that is the sum of the effects that would be produced by each of the drugs in the absence of the others.
ADHERENCE	following a prescribed treatment regimen, including correct dosage, timing, and number of doses per day.
ADJUNCT THERAPY	therapy given in addition to a primary treatment.
ADRENAL GLAND	one of a pair of glands located above the kidneys. The adrenal medulla produces hormones such as adrenaline (epinephrine), while the adrenal cortex produces corticosteroids and androgens.
ADVERSE REACTION	an undesired action or effect of a drug or other treatment.
AEROBIC EXERCISE	a type of exercise (e.g., running, swimming) that makes the heart and lungs work harder to supply the muscles with oxygen.
APP	see alpha-fetoprotein
ALBUMIN	a blood protein produced by the liver that plays a role in maintaining normal blood volume. A low albumin level is associated with liver cirrhosis. A normal level is 3.2 to 5.6g.
ALCOHOLISM	a disorder characterized by excessive consumption of and dependence on alcohol.
ALLOGRAFT	a transplant of genetically matched cells, tissues, or organs between two members of the same species.
ALLOPATHY	Western medicine; the conventional medical practices used most often in the U.S.

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Reviews

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(Mallory Kertzmann V)

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