

Medical Terminology Answers

A

a-, an-	without, lack of
ab-	away
able-	capable of
ac-, ic-	pertaining to
ad-	toward
aden- (o)	gland
aer- (o)	air
alba-	white
alges- (i, ia)	pain
algia-	pain
ambi-	both, both sides
ante-	before, in front of
anti-	against
arthr-	joint
-ase	enzyme
-asis	condition of
ather- (o)	fatty, lipid
auto-	self

B

bi-	twice, double
bio-	life
-blast	germ, embryonic cell
brachy-	short
brady-	slow

C

carcin-	cancer
card- (a, o, io)	heart
cent- (i)	one hundred
cephal- (o)	head
cerebro-	brain
chem-	drug, chemical
chlor- (o)	green
chrom - (o)	color
-cide	causing death
circum-	around
cis- (o)	to cut
-cise	cut
col-	colon
contra-	against, counter to
crani- (o)	skull
cryo-	cold
crypt-	hidden
cyan- (o)	blue
cyt- (e, o)	cell

D

dec- (a, i)	ten
demi-	half
derm- (a, at, o)	skin
di- (plo)	double, 2x
dors- (i, o)	back
dys-	difficult, painful

E

e- (c)	without
ec- (ti, to)	outside, external
-ectomy	surgical removal of
-emesis	vomit
-emia	blood
encephal- (o)	brain
endo-	within
enter- (o)	small intestines
epi-	upon, over
erythro-	red
-esis	condition of
eu-	easy, normal
ex- (o)	outside of, beyond

F

faci-	face
fore-	in front of
-fuge	driving away, expelling

G

gast- (i, ro)	stomach
-genesis	production, creation, beginning
gluc- (o)	sugar
gly- (co)	sugar
-gram	picture, record
-graph	diagram, recording instrument
gynec- (o)	female

H

hem- (a, ato, o)	blood
hepat- (o)	liver
herni-	rupture
hetero-	different
hom- (eo, o)	same
hydro-	water
hyper-	excessive, high
hypo-	deficient, low

I

-ia, -iasis	abnormal
-ic, -ac	pertaining to
idio-	self-originating
immun- (o)	immune system
infra-	below, beneath
inter-	between, among
intra-	within
-ism	condition, theory
iso-	equal, alike, same
-itis	inflammation of

L

latero-	side
laryng- (o)	voice box
leuko-	white
-lys (is, o)	destruction, dissolving of

M

macro-	large
mal-	bad, abnormal
-mania	mental disorder
mast-	breast
med- (i)	middle
mega- (lo, ly)	large
melan- (o)	black
micro-	small
mono-	one
morph- (o)	shape
my- (o)	muscle

N

-natal	birth
necr- (o)	death
neph- (r, ro)	kidney
neur- (o)	nerve
noct- (i)	night

O

-ologist	person who studies
-ology	study of
oma-	tumor
onco-	tumor
ophthlam- (o)	eye
ortho-	normal, straight
ost- (e, eo)	bone
-oscopy	diagnostic exam
ot- (o)	ear
-otic	pertaining to, condition of
-otomy	cutting off

P

pan-	all
para-	near, abnormal, lower 1/2 of the body
path- (ia, o, y)	disease
peri-	around
-phagia	eating
-phasia	speech
phleb-	vein
-phobia	fear
-plasty	surgical repair
poly-	many
post-	after
pre-	before
pro-	in front of
pseudo-	false
pulmon- (o)	lungs
pyr- (o)	heat, fever

R

ren- (o)	back, again
retro-	behind
-rrhage	bursting forth
-rrhea	discharge, flow

S

sclera- (o)	hardening
-sect	cut
sep- (ti)	poison, infection
son- (o)	sound
-spasm	involuntary contraction
-stasi (s, c)	still
-stomy	artificial opening
sub-	less, under
sup- (er, ra)	above, over
sym-, syn-	joined, fused

T

tach- (o, y)	rapid, fast
therm- (o, y)	heat
thorac-	chest
thromb- (o)	clot
-tox (ic)	poison
trans-	across, beyond
-troph	development

U

ultra-	beyond, excess
uni-	one

V

viscer- (o)	internal organs
vit- (a)	necessary for life

X

xanth- (o)	yellow
-xenia	strange

Practice

Determine the meaning of each word by examining the prefixes, suffixes, and root words.

1. derma/tologist - skin/person who studies
2. endo/card/itis - within/heart/inflammation of
3. idio/path/ic - self-originating/disease/pertaining to, or condition of
4. aero/bic - air/pertaining to
5. onc/ology - tumor/study of
6. an/alges/ic - without/pain/pertaining to, or condition of
7. poly/cyt/emia - many/cell/blood
8. gastr/ectomy - stomach/surgical removal of
9. circum/cise - around/cut
10. sono/gram - sound/picture