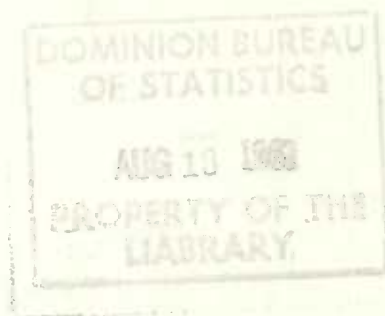




NOTES ON MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY
FOR CODERS USING THE
INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES
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PREFACE

This pamphlet is designed primarily as an aid to Canadian "lay" coders in the classification of causes of death for the compilation of national and provincial cause-of-death statistics. It is hoped that it will also prove useful to others concerned with the use of medical terms.

Its main purpose is to arrange in alphabetic order some of the most frequently used elements in the formation of medical words. A very large number of medical words are composed of prefixes and suffixes, employed mainly as adverbs and prepositions. It is hoped that a knowledge of these stems and examples illustrating their use will help to clarify the meaning of many long, and at times apparently complex, terms.

Also included in this pamphlet are a list of ABBREVIATIONS of medical terms frequently used in cause-of-death certificates and other medical records; a list of the most commonly used HOMONYMS (similar sounding terms with different and sometimes opposite meanings), and a few notes on EPONYMS and certain medical and non-professional terms describing body structure or disease.

Although these lists are far from complete, they are intended to include only those terms most commonly encountered in medical certificates of cause-of-death. Comments on errors or omissions would therefore be welcome.

Vital Statistics Section.

October, 1957

PREFIXES

Prefixes are probably the most used element in medical terminology. These consist of one or more syllables placed before a word to give the term a specific meaning or to show certain relationships as to site of a disease, time, etc. The bulk of prefixes are based on Latin or Greek stem and generally consist of adverbs and prepositions. Examples are given in each case to illustrate their use and meaning.

- A-,AN-: Negative prefix, signifying without, lack of. An is used before words beginning with a vowel.
Anoxia - lack of oxygen
Anencephalous - having no brain
Acephalus - without a head (headless monster)
- Ab-: Signifying from off, away from, deviation from
Abnormal - deviating from the normal or usual condition
Abuse - deviation from normal use
Ablepsia - lack or loss of sight (blindness)
- Acro-: A combining form denoting relation to an extremity, top, summit, to an extreme.
Acromegaly - a disease characterized by enlargement of the bones, and soft parts of the hands, feet and face. It is associated with overfunction of the pituitary. (Gigantism, or monstrous size).
Acromania - mania marked by great motor activity.
- Ad-: Signifying to, toward, addition to, nearness.
Addict - one who has given up to a habit (narcotics)
Adduction fracture - results from a force directed towards the median line of the body.
- Adeno-: Denoting relationship to a gland or glands.
Adenocarcinoma - a carcinoma in which the cells are arranged in gland-like structure
Adenosis - any disease of a gland or set of glands
Adenocellulitis - inflammation of a gland and the cellular tissue around it.
- Aero-: Relationship to air or gas.
Aerobe - a micro-organism which can live and grow in the presence of free oxygen
Aerothorax - same as pneumothorax - (air in the pleural cavity).
- Ambi-: Signifying on both sides.
Ambidextrous - able to use either hand effectively.
Ambilateral - pertaining to or affecting both sides.
- Amphi-: Signifying on both sides, around, about or double.
Amphicrania - pain in both sides of the head
Amphibious - capable of living both in the water and on land.
- Ana-: Prefix signifying - upward, backward, excessive or again.
Anabolism - to build up, constructive metabolism and assimilation
Anacatharsis - severe vomiting.

- Andro-,Andr-: Combining form denoting relationship to man, or to the male
Androgenic - possessing masculine characteristics
Andriopathy - any disease peculiar to man
- Ante-: Prefix signifying "before" in time or place
Antenatal - occurring or formed before birth
Antebrachium - the forearm
Ante mortem - Latin for "before death"
- Antero-: Signifying "before"
Antero-internal - in front and on the inner side
Anterolateral - situated before and to one side
- Anti-: Signifying against, opposed to
Antiseptic - preventing sepsis or infection, to prevent the growth and development of microorganisms.
Tetanus antitoxin - the antitoxin which will suppress the harmful effect of tetanus toxin.
- Apo-: Prefix signifying separation or derivation
Apocope - a cutting off, amputation
Apoplepsis - the suppression of a natural secretion
- Arterio-: Pertaining to the arteries
Arteriopathy - any arterial disease
Arteriosclerosis - thickening and hardening of the arteries.
(Cerebral-of brain) (Coronary-of the coronary artery).
- Arthro-: Denoting some relationship to a joint or joints.
Arthritis - inflammation of a joint
Arthrocele - a swollen joint
- Atelo-: Signifying imperfection or incompleteness
Atelocardia - incomplete development of the heart
Atelectasis - incomplete expansion of the lungs at birth, collapse of the adult lung.
- Auto-: Denoting relationship to self
Autovaccine - a bacterial vaccine prepared from cultures of organisms isolated from the patients' own secretions or tissues.
Autograft - a graft taken from one part of the patients' body and transplanted in another part
- Bi-,bini-,bis-: Prefix signifying two or twice.
Bifurcation - division into two branches
Binaural - pertaining to both ears
Bisaxillary - pertaining to both axillae
- Bio-: Denoting relationship to life
Biopsy - the removal and the microscopic examination of tissue from a living body for the purpose of diagnosis
Biotic - pertaining to life or living matter.
- Blasto-: Signifying relationship to a germ or cell (particularly early embryonic stage)
Blastoma - a true tumour (malignant neoplasm)
Blastogenic - originating in the germ or germ cell

- Blepharo-,Blephar-: Denoting relationship to eyelid or eyelash.
Blepharitis - inflammation of the eyelids.
Blepharoplasty - the plastic surgery of the eyelids.
- Brachy-: Prefix meaning short.
Brachygnathia - abnormal or shortness of the under jaw.
Brachyfacial - having a low broad face.
- Brady-: Prefix meaning slow.
Bradycardia - abnormal slowness of the heart beat
Bradypepsia - abnormally slow digestion.
- Broncho-: Signifying the bronchus.
Bronchoscope - an instrument for inspecting the interior of the bronchi.
Bronchitis - inflammation of the bronchial tubes.
- Buccal-,Bucco-: Pertaining to the cheek or mouth.
Buccinator - flat muscle in the cheek.
Buccolingual - pertaining to the cheek and the tongue.
- Carcino-: Pertaining to carcinoma.
- Carcinoma - Malignant new growth
- Carcinomatous - Pertaining to, the nature of, cancer (malignant)
- Cardio-: Denotes relationship to the heart
Cardiograph - an instrument used for recording the heart's movement.
Cardiogram - a tracing produced by means of the cardiograph.
Cardiopathy - any disorder or disease of the heart.
- Cata-: Prefix signifying down, lower, under, against, alongwith, very.
Catabasis - the stage of decline of a disease.
Catabolism - destructive metabolism, tearing down of tissue.
- Celio-: Prefix denoting relationship to the abdomen.
Celiotomy - surgical incision into the abdominal cavity.
Coelitis, celitis- any abdominal inflammation
- Cephalo-: Prefix denoting relationship to the head.
Cephalocele - a protrusion of part of the cranial contents.
Cephalic - pertaining to the head, or directed toward the head end of the body.
- Cervico-: Prefix signifying neck or to any cervix.
Cervicoscapular - relating to the neck and scapula (the flat triangular bone in the back of the shoulder).
Cervicovesical - pertaining to the cervix uteri and the urinary bladder.
- Cheilo-: Pertaining to the lip.
Cheilocarcinoma - cancer of the lip.
Cheilognathus - harelip.

- Cheiro-,Chiro-: Pertaining to the hand
Cheirospasm - writers cramp
Cheiromegaly - pseudo-acromegaly in which the swelling affects the hands, wrists and ankles.
- Chole-,Chol-,Cholo-: Pertaining to bile
Cholangitis - inflammation of a bile duct
Cholecystectomy - surgical removal of the gallbladder.
- Chondro-,Chondr-,Chondri-,Chondrio-: - Prefixes signifying relationship to cartilages
Chondrofibroma - a fibroma with cartilaginous elements (benign neoplasm, cartilage).
Chondrocyte - a cartilage cell
Chondro-osseous - composed of cartilage and bone.
- Cleido-: Pertaining to the clavicle.
Cleidotomy - the operation of dividing the clavicle of the child in difficult labour, in order to permit the passage of the shoulders.
Cleidocranial - pertaining to the clavicles and the head.
- Co-,Com-,Con-: Prefixes signifying with, together.
Complication - a disease concurrent with another disease in the same patient.
Congestion - (heap together) an abnormal accumulation of blood in a part.
Coarctation - a condition of stricture or contraction (e.g. of the aorta)
- Colpo-: Pertaining to the vagina.
Colpopathy - any vaginal disease
Colpocystocele - hernia of the bladder into the vagina.
- Contra-: The prefix signifying: against, opposed.
Contrastimulant (counteracting stimulation) or a depressant medicine i.e. (bromides)
Contraception - the prevention of conception or impregnation.
- Costo-: Relating to the ribs
Costopleural - signifying the ribs and the pleural cavity.
Costochondral - pertaining to a rib and its cartilage.
- Cranio-: Pertaining to the cranium or skull.
Craniotomy - an operation on the cranium.
Craniology - the scientific study of skulls.
- Crypto-: Prefix meaning hidden or concealed.
Cryptophthalmus - complete congenital adhesion of the eyelids.
Cryptorrhea - abnormal activity of an endocrine organ.
- Cysto-: Prefix relating to a sac, cyst, or bladder, most frequently used in reference to the urinary bladder.
Cystocele - hernial protrusion of the urinary bladder. Classify 'cystocele' in respect of the stated sex.
Cystoscope - an instrument for examining the urinary tract.

- Cyto-:** Relates to a cell
Cytobiology - the biology of cells.
Cytopenia - a deficiency in the cellular elements of the blood.
Cytolysis - the dissolution or destruction of cells.
- Dacryo-:** Pertaining to the lacrimal gland (tear duct).
Dacryocystotomy - surgical incision of the tear sac.
Dacryogenic - causing the secretion of tears.
- De-:** Prefix signifying down or away from
Decubitus ulcer - or pressure sore, break down of tissues due to prolonged confinement in bed.
Deanesthesiant - anything that will arouse a patient from anesthesia.
- Derma-:** Pertaining to the skin
Dermatitis - inflammation of the skin.
Dermaplasty - skin grafting.
- Dextro-:** Signifying to the right.
Dextrocardia - transposition of the heart to the right side of the thorax.
Dextraverted - turned to the right
- Di-:** Prefix meaning two, twice.
Dicrotic - double beat, as of the pulse.
Dichromic - distinguishing only two colours.
- Dia-:** Prefix meaning through, across, between.
Diameter - Measured distance between sides of a circle through the centre point.
Diadermic - through the skin.
- Dis-:** Denotes reversal or separation.
Disease - any departure from a state of health.
Disinfect - to free from pathogenic substances or organisms, as to render them inert.
- Dys-:** Prefix signifying difficult, painful, disordered.
Dysfunction - impairment or partial disturbance of the functioning of an organ.
Dysmenorrhoea - painful and difficult menstruation.
- E-,Ec-,Ecto-,Ex-:** Prefixes signifying out, without, outside.
Ectopic - out of normal place (ectopic pregnancy).
External - situated outside.
- Electro-:** Denoting relationship to electricity.
Electroshock - shock treatment by applying electric current to the brain.
Electrocautery - an apparatus for cauterizing tissue.
- Em-,En-:** Denoting within or in.
Empyema - accumulation of pus in a cavity (usually the chest)
Encranial - situated within the brain.

Encephalo - Pertains to the brain.

Encephalocele - hernia of the brain, manifested by protrusion through a congenital or traumatic opening of the skull.

Encephalitis - inflammation of the brain.

Endo-: Denoting an inward situation, within.

Endocardium - the endothelial lining membrane of the heart.

Endocrine - secreting internally.

Entero-: Denoting relationship to the intestine.

Enterocolitis - inflammation of the small intestine and the colon.

Enteropathy - any disease of the intestine.

Epi-: Denoting on, or upon.

Epidermis - the outermost and nonvascular layer of the skin

Epicondyle - an eminence upon a bone and above the condyle.

Extra-: Outside of, beyond or in addition.

Extracardial - outside the heart.

Extraneous - existing or belonging outside the organism.

Fibro-: Denoting relationship to fibres.

Fibroma - a tumour composed mainly of fibrous connective tissue.

Fibroplastic - giving origin to fibrous tissue.

Facio-: Relationship to the face.

Facioplasty - plastic surgery of the face.

Faciocervical - affecting the face and neck.

Gastro-: Pertaining to the stomach.

Gastritis - inflammation of the stomach.

Gastrectomy - The cutting out or removal of the whole or part of the stomach.

Glosso-: Pertaining to the tongue.

Glossitis - inflammation of the tongue.

Glossoplegia - paralysis of the tongue.

Glyco-: Relating to sugar.

Glycogenesis - the production of sugar.

Glycosuria - the presence of an abnormal amount of glucose in the urine.

Gyn-, Gyneco-, Gyno-: Pertaining to women

Gynecology - the branch of medicine relating to women's diseases especially the genito-urinary tract.

Gynoplasty - plastic surgery of the female reproductive organs.

Hemo-, Haemo-, Hemato-: Relating to the blood.

Haemophilia - An hereditary blood condition characterized by delayed clotting with a consequent difficulty in checking hemorrhage.

Hematopericardium - an effusion of blood within the pericardium.

Hemi-: Signifying one half.

Hemiparesis - paralysis affecting one side.

Hemiglossectomy - surgical removal of one half of the tongue.

- Hepato-: Pertaining to the liver
Hepatitis - inflammation of the liver.
Hepatotomy - surgical incision of the liver
- Histo-: Relating to the tissues
Histiocytoma - benign neoplasm of the skin
Histotoxic - poisonous to tissue or tissues
- Homeo-, Homo-: Denoting similarity, same.
Homeotherapy - treatment of a disease with a substance similar to but not the same as the causative agent of the disease.
Homologous - corresponding in structure or origin.
- Hydro-: Denoting relation to water or to hydrogen.
Hydrocephalus - enlargement of the head due to an abnormal increase in the amount of cerebral fluid. This can be acquired or congenital.
Hydropericardium - the accumulation of an excess of serous fluid in the pericardial sac (covers the heart).
- Hyper-: Signifying, above, beyond, excessive.
Hypertension - especially high blood pressure.
Hyperemesis - excessive vomiting.
- Hypno-: Relating to sleep
Hypnotic drug - drug that induces sleep.
Hypnolepsy - abnormal sleepiness.
- Hypo-: Signifying below, under, deficient.
Hypotension - low blood pressure.
Hypocalcaemia - calcium deficiency.
- Hystero -: Relating to the uterus.
Hysterectomy - the operation of excising the uterus.
Hysteromyotomy - incision of the uterus for the purpose of removing a solid tumor.
- Ileo-: Relating to the ileum, the distal portion of the small intestine.
Ileitis - inflammation of the small intestine.
Ileostomy - the making of an artificial opening into the ileum.
- Ilio-: Relationship to the ilium (one of the three bones that make up the hips and pelvis). This prefix not to be confused with ileo.
Iliocolotomy - surgical incision of the colon in the iliac region
cf ileocolotomy - surgical incision of the ileum and colon.
Iliofemoral - pertaining to the ilium and femur.
- Infra-: Denotes situated below or beneath.
Infrapatellar - below the knee.
Infrascapular - situated beneath the shoulder blade.
- Inter-: Signifying between
Interauricular - between the auricles of the heart.
Intercellular - situated between the cells of any structure.
- Intra-: Signifying within
Intra - abdominal - within the abdomen.
Intrarenal - situated within the kidney.

- Intro-: Signifying into or within.
Introversion - turning the outside in.
Introspection - self analysis
- Juxta-: Signifying near or by.
Juxtapyloric - situated near the pylorus or near the pyloric vein
Juxtaspinal - close to the spinal column.
- Kerato-: Denoting relationship to the cornea, or to horny tissue.
Keratitis - inflammation of the cornea.
Keratoma - a growth or tumour of horny tissue.
- Labio-: Pertaining to lip.
Labium - leporinum = harelip
Labiolingual - pertaining to the lips and tongue.
- Lac-: Pertaining to milk.
Lactation - the period of the secretion of milk.
Lactogenic - stimulating the production of milk.
- Laryngo-: Relationship to the larynx.
Laryngopathy - any disorder of the larynx.
Laryngostomy - the formation of a permanent opening into the larynx through the neck and trachea.
- Leuco-, Leukocyte-: White blood corpuscle.
Leukopenia - reduction of the number of leukocytes in the blood.
Leukocyte - white blood corpuscle.
- Litho-: Signifying stone or calculus.
Lithonephritis - inflammation of the kidney due to a calculus.
Lithotomy - the removal of a stone by cutting into the bladder.
- Macro-: Signifying large.
macrocyte - an abnormally large red or white blood cell.
Macrocephalous - excessively large head.
- Mania-: Mental disorder manifested by an expansive emotional state and increased motor activity.
Maniaphobia - fear of insanity
Manic-depressive psychosis - a mental illness marked by emotional instability and striking mood changes.
- Mast-: Relating to the breast.
Mastocarcinoma - carcinoma of the breast.
Mastitis - inflammation of the breast.
- Mega-, Megalo-: Signifying large
Megalothymus - enlarged thymus.
Megacephaly - abnormal largeness of the head.
- Meningo-: Pertaining to the membranes covering the brain and spinal cord.
Meningo-arteritis - inflammation of the meningeal arteries.
Meningitis - inflammation of the meninges.
- Meso-: Signifying middle.
Mesocolon - (peritoneal fold over the transverse colon - or over the middle portion of colon by which it is attached to the back of the abdominal wall)
Mesoderm - the middle layer of the three embryonic germ layers.

- Meta-: Prefix indicating change or transformation.
Metabolism - tissue change, the sum of all the physical and chemical processes by which living substance is produced and transformed into energy for the use of living organism.
Metastasis - the transfer of disease from one organ to another not directly connected with it, i.e. cancer of breast metastasis to brain.
- Metro-: Relating to the uterus.
Metritis - inflammation of the uterus.
Endometritis - inflammation of the lining of the uterus.
- Micro-: Signifying small.
Microcephalia - abnormally small head.
Microscope - an instrument which magnifies minute objects.
- Multi-: Signifying many.
Multipara - a mother who has given birth to two or more children.
Multicellular - composed of many cells.
- Myc-: Pertaining to fungus.
Mycotic stomatitis - inflammation of the stomach caused by a parasite.
Mycology - the science and study of fungi.
- Myelo-: Signifying marrow, used in reference to the spinal cord.
Myelitis - inflammation of the bone marrow or of the spinal cord.
Myelosclerosis - sclerosis of the spinal cord or bone marrow.
- Kyo-: Relating to a muscle
Myocarditis - inflammation of the myocardium or muscular walls of the heart.
Myoma - any tumour made up of muscular elements.
- Neo-: Prefix meaning new, or recent.
Neoplasm - new and abnormal growth, such as a tumour.
Neonatal - pertaining to the newborn.
- Necro-: Relating to death or a dead body.
Necrosis - death of a cell or a group of cells which is in contact with living tissue.
Necrotomy - the dissection of a dead body.
- Nephro-: Relating to the kidney.
Nephritis - inflammation of the kidney.
Nephrosclerosis - hardening of the kidney.
- Neuro-: Relating to a nerve or to the nervous system.
Neurofibroma - a connective tissue tumour of the nerve fibre.
Neuromuscular - pertaining to nerves and muscles.
- Ob-: Signifying against, in front of.
Obstruction (intestinal) - hindrance to the passage of the intestinal contents.
Objective - perceptible to the senses.

- Odonto-: Relating to a tooth or teeth.
Odontorrhagia - hemorrhage following tooth extraction.
Odontodynia - toothache.
- Oligo-: Signifying little or scanty.
Oligomenorrhea - scanty menstruation.
Oliguria - scanty secretion of urine.
- Omo-: Denoting some relation to the shoulder.
Omoclavicular - pertaining to the shoulder and the clavicle.
Omodynia - pain in the shoulder.
- Onycho-: Relating to the nail.
Onychitis - inflammation under the nail.
Onychoma - a tumour of the nail or nail bed.
- OO-: A combination form signifying egg or ovum.
Oogenesis - the origin and development of the ovum.
Oocyesis - ovarian pregnancy.
- Oophoro-: Relating to the ovary.
Oophorectomy - the surgical excision of an ovary.
Oophorohysterectomy - surgical removal of the uterus and the ovaries.
- Ophthalmo- Relating to the eye.
Ophthalmia - severe inflammation of the eye or the conjunctiva
(membrane lining the eyelids and the eyeball).
Ophthalmoscope - a perforated mirror used in inspecting the interior
of the eye.
- Opto-: Relating to vision or sight.
Optical - visual, optic
Optic nerve - in the retina. (function - sight).
- Orchido-,Orchio-: Relating to the testes.
Orchidopathy - any disease of the testicle
Orchitis - inflammation of a testis.
- Orrho-: Relating to serum
Orrhoreaction - serum reaction
Orrrorrhea - a watery or serous discharge.
- Ortho-: Meaning straight, normal, correct.
Orthosis - the straightening of a distorted part.
Orthopedics - The Branch of Surgery which deals with the correction
of deformities and with the treatment of chronic diseases of the
joints and spine.
- Os-,Osteo-; Relating to bone
Osteitis - inflammation of a bone
Ossifying - changing or developing into bone.
- Oto-: Relating to the ear.
Otogenous - originating within the ear.
Otoantritis - inflammation involving the middle ear and the
mastoid antrum.

- Oxy-: Denoting the presence of oxygen in a compound, also means sharp, quick or sour.
Oxygenate - to saturate with oxygen
Oxycephaly - a condition in which the top of the head is pointed.
- Pachy-: Meaning thick
Pachyperitonitis - inflammation and thickening of the peritoneum.
Pachydermia - abnormal thickness of the skin.
- Pan-: Prefix meaning all.
Pancarditis - general inflammation of the heart including pericardium, myocardium and endocardium.
Pandemic - a widespread epidemic disease.
- Para-: Prefix meaning beside, beyond, apart from or accessory to.
Paracystic - situated near the bladder.
Paradenitis - inflammation of the tissues around a gland.
- Patho-: Relating to disease.
Pathology - science of diseases.
Pathogen - any disease producing microorganism or material.
- Peri-: Prefix meaning around.
Peritonsillar - situated around a tonsil.
Pericardium - membranous sac around the heart.
Periosteum - the tough fibrous membrane surrounding a bone.
- Phleb-, Phlebo-: Relating to a vein or veins
Phlebitis - inflammation of a vein
Phlebothrombosis - Venous thrombosis in which the thrombus is loosely attached to the vein wall and so can be easily detached, resulting in pulmonary embolism.
- Phren-: Prefix relating to the mind or prefix relating to the diaphragm.
Phrenetic - a maniac
Phrenogastric - relating to the diaphragm and the stomach.
- Platy-: Prefix meaning broad or flat
Platypeloid pelvis - flat pelvis
Platypodia - abnormal flatness of the foot.
- Pleur-: Pertaining to the serous membrane surrounding the lungs.
Pleurectomy - excision of a portion of the pleura.
Pleurpneumonia - pleurisy complicated with pneumonia.
- Pluri-: Prefix meaning several, more.
Pluripara - woman who has given birth to two or more children.
Pluriglandular - pertaining to several glands.
- Pneumo: Relating to the lungs or to air.
Pneumothorax - an accumulation of air or gas in the pleural cavity.
Pneumoperitoneum - the presence of air or gas in the peritoneal cavity.
Pneumonia - inflammation of the lungs.
- Polio-: Prefix relating to the gray matter of the nervous system.
Polioencephalitis - inflammatory disease of the gray substance of the brain.
Poliomyelitis - inflammatory disease of the gray substance of the spinal cord.

- Poly-:** Denoting many or much.
Polycystic - containing many cysts.
Polyarthritis - an inflammation of several joints together.
- Post-:** Prefix meaning after or behind.
Postpartum - after delivery
Postnasal - situated or occurring behind the nose.
- Pre-:** Prefix meaning before.
Premature - an infant born before its proper time, but viable.
Premenstrual - occurring before menstruation.
- Pro-:** Prefix meaning before or in front of.
Prognosis - a forecast as to the probable result of an attack of a disease.
Prodromal - indicating the approach of a disease.
- Procto-:** Relating to the rectum.
Proctotomy - excision of an anal or rectal stricture.
Proctoceles - hernial protrusion of a part of the rectum.
- Pseudo-:** Prefix meaning false or spurious.
Pseudoangina - a syndrome resembling angina but without evidence of organic disease of heart.
Pseudocyst - an abnormal or dilated space resembling a cyst.
- Psycho-:** Prefix relating to the mind.
Psychosis - far reaching and prolonged behavior disorder.
Psychogenesis - the development of the mind.
- Pyelo-:** Relating to the pelvis of the kidney.
Pyelitis - inflammation of the pelvis of the kidney.
Pyelogram - an X-Ray of the kidney and ureter.
- Pyo-:** Denoting pus.
Pyonephrosis - presence of pus in the pelvis of the kidney.
Pyopneumothorax - a collection of pus and air organs in the pleural cavity.
- Rachi-:** Relating to the spine.
Rachis - the vertebral column.
Rachiplegia - spinal paralysis.
- Re-:** Prefix meaning back, again or contrary.
Reaction - a counteraction or opposite action.
Reamputation - the repeated performance of an amputation.
- Recto-:** Pertaining to the rectum.
Rectostenosis - stricture of the rectum.
Rectovesical - pertaining to the rectum and bladder.
- Retro-:** Prefix meaning backward or located behind.
Retroversion - the tipping of an entire organ backward.
Retrocardiac - behind the heart.

- Rhino-:** Relating to the nose.
Rhinitis - cold in the head, or inflammation of the mucous membrane of the nose.
Rhinorrhagia - nosebleed.
- Sacro-:** Relating to the sacrum.
Sacrosplinal - pertaining to the sacrum and the spine
Sacrectomy - excision of the sacrum for cancer of the rectum.
- Salpingo-:** Relating to a tube, especially the fallopian tube or (less commonly) the eustachian tube
Salpingitis - inflammation of the fallopian tube.
Salpingopharyngeal - pertaining to the eustachian tube and the pharynx.
- Sapro-:** Prefix meaning putrid or decayed.
Sapraemia - septic intoxication
Saprodonia - caries of the teeth.
- Sarco-:** Relating to flesh
Sarcoma - tumour made up of a substance like embryonic connective tissue, usually malignant
Sarcoblast - the primitive cell which develops into a muscle cell.
- Sclero-:** Pertaining to tough, hard.
Sclera- tough, white supporting tunic of the eyeball.
Sclerosis - an induration or hardening.
Sclerodermitis - inflammation and hardening of the skin.
- Septic-:** Produced by or due to putrefaction
Septicaemia - a morbid condition due to the presence of pathogenic bacteria and poisons in the blood.
Septimetritis - septic inflammation of the uterus.
- Spleno-:** Pertaining to the spleen.
Splenomegaly - enlargement of the spleen
Splenectomy - excision of the spleen.
- Staphylo-:** Pertaining to the staphylococcus bacteria, or to the uvula.
Staphyloangina - a mild form of sore throat caused by a staphylococcus infection
Staphyloclermitis - inflammation of the skin due to staphylococci.
- Steno-:** Prefix meaning narrow or contracted.
Stenosis (pyloric) - contracted or obstructed pyloric end of the stomach.
Stenocephalia - excessive narrowness of the head.
- Stereo-:** Prefix meaning solid.
Stereoplasm - the more solid portions of protoplasm.
Stereoscope - an instrument for producing the appearance of solidity and relief by combining the images of two similar pictures of an object.
- Stetho-:** Prefix relating to the chest.
Stethemia - congestion of the lungs.
Stethoscope - the doctor's instrument used for listening to cardiac and respiratory sounds.

- Strepto-:** Pertaining to the streptococcus bacteria.
Streptococcemia - the presence of streptococci in the blood.
Streptodermatitis - inflammation of the skin produced by streptococci.
- Stylo-:** Pillar, or pencil-like, especially relating to the styloid process of the temporal bone.
Styloid process of the temporal bone - there are 2 temporal bones each situated in the region of the ear; "styloid process of temporal bone" is the pencil like projection extending downward for the reception of the lower jaw.
Stylomastoid - pertaining to the styloid and mastoid processes.
- Sub-:** Signifying under.
Submaxillary - situated beneath the maxilla or upper jaw.
Subacute - between acute and chronic.
- Super-:** Signifying above or implying excess.
Supernumerary digits - more than the normal number of digits.
Superficial - pertaining to or situated near the surface.
- Supra-:** Signifying above or over.
Suprasternal - situated above the sternum.
Suprarenal - situated above the kidney.
- Sym-:** Signifying together or with.
Symphysic - abnormal fusion or union of adjacent parts.
Symphysis - the line of junction and fusion between bones originally distinct.
- Syn-:** Signifying union or association.
Syndrome - a set of symptoms which occur together.
Syndactylus - a fetus or person with the fingers or toes fused.
- Syringo-:** Relating to a tube or a fistula.
Syringomyelocele - a spina bifida.
Syringotomy - incising a fistula.
- Teno-:** Relating to a tendon
Tenosynovitis - inflammation of a tendon sheath.
Tenotomy - the cutting of a tendon as for clubfoot.
- Thermo-:** Relating to heat.
Thermometer - an instrument used to ascertain the temperature.
Thermocautery - cauterization by means of a heated wire or point.
- Thoraco-** Relating to the chest.
Thoracentesis - surgical puncture or tapping of the chest wall for the purpose of draining.
Thoracoplasty - plastic surgery of the chest.
- Thrombo-:** Pertaining to clot formation.
Thrombosis - the formation, development or presence of a thrombus.
Thrombophlebitis - inflammation of a vein in which a blood clot or thrombus is present.
- Thyro-:** Pertaining to the thyroid gland.
Thyrocarditis - any affection of the heart muscle occurring in hyperthyroidism.
Thyroloossal - pertaining to the thyroid gland and the tongue.

- Toxico-:** Relating to poison.
Toxaemia - a general intoxication due to the absorption of poisons.
Toxicosis - any disease or condition due to poisoning.
- Tracheo-:** Relating to the trachea (or wind pipe).
Tracheitis - inflammation of the trachea.
Tracheotomy - the formation of an artificial opening into the trachea.
- Tricho-:** Relating to hair.
Trichopoliosis - grayness of the hair
Trichoepithelioma - a skin tumour, cell growth starting in the hair follicles.
- Uni-:** Prefix meaning one.
Unilateral paralysis - paralysis affecting one side.
Uniparous - having given birth to but one child.
- Uretero-:** Relating to the ureter (duct connecting kidney and bladder).
Ureterolithiasis - stone in the ureter.
Ureterectomy - the surgical removal of a ureter or a part of it.
- Urethro-:** (Distinguished from uretero) pertaining to the canal from the bladder to the exterior.
Urethritis - inflammation of urethra.
Urethroscopy - visual inspection of the interior of the urethra.
- Vagino-:** Pertaining to the vagina.
Vaginoscopy - inspection of the vagina.
Vagino-vesical - pertaining to the vagina and bladder.
- Vaso-, Vas-:** Signifying a vessel or duct.
Vasodilator - causing vasodilatation of the blood vessels.
Vas deferens - the excretory duct of the testicle, passing from the testis to the ejaculatory duct.
- Veni-, Veno-:** Relating to a vein.
Venopressor - pertaining to venous blood pressure.
Venotomy - surgical opening of a vein.
- Ventro-, Ventri-:** Relating to the belly, abdominal.
Ventriflexion - flexion toward the belly.
Ventre-dorsal - pertaining to the ventral and dorsal surfaces.
- Ventricula-:** Signifying any small cavity (especially of the brain and heart).
Ventriculopuncture - puncture of a lateral ventricle of the brain by the insertion of a needle.
Right and left ventricles of the heart.
- Vesica-, Vesico-:** Signifying bladder, usually urinary.
Vesicorectal - pertaining to the bladder and rectum.
Vesicofixation - surgical fixation of the bladder.
- Vesiculo-:** Signifying small sac-like bodies.
Vesiculectomy - excision of a vesicle, especially the seminal vesicle.
Vesiculogram - an X-Ray picture of the seminal vesicles.
- Viscero-:** Relating to a viscus or internal organ.
Visceroparietal - pertaining to the viscera and the abdominal wall.
Visceralgia - pain in the viscera.

SUFFIXES

A suffix consists of one or more letters or syllables appended to a word to give it a specific meaning or signification. The following lists the commonly used suffixes in medical terminology, with examples in each case.

- ac: Pertaining to suffix forming the adjective term.
 - Iliac - pertaining to the ilium.
 - Cardiac - pertaining to the heart.
- acous,-ous: Signifying resemblance.
 - Sebaceous - pertaining to sebum.
 - Osseous - of the nature or quality of bone.
- acy,-cy: Signifying a state of, quality of.
 - Lunacy - in a state of mental unsoundness
 - Pregnancy - state of being pregnant.
- aemia,-emia: Contained in or describing the condition of the **blood**.
 - Anaemia - a condition in which the blood is deficient in either quantity or in quality.
 - Bacteremia - the presence of bacteria in the blood.
- al: Pertaining to.
 - Digital - pertaining to the finger or toe, or performed with a finger.
 - Abdominal - pertaining to the abdomen.
- algia: Indicating relation to pain.
 - Cardialgia - pain in cardiac region.
 - Gastralgia - pain in the stomach.
- asis: Terminating a word - denotes a state or condition.
 - Metastasis - the transfer of disease from one organ or part of an organ to another not directly connected with it.
 - Stasis - a stoppage of the flow of blood or other body fluid in any part.
- atresia: Signifying an imperforation, or absence or closure of a normal opening.
 - Proctatresia - imperforate anus.
 - Urethratresia - imperforate urethra.
- blast: Signifying germ or bud particularly in the early embryonic stage.
 - Myeloblast - bone marrow cell.
 - Erythroblast - one of the nucleated cells of the type from which red blood corpuscles are developed.
- cele: Signifying a hernia, a tumour, a swelling or a cavity.
 - Enterocoele - a hernia of the intestine.
 - Meningocoele - hernial protrusion of the meninges.
- centesis: Signifying tapping or perforation.
 - Paracentesis - a surgical puncture of a cavity for drainage.
 - Thoracentesis - surgical puncture or tapping of the chest wall.
- clasis: Breaking (bone) to repair
 - Diaclasis - a surgical break made for the purpose of repair.
 - Hemoclasis - rupture, destruction, or dissolution of erythrocytes.

- coccus: Suffix to the various names of organisms.
Pneumococcus
Meningococcus
- culus,-cula,-culum: The Latin suffix indicating diminutive.
Tuberculum - a tubercle or small prominence
Diverticulum - a pouch or pocket leading off from a main cavity or tube.
- cyst: Sac or bladder.
Macrocyst - a large cyst.
Hematocyst - an effusion of blood into the bladder or into a cyst.
- cyte: Signifying cell.
Lymphocyte - white blood corpuscle or cell.
Fibrocyte - a connective tissue cell.
- cytosis: Term used to denote the condition of a cell or cells.
Lymphocytosis - excess number of the normal lymphocytes (white blood cells) in the blood.
Erythrocytosis - increase in the number of red blood corpuscles in the circulation as a result of some blood stimulus.
- dynia: Denoting pain in
Cardiodynia - pain in the heart.
Myodynias - pain in a muscle.
- ectasia: Meaning to stretch out, distention or expansion.
Proctectasia - dilatation of the rectum or anus
Gastrectasia - dilatation of the stomach.
- ectomy: Denoting a cutting out or excision.
Appendectomy - surgical removal of the appendix.
Cholecystectomy - surgical removal of the gall bladder.
- esthesia: Denoting perception, feeling or sensation.
Anaesthesia - loss of feeling, loss of sensibility.
Hyperesthesia - excessive sensitiveness of the skin.
- graph,-graphy: Relating to that which writes or records, description of.
Cardiography - recording of the heart's movements.
Cardiograph - an instrument placed over the heart to indicate the force and form of the heart's movements.
Cardiogram - tracing made by the use of the cardiograph. The tracing will indicate a normal or abnormal action of the heart.
- ia: Used in forming abstract nouns, Latin plural.
Cardia - the cardiac or esophageal orifice of the stomach.
Atria - plural of atrium (an auricle of the heart)
- iasis: Suffix meaning a process or the condition resulting, particularly a morbid condition.
Cholelithiasis - the presence or formation of gallstones.
Nephrolithiasis - the presence or the formation of kidney stones.
Helminthiasis - a morbid state due to infestation with worms.

- ist: Suffix forming a personal noun, one concerned in any subject, as in the arts or sciences.
Therapist or therapist - one skilled in the treatment of disease.
Hematologist - a specialist in the study of blood.
- ites: Suffix indicating dropsy of the part, to the name of which it is attached.
Ascites - an accumulation of fluid in abdominal cavity.
- itis: Suffix denoting inflammation
Peritonitis - inflammation of the peritoneum
Tonsillitis - inflammation of a tonsil.
- lith: Denoting a stone.
Nephrolith - a renal calculus, gravel in the kidney
Cholelith - a gallstone or biliary calculus.
- lysis: Indicating a loosening of, dissolution or the gradual abatement of the symptoms of a disease.
Hemolysis - the separation of the hemoglobin from the red blood corpuscles and its appearance in the fluid in which the corpuscles are suspended.
Pneumonolysis - the operation of stripping the pleura from the facia of the thoracic wall in order to allow the lung to collapse.
- mania: Pertaining to madness or insane desire.
Kleptomania - an insane impulse to steal.
Hydromania - insanity marked by tendency to commit suicide by drowning.
- ness: Signifies state of being.
Blindness - state of being blind.
Deafness - lack or loss, complete or partial, of the sense of hearing.
- oid: Denoting a resemblance of, sense something.
Thyroid - (resembling a shield) the thyroid gland.
Lymphoid - resembling lymph.
- ology: Pertaining to the science of.
Bacteriology - the science and study of bacteria.
Dermatology - the sum of what is known regarding the skin and skin diseases.
- oma: Suffix meaning tumour.
Lymphoma - tumour made up of lymph tissue. It may be benign or malignant.
Carcinoma - a malignant new growth made up of epithelial cells tending to infiltrate the surrounding tissues and give rise to metastases.
- opia: Pertaining to the eye.
Myopia - short-sightedness
Hyperopia - far-sightedness

- orexia: Signifying appetite
Anorexia - loss of appetite for food.
Hyperorexia - abnormal increase in the appetite and food intake.
- oscopy,-scopy: Visual examination.
Cystoscopy - direct visual examination of the urinary tract by means of the cystoscope.
Bronchoscopy - examination of the bronchi through a tracheal wound or through a bronchoscope.
- osis: A termination denoting a disease or morbid process, sometimes a process not morbid.
Carcinomatosis - the condition of widespread dissemination of cancer throughout the body.
Necrosis - death of a circumscribed portion of tissue.
- ostomy: (Mouth) creating an opening.
Colostomy - the operation of forming an artificial opening into the colon.
Cystostomy - the formation of an opening into the bladder.
- otomy: To incise or cutting into.
Colotomy - the operation of cutting into the colon.
Thoracotomy - surgical incision of the wall of the chest.
- ous: Suffix used for forming descriptive adjectives or nouns.
Cartilaginous - consisting of or of the nature of cartilage.
Edematous - pertaining to or affected by edema.
- opathy: Denoting a morbid condition, or disease.
Myelopathy - any disease of the spinal cord or of myeloid tissue.
Celiopathy - any abdominal disease.
- pexy: Denoting a fixation of.
Hysteropexy - the surgical fixation of a displaced uterus.
Nephropexy - the fixation or suspension of a floating kidney.
- phagia,-phagy: Relating to eating or consuming.
Aphagia - loss of the power of swallowing.
Aerophagy - spasmodic swallowing of air, followed by belching.
- phasia: Relating to speech.
Aphasia - loss of the power of speech either by congenital defect, injury or lesion of the brain.
Dysphasia - impairment of speech, consisting of lack of co-ordination and failure to arrange words in their proper order.
- phobia: Relating to dread or fear.
Photophobia - abnormal intolerance to light.
Necrophobia - insane or morbid fear of death.
- plasty: Denoting repair of.
Hernioplasty - hernia repair.
Thoracoplasty - plastic surgery of the thorax, operative repair of defects of the chest.

- pnea,-pnoea: Relating to the breath or breathing
Hyperpnea - abnormal exaggeration of the respiratory movements.
Dyspnea - difficult or labored breathing.
- ptosis: Prolapse of an organ or part, fall.
Hysteroptosis - falling or prolapse of the uterus
Gastroptosis - downward displacement of the stomach.
- rhythmia: Pertaining to rhythm.
Arrhythmia - any variation from the normal rhythm of the heart.
Bradyrhythmia - slowness of the pulse rate.
- (0)-rrhagia: To burst forth
Menorrhagia - abnormally profuse menstruation.
Bronchorrhagia - hemorrhage from the lungs.
- (0)-rrhaphy: To suture
Colporrhaphy - the surgical operation of suturing the vagina.
Cystorrhaphy - the operation of suturing the bladder.
- (0)-orrhoea: Signifying to flow.
Amenorrhoea - absence of the menses.
Gastrosuccorrhoea - excessive and continuous secretion of gastric juice.
- taxis,taxy: Order, arrangement or influence.
Atoxia - lack of order, failure of muscular coordination.
Hypotoxia - a condition of diminished control over the will and actions, such as occurs in the first stage of hypnotism.
- tripsy: Crushing
Basiotripsy - the operation of crushing the fetal head in order to facilitate delivery.
Lithotripsy - the crushing of a calculus within the bladder.
- trophia,-trophy: Relating to food or nourishment.
Atrophy - lack of nourishment as in a muscular atrophy or muscular paralysis.
Dystrophy - defective or faulty nutrition.
- uria: Pertaining to urine
Hematuria - blood in the urine
Polyuria - the passage of abnormally large amounts of normal urine.

Medical and non-professional terms describing body structure

Back	- May be designated by such terms as: dorsal region; scapular region; sacral region; lumbar region; coxal region and gluteal region.
Bile duct	- May be described by such terms as: biliary duct; hepatic duct; bile passage; bile canal; cystic duct, or common bile duct.
Bladder	- Vesical; generally speaking refers to the urinary bladder and not to the gallbladder.
Bone	- Osteo; osseous or os.
Brain	- Cerebral; basilar; bulbar; cerebellar; cortical; pons; encephalo-meningo.
Breast	- Mammary
Breast bone	- Sternum
Bronchus	- Windpipe; the bronchi are the two main branches of the trachea.
Bursa	- (A pouch) a saclike cavity filled with a small amount of fluid and situated at places in the tissues at which friction would otherwise develop, (e.g. elbow, knee).
Caecum	- The dilated intestinal pouch into which open the ileum, the colon and the appendix. Also called the blind gut.
Canthus	- Pl. canthi - the angle at either end of the slit between the eyelids; distinguished as 'outer' or 'temporal' 'inner' or 'nasal'. For neoplastic classification assign to 'skin'.
Collar bone	- Clavicle
Diaphragm	- A muscular membranous partition that separates the abdomen from the thorax. Its contraction and relaxation results in an up and down movement vital to respiration. Nerve supply is through the right and left phrenic nerves.
Dura, dura mater	- Tough, fibrous membrane covering brain and spinal cord.
Ear	- Oto; auris
Eye	- Ocular; optic; the eye is composed of three coats; the cornea, the choroid and the retina.
Foramen	- A hole or orifice through which blood vessels, nerves and ligaments are transmitted.
Foramen ovale	- Usually refers to the fetal opening between the heart's auricles. This is described under heading 'Heart'.

Foramen ovale can also refer to an aperture in the great wing of the sphenoid bone for the inferior maxillary nerve and the small meningeal artery. The context of the certifier's message will indicate which is meant. (Sphenoid bone is situated at the base of the skull. It somewhat resembles a bat with extended wings. The wings help bind together the other cranial bones. It contains cavities which are called sphenoid sinuses, they communicate with the nasal fossae).

Gallbladder, cholecyst - The addition of a suffix designates the disease present,
e.g. cholecystitis - inflammation of the gallbladder
cholecystectomy - surgical excision of the gallbladder.

Groin - The lowest part of the abdominal wall, near its junction with the thigh.

Gullet - The passage leading to the stomach, it includes the pharynx and the oesophagus.

Gum - Gingiva

Haunch bone - or hip bone - the os coxa

Heart - Referred to as cardiac cor, cordis:
myocardium - the heart muscle
endocardium - the endothelial lining membrane of the heart
pericardium - the membranous sac which surrounds the heart.
It contains 5 to 20 c.c. of thin, serous liquid.
heart valves - aortic; mitral or the bicuspid; tricuspid;
pulmonary; eustachian valve (valve of the vena
cava, withing the right auricle of the heart,
or the valve of the inferior vena cava); thebesian
valve - the coronary valve or the coronary sinus.
cavities of the heart - right heart (right auricle (atrium)
(right ventricle

left heart (left auricle (atrium)
(left ventricle

Before birth there is an opening between the right and left auricle called the foramen. ovale. Normally this is closed at the time of birth. If this does not close, the condition is that which is known as "persistent foramen ovale" or an interauricular septal defect.

Intestine - The membranous tube that extends from the stomach to the anus.
The first portion extending from the stomach is called the small intestine (approx. 20 feet) and includes the (duodenum
(jejunum
(ileum

The large intestine is joined to the small intestine at the right region of the abdomen. It is approx. 5 feet in length and includes the (caecum
 (colon
 (rectum

Sigmoid colon flexure refers to the angle of the colon between the descending colon and the rectum.

Jaw - Ordinarily refers to the jaw bone. Lower jaw - mandible
Upper jaw - maxilla

Kidney - Normally two glandular bodies in the lumbar region that secrete the urine. Anomalous kidney (abnormal kidney) can be either congenital or acquired: (horseshoe kidney
 (fused kidney
 (cystic kidney

Diseased kidney acquired:

(hydronephrotic
(arteriosclerotic
(large white
(small white
(contracted
(granular

Kneecap, patella - A lens-shaped bone in front of the knee joint and contained in the tendon of the large thigh muscle.

Liver - Hepatic; portal; its function is to produce bile and secrete same; it converts sugar into glycogen and stores this for body needs. It is essential for life.

Lung - Commonly referred to by the adjective pulmonary. Right and left cone shaped organs in the thoracic cavity - separated by the heart and mediastinum. Through their millions of alveolar air sacs occurs the interchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the blood.

Mediastinum - Is the space in the median portion of the thorax between the pleural sacs. It extends from the sternum to the spinal column and contains the heart in its pericardium, the large blood vessels connected with the heart, part of the thoracic duct, the thymus gland (or vestiges of it), the trachea, oesophagus, portions of the vagus and phrenic nerves and lymph nodes.

Membrane - This word is used to designate any thin expansion of tissue. It denotes an enveloping or a lining tissue of the body. The chief membranes of the body are:

1. serous
2. synovial
3. mucous
4. cutaneous

Meninges - The three membranes which cover the brain and spinal cord
 i.e. duramater
 pia mater
 arachnoid

- Mesentery - A peritoneal fold which attaches the intestine to the back of the abdominal wall. Its purpose is to keep the intestine in place and to provide the support for the arteries, veins and nerves which supply the intestines. The places of attachment to the caecum, colon, rectum, are called the mesocaecum; mesocolon; mesorectum respectively.
- Neck - May be described as cervical; cervix. The site should be determined, i.e. the part between the head and thorax; the part near the extremity of an organ or bone.
- Nervous system - Controls human thought and conduct; provides the power to see, to move, to hear, to talk; highest in importance in the control of the internal organs; constantly furnishes the body with knowledge of its environment. The general plan is based on nerve centres (masses of nerve tissue) connected by nerves which spread extensively to every part of the body. May be classified as follows:
- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| | (Spinal cord |
| | (Spinal nerves, and end-organs |
| | (cerebrum |
| Central nervous | (cerebellum |
| system. | (Brain (mid-brain |
| (Cerebrospinal) | (medulla oblongata |
| (Voluntary) | (pons varolii |
| | (Cranial nerves, and end-organs. |
| | (Parasympathetic system |
| Autonomic | (Sympathetic system |
| Nervous System | (Enteric system (nerve plexuses in |
| (Involuntary) | (G.I. tract. |
- Pelvis - 1. Any basin-like structure, as the sac in the kidney, of which the ureter is the outlet. 2. Pelvis unqualified, usually refers to the basin-like ring of bone at the posterior end of the trunk, supporting the spinal column and resting upon the lower extremities.
- The pelvis is formed by: -two hip bones or os coxae
-sacrum
-coccyx
- The os coxa is formed by -ilium
-ischium
-pubis
- Where portions of these innominate bones join there is a deep socket called the acetabulum, into which the head of the femur fits. The sacrum and coccyx complete the back of the pelvis.
- Peritoneum - Is a serous membrane lining the abdominal wall and enclosing the abdominal viscera. In the female it encloses the pelvic viscera as well. Its function is to hold the abdominal viscera in place by its folds, some of which form the mesenteries which connect portions of the intestine to the back of the abdominal wall.

Pharynx

- The area between the mouth and nose and the esophagus. It is continuous below with the esophagus, and above it communicates with the larynx, mouth, nasal passages and eustachian tubes. The major blood vessels to the head and brain are situated alongside the right and left lateral walls.

Pleura

- The serous membrane investing the lungs and lining the thoracic cavity. It completely encloses the space known as the pleural cavity. There are two pleurae, right and left, entirely shut off from each other.

Skeleton

- The bones are the principal organs of support, and the passive instruments of locomotion. Connected together in the skeleton they form a framework of hard material, affording attachment to the soft parts, maintaining them in their due position, sheltering such as are of delicate structure, giving stability to the whole fabric, and preserving its shape.

1. Long bones are:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| (2) clavicle | (2) humerus |
| (2) radius | (2) ulna |
| (2) femur | (2) tibia |
| | (2) fibula |
| (10) metacarpals | (body of hand) |
| (10) metatarsals | (sole, lower instep) |
| (56) phalanges | (fingers, toes) |

2. Short bones are:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (16) carpus (wrist) | (14) tarsus (heel and upper instep) |
| (2) patella (knee cap) | |

3. Flat bones are:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| (1) occipital | (2) lacrimal |
| (2) parietal | (2) scapula |
| (1) frontal | (1) sternum |
| (2) nasal | (24) ribs |
| (1) vomer | (2) hip bones |

4. Irregular bones are:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| (24) vertebrae | (2) malar |
| (1) sacrum | (2) maxillae |
| (1) coccyx | (1) mandible |
| (2) temporal | (2) palate |
| (1) sphenoid | (2) inferior turbinated |
| (1) ethmoid | (1) hyoid |

The bones of the ear are so small that they are described as ossicles or bonelets and do not fit in any of these groups.

Divisions of the skeleton are:

1. Head or skull, (cranium, face).
2. Hyoid, in the neck (below base of the tongue).
3. Trunk

includes: vertebrae	excludes: head
sternum	neck
ribs	extremities
clavicles	
scapulae	
pelvis	

4. Upper extremities
5. Lower extremities

- Skin - May be described as cutaneous, derma, epiderma.
- Spine - Or spinal column refers to the bones of the spine (vertebrae); may be described as cervical spine
 thoracic "
 lumbar "
 sacral
 coccygeal
 Dorsal spine refers to the spinal column.
- Spinal cord - That part of the central nervous system passing through and surrounded by the vertebral column.
- Stomach - May be described as gastro, gastric; the end of the stomach which connects with the oesophagus is called the cardiac end; the distal portion is the pyloric end and opens into the duodenum.
- Ureter - The tube which conveys the urine from each kidney to the bladder.
- Urethra - The tube which conveys the urine from the bladder to the surface.
 (only one compared to two ureters)
- Vein - Vena or phlebo; relating to the veins
- Viscera - (singular-viscus) - Refers to the large internal organs in any one of the three great cavities of the body, especially the abdomen.
- Voice box - the larynx, the organ of voice, situated below the root of the tongue and the top of the trachea.
 (In the upper and front part of the neck)
- Windpipe - The trachea; the cartilaginous and membranous tube descending from the larynx to the bronchi.
- Omentum - A duplication of the peritoneum going from the stomach to the adjacent organs. The great omentum acts somewhat like a covering over the front of the abdominal organs. Quite often it serves to localize abdominal infections.
- Orbit - The bony socket which contains the eye and its muscles. The optic nerve and blood vessels enter through an opening in the back.

EPONYMS

An Eponym is a name or phrase to describe a disease or condition which is formed from or includes the name(s) of a person(s), such as Bright's disease or Stokes-Adams syndrome. The eponym is sometimes used by physicians in stating the cause of death or the surgical operation performed. Although some eponyms are entered in the International Statistical Classification as a guide to classification, it must be remembered that an eponym is not the scientific term.

Some eponyms indicate more than one disease, as in Pick's disease or Paget's disease; conversely some diseases are known under several eponyms for example, 'presenile psychosis' is sometimes described as 'Pick's disease of the brain' or again as 'Alzheimer's disease'.

In assigning to the eponym care should therefore be taken so as not to confuse with another possible condition. When there is no indication as to which condition is meant, further information should be sought. The following examples illustrate the necessity of obtaining precise information:

Addison's disease - 274
- tuberculous - 017

Billroth's disease -
- meningocele - 751
- neoplasm - 201

Bright's disease - 593
- acute - 590
- subacute - 591
- chronic - 592

Charcot's disease - 024
Charcot - Marie-Tooth - 356.2
Charcot's syndrome - 453.3

Chiari's disease - 583
Chiari - Arnold syndrome - 753.1

Grave's disease - 252.0
- insanity - 308.2

Paget's disease
- bone - 731
- breast - 170
- nipple - 170
- skin - 191

Parkinson's - 350
- Postencephalitic - 083.0

Pick's disease - 289.0
- brain - 305
- liver - 578
- heart - 434.3

Eponyms cont'd.

Pott's disease (active) - 012.0
- arrested, cured - 013.0
fracture (ankle bone)
(lower part of fibula) - N824

Raynaud's disease - 453.0
- following parotiditis - 781.4

Recklinghausen's disease - 223
- bones - 271.0
- nerves - 223
- skin - 223

Stokes' disease - 252.0
Stokes-Adams disease - 433.0

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations frequently used in medical records.

- ASHD - arteriosclerotic heart disease
A & T - adenoids and tonsils; usually refers
to adenoidectomy and tonsillectomy.
- B.P. - blood pressure
B.M.R. - basal metabolic rate
B.W. - blood wasserman; test to determine the
presence of syphilis
- Ca - cancer
C.B.C. - complete blood count
C.B.D. - common bile duct
CO - carbon monoxide
CO₂ - carbon dioxide
- C.V.A. - cerebrovascular accident; could also
mean cardiovascular accident, but
this term is uncommon. If the coder
follows the sequence of events it will
usually be found to mean cerebrovascular
accident; if it is not clear, query for
further information
- C.V.R. - cardiovascular renal disease
C.N.S. - central nervous system
- D & C - dilatation and curettage. If nothing
further is shown code this to (633) a
classification limited to females only.
- D.O.A. - dead on arrival
Dorsal slit - generally refers to a partial
circumcision.
- ECG - electrocardiogram
EEG - electroencephalogram
- G.B. - gallbladder
GC - gonococcal infection
GI - gastro-intestinal
GOK - "God only knows" (Sir Wm. Osler)
GPI - general paresis of the insane
GSW - gunshot wound
G.U. - genito urinary
- N.Y.D. - not yet diagnosed
- P.P. - postpartum; puerperium, up to 6 weeks
after delivery
- R.A.A. - acute articular rheumatism
R.B.C. - Red blood cell count

Abbreviations cont'd.

- T.U.D.R. - transurethral drainage of prostate
T.U.P.R. - transurethral prostatic resection
T.A.B. - vaccine which protects against typhoid, paratyphoid A, and paratyphoid B.
T.A.B.T. - same as T.A.B. plus tetanus
T.B. - tubercule bacillus
Tb - tuberculosis
Tbc - tuberculous
U.R.I. - upper respiratory infection
V.D. - venereal disease
V.D.H. - valvular disease of heart
V.D.G. - venereal disease, gonococcal
V.D.S. - venereal disease, syphilis
Ves. - vesica or bladder
Vs. - venasection
Vs.B. - venasection, arm
W.B.C. - white blood count
W.R. - wasserman reaction
Z - (Quebec province) signifies specificity, syphilis or tuberculosis.

HOMONYMS AND OTHER MEDICAL TERMS

- Abduction - the act of drawing away from the middle line of the body.
Addiction - the state of being given up to some habit such as a drug habit.
Adduction - the act of drawing toward a center or a median line as in the adductor muscles.
- Alveolus - dental alveolus or tooth socket; a small cavity; an air sac of the lungs; anyone of the honeycomb cells of the gastric mucous membrane.
Alveus - a trough or a canal
Alvus - the abdomen with its visceral contents
- Amenorrhea - absence or abnormal stoppage of the menses
Dysmenorrhea - painful and difficult menstruation
Menorrhea - the normal discharge of the menses
Menorrhagia - abnormally profuse menstruation or postmenopausal
Metrorrhagia - abnormal uterine hemorrhage especially during inter-menstrual period
- Antiseptic - to prevent decay; or a substance that will inhibit the growth of bacteria, such as alcohol, boric acid, phenol etc.
Aseptic - free from infection, or septic material
Asepsis - free from infection or to prevent the access of bacteria
Sepsis - poisoning caused by decayed or putrefying products
- Aural - - pertaining to the ear
Oral - - pertaining to the mouth
- Auscultation - listening to sounds within the body, either direct or by means of the stethoscope (for diagnostic purpose)
Percussion - usually bimanual. The middle finger of the left hand is placed against the body wall and is struck a quick blow with the end of the bent right middle finger. Used as an aid in diagnosing the condition of the parts beneath by the sound obtained.
- Bradycardia - abnormal slowness of the heart beat (pulse rate below 60
Tachycardia - excessive rapidity in the action of the heart.
(usually applied to a rate above 100 per minute)
- Carbuncle - an inflammation of the subcutaneous tissue, which becomes red and swollen, then discharges pus, finally sloughs away leaving an excavation in the skin.
Caruncle - Any small fleshy eminence, normal or abnormal
Furuncle - a boil; caused by bacteria entering through the hair follicles.

Homonyms and other Medical Terms cont'd.

- Carcinoma - a malignant new growth made up of epithelial cells tending to infiltrate the surrounding tissues and give rise to metastases
- Carcinomatosis - carcinosis; the widespread dissemination of a malignant growth throughout the body
- Carpus - the wrist bones
- Corpus - the body or the main part of an organ
- Chronic - long continued; not acute
- Chromic - denoting pigmentation or colour, as in hypochromic anemia (iron deficiency anemia)
- Clinic - A place where patients are admitted for study and treatment by a group of physicians
- Clinical - founded on observation and the response to treatment of the patient as distinguished from theoretical or experimental.
- Clonic - spasmodic, muscular contractions
- Colonic - pertaining to the colon
- Contusion - a bruise
- Contrusion - a condition in which the teeth are crowded or pushed together
- Concussion - a violent jar or shock, or a condition which results from it; such as concussion of the brain with resulting loss of consciousness.
- Convulsion - a violent involuntary contraction or a series of contractions of the voluntary muscles.
- Corneal - pertaining to the cornea of the eye. The cornea, composed of transparent fibrous tissue, covers the eye as a crystal would cover a watch.
- Coronal - the line of union between the frontal and parietal bones of the skull; pertaining to any corona (crown).
- Cornual - pertaining to a cornu (horn or horny-like) as in cornual pregnancy (pregnancy in one of the horns of a bicornate uterus).
- Cranial - pertaining to the cranium (skull)
- Cystectomy - an excision of a cyst; excision of the gallbladder or a part of the urinary bladder.
- Cystostomy - the formation of an opening into the bladder
- Cystotomy - an incision into the bladder
- Cystoscopy - a visual examination of the urinary tract by means of an instrument called the cystoscope or endoscope.

Homonyms and other Medical Terms cont'd.

- *Embolus - a clot or other plug (e.g. air, fat) brought by the blood stream from a distant blood vessel and forced into a smaller vessel so as to obstruct the circulation. (movable clot)
- Embolism - The result of an embolus; an obstruction in a vein or artery causing sudden blocking of circulation. The embolus is transported to the site by the blood current.
- Thrombus - a clot or plug in a blood vessel or in one of the cavities of the heart, formed by coagulation of the blood and remaining at the point of its formation. (compared to embolus)
- Thrombosis - The formation, development or presence of a thrombus.
- Endemic - a disease which is local or prevalent in a certain district or region.
- Epidemic - a disease attacking many people in any region at the same time. A rapidly spreading disease of high morbidity, which is only occasionally present in a human community.
- Epigastric - pertaining to the upper middle region of the abdomen, over the stomach.
- Epispastic - a blistering agent or causing a blister.
- Facial - pertaining to the face
- Fascial - pertaining to fascia [a band of fibrous tissue covering the muscles and certain organs]
- Foci - (singular-focus) pertaining to the chief centres of a morbid process.
- Fossae - depressions, or hollows; as in cranial fossae - the three hollows in the base of the cranium for containing parts of the brain.
- Friction - the act of rubbing
- Fraction - a division or separation as in 'liver fraction' - an extract from liver used in the treatment of pernicious anemia.
- Gavage - a feeding by the stomach tube.
- Lavage - an irrigation or washing out of an organ such as the stomach or bowel
- Glisson's disease - rickets
- Glissonitis - inflammation of the sheath of connective tissue which envelopes the hepatic artery and duct and the portal vein.

*"The definition of 'embolus' clarifies the reason for the rule accepting 'cerebral embolus' when stated to be caused by an 'endocarditis' or a disease of the 'digestive system'". The rule was first reported in WHO Addendum I printed in 1953.

Homonyms and other Medical Terms cont'd.

- Haemophilia - an hereditary blood condition, characterized by delayed clotting of blood; thus there is difficulty in checking hemorrhage.
- Haemophilus - a true bacteria of the parasitic tribe, haemophilus influenzae, haemophilus pertussis and others. Haemophilus influenzae is not the causative agent of influenza (respiratory). Thus haemophilus influenzae infection would be coded to 064.4 unless the haem. infl. terminated in meningitis; in which case we assign to 340.0.
- Hodgkins - a malignant granuloma or lymphoma of the lymph glands. Their enlargement begins on one side of the neck and extends to glands in other sites.
- Hodgsons - an aneurysmal dilatation of the aorta, often accompanied by dilatation or hypertrophy of the heart.
- Hyperchromic anaemia - an anaemia in which the hemoglobin is not reduced as much as the red blood cell count.
- Hypochromic anaemia - an anaemia due to iron deficiency.
- Hypoglycaemia - a deficiency of sugar in the blood classified as 270.
If associated with diabetes - classify to diabetes.
- Hyperglycaemia - excess of sugar in the blood. (Diabetes)
- Hypertension - high blood pressure
- Hypotension - low blood pressure
- Ileum - the third portion of the small intestine terminating in the large bowel or cecum; (the first portion is the duodenum, the second is the jejunum)
- Ilium - the upper part of the innominate bone of the pelvis.
- Inhalation - an act of drawing the air or other vapor into the lungs.
- Instillation - an act of dropping a liquid into a cavity, such as that of the eye.
- Keratitis - an inflammation of the cornea
- Keratosiis - a horny growth, such as a wart
- Ketosis - an acid intoxication, such as acidosis or acidemia;
excessive formation of ketones in the body.
- Lymphadenitis - an inflammation of the lymph glands or nodes.
- Lymphangitis - an inflammation of a lymphatic vessel or vessels.

Homonyms and other Medical Terms cont'd.

- Mucous - - pertaining to or resembling mucous; the secreting of mucus.
Mucus - - a viscid watery secretion that covers mucous membranes. It is present also in synovial and bursal fluids, the umbilical cord and bile.
- Nephrosis - - a disease of the kidney marked by degenerative lesions of the tubules; with oedema and decreased albumin in the serum.
- Neurosis - - a mental disorder; a functional disorder of the nervous system.
- Pericardium - - the membranous sac which contains the heart.
Precardium - - in front of the heart.
- Perineal - - pertaining to the perineum. (i.e. the anatomical region at the lower end of the trunk between the thighs)
Peroneal - - pertaining to the fibula or the outer side of the leg.
- Perineum - - the region at the lower end of the trunk between the thighs.
Peritoneum - - the serous membrane lining the abdominal walls and investing the abdominal viscera.
- Perivascular - - surrounding a vessel
Perivesical - - surrounding the bladder.
- Stasis - - a stoppage, such as the flow of blood or the passage of the intestinal contents.
e.g. Epistaxis - the checking of any discharge as of blood, menses or lochia.
- Staxis - - a hemorrhage.
e.g. Epistaxis or nosebleed.
- Suppression - - the sudden stoppage of a secretion, excretion or normal discharge.
- Suppuration - - the formation or discharge of pus.
- Sycosis - - a disease marked by inflammation of the hair follicles, especially of the beard.
- Psychosis - - a mental disorder of deep, far-reaching and prolonged behavior changes.
- Trachelotomy - - a surgical cutting of the uterine neck.
Tracheotomy - - the formation of an artificial opening into the trachea.
- Xerosis - - abnormal dryness, as of the eye or skin.
- Cirrhosis - - a disease of the liver marked by progressive destruction of liver cells, accompanied by regeneration of the liver substance and increase of connective tissue.
- Serosa - - any serous membrane.

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