

Prefixes



Chapter 4

Learning Objectives



- Identify and define common prefixes used in medical terms.
- Analyze, spell, and pronounce medical terms that contain prefixes.

Prefixes



a-, an- no, not, without

ab-away from

ad-toward, near

ana- up, apart

ante- before, forward

Prefixes (Cont.)



anti- against

bi- two, both

brady- slow

con- with, together

Prefixes (Cont.)



dia- complete, through

dys- bad, painful, difficult, abnormal

Prefixes (Cont.)



ec- out, outside

endo- within, in, inner

epi- above, upon

ex- out

extra- outside of

Prefixes (Cont.)



hemi- half

hyper- excessive, too much, above

hypo- deficient, too little, below

Prefixes (Cont.)



in- in, into

inter- between

intra- within

mal- bad

meta- change, beyond

Prefixes (Cont.)



neo- new

para- beside, near, along the side of

peri- surrounding

poly- many, much

Prefixes (Cont.)



post- after, behind

pre- before

pro- before, forward

pros- before, forward

Prefixes (Cont.)



quadri- four

re- back, behind

retro- back, behind

sub- under, less than

syn- with, together

Prefixes (Cont.)



tachy- fast

trans- across, through

tri- three

ultra- beyond

uni- one

Additional Medical Terms

- **Adrenal glands:** endocrine glands located above each kidney
- **Antibiotic:** destroys or inhibits the growth of microorganisms such as bacteria
- **Antigen:** foreign substance, such as bacteria and viruses

Additional Medical Terms (Cont.)

- **Bradycardia:** slow heartbeat
- **Congenital Anomaly:** an irregularity in a structure or organ that an infant is born with
- **Dialysis:** removing harmful waste products from the body with an artificial kidney machine (dialysis machine)

Additional Medical Terms (Cont.)

- **Ectopic pregnancy:** an abnormal pregnancy when the embryo implants outside the uterus, usually in the fallopian tubes, but sometimes on an ovary or in the abdominal cavity
- **Parathyroid glands:** four endocrine glands located on the dorsal side of the thyroid gland that function separately from the thyroid gland
- **Prolapse:** to fall or slide forward, often used to describe an organ, such as a prolapsed uterus

Additional Medical Terms (Cont.)

- ❑ **Retroperitoneal:** pertaining to behind the peritoneum; the kidneys and adrenal glands are retroperitoneal organs
- ❑ **Syndrome:** a group of signs or symptoms that commonly occur together and indicate a particular disease or abnormal condition
- ❑ **Subcutaneous:** lower layer of the skin composed of fatty tissue

Additional Medical Terms (Cont.)

- **Tachycardia:** condition of fast, rapid heart beat
- **Transurethral:** when an instrument passes through the urethra
- **Ultrasonography:** a diagnostic technique using ultrasound waves to produce an image or photograph of an organ or tissue

Medical Scramble



1. Harmless, not cancerous
I N G B N E
2. Painful uination
S Y R A D I U
3. Pertaining to a newborn
L E O A T N A N

Medical Scramble (Cont.)

4. SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome)

N E A A P

5. Organs shrink in size

P Y A R T O H

Medical Scramble



Bonus Term: Foreign protein that causes an immune response

(Hint: This protein is often part of bacteria and viruses and evokes production of antibodies.)

G I E N N A T



Questions?