



Health Assistant

Flexible Instruction Day

Assignment #5

Learning Standard	HEALTH/MEDICAL ASSISTING SERVICES, OTHER Code: 51.0899 Career Cluster: Health Science Medical Terminology
Task # & Description	1201 Define and differentiate between root words, prefixes, and suffixes 1203 Differentiate the various medical specialties in health care settings

CONTACT INFORMATION/ASSISTANCE

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I will be available by email and/or the Remind app from 7:40-12 and 12:30-3:10 to answer your questions. Please reach out if you are having difficulty completing your assignments.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ All work is due on the day we return to school. This is counted towards your attendance **and** as a grade.
- ✓ Read chapter 2 then complete worksheet. Both are included in this packet.

Name: _____

Session: _____

_____/__20__ points

Miscellaneous Symbols

*>	greater than
*<	less than
↑	higher, elevate, or up
↓	lower or down
#	pound or number
'	foot or minute
"	inch or second
°	degree
♀ or F	female
♂ or M	male
I or i or Ī	one
II or ii or ĪĪ	two
V	five
X	ten
L	fifty
C	one hundred
D	five hundred
M	one thousand

STUDENT: Go to the workbook and complete the assignment and evaluation sheets for 6:1, Using Medical Abbreviations.

6:2 Interpreting Word Parts

Medical dictionaries have been written to include the many words used in health care careers. It would be impossible to memorize all such words. By breaking the words into parts, however, it is sometimes possible to figure out their meanings.

A word is often a combination of different parts. The parts include prefixes, suffixes, and word roots (see Figure 6-2).

A **prefix** can be defined as a syllable or word placed at the beginning of a word. A **suffix** can be defined as a syllable or word placed at the end of the word.

The meanings of prefixes and suffixes are set. For example, the suffix *itis* means “inflammation of.” *Tonsillitis* means “an inflammation of the tonsils,” and *appendicitis* means “an inflammation of the appendix.” Note that

the meaning of the suffix is usually placed first when the word is defined.

Word roots can be defined as main words or parts to which prefixes and suffixes can be added. In the example *appendicitis*, the word root is *appendix*. By adding the prefix *pseudo-*, which means “false,” and the suffix *itis*, which means “inflammation of,” the word becomes *pseudoappendicitis*. This is interpreted as a “false inflammation of the appendix.”

The prefix usually serves to further define the word root. The suffix usually describes what is happening to the word root.

When prefixes, suffixes, and/or word roots are joined together, vowels are frequently added. Common examples include *a*, *e*, *i*, *ia*, *io*, *o*, and *u*. These are listed in parentheses in the lists that follow. The vowels are not used if the word root or suffix begins with a vowel. For example, *encephal* (*o*) means brain. When it is combined with *itis*, meaning “inflammation of,” the vowel is not used for *encephalitis*. When it is combined with *gram*, meaning “tracing” or “record,” the vowel *o* is added for *encephalogram*. *Hepat* (*o*) means liver. When it is combined with *itis*, the vowel is not used for *hepatitis*. When it is combined with *megaly*, meaning “enlarged,” the vowel *o* is added for *hepatomegaly*.

Eponyms are terms used in medicine that are named after people, places, or things. They are usually used to identify the individual who identified or discovered a substance, disease, or structure. An eponymous individual is someone who uses his or her name to describe something. Common uses for eponyms in medicine include naming:

- **Anatomical parts:** Achilles tendon, Adam’s apple, Eustachian tube, Langerhans cells, Bartholin gland, Cowper’s gland, circle of Willis, Golgi apparatus
- **Diagnostic tests:** Coombs test, Papanicolaou (Pap) test, Ishihara plates, Wright’s stain, Gram’s stain, Mantoux test, Hirschberg test
- **Diseases:** Alzheimer’s disease, Down syndrome, Parkinson’s disease, Legionnaire’s disease, Lou Gehrig’s disease, Kaposi’s sarcoma, Hodgkin’s disease, Bell’s palsy, Munchausen syndrome
- **Fractures:** Colles’ fracture, Hill-Sachs fracture, hangman’s fracture
- **Instruments or medical devices:** Adson’s forceps, Auvar’d speculum, Allis clamp, Holter monitor,

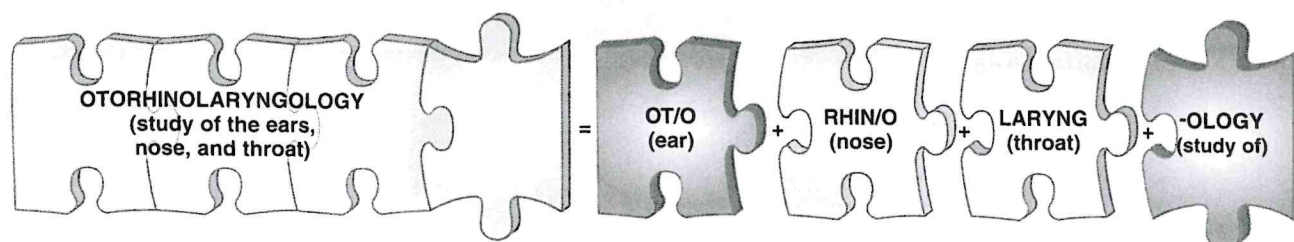


FIGURE 6-2 Prefixes, suffixes, and word roots can be used to interpret the meaning of a word. Copyright © Cengage Learning® All Rights Reserved.

Leur lock, Glenn shunt, Milwaukee brace, St. Jude valve

- **Medical signs:** Babinski sign, Cheyne-Stokes respiration, Korotkoff sounds, Braxton-Hicks contractions, Chadwick's sign
- **Medical treatments:** Heimlich maneuver, Kegel exercises, Brandt-Daroff maneuver, Pasteur's treatment
- **Microorganisms:** Listeria, Escherichia coli, Norwalk virus, Klebsiella pneumonia, Weichselbaum's cocci, Friedlander's pneumonia, Epstein-Barr virus

- **Surgeries:** Trendelenburg operation, Whipple's procedure, Syme's amputation

By learning basic prefixes, suffixes, and word roots, and being aware of eponyms, you will frequently be able to interpret the meaning of a word even when you have never before encountered the word. A list of common prefixes, suffixes, and word roots follows. An example of a medical term using the word part and the meaning of the medical term is also provided. In addition, the prefixes, suffixes, and word roots for parts of the human body are shown in Figure 6-3.

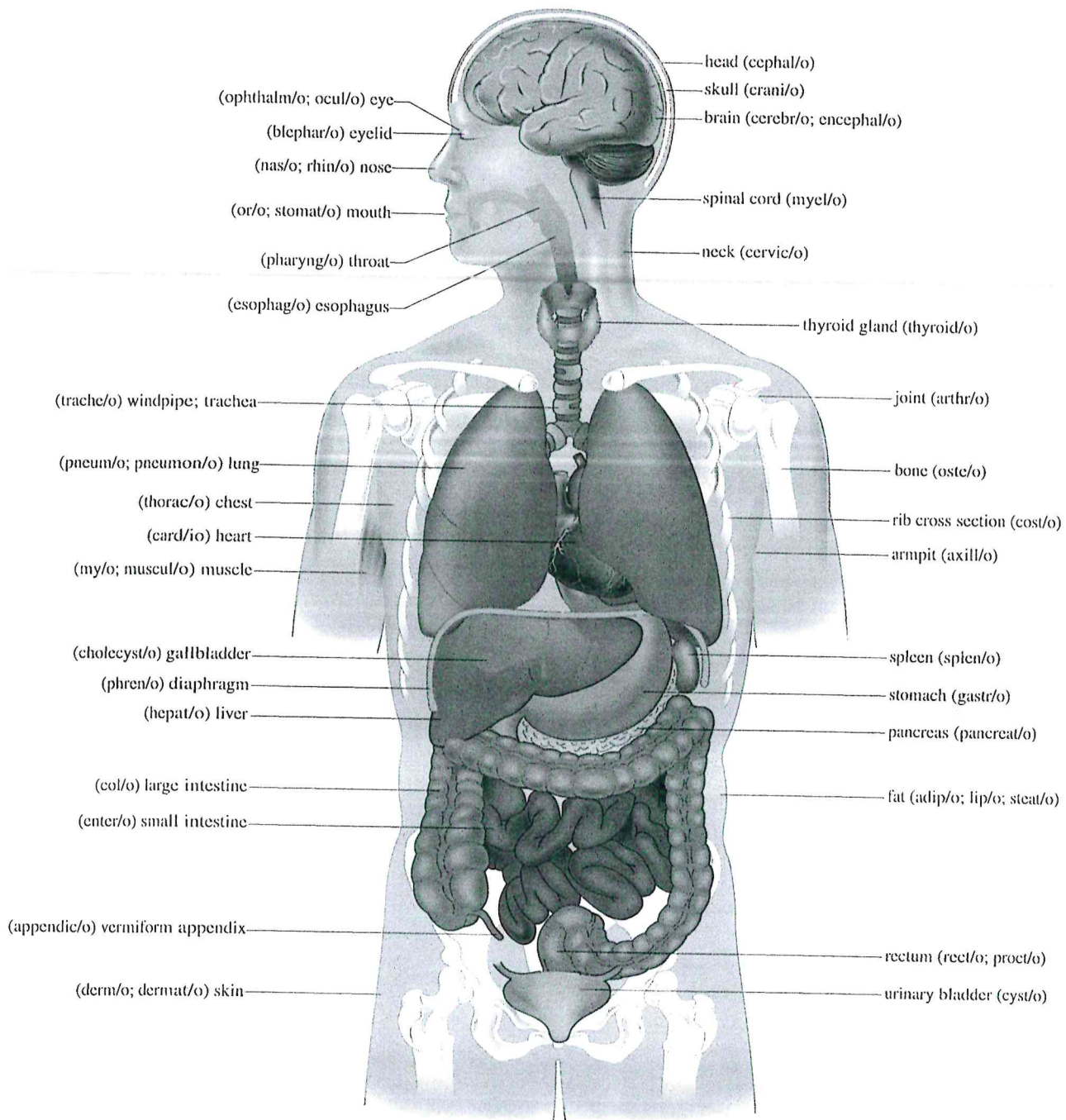


FIGURE 6-3 The prefixes, suffixes, and word roots for parts of the human body. Copyright © Cengage Learning®. All Rights Reserved.

Learn the prefixes, suffixes, and word roots in the following way:

- Use a set of index cards to make flashcards of the word parts found on the prefix, suffix, and word root list. Place one prefix, suffix, or word root on each card. Put the word part on the front of the card and the meaning of the word part on the back of the card. Ensure that each is spelled correctly.
- Use the flashcards to learn the meanings of the word parts. A realistic goal is to learn one letter per week. For example, learn all word parts starting with the letter *A* the first week, all of those starting with *B* the second week, all of those starting with *C* the third

week, and so on until all are learned. Practice correct spelling of all of the word parts.

- Follow your instructor's guidelines for tests on the word parts. Many instructors give weekly tests. The tests may be cumulative. They may cover the letter of the week plus any letters learned in previous weeks. Words may be presented that use the various word parts.

STUDENT: Go to the workbook and complete the assignment and evaluation sheets for 6:2, Interpreting Word Parts.

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
A			
a-, an-	without, lack of	a/pnea	without or lack of breathing
ab-	from, away	ab/duct	to move away from the body
-ac, -ic	pertaining to	cardi/ac	pertaining to the heart
acr- (o)	extremities (arms and legs)	acro/cyan/osis	condition of blueness of the extremities
ad-	to, toward, near	ad/duct	to move toward the body
aden- (o)	gland, glandular	adeno/cele	a tumor of a gland
adren- (o)	adrenal gland	adreno/pathy	disease of the adrenal gland
aer- (o)	air	aero/cele	a cavity or pouch swollen with gas or air
-al	like, similar, pertaining to	neur/al	pertaining to a nerve
alba-, albi-	white	albi/no	an organism deficient in pigment, white
alges- (i, ia)	pain	algesi/meter	instrument for measuring pain
-algia	pain	my/algia	muscle pain
ambi-	both, both sides	ambi/lateral	both sides
an- (o, us)	anus (opening to rectum)	ano/scope	an instrument for examining the anus and rectum
angi- (o)	vessel	angio/pathy	disease of blood vessels
ankyl-	crooked, looped, immovable, fixed	ankyl/osis	stiffness or fixation of a joint
ante- (ro)	before, in front of, ahead of	ante/partum	before labor or childbirth
anti-	against	anti/bacterial	against bacteria
append- (i, o)	appendix	append/ectomy	surgical removal of the appendix
arter- (io)	artery	aterio/gram	tracing or picture of the arteries
arthr- (o)	joint	arthr/itis	inflammation of a joint
-ase	enzyme	peptid/ase	an enzyme that aids in the digestion of proteins
-asis	condition of	chole/lithi/asis	condition of stones in the gallbladder
-asthenia	weakness, lack of strength	my/asthenia	weakness in a muscle
ather- (o)	fatty, lipid	athero/sclerosis	a fatty hardening
audi- (o)	sound, hearing	audio/meter	an instrument to measure sound or hearing
aur-	ear	aur/al	pertaining to the ear
auto-	self	auto/phobia	a fear of being by oneself or alone

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
B			
bi- (s)	twice, double, both	bi/lateral	two sides
bio-	life	bio/logy	study of science of life
-blast	germ/embryonic cell	hemo/cyto/blast	an embryonic or stem cell for blood cells
blephar- (o)	eyelid	blepharo/plasty	plastic surgery on an eyelid
brachi-	arm	brachi/algia	arm pain
brachy-	short	brachy/dactyl/ic	condition of having short fingers
brady-	slow	brady/cardia	slow heart
bronch- (i, o)	air tubes in lungs	bronch/itis	inflammation of the air tubes in the lungs
bucc- (a, o)	cheek	bucco/lingu/al	pertaining to the cheek and tongue
C			
calc- (u, ulus)	stone	calcul/osis	condition of having a stone
carcin- (o)	cancer, malignancy	carcin/oma	cancerous tumor
cardi- (a, o)	pertaining to heart	cardi/ologist	physician who studies and treats heart disease
carp- (o)	wrist	carp/itis	inflammation of the wrist
-cele, -coele	swelling, tumor, cavity, hernia	meningo/cele	swelling or tumor of the membranes of the brain and spinal cord
cent- (l)	one hundred	centi/meter	a hundredth part of a meter (unit of measurement)
-centesis	surgical puncture to remove fluid	thora/centesis	surgical puncture to remove fluid from the chest
cephal- (o)	head, pertaining to head	cephal/algia	pain in the head, headache
cerebro-	brain	cerebro/spin/al	pertaining to the brain and spinal cord
cerv- (ic, io)	neck, neck of uterus	cervio/facial	relating to the neck and face
cheil- (o)	lip	cheilo/plasty	plastic surgery to repair lip defects
chem- (o)	drug, chemical	chemo/therapy	treatment with drugs or chemicals
chlor- (o)	green	chlor/opsia	a visual defect in which all objects appear green
chol- (e, o)	bile, gallbladder	chole/cyst/ic	pertaining to the gallbladder or bag
chond- (i, r, ri)	cartilage	chondr/itis	inflammation of cartilage
chrom- (a, at, o)	color	chromato/meter	an instrument for measuring color perception
-cide	causing death	germi/cide	causing death to germs
circum-	around, about	circum/duction	movement in a circular motion
-cise	cut	ex/cise	cut out
co- (n)	with, together	co/chromato/graphy	identifying a substance by comparing color hues with a known substance
-coccus	round	strepto/coccus	round germ causing strep infection
col- (in, o)	colon, bowel, large intestine	col/ostomy	creating an opening into the colon or large intestine
colp- (i, o)	vagina	colp/orrhaphy	surgical repair of the vaginal wall
contra-	against, counter	contra/stimulant	against a stimulant
cost- (a, i, o)	rib	cost/ectomy	surgical removal of a rib
crani- (o)	pertaining to the skull	crani/otomy	cutting into the skull
-crine	secrete	exo/crine	secrete outside of
cryo-	cold	cryo/therapy	treatment with cold
crypt- (o)	hidden, obscure	crypto/genic	obscure or unknown origin

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
cut- (an)	skin	cutane/ous	pertaining to the skin
cyan- (o)	blue	cyan/osis	condition of blueness
cyst- (i, o)	bladder, bag, sac	cyst/itis	inflammation of the bladder
cyt- (e, o)	cell	cyt/ology	study of cells
D			
dacry- (o)	tear duct, tear	dacryo/cyst/itis	inflammation of the lacrimal (tear duct) sac
dactyl- (o)	finger, toe	dactyl/oscopy	the scientific study of fingerprints
dec- (a, i)	ten	deci/meter	a tenth part of a meter (unit of measurement)
dent- (i, o)	tooth	dent/al	pertaining to teeth
derm- (a, at, o)	pertaining to skin	dermat/itis	inflammation of the skin
-desis	surgical union or fixation	arthro/desis	surgical immobilization of a joint to allow the bones to grow together
dextr- (i, o)	to the right	dextro/ocular	right eye
di- (plo)	double, twice	diplo/coccus	two round circles
dia-	through, between, part	dia/dermal	cutting through the skin
dis- (ti, to)	separation, away from	dis/infect	to separate or free from infection
dors- (i, o)	to the back, back	dors/al	pertaining to the back
duoden- (o)	duodenum	duoden/ectomy	surgical removal of all or part of the duodenum
dys-	difficult, painful, bad	dys/uria	difficult or painful urination
E			
e- (c)	without	e/dentu/lous	condition of being without teeth
ec- (ti, to)	outside, external	ecto/genous	capable of developing away from the host
-ectasis	expansion, dilation, stretching	bronchi/ectasis	dilation or expansion of air tubes in lungs
-ectomy	surgical removal of	hyster/ectomy	surgical removal of the uterus
electr- (o)	electrical	electro/cardio/gram	recording of electrical activity in the heart
-emesis	vomit	hemat/emesis	vomiting blood
-emia	blood	glyc/emia	sugar in the blood
encephal- (o)	brain	encephal/itis	inflammation of the brain
endo-	within, innermost	endo/crine	secrete within
enter- (i, o)	intestine	enter/itis	inflammation of the intestine
epi-	upon, over, upper	epi/gastric	above the stomach
erythro-	red	erythro/cyte	red (blood) cell
-esis	condition of	par/esis	condition of paralysis
-esthesia	sensation, perception, feel	an/esthesia	without feeling
eu-	well, easy, normal	eu/pnea	normal respiration or breathing
ex- (o)	outside of, beyond	exo/path/ic	disease that originates outside the body
F			
faci-	face	facio/plegia	paralysis of the face
-fascia (l)	fibrous band	myo/fascial	muscle fiber
fibr- (a, i, o)	fiber, connective tissue	fibr/oma	tumor of fibrous tissue
fore-	in front of	fore/arm	the front part of the arm
-form	having the form of, shape	uni/form	one shape or form
-fuge	driving away, expelling	centri/fuge	driving away from the center

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
G			
galacto-	milk, galactose (milk sugar)	galact/orrhea	flow of milk
gast- (i, ro)	stomach	gastr/itis	inflammation of the stomach
-genesis	development, production, creation	fibro/genesis	the development of fibrous tissue
-genetic, -genic	origin, producing, causing	cyto/genic	origin of cells
genito-	organs of reproduction	genito/urinary	organs of reproductive and urinary systems
-genous	kind, type	exo/genous	outside kind or type
geront- (o)	old age, elderly	geront/ology	study of the elderly
gingiv-	gums, gingiva	gingiv/itis	inflammation of the gums
gloss- (o)	tongue	glosso/graph	instrument for recording movements of the tongue
gluc- (o)	sweetness, sugar, glucose	gluco/lipid	sugar fat
gly- (c, co)	sugar	glyc/emia	sugar in the blood
-gram	tracing, picture, record	electro/cardio/gram	tracing of the electrical activity in the heart
-graph	diagram, instrument for recording	electro/cardio/graph	instrument for recording electrical activity in the heart
gyn- (ec, o)	woman, female	gynec/ology	the study of women
H			
hem- (a, ato, o)	blood	hemat/ology	study of the blood
hemi-	half	hemi/plegia	paralysis on half of the body
hepat- (o)	liver	hepat/itis	inflammation of the liver
herni-	rupture	hernio/plasty	surgical repair of a rupture
hetero-	other, unlike, different	hetero/genous	different kind or type
hist- (o)	tissue	hist/ologist	person who studies tissue
hom- (eo, o)	same, like	homeo/stasis	maintaining a constant level
hydro-	water	hydro/therapy	water treatment
hyper-	excessive, high, over, increased, more than normal	hyper/tension	high blood pressure
hypno-	sleep	hypno/sis	process of sleep
hypo-	decreased, deficient, low, under, less than normal	hypo/tension	low blood pressure
hyster- (o)	uterus	hyster/ectomy	surgical removal of the uterus
I			
-ia, -iasis	condition of, abnormal/pathological state	pneumon/ia	abnormal condition of the lung
-ic, -ac	pertaining to	thorac/ic	pertaining to the chest
idio-	peculiar to an individual, self-originating	idio/pathic	disease arising by itself or from an unknown cause
ile- (o, um)	ileum	ileo/stomy	creating an artificial opening into the ileum
infra-	beneath, below	infra/sonic	sound waves below the frequency of the human ear
inter-	between, among	inter/costal	between the ribs
intra-	within, into, inside	intra/ven/ous	into a vein
-ism	condition, theory, state of being	albin/ism	condition of being white
iso-	equal, alike, same	iso/chromatic	constant or same color
-itis	inflammation, inflammation of	pharyng/itis	inflammation of the throat

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
K			
kerat- (o)	cornea of eye	kerato/meter	instrument to measure the curvature of the cornea
-kinesis, -kinetic	motion	dys/kinetic	difficult movement
L			
labi- (a, o)	lip	labio/lingual	pertaining to the lips and tongue
lacrima-	tears	lacrima/tion	secretion of tears
lact- (o)	milk	lacto/genesis	production of milk
lapar- (o)	abdomen, abdominal wall	lapar/otomy	cutting into the abdomen
laryng- (o)	larynx (voicebox)	laryng/itis	inflammation of the voicebox
latero- (al)	side	ambi/lateral	both sides
-lepsy	seizure, convulsion	narco/lepsy	sleep seizure
leuco-, leuko-	white	leuko/cyte	white (blood) cell
lingu- (a, o)	tongue	lingu/al	pertaining to the tongue
lip- (o)	fat, lipids	lipo/cyte	fat cell
lith- (o)	stone, calculus	litho/tripsy	crushing a stone
-logy	study of, science of	bio/logy	study or science of life
lymph- (o)	lymph tissue	lymph/oma	tumor of lymph tissue
-lys (is, o)	destruction, dissolving of	thrombo/lysis	destruction or dissolving of clots
M			
macro-	large	macro/cyte	large cell
mal-	bad, abnormal, disordered, poor	mal/nutrition	poor nutrition
malac- (ia)	softening of a tissue	malac/ia	tissue softening
mamm- (o)	breast, mammary glands	mammo/gram	radiographic (X-ray) image of the breast
-mania	insanity, mental disorder	pyro/mania	individual with the insane desire to start fires
mast- (o)	breast	masto/pathy	disorder of the breast
med- (i, io)	middle, midline	medio/carpal	in the middle of or between the two rows of carpals (wrist bones)
-megaly, mega-	large, enlarged	cardio/megaly	enlarged heart
melan- (o)	black	melan/oma	black cancer
mening- (o)	membranes covering the brain and spinal cord	mening/itis	inflammation of the membranes of the brain and spinal cord
meno-	monthly, menstruation	meno/rrhea	monthly flow or discharge
mes- (o)	middle, midline	meso/cephal/ic	condition of having a head of medium proportions
-meter	measuring instrument, measure	urino/meter	instrument to measure (specific gravity of) urine
-metry	measurement	audio/metry	measurement of hearing acuity
micro-	small	micro/scope	instrument to examine small things
mono-	one, single	mono/cyte	single cell
-mortem	death	post/mortem	after death
muc- (o, us)	mucus, secretion of mucous membrane	muco/static	stopping the secretion of mucus
multi-	many, much, a large amount	multi/para	woman who has borne more than one child

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
my- (o)	muscle	my/algia	muscle pain
myc- (o)	fungus	myco/cide	substance that kills fungus
myel- (o)	bone marrow, spinal cord	myelo/blast	bone marrow cell
myring- (o)	eardrum, tympanic membrane	myring/otomy	cutting into the eardrum
N			
narc- (o)	sleep, numb, stupor	narco/lepsy	sleep seizure
nas- (o)	nose	nas/al	pertaining to the nose
-natal	birth	pre/natal	before birth
necr- (o)	death	necr/osis	condition or process of death
neo-	new	neo/natal	newborn (infant)
neph- (r, ro)	kidney	nephro/lith	kidney stone
neur- (o)	nerve, nervous system	neur/algia	nerve pain
noct- (i)	night, at night	noct/uria	urination at night
non-	no, none	non/toxic	not poison
O			
ocul- (o)	eye	oculo/graph	machine to measure eye (movement)
odont- (o)	tooth	odont/algia	pain in a tooth, toothache
olig- (o)	few, less than normal, small	olig/uria	less than normal (amounts of) urine
-ologist	person who does/studies	radi/ologist	person who studies radiographs
-ology	study of, science of	hemat/ology	study of blood
-oma	tumor, a swelling	carcin/oma	cancerous tumor
onco- (i)	mass, bulk, tumor	oncol/ogist	physician who studies cancer
oophor- (o)	ovary, female egg cell	oophor/ectomy	surgical removal of the ovaries
ophthalm- (o)	eye	ophthalmo/scope	instrument for examining the eye
-opia	vision	dipl/opia	double vision
-opsy	to view	aut/opsy	view internal organs of a dead person
opt- (ic)	vision, eye	optic/al	pertaining to the eye
or- (o)	mouth	or/al	pertaining to the mouth
orch- (ido)	testicle, testes	orch/itis	inflammation of a testis
-orrhea	flow, discharge	rhin/orrhea	flow or discharge from the nose
orth- (o)	normal, straight	ortho/dontics	branch of dentistry involved with aligning or straightening the teeth
ost- (e, eo)	bone	osteo/genesis	formation of bone
-oscopy	diagnostic examination	colon/oscopy	diagnostic examination of the colon or large intestine
-osis	condition, state, process	necr/osis	condition or process of death
ot- (o)	ear	oto/scope	instrument for examining the ear
-otic	pertaining to a condition	leuko/cyt/otic	condition of white blood cells
-otomy	cutting into	crani/otomy	cutting into the skull
-ous	full of, containing, pertaining to, condition	ven/ous	pertaining to a vein
ovi-, ovario-	egg, female sex gland, ovary	ovari/ectomy	surgical removal of an ovary

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
P			
pan-	all, complete, entire	pan/arter/itis	inflammation of all layers of an artery
pancreat- (o)	pancreas	pancreat/itis	inflammation of the pancreas
para-	near, beside, beyond, abnormal, lower half of the body	para/plegia	paralysis of the lower half of the body
-paresis	paralysis	hemi/paresis	paralysis on one side of the body
-partum	birth, labor	post/partum	after birth
path- (ia, o, y)	disease, abnormal condition	path/ology	study of disease
ped- (ia)	child	pedia/tric	pertaining to children
-penia	lack of, abnormal reduction in number, deficiency	erythro/cyto/penia	deficiency of red blood cells
pent- (a)	five	penta/dactyl	having five digits (fingers or toes)
-pepsia, -pepsis	digestion	dys/pepsia	difficult digestion (indigestion)
per-	through, by, excessive	per/axillary	through the axilla or armpit
peri-	around	peri/cardi/al	pertaining to area around the heart
-pexy	fixation	gastro/pexy	surgical operation in which the stomach is sutured or fixed to the abdominal wall
phag- (o)	eat, ingest	phago/cyt/osis	process of cells engulfing and destroying microorganisms
-phage, -phagia	to eat, consuming, swallow	dys/phagia	difficult or painful swallowing
pharyng- (o)	pharynx, throat	pharyng/itis	inflammation of the throat or pharynx
-phas, -phasia	speech	a/phasia	without speech
-philia, -philic	affinity for, attracted to	necro/philia	attracted to or unusual interest in death
phleb- (o)	vein	phleb/otomy	cutting into a vein
-phobia	fear	hydro/phobia	fear of water
phon- (o)	sound, voice	phon/asthenia	weakness or hoarseness of the voice
-phylaxis	protection, prevention	pro/phylaxis	for prevention
-plasty	surgical correction or repair	chondro/plasty	surgical repair of cartilage
-plegia	paralysis	hemi/plegia	paralysis of half of the body
pleuro-	side, rib	pleur/itis	inflammation of the pleural membranes lining the side of the thorax
-pnea	breathing	a/pnea	without breathing
pneum- (o, on)	lung, pertaining to the lungs, air	pneumon/ectomy	surgical removal of a lung (or part of a lung)
pod- (e, o)	foot	pod/algia	foot pain
poly-	many, much	poly/uria	much urine (more than normal amounts)
post-	after, behind	post/operative	after an operation
pre-	before, in front of	pre/operative	before an operation
pro-	in front of, forward	pro/cephalic	in front of the head
proct- (o)	rectum, rectal, anus	procto/scope	instrument for examining the rectum
pseudo-	false	pseudo/appendic/itis	false inflammation of the appendix
psych- (i, o)	pertaining to the mind	psych/ology	study of the mind
-ptosis	drooping down, sagging, downward displacement	viscero/ptosis	drooping down or displacement of internal organs

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
pulmon- (o)	lung	pulmon/ary	pertaining to the lung
py- (o)	pus	pyo/genic	producing pus
pyel- (o)	renal pelvis of kidney	pyelo/lith/otomy	surgical incision of the renal pelvis to remove a stone
pyr- (o)	heat, fever	pyro/genic	produced by a fever

Q

quad- (ra, ri)	four	quadra/plegia	paralysis of four extremities (arms and legs)
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R

radi- (o)	radiographs (X-rays), radiation	radi/ologist	person who studies radiographs
rect- (o)	rectum	recto/cele	rupture of the rectum
ren- (o)	kidney	ren/al	pertaining to the kidney
retro-	backward, in back, behind	retro/lingual	occurring behind or near the base of the tongue
rhin- (o)	nose, pertaining to the nose	rhino/plasty	surgical correction of the nose
-rrhagia	sudden or excessive flow	rhino/rrhagia	sudden flow from the nose (nosebleed)
-rrhaphy	suture of, sewing up of a gap or defect	angio/rrhaphy	sewing (suturing) a gap or defect in a vessel
-rrhea	flow, discharge	meno/rrhea	monthly flow or discharge
-rrhexis	rupture of, bursting	hystero/rrhexis	rupture of the uterus

S

salping- (i, o)	tube, fallopian tube	salping/ectomy	surgical removal of a fallopian tube
sanguin- (o)	blood	sanguino/purulent	containing blood and pus
sarc- (o)	malignant (cancer) connective tissue	sarc/oma	cancerous tumor of connective tissue
-sarcoma	tumor, cancer	adeno/sarcoma	cancerous tumor of a gland
scler- (o)	hardening	sclero/derma	thickening or hardening of the skin
-sclerosis	dryness or hardness	arterio/sclerosis	hardness of an artery
-scope	examining instrument	oto/scope	instrument for examining the ear
-scopy	observation	procto/scopy	examination of the rectum
-sect	cut	bi/sect	to cut into two parts
semi-	half, part	semi/cartilagin/ous	partly of cartilage
sep- (ti, tic)	poison, rot, infection	septic/emia	blood infection
sinistr- (o)	left	sinistr/ocular	left eye
soma- (t, to)	body	somato/genic	originating in the body
son- (o)	sound	sono/gram	an image produced by sound waves
-spasm	involuntary contraction	myo/spasm	contraction of muscle
sperm- (ato)	spermatozoa, male germ (sex) cell	spermat/uria	discharge of sperm in the urine
splen- (o)	spleen	spleno/megaly	abnormal enlargement of the spleen
-stasis	stoppage, maintaining a constant level	homeo/stasis	maintaining the same constant level
steno-	contracted, narrow	steno/sis	condition of narrowing
stern- (o)	sternum, breast bone	sterno/cost/al	pertaining to the ribs and breastbone (sternum)
stoma- (t)	mouth	stomat/ology	scientific study of the mouth and its disorders
-stomy	artificial opening	colo/stomy	creating an opening into the colon or large intestines
sub-	less, under, below	sub/lingual	under the tongue
sup- (er, ra)	above, upon, over, higher in position	supra/thorac/ic	pertaining to the area in the upper part of the chest
sym-, syn-	joined, fused, together	syn/dactyl	two or more digits (fingers or toes) joined together

Word Part	Meaning	Medical Term	Meaning
T			
tach- (o, y)	rapid, fast	tachy/cardia	fast or rapid heart
ten- (do, don, o)	tendon	tendon/itis	inflammation of a tendon
tetra-	four	tetra/paresis	weakness or paralysis of all four limbs
-therapy	treatment	chemo/therapy	treatment with drugs or chemicals
therm- (o, y)	heat	therm/algnesia	sensitive to heat
thorac- (o)	thorax, chest	thorac/otomy	cutting into the chest
thromb- (o)	clot, thrombus	thrombo/lysis	dissolving or destruction of clots
thym- (o)	thymus gland	thym/oma	tumor of the thymus gland
thyr- (o, oid)	thyroid gland	thyroid/ologist	individual who studies the thyroid gland
-tome	instrument that cuts	myo/tome	instrument for cutting muscle
-tox (ic)	poison	cyto/toxic	cell poison
trach- (e, i, o)	trachea, windpipe	trache/otomy	cutting into the trachea or windpipe
trans-	across, over, beyond	trans/neural	across a nerve
tri-	three	tri/angle	three angles
trich- (o)	hair	tricho/myo/sis	fungus disease of the hair
-trips (y)	crushing by rubbing or grinding	litho/tripsy	crushing of stone
-trophy	nutrition, growth, development	a/trophy	without nutrition (wasting away)
tympan- (o)	eardrum, tympanic membrane	tympan/itis	inflammation of the eardrum (tympanic membrane)
U			
ultra-	beyond, excess	ultra/sonic	beyond sound waves
uni-	one	uni/ocular	one eye
ur- (in, o)	urine, urinary tract	urino/meter	instrument to measure (specific gravity) urine
ureter- (o)	ureter (tube from kidney to bladder)	uretero/cele	dilation of the ureter into the bladder
urethr- (o)	urethra (tube from bladder to urinary meatus)	urethro/scope	instrument to view the urethra
-uria	urine	hemat/uria	blood in urine
uter- (o)	uterus, womb	utero/vaginal	pertaining to the uterus and vagina
V			
vas- (o)	vessel, duct	vaso/neur/otic	pertaining to blood vessels and nerves
ven- (a)	vein	ven/ous	pertaining to vein
ventro-	to the front, abdomen	ventr/al	pertaining to the front
vertebr- (o)	spine, vertebrae	vertebr/al	pertaining to the spine or vertebrae
vesic- (o)	urinary bladder	vesico/urethral	connecting the urinary bladder and urethra
viscer- (o)	internal organs	viscero/ptosis	drooping or displacement of internal organs
vit- (a)	necessary for life	vit/al	important to life
X			
xanth- (o)	yellow	xantho/derma	yellowish discoloration of the skin
-xen (ia, a)	strange, abnormal	xeno/genetic	derived or originating from a foreign species
Z			
zoo-	animal	zo/oology	study of animals
zymo-	enzymes	zymo/gram	picture or tracing of enzymes

CHAPTER 6:2 INTERPRETING WORD PARTS

ASSIGNMENT SHEET

Grade _____ Name _____

INTRODUCTION: Special words used in medicine are called medical terminology. Many of these words have common beginnings (prefixes), common endings (suffixes), and common parts (word roots). By learning the main prefixes, suffixes, and word roots, it is possible to put together many new words or to break apart a medical term to understand its meaning.

In the health care fields, you will be required to know and understand medical terminology. Even if you have never come into contact with a medical word before, by breaking it down into its parts, you will usually be able to figure out the meaning of the word. This assignment sheet will show you the process.

INSTRUCTIONS: Review the information sheet on prefixes, suffixes, and word roots.

Study the following examples of breaking a word into parts.

Example 1: *erythrocyte*: erythro/cyte

erythro means red

cyte means cell

erythrocyte means red cell

Example 2: *hyperadenosis*: hyper/aden/osis

hyper means increased

aden means gland

osis means condition, state, or process

hyperadenosis means increased glandular condition

A. Identifying Word Parts: Determine the meanings of the following words. Print your answers in the spaces provided. The words have been separated to help you do this exercise.

1. crani / otomy _____
crani _____
otomy _____
2. dys / uria _____
dys _____
uria _____
3. hyster / ectomy _____
hyster _____
ectomy _____
4. hemo / toxic _____
hemo _____
toxic _____

5. peri / card / itis _____
peri _____
card _____
itis _____
6. leuko / cyte _____
leuko _____
cyte _____
7. chole / cyst / itis _____
chole _____
cyst _____
itis _____
8. tachy / cardia _____
tachy _____
cardia _____
9. neur / algia _____
neur _____
algia _____
10. poly / cyt / hem / ia _____
poly _____
cyt _____
emia _____
11. brady / cardia _____

12. gastr / ectomy _____

13. mening / itis _____

14. neo / pathy _____

15. dermat / ologist _____

16. procto / scope _____

Name _____

17. carcin / oma _____

18. electro / encephalo / graph _____

19. osteo / malacia _____

20. para / plegia _____

21. py / uria _____

22. acro / megaly _____

23. geront / ology _____

24. dys / phagia _____

25. hydro / cele _____

B. Analyzing Words: Analyze each word to determine the breaking-off point. Mentally separate them into word elements. Print the meaning of the word.

1. adenoma _____

2. antitoxic _____

3. ophthalmology _____

4. cholecystectomy _____

5. endocarditis _____

6. gastroenteritis _____

7. hypoglycemia _____

8. septicemia _____

9. oliguria _____

10. bronchitis _____

11. homogeneous _____

12. arteriosclerosis _____

13. dysmenorrhea _____

14. angiopathy _____

15. blepharorrhaphy _____

16. urethrocystitis _____

Name _____

17. pneumonomelanosis _____

18. paraosteoarthropathy _____

19. salpingo-oophorocele _____

20. idiopathic thrombocytopenia _____

21. narcoepilepsy _____

22. postpartum _____

23. herniorrhaphy _____

24. dermacyanosis _____

25. thoracentesis _____

