

Glossary of Lay Terminology

A	
Abdomen	belly
Abdominal	having to do with the belly
Abdominal cavity	space in the belly where the stomach, intestines, kidney, liver, gall bladder, pancreas, spleen, and ureters are found
Abdominocentesis	use of needle or tube to drain fluid from the belly
Abdominoperineal resection	surgery to remove the middle and end of the large intestine
Abdominoplasty	surgery to fix the stomach
Abduction	movement away from the middle of the body
Abortion	the premature end of a pregnancy
Abrasion	area where skin or other tissue is scraped away
Abruptio placentae	premature separation of the placenta from the mother
Abscess	swelling filled with pus
Absorb	take up fluids, take in
Absorption	the way a drug or other substance enters the body
Abstinence	not having sexual intercourse
Acapnia	decreased carbon dioxide in the blood
Acceptable	good; decent; capable
Acetabulum	pocket in the hip bone that holds the top of the upper leg bone
Acidosis	increase of acid in the blood
Acne	pimples
Acoumeter	tool used to measure hearing
Acoustic neuroma	growth in the ear canal
Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)	illness that results in decreased ability of the body to protect itself from other illnesses; development of the disease or conditions associated with the disease results from Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
Acromegaly	a disease of adults in which the body makes too much growth hormone
Actinic keratosis	skin disease (bumps) caused by too much exposure to the sun
Activated partial thromboplastin time	a test of blood clotting time used to measure the ability of the blood to clot
Acuity	clearness, keenness
Acute	a quick and severe form of illness in its early stage

Addison's disease	serious disorder in which there is decreased cortisol and aldosterone in the body, resulting in weakness, low blood pressure, and other serious problems
Adduction	movement toward the middle of the body
Adenohypophysis	gland in the brain that makes many hormones that control body functions
Adenoidectomy	surgery to take out the adenoids
Adenoiditis	pain and swelling of the adenoids
Adenoids	infection-fighting glands in the back of the throat
Adenomyosis	a growth of muscle in the uterus
Adenopathy	swollen lymph nodes (glands)
Adenotome	tool used to remove adenoids
Adequate	Reasonably good
Adhesion	tissue stuck together
Adipose	having to do with fat
Adjuvant	helpful, assisting, aiding
Adjuvant Treatment	added treatment
Administer	give (to)
Administration (of)	giving (of)
Adrenal gland	a gland found over each kidney
Adrenalectomy	surgery to remove an adrenal gland
Adrenaline	hormone made by the adrenal glands that speeds up body organs and helps the body deal with stress
Adrenalitis	inflammation of one or both adrenal glands
Adrenocortical Hormone	any of the hormones made by the outer layer of the adrenal glands
Adrenocorticohyperplasia	increased growth of one or both adrenal glands
Adrenocorticotropic Hormone	hormone made by the brain that activates the adrenal glands
Adrenomegaly	increase in size of one or both adrenal glands
Adrenopathy	disease of one or both adrenal glands
Adverse Effect/Event/Reaction	harmful, bad side effect
Aerosol	drug or substance made as a mist to be breathed in
Afferent	going toward the center area
Afterbirth	material that provides nutrition for the unborn baby and comes out after the baby is born
Airway	tube through which air passes to enter and leave the lungs
Akathisia	feeling of restlessness
Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT)	substance in blood that is measured to check for liver disease
Albino	white; lacking color

Albuminuria	protein in the urine
Alcohol	drug found in whisky, wine, and beer that slows down the central nervous system
Aldosterone	hormone made by the adrenal glands that controls the amount of mineral salts in the body
Allergic Reaction	rash, trouble breathing
Allergy	over sensitivity to a substance
Alopecia	hair loss
Alpha-Fetoprotein	substance in blood that is measured to check for liver cancer, testicular cancer, and spina bifida
Alzheimer's Disease	disorder that causes mental confusion
Ambulate/Ambulation/Ambulatory	walk, able to walk
Amenorrhea	when a woman has no menstrual period
Amniocentesis	removal of some of the waters from around an unborn baby for laboratory testing
Amniochorial	having to do with the tissues that surround the unborn baby
Amniography	x-ray of the uterus (womb) and unborn baby taken after putting a dye into the bag of waters
Amnion	tissue that covers the unborn baby
Amnionitis	inflammation of the amnion
Amniorrhea	leaking of waters from around the unborn baby
Amniorrhesis	breaking of the amnion
Amnioscope	tool passed through the cervix to look at the amniotic fluid and the unborn baby
Amniotic Fluid	waters around the unborn baby
Amniotic Sac	bag of tissue that surrounds the unborn baby
Amniotomy	rupture of the membranes (breaking of the tissues around the unborn baby)- done to start labor
Amphetamines	drugs that speed up metabolism and decrease appetite ("speed")
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)	a disease of the nerves and muscles that causes weakness
Anal	having to do with the anus
Analgesic	drug used to control pain
Anaphylactic shock	serious allergic reaction to a substance (e.g., food, drug)
Anaphylaxis	serious, potentially life threatening allergic reaction
Androgen	male sex hormone
Anemia	decreased number of red blood cells
Anesthesia	loss of sensation or feeling
Anesthetic	drug that is used to produce loss of pain sensation
Anesthetic (General)	medication used to stop pain by putting you to sleep
Anesthetic (Local)	medication used to decrease pain by numbing an area of your body
Anesthetic (Regional)	medication used to block pain from the muscle and the skin

Aneurysm	area where an artery is swollen like a sack because the wall of the artery is weak
Aneurysmectomy	surgery to take out an aneurysm
Angina/Angina Pectoris	chest pain due to decreased oxygen being supplied to the heart
Angiocarditis	inflammation of the heart and the blood vessels entering the heart
Angioma	growth made up of blood vessels or lymph vessels
Angioplasm	cramp in the blood vessels
Angioplasty	surgery to open up a narrow blood vessel
Angiorrhaphy	stitching a blood vessel
Angiostenosis	narrowing of the inside of a blood vessel
Ankylosing Spondylitis	inflammation of the spine causing pain and stiffness
Ankylosis	joint stiffness
Anoplasty	surgery to fix the anus
Anorexia	condition in which person will not eat; lack of appetite
Anorexia Nervosa	mental disorder in which fear of getting fat results in starvation and weight loss
Anoxia	no oxygen
Antacid	drug used to decrease acid in the stomach (e.g., Tums, Rolaids)
Antecubital.	in front of the elbow
Antepartum	before childbirth
Anterior	having to do with the front of the body
Anterior And Posterior Colporrhaphy	surgery to fix weak muscles in the pelvic area
Anterior Lobe	front part of an organ
Anterior Lobe Of The Pituitary	part of the pituitary gland that discharges many hormones
Antianginal	drug used to relieve chest pain
Antiarrhythmic	drug used to restore the natural rhythm of the heart
Antibiotic	drug used to stop or slow down the growth of germs
Antibody	type of protein that helps protect the body against foreign matter, such as bacteria and viruses
Anticoagulant	drug used to thin blood
Anticonvulsant	drug used to stop seizures
Anticubital	area inside the elbow
Antidiarrheal	drug used to stop diarrhea
Antidiuretic Hormone	hormone made by the pituitary gland that helps the kidneys keep water in the body by decreasing urine formation
Antidote	substance used to treat allergic reactions
Antiemetic	drug used to stop vomiting
Antihistamine	drug used to treat allergic reaction
Antilipidemic	a drug that decreases the level of fat(s) in the blood
Antimicrobial	drug that kills bacteria and other germs
Antinauseant	drug used to stop nausea and vomiting
Antipruritic	drug used to stop itching
Antiretroviral	drug that inhibits certain viruses

Antiseptic	substance used to stop or slow down the growth of germs
Antitussive	a drug used to relieve coughing
Antrectomy	surgery to remove the lower part of the stomach
Antrum	lower part of the stomach
Anuria	no urine being made
Anus	ring of muscle that keeps the opening at the end of the digestive tract closed
Aorta	biggest artery in the body
Aortic Stenosis	narrowing of the aorta where it comes out of the heart
Aortogram	x-ray of the aorta
Apepsia	without digestion
Aphagia	not able to swallow
Aphasia	not able to speak or write and not able to understand spoken or written words
Apnea	stopping of breathing
Aponeurorrhaphy	stitching of an aponeurosis
Aponeurosis	strong tissue that joins muscle to bone
Appendectomy	surgery to remove the appendix
Appendicitis	inflammation of the appendix
Appendix	nearly, about
Appropriate	(the) right; correct
Approximately	nearly, about
Aqueous Humor	liquid found in the front of the cavity of the eye
Arachnoid	middle layer of the meninges
Areola	dark-colored skin around the breast nipple
Arrhythmia	uneven heart beat
Arteriogram	x-ray using a dye to outline an artery
Arterioles	small branches of arteries
Arteriorrhesis	breaking of an artery
Arteriosclerosis	hardening of the artery
Artery	the type of blood vessel that carries blood and oxygen from the heart to the rest of the body
Arthralgia	pain in a joint
Arthritis	joint pain
Arthrocentesis	use of a needle to remove fluid from a joint
Arthroclasia	surgery to free up a joint that it is stiff so it cannot move
Arthrodesia	surgery to fasten a joint so it cannot move
Arthrogram	x-ray of a joint
Arthroplasty	surgery to fix a joint
Arthrosclerosis	stiffening of the joints
Arthroscope	tool used to look into a joint
Arthrotomy	surgery to cut into a joint
Articular Cartilage	smooth tissue that covers the bones inside a joint

Artificial Insemination	use of a tool to put sperm into the vagina for the purpose of beginning pregnancy
Ascites	fluid in the belly
Aspartate Aminotransferase (AST)	substance in blood that is measured to detect liver disease
Aspermia	no sperm
Asphyxia	suffocation
Aspirate	removing a substance using suction
Aspiration	fluid entering lungs
Assay	lab test
Assess	to learn about (the health/wellness of)
Assigned	placed in (into a group)
Associated (with)	having to do (with)
Asthma	breathing disorder in which there is a wheezing and difficulty breathing
Astigmatism	flaw in the curve of the eye
Asymptomatic	having no symptoms or problems
At Risk	having a possibility that something negative may happen
Ataxia	uncontrolled muscle movement
Atelectasis	collapse of a lung
Atherosclerosis	hardening of the arteries
Atraumatic	not damaging to tissue
Atrioventricular Defect	hole in the heart present at birth
Atrophy	wasting away, or decrease in size, of a body organ
Audiogram	report of a hearing test
Audiologist	doctor who studies hearing
Audiology	the study of hearing
Audiometer	tool used to measure hearing
Audiometry	measurement of hearing
Audiotape	a cassette tape that is listened to
Aural	having to do with the ear
Auricle	outside flap of the ear
Auscultation	use of a stethoscope to listen to sounds inside the body
Autism	condition causing abnormal perceptions and relationships
Autoimmune Disease	disorder in which a person's immune system attacks parts of his or her own body
Axilla	armpit

B

Bacteria	type of germs
Bacterial	having to do with bacteria
Bacterial Analysis	test used to detect and identify bacteria
Bacterial Endocarditis	bacterial infection of the inner lining of the heart
Bag Of Waters	sack containing liquid that surrounds the unborn baby
Balanitis	inflammation of the end of the penis
Balanorrhagia	balanitis with discharge of pus from the end of the penis
Balanorrhea	discharge of fluid from the penis
Banking	storing a sample of blood, tissue, etc., for future research use
Barbiturates	group of drugs that are used for different reasons, including general anesthesia, sedation, and stopping seizures
Bartholin's Adentitis	inflammation of the mucus-producing glands in the vagina
Bartholin's Glands	mucus-producing glands in the vagina
Basal Cell Carcinoma	tumor of the skin (type of skin cancer)
Baseline	a patient's medical status before any treatment or research is done
Benefit	a good effect
Benign	not malignant, without serious consequences
Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy	increase in size of the prostate gland
Beta Blocker	drug used to slow down the heart
Beta-HCG (Human Chorionic Gonadotropin)	substance in blood that is measured to detect cancer of the testicles
Bicupsid Valve	a valve in the heart that controls the flow of blood by opening and closing with each heart beat
Bilateral	having to do with both sides of the body
Bile	brown-yellow-green liquid made in the liver and stored in the gallbladder that helps with digestion
Bile Duct	tube that carries bile
Bilirubin	a substance found in bile- a high level of bilirubin in the blood causes jaundice
Binding/Bound	carried by, to make stick together, transported
Binocular	having to do with both eyes
Bioavailability	the extent to which a drug or other substance becomes available to the body
Biopsy	removal of tissue so it can be looked at under a microscope
Bleeding Time	test to measure how long it takes for a small cut to stop bleeding
Blepharitis	inflammation of the eyelid

Blepharoplasty	surgery to fix the eyelid
Blepharoptosis	drooping of the upper eyelid
Blood	red liquid pumped by the heart
Blood Components	red blood cells, white blood cells, electrolytes (salts & minerals), enzymes
Blood Counts	Number of white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets in a blood sample
Blood Pressure (BP)	the pressure of blood flowing through blood vessels
Blood Profile	series of blood tests
Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)	substance in blood that is measured to check kidney function
Blood Vessels	tubes that carry blood through the body
Bolus	a large amount
Bone Marrow	soft tissue inside bones that makes blood cells
Bone Marrow Biopsy	use of a needle to remove bone marrow so that it can be looked at under a microscope
Bone Marrow Transplant	putting normal bone marrow from one person into another person
Bone Mass	the amount of [calcium in a given amount of] bone
Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD)	characterized by instability in mood and interpersonal relationships, suicide attempts, self-injury, role confusion, and impulsive behaviors
Bowel	the intestine
Bradyarrhythmias	slow irregular heart beats
Bradycardia	slow heart beat
Bradykinesia	moving slow
Bradypepsia	slow digestion
Brain	main part of the central nervous system
Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF)	protein, widely secreted in the hippocampus; has been found to play a role in hippocampal morphology and associated cognitive functions such as memory
Brain Stem	joins the brain to the spinal column
Brand Name	commercial name for a drug
Breasts	milk-producing glands of women
Breech Birth	when feet, buttocks, or knees come out before head at birth
Brochoconstrictor	drug used to make the bronchi tighten up and become narrower
Bronchi	more than one bronchus
Bronchitis	coughing and chest discomfort, inflammation of the bronchi
Bronchoconstriction	constriction of the airway; difficulty breathing or shortness of breath

Bronchodilator	opens the airways, drug used to make the bronchi open up and become bigger
Bronchogenic	beginning in the bronchus
Bronchogram	x-ray of the bronchi
Bronchoplasty	surgery to fix the bronchi
Bronchopneumonia	inflammation of the bronchi and lungs
Bronchoscope	tool used to look into the bronchi
Bronchospasm	sudden breathing distress caused by narrowing of the airways in lungs
Bronchus	tube that carries air from the bronchi
Bulimia	an eating disorder in which a person cannot stop eating and often vomits to make room for more food
Bunion	bone growth inside the base of the big toe
Bursa	small sack filled with liquid that cushions moving parts, such as two bones in a joint
Bursitis	inflammation of the bursa
Bursolith	stone in a bursa
Bursotomy	surgery to cut into a bursa
Bypass	an artificial passageway from one blood vessel to another to get around a blood clot

C

Cachexia	general weakness
Caffeine	drug found in coffee and colas that speeds up the central nervous system, heart rate, and blood pressure
Calcaneus	heel bone
Calcipenia	low in calcium
Cancellous Bone	a type of bone that looks like a sponge
Cancer	abnormal tissue that grows and spreads in the body until it kills
Cancer Chemotherapy	treatment of cancer using drugs
Cancer Radiotherapy	treatment of cancer using x-rays
Cancerous	having to do with cancer
Capillary	tiny blood vessel that connects arterioles to venules
Carbohydrates	type of fuel for the body that includes sugars and starches
Carbuncle	group of boils on the skin
Carcinoembryonic Antigen	substance in blood that is measured to detect tumors of stomach or intestines
Carcinogenic	capable of causing cancer

Carcinoma	type of cancer
Cardiac	having to do with the heart
Cardiac Arrest	stopping of the heart
Cardiac Catheterization	putting a catheter into the heart to test for or treat a heart problem
Cardiac Pacemaker	battery-powered tool put under the skin to control the heart rate
Cardiac Scan	ultrasonographic test to view the structure of the heart
Cardiac Tamponade	squeezing of the heart caused by fluid or blood build-up in the sac around the heart
Cardiodynia	pain in the heart
Cardiogenic	beginning in the heart
Cardiologist	doctor who treats disorders of the heart
Cardiology	medical study of the heart
Cardiomegaly	increase in the size of the heart
Cardiomyopathy	disorder of the heart muscle
Cardiopulmonary Bypass	artificial passageway through which blood goes around the heart during open-heart surgery
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	giving artificial respiration and heart massage to try to save a person whose breathing or heart has stopped
Cardiotonic	drug used to strengthen the pumping action of the heart
Cardiovalvulitis	inflammation of the heart valves
Cardioversion	use of electric shock to make the heart beat with normal rhythm
Carotid Intima-Media Thickness Study (Carotid IMT)	ultrasound test on blood vessels in the neck; painless test that uses sound waves from a small, hand-held machine
Carpal	having to do with the wrist
Carpal Bones	wrist bones
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome	painful disorder caused by a pinched nerve in the wrist
Carpectomy	surgery to remove a wrist bone
Carpoptosis	drooping wrist
Cartilage	a rubbery type of tissue that pads the joints and keeps the shape of the nose and outside ear flaps
Cataract	clouding of the lens of the eye
Cathartic	drug used to stop constipation
Catheter	flexible, tube-like tool used to take fluids out or put fluids into the body
Catheter – Epidural	a tube placed near the spinal cord used for anesthesia indwelling epidural during operations
Caudal	toward the lower side of an organ or structure
Cecum	the first part of the large intestine, which is shaped like a pouch

Celiotomy	surgery to cut into the abdominal cavity
Cell	the basic building block of all living things
Cell Membrane	layer that surrounds a cell
Cellulitis	inflammation of connective tissue
Central Nervous System (CNS)	the brain and spinal cord
Central Nervous System Drugs	drugs that speed up or slow down the central nervous system
Central Venous Access Device or Catheter	a catheter placed in a large vein in the chest; such as a Port or PICC
Cephalalgia	headache
Cephalic	related to the head or the head end of the body
Cephalosporin	type of antibiotic
Cerebellitis	inflammation of the cerebellum
Cerebellum	the part of the brain that controls the movement of the muscles and helps maintain balance
Cerebral	having to do with the cerebrum
Cerebral Aneurysm	aneurysm in the brain
Cerebral Angiography	x-ray of the blood vessels in the brain
Cerebral Palsy (CP)	birth disorder of the brain that results in difficulty moving
Cerebral Thrombosis	blood clot in the brain
Cerebral Trauma	damage to the brain
Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)	the liquid around and in the brain and spinal cord
Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA)	stroke
Cerebrum	largest part of the brain, divided into right and left side
Cerumen	ear wax
Ceruminoma	growth inside the gland that discharges ear wax
Cervical Vertebrae	bones of the neck
Cervicectomy	surgery to remove the cervix
Cervicitis	inflammation of the cervix
Chalazion	pimple on the eyelid caused by an inflamed gland
CHD	coronary heart disease
Cheilorrhaphy	surgery to stitch a lip
Chemical Name	chemical formula for a drug (generic)
Chemotherapeutic Agent	anticancer drug
Chemotherapy	treatment of disease, usually cancer, by chemical agents
Chest Cavity	space where the heart, lungs, esophagus, trachea, bronchi, and thymus are located
Chiroprapist	doctor who treats disorders of the feet

Chiropractor	doctor who treats disorders of the spine and nerves
Chlamydia	type of germ that usually infects the eyes, lungs, or sex organs
Chloasma	a tumor arising from the skin and other organs
Cholangiogram	x-ray of the gallbladder and bile ducts
Cholangioma	cancer of a bile duct
Cholecystectomy	surgery to remove the gallbladder
Cholecystitis	inflammation of the gallbladder
Choledocholithiasis	gallstones in a bile duct
Choledocholithotripsy	surgery to crush gallstones in a bile duct
Cholelithiasis	gallstones
Cholinergic	type of nerve or a drug used to change its action
Chondrectomy	surgery to remove cartilage
Chondromalacia	softening of joint cartilage, usually inside the knee
Chorea	Involuntary movements
Chorioamnionitis	inflammation of the tissue that covers the unborn baby
Chorion	outside layer of the tissue that covers the unborn baby
Choroid	middle layer of the eyeball
Chromosomes	structures that hold the genes
Chronic	lasting a long time
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	lung disorder in which the flow of air to the lungs is blocked (e.G., emphysema)
Cicatrix	scar
Circumcision	surgery to remove the foreskin
Cirrhosis	serious liver disorder in which connective tissue replaces normal liver tissue, and liver failure often occurs
Clavicle	collarbone
Cleft Lip And Plate	birth defect in which there is a split in the lip and the roof of the mouth
CLIA Lab	certified clinical laboratory that is authorized to release results from patient tests for clinical and diagnostic purposes.
Clinical	pertaining to medical care
Clinical Trial	medical research study in human volunteers
Clinically Significant	of major importance for treating or evaluating patients
Clitoris	sensitive female sex tissue located above the opening for urination
Coagulation Time	measure of how long it takes for blood to clot in a test tube
Coarctation Of The Aorta	birth disorder in which an area of the aorta is very narrow

Coccyx	tailbone
Cochlea	the organ of hearing inside the ear
Cognitive	mental functioning
Coitus	sexual intercourse between a man and a woman
Colectomy	surgery to remove part or all of the colon
Colonoscope	tool used to look into the colon
Colonoscopy	a medical examination of the colon by a physician using a colonoscope
Colostomy	an opening, or the surgery to make an opening, between the colon and the outside of the body
Colpitis	inflammation of the vagina
Colporrhaphy	stitching of the vagina
Colposcope	tool with magnifying glass used to look into the vagina and at the cervix
Coma	varying degrees of unconsciousness from which a person may not awaken
Compact Bone	hard layers of the bone
Compensation	payment or gift to a research subject/volunteer
Complete Response	total disappearance of disease
Complications	difficulties, problems
Computerized Axial Tomography (CAT)	x-ray machine that uses a computer to make pictures of the body
Computerized Tomography (CT)	x-ray machine that uses a computer to make pictures of the organs of the body
Conception	the beginning of pregnancy when the fertilized egg implants in the uterus
Conclude/Conclusion	end
Concomitant	given at the same time
Concussion	unconsciousness resulting from a blow to the head affecting the brain
Condom	cover worn over the penis during sexual intercourse to prevent infection or pregnancy
Confidentiality	keeping all information about a research subject/volunteer private
Congenital	occurring prior to birth, due to parent's genetic input
Congenital Anomaly	birth defect
Congenital Heart Disease (CHD)	heart disease present at birth
Congenital Heart Failure (CHF)	failure of the heart resulting in fluid build-up in the lungs, other body tissues, or both
Conjunctiva	tissue that lines the eyelids and covers part of the eye inside its sockets

Conjunctivitis	irritation and redness of the thin membrane covering the eye
Connective Tissue	type of tissue that connects, supports, touches, and surrounds various body parts
Conscious	awake and aware
Consequence	result; effect; outcome
Consists Of	includes
Consolidation Phase	treatment phase intended to make a remission permanent, follows induction
Constipation	decreased number of or difficulty making bowel movements
Contagious	easily spread
Contraindications	medical reasons that prevent a person from using a certain drug or treatment
Control Group	group not receiving the experimental treatment
Controlled Trial	study in which the experimental treatment or procedure is compared to a standard (control) treatment or procedure
Contusion	bruise
Convulsion	seizure
Coombs' Test	blood test to detect antibodies against red blood cells that is used in analyzing blood problems and cross matching blood for transfusions
Cooperative Group	association of multiple institutions to perform clinical trials
Cor Pulmonale	heart disease or heart failure caused by a disorder of the lungs
Cornea	clear tissue covering the front part of the eye
Corneal Iritis	inflammation of the cornea and iris
Coronary	pertains to the blood vessels that supply the heart
Coronary Artery	artery that supplies blood to the heart
Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)	surgery to make a new passageway for blood to the heart
Coronary Ischemia	not enough blood going to the heart
Coronary Thrombosis	blood clot in a coronary artery
Corpus	main portion of a body part or organ
Cortex	outer layer of an organ or other structure in the body
Cortical	having to do with a cortex
Corticotropin	hormone made by the brain that activates the adrenal glands
Cortisol	important hormone made by the adrenal gland that affects metabolism and mineral balance
Costectomy	surgery to remove a rib
Cough	sudden, loud flow of air from the lungs

Cranial	related to the head or top of the body
Cranial Cavity	space inside the skull that holds the brain
Cranioplasty	surgery to fix the skull
Craniotomy	surgery on the skull or to make an opening in the skull
Cranium Bifidum	birth defect in which there is a crack in the skull
Creatinine Clearance Test	blood test used to see if the kidneys can effectively remove creatinine from the blood
Cretinism	a birth defect in which lack of thyroid hormone results in stopping of physical and mental development
Crohn's Disease	serious inflammation of any part of the gastrointestinal tract
Crossmatch	blood test to check if it is safe to give blood transfusion to a person
Crossover	method used to switch subjects from one study group to another in a clinical trial
Croup	children's breathing disorder resulting in coughing and harsh breathing
Cryoextraction of the Lens	surgery using low temperatures to remove a cataract
Cryoretinopexy	surgery of the innermost layer of the eye
Culdocentesis	removal of fluid from the pouch between the vagina and the rectum
Culdoscope	tool used to look into the pouch between the vagina and the rectum
Culture	test for infection or organisms that could cause infection
Cumulation	increased action of a drug when given over a period of time
Cumulative	total sum (of individual events, experiences, treatments)
Curt (Curette)	spoon shaped tool used for scraping or cutting
Curved	having a curved handle or a curved blade
Cushing's Syndrome	disorder caused by too much of the adrenal hormones or long-time use of cortisone-type drugs in which there are many symptoms, including a fat, round face and weakness
Cutaneous	relating to the skin
CVA	stroke (cerebrovascular accident)
Cyanosis	blue color of tissues such as the skin or gums caused by too little oxygen
Cyesiology	the study of pregnancy
Cyesis	pregnancy
Cyst	any closed sac in the body, especially one that contains fluid or semisolid material
Cystectomy	surgery to remove the urinary bladder or gallbladder, also, removal of a cyst

Cystic Fibrosis (CF)	genetic disorder of glands resulting in lung and digestive problems
Cystitis	inflammation of the urinary bladder
Cystocele	type of hernia in which the urinary bladder bulges into the vagina
Cystogram	x-ray of the urinary bladder
Cystolith	stone in the urinary bladder
Cystolithotomy	surgery to remove a stone from the urinary bladder
Cystoscope	tool used to look into the urinary bladder
Cystostomy	surgery to make an opening into the urinary bladder
Cystotrachelotomy	surgical cut into the neck of the urinary bladder
Cystoureterogram	x-ray of the urinary bladder and ureters
Cytogenic	making cells
Cytoid	like a cell
Cytology	the study of cells
Cytomegalovirus (CMV)	type of herpes virus
Cytoplasm	material inside a cell

D

Dacryocystorhinostomy	surgery to make an opening between the tear sac and the nose
Dacryocystitis	inflammation of the tear sac
Debridement	surgery to clean foreign material and dead tissue out of a wound
Decubital Ulcer	bedsore
Deep	inside the body
Deep Vein Thrombosis	blood clot in a deep vein
Defecation	making a bowel movement
Defibrillation	use of electric shock to make the heart start beating, or to correct an abnormal heart rate or rhythm
Dehydration	lose of water and minerals in the body.
Delusion	a false belief held in the face of strong differing evidence, especially as a symptom of psychiatric disorder
Dementia	mental decline
Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA)	genetic material in the cells in the body that serve as blueprints for making proteins
Depressant	drug that slows down the action of the central nervous system
Dermabrasion	method used to remove scars from the skin
Dermatitis	Skin rash, inflammation
Dermatoautoplasty	skin grafting using skin from another area of the patient's body

Dermatofibroma	type of benign skin growth
Dermatoheteroplasty	skin grafting using skin from another person
Dermatologic	pertaining to the skin
Dermatologist	doctor who treats disorders of the skin
Dermatome	tool used to cut thin slices of the skin to use as skin grafts
Dermatoplasty	surgery to repair the skin
Dermis	inner layer of the skin
Detached Retina	separation of the retina from the middle layer of the eye
Determine	find out, see if
Deviated Septum	when the inner wall separating the two sides of the nose is off to one side
Diabetes Insipidus	excessive discharge of urine from the body caused by a deficiency in the quantity of antidiuretic hormone being produced in the body
Diabetes Mellitus	disorder in which there is decreased insulin in the body or the body's insulin is not effective, resulting in high blood sugar, increased thirst and urine, and many other side effects
Diagnosis	determination of the cause of a medical problem
Diaphoresis	heavy sweating
Diaphragm	thin flat muscle that helps with breathing and separates the chest cavity from the abdominal cavity
Diaphragmatocele	bulging of the abdominal organs into the chest area through a hole in the diaphragm
Diaphysis	the long part of arm and leg bones
Diarrhea	frequent, loose bowel movement
Diastole	the time when the heart rests between contractions and fills with blood
Diastolic	lower number in blood pressure reading; pertaining to resting or relaxation phase of heart beat
Digital Rectal Exam	exam using a finger inside the rectum to feel internal organs such as the prostate gland and uterus
Dilation and Curettage (D&C)	surgery to remove the contents and inner lining of the uterus after a miscarriage or abortion; procedure is also used to treat abnormal bleeding
Dilator	tool used for stretching or enlarging an opening or tube
Diplopia	seeing double
Discomfort	pain
Discectomy	surgery to remove one of the rings between the bones that make up the spine
Dissector	tool used to separate or cut apart tissue

Disseminate	scatter or spread
Dissociative Symptoms	feeling disconnected from your surroundings, or feeling unreal
Distal	toward the end, away from the center of the body
Distended	stretched out or swollen, such as a full bladder
Diuresis	increased discharge of urine
Diuretic	drug used to get excess water out of the body and increase urine; "water pill"
Diverticulectomy	surgery to remove abnormal pouch off the colon
Diverticulitis	inflammation of abnormal pouches coming off the colon
Diverticulosis	abnormal pouches coming off the colon
Doppler	sound waves
Doppler Flow Studies	use of ultrasonography to see blood flow inside blood vessels
Dorsal	having to do with the back of the body
Double Blind(ed)	a medical research study in which neither the researchers nor the subjects know what treatment the subjects is receiving
Double-Barrier Birth Control Methods	condoms with spermicide, sponge with spermicide, or diaphragm with spermicide
Double-Blind Trial	test or experiment in which neither the person giving the treatment nor the patient knows which treatment the patient is receiving
Down's Syndrome	birth disorder in which there is one extra chromosome, mental retardation, and changed appearance of the head, hands, and feet
Duct	tube that carries a body fluid
Ductus Deferens	tube that carries sperm out of the testicle
Duodenal Ulcer	sore in the duodenum
Duodenum	beginning part of the small intestine
Duodenum	first part of the small intestine
Dura Mater	outer layer of the meninges (membranes that surround brain and spinal cord)
Duritis	inflammation of the dura mater
Dyscrasia	disorder, usually of the blood cells
Dysentery	inflammation of the intestine, usually the colon, resulting in pain and in blood and mucus in bowel movements
Dysfunction	state of improper function
Dysmenorrhea	painful menstruation
Dyspepsia	trouble digesting food with discomfort after meals
Dysphagia	trouble swallowing
Dysphasia	difficulty speaking and putting words together

Dysphonia	trouble with the voice and speaking
Dysplasia	abnormal development or cell growth
Dyspnea	trouble breathing
Dystocia	difficult childbirth
Dystonia	disorder that causes focal or generalized sustained muscle contractions, postures, and/or involuntary movements; sudden start of painful twisting and abnormal postures
Dysuria	pain when urinating

E

Ecchymosis	black and blue mark; bruise
Echocardiogram	picture of the heart in motion made using ultrasonography
Echocardiogram	sound wave test of the heart
Echoencephalography	use of ultrasonography to record the shape of the brain
Eclampsia	convulsions in a pregnant woman caused by high blood pressure and other medical problems
Ectopic Pregnancy	pregnancy growing outside the uterus, often in fallopian tubes
Eczema	type of itchy skin rash
Edema	swelling caused by fluid held in the tissues
Effective	works; works well; works better (than)
Effectiveness	working ability
Effects	good and bad results
Efferent	going away from the center of the body
Efficacy	effectiveness
Ejaculation	discharge of semen from the penis during the climax of sexual intercourse
Electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG)	picture of electrical tracing of heartbeat or heart rhythm
Electrocardiograph	machine that records the electrical action of the heart
Electroencephalogram (EEG)	picture of electric brainwave tracing of brain activity
Electroencephalograph	machine that records brain wave activity
Electrolyte Imbalance	imbalance of minerals in the blood
Elevate	raise
Elevation of Liver Function Tests	proof of liver or kidney damage.
Embolectomy	surgery to remove a blood clot
Embolus	blood clot
Embryo	unborn baby from 2 to 8 weeks after it is formed
Embryoid	looking like an embryo

Embryology	the study of the development of the unborn baby
Emesis	vomiting
Emetic	drug used to make a person vomit; useful in treating poisoning
Emmetropia	normal condition of the eye when light focuses correctly on the retina
Emollient	substance that softens the skin
Emphysema	disorder in which too much air collects deep in the lungs
Empiric	based on experience
Encephalitis	inflammation of the brain
Encephalomyeloradiculitis	inflammation of the brain, the spinal cord, and the spinal nerve roots
Encephalosclerosis	hardening of the brain
Endocervicitis	inflammation of the inner lining of the cervix
Endocrinologist	doctor who treats disorders of the glands that make hormones
Endocrinopathy	disease of the glands that make hormones; hormonal imbalance
Endometriosis	growths outside of the uterus made up of the tissues that lines the uterus
Endometritis	inflammation of the inner lining of the uterus
Endometrium	inner lining of the uterus
Endophthalmitis	inflammation of the contents of the eye
Endorphin	substance made by the body to stop pain
Endoscope	tool used to look into body structures and hollow organs, such as the stomach
Endoscopic Examination	examination of an internal part of the body with a lighted tube; looking at a part of the body with a lighted tube
Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)	x-ray of the bile and pancreatic ducts made using an endoscope
Endoscopy	a thin flexible tube with a microscopic camera at the end which is passed down your throat into the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum
Endosteum	tissue that lines the inside of bone
Endotracheal	inside the windpipe
Enema	liquid that is injected into the rectum to promote bowel movement
Enteral	by way of the intestines
Enterorrhaphy	surgery to stitch the intestine
Enucleation	surgery to remove the eye
Epidermal	having to do with the outer layer of the skin

Epidermis	outer layer of skin
Epididymis	tubes that stores and carries sperm
Epidural	outside the spinal cord
Epigastric Region	area above the navel
Epiglottis	flap of skin that keeps food from going down the windpipe
Epiglottitis	inflammation of the epiglottis
Epilepsy	seizure disorder
Epinephrine	hormone made by the adrenal glands that speeds up body organs and helps the body deal with stress
Epiphysis	growth area of a long bone
Episioperineoplasty	surgery to fix the vulva and perineum
Episiorrhaphy	stitching a tear in the vulva
Episiotomy	surgical cut in the vagina to keep it from tearing when a baby is being born
Epistaxis	nosebleed
Epithelial	having to do with the epithelium
Epithelioma	benign or malignant growth made up of epithelial tissue
Epithelium	type of tissue that covers the outside of the body and makes up the lining and outer layers of most body organs and parts
Equivalent	equal, same
Eradicating	getting rid of (such as a disease)
Erosive Esophagitis	caused by gastroesophageal reflux; deterioration of the protective lining on the inner wall of the lower esophagus
Erythema	redness
Erythrocyte Count	the number of erythrocytes in the blood
Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate (ESR)	blood test that measures how long it takes for erythrocytes to sink to the bottom of a tube- used to check for inflammation in the body
Erythrocytes	cells in blood that carry oxygen; red blood cells
Erythrocytosis	increase in number of red blood cells
Erythroderma	red skin
Esophagogastroduodenoscopy	use of an endoscope to look into the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum
Esophagoscope	tool used to look into the esophagus
Esophagus	swallowing tube that transports food from mouth to stomach through the oral cavity, neck and chest
Estrogen	female sex hormone
Estrogen Receptor Assay	blood test used to detect tumor cells in patients with breast cancer
Etiology	the cause or causes of an illness

Eupnea	normal breathing
Eustachian Tube	tube that connects the middle ear and the throat
Evaluate	rate the level (of health/wellness), judge (the health/wellness of)
Eversion	turning inside out
Excretion	the way that substances leave the body
Exophthalmic	has a bulging eyeball or eyeballs
Exophthalmos	bulging of one or both eyeballs
Exostosis	bony growth on the surface of a bone
Experimental Drug	Drug not approved for use by the US FDA
Experimental Group	group receiving the experimental treatment
Extension	the straight position of an arm or leg
External	outside the body
External Auditory Meatus	opening or passageway between the outside of the ear and the eardrum
External Ear	outside part of the ear
External Genitalia	sex organs on the outside of the body: penis, scrotum, and urethra in men; vulva, clitoris, and urethra in women
Extracorporeal	outside of the body
Extravasate	to leak outside of a blood vessel
Extravasation	escape of blood from blood vessels and into tissue
F	
Fallopian Tube	tube attached to the uterus down which the egg travels from the ovary to the uterus
Fast	Nothing to eat or drink (set time varies)
Fasting Blood Sugar	blood test used to measure the amount of sugar in the blood after not eating or drinking for a set amount of time
FDA	United States Food and Drug Administration, the government agency that regulates foods and drugs to assure their safety
Feces	material excreted during bowel movement
Femoral	having to do with the thigh area
Femoropopliteal Bypass	surgery to make a passageway from one artery to another in the leg
Femur	thigh bone
Fertility	ability to have children
Fetus	unborn baby from 9 weeks after it is formed until it is born
Fever	an increase in body temperature
Fibrillation	fast uncontrolled heart beat

Fibroid Tumor	growth made up of fibrous tissue
Fibrous	having many fibers, such as scar tissue
Fibula	the lower leg bone behind the shin
Fimbria	tissue that looks like a fringe on the end of the uterine tubes
First Degree Relative	a patient's spouse, mother, father, sister, brother, or child
Fissure	crack or groove in tissue
Flatus	passing gas
Flexion	bent position of the arm or leg
Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody Absorption (Fta-Abs) Test	blood test used to detect syphilis
Follow-Up	returning to see the doctor at a later time
Food And Drug Administration (Fda)	government agency that regulates foods and drugs
Forceps	tool with two blades and a handle used for handling tissue or dressings
Foreskin	fold of skin that covers the penis and is removed in circumcision
Fracture	broken bone
Fulguration	use of electric sparks to remove tissue such as tumors
Fundus	top of the uterus; or back of the eye
Fungal	having to do with fungi
Fungal Test	test used to detect and identify a fungus
Fungi	more than one fungus
Fungus	type of living organisms, such as yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, some of which cause infection and some of which look like plants
Furuncle	painful skin boil

G

Gadolinium	contrast material, similar to a dye, to make images appear clearer
Gait	the way a person walks
Galactorrhea	too much discharge of milk from the breast
Gallbladder	small sack under the liver that holds bile
Gamma Globulin	type of protein in the blood that helps the body fight infection
Ganglion	group of nerve cells found outside the central nervous system; or a benign tumor on muscle connective tissue or on a tendon
Ganglionectomy	surgery to remove a ganglion
Ganglionitis	inflammation of a ganglion

Gangrene	death of tissue caused by loss of blood flow and usually followed by infection
Gastrectomy	surgery to remove all or part of the stomach
Gastric Lavage	washing the stomach out
Gastric Ulcer	sore in the stomach
Gastriodynia	pain in the stomach
Gastritis	inflammation of the stomach
Gastroenteritis	stomach and intestines upset
Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)	frequent persistent heartburn, flow of bitter fluid into mouth, difficulty swallowing, and upper abdominal pain
Gastroscope	tool used to look into the stomach
Gastrostomy	surgery to make an opening from the outside of the body into the stomach
Gavage	feeding a person through a tube that goes into the stomach
Generic Name	chemical name for a drug
Genes	material passed from parent to child that determines the make-up of the body and mind
Genetic	passed down from birth parents in the genes
Genital	having to do with the sex organs
Genital Herpes	disease caused by a herpes virus in which there are blisters on the genitalia
Genitalia	male and female sex organs
Gestational	pertaining to pregnancy
Gingiva	the gums
Gingivectomy	surgery to remove gum tissue
Gingivitis	inflammation of the gums
Gland	tissue that produces a material, such as the saliva or a hormone
Glans Penis	end of the penis
Glaucoma	increased pressure inside the eye that causes visual problems
Globulins	proteins in the blood
Glomerulonephritis	inflammation of the kidney
Glomerulus	place in the kidney where urine is formed
Glossitis	inflammation of the tongue
Glossopathy	disease of the tongue
Glossorrhaphy	surgery to stitch the tongue
Glucocorticoids	drugs or natural substances made by the adrenal glands that have many effects on body metabolism, raise sugar level in the blood, and reduce inflammation

Glucose	type of sugar found in the blood
Glucose Tolerance Test	test that measures blood sugar levels over a certain amount of time in a patient after he drinks a beverage that contains a measured amount of sugar
Glycosuria	sugar in urine
Gonad	sex gland: female ovary or male testicle
Gonorrhea	type of bacterial infection in the sex organs and sometimes in the skin and joints
Gout	disorder in which crystals of uric acid deposit in and around joints, causing pain and arthritis
Granulocytopenia	drop in white blood cell count
Growth Hormone (GH)	hormone made by the pituitary gland that controls the growth of the body
Guaiac Test	test for blood in stool
Gynecologist	doctor who treats disorders of the sex organs of women
Gynecology	the study of the reproductive system of women

H

Hair	thin strands of protein that grow up from the hair follicles
Hallucinations	imagining things
Hand and Foot Syndrome; Palmar-Plantar Erythrodyesthesia	palms of the hands or soles of the feet tingle, become numb, painful swollen, or red
Heart	muscle that moves or pumps blood through the body
Heart Failure	when the heart inadequately pumps blood through the body
Heart Murmur	swishing sound, heard when listening to the heart through a stethoscope, caused by abnormal flow of blood through the heart
Hematemesis	blood in vomit
Hematocrit	amount of red blood cells in the blood
Hematocytopenia	not enough blood cells
Hematologist	doctor who treats blood disorders
Hematology	the study of blood
Hematoma	a bruise, a black and blue mark
Hematopoiesis	the making of blood cells
Hematosalpinx	blood in the uterine tube
Hematuria	blood in the urine
Hemiparesis	muscle weakness or partial paralysis, usually with loss of feeling, on half of the body

Hemiplegia	total loss of muscle movement, usually with loss of feeling, on half of the body
Hemodialysis	method used to remove waste material from the blood
Hemodynamic	related to blood flow
Hemoglobin (Hgb)	substance that carries oxygen and gives blood its red color
Hemolysis	breakdown in red blood cells
Hemolytic Anemia	destruction of red blood cells
Hemophilia	genetic defect in which blood clots too slowly
Hemorrhage	bleeding, escape of blood from blood vessels
Hemorrhagic Stroke	stroke due to bleeding
Hemorrhoidectomy	surgery to remove hemorrhoids
Hemorrhoids	twisted and bulging veins in the rectal area
Hemostasis	the stopping of bleeding
Hemothorax	blood in the chest cavity
Heparin Lock	needle placed in the arm with blood thinner to keep the blood from clotting
Hepatitis	inflammation of the liver
Hepatoma	cancer or tumor of the liver
Hepatoma	growth on the liver
Heritable Disease	a disease which can be transmitted to one's offspring resulting in damage to future children.
Hernia	bulging of an organ through an abnormal opening in a muscle wall
Herniated Disk	breaking of a ring-shaped pad in the spine, which often pinches a nerve; slipped disk
Herniorrhaphy	surgery to fix a hernia
Herpes	groups of tiny blisters found on the skin caused by infection with a herpes virus
Heterosexual	person who is attracted to the opposite sex
Hiccup	sudden, uncontrolled spasm of the diaphragm
Hidradenitis	inflammation of a sweat gland
Hip Bone	bone at the lower part of the body trunk
Hirsutism	abnormal hairiness (in women, an adult male pattern of hair distribution)
Histology	the study of tissue under the microscope
Histopathologic	pertaining to the disease status of body tissues or cells
Hodgkin's Disease	a cancer of white blood cells
Holter Monitor	a portable machine for recording heart beats
Homosexual	person who is attracted to the same sex

Hordeolum	infection of the oil glands of the eyelids; styne
Hormonal Birth Control Methods	birth control pill, Norplant, etc.
Hormone	substance made by a gland in the body that regulates another part of the body
Hospital Formulary	list of drugs and their proper doses maintained by each hospital
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)	a life-threatening infection which you can get from an infected person's blood or from having sex with an infected person
Humeral	having to do with the upper arm bone
Humerus	upper arm bone
Hydrocephalus	increase in fluid in usually causing pressure on the brain; water on the brain
Hydronephrosis	abnormal collection of urine in the kidney causing a swollen kidney
Hydrosalpinx	fluid in the uterine tube
Hymen	fold of tissue at the opening of the vagina
Hymenectomy	surgery to remove the hymen
Hypercalcemia	too much calcium in the blood
Hypercapnia	too much carbon dioxide in the blood
Hyperesthesia	very sensitive to touch
Hyperglycemia	too much sugar in the blood
Hyperkalemia	high blood potassium level
Hyperkalemia	too much potassium in the blood
Hyperkinesis	overactive movements
Hypernatremia	high blood sodium level
Hyperopia	farsightedness
Hyperplasia	abnormal increase in the number of normal cells
Hypertension	high blood pressure
Hypertensive Heart Disease	heart problems caused by high blood pressure
Hyperthyroidism	overactive thyroid gland
Hyperventilation	breathing that is too fast
Hypnotic	drug used to make a person sleep
Hypocalcemia	not enough calcium in the blood
Hypocapnia	not enough carbon dioxide on the blood
Hypochondriac Region	area to the right or left above the naval
Hypodermic	under the skin
Hypodermic Injection	injection of a substance under the skin
Hypoesthesia	state of having less than normal sensitivity to stimulation
Hypogastric Region	area below the naval

Hypoglycemia	not enough sugar in the blood
Hypokalemia	not enough potassium in the blood
Hyponatremia	low blood sodium level
Hyponea	weak, slow breathing
Hypospadias	birth defect in which the urethra opens under the penis instead of the tip of the penis
Hypotension	low blood pressure
Hypothermia	low body temperature
Hypothyroidism	underactive thyroid gland
Hypotonia	decreased muscle tone
Hypoventilation	too little air entering the lungs
Hypoxemia	a decrease of oxygen in the blood
Hypoxemia	not enough oxygen in the blood
Hypoxia	a decrease of oxygen in the blood
Hypoxia	not enough oxygen in the tissues
Hysteratresia	birth defect in which the uterus does not open to the outside of the body
Hysterectomy	surgery to remove the uterus
Hysteropexy	surgery to fasten down the uterus in its normal position
Hysterosalpingography	taking an x-ray of the uterus and the uterine tubes using a dye to outline them
Hysterosalpingo-Oophorectomy	surgery to remove all of the internal female reproductive organs
Hysteroscope	tool used to look into the uterus
Iatrogenic	caused by a physician or by treatment
Iatrology	the science of medicine
Icterus	too much bile in the blood causing a yellow color to the skin, gums, eye, and other tissues
Idiopathic	of unknown cause
Idiosyncrasy	rare side effect of a drug; unusual reaction of a person to a drug
Ileocecal	having to do with the ileum and the cecum
Ileum	third and last part of the small intestine
Ileus	blockage of the intestines
Iliac Regions	areas to the right and left below the naval
Iliofemoral	having to do with the hip and thigh bones
Ilium	wing-shaped upper part of the hip bone

Immune Globulins	proteins that help protect the body from infection and foreign matter
Immune System	the cells and substances that protect the body from infection and foreign matter
Immunity	protection against infection
Immunodeficiency	weakness of the immune system
Immunoglobulin	a protein that makes antibodies
Immunosuppressive	drug which suppresses the body's immune response, used in transplantation and diseases caused by disordered immunity
Immunotherapy	giving of drugs to help the body's immune (protective) system; usually used to destroy cancer cells
Impaired function	abnormal function
Impedance Plethysmography	test used to find blood clots
Impetigo	skin infection
Implanted	placed in the body
Impotent	not able to have or to keep an erection during sexual intercourse
Inclusion Criteria	the characteristics a subject must have to be included in a medical research study
Incontinence	not able to control bladder or bowel actions
Induction Phase	beginning phase or stage of a treatment
Induration	hard spot
Indwelling	remaining in a given location, such as a catheter
Infarct	death of tissue because of lack of blood supply
Infectious Disease	disease which is transmitted from one person to next
Inferior	toward the lower part of the body
Inflammation	pain and swelling
Inflammation	swelling, redness, and pain in tissues caused by injury or damage
Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)	Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, indeterminate colitis
Influenza	the flu
Infusion	a fluid or a medicine delivered into a vein by way of a needle
Ingestion	eating; taking by mouth
Inhalant	substance given through the nose or mouth to reach the lungs
Inheritance	something passed down from birth parents
Inherited	a characteristic or condition that is passed down from birth parents
Initial	first
Institutional Review Board (IRB)	the committee that oversees research at the institution
Insulin	the hormone that controls blood sugar levels

Interfere	get in the way of
Interictal	happening between seizures
Interior	inside of the body
Intermittent	occurring (regularly or irregularly) between two time points; alternately ceasing and beginning
Intermittent Claudication	On-again, off-again pain and weakness in legs which interferes with walking
Internal	within the body
Intervention	a treatment given during the course of a research study
Intervertebral Disks	pads found between each ring (bone) in the spine
Intracavity Injection	injection of a substance into a body cavity
Intracoronary Thrombolytic Therapy	injection of medicine to dissolve a blood clot in an artery of the heart
Intracranial	inside the skull
Intradermal Injection	injection of a substance into the skin
Intradermal Tests	allergy tests performed by injecting allergy-causing substances underneath the skin to see if they cause a reaction
Intradermally	given into the skin
Intramuscular (IM)	into the muscle
Intramuscular Injection (IM)	injection of a substance into a muscle (e.g., upper arm pr backside)
Intraocular	within the eye
Intrathecal	into the spinal fluid
Intrathecal Injection	injection of a substance into the space surrounding the spinal cord (i.e., spinal canal)
Intravenous (IV)	into a vein
Intravenous (IV) Injection	injection of a substance into a vein
Intravenous (IV) Line	a special needle designed to stay in a vein
Intravenous Pyelogram	x-ray of the kidneys and ureters using dye that is injected into the blood
Intravesical	in the bladder
Intubate	to insert a tube into the mouth or nose to assist in breathing
Intussusception	telescoping of the intestine into itself
Invasive Procedure	puncture, opening or cutting of the skin
Inversion	turning inward
Investigation	study
Investigational	experimental
Investigational Device Exemption (IDE)	the license to test an unapproved new medical device

Investigational New Drug (IND)	drug not yet approved by the FDA
Iritis	inflammation of the iris
Irritable Bowel Syndrome	bowel disorder in which there is pain and diarrhea or constipation
Ischemia	decreased oxygen in a tissue (usually because of decreased blood flow)
Ischemic Stroke	stroke due to a blood clot
Ischium	lower part of the pelvic bone, part you sit on
Islets Of Langerhans	tissue in the pancreas that makes and discharges insulin and other hormones
Isthmus	thin strip of tissue that joins two parts of the body
J	
Jaundice	too much bile in the blood causing a yellow color to the skin, gums, eye, and other tissues
Jejunum	second and longest part of the small intestine
K	
Kaposi's Sarcoma	purple or brown cancerous pimples on the skin, often associated with AIDS
Karyocyte	cell with a center
Karyoplasm	material inside the center of a cell
Keloid	type of scar tissue that keeps growing inside
Keratin	protein that is found in the hair, nails, and skin
Keratoplasty	surgery to fix the cornea
Ketone Bodies	substances that increase in the blood and urine when too much body fat and too many carbohydrates are being broken down, usually because of starvation or serious, untreated diabetes mellitus
Kidney	one of two organs in the lower back that filter blood and make urine
Kyphosis	hunchback
L	
Labyrinth	structure in the inner ear
Labyrinthectomy	surgery to remove the inner ear
Labyrinthitis	inflammation of the inner ear
Laceration	torn, ragged cut
Lacrimal	having to do with the tears
Lacrimal Duct	passageway in the eyelids that drains tears; a type of tear duct

Lactating	making milk
Lactic Dehydrogenase (LDH)	substance measured in a blood test to assess damage to heart and other organs
Lactogenic	causing the making of breast milk
Lactorrhea	too much discharge of milk from the breast
Laminectomy	surgery to remove the top of vertebra
Laparoscope	tool used to look into the abdominal cavity
Laparoscopy	surgery using an laparoscope to see internal organ through a small incision
Laparotomy	surgery to make an opening into the wall of the belly to look inside with a laparoscope
Large Intestine	the bowel between the small intestine and the anus, including the cecum, colon, and rectum
Laryngeal	having to do with the voice box
Laryngeal Nerve	nerve in the throat
Laryngectomy	surgery to remove the voice box
Laryngitis	inflammation of the voice box
Laryngocentesis	surgery to puncture the voice box
Laryngoplasty	surgery to fix the voice box
Laryngoscope	tool used to look into the voice box
Laryngospasm	sudden, uncontrolled cramp in the voice box
Laryngostomy	surgery to make an opening into the voice box
Laryngotracheobronchitis	inflammation of the larynx, windpipe, and bronchi; croup
Larynx	voice box
Laser Angioplast	using a laser light to open blocked arteries
Lateral	toward or having to do with the side of the body
Latex Agglutination Test	blood test used to detect antibodies
Laxative	drug used to stop constipation
LE (Lupus Erythematosus)-Cell Test	blood test used to detect the presence of a certain type of white blood cell seen in people with lupus erythematosus and similar disorders
Legionnaires' Disease	serious disorder caused by bacterial infection in which there is high fever, stomach pain, headache, and pneumonia
Leiodermia	disorder in which the skin is too smooth and shiny
Leiomyoma	smooth muscle growth
Leiomyosarcoma	cancer of smooth muscle
Lens	structure in the eye that is normally clear and helps to focus light coming into the eye
Lesion	abnormal area of tissue, such as a wound, sore, rash, or boil

Lethargy	sleepiness
Leukemia	blood cancer
Leukocoria	white pupil
Leukocyte	one of the infection-fighting cells in the blood and body tissues; white blood cells
Leukocyte Count	number of white blood cells in the blood
Leukocytosis	increase in number of white blood cells in the blood
Leukoderma	white skin
Leukokoria	white pupil
Leukopenia	low white blood cell count
Libido	sexual desire
Ligament	elastic tissue that connects bone or cartilage
Lipid Content	fat content in the blood
Lipid Tests	blood tests that measure how much fat is in the blood
Lipids	fats
Lipoid	fatty
Lipoma	growth made up of fat cells
Lipoprotein Electrophoresis	blood test that measures the amounts of fat and protein in the blood
Lithotripsy	surgery or other method to crush a stone
Liver	large organ that helps in many body functions, including digestion, metabolism, and storage of substances
Lobar Pneumonia	bacterial infection of one or more sections of the lung
Lobectomy	surgery to remove a section of the lung
Localized	restricted to one area, limited to one area
Lochia	normal discharge from the vagina for 1 to 2 weeks after childbirth
Long Bone	bone that is long and slender, such as a leg or arm bone
Long-Term Extension	continuation of a research study
Lordosis	forward curving of the spine, causing saddle back or swayback
Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS)	a disease of the nerves and muscles that causes weakness
Lower GI (Gastrointestinal) Series	x-ray using a dye given as an enema to outline the large intestine
Lumbar Puncture	spinal tap using a needle to remove spinal fluid for testing from the lower back
Lumbar Region	lower back of the body
Lumbar Vertebrae	bones of the spine in the lower back
Lumen	the space inside a tube-like body structure, such as a blood vessel
Lung Fibrosis	excess of fibrous tissue in the lung
Lung Lobe	one of five sections of the two lungs

Lungs	the two main organs for breathing
Lupus Erythematosus (LE)	chronic disorders of connective tissue in which there can be skin rash, arthritis, kidney problems, and anemia, among other problems
Lymph	clear liquid tissue
Lymph Node	tissue that filters disease germs from the blood; also called a lymph gland
Lymphadenitis	inflammation of the lymph nodes
Lymphadenography	x-ray of the lymph nodes
Lymphangiography	an x-ray of the lymph nodes or tissues after injection of dye in lymph vessels
Lymphocyte	a type of white blood cell important in immunity and defense against infection
Lymphoid Tissue	tissue that contains lymphocytes
Lymphoma	a cancer of the lymph nodes (or tissues)

M

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)	body pictures created using magnetic waves to look at soft tissues of the body
Malaise	a vague feeling of bodily discomfort, feeling bad
Malfunction	condition in which something is not functioning properly
Malignancy	cancer or other progressively enlarging and spreading tumor, usually fatal if not successfully treated
Malignant	cancerous
Mammary Glands	milk-producing tissue in the breasts
Mammary Papilla	breast nipple
Mammogram	x-ray of the breast
Mammoplasty	surgery to reconstruct the breast
Mandible	lower jaw bone
Mantoux Test	skin test used to check for tuberculosis
Mastalgia	pain in the breast
Mastectomy	surgery to remove a breast
Mastitis	inflammation of the mammary gland or of the breast
Mastoid Cells	air spaces inside the mastoid process
Mastoid Process	protruding part of a bone located in the skull behind the ear
Mastoidectomy	surgery to remove the mastoid process or mastoid cells
Mastoiditis	inflammation of the air spaces in the mastoid process that communicate with the middle ear
Mastoidotomy	surgery to cut into the mastoid process

Mastoptosis	drooping breasts
Matatarsal Bones	foot bones
Maxilla	upper jaw bone
Maxillectomy	surgery to remove the upper jaw bone
Maxillitis	inflammation of the upper jaw bone
Meconium	first stool of the newborn
Medial	toward or having to do with the middle of the body
Mediastinum	tissue and organs in the middle of the chest between the two lungs
Medical History	information about a patient obtained by questioning the patient and the patient's family
Medical Record	a chart containing all of the patient's personal information, doctor's notes, nurse's notes, test results, and treatment information that may be kept by a hospital or clinic
Medications	medicines, drugs
Medulla Oblongata	part of the brain that controls breathing, blood pressure, and other important body functions; brain stem
Medullablastoma	a type of brain tumor
Megaloblastosis	change in red blood cells
Meibomian Cyst	pimple on the eyelid caused by an inflamed gland (stye)
Melanin	material that makes the color of the skin and hair
Melanoma	cancerous black growth on the skin
Melasma	a blotchy brown stain on the skin, usually over the cheeks, forehead, or neck; often associated with pregnancy, menopause, or the use of oral contraceptives
Menarche	time in life when a girl starts having a menstrual period
Meniere's Disease	disorder of the inner ear in which there is dizziness, ringing in the ears, and loss of hearing
Meninges	three-layered tissue that covers the brain and spinal cord
Meningitis	inflammation of the meninges
Meningocele	bulging of the meninges through a hole in bone
Meningomyelradiculitis	inflammation of the meninges and roots of the spinal nerves
Meniscectomy	surgery to remove a meniscus
Meniscitis	inflammation of the meninges and roots of the spinal nerves
Meniscus	one of two crescent-shaped pads inside the knee joint
Menometrorrhagia	too much bleeding from the uterus during menstruation and at other times
Menopause	time in life when a woman stops having a menstrual period
Menses	discharge of blood and tissue from the uterus that happens about every 4 weeks in women who are not pregnant

Menstrual	having to do with menstruation
Menstrual Period	the time of menstruation
Menstruation	monthly discharge of blood and tissue from the uterus when females are not pregnant
Metabolism	total of all the important actions in the body that keep it alive
Metabolize	process of breaking down substances in the cells to obtain energy
Metacarpal Bones	bones of the hand between the wrist and fingers
Metastasis	spread of cancer cells from one part of the body to another
Metrorrhea	discharge from the uterus
Micro-	describes something that is small or delicate
Microcephalus	person with a very small head
Micturate	urinate
Middle Ear	the space between the eardrum and the inner ear
Migraine	type of severe headache that occurs periodically and is often associated with nausea, vomiting, and constipation or diarrhea
Mild	not serious
Minimal	slight
Minimize	reduce
Miotic	substance that makes the pupil of the eye smaller (e.g., narcotic)
Miscarriage	loss of an unborn baby from the uterus before it is able to survive outside the mother's body
Mitral Commissurotomy	surgery to repair the mitral valve to enlarge the opening between the two parts of the left side of the heart
Mitral Valve	valve between two chambers on the left side of the heart
Mobility	ease of movement
Moderate	medium level of seriousness
Monitor	watch carefully
Monoclonal Antibody	laboratory produced substance that recognized a specific protein
Monoparesis	weak muscle movement and loss of feeling in one arm or one leg
Monoplegia	loss of movement and loss of feeling in one arm or one leg
Morbidity	undesired result or complication
Mortality	death
Motility	ability to move
Mouth	opening through which food passes into the body to be digested
Mucopurulent	slimy and with pus in it
Mucosa	lining
Mucosa, Mucous Membrane	moist lining of digestive, respiratory, reproductive, and urinary tracts

Mucus	slimy fluid
Multicenter	when more than one hospital or medical school team work on a medical research study
Multigravida	women who has been pregnant two or more times
Multipara	woman who has given birth two or more times
Multiple Dose	getting more than one dose of medicine
Multiple Sclerosis (MS)	slowly worsening disorder of the central nervous system that causes weakness, incoordination, numbness, and problems talking and seeing
Muscle	type of tissue that causes movement
Muscular Dystrophy (MD)	genetic problem resulting in muscle weakness and atrophy
Myalgia	muscles aches
Myasthenia	muscle weakness
Myasthenia Gravis	disorder that causes muscles to get tired quickly
Mydriatic	substance that makes the pupil of the eye bigger
Myelodysplasia	blood cancer
Myelogram	x-ray of the spinal cord using dye that is injected into the spinal area
Myeloma	cancer of the types of cells normally found in bone marrow
Myelomalacia	softening of the spinal cord
Myocardial	pertaining to the heart
Myocardial Infarction (MI)	heart attack
Myocardial Ischemia	not enough blood going to the heart
Myocarditis	inflammation of the heart muscle
Myocardium	muscle of the heart
Myoma	growth made up of muscle tissue
Myomectomy	surgery to remove a myoma or a piece of muscle
Myometritis	inflammation of the muscle of the uterus
Myometrium	muscle of the uterus
Myopathy	muscle disorder
Myopia	nearsightedness
Myoplasty	surgery to fix a muscle
Myorrhaphy	surgery to stitch a muscle
Myringitis	inflammation of the eardrum
Myringoplasty	surgery to fix a ruptured eardrum
Myxedema	disorder caused by lack of thyroid hormone in which areas of the skin are swollen

N	
Nail	tough plate of tissue covering the top of the end of each finger and toe
Narcotic	strong habit-forming drug that stops pain and depresses the central nervous system
Nasal	having to do with the nose
Nasal Septum	wall that divides the nose into two sides
Nasogastric Tube (NG Tube)	tube that goes through the nose and into the stomach
Nasolacrimal Duct	tube that drains tears from the eye into the nose; tear duct
Nasopharyngeal	having to do with the nasopharynx
Nasopharyngitis	inflammation of the nasopharynx
Natal	having to do with childbirth
National Cancer Institute (NCI)	institute that supports cancer centers, funds research and training, and provides cancer information
National Institutes of Health (NIH)	the nation's premier biomedical research organization
Nausea	feeling sick to your stomach
Nebulizer	device used to turn liquids into mists for breathing treatments
Necrosis	death of an area of tissue or skin
Neonate	newborn infant
Neonatology	the study of disorders of newborn infants
Neoplasia	tumor, may be benign or malignant
Neoplasm	new growth that is not normal; tumor
Nephrectomy	surgery to remove a kidney
Nephritis	kidney inflammation
Nephroblastoma	type of malignant kidney tumor
Nephrogram	x-ray of the kidney
Nephrohypertrophy	overgrowth of the kidney
Nephrolithiasis	stones in the kidney
Nephroma	growth in the kidney
Nephromegaly	overgrowth of the kidney
Nephropexy	surgery to tie down a kidney
Nephroptosis	sagging kidney
Nerve	string-like tissue that carries messages to and away from the brain and spinal cord and tells muscles to move
Nervous Tissue	type of tissue that makes up the central nervous system and nerves

Neuralgia	nerve pain
Neurectomy	surgery to remove part of a nerve
Neuritis	inflammation of a nerve
Neuroarthropathy	disorder of the joints and the central nervous system or nerves
Neuroblast	cell that will develop into a nerve
Neuroblastoma	a cancer of nerve tissue
Neurohypophysis	part of the brain that discharges hormones including oxytocin and vasopressin
Neuroid	like a nerve
Neurological	pertaining to the nervous system
Neurologist	doctor who treats disorders of the central nervous system and nerves
Neurolysis	surgery to open the covering of a nerve to destroy a nerve
Neuroma	growth made up of nerve tissue
Neuropathy	a disturbance in the function of the brain or spinal cord that may affect the nerves and muscles of the body
Neuropharmacologic Drug	drug that acts on the nervous system
Neuroplasty	surgery to fix a nerve
Neurorrhaphy	stitching a cut nerve
Neurosis	mental and emotional disorder
Neurotomy	surgery to make a break in a nerve
Neutropenia	a decrease in white blood cells
Nevus	mole; birthmark
Nocturia	too much urination at night
Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (NHL)	cancer of the lymph nodes
Non-invasive	not breaking, cutting or entering the skin
Norepinephrine	hormone discharged from nerves, the brain, and the adrenal glands that helps the body deal with stress and low blood pressure
Nosocomial	acquired in the hospital
Nucleus	center of a cell
Nulligravida	woman that has never given birth
Nullipara	woman that has never given birth to an infant that lived
Nyctalopia	difficulty seeing at night
O	
Obesity	very overweight

Obligated	have to; must
Observe	watch; look at
Obstetrician	doctor who takes care of pregnant women and delivers babies
Obstetrics	the study of pregnant women and childbirth
Obstruction	block, blockage
Obstructive Sleep Apnea	breathing problems while sleeping because the airways collapse or get closed off
Obtain	get; determine
Occlude	close off
Occlusion	closing; obstruction
Occur(s)	take(s) place
Oculmycosis	fungus infection in the eye
Oculus Dexter (OD)	right eye
Oculus Sinister (OS)	left eye
Oculus Uterque (OU)	each eye
Oligomenorrhea	occasional and irregular menstruation that occurs every 35 days to 6 months
Oligospermia	decreased amount of sperm in semen
Oliguria	decreased amount of urine
Omphalitis	inflammation of the belly button
Omphalocele	a birth defect in which there is bulging of the intestine through the body wall in the belly button region
Oncogenic	causing tumors to form
Oncologist	doctor who treats cancer
Oncology	the study of tumors or cancer
One Tablespoon	3 teaspoons, 15cc = 15ml
One Teaspoon	5cc = 5ml
One-Time Donation	only one sample will be obtained, no further test and/or specimens will be required
Onychectomy	surgery to remove a nail
Onychocryptosis	ingrown nail
Onychomalacia	softening of the nails
Onychomycosis	fungus infection of the nail
Onychophagia	nail biting
Oophorectomy	surgery to remove the uterus and ovaries
Oophoritis	inflammation of the ovary
Oophorohysterectomy	surgery to remove the uterus and ovaries

Open Label	a medical research study in which subjects and researchers are told which treatments the subjects are receiving, "unblinded"
Ophthalmic	pertaining to the eye
Opiates	morphine-like medications
Opportunity	chance
Ophthalmagia	pain in the eye
Ophthalmic	having to do with the eye
Ophthalmologist	doctor who treats eye disorders
Ophthalmology	the study of eye disorders
Ophthalmopathy	disorder of the eye
Ophthalmorrhagia	bleeding from the eye
Optic	having to do with the eye
Optic Nerve	nerve that carries visual messages from the retina to the brain
Optician	person who makes glasses
Optimal	best, most favorable or desirable
Optometer	tool used in eye examinations
Optometry	the study of the eye and vision
Oral	having to do with the mouth
Orally	taken by mouth; to be swallowed
Orchidopexy	surgery to tie down a testicle in the scrotum
Orchiectomy	surgery to remove one or both testicles
Orchiepididymitis	inflammation of a testicle and epididymis
Orchiopexy	surgery to tie down a testicle in the scrotum
Orchioplasty	surgery to fix a testicle
Orchitis	inflammation of a testicle
Organ	two or more kinds of tissues that work together to make up a part of the body with a unique function
Orgasm	the climax of sexual excitement
Orthodontist	dentist who treats teeth and jaw disorders
Orthopedic	pertaining to the bones
Orthopedics	the study of the bones and joints
Orthopedist	doctor who treats bone and joint disorders
Orthopnea	difficult breathing except when sitting up
Orthostatic Hypotension	low blood pressure with change of position
Orthotist	person who puts on and teaches the use braces and splints
Ossicles	bones of the middle ear that carry sound

Osteoarthritis (OA)	disorder, which is seen mostly in older persons, in which the joints become painful and stiff
Osteoblasts	cell that makes bone
Osteocarcinoma	bone cancer growth
Osteochondritis	inflammation of bone and cartilage
Osteoclasts	surgery to break a bone
Osteocyte	bone cell
Osteofibroma	benign tumor of bone and connective tissue
Osteogenesis Imperfecta	genetic disorder in which the bones are delicate and break easily
Osteomalacia	soft bones
Osteomyelitis	infection and inflammation of bone
Osteonecrosis	death of bone tissue
Osteopetrosis	rare bone disorder characterized by dense bone.
Osteoplasty	surgery to fix a bone
Osteoporosis	loss of calcium from bone tissue resulting in bones that break easily; prevalent in postmenopausal women
Osteosarcoma	cancer of bone
Otalgia	earache
Otitis	inflammation of the ear
Otitis Externa	inflammation of the outer ear canal
Otitis Interna	inflammation of the inner ear
Otitis Media	inflammation of the middle ear
Otologist	doctor who treats disorders of the ear
Otology	the study of the ear
Otomastoiditis	inflammation of the ear together with mastoiditis
Otomycosis	fungus infection in the outer ear canal
Otopyorrhea	discharge of pus from the ear
Otorhinolaryngologist	doctor who treats disorders of the ear, nose, and throat
Otosclerosis	bone deposits in the inner ear
Otoscope	tool used to look into the ear
Ovaries	female sex glands
Ovulation	discharge of an egg from the ovary
Ovum	the female sex cell that joins with the male sperm to make a zygote and eventually a baby; egg
Oximeter	tool used to measure the amount of oxygen in the blood
Oxytocin	hormone made by the brain that makes the uterus cramp and milk come out of the breasts

P

Pachyderma	thickening of the skin
Palate	roof of the mouth
Palatitis	inflammation of the roof of the mouth
Palatoplasty	surgery to fix the roof of the mouth
Palliative Care	care intended to relieve pain
Pallor	pale color of the skin
Palmar	having to do with the palm of the hand
Pancreas	organ that makes hormones, including insulin, and digestive juices
Pancreatic	having to do with the pancreas
Pancreatitis	inflammation of the pancreas
Panplegia	total loss of muscle control and feeling
Pansinusitis	inflammation of the all the sinuses on one side of the body
Pap Test	microscope test used to detect virus infection of the cervix or cancer of the vagina, cervix, or lining of the uterus
Papule	pimple
Para	woman who has given birth
Parallel-Design	a medical research study comparing the response in two or more groups of subjects receiving different interventions (treatments)
Paranasal Sinuses	air cavities inside the bones of the face around the nose
Paranoia	psychiatric disorder involving extreme distrust and unreasonable suspicion of other people and their motives
Paranoid	showing signs of paranoia
Paraplegia	complete loss of muscle control and total loss of feeling from the waist downward
Parasympatholytic	drug that blocks a kind of nerve
Parasympathomimetic	drug that imitates the action of a kind of nerve
Parathyroid Gland	gland that makes and discharges a hormone that helps control the amount of calcium in the blood
Parathyroidectomy	surgery to remove the parathyroid gland
Parathyroidoma	growth or cancer on the parathyroid gland
Paralysis	loss of ability to move muscles with loss of feeling also
Parenteral	administration by injection
Paresis	muscle weakness; partial paralysis
Parietal Layer of the Pericardium	layer of tissue in the sack around the heart
Parietal Layer	layer of tissue in the wall of a cavity

Parkinson's Disease	a progressive disorder of the central nervous system, seen usually in older in which there is muscle weakness, trembling and sweating
Paronychia	inflammation around the nail
Paroxysm	sudden worsening of an illness; or a spasm or seizure
Partial Thromboplastin Time (PTT)	a test of blood clotting time used to measure substances that help the blood to clot
Participant	person taking part
Participate	take part
Participation	taking part
Parturition	childbirth
Patch Test	allergy test performed by putting an allergy-causing material on the skin to see if it causes a reaction
Patella	kneecap
Patellectomy	surgery to remove the kneecap
Patency	condition of being open
Patent	open
Pathogenesis	causative mechanism in a disease
Pathogenic	causing disease
Pathologist	doctor who studies the changes in the body and its tissues caused by disease
Pathology	the study of the changes in the body and body tissue caused by disease
Pathology Samples	bone marrow and tissue samples
Pediculosis	infection with lice, which are tiny bugs
Pelvic Bone	hip bone
Pelvic Cavity	space where the urinary bladder, certain reproductive organs, part of the large intestine, and the rectum are found
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID)	infection of any of the female reproductive organs inside the pelvic space, including the uterus, uterine tubes, and ovaries
Pelvimetry	x-ray of the pelvis of the mother to make sure her pelvis is large enough for the body to come through during birth
Pelvis of the Kidney	place where urine leaves the kidney
Penicillin	type of antibiotic
Penile Implant	artificial device put into the penis to help a man get an erection
Penis	outer male sex organ
Peptic Ulcer	sore in the stomach or in the lining of the stomach
Per Os (PO)	by mouth
Percussion	tapping of a body surface with the fingers to check the organs under the skin by the sound that is made

Percutaneous	through the skin
Percutaneous	through the skin
Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty (PTCA)	procedure in which a small balloon is blown up inside the blood vessel to open up a blood vessel
Perforation	making a hole
Performance Status	ability to do activities
Pericardiotomy	surgery to make an opening into the pericardium
Pericarditis	inflammation of the pericardium
Pericardium	two-layer sack of tissue around the heart
Perimetritis	inflammation of the perimetrium
Perimetrium	outer layer of tissue around the uterus
Perineorrhaphy	stitching a tear in the perineum
Perineum	area between the vulva and rectum in women and between the scrotum and rectum in men
Periosteum	layer of tissue that covers bone
Peripheral	not central
Pertussis	whooping cough
Petechia	tiny red or purple spot on skin or other tissue caused by bleeding
Phacoemulsification	method of removing a cataract by using sound waves to break it up
Phalanges	finger and toe bones
Pharmacist	person licensed to prepare and dispense drugs and fill prescriptions
Pharmacodynamics	the study of how drugs act on the body
Pharmacokinetics	the study of the way a drug enters and leaves the blood and tissues over time
Pharyngitis	sore throat
Pharynx	area between the mouth and esophagus that performs the swallowing action; throat
Phase I	a medical research study using healthy volunteers; initial safety testing of a new drug
Phase II	a later clinical study looking at a new drug's dosage, safety, and efficacy in patients
Phase III	a still later controlled, randomized study testing a specific dose of a new drug and its effectiveness in treating a condition or disease
Phase IV	after a drug has been approved by the FDA and is available for use; a study that looks at how well the drug is being used in the medical community
Phenothiazines	group of drugs used for the control of mental illness
Phenylketonuria (PKU)	dangerous build-up of toxic materials in the body resulting from a genetic defect that affects metabolism

Phlebitis	irritation or inflammation of the vein
Phlebography	x-ray of a vein or veins using a dye to outline them
Phlebotomy	putting a needle into a vein to remove blood
Phlectomy	surgery to remove part or all of a vein
Phonocardiogram	detailed record of heart sounds
Photophobia	irritation of the eye caused by light
Photoretinitis	inflammation of the back of the eye caused by strong light
Phrenic	having to do with the mind; or having to do with a diaphragm
Phrenopathy	mental disorder
Pia Mater	inner layer of the meninges
Pinna	outer flap of the ear
Pituitary Gland	gland that sits under the brain and makes many hormones, including some that control other glands
Placebo	an inactive substance; a pretend treatment (with no drug in it) that is compared in a clinical trial with a drug to test if the drug has a real effect
Placebo Effect	phenomenon of improvement seen with the use of a placebo
Placenta	tissues that provide food for the unborn baby
Plantar	having to do with the sole of the foot
Plasma	liquid part of blood where cells float
Plasmapheresis	removing plasma from blood that has been drawn from a person
Platelet Count	the number of platelets in the blood
Platelets	cells that help the blood clot; a decrease can lead to bleeding
Pleura	thin tissue that covers the lungs and inner walls of the chest
Pleural Effusion	fluid in the chest cavity
Pleurisy	inflammation of the pleura with discharge in the chest cavity, making breathing painful
Pleuropexy	surgery to fix the film that covers the lungs
Pneumatocele	bulging of the lungs through an abnormal opening
Pneumobronchotomy	incision into the lungs
Pneumoconiosis	dust in the lungs
Pneumocystis Carinii	type of parasite or fungus that causes pneumonia in infants and weakened patients, such as those with AIDS
Pneumonectomy	surgery to remove a lung
Pneumonia	inflammation of the lungs in which the lungs become heavy
Pneumonitis	inflammation of the lungs
Pneumothorax	free air in the chest cavity
Podiatrist	foot doctor

Poliomyelitis	infection with a virus in which there can be fever, headache, and stiff neck followed by paralysis and wasting away of muscles
Polyarteritis	inflammation of many arteries
Polycystic Kidney	kidney with many cysts in it
Polydipsia	too much thirst
Polymyositis	inflammation of more than one muscle
Polyneuritis	inflammation of several nerves
Polyp	type of growth that sticks up out of tissue
Polypectomy	surgery to remove a polyp
Polyuria	too much urine being made
Pons	part of the brain through which the two sides and different areas of the brain communicate
Porphyria	disturbance of metabolism that can be seen as disorders of the skin or other organs
Positron Emission Tomography (PET)	imaging scanner for determining cancer, heart disease, and brain disorders
Post	after
Posterior	having to do with the back of the body
Posterior Lobe Of The Pituitary	part of the pituitary gland that discharges oxytocin, vasopressin, and some proteins
Postherpetic Neuralgia	pain lasting after condition has healed
Postictal	happening after a seizure
Postpartum	after childbirth
Potential	possible
Potentially	could be; possibly
Potentiate	increase or multiply the effect of a drug or toxin by administration of another drug or toxin at the same time
Potentiality	increase in drug action from using two drugs together instead of using each drug alone
Potentiator	an agent that helps another agent work better
Pre	before
Preeclampsia	serious problem of pregnancy in which there is high blood pressure and excess fluid in the tissues of the mother
Pregnant/Pregnancy	carrying an unborn baby
Preictal	happening before a seizure
Premature Infant	infant born before it has fully developed; weight less than 5.5 lbs
Prenatal	before birth
Prepuce	fold of skin (foreskin) that covers the penis and is removed in circumcision

Presbycusis	loss of hearing because of old age
Presbyopia	problems with vision because of old age
Previous	other; done before
Primigravida	woman going through her first pregnancy
Primipara	woman who has had one pregnancy that lasted at least 20 weeks
Principal Investigator (PI)	the main individual who is responsible and accountable for conducting a medical research study
Prior	before
Proctologist	doctor who treats disorders of the rectum and anus
Proctology	the study of the disorders of the rectum and anus
Proctoptosis	fallen anus protruding from the body
Proctoscope	tool used to look into the rectum
Progestins	type of female hormones that prepare the uterus for pregnancy
Prognosis	outlook, probable outcomes
Prolapsed Uterus	fallen uterus protruding from the body
Prone	lying face down
Prophylaxis	a drug given to prevent disease or infection
Prospective Study	study following patients forward in time
Prostate Gland	gland that makes fluid that aids movement of sperm
Prostatectomy	surgery to remove all or part of the prostate gland
Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA)	substance in blood that is measured to check for prostate cancer
Prostatitis	inflammation of the prostate gland
Prostatocystitis	inflammation of the neck of the bladder and the bladder
Prostatolith	stone in the prostate gland
Prostatorrhea	discharge of liquid from the prostate
Prosthesis	artificial body part
Protein	a complex natural substance essential to the structure and function of all living cells and viruses
Prothrombin Time (PT)	a test of blood clotting time used to measure substances that help the blood to clot
Protocol	plan of study
Proximal	closer to the center of the body, away from the end
Proximal	nearest
Pruritus	itchiness
Pseudocyesis	false pregnancy
Psoriasis	scaly skin rash
Psychiatry	the study of mental disorders

Psychogenic	caused by the mind (rather than the body)
Psychologist	doctor who treats disorders of the mind, thoughts, and behavior
Psychology	the study of mental action and behavior
Psychopathy	any disorder of the mind
Psychosis	abnormal thinking and/or hallucinations
Psychosomatic	having a connection between the mind and physical symptoms
Pterygium	unusual fold of film on the eye
Puberty	years when the sex organs mature
Puerpera	a woman who has just given birth to an infant
Puerperal	right after childbirth
Puerperium	the first 3 to 6 weeks after childbirth
Pulmonary	having to do with the lungs
Pulmonary Edema	fluid in the lungs
Pulmonary Embolism	blood clot in the lungs
Pulmonary Function Testing	breathing tests
Pulmonary Neoplasm	lung tumor
Pupil	black spot in the middle of the eye, which is the opening in the center of the iris
Pupillometer	tool that measures how wide the pupil is
Purgative	drug used to cause the bowels to empty
Purified Protein Derivative (PPD)	substance used in tuberculosis skin test
Purpura	small purple-red marks in skin or other tissue caused by bleeding
Pustule	pimple filled with pus
Pyelitis	inflammation of the kidney and its pelvis
Pyelogram	x-ray of the kidney and ureters
Pyelolithotomy	surgery to remove a kidney stone
Pyelonephritis	inflammation of the kidney and its pelvis
Pyeloplasty	surgery to fix the pelvis of the kidney
Pyelostomy	surgery to make an opening into the pelvis of the kidney
Pyloric Sphincter	ring of muscles between the stomach and the small intestine
Pyloromyotomy	surgery to cut muscles of a pyloric sphincter that is too narrow
Pyloroplasty	surgery to fix the pyloric sphincter
Pylorus	the opening of the stomach into the small intestine
Pyosalpinx	pus in the uterine tubes
Pyuria	pus in the urine

Q

Quadriplegia	loss of muscle movement and loss of feeling in both arms and legs
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R

Rachiotomy	surgery to cut into a bone or bones of the spine
Rachischisis.	birth defect in which there is a groove in the spine
Radial Keratotomy	surgery to fix nearsightedness
Radiation Therapy	x-ray or cobalt treatment
Radiculitis	inflammation of a spinal nerve root
Radioimmunoassay (RIA)	laboratory method to measure a substance, such as a hormone
Radiological Studies	Gamma and CT scans
Radius	one of the two lower arm bones
Random	by chance
Randomization	chance selection
Randomized	like the flip of a coin; 50/50 chance of receiving a study medicine or treatment
Rationale	reason(ing)
Recombinant	formation of new combinations of genes
Reconstitution	putting back together the original parts or elements
Rectal Administration	giving a substance by putting it into the rectum
Rectocele	bulging of the rectum into the vagina
Rectouterine Pouch	pouch in the area between the uterus and the rectum
Recur	happen again
Red Blood Cell (RBC)	a cell in the blood that carries oxygen; a decrease can lead to shortness of breath, weakness and fatigue
Red Blood Cell Count	the number of red blood cells in the blood
Red Blood Cell Morphology	the size and shape of individual red blood cells as seen under a microscope
Reflux	upward movement
Refractory	not responding to treatment
Refrain	avoid doing
Regarding:	about
Regeneration	regrowth of a structure or of lost tissue
Regimen	pattern of giving treatment
Relapse	the return of a medical problem

Remission	when a medical problem gets better or goes away at least for a while
Remote	slight
Renal	pertaining to the kidneys
Renal	having to do with the kidney
Renal Biopsy	removing a piece of kidney tissue to look at it under a microscope
Renal Calculi	kidney stones
Renal Pelvis	place where urine leaves the kidney
Renal Transplant	kidney transplant
Renogram	x-ray to check kidney function by measuring how fast a dye passes through the kidneys and to the urinary bladder
Replicable	possible to duplicate
Reproduction	making babies
Reproductive	having to do with reproduction
Research Study	a process of collecting information about a specific question in order to find an answer
Research Subject(s)	a volunteer(s) taking part in a medical research study
Resect	remove or cut out surgically
Resectoscope	tool used to remove or biopsy tissue from the urinary bladder, prostate, or urethra
Retina	innermost layer of the eye
Retinal	having to do with the retina
Retinal Photocoagulation	use of a laser light to treat disorders of the retina or tumors in the eye
Retinitis Pigmentosa	eye disorder in which the retina atrophies and vision gradually worsens
Retinoblastoma	cancer in the eye growing off of the retina
Retractor	tool used for holding back tissue
Retrograde Pyelogram	x-ray of the kidney and ureter made by injecting dye backward into the ureter
Retrospective Study	study looking back over past experience
Reye's Syndrome	serious disorder of children, which often occurs after a viral infection, affecting the brain, liver, and other body organs
Rhabdomyoma	benign tumor of a muscle
Rhabdomyosarcoma	cancer of a muscle
Rheumatic Fever	bacterial disease in which there is fever and inflammation of the heart, blood vessels, and joints
Rheumatic Heart Disease	damage to the heart caused by rheumatic fever, especially deformed heart valves

Rheumatoid Factor	substance in blood that is measured to check for rheumatoid arthritis
Rhinitis	runny nose
Rhinomycosis	fungus infection in the nose
Rhinoplasty	surgery to fix the nose
Rhinorrhagia	nosebleed
Rhinorrhea	runny nose
Rhizotomy	surgery to cut apart a nerve root
Rhytidectomy	surgery to remove wrinkles
Rhytidoplasty	surgery to remove wrinkles from the face
Ribonucleic Acid (RNA)	genetic material in the body that serve as blueprints for making proteins
Risk	a possibility of injury or harm
Risk Factor	a characteristic or actions of an individual which identify them as having a high likelihood of developing a specific disease or condition
Rongeur	tool used for cutting hard tissue, such as bone

S

Sacrum	large triangle-shaped bone at the bottom of the spine just above the tailbone
Sagittal Plane	divides the body into a right and left side
Saliva	liquid in the mouth that helps with swallowing food; spit
Salivary Glands	glands that make saliva
Salpinx	tube down which the egg travels from the ovary to the uterus
Salpingectomy	surgery to remove the uterine tube
Salpingitis	inflammation of the uterine tubes
Salpingocele	uterine tube bulging out of an abnormal opening
Salpingocyesis	pregnancy growing in the uterine tube
Salpingo-Oophorectomy	surgery to remove an ovary and uterine tube
Salpingostomy	surgery to make an opening into or to open a blockage of a uterine tube
Sarcoma	cancer of connective tissue cells
Satisfactorily	(good) enough
Scabies	itchy skin infection by a microscopic bug called a mite; mange
Scapule	shoulder blade
Schick Test	skin test used to detect diphtheria

Schizoaffective	a mixed psychiatric disorder relating to a complex psychotic state that has features of both schizophrenia and a mood disorder such as bipolar disorder
Schizophrenia	psychiatric disorder with symptoms of emotional instability, detachment from reality, often with delusions and hallucinations, and withdrawal into the self
Schizophrenic	relating to schizophrenia or resulting from schizophrenia
Sciatica	pain running down from the lower back to the buttocks to the back or side of the leg
Sclera	outer protective layer of the eye; "whites of the eyes"
Scleral Buckling	surgery to fix a detached retina
Scleroderma	hardening and thickening of the skin
Sclerokeratitis	inflammation of the sclera and the cornea
Scleromalacia	softening of the sclera seen in patients with rheumatoid arthritis
Sclerotomy	surgery to cut into the sclera
Scoliosis	S-shaped (side-to-side) curve of the spine
Scratch Test	allergy test performed by putting a small amount of allergy-causing material on small skin patches to see if it causes a reaction
Screening	the process of deciding if someone is qualified to take part in a medical research study or not
Scrotum	pouch that holds the testicles
Sebaceous Gland	gland that discharges oil into the skin
Seborrhea	very oily skin
Sedation	calming effect
Sedative	a medication to calm or make less anxious
Seizure	sudden, uncontrolled muscle spasms and loss of consciousness resulting from abnormal brain function
Self-Retaining	stays in place without being held
Semen	fluid containing, sperm, which is discharged from the penis during the climax of sexual intercourse
Semen Analysis	test used to count and examine the sperm cells
Semicircular Canals	channels in the labyrinth of the ear
Semilunar Valves	valves that control the flow of blood out of the heart by opening and closing with each heart beat
Seminoma	a type of testes cancer
Sepsis	blood infection
Septoplasty	surgery to fix the wall inside the nose
Septotomy	incision into the wall inside the nose
Sequentially	in a row

Serrations	small grooves in the edges or tips of tools that help to hold tissue
Serum	clear liquid part of blood
Serum Bilirubin	blood test used to detect liver disorder
Serum Calcium	blood test used to find out how much calcium is in the blood
Serum Creatine Kinase	blood test used to measure creatine
Serum Enzyme Test	blood test used to detect the presence of certain chemicals discharges into the blood from dying heart muscle
Serum Phosphorus	blood test used to measure the amount of phosphorus present
Serum Test	blood test used to measure the amount of endocrine material in the blood
Severe	very serious, life threatening
Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD)	disorder spread by sexual contact
Shingles	painful, fluid-filled blisters caused by herpes virus infection
Shunt	artificial or natural channel running between two other channels
Sialolith	stone in a salivary gland or duct
Sickle Cell Anemia	genetic defect of hemoglobin causing red blood cells to change shape; symptoms include pain in the joints and belly, and ulcers on the legs
Side Effects	unwanted or unintended problems with a drug or treatment
Sigmoid Colon	the lower part of the colon just before the rectum
Sigmoidoscope	tool used to look into the sigmoid colon
Single Blind(ed)	a medical research study in which the person giving the treatment, but not the patient, knows which treatment the patient is receiving
Single Dose	getting one dose of medicine
Sinusotomy	incision into the sinus
Site (of investigation)	the place where the medical research study will be carried out
Sleep Apnea	breathing problems while sleeping
Slipped Disk	bulging out of a pad between bones of the spine, which often causes pinched nerve roots
Small Intestine	the bowel between the stomach and the large intestine, including the duodenum, jejunum, and ileum
Snare	tool with a wire loop used for removing tissue growth
Social History	exercise, smoking, weight gain, recreational drugs, sexual activity, family education, income and employment
Sodium	salt
Somatic	having to do with the body
Somatogenic	caused by the body (rather than the mind)
Somatopathy	disorder of the body as opposed to the mind

Somnolence	sleepiness
Spasm	a muscle contraction that produces pain and interferes with use of the muscle
Specific Gravity	test used to measure the amount of solid material and minerals in a liquid, such as the urine
Speculum	tools used to stretch and hold open an opening into a body channel, such as the nose or vagina
Sperm	the male sex cell that joins with a female egg to make a zygote and eventually a baby
Sphygmocardiograph	tool used to record arterial blood pressure
Sphygmomanometer	tool for measuring blood pressure
Spina Bifida	birth defect in which the spine does not develop fully and close up
Spinal Cavity	space inside the spinal column where the spinal cord is found
Spinal Cord	the cord of nerve cells and nerve fibers running down the spine that helps guide messages to and from the brain
Spirometer	an instrument to measure the amount of air taken into and exhaled from the lungs
Spirometer	tool used to measure the amount of air going into and out of the lungs during breathing
Spleen	largest lymph organ in the body
Splenectomy	surgery to remove the spleen
Splenomegaly	enlarged spleen
Splenopexy	surgery to tie down the spleen
Spondylosyndesis	fusion of the spine
Sponsor	the company, department, or person who is paying for the medical research study
Sputum	fluid and material brought up from the lungs and windpipe and spit out through the mouth
Squamous Cell Carcinoma	cancer that usually occurs on the skin or in the lungs
Staging	a determination of the extent of the disease
Standard Of Care	common management of disease, condition
Staphylococcus	type of bacteria
Stenosis	narrowing of a duct, tube, or one of the valves in the heart
Stenosis	narrowing of a channel
Stereotactic Breast Biopsy	biopsy of breast tissue taken by using a three-dimensional body map to locate the tissue
Sterility	Inability to have children
Sterilization	the killing of all living germs; or a process to make a man or woman not able to have children
Sternoclavicular	having to do with the breastbone and the collarbone

Steroid	like the breastbone
Sternum	breastbone
Stethoscope	tool used to listen to the sounds made by the heart, lungs, intestines, and other organs
Stevens-Johnson Syndrome Or Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis	Potentially life threatening skin rash
Stimulant	drug used to speed up the central nervous system
Stomach	the first part of the intestines that holds food for digestion after it is swallowed
Stomatitis	mouth sores, inflammation of the mouth
Stomatogastric	the mouth and stomach
Stool	bowel movement; feces
Stool Culture	test for bacteria in stool
Strabismus	abnormal position of the eye, as in wall eye or crossed eyes
Stratify	arrange in groups for analysis of results (e.g., stratify by age, sex, etc.)
Streptococcus	type of bacteria
Streptomycin	type of antibiotic
Stricture	area where a tube in the body is too narrow
Study Phase	how far along the medical research study is
Stupor	stunned state in which it is difficult to get a response or the attention of the subject
Stye	pimple on the eyelid
Subclavian	under the collarbone
Subcostal	below the ribs
Subcutaneous	under the skin
Subcutaneous Injection	injected under the skin by way of a needle
Subdural	below the outer layer of the meninges
Sublingual	under the tongue
Sublingual Administration	giving a substance by placing it under the tongue (not to be swallowed) (e.g., nitroglycerin)
Submandibular	below the lower jaw
Submaxillary	below the upper jaw
Subscapular	below the shoulder blade
Sulfonamide	type of antibiotic
Superficial	close to the outside of the body
Superior	toward the top of the body
Supine	lying on the back

Supportive Care	general medical care aimed at symptoms, not intended to improve or cure underlying disease
Suppository	drug that is given by putting it into the rectum, vagina, or urethra
Suprarenal	above the kidney; or having to do with the adrenal gland
Suprascapular	above the shoulder blade
Sutured	stitched
Sweat Glands	structures in and under the skin that makes sweat
Swimmer's Ear	inflammation of the outer ear canal
Sympatholytic	drug used to slow down the action of certain types of nerves
Sympathomimetic	drug used to speed up heart rate, raise blood pressure, and open up air passages
Symphysis	type of joint where two bones meet but there is no movement
Symptomatic	having symptoms
Symptoms	medical problems which are noticed by a patient
Syncope	fainting spell
Syndrome	set of signs that happen at the same time in the body
Synergism	combined action of two drugs used together that is better than using each drug alone
Synoviosarcoma	cancer of the joint
Synthesized	man-made
Syphilis	bacterial infection spread by sexual contact
System	having to do with the whole body
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)	chronic disorder of connective tissue in which there can be skin rash, arthritis, kidney problems, and anemia, among other problems
Systole	the time when the heart contracts to pump blood to the body
Systolic	top number in blood pressure, pressure during active contraction of the heart

T

Tachypnea	fast breathing
Tarsal Bones	ankle bones
Tarsectomy	surgery to remove one or more of the ankle bones
Temperature	how warm or cold a patient's body is
Tendinitis	inflammation of tendons
Tendon	elastic band that attaches muscle at each end
Tenodynia	pain in a tendon
Tenomyoplasty	surgery to stitch together a ripped tendon

Tenorrhaphy	surgery to fix a tendon and muscle
Tenosynovitis	inflammation of covering layer around a tendon
Tenotomy	surgery to cut tendon of an eye muscle to fix strabismus
Teratogenic	capable of causing malformations in fetuses
Testes	male sex glands
Testicle/Testis	one of two male sex glands that make sperm
Testicular Carcinoma	cancer of the testicles
Tetany	muscle cramps caused by a low amount of calcium
Tetracycline	type of antibiotic
Tetraplegia	total loss of muscle movement and loss of feeling in both arms and legs
Therapy	medicine or medical care given to a patient for a disease or condition
Thoracalgia	pain in the chest or wall of the chest
Thoracentesis	using a needle to remove fluid from the chest cavity
Thoracic Cavity	space where the heart, lungs, esophagus, trachea, bronchi, and thymus are found
Thoracic Vertebrae	bones of the spine in back of the chest
Thoracoscope	tool used to look into the chest cavity
Thoracotomy	surgery to cut into the chest
Thorax	the chest
Thorough	complete, good
Throat	area between the mouth and esophagus that performs the swallowing action
Thrombosis	blood clotting
Thrombus	a clotting of blood factors that frequently blocks blood flow
Thymectomy	surgery to remove the thymus
Thymoma	tumor of the thymus
Thymus	lymph organ in the chest, which is most active at puberty, where a type of lymphocyte is made
Thyroid Gland	gland in the neck that makes the thyroid hormones, which are important in controlling metabolism
Thyroidectomy	surgery to remove the thyroid gland
Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone (TSH)	hormone that makes the thyroid gland active
Thyroparathyroidectomy	surgery to remove the thyroid and parathyroid glands
Thyrotoxicosis	disorder caused by too much thyroid hormone
Tibia	the larger of the two lower leg bones; the shin bone

Tinea	fungal infection of skin; ringworm
Tinnitus	ringing, roaring, buzzing, or clicking noises in the ears
Tissue	group of cells that work together
Titration	slow increase in drug dosage, guided by patient's responses
T-Lymphocytes	type of white blood cells
Tolerability	how well a patient can stand a particular medicine or treatment; ability to be used
Tolerance	decrease in response to a fixed dosage of drug; over time, higher and higher doses of a drug are needed to get desired effect
Tonometer	tool that measures pressure inside the eye
Tonsil	lymphoid tissue in the back of the mouth
Tonsillectomy	surgery to remove a tonsil or tonsils
Topical	applied to skin; surface
Topical Anesthetic	applied to a certain area of the skin and reducing pain only in the area to which applied
Topical Application	giving a medication by putting it directly on the skin
Toxicity	any harmful effect of a drug or poison
Trabeculectomy	surgery that makes a place for fluid to drain from the eye, reducing eye pressure in patients with glaucoma
Trachea	windpipe
Tracheitis	inflammation of the windpipe
Tracheocystitis	inflammation of the neck of the urinary bladder
Tracheoplasty	surgery to fix the windpipe
Tracheostomy	surgery to make a hole through the neck from the windpipe to the outside of the body
Tranquilizer	drug used to control anxiety
Transdermal	through the skin
Transdermal Patch	patch containing a drug that is put on the skin so the drug will enter the body through the skin
Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)	sudden loss of blood flow to the brain that lasts for a few minutes to an hour but has no lasting effect
Transiently	temporarily
Transrectal Ultrasound	ultrasonography of the organs in the belly done using a probe in the rectum
Transverse Plane	divides the body to make a top and bottom
Trauma	injury; wound
Traumatic	causing damage, like a toll used to crush tissue
Treadmill Stress Test	test using a walking machine to determine heart function

Treatment	medicine or medical care given to a patient
Trichomoniasis	parasite infection that is spread by sexual contact
Trichomycosis	fungus infection in the hair
Tricuspid Valve	a valve in the heart that controls the flow of blood by opening and closing with each heart beat
Tubal Ligation	surgery to close the uterine tubes to prevent pregnancy
Tuberculin	substance used in skin tests to test for tuberculosis
Tuberculosis	bacterial infection that usually results in a serious lung disorder
Tumor	a mass in a specific area
Tumor Lysis Syndrome	occurs when many cancer cells are killed quickly, the intracellular contents (inside these cells) pour into the blood stream which causes an imbalance in the normal chemistry of the blood
Tympanic Membrane	eardrum
Tympanitis	inflammation of the ear drum
Tympanometer	tool used to fix the ear drum
Tympanoplasty	surgery to fix the eardrum and bones of the middle ear

U

Ulcer	sore
Ulcerative Colitis	sores in the colon
Ulna	one of the two lower arm bones
Ultrasonography	a machine that makes a picture of internal organs by bouncing sound waves off them and recording the echoes
Ultrasonography	making a picture of internal organs by bouncing sound waves off them and recording the echoes
Ultrasound	making a picture of internal organs by bouncing sound waves off them and recording the echoes
Umbilical Region	area around the naval
Umbilicus	navel; belly button
Unconscious	not awake and not aware; knocked out
Ungual	having to do with the nails
Unilateral	having to do with only one side of a structure
Upper GI (Gastrointestinal) Series	x-ray using a dye to show the upper part of the digestive system
Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)	lung infection
Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)	a cold or flu
Uptake	absorption and incorporation of a substance by living tissue, absorb and incorporate a substance, taking in of a substance by living tissue

Uremia	build-up of poisons in the blood, usually because of kidney failure
Ureter	tube that carries urine from a kidney to the urinary bladder
Ureterectomy	surgery to remove all or part of a ureter
Ureteritis	inflammation of the ureter
Ureterocele	bulging of a ureter taken after putting a dye in it to outline it
Ureterogram	x-ray of a ureter taken after putting a dye in it to outline it
Ureterolithiasis	stones in the ureter
Ureterostenosis	narrow area in a ureter
Ureterostomy	surgery to make an opening into a ureter
Ureterotomy	surgery to cut into a ureter
Urethra	tube that carries urine from the urinary bladder to the outside of the body
Urethritis	inflammation of the urethra
Urethrocystitis	inflammation of the urethra
Urethrometer	tool used to measure the urethra
Urethropexy	surgery to tie down the urethra
Urethroplasty	surgery to fix the urethra
Urethrostomy	surgery to make an opening from the urethra to the outside of the body
Uric Acid Test	blood test used to measure the amount of uric acid in the blood
Urinal	container that holds urine
Urinalysis	series of tests done on urine
Urinary	having to do with urine
Urinary Bladder	sack that holds urine before it leaves the body
Urinary Catheterization	passing a tube into the urinary bladder to remove urine
Urinary Retention	abnormal holding of urine
Urinary Suppression	not able to discharge urine
Urinary Tract	all the structures that make and pass urine, including the kidneys, ureters, urinary bladder, and urethra
Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)	bladder infection
Urination	the act of passing urine
Urine	pale yellow liquid waste material and sediment
Urine Casts And Crystals	urine test to check mineral levels and sediment in the urine and to check for infection or inflammation in the urinary tract
Urine Color	normal color for urine is straw yellow
Urine Ph	urine test to find out the chemical make-up of urine (acidity)
Urine Protein	urine test used to measure how much protein is in the urine

Urinometer	tool used to measure the specific gravity of urine
Urodynamics	the force and flow of urine
Urologist	doctor who treats disorders of the urinary tract of men and women and the genital tract of men
Urticaria	hives
Uterus	organ where the unborn baby develops and grows
Utilize	use
Uvula	v-shaped tissue that hangs from the roof of the back of the mouth
Uvulectomy	surgery to remove the uvula
Uvulitis	inflammation of the uvula
V	
Vagina	tube that connects the uterus to the outside of the body
Vaginitis	inflammation of the vagina
Vaginodynia	pain in the vagina
Vaginoperineorrhaphy	surgery to fix tears in the vagina and vaginal areas
Vaginoplasty	surgery to fix the vagina
Vagotomy	surgery to cut the vagus nerve or nerves, usually done to slow down the making of stomach acid
Vagotonis	increased activity of the vagus nerve causing slow heart rate or low blood pressure
Valvuloplasty	plastic repair of a valve, esp. of the heart
Varices	enlarged veins
Varicose Veins	twisted and bulging veins that are larger than normal
Vas Deferens	tube that carries sperm out of the testicle
Vasectomy	surgery to cut out part or all of the ductus deferens-done to make a man not able produce children
Vasoconstrictor	drug used to make blood vessels tighten up and become narrower
Vasodilator	drug used to make blood vessels open up and become bigger
Vasospasm	narrowing of the blood vessels in the brain
Vasovasostomy	surgery to undo a vasectomy by connecting up the ductus deferens again-done to make a man able to produce children again
VDRL Test	blood test used to detect syphilis
Vector	a carrier, usually an insect, that carries and transmits disease causing microorganisms
Vein	the type of blood vessel that carries blood back to the heart from the rest of the body

Vein Ligation And Stripping	surgery to remove twisted (varicose) veins in the legs
Vena Cava	largest vein in the body
Venipuncture	entering the vein with a needle
Venipuncture	putting a needle into a vein
Venogram	x-ray of a vein
Ventilator	machine used to help a person breathe
Ventral	toward or having to do with the front of the body
Ventricle	small space, such as one of several that hold spinal fluid inside the brain and the two lower chambers of the heart
Venule	little vein
Verruca	wart
Vertebra	one of the 33 bones in the spine
Vertebral Column	the spine
Vertebrocostal	having to do with a vertebra and a rib
Vertical Transmission	spread of disease
Vertigo	light-headedness; dizziness
Vesicle	blister
Vesicourethral	having to do with the urethra and the bladder
Vesicovaginal Fistula	abnormal opening between the bladder and vagina
Videotape	a tape played on a VCR to watch and listen to
Viral	having to do with a virus
Virus	a minute particle that lives as a parasite in plants, animals, and bacteria and consists of a nucleic acid core within a protein sheath; viruses cause diseases
Virus	tiny type of gene
Visceral	having to do with the internal organs
Vital Signs	blood pressure, heart rate, breathing rate, temperature, weight, height
Vitreous Body	jelly-like liquid found in the back chamber of the eye
Void	urinate
Voluntary	individual is free to decide if they will take part in the study
Volvulus	twisting of the intestines causing a blockage
Vomit	matter discharged from the stomach out of the mouth
Vulva	the tissues around the opening to the vagina
Vulvectomy	surgery to remove the vulva
Vulvovaginal	having to do with the vagina and vulva
Vulvovaginitis	inflammation of the vagina and vulva

W

Washout Period	period when receiving no treatment
Wheal	hive; welt
White Blood Cell Differential	blood test to find out the types and numbers of mature and immature forms of white blood cells that are in the blood
White Blood Cells (WBCs)	cells that fight infection; a decrease can lead to an increased risk of infection
White Cell Count	number of white blood cells in the blood
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	bacterial infection, usually seen in young children, in which there is a serious, loud, dry cough
Withdraw, Discontinue	stop taking part
Womb	Uterus

X

Xanthochromic	having a yellow color
Xanthoderma	yellow color to the skin
Xanthosis	yellow color
Xeroderma	dry skin
Xeroma	abnormally dry membranes of the eye
Xerophthalmia	abnormal dryness of membranes of the eye due to vitamin A deficiency; symptoms may begin in the form of night blindness, and they become progressively worse
Xerostomia	dryness of the mouth due to dysfunction of the salivary gland
Xiphoid Process	lower part of the breast bone
X-Ray	an image of a site produced on photographic film by X-rays passing through the site

Z

Zygote	the cell made by joining of the female egg and male sperm at the beginning of pregnancy
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