

INTRODUCTION TO MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

PREFIX	MEANING
a-, an-	without, lacking, deficient, not
ab-	away from
ad-, af-	toward, to, near
ambi-, amphi-, amphi-	both, double
ana-	up, toward, apart
andro-	man
ante-	before, in front of, forward
anti-, ant-	against, opposing, preventing
ap-, apo-	separation from, derived from
aut-, auto-	self
brachy-	short
brady-	slow
cata-	down, under, lower, against
circum-	around
co-, com-, con-	with, together
contra-	against, opposed
de-	down, from
dextro-	to the right
dia-	through, between, apart, across
dis-	apart, free from
dorso-	to the back
dys-	difficult, bad, painful, abnormal
e-, ec-, ef-, ex-	out of, from, away from
ect-, ecto-, exo-	outside of
em-, en-, eso-	in, into, within
end-, endo-, ent-, ento-	within, inside
ep-, epi-	upon, on, over
eu-	normal, good, healthy

extra-, extro-	outside of, beyond, outward
gyn-, gyno-	woman, female
hemi-	half, partial
hetero-	different, other
hyper-	excessive, above, beyond
hyp-, hypo-	under, beneath, deficient
im-, in-	in, into, within, not
infra-	below, beneath
inter-	between
intra-, intro-	within, into
mal-	bad, abnormal
mega-, megal-	large, big
mes-, meso-	middle
meta-	change
micr-, micro-	small
mult-, multi-	many
neo-	new, recent
noso-	disease
oligo-	little, few
pan-	all, entire
para-	beside, beyond, after
per-	through, excessive
peri-	around, surrounding
poly-	many, much, excessive
post-	after, behind
pre-, pro-	before, in front of
pseud-, pseudo-	false
pyo-	pus
pyro-	fire
re-, retro-	backward, behind, again
semi-	half

steno-	narrow
sub-	under, below, beneath
super-, supra-	above, excess, superior
sym-, syn-	together, with
tachy-	fast
telo-	end
therm-	heat
trans-	across, through, beyond
ultra-	beyond, excess
xero-	dry

COLORS

albus-	white
chloro-	green
chromo-	color
cirrhos-	orange yellow
cyano-	blue
erythro-	red
leuko-	white
luteus	yellow
melano-	black
polio-	gray
porphyro-	purple
rhodo-	red
xantho-	yellow

NUMBERS

nulli-	none
haplo-	single
mon-, mono-	one
bi-, di-, dipl-	two, double, twice
tri-	three
quadri-, tetra	four

penta-	five
hex-, sex-	six
octo-, octa-	eight
nona-	nine
deci-	ten