# Introduction to Medical Terminology

**Chapter 1** Concepts, Suffixes, and Prefixes of Medical

**Terminology** 

**Chapter 2 Body Structure** 

**Chapter 3 Disease and Treatment** 



# Concepts, Suffixes, and Prefixes of Medical Terminology



# **Pretest**

*Multiple Choice.* Select the best answer, and write the letter of your choice to the left of each number. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

1.	The main part of a word is called the a. origin b. prefix c. root
	d. extension
2.	A word part at the end of a word is the a. prefix b. adjective c. insertion d. suffix
3.	The <i>ch</i> in the word <i>chemical</i> is pronounced like the letter  a. s  b. h  c. k  d. f
4.	The word below that has a hard $g$ is a. grip b. page c. gem d. judge
5.	The suffixes -ic, -ous, -al, and -oid are found in a. adjectives b. nouns c. verbs d. roots
6.	The singular of <i>ova</i> (eggs) is a. ovi b. ovae c. ovum d. ovas
7.	The prefix in the word <i>microscopic</i> is  a. mic- b. scop- c. micro- d. pic-
 8.	The opposite of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) is a. hypoglucemia b. hyperglycemia c. hypocalcemia d. hypoglycemic

# **Learning Objectives**

After careful study of this chapter, you should be able to:

- 1 Explain the purpose of medical terminology. **P4**
- 2 Name the languages from which most medical word parts are derived. **P4**
- 3 Define the terms root, suffix, and prefix. **P4**
- Explain what combining forms are and why they are used. **P5**
- 5 List three features of medical dictionaries. **P8**
- 6 Recognize and apply some general noun, adjective, and plural suffixes used in medical terminology. P9
- 7 Recognize and define prefixes used in medical terminology. P18
- Analyze the suffixes and prefixes used in chapter case studies. PP3, 34

# Case Study: David's Digestive Problems



### **Chief Complaint**

David, a 22 y/o college student, visited the university health clinic

and stated he had a 4-month history of a burning pain in the middle of his chest (heartburn). He notices it more at night and has difficulty sleeping because of the pain. He said he is under stress due to the intensity of his college courses and has gained 20 pounds over the last 6 months. He also said that the pain seems to occur more frequently following late-night college gatherings where pizza, spicy chicken wings, and beer are served.

### **Examination**

A well-nourished 22 y/o male complaining of (c/o) epigastric (upper abdominal) pain no longer relieved by antacids; orthopnea—currently sleeping with three pillows to aid in breathing; occasional swallowing problems, or dysphagia; ETOH (alcohol) consumption is six to eight beers per week; nonsmoker; no neurologic, musculoskeletal, genitourinary, or respiratory deficits. David was referred to a gastroenterologist for \(\backslash\) acid production and possible gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD).

### **Clinical Course**

The gastroenterologist saw David and ordered a special x-ray procedure, a barium swallow radiograph, to rule out any structural problems with the esophagus. The barium provides contrast to enable the radiologist to take x-rays of the esophagus. Since the results of this test proved to be inconclusive for GERD, David was scheduled for an esophageal gastroduodenoscopy (EGD). An EGD allows the gastroenterologist to visually examine the upper GI tract, showing the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum (the upper part of the small intestine). Results of the EGD showed no evidence of bleeding, ulcerations, or strictures. Since David still complained of mild heartburn he was sent home with a prescription of Prevacid and given educational material on GERD, including dietary, exercise, and stress reduction recommendations. He was told he needed to be reevaluated in 3 months.

Case Study Revisited: Once you complete this chapter, please review the case follow-up on p. 27.

### **Ancillaries At-A-Glance**

Visit the web resource to access the following resources.

### **Learning Resources**

- eBook
- A&P Module with Heart & Lung Sounds
- Image Bank

- TestPrep
- **Animations**
- **Audio Pronunciation Glossary**

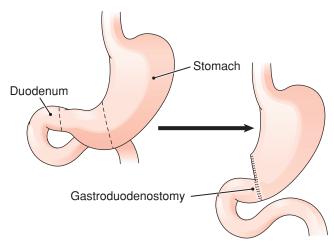
# Introduction

Medical terminology is a special vocabulary used by health-care professionals for effective and accurate communication. Every health-related field requires an understanding of medical terminology, and this book highlights selected healthcare occupations in special boxes (BOX 1-1). While studying this chapter, you will learn about the general concepts of medical terminology and explore the specific role of suffixes and prefixes in words.

# **Concepts of Medical Terminology**

Because it is based mainly on Greek and Latin words, medical terminology is consistent and uniform throughout the world. It is also efficient; although some of the terms are long, they often reduce an entire phrase to a single word. The one word *gastroduodenostomy*, for example, means "a communication between the stomach and the first part of the small intestine" (FIG. 1-1). The part *gastr* means stomach; *duoden* represents the duodenum, the first part of the small intestine; and *ostomy* means a communication.

The medical vocabulary is vast, and learning it may seem like learning the entire vocabulary of a foreign language. Moreover, like the jargon that arises in all changing fields, it is always expanding. Think of the terms that have been added to our vocabulary in relation to computers, such as *software*, *search engine*, *flash drive*, *app*, and *blog*. The task may seem overwhelming, but there are methods to aid in learning and remembering words and even to help make informed guesses about unfamiliar words. Most medical terms can be divided into component parts—roots, prefixes, and suffixes—that maintain the same meaning whenever



**FIGURE 1-1 Gastroduodenostomy.** A communication (-stomy) between the stomach (gastr) and the first part of the small intestine, or duodenum (duoden).

they appear. By learning these meanings, you can analyze and remember many words.

# **Word Parts**

Word components fall into three categories:

- 1. The **root** is the fundamental unit of each medical word. It establishes the basic meaning of the word and is the part to which modifying word parts are added.
- 2. A **suffix** is a short word part or series of parts added at the end of a root to modify its meaning. This book indicates suffixes by a dash before the suffix, such as *-itis* (inflammation).



# HEALTH PROFESSIONS Health Information Technicians

**BOX 1-1** 

Patient medical records are used as the basis for all medical care delivered. Every time a patient receives medical treatment, information is added to the patient's medical record, which includes the medical history, data about symptoms, test results, diagnoses, treatments, and follow-up care. Health information technicians (HITs) organize and manage these records and work closely with physicians, nurses, and other health professionals to ensure that they provide a complete and accurate basis for quality patient care.

Accurate medical records are essential for administrative purposes, third-party payers, and researchers. HITs assign a code to each diagnosis and procedure a patient receives, and this information is used for accurate patient billing. In addition, HITs analyze medical records to reveal trends in health and disease. This research can be used to improve patient care, manage costs, and help establish new medical treatments.

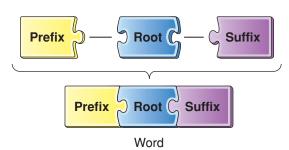
To read and interpret medical records, HITs need a thorough background in medical terminology. Students

planning to pursue this career may obtain a certificate in health information technology or complete an associate's degree in health information technology at a community college. Those wanting to move into an administrative role may complete advanced studies and a bachelor's degree in health informatics at a university. A certification examination is required to become certified as a registered health information technician (RHIT). Many institutions prefer to hire individuals who are professionally certified.

Most HITs work in hospitals and long-term care facilities. Others may work in medical clinics, government agencies, insurance companies, and consulting firms. Because of the growing need for medical care, health information technology is projected to be one of the fastest growing careers in the United States.

For more information about this profession, contact the American Health Information Management Association at ahima.org.

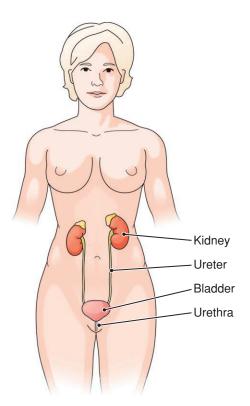
3. A **prefix** is a short word part added before a root to modify its meaning. This book indicates prefixes by a dash after the prefix, such as *pre*- (before).



Words are formed from roots, suffixes, and prefixes.

The simple word *learn* can be used as a root to illustrate. If we add the suffix *-er* to form *learner*, we have "one who learns." If we add the prefix *re-* to form *relearn*, we have "to learn again."

Not all roots are complete words. In fact, most medical roots are derived from other languages and are meant to be used in combinations. The Greek word *kardia*, for example, meaning "heart," gives us the root *cardi*. The Latin word *pulmo*, meaning "lung," gives us the root *pulm*. In a few instances, both the Greek and Latin roots are used for the same structure. We find both the Greek root *nephr* and the Latin root *ren* used in words pertaining to the kidney (**FIG. 1-2**).



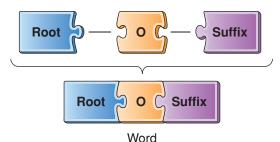
**FIGURE 1-2 Structures named with more than one word root.** Medical terminology uses both the Greek root *nephr* and the Latin root *ren* for the kidney, an organ of the urinary system.

Note that the same root may have different meanings in different fields of study, just as the words web, spam, cloud, cookie, and tweet have different meanings in common vocabulary than they do in "computerese." The root myel means "marrow" and may apply to either the bone marrow or the spinal cord. The root scler means "hard" but may also apply to the white of the eye. Cyst means "a filled sac or pouch" but also refers specifically to the urinary bladder. You will sometimes have to consider the context of a word before assigning its meaning.

A **compound word** contains more than one root. The words *eyeball*, *bedpan*, *frostbite*, and *wheelchair* are examples. Some examples of compound medical words are *cardiovascular* (pertaining to the heart and blood vessels), *urogenital* (pertaining to the urinary and reproductive systems), and *lymphocyte* (a white blood cell found in the lymphatic system).

### **COMBINING FORMS**

When a suffix or another root beginning with a consonant is added to a root, a vowel is inserted between the root and the next word part to aid in pronunciation. This combining vowel is usually an o, as seen in the previous example of gastroduodenostomy, but may occasionally be a, e, or i.

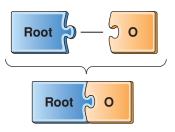


A combining vowel may be added between a root and a word part that follows.

Thus, when the suffix *-logy*, meaning "study of," is added to the root *neur*, meaning "nerve or nervous system," a combining vowel is added:

neur + o + logy = neurology (study of the nervous system)

Roots shown with a combining vowel are called **combining forms**.



Combining form

A root with a combining vowel is called a combining form.

This text gives roots with their most common combining vowels added after a slash and refers to them simply as roots, as in *neurlo*. A combining vowel is usually not used if

the ending begins with a vowel. For example, the root *neur* is combined with the suffix *-itis*, meaning "inflammation of," in this way:

neur + itis = neuritis (inflammation of a nerve)

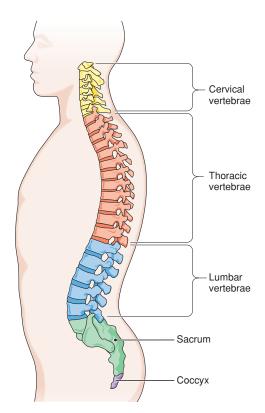
This rule has some exceptions, particularly when they affect pronunciation or meaning, and you will observe these as you work.

# **Word Derivations**

As mentioned, most medical word parts come from Greek (G.) and Latin (L.). The original words and their meanings are included in this text only occasionally. However, they are interesting and may aid in learning. For example, *muscle* comes from a Latin word that means "mouse" because the movement of a muscle under the skin was thought to resemble the scampering of a mouse. The coccyx, the tail end of the spine, is named for the cuckoo because it was thought to resemble the cuckoo's bill (FIG. 1-3). For those interested in the derivations of medical words, a good medical dictionary will provide this information.

### WORDS ENDING IN X

When you add a suffix to a word ending in x, the x is changed to a g or a c. If there is a consonant before the x, such as yx or nx, the x is changed to a g. For example, pharynx (throat) becomes pharyngeal (fah-RIN-je-al), to mean



**FIGURE 1-3 Word derivations.** The coccyx of the spine is named by its resemblance to a cuckoo's bill.

"pertaining to the throat"; coccyx (terminal portion of the spine) becomes coccygeal (kok-SIJ-e-al), to mean "pertaining to the coccyx."

If a vowel comes before the x, such as ax or ix, you change the x to a c. Thus, thorax (chest) becomes thoracic (tho-RAS-ik), to mean "pertaining to the chest"; and cervix (neck) becomes cervical (SER-vih-kal), to mean "pertaining to a neck."

### SUFFIXES BEGINNING WITH rh

When you add a suffix beginning with rh to a root, the r is doubled. For example:

hem/o (blood) + rhage (bursting forth) = hemorrhage (a bursting forth of blood)

men/o (menses) + rhea (flow, discharge) = menorrhea (menstrual flow)

# **Pronunciation**

This text provides phonetic pronunciations at every opportunity, even in the answer keys. The web resource has a large audio pronunciation dictionary. Take advantage of these aids. Repeat each word aloud as you learn to recognize it in print or hear it on the web resource.

The following definitions apply to pronunciation:

Vowel: There are five English vowels; a, e, i, o, u. Each has a specific sound when pronounced.

Syllable: A unit of pronunciation having one vowel sound, forming the whole or part of a word. The number of times you hear a vowel (a, e, i, o, u) in a word is equal to the number of syllables contained in the word.

No special marks are needed to follow the pronunciation if you keep a few simple rules in mind.

### Rule 1

Any vowel that appears alone or at the end of a syllable gets a long pronunciation. The alphabet sounds (when the vowel "says its name") are called long vowels. They are called "long" because we hold them longer than the short sounds.

Vowel	Long Pronunciation
а	as in say, ate, tape
e	as in tea, eat, seat
i	as in lie, mite, might
O	as in hose, oat, moat
и	as in sue, mute, cube

### Rule 2

Any vowel that appears within a syllable gets a short pronunciation:

Vowel	Short Pronunciation
а	as in hat, pan, mat
e	as in met, pen, bed
i	as in bin, pin, mitt
O	as in not, cot, rot
и	as in run, mutt, hug

### Rule 3

If a vowel is at the end of a syllable but needs a short pronunciation, an *h* is added, as in *vah-nil-ah* for vanilla.

### Rule 4

If a vowel within a syllable needs a long pronunciation, an *e* is added, as in *re-pete* for repeat.

### Rule 5

The accented syllable in each word is shown with capital letters, as in *AK-sent*.

Be aware that word parts may change in pronunciation when they are combined in different ways. Note also that accepted pronunciations may vary from place to place. Only one pronunciation for each word is given here, but be prepared for differences.

# SOFT AND HARD c AND g

■ A soft *c*, as in *racer*, will be written in pronunciations as *s* (*RA-ser*).

- $\blacksquare$  A hard c, as in candy, will be written as k (KAN-de).
- A soft g, as in page, will be written as j (paje).
- A hard g, as in grow, will be written as g(gro).

# SILENT LETTERS AND UNUSUAL PRONUNCIATIONS

A silent letter or an unusual pronunciation can be a problem, especially if it appears at the start of a word that you are trying to look up in the dictionary. See **BOX 1-2** for some examples.

The combinations in **BOX 1-2** may be pronounced differently when they appear within a word, as in diagnosis (*di-ag-NO-sis*), meaning determination of the cause of disease, in which the *g* is pronounced; apnea (*AP-ne-ah*), meaning cessation of breathing, in which the *p* is pronounced; nephroptosis (*nef-rop-TO-sis*), meaning dropping of the kidney, in which the *p* is pronounced.



# FOR YOUR REFERENCE Silent Letters and Unusual Pronunciations

BOX 1-2

Letter(s)	Pronunciation	Example	Definition of Example
ch	k	chemical <i>KEM-ih-kal</i>	pertaining to the elements and their interactions (root <i>chem/o</i> means "chemical")
dys	dis	dysfunction dis-FUNK-shun	difficult or abnormal (dys-) function
eu	u	euphoria <i>u-FOR-e-ah</i>	exaggerated feeling of well-being (eu- means "true" or "good")
gn	n	gnathic <i>NATH-ik</i>	pertaining to the jaw (gnath/o)
ph	f	phantom FAN-tom	illusion or imaginary image
pn	n	pneumonia nu-MO-ne-ah	inflammation of the lungs (pneumon/o)
ps	S	pseudonym SU-do-nim	false name (-nym)
pt	t	ptosis TO-sis	dropping, downward displacement
rh	r	rhinoplasty RI-no-plas-te	plastic repair of the nose (rhin/o)
х	Z	xiphoid <i>ZI-foyd</i>	pertaining to cartilage attached to the sternum (from Greek <i>xiphos</i> , meaning "sword")

# **Abbreviations**

Shortened words or initials can save time in writing medical reports and case histories. We commonly use TV for television, Jr. for junior, F for Fahrenheit temperature readings, UV for ultraviolet, and Dr. for doctor. A few of the many medical abbreviations are mL for the metric measurement milliliter; dB for decibels, units of sound intensity; CA for cancer; hgb for hemoglobin; and ECG for electrocardiogram.

### **PHRASE ABBREVIATIONS**

An acronym is an abbreviation formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase. Some everyday acronyms are ASAP (as soon as possible), ATM (automated teller machine), and a computer's RAM (random access memory). Acronyms have become popular for saving time and space in naming objects, organizations, and procedures. They abound in the names of government agencies: FDA (Food and Drug Administration), USDA (United States Department of Agriculture), and NIH (National Institutes of Health). Some medical acronyms are BP for blood pressure, MRI for magnetic resonance imaging, AIDS for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, CNS for the central nervous system, and RN for registered nurse. Acronyms and abbreviations that appear in a chapter are listed and defined at the end of that chapter. Appendix 2 is a more complete list of commonly used abbreviations and acronyms with their meanings. An abbreviation dictionary is also helpful.

### **SYMBOLS**

Symbols are commonly used as shorthand in case histories. Some examples are  $\mathbb Q$  and  $\mathbb R$  for left and right and  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  for increase and decrease. A list of common symbols appears in Chapter 3 and in Appendix 1.

Symbols and abbreviations can save time, but they can also cause confusion if they are not universally understood. Usage varies in different institutions, and the same abbreviation may have different meanings in different fields. For example, the acronym CRF can mean chronic renal failure or case report form, and MS can represent mitral stenosis or multiple sclerosis. Again, as with roots having multiple meanings, if the acronym is not defined, its interpretation depends on its context.

Some abbreviations and symbols are subject to error and should never be used. These appear in "Do Not Use" lists published by organizations that promote patient safety, such as the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and the Institute for Safe Medical Practices (ISMP). Most institutions have a policy manual that details the accepted abbreviations for that facility. Only the most commonly used symbols and abbreviations are given here.

# **Medical Dictionaries**

With few exceptions, you can do all the exercises in this book without the aid of a dictionary, but medical dictionaries are valuable references for everyone in health-related

# Terminology Key Terms

The terms listed below are emphasized in this chapter. Knowing them will help you organize and prioritize your learning. These boldface terms are also found, collectively, with all chapter key terms in the Glossary.

acronym AK-ro-nim	An abbreviation formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase
combining forms kom-BI-ning	A word root combined with a vowel that links the root with another word part, such as a suffix or another root; combining forms are shown with a slash between the root and the vowel, as in <i>neur/o</i>
compound word KOM-pownd	A word that contains more than one root
prefix PRE-fix	A word part added before a root to modify its meaning
root rute	The fundamental unit of a word
suffix SUH-fix	A word part added to the end of a root to modify its meaning

fields. These include not only complete, unabridged versions, but also easy-to-carry short versions and dictionaries of medical acronyms and abbreviations. Many of these dictionaries are also available on the internet, and as applications for smartphones and tablets. Dictionaries give information on meanings, synonyms, derivations, and related terms. Those dictionaries intended for nursing and allied health professions include more complete clinical information, with notes on patient care.

Dictionaries vary in organization; in some, almost all terms are entered as nouns, such as disease, syndrome, procedure, or test. Those with a more clinical approach enter some terms according to their first word, which may be an adjective or proper name, for example, biomedical engineering, Cushing disease, and wind chill factor. This format makes it easier to look up some terms. All dictionaries have directions on how to use the book and interpret the entries, as shown in Appendix 9, taken from *Stedman's Medical Dictionary*, 28th ed.

In addition to information on individual terms and phrases, medical dictionaries have useful appendices on measurements, clinical tests, drugs, diagnosis, body structure, information resources, and other topics.

# **Suffixes**

A suffix is a word ending that modifies a root. A suffix may indicate that the word is a noun or an adjective and often determines how the definition of the word will begin (BOX 1-3). For example, using the root *myello*, meaning "bone marrow," the adjective ending *-oid* forms the word *myeloid*, which means "like or pertaining to bone marrow." The ending *-oma* forms *myeloma*, which is a tumor

of the bone marrow. Adding another root, *gen*, which represents genesis or origin, and the adjective ending *-ous* forms the word *myelogenous*, meaning "originating in bone marrow."

The suffixes given in this chapter are general ones that are used throughout medical terminology. They include endings that form:

- Nouns: a person, place, or thing
- Adjectives: words that modify nouns
- Plurals: endings that convert single nouns to multiples

Additional suffixes will be presented in later chapters as they pertain to disease states, medical treatments, or specific body systems.

### **NOUN SUFFIXES**

The following general suffixes convert roots into nouns. **TABLE 1-1** lists suffixes that represent different conditions. Note that the ending *-sis* may appear with different combining vowels as *-osis*, *-iasis*, *-esis*, or *-asis*. The first two of these denote an abnormal condition.

**TABLE 1-2** lists endings that convert roots into medical specialties or specialists. The suffix *-logy* applies to many fields other than medicine. It contains the root *log/o* taken from the Greek word *logos*, which means "word," and generally means a field of study. Some examples are biology, archeology, terminology, and technology. Terms with this ending are also used to identify an institutional department or a specialty, as in cardiology, dermatology, radiology, and others. The two endings *-iatrics* and *-iatry* contain the root *-iatr/o*, based on a Greek word for healing and meaning "physician" or "medical treatment."



# FOCUS ON WORDS Meaningful Suffixes

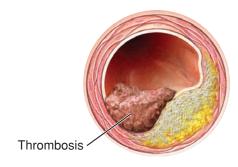
**BOX 1-3** 

Suffixes sometimes take on a color of their own as they are added to different words. The suffix *-thon* is taken from the name of the Greek town Marathon, from which news of a battle victory was carried by a long-distance runner. It has been attached to various words to mean a contest of great endurance. We have bike-a-thons, dance-a-thons, telethons, and even major charity fundraisers called thon-a-thons.

The adjective ending -ish is used, as in boyish or childish, to suggest traces of certain characteristics. People tack it onto words to indicate that they are estimates, not right on target, as in forty-ish or blue-ish. A vague time for a lunch appointment could be noon-ish.

In science and medicine, the ending -tech is used to imply high technology, as in the company name Genentech, and -pure may be added to inspire confidence, as in the naming of the Multi-Pure water filter. The ending -mate suggests helping, as in helpmate, defined in the dictionary as a helpful companion, more specifically, a wife, or sometimes, a husband. The medical device HeartMate is a pump used to assist a damaged heart. In current terminology, the ending -ome refers to the objects in a comprehensive topic of study such as microbiome (total microbiologic population associated with an individual), genome (study of all the genes in an individual), and proteome (the entire protein makeup of an individual).

Table 1-1 Suffixes That Mean "Condition							
Suffix	Exa	mple	Definition of Example				
-ia		entia 1EN-she-ah	loss of (de-) intellectual function (from L. <i>mentis</i> : mind)				
-ism	racis RA-s		discrimination based on race				
-sis		mbosis m-BO-sis	having a blood clot (thrombus) in a vessel (FIG. 1-4)				
-у	aton AT-c	•	lack (a-) of muscle tone				



**FIGURE 1-4 Thrombosis.** This term refers to having a blood clot (thrombus) in a vessel. The word *thrombosis* has the noun suffix -sis, meaning "condition of."

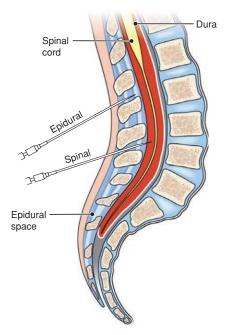
# **Exercise**

1-1

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Write the suffix that means "condition of" in the following words. Remember to use the phonetics to pronounce each word as you work through the exercises.

word as you work through the exercises.	
1. phobia (unfounded fear; from G. <i>phobos</i> : fear) <i>FO-be-ah</i>	ia
2. psoriasis (skin disease) so-RI-ah-sis	
3. egotism (exaggerated self-importance; from <i>ego</i> : self) <i>E-go-tizm</i>	
4. dystrophy (changes due to lack of nourishment; root: troph/o) <i>DIS-tro-fe</i>	
5. anesthesia (loss of sensation; root: esthesi/o) (FIG. 1-5) an-es-THE-ze-ah	
6. parasitism (infection with parasites or behaving as a parasite) <i>PAR-ah-sit-izm</i>	
7. stenosis (narrowing of a canal) steh-NO-sis	
8. tetany (sustained muscle contraction) TET-ah-ne	
9. diuresis (increased urination; root: ur/o)	



**FIGURE 1-5 Injection sites for anesthesia.** The word *anesthesia* uses the noun suffix *-ia*, meaning "condition of." The dura is a layer of the meninges, the membranes that cover the brain and spinal cord. One who administers anesthesia is an anesthetist or anesthesiologist.



**FIGURE 1-6 Pediatrics is the care and treatment of children.** The ending -ics indicates a medical specialty. In this photo, a pediatrician, one who practices pediatrics, is testing an infant's reflexes. The root ped/o means "child."

Table 1	-2 Suffixes for Medica	Suffixes for Medical Specialties						
Suffix	Meaning	Example	Definition of Example					
-ian	specialist in a field of study	physician fih-ZISH-un	practitioner of medicine (from root <i>physilo</i> , meaning "nature")					
-iatrics	medical specialty	pediatrics <i>pe-de-AT-riks</i>	care and treatment of children (ped/o) (FIG. 1-6)					
-iatry	medical specialty	psychiatry si-KI-ah-tre	study and treatment of mental (psych/o) disorders					
-ics	medical specialty	orthopedics or-tho-PE-diks	study and treatment of the skeleton and joints (from root <i>ped/o</i> , meaning "child," and prefix <i>ortho</i> , meaning "straight")					
-ist	specialist in a field of study	podiatrist po-DI-ah-trist	one who studies and treats the foot (pod/o)					
-logy	study of	physiology fiz-e-OL-o-je	study of function in a living organism (from root <i>physilo</i> , meaning "nature")					

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Write the suffix in the following words that means "study of," "medical specialty," or "specialist in a field of study."

- 1. cardiologist (specialist in the study and treatment of the heart; root: cardi/o) \_\_\_\_\_ist kar-de-OL-o-jist
- 2. neurology (the study of the nervous system; root: neur/o) *nu-ROL-o-je*

(continued)

# Exercise 1-2 (Continued)

3.	geriatrics (study and treatment of the aged; root: ger/e) (FIG. 1-7)	
	jer-e-AT-riks	

- 4. dermatology (study and treatment of the skin, or derma) *der-mah-*TOL-o-je
- 5. optician (one who makes and fits corrective lenses for the eyes; root: opt/o) op-TISH-an
- 6. anesthetist (one who administers anesthesia) (see **FIG. 1-5**) *ah-NES-theh-tist*

### Write a word for a specialist in the following fields.

7.	anatomy	(study	of	body	structure	)
	ab-NAT-o	o-me				

- 8. pediatrics (care and treatment of children; root: ped/o) (see **FIG. 1-6**) *pe-de-AT-riks*
- 9. radiology (use of radiation in diagnosis and treatment) *ra-de-OL-o-je*
- 10. psychology (study of the mind; root: psych/o) *si-KOL-o-je*
- 11. technology (practical application of science) *tek-NOL-o-je*
- 12. obstetrics (medical specialty concerning pregnancy and birth) ob-STET-riks



**FIGURE 1-7 Geriatrics is the care and treatment of the aged.** A specialist in this field, a geriatrician, is shown.

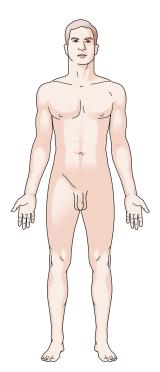
# **ADJECTIVE SUFFIXES**

The suffixes below are all adjective endings that mean "pertaining to," "like," or "resembling" (TABLE 1-3). There are no rules for which ending to use for a given noun. Familiarity comes with practice. When necessary, tips on proper usage are given in the text.

anatomist

Note that for words ending with the suffix -sis, the first s is changed to a t before adding -ic to form the adjective, as in genetic, pertaining to genesis (origin); psychotic, pertaining to psychosis (a mental disorder); or diuretic, pertaining to diuresis (increased urination).

Table 1-3	Suffixes That Mean "Pe	rtaining to," "Like," or "Resembling"
Suffix	Example	Definition of Example
-ac	cardiac <i>KAR-de-ak</i>	pertaining to the heart
-al	vocal VO- <i>kal</i>	pertaining to the voice
-ar	nuclear <i>NU-kle-ar</i>	pertaining to a nucleus
-ary	salivary SAL-ih-var-e	pertaining to saliva
-form	muciform MU-sih-form	like or resembling mucus
-ic	anatomic <i>an-ah-</i> TOM-ik	pertaining to anatomy (FIG. 1-8)
-ical (ic + al)	electrical <i>e-LEK-trih-kal</i>	pertaining to electricity
-ile	virile <i>VIR-il</i>	pertaining to the male, masculine
-oid	lymphoid <i>LIM-foyd</i>	pertaining to the lymphatic system
-ory	circulatory SIR-ku-lah-tor-e	pertaining to circulation
-ous	cutaneous ku-TA-ne-us	pertaining to the skin (from L. cutis: skin)

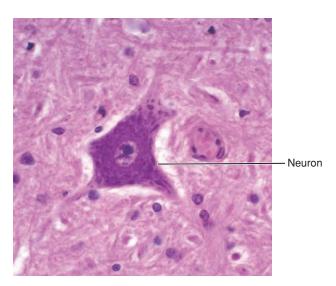


**FIGURE 1-8 The anatomic position.** This posture is standard in the study of anatomy. A person in this position is facing forward with arms at the side and palms forward (anterior). The adjective suffix *-ic* means "pertaining to."

Comple	ete the	exercise.	To	check	your	answers	go	to Appendix	11.

Identify the suffix meaning "pertaining to," "like," or "resembling" in the following words. Remember to use the
phonetics to pronounce each word as you work through the exercises.

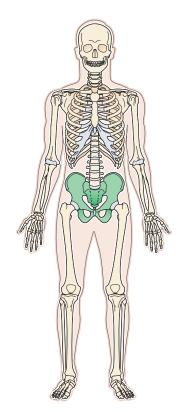
1.	dietary (pertaining to the diet)  DI-eh-tar-e	ary
2.	neuronal (pertaining to a nerve cell, or neuron) (FIG. 1-9) $NU$ -ro-nal	
3.	metric (pertaining to a meter or measurement; root metr/o means "measure")  MEH-trik	
4.	venous (pertaining to a vein; root: ven/o) VE-nus	
5.	epileptiform (like or resembling epilepsy)  ep-ih-LEP-tih-form	
6.	toxoid (like or resembling a toxin, or poison)  TOK-soyd	
7.	topical (pertaining to a surface)  TOP-ih-kal	
8.	febrile (pertaining to fever) FEB-rile	
9.	neurotic (pertaining to neurosis, a mental disorder) nu-ROT-ik	
10.	surgical (pertaining to surgery) SUR-jih-kal	
11.	muscular (pertaining to a muscle)  MUS-ku-lar	
12.	urinary (pertaining to urine; root: ur/o) <i>U-rih-nar-e</i>	
13.	respiratory (pertaining to respiration) RES-pih-rah-tor-e	
14.	pelvic (pertaining to the pelvis) (FIG. 1-10) PEL-vik	
15.	saccular (pouch-like, resembling a small sac) SAK-u-lar	



**FIGURE 1-9 A neuron is a nerve cell.** The adjective form of *neuron* is *neuronal*.

# **Forming Plurals**

Many medical words have special plural forms based on the ending of the word. **TABLE 1-4** gives some general rules for the formation of plurals along with examples. The plural endings listed in the second column are substituted for the word endings in the first column. Note that both singular endings -on and -um change to -a for the plural. You have to learn which singular ending to use for specific words when converting a plural word ending in -a to the singular.



**FIGURE 1-10 The pelvis is the bony hip girdle.** The adjective form of pelvis is *pelvic*.

Table 1-4	Plural Endings		
Word Ending	Plural Ending	Singular Example	Plural Example
a	ae	vertebra (bone of the spine) VER-teh-brah	vertebrae (FIG. 1-11) VER-teh-bre
en	ina	lumen (central opening) <i>LU-men</i>	lumina <b>(FIG. 1-12)</b> LU-min-ah
ex, ix, yx	ices	matrix (background substance; mold) MA-triks	matrices MA-trih-seze
is	es	diagnosis (determination of a disease or defect) di-ag-NO-sis	diagnoses di-ag-NO-seze
ma	mata	stigma (mark or scar) STIG-mah	stigmata stig-MAT-ah
nx (anx, inx, ynx)	nges	phalanx (bone of finger or toe) fah-LANKS	phalanges (FIG. 1-13) fah-LAN-jeze
on	a	ganglion (mass of nervous tissue) GANG-le-on	ganglia GANG-le-ah
um	a	serum (thin fluid) SE-rum	sera SE-rah
us	i	thrombus (see <b>FIG. 1-4</b> ) THROM-bus	thrombi THROM-bi

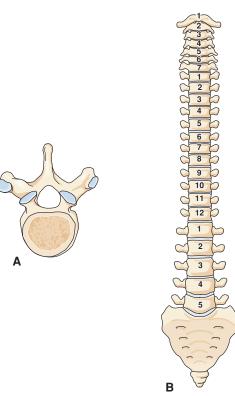
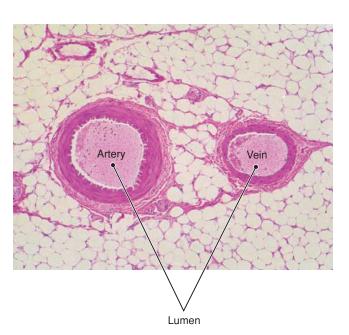
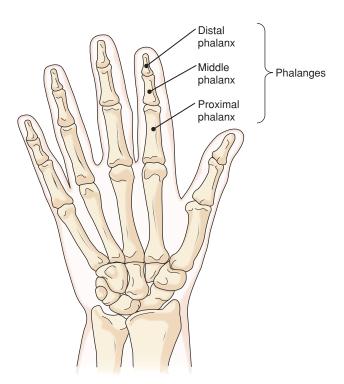


FIGURE 1-11 Bones of the spine. A. Each bone of the spine is a vertebra. B. The spinal column is made of 26 vertebrae.



**FIGURE 1-12** A lumen is the central opening of an organ or **vessel.** Two blood vessels are shown, an artery and a vein. The plural of lumen is *lumina*.



**FIGURE 1-13 Bones of the right hand (anterior view).** Each bone of a finger or toe is a phalanx. Each hand has 15 phalanges.

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Write the plural form of the following words.	The word ending is underlined in	each. Remember to use the phonetics
to pronounce each word as you work through	the exercises.	

1.	patell <u>a</u> (kneecap) pah-TEL-ah	patellae
2.	phenomen <u>on</u> (occurrence or perception) feh-NOM-eh-non	
3.	oment <u>um</u> (abdominal membrane) o-MEN-tum	
4.	prognos <u>is</u> (prediction of disease outcome) prog-NO-sis	
5.	ap <u>ex</u> (tip or peak) A-peks	
6.	ov <u>um</u> (female reproductive cell; egg) O-vum	
7.	spermatozo <u>on</u> (male reproductive cell; sperm cell) sper-mah-to-ZO-on	
8.	meni <u>nx</u> (membrane around the brain and spinal cord) <i>MEH-ninks</i>	
9.	embol <u>us</u> (blockage in a vessel) EM-bo-lus	
Wri	ite the singular form of the following words. The word ending is unde	rlined in each.
	ite the singular form of the following words. The word ending is unde protozoa (single-celled animals) pro-to-ZO-ah	protozoon
10.	protozo <u>a</u> (single-celled animals)	
10. 11.	protozo <u>a</u> (single-celled animals)  pro-to-ZO-ah  append <u>ices</u> (things added)	
10. 11. 12.	protozo <u>a</u> (single-celled animals)  pro-to-ZO-ah  append <u>ices</u> (things added)  ah-PEN-dih-seze  adeno <u>mata</u> (tumors of glands)	
110. 111. 112.	protozo <u>a</u> (single-celled animals) pro-to-ZO-ah append <u>ices</u> (things added) ah-PEN-dih-seze adeno <u>mata</u> (tumors of glands) ad-eh-NO-mah-tah fung <u>i</u> (simple, nongreen plants)	
10. 11. 12. 13.	protozoa (single-celled animals) pro-to-ZO-ah appendices (things added) ah-PEN-dih-seze adenomata (tumors of glands) ad-eh-NO-mah-tah fungi (simple, nongreen plants) FUN-ji pelves (cup-shaped cavities)	
10. 11. 12. 13.	protozoa (single-celled animals) pro-to-ZO-ah  appendices (things added) ah-PEN-dih-seze adenomata (tumors of glands) ad-eh-NO-mah-tah  fungi (simple, nongreen plants) FUN-ji pelves (cup-shaped cavities) PEL-veze foramina (openings, passageways)	
10. 11. 12. 13. 14.	protozoa (single-celled animals) pro-to-ZO-ah appendices (things added) ah-PEN-dih-seze adenomata (tumors of glands) ad-eh-NO-mah-tah fungi (simple, nongreen plants) FUN-ji pelves (cup-shaped cavities) PEL-veze foramina (openings, passageways) fo-RAM-ih-na curricula (series of courses)	

### SOME EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULES

There are exceptions to the rules given for forming plurals, some of which will appear in later chapters. For example, the plural of *sinus* (space) is *sinuses*, the plural of *virus* is *viruses*, and *serums* (thin fluids) is sometimes used instead of *sera*. An *-es* ending may be added to words ending in *-ex* or *-ix* to form a plural, as in *appendixes*, *apexes*, and *indexes*.

Some incorrect plural forms are in common usage, for example, *stigmas* instead of *stigmata*, *referendums* instead of *referenda*, *stadiums* instead of *stadia*. Often people use *phalange* instead of *phalanx* as the singular of *phalanges*. Words ending in *-oma*, meaning "tumor," should be changed to *-omata*, but most people just add an *s* to form the plural. For example, the plural of *carcinoma* (a type of cancer) should be *carcinomata*, but *carcinomas* is commonly used.

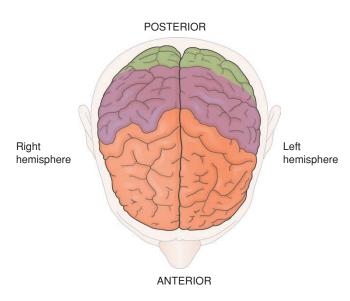
### **Prefixes**

A prefix is a short word part added before a word or word root to modify its meaning. For example, the word *lateral* 

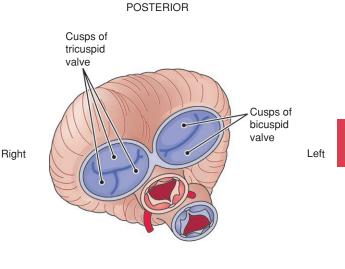
means "side." Adding the prefix *uni*-, meaning "one," forms *unilateral*, which means "affecting or involving one side." Adding the prefix *contra*-, meaning "against or opposite," forms *contralateral*, which refers to an opposite side. The term *equilateral* means "having equal sides." Prefixes in this book are followed by dashes to show that word parts are added to the prefix to form a word.

Most of the prefixes used in medical terminology are shown in TABLES 1-5 to 1-12. Although the list is long, almost all of the prefixes you will need to work through this book are presented here. Some additional prefixes, including those related to disease, are given in several later chapters. The meanings of many of the prefixes in this chapter are familiar to you from words that are already in your vocabulary. You may not know all the words in the exercises, but make your best guess. The words in the tables are given as examples of usage. Almost all of them reappear in other chapters. If you forget a prefix as you work, you may refer to this chapter or to the alphabetical lists of word parts and their meanings in Appendices 3 and 4. Appendix 7 lists prefixes only.

Table 1-5	Table 1-5 Prefixes for Numbers <sup>a</sup>		
Prefix	Meaning	Example	Definition of Example
prim/i-	first	primary PRI-mar-e	first
mon/o-	one	monocular mon-OK-u-lar	having one eyepiece or affecting one eye
uni-	one	unite <i>u-NITE</i>	form into one part
hemi-	half, one side	hemisphere HEM-ih-sfere	one-half of a rounded structure (FIG. 1-14)
semi-	half, partial	semipermeable sem-e-PER-me-ah-bl	partially permeable (capable of being penetrated)
bi-	two, twice	binary <i>BI-nar-e</i>	made up of two parts
di-	two, twice	diatomic di-ah-TOM-ik	having two atoms
dipl/o-	double	diplococci dip-lo-KOK-si	round bacteria (cocci) that grow in groups of two
tri-	three	tricuspid <i>tri-KUS-pid</i>	having three points or cusps (FIG. 1-15)
quadr/i-	four	quadruplet <i>kwah-DRUPE-let</i>	one of four babies born together
tetra-	four	tetralogy tet-RAL-0-je	a group of four
multi-	many	multicellular <i>mul-ti-SEL-u-lar</i>	consisting of many cells (FIG. 1-16)
poly-	many, much	polymorphous pol-e-MOR-fus	having many forms (morph/o)
<sup>a</sup> Prefixes pertaining to the metric system are in Appendix 8-2.			

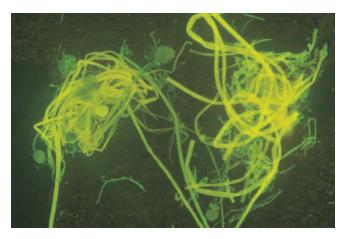


**FIGURE 1-14 Brain hemispheres.** Each half of the brain is a hemisphere. The prefix *hemi*- means half or one side.



ANTERIOR

**FIGURE 1-15 Heart valves.** The valve on the heart's right side, the tricuspid, has three cusps (flaps); the valve on the heart's left side, the bicuspid, has two cusps. The prefixes *bi*- and *tri*- indicate number.



**FIGURE 1-16 A multicellular organism.** This fungus has more than one cell. It is a simple multicellular organism.

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Fill in the blanks. Use the phonetics to pronounce each word as you work through the exercises.

- 1. Place the following prefixes in order of increasing numbers: tri, uni-, tetra-, bi-
- 2. A binocular (*bi-NOK-u-lar*) microscope has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ eyepieces.
- 3. A quadruped (KWAD-ru-ped) animal walks on \_\_\_\_\_\_ feet (ped/o).
- 4. The term unilateral (*u-nih-LAT-eh-ral*) refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_ side (later/o).
- 5. The term semilunar (sem-e-LU-nar) means shaped like a \_\_\_\_\_\_ moon.
- 6. A diploid (DIP-loyd) organism has \_\_\_\_\_\_ sets of chromosomes (-ploid).

(continued)

Exercise	1-5 (Continued)		
7. A tetrad (TE	<i>T-rad</i> ) has	components.	
8. A tripod (TR	<i>I-pod</i> ) has	legs.	
9. Monophonic (mon-o-FON-ik) sound has			
Give a prefix that	Give a prefix that is similar in meaning to each of the following.		
10. di			
11. poly			
12. hemi			
13. mon/o			

Table 1-6	Prefixes for Colors		
Prefix	Meaning	Example	Definition of Example
cyan/o-	blue	cyanosis si-ah-NO-sis	bluish discoloration of the skin due to lack of oxygen (FIG. 1-17)
erythr/o-	red	erythrocyte eh-RITH-ro-site	red blood cell (-cyte)
leuk/o-	white, colorless	leukemia lu-KE-me-ah	cancer of white blood cells
melan/o-	black, dark	melanin MEL-ah-nin	the dark pigment that colors the hair and skin
xanth/o-	yellow	xanthoma zan-THO-mah	yellow growth (-oma) on the skin



**FIGURE 1-17 Cyanosis, a bluish discoloration.** This abnormal coloration is seen in the toenails and toes, as compared to the normal coloration of the fingertips. The prefix *cyan/o-* means "blue."

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Match the following terms, and write the appropriate letter to the left of each number.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. melanocyte (MEL-ah-no-site)
- \_\_\_\_ 2. xanthoderma (zan-tho-DER-mah)
- \_\_\_\_ 3. cyanotic (si-ah-NOT-ik)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. erythema (*eh-RIH-the-mah*)
- \_\_\_\_ 5. leukocyte (*LU-ko-site*)

- a. pertaining to bluish discoloration
- b. redness of the skin
- c. yellow coloration of the skin
- d. cell that produces dark pigment
- e. white blood cell

Negative Prefixes		
Meaning	Example	Definition of Example
not, without, lack of, absence	anhydrous an-HI-drus	lacking water (hydr/o)
against	antiseptic an-tih-SEP-tik	agent used to prevent infection (sepsis)
against, opposite, opposed	contraindicated kon-trah-IN-dih-ka-ted	against recommendations, not advisable
down, without, removal, loss	decalcify de-KAL-sih-fi	remove calcium (calc/i) from
absence, removal, separation	dissect dih-SEKT	to separate tissues for anatomic study
not	incontinent in-KON-tih-nent	not able to contain or control discharge of excretions
not	noncontributory non-kon-TRIB-u-tor-e	not significant, not adding information to a medical diagnosis
not	uncoordinated un-ko-OR-dih-na-ted	not working together, not coordinated
	Meaning  not, without, lack of, absence against  against, opposite, opposed down, without, removal, loss absence, removal, separation not	Meaning     Example       not, without, lack of, absence     anhydrous an-HI-drus       against     antiseptic an-tih-SEP-tik       against, opposite, opposed     contraindicated kon-trah-IN-dih-ka-ted       down, without, removal, loss     decalcify de-KAL-sih-fi       absence, removal, separation     dissect dih-SEKT       not     incontinent in-KON-tih-nent       not     noncontributory non-kon-TRIB-u-tor-e       not     uncoordinated

# Exercise 1-7

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Identify and define the prefix in the following words.

	Prefix	Meaning of Prefix
1. aseptic	a	not, without, lack of, absence
2. antidote		
3. amnesia		
4. disintegrate		
5. contraception		
6. inadequate		

(continued)

Exercise	1-7 (Continued)			
7. depilatory				
<ol> <li>9. conscious</li> <li>10. significant</li> <li>11. infect</li> <li>12. usual</li> <li>13. specific</li> <li>14. congestant</li> <li>15. compatible</li> </ol>	unconscious			

Table 1-8	Prefixes for Direction		
Prefix	Meaning	Example	Definition of Example
ab-	away from	abduct ab-DUKT	to move away from the midline (FIG. 1-18)
ad-	toward, near	adduct <i>ad-DUKT</i>	to move toward the midline (see FIG. 1-18)
dia-	through	diarrhea <i>di-ah-RE-ah</i>	frequent discharge of fluid fecal matter
per-	through	percutaneous per-ku-TA-ne-us	through the skin
trans-	through	transected tran-SEKT-ed	cut (sectioned) through or across



**FIGURE 1-18 Abduction and adduction.** The prefix *ab*- means "away from"; the leg is moved away from the body in abduction. The prefix *ad*- means "toward"; the leg is moved toward the body in adduction.

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Identify and define the prefix in the following words.

	Prefix	Meaning of Prefix
1. dialysis	dia	through
2. percolate		
3. adjacent		
4. absent		
5. diameter		
6. transport		

Table 1-9	Prefixes for Degree		
Prefix	Meaning	Example	Definition of Example
hyper-	over, excess, abnormally high, increased	hyperthermia hi-per-THER-me-ah	high body temperature
hypo- <sup>a</sup>	under, below, abnormally low, decreased	hyposecretion hi-po-se-KRE-shun	underproduction of a substance
olig/o-	few, scanty	oligospermia ol-ih-go-SPER-me-ah	abnormally low number of sperm cells in semen
pan-	all	pandemic pan-DEM-ik	disease affecting an entire population
super- <sup>a</sup>	above, excess	supernumerary su-per-NU-mer-ar-e	in excess number
<sup>a</sup> May also indica	ate position, as in hypodermic, superficial.		

# Exercise 1-9

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Match the following terms, and write the appropriate letter to the left of each number.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. hypotensive (*hi-po-TEN-siv*)
  \_\_\_\_\_ 2. oligodontia (*ol-ih-go-DON-she-ah*)
  - \_\_\_\_ 3. panplegia (pan-PLE-je-ah)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. superscript (*SU-per-skript*)
  \_\_\_\_ 5. hyperventilation (*hi-per-ven-tih-LA-shun*)
- a. excess breathing
- b. something written above
- c. having low blood pressure
- d. total paralysis
- e. less than the normal number of teeth

Table 1-10	Prefixes for Size and Com	parison				
Prefix	Meaning	Example	Definition of Example			
equi-	equal, same	equilibrium e-kwih-LIB-re-um	a state of balance, state in which conditions remain the same			
eu-	true, good, easy, normal	euthanasia <i>u-thah-NA-ze-ah</i>	easy or painless death (thanat/o)			
hetero-	other, different, unequal	heterogeneous het-er-o-JE-ne-us	composed of different materials, not uniform			
homo-, homeo-	same, unchanging	homograft HO-mo-graft	tissue transplanted to another of the same species			
iso-	equal, same	isocellular i-so-SEL-u-lar	composed of similar cells			
macro-	large, abnormally large	macroscopic mak-ro-SKOP-ik	large enough to be seen without a microscope			
mega-a, megal/o	large, abnormally large	megacolon meg-ah-KO-lon	enlargement of the colon			
micro- <sup>a</sup>	small	microcyte <i>MI-kro-site</i>	very small cell (-cyte)			
neo-	new	neonate NE-o-nate	a newborn infant (FIG. 1-19)			
normo-	normal	normovolemia nor-mo-vol-E-me-ah	normal blood volume			
ortho-	straight, correct, upright	orthodontics or-tho-DON-tiks	branch of dentistry concerned with correction and straightening of the teeth (odont/o)			
poikilo-	varied, irregular	poikilothermic poy-kih-lo-THER-mik	having variable body temperature (therm/o)			
pseudo-	false	pseudoplegia su-do-PLE-je-ah	false paralysis (-plegia)			
re-	again, back	reflux RE-flux	backward flow			
<sup>a</sup> Mega- also means 1 million, as in megahertz. Micro- also means 1 millionth, as in microsecond.						



**FIGURE 1-19 A neonate or newborn.** The prefix *neo-* means "new."

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

Match the following terms,	and write the a	ppropriate letter t	o the l	eft of	each number.
----------------------------	-----------------	---------------------	---------	--------	--------------

- \_\_\_\_ 1. isograft (*I-so-graft*) a.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. orthotic (or-*THOT-ik*)
- \_\_\_\_ 3. pseudoreaction (su-do-re-AK-shun)
- \_\_\_\_ 4. poikiloderma (poy-kil-o-DER-mah)
- \_\_\_\_ 5. homothermic (ho-mo-THER-mik)
- Identify and define the prefix in the following words.
- 6. homeostasis
- 7. equivalent
- 8. orthopedics
- 9. rehabilitation
- 10. euthyroidism
- 11. neocortex
- 12. megabladder
- 13. isometric
- 14. normothermic

### Write the opposite of the following words.

- 15. homogeneous (of uniform composition) *ho-mo-JE-ne-us*
- 16. macroscopic (large enough to see with the naked eye) *mah-kro-SKOP-ik*

- b. irregular, mottled condition of the skin
- c. false response

Prefix

homeo

d. tissue transplanted between identical individuals

Meaning of Prefix

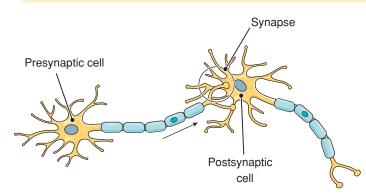
same, unchanging

e. straightening or correcting deformity


Table 1-11	Prefixes for Time and/or Position				
Prefix	Meaning	Example	Definition of Example		
ante-	before	antenatal <i>an-te-NA-tal</i>	before birth (nat/i)		
pre-	before, in front of	premature pre-mah-CHUR	occurring before the proper time		
pro-	before, in front of	prodrome PRO-drome	symptom that precedes a disease		
post-	after, behind	postnasal <i>post-NA-sal</i>	behind the nose (nas/o)		

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appen	.di., 11			
Complete the exercise. 10 thete your unswers go to Appen	aux 11.			
Match the following terms, and write the appropriate lette	r to the left of ea	ch number.		
1. postmortem (post-MOR-tem)	a. to occur before another event			
2. antedate (AN-te-date)	b. ancestor, one who comes before			
3. progenitor (pro-JEN-ih-tor)	c. before birth (parturition)			
4. prepartum (pre-PAR-tum)	d. throwing or extending forward			
5. projectile (pro-JEK-tile)	e. occurring after death			
Identify and define the prefix in the following words.				
,	Prefix	Meaning of Prefix		
6. prediction (pre-DIK-shun)	pre	before, in front of		
7. postmenopausal (post-men-o-PAW-zal)				
8. procedure (pro-SE-jur)				
9. predisposing (pre-dis-PO-zing)				
10. antepartum (an-te-PAR-tum)				

Table 1-12	Prefixes for Position		
Prefix	Meaning	Example	Definition of Example
dextr/o-	right	dextrogastria deks-tro-GAS-tre-ah	displacement of the stomach (gastr/o) to the right
sinistr/o-	left	sinistromanual sin-is-tro-MAN-u-al	left-handed
ec-, ecto-	out, outside	ectopic ek-TOP-ik	out of normal position
ex/o-	away from, outside	excise ek-SIZE	to cut out
end/o-	in, within	endoderm EN-do-derm	inner layer of a developing embryo
mes/o-	middle	mesencephalon mes-en-SEF-ah-lon	middle portion of the brain (encephalon), midbrain
syn-, sym- (used before b, m, p)	together	synapse SIN-aps	a junction between two nerve cells ( <b>FIG. 1-20</b> )
tel/e-, tel/o-	end, far, at a distance	teletherapy tel-eh-THER-ah-pe	radiation therapy delivered at a distance from the body



**FIGURE 1-20 A synapse.** Nerve cells come together at a synapse, as shown by the prefix *syn*-. The presynaptic cell is located before (prefix *pre*-) the synapse; the postsynaptic cell is located after (prefix *post*-) the synapse.

Complete the exercise. To check your answers go to Appen	dix 11.						
Match the following terms, and write the appropriate letter	to the left of each	ch number.					
1. mesoderm (MES-o-derm) a. displacement of the heart to the left							
2. symbiosis (sim-bi-O-sis)	b. device for v	viewing the inside of a structure					
3. sinistrocardia (sin-is-tro-KAR-de-ah)	c. two organi	sms living together					
4. endoscope (EN-do-skope)	d. last stage o	of cell division (mitosis)					
5. telephase (TEL-eh-faze)	e. middle laye	er of a developing embryo					
Identify and define the prefix in the following words.							
	Prefix	Meaning of Prefix					
6. sympathetic (sim-pah-THET-ik)	sym	together					
7. extract (EKS-tract)							
8. ectoparasite (ek-to-PAR-ah-site)							
9. syndrome (SIN-drome)							
10. endotoxin (en-do-TOX-in)							
Write the opposite of the following words.							
11. exogenous (outside the organism) eks-OJ-eh-nus							
12. dextromanual (right-handed)  deks-tro-MAN-u-al							
13. ectoderm (outermost layer of the embryo) <i>EK-to-derm</i>							

# **Case Study Revisited**

### David's Follow-up

David took the recommendations and instructions from the gastroenterologist seriously. He was aware of the consequences of GERD since his father had undergone a surgical procedure for it 2 years ago. David's father had allowed his symptoms to go untreated which caused damage to his esophagus requiring surgery. Even after surgery, David's father continues to have ongoing issues due to his noncompliance with meds and obesity. David saw first-hand what he could be facing if he did not take care of his health.

David knew he had a lot to accomplish prior to his 3-month follow-up with his physician. He followed the dosage instructions on his Prevacid and made sure he stopped by the student health center to have his monthly prescriptions filled. David also joined the local health club where he received a student discount. The club allowed free sessions with a personal trainer who helped David develop an exercise routine along with some diet tips. Soon David developed friendships with others at the club and began playing racquetball.

At his 3-month follow-up appointment, David reported no repeat episodes of epigastric pain. He completed his prescription of Prevacid, lost 10 pounds, changed his diet, and with the advice of his educational counselor cut back on some of his classes for the new semester. The gastroenterologist concluded that David's initial experience with epigastric pain was most likely due to gastroesophageal reflux (GER) and had been relieved by Prevacid and through David's lifestyle changes.

# CHAPTER

# Review



This review tests your understanding of the content introduced in this chapter. Follow the instructions for each exercise and check your answers in Appendix 11.

### **MULTIPLE CHOICE**

Select t	the l	hest answer and write the letter of your choice to the left of each number.
	1.	Epi- in the term epigastric is a
		a. word root
		b. prefix
		c. suffix
		d. combining form
	2.	The -oid in the term xiphoid is a
		a. root
		b. prefix
		c. derivation
		d. suffix
	3.	The term <i>musculoskeletal</i> is a(n)
		a. abbreviation
		b. word root
		c. combining form
		d. compound word
	4.	The adjective for <i>larynx</i> is
		a. larynxic
		b. laryngeal
		c. larynal
		d. largeal
	5.	The combining form for <i>thorax</i> (chest) is
		a. thorax/o
		b. thor/o
		c. thorac/o
		d. thori/o
	6.	In David's case study, the term GERD represents a(n)
		a. combining form
		b. acronym
		c. prefix
		d. suffix
	7.	In David's case study, the <i>ph</i> in dysphagia is pronounced as
		a. f
		b. p
		c. h
		d. s

### **FILL IN THE BLANKS**

4	Complete	the	contonco	111ith	the	correct	torma(	د۱	
L	Сотпіете	tne	sentence	with	tne	correct	term(s	SI.	

8.	A root with a vowel added to aid in pronunciation is called a(n)
9.	Combine the word parts <i>dia-</i> , meaning "through," and <i>-rhea</i> , meaning "flow," to form a word meaning "passage of fluid stool"
10.	The abbreviation ETOH means (refer to Appendix 2)
11.	Use Appendix 3 to find that the suffix in <i>gastroduodenoscopy</i> , seen in David's opening case study, means
12.	Combine the root <i>cardi</i> , meaning "heart," with the suffix <i>-logy</i> , meaning "study of," to form a word meaning "study of the heart"
13.	The suffix -al, as in esophageal, seen in David's case study follow-up means
14.	Appendix 1 shows that the symbol $\uparrow$ means
15.	A monocle has lens(es).
16.	A triplet is one of babies born together.
17.	Sinistrad means toward the
18.	A disaccharide is a sugar composed of subunits.
19.	A contralateral structure is located on the side to a given point.
20.	A tetralogy is composed of part(s).
	tify the suffix that means "condition of" in the following words. Remember to use the phonetics in the following cises to pronounce each word as you work.
21.	alcoholism (AL-ko-hol-izm) (alcohol dependence)
22.	insomnia (in-SOM-ne-ah) (inability to sleep; root: somn/o)
23.	acidosis (as-ih-DO-sis) (acid body condition)
24.	dysentery (DIS-en-ter-e) (intestinal disorder; root: enter/o)
25.	psychosis (si-KO-sis) (disorder of the mind)
26.	anemia (ah-NE-me-ah) (lack of blood or hemoglobin; root: hem/o)
Give	the suffix in the following words that means "specialty" or "specialist."
27.	psychiatry (si-KI-ah-tre)
28.	orthopedics (or-tho-PE-diks)
29.	anesthesiologist (an-es-the-ze-OL-o-jist)
30.	technician (tek-NISH-un)
31.	obstetrician (ob-steh-TRISH-un)
Give	the name of a specialist in the following fields.
32.	dermatology (der-mah-TOL-o-je)
33.	pediatrics (pe-de-AH-triks)
34.	physiology (fiz-e-OL-o-je)
35.	gynecology (gi-neh-KOL-o-je)

Iden	ntify the adjective suffix in the following words that means "p	pertaining to," "like," (	or "resembling."			
36.	6. anxious (ANG-shus)					
37.	7. fibroid (FI-broyd)					
	3. arterial (ar-TE-re-al)					
39.	9. pelvic ( <i>PEL-vik</i> )					
40.	). binary ( <i>BI-nar-e</i> )					
41.	1. skeletal (SKEL-eh-tal)					
42.	2. rheumatoid ( <i>RU-mah-toyd</i> )					
43.	3. febrile (FEB-rile)					
44.	4. vascular (VAS-ku-lar)					
45.	5. exploratory (ek-SPLOR-ah-tor-e)					
Write	JRALS ite the plural for the following words. Each word ending is un					
	6. gingiv <u>a</u> (JIN-jih-vah) (gum)					
	7. test <u>is</u> ( <i>TEST-is</i> ) (male reproductive organ)					
	3. criterion (kri-TIR-e-on) (standard)					
	9. lum <u>en</u> ( <i>LU-men</i> ) (central opening)					
	). loc <u>us</u> (LO-kus) (place)					
		. ganglion (GANG-le-on) (mass of nervous tissue)				
		larynx (LAR-inks) (voice box)				
33.	3. nucle <u>us</u> ( <i>NU-kle-us</i> ) (center; core)		<del></del>			
	IGULARS ite the singular form for the following words. Each word endi	ng is underlined.				
54.	4. thromb <u>i</u> (THROM-bi) (blood clots)					
55.	5. vertebr <u>ae</u> (VER-teh-bre) (bones of the spine)					
56.	6. bacteri <u>a</u> ( <i>bak-TE-re-ah</i> ) (type of microorganism)					
57.	7. alveol <u>i</u> (al-VE-oli) (air sacs)					
58.	3. ap <u>ices</u> (A-pih-seze) (high points, tips)					
59.	P. foram <u>ina</u> (fo-RAM-ih-nah) (openings)					
60.	0. diagno <u>ses</u> ( <i>di-ag-NO-seze</i> ) (identifications of disease)					
61.	1. carcino <u>mata</u> (kar-sih-NO-mah-tah) (cancers)					
DEFI	FINITIONS					
	ntify and define the prefix in the following words.	refix	Meaning of Prefix			
62.	2. hyperactive					
63.	3. transfer					
64.	4. posttraumatic					
65.	5. regurgitate					
66.	5. extend					

(7	. 11		
	adhere	<del></del>	
	unusual	<del></del>	
	detoxify	<del></del>	
	semisolid	<del></del>	
	premenstrual		
	perforate	<del></del>	
	dialysis (di-AL-ih-sis)		
	antibody		
	microsurgery		
	disease		
77.	endoparasite		
78.	symbiotic (sim-bi-OT-ik)		
79.	prognosis (prog-NO-sis)		
80.	insignificant		
OPP	OSITES		
	e a word that means the opposite of each of the follow	wing.	
81.	humidify		
	permeable		
	heterogeneous		
	exotoxin		
	microscopic		
	hyperventilation		
	postsynaptic		
	septic		
	ONYMS  e a synonym (a word having the same or nearly the s	same meaning as	another word) in each of the following blanks.
89.	supersensitivity		
90.	megalocyte (extremely large red blood cell)		
91.	antenatal		
92.	isolateral (having equal sides)		
Exan	E-FALSE nine the following statements. If the statement is true rst blank, and correct the statement by replacing the		
		True or False	Correct Answer
93.	Immune cells are primed by their <u>first</u> exposure to a disease organism.		
94.	Unicellular organisms are composed of 10 cells.	F	one cell
95.	To bisect is to cut into two parts.		
96.	A tetrad has <u>five</u> parts		

<b>32</b>	troduction	to Medical	Terminology	у					
97. In Latin, the ocult	ıs dexter i	s the left e	eye.						
98. A triceps muscle h			•						
99. A polygraph meas	_		gic respons	es					
PRONUNCIATION Pronounce the following	g words.								
100. dyslexia									
101. rheumatism									
102. pneumatic									
103. chemist									
104. pharmacy									
Pronounce the following	g phoneti	c forms an	ıd write the	words the	y represe	nt.			
105. KAR-de-ak									
106. HI-dro-jen									
107. OK-u-lar									
108. ru-MAT-ik									
MATCHING  Match the following ter  109. primitive 110. biceps	ms, and u	a. on	ppropriate e-half or on ving two fo	ne side of th		ach numb	er.		
111. unify		c. co	mbine into	one part					
112. dimorphou			nuscle with	-					
113. hemithorax		e. oc	curring first	in time					
114. erythemato115. melanoma116. xanthocyte117. cyanotic118. leukocyte	116. xanthocyte c. darkly pigmented tumor 117. cyanotic d. red in color								
	wing treef	accavith	to magning						
Match each of the followatch points and match each of the followatch and the followatch are supported by the followatch and the followatch are supported by the followatch and the followatch are supported by the followatch	ving prefi		od, true, eas						
120. eu-		_	aight, corre	-					
121. ortho- c. false									
122. pseudo-			v, scanty						
123. oligo-		e. va	ried, irregul	ar					
WORD BUILDING									
Write words for the foll can be used more than		finitions u	sing the wo	ord parts pr	ovided. A	A combini	ng vowel i	s included. Each	word part
can be accertified when	-itis	-logy	-ptosis	nephr	-O	gastr	cardi	neur-	
124. Inflammation of ti			1	- F		J 42	gastritis		
125. Study of the nervo							-		

126.	Dropping of the kidney
127.	Study of the kidney
128.	Inflammation of a nerve
129.	Downward displacement of the heart
Write	words for the following definitions using the word parts provided. Each word part may be used more than once.
	mon/o -al dextr/o end/o macro cardi cyt -ic ecto micro -ia
130.	Pertaining to a very small cell
131.	A condition in which the heart is outside its normal position
132.	Pertaining to a cell with a single nucleus
133.	Condition in which the heart is displaced to the right
134.	Pertaining to the innermost layer of the heart
135.	Pertaining to a very large cell
136.	Condition in which the heart is extremely small
Defir Rem	TO ANALYSIS  The each of the following words, and give the meaning of the word parts in each. Use a dictionary if necessary.  The each of the following words, and give the meaning of the word parts in each. Use a dictionary if necessary.  The each of the following words, and give the meaning of the word parts in each. Use a dictionary if necessary.  The each of the following words, and give the meaning of the word parts in each. Use a dictionary if necessary.  The each of the following words, and give the meaning of the word parts in each. Use a dictionary if necessary.  The each of the following words, and give the meaning of the word parts in each. Use a dictionary if necessary.  The each of the following words, and give the meaning of the word parts in each. Use a dictionary if necessary.
	a. ren/o
	b. gastr/o
120	cic
138.	geriatrician (jer-e-ah-TRIH-shun)
	a. ger/e
	b. iatr/o
	cic
120	dian
139.	isometric (i-so-MET-rik)
	a. iso
	b. metr/o cic
140	symbiosis (sim-be-O-sis)
140.	
	a. sym-
	b. bio
	csis

# **Additional Case Studies**

# Case Study 1-1: Greg's Arthritic Knees

# **Chief Complaint**

Greg, a 68 y/o male, presents to his family doctor c/o bilateral knee discomfort that worsens prior to a heavy rainstorm. He states that his "arthritis" is not getting any better. He has been taking NSAIDs but is not obtaining relief at this point. His family physician referred him to an orthopedic surgeon for further evaluation.

### **Past Medical History**

Greg was active in sports in high school and college. He tore his ACL while playing soccer during his junior year in college, at which time he retired from intercollegiate

athletics. His only other physical complaint involves stiffness in his right shoulder, which he attributes to pitching while playing baseball in high school.

### **Current Medications**

\_ 3. *Arthr/o* is a(n)

a. combining form

NSAIDs prn for arthritic pain; Lipitor 10 mg for mild hyperlipidemia.

# **X-Rays**

Bilateral knee x-rays revealed moderate degenerative changes with joint space narrowing in the left knee; severe degenerative changes and joint space narrowing in the right knee.

# **Case Study 1-1 Questions**

a. suffix

\_\_\_ 1. The *bi*- in the word *bilateral* is a

**Multiple Choice.** Select the best answer, and write the letter of your choice to the left of each number. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

b	. root		b	acronym
c.	prefix		c.	prefix
d	. combining form		d	suffix
2. T	he -itis in the word arthritis is a		_ 4. Tl	ne AI in the abbreviation NSAID means (see
a.	. root		Α	ppendix 2)
b	. prefix		a.	antacid
c.	derivation		b.	anti-inflammatory
d	. suffix		c.	anti-infectious
			d	after incident
Fill in the blo	ank with the correct answer.			
5. Use App means.	pendix 2 to find what the abbreviation ACL		Jse App neans.	pendix 2 to find what the abbreviation <i>prn</i>
6. Use App means.	pendix 2 to find what the abbreviation <i>c/o</i>			pendices 5, 6, and 7 to find what the word parts lipidemia mean.
7. Use App	pendix 7 to find what the prefix <i>hyper</i> - means.	b	. lip/o	

10. Use Appendix 3 to find what the word parts in orthopedic mean.

a. orth/o	

a. ortn/o	 
h ned/o	

### 11. Use Appendix 7 to find what the prefix inter- means.

# Case Study 1-2: Sally's Job-Related **Breathing Problems**

# **Chief Complaint**

Sally, a 54 y/o woman, has been having difficulty breathing (dyspnea) that was originally attributed to a left upper lobe (LUL) pneumonia. She was treated with an antibiotic, and after no improvement was noted in her breathing, Sally had a follow-up chest x-ray that revealed a small LUL pneumothorax. She was referred to the respiratory clinic and saw Dr. Williams, a pulmonologist.

# **Past Medical History**

Sally has a history of smoking a pack of cigarettes a day for 30 years but stopped smoking 2 years ago. She noticed an improvement in her breathing and tired less easily after she quit. About 1 month ago, she complained of general malaise, dyspnea, and a productive cough; she was expectorating pus-containing (purulent) sputum and was febrile. The chest radiograph and sputum cultures indicate that her symptoms had progressed into a bronchopneumonia with pulmonary edema complicated by a small pneumothorax in the LUL. A pea-size mass was identified in the left lobe. Also noted, Sally is a hairstylist as well as a manicurist and recently went back to work in a beauty salon. She has complained that the fumes from the hair chemicals and nail products affect her breathing.

### **Clinical Course**

Dr. Williams performed a bronchoscopic examination. During the examination, she took a biopsy of the mass, and the results were negative. Sputum cultures were also taken to determine the spectrum of action of an appropriate antibiotic. A respiratory therapist measured Sally's respiratory volumes and recorded any changes. Sally was told to drink plenty of liquids, get proper rest, and refrain from working for 1 week. She was told to wear a mask when she returned to work, avoid unventilated areas in the salon, and avoid the chemical fumes as much as possible. She was given an appointment to return to the clinic in 1 month for follow-up.

# **Case Study 1-2 Questions**

Multiple Choice. Select the best answer, and write the letter of your choice to the left of each number. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

- 1. The *gh* in the terms cough and radiograph is pronounced as
  - a. q
  - b. h
  - c. f
  - d. s

- \_ 2. The *pn* in the term bronchopneumonia is pronounced as
  - a. p
  - b. n
  - c. f
  - d. s

- 3. Which of the following is a compound word?
  a. pulmonary
  b. pneumothorax
  c. respiratory
  d. antibiotic
  4. The suffix that means "condition of" in pneumonia is
  a. -nia
  b. -monia
  c. -ia
- 5. The plural of spectrum is
  - a. spectra
  - b. spectria
  - c. spectrina
  - d. spectrums

Fill in the blank with the correct answer.

d. -onia

6.	Find four words in the case study with a suffix that
	means "specialist in a field."
	1

1	
2.	
3. <sup>–</sup>	
4. <sup>–</sup>	

7. Find five words in the case study with suffixes that mean "pertaining to, like, or resembling," and write both the suffix and the word that contains it.

Suffix	Word
).	
3.	
·	
·	

# Case Study 1-3: Displaced Fracture of the Femoral Neck

While walking home from the train station, Esther, a 72 y/o woman with pre-existing osteoporosis, tripped over a raised curb and fell. In the emergency department, she was assessed for severe pain, and swelling and bruising of her right thigh. A radiograph (x-ray) showed a fracture at the neck of the right femur (thigh bone) (FIG. 1-21). Esther was prepared for surgery and given a preoperative injection of an analgesic to relieve her pain. During surgery, she was given spinal anesthesia and positioned on an operating room table, with her right hip elevated on a small pillow. Intravenous antibiotics were given before the incision was made. Her right hip was repaired with a bipolar hemiarthroplasty (joint reconstruction). Postoperative care included maintaining the right hip in abduction, fluid replacement, physical therapy, and attention to signs of tissue degeneration and possible dislocation.



**Anterior view** 

**FIGURE 1-21 The right femur (thigh bone).** The femoral neck is the fracture site in Case Study 1-3.

# **Case Study 1-3 Questions**

Identify and define the prefixes in the following words. To check your answers go to Appendix 11.

	Prefix	Meaning of Prefix		
1. pre-existing				
2. analgesic, anesthesia				
3. dislocation				
4. replacement				
5. bipolar				
6. hemiarthroplasty				
7. degeneration				
- ill in the blanks.				
8. The suffixes in the words osteoporosis and	d anesthesia mea	n		
9. The suffixes in the words intravenous, fem	noral, and analges	sic mean		
Find a word in the case study that describes the following.				
<ol><li>The time period before surgery</li></ol>				
<ol> <li>The time period after surgery</li> </ol>				
12. A position away from the midline of the b	oody			