

Language: Is the ability to acquire and use complex systems of communication, particularly the human has ability to do so, and a language is any specific example of such a system

Terminology special words or expressions used in relation to a particular subject or activity.

Medicine: Is the science and practice of the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. The word medicine is derived from Latin medicus, meaning "a physician". Medicine encompasses a variety of health care practices evolved to maintain and restore health by the prevention and treatment of illness.

A TERM; A word or phrase used to describe a thing or to express a concept, especially in a particular kind of language or branch of study, Learning and understanding the roots of most words in the field of Health, Medicine,. Hippocrates was a Greek physician and is known as the 'father of medicine.** 75% of medical terms are based on terms which in turn based on either Greek or Latin words

Word Analysis: medical words are widely used, read or hear .

we have to analyses them to understand their meanings. It is easy to understand them if you divide The word in to its component parts and learns the meanings of these parts e.g.:

Hematology (=study of blood)

Hemat is called root (and means blood)

O is called a combining vowel

Logy : is called a suffix (and means study of)

When we analyse a medical term, we begin with the end of the word, (the end is called suffix).The beginning of the word is called root which gives the essential meaning of the word. The letter O is called a combining vowel, which connects the root with the suffix.

ABDOMINAL PAIN is a rather broad term; it gives the reader no sign as to exactly where the pain is located either inside or outside the abdomen. Adding the prefix -INTRA to ABDOMINAL pinpoints the location of the pain, for INTRA-ABDOMINAL. It means pain within the abdomen.

Prefixes are word beginnings, used to modify or qualify the meaning of word roots. They usually tell the reader what kind of where (or in what direction), or how many.

The term -PNEA relates to breathing, but it says nothing about the quality or kind of breathing. Adding the prefix **DYS-** qualifies it as difficult breathing.

Suffixes are word endings that form nouns, adjectives, or verbs. Medical terms can have more than one suffix, and a suffix can appear in the middle of a compound term affixed to a combining form.

A number of suffixes have specialized meanings. **ITIS** means inflammation; thus **ARTHRITIS** means inflammation of a joint.

Some **suffixes** combine with word roots to form **adjectives**, words that modify nouns by indicating quality or quantity or by distinguishing one thing from another. **GASTRIC**, **CARDIAC**, **FIBROUS**, **ARTHRTIC**, and **DIAPHORETIC** are all examples of adjectives formed by adding suffixes (underlined) to word roots.

Some suffixes are added to word roots to express reduction in size, **-OLE** and **-ULE**, for example. An **ARTERIOLE** is smaller than an **ARTERY**, and a **VENULE** is smaller than a **vein**.

Finally, some of what are commonly accepted as suffixes are actually the combination of a word root and a suffix. **-MEGALY** (enlargement) results from the combination of the word root **MEGAL** (large).

Another example:

Electr/o/cardi/o/gram

Electr= root and means electricity

O=combining vowel

Cardi : is another root and means heart

Gram=a suffix and means record

The whole meaning is:

Record of the electricity of the heart

Note: The root plus the combining vowel= the combining form

Another example is:

Gastroscope= Gastr/o/scope

Gastr=root =stomach

O=combining vowel

Scope= suffix =instrument used to examine visually

The whole meaning is: instrument used to examine the stomach visually

Gastric is another example:

Gastr/ic

Gastr=root=stomach

Ic =suffix = pertaining to

The whole meaning is: pertaining to the stomach

Another example:

Cardiac =cardi /ac

Cardi=root = heart

Ac= suffix = pertaining to

The whole meaning is pertaining to the heart

Another example:

Cervical = cervic/al

Cervic=root =the neck of the uterus =neck which connects head to the chest.

Al = pertaining to

The whole meaning is = pertaining to the neck

Further example:

Vesical = vesic/al

Vesic = root =urinary bladder.

Al =suffix and means pertaining to.

The whole meaning is: pertaining to the urinary bladder

Further example:

Enteritis = enter/it is

Enter=root =small intestine

It is =suffix = inflammation

The whole meaning is inflammation of the intestine.

Another example:

Gastroenteritis =gastr/o/enter/it is.

Gastr =root = stomach

O =combining vowel

Enter = another root=small intestine

It is =suffix =inflammation

The whole meaning is inflammation of the stomach and Intestine

Many medical terms have a word part attached to the beginning of the tem, this is called prefix and this can change the meaning of the medical term.

Subgastric = sub/gastr/ic

Sub =is a prefix and means =below

Gastr =root =stmach

Ic =suffix = pertaining to .

Another example:

Transgastric =trans/gastr/ic

Trans = prefix = across

Gastr = root = stomach

Ic =suffix =pertaining

The whole meaning is: pertaining to across the stomach

Another example is:

Retrogasric =retro/gastr/ic

Retro = prefix = behind

Gastr = root = stomach

Ic = suffix =pertaining to

The whole meaning is pertaining to behind the stomach.

Review :

- 1- Root =the essential meaning of the term.
- 2- suffix = the word ending
- 3- Prefix = a small part added to the beginning of the term.
- 4- Combining vowel: connects root to suffix or root to another root

Remember:

- 1- Read the meaning of medical words from the suffix to the beginning of the word and then across.
- 2- Drop the combining vowel before a suffix that starts with a vowel.
- 3- Keep the combining vowel between the roots, even the roots begin with a vowel.