

impaired Function	Not Working Properly
Abdomen	Belly, Stomach
abdominal	having to do with the belly, stomach
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	procedure to end 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
acapnia	decreased carbon dioxide in the blood
acetabulum	pocket in the hip bone that holds the top of the upper leg bone
Acid Taste	Sour Taste
ACIDOSIS	Condition when blood contains more acid than normal
aclerotomy	surgery to cut into the sclera
acne	pimples
acoumeter	tool used to measure hearing
acoustic neuroma	growth in the ear canal
acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)	contagious illness that results in decreased ability of the body to protect itself from other illnesses
acromegaly	a disease of adults in which the body makes too much growth hormone
actinic keratosis	skin disease (bumps) caused by extreme overexposure to the sun
activated partial thromboplastin time	a test to measure the ability of the blood to clot; how long it takes for the blood to clot
ACUITY	Clearness, keenness, esp. of vision - airways
ACUTE	New, recent, sudden; lasting a short time but often causing a serious problem
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 (infection-fighting glands in the back of the throat)
adenoiditis	inflammation of the adenoids (infection-fighting glands in the back of the throat)
adenoids	infection-fighting glands in the back of the throat
adenomyosis	a growth of muscle in the uterus
ADENOPATHY	Swollen lymph glands (nodes)
adenotome	tool used to remove adenoids
adhesion	tissues stuck together
adipose	having to do with body fat or fatty tissue
ADJUVANT	Helpful, assisting, aiding, reinforcing, enhancing

ADJUVANT TREATMENT	Added treatment
Administer	Deliver, Give
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
adrenitis	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
adrenomegaly	increase in size of one or both adrenal glands
adrenopathy	disease of one or both adrenal glands
adverse	harmful, bad
ADVERSE EFFECT	Negative 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 (placenta)
airway	tube through which air passes to enter and leave the lungs
alanine aminotransferase (ALT)	substance in blood that is measured to check for liver disease
albino	white; lacking pigment (lacking color)
Albumin	Protein Found in the Blood/Urine
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
Align(ment)	Straight(en)
ALLERGIC REACTION	Rash, trouble breathing
allergy	oversensitivity to a substance
Alopecia	Baldness, Partial or Complete Loss of Hair
alpha-fetoprotein	substance in blood that is measured to check for liver cancer, testicular cancer and spina bifida
ALS	see amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS); see also Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS)
Alternative	Other Choice(s)
Alzheimer's disease	disorder that causes mental confusion
AMBULATE - ATION - ORY	Walk, able to walk
Ameliorate(ion)	Alleviate Relieve, Ease
amenorrhea	when a woman has no menstrual period
amniocentesis	removal of some of the waters from around an unborn baby for laboratory testing
amnion	tissue that covers the unborn baby
amniorrhea	leaking of waters from around the unborn baby
amnioscope	tool inserted 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 labour
amphetamines	drugs that speed up metabolism and decrease appetite (speed)
amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	a disease of the nerves that causes weakness, Lou Gherig's disease
anal	having to do with the anus
analgesic	drug used to control pain
Anaphylactic	Severe Allergic Reaction Which Could be Life Threatening
anaphylactic shock	serious allergic reation to a substance (eg, food, drug)
ANAPHYLAXIS	Serious, potentially life threatening allergic reaction
Ancillary	Additional, Secondary
androgen	male sex hormone
ANEMIA	Decreased red blood cells; low red blood cell count
anesthetic	drug that is used to produce loss of pain sensation
ANESTHETIC (general)	A drug or agent used to decrease the feeling of pain or eliminate the feeling of pain by putting you to sleep
ANESTHETIC (local)	A drug or agent used to decrease the feeling of pain or by numbing an area of your body, without putting you to sleep
aneurysm	area where an artery bulges like a sack because the wall of the artery is weak
aneurysmectomy	surgery to take out an aneurysm
Angina (pectoris)	Severe Chest Pain, in/around the Heart
ANGINA (PECTORIS)	Pain resulting from insufficient blood to the heart
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
angled	bent, not straight
ankylosing spondylitis	inflammation of the spine causing pain and stiffness
ankylosis	joint stiffness
Anomalies	Physical Defects
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
ANTECUBITAL	Area inside the elbow
ANTIBIOTIC	Drug that kills bacteria and other germs
ANTIBODY	Protein made in the body in response to foreing substance; attacks foreign substance and protects against infection
Anticoagulant	Drug to Slow the Clotting of Blood

ANTICONVULSANT	Drug used to prevent seizures
Antiemetic	Drug to Stop Nausea & Vomiting
ANTILIPIDEMIC	A drug that decreases the level of fat(s) in the blood
ANTIMICROBIAL	Drug that kills bacteria and other germs
ANTIRETROVIRAL	Drug that inhibits certain viruses
ANTITUSSIVE	A drug used to relieve coughing
Arrhythmia	Irregular (Abnormal) Heartbeat
Arterial Catheter	Small Tube Placed in an Artery
ASPIRATION	Fluid entering lungs
ASSAY	Lab test
ASSESS	To learn about
ASTHMA	A lung disease associated associated with tightening of the air passages
ASYMPTOMATIC	Without symptoms
AXILLA	Armpit
bacteria	type of germs
bacterial	having to do with bacteria, germs
bacterial analysis	test used to detect and identify bacteria
bacterial endocarditis	bacterial infection of the inner lining of the heart
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
barbiturates	group of drugs that are used for different reasons, including general anesthesia, sedation and stopping seizures
Bartholin's adenitis	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	Test(s) to Find Out What is Normal for Me
bayonet	tool that is sharp like a knife
BENIGN	Not malignant, usually without serious consequences, but with some exceptions e.g. benign brain tumour may have serious consequences
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
bicuspid valve	a valve in the heart that controls the flow of blood by opening and closing with each heart beat
BID	Twice a day
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 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	An amount given all at once
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
bowel	the intestine
BRADYARRHYTHMIAS	Slow irregular heart beat
bradycardia	slow heart beat
BRADYCARDIA	Slow heartbeat
bradykinesia	moving slow
bradypepsia	slow digestion
brain	main part of the central nervous system
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 (air passages from windpipe to lungs)
bronchitis	inflammation of the bronchi
bronchodilator	drug used to make the bronchi open up and become bigger
BRONCHOSPASM	Breathing distress caused by narrowing of the airways
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

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 small arteries to small veins
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	increase in the size of the heart
cardiomegaly	disorder of the heart muscle
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 and 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
Cardiovascular	Heart and Blood Vessels
cardioversion	use of electric shock to make the heart beat with normal rhythm; Restoration of normal heartbeat by electric shock
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
carpopptosis	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
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	Spreading Infection of Skin & Soft 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
cephalagia	headache
cephalic	related to the head or the head end of the body
cephalosporin	type of antibiotic
cerebellitis	inflammation of the cerebellum (part of the brain)
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
CESSATION	Stopping
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 using drugs
CHEMOTHERAPY	Treatment of disease, usually cancer, by drugs
chest cavity	space where the heart, lungs, esophagus, traches, bronchi and thymus are located
chiroprapist	doctor who treats disorders of the feet
chiropractor	doctor who treats disorders of the spine and nerves
chisel	wedge-like tool with a blade that is used for cutting or chipping
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
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	Continuing for 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 of the penis
cirrhosis	serious liver disorder in which connective tissue replaces normal liver tissue and liver failure often occurs
CISPLATIN	A drug used to kill cancer cells
clavicle	collarbone
cleft lip and plate	birth defect in which there is a split in the lip and the roof of the mouth
CLINICAL	Pertaining to medical care
CLINICALLY SIGNIFICANT	Of major importance for treating or evaluating patients
clip	metal fastener used to join or close the edges of a wound
clitoris	sensitive female sex tissue located above the opening for urination
Coagulate(ation)	Clotting of Blood
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
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
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
compact bone	hard layers of the bone
compensation	payment, money
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
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
CONGENITAL	Occurring prior to birth
congenital anomaly	birth defect
congenital heart disease (CHD)	heart disease present at birth
congestive 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
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
consequences	outcomes, results
CONSOLIDATION PHASE	Treatment phase intended to make a remission permanent, follows induction
constipation	decreased number of or difficulty making bowel movements
Contaminated	Dirty, Infected, Nonsterile
contraindications	medical reasons that prevent a person from using a certain drug or treatment
CONTROLLED TRIAL	Study in which the experimental treatment or procedure is compared to a standard (control) treatment or procedure
contusion	bruise
Conventional	Regular, Standard, Usual, Normal
convulsion	seizure
Coombs' test	blood test to detect antibodies against red blood cells that is used in analyzing blood problems and crossmatching blood for transfusions
COOPERATIVE GROUP	Association of multiple institutions to perform clinical trials
cornea	clear tissue covering the front part of the eye
corneitis	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
CPR	see cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
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
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
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
CT (CAT) SCAN	Computerized (axial) tomography; computerized series of x-rays
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	Cerebrovascular accident; stroke
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 which makes up the inside of a cell
dacryocystorhinostomy	surgery to make an opening between the tear sac and the nose
dacryocystitis	inflammation of the tear sac
Debilitation	Weakened Condition
debridement	surgery to clean foreign material and dead tissue out of a wound
decubital ulcer	bedsore
decubitus 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
dementia	mental decline
Demonstrated	Shown, Proven
deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)	material that makes up the genes
depressant	drug that slows down the action of the central nervous system
Depression of	Lowering of
dermabrasion	method used to remove scars from the skin
dermatitis	skin 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
Detected	Seen, Found, Discovered
determine	find out, see if
deviated septum	when the inner wall separating the two sides of the nose is off to one side
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 urination 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
Dilatation	Enlargement, Widening
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
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
distal	away from the center of the body; distant
DISTAL	Toward the end, away from the centre of the body,distant
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 uring; water pill
DIURETIC	Water pill' or drug that causes increase in urination
diverticulitis	inflammation of abnormal pouches coming off of the colon
diverticulosis	abnormal pouches coming off the colon
DOPPLER	Sound waves
Doppler flow studies	use of ultrasound to see blood flow inside blood vessels
dorsal	having to do with the back of the body
DOUBLE BLIND	Study in which neither investigators nor subjects know what drug the subject 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
dull	not sharp
duodenal ulcer	sore in the duodenum
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 blood and mucus in bowel movements
Dysfunction	Not Working Properly
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
DYSPLASIA	Abnormal cells
dyspnea	trouble breathing
dystocia	difficult childbirth
dysuria	pain when urinating
ecchymosis	black and blue mark; bruise
echnocardiogram	picture of the heart in motion made using ultrasonography
Echocardiogram	Use of Sound Waves to Examine the Heart
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 tube
eczema	type of itchy skin rash
Edema	Swelling, Water/Fluid Retention
edema	swelling caused by fluid held in the tissues
EDEMA	Increased fluid
EEG	Electroencephalogram; electric brainwave tracing
efferent	going away from the center of the body
Efficacy	Effectiveness, "If it is Working"
ejaculation	discharge of semen from the penis during the climax of sexual intercourse
ELECTROCARDIOGRAM	Electrical tracing of the heart beat or heart rhythm (ECG, EKG)
electrocardiogram (ECG) (EKG)	picture of the electrical action of the heart
electrocardiograph	machine that records the electrical action of the heart
electroencephalogram (EEG)	picture of brain wave activity
electroencephalograph	machine that records brain wave activity
ELECTROLYTE IMBALANCE	Imbalance of salts or chemicals in the blood
ELEVATION OF LIVER FUNCTION TESTS	Evidence of liver or kidney damage
elevator	tool used for lifting tissue
embolectomy	surgery to remove a blood clot
Embolism	Obstruction of an Artery by 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 like that which line 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
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
Enzyme	A Chemical in the Blood
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 giving birth

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 layer of most body organs and parts
equivalent	equal, same
ERADICATING	Getting rid of (such as a disease)
Erode	Wear Away, Wear Through
erythema	redness
erythrocytes	cells in blood that carry oxygen; red blood cells
erythrocytosis	increase in number of red blood cells
erythroderma	red skin
esophagoscope	tool used to look into the esophagus
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
EVALUATED	Assessed; examined for medical condition
eversion	turning inside out
Exacerbate	Increased in Severity of Symptoms of a Disease
Excrete	Pass Out of the Body
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
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; vuva, 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
Facilitate	Promote, Assist, Help
fallopian tube	tube attached to the uterus down which the egg travels from the ovary to the uterus
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
Fatigue	Feeling Tired
FDA	U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the branch of the the US federal government which approves new drugs
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
fibrillation	fast uncontrolled heart beat; Irregular beat of the heart or other muscle
fibroid tumor	growth made up of fibrous tissue
Fibrosis	Hard, Scar-Like 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
fine	having thin jaws or tips, such as a tool used for delicate or small procedures
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
Fluoroscope	X-ray Machine
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
fungus	having to do with fungi
fungus 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
Fuse (fusion)	Join, Connect
gait	the way a person walks
galactorrhea	too much discharge of milk from the breast
gallbladder	small sack under the liver that holds bile
ganglion	group of nerve cells found outside the central nervous system, or a benign tumour 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 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	inflammation of the stomach and intestines
Gastrointestinal	Stomach and Intestines
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	having to do with the genes
genital	having to do with the sex organs
genital herpes	disease caused by a herpesvirus in which there are blisters on the genitalia
genitalia	male and female sex organs
GESTATIONAL	Pertaining to pregnancy or length of 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 effect 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
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 reproductive system of women
gynecology	the study of the reproductive system of women
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 caused by abnormal flow of blood through the heart
hematemesis	blood in vomit
hematocrit	the percentage of blood made up of red blood cells

hematocytopenia	not enough blood cells
hematologist	doctor who treats blood disorders
hematology	the study of blood
hematoma	pocket of blood caused by bleeding from a broken blood vessels, appears black and blue, large bruise
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 in half of the body
hemiplegia	total loss of muscle movement, usually with loss of feeling, in half of the body
hemodialysis	method used to remove waste material from the blood
HEMODYNAMIC	Related to blood flow Breakdown in red blood cells
hemoglobin (Hgb)	substance that carries oxygen and gives blood its red colour
hemolysis	bursting open of red blood cells
hemophilia	genetic defect in which blood clots too slowly
Hemorrhage, Haemorrhage	Heavy 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 inside the needle or tubing
Hepatic	Having to do With the Liver
hepatitis	inflammation of the liver
hepatoma	growth or tumor on the liver
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
HIV	AIDS Virus
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; sty

hormone	substance made by a gland in the body that regulates another part of the body
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
Hyper	Increased, "High"
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	too much potassium in the blood
hyperkinesis	overactive movements
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
Hypo	Decreased, "Low"
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 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
hyponea	weak, slow breathing
hypotension	low blood pressure
hypothermia	low body temperature
hypothyroidism	underactive thyroid gland
hypotonia	decreased muscle tone
hypoventilation	too little air entering the lungs
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
immunity	protection against infection
immunodeficiency	weakness of the immune system
IMMUNOGLOBULIN	A combination of antibodies from proteins in the blood
IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE	Drug which suppresses the body's immune response, used in transplantation
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	contagious skin infection
IMPLANTED	Placed in the body
impotent	not able to have or to keep an erection during sexual intercourse
Incision	Cut, Open
incontinence	not able to control bladder or bowel actions
Induction	Start, Begin
INDUCTION PHASE	Beginning phase or stage of a treatment
INDURATION	Hardening
INDWELLING	Remaining in a given location such as a catheter
Indwelling Catheter	Tube Left in the Vein/Bladder
INFARCT	Death of tissue because of lack of blood supply
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	Disease which is transmitted from one person to the next
inferior	toward the lower part of the body
INFLAMMATION	Swelling which is generally painful, red, and warm caused by injury or damage
influenza	the flu
Infusion	Slowly Put Into a Vein
infusion	placing a liquid substance into a vein by letting it flow in with gravity
INFUSION	Introduction of a substance into the body, usually into the blood
INGESTION	Eating; taking by mouth
inhalant	substance given through the nose or mouth to reach the lungs

Initiation	Start, Begin
insulin	the hormone that controls blood sugar levels
INTERFERON	Agent which acts against viruses; antiviral agent
interictal	happening between seizures
INTERIOR	Inside of the body
INTERMITTENT	Occurring (regularly or irregularly) between two time points; alternately stopping and starting
intermittent claudication	pain and weakness in the legs when walking is impossible and then goes away after a rest
INTERNAL	Within the body
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	Into the muscle; within the muscle
intramuscular injection (IM)	injection of a substance into a muscle (eg, upper arm or backside)
intraocular	within the eye
INTRAPERITONEAL	Into the abdominal cavity
INTRATHECAL	Into the spinal fluid
intrathecal injection	injection of a substance into the space surrounding the spinal cord (ie.e spinal canal)
Intravenous	Into a Vein
INTRAVENOUS (IV)	Into (within) a vein
intravenous (IV) injection	injection of a substance into a vein
intravenous pyelogram	x-ray of the kidneys and ureters using dye that is injected into the blood
INTRAVESICAL	In the bladder
INTUBATE	The placement of a tube into the airway
intussusception	telescoping of the intestine into itself
Invasive (Non-Invasive)	Enter(s) - (Doesn't Enter) - the body
INVASIVE PROCEDURE	Puncture, opening or cutting of the skin
inversion	turning inward
investigation	study
INVESTIGATIONAL METHOD	A treatment method which has not been proven to be beneficial or has not been accepted as standard care
iritis	inflammation of the iris
Irradiation	X-ray Treatment
irritable bowel syndrome	bowel disorder in which there is pain and diarrhea or constipation
ISCHEMIA PROCEDURE	Decreased oxygen in a tissue (usually because of decreased blood flow)
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
Jaundice	Yellowing of the Skin/Eyes
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
Kaposi's sarcoma	purple or brown cancerous pimples on the skin, often associated with AIDS
karyocyte	cell with a center (nucleus)
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
labyrinth	structure in the inner ear
labyrinthectomy	surgery to remove the inner ear
labyrinthitis	inflammation of the inner ear
laceration	torn, ragged cut
lacrimonal	having to do with the tears
lacrimonal 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
laparotomy	surgery to make an opening into the wall of the belly to look inside with a laparoscope
LAPORATOMY	A procedure in which an incision is made in the abdominal wall to enable a physician to look at the organs.
large intestine	the bowel between the small intestine and the anus, including cecum, colon and rectum
laryngeal	having to do with the voice box
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
leioderma	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
Lethargic	Tired, Drowsy, Sleepy
LETHARGY	Sleepiness, tiredness
leukemia	cancer of white blood cells
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	fat
LIPID PROFILE	Fat and cholesterol levels in the blood
lipid tests	blood tests that measure how much fat is in the blood
lipoid	fatty
lipoma	growth made up of fat cells
lipoprotein electrophoresis	test that measures the amounts of proteins which carry fat 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
LOCAL ANESTHESIA	Creation of insensitivity to pain in a small local area of the the body
LOCALIZED	Restricted 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
lordosis	forward curving of the spine, causing saddle back or
Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS)	serious muscle disorder (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis)
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 lobe	one of five sections of the two lungs
lungs	the two main organs for breathing
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 vessel.
lymphocyte	type of white blood cell
LYMPHOCYTE	A type of white blood cell important in the body's defense against infection
lymphoid tissue	tissue that contains lymphocytes
lymphoma	cancerous growth made up of lymphoid tissue, particularly lymphocytes
LYMPHOMA	A cancer of the lymph nodes (or tissues)
macro-	describes something that is large or long
macule	flat, colored spot on the skin
magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)	the use of magnetic waves to look at soft tissues of the body
Malaise	Weakness
MALAISE	A vague feeling of bodily discomfort, feeling bad, weakness
MALFUNCTION	Condition in which something is not functioning properly
MALIGNANCY	Cancer or other progressively enlarging and spreading tumour, fatal if not successfully treated
malignant	cancerous
mallet	hammer-like tool used for striking objects
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
metatarsal 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
medications	medicines, drugs
medulla oblongata	part of the brain that controls breathing, blood pressure, and other important body functions, brain stem
MEDULLOBLASTOMA	Type of brain tumor
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 tissues covering the brain and spinal cord
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
menstrual	having to do with menstruation
menstrual period	the time of menstruation
menstruation	discharge of blood and tissue from the uterus
metabolism	total of all the important actions in the body that keep it alive
Metabolization	Chemical Changes that Provide Energy
METABOLIZE	Process of breaking down substances in the cells
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
MI	Myocardial infarction, heart attack
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
MINIMAL	Slight
MINIMIZE	Reduce
miotic	substance that makes the pupil of the eye smaller (eg, 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; Ability to move around
molecular pharmacology	the study of the action between two parts of the left side of the heart
Monitor	Watch
MONITOR	Check on; keep track of; watch carefully
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; serious disease
MORTALITY	Death or death rate
motility	ability to move
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging, body pictures created by using magnetic rather than x-ray energy
mucopurulent	slimy and with pus in it
MUCOSA, MUCOUS (MEMBRANE)	Moist lining of digestive, respiratory, reproductive, and urinary tracts
mucus	slimy fluid
multigravida	women who has been pregnant two or more times
multipara	woman who has given birth two or more times
muscle	type of tissue that causes movement
muscular dystrophy (MD)	genetic problem resulting in muscle weakness and progressive wasting of the muscle
MYALGIA	Muscle aches
myasthenia	muscle weakness
myasthenia gravis	disorder that causes muscles to get tired quickly
mydriatic	substance that makes the pupil of the eye bigger
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 INFARCTION	Pertaining to the (muscle of the) heart; heart attack, death of heart muscle
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 stutch 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
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	tube that goes through the nose and into the stomach; used for feeding liquid food to a patient
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
nausea	sick to the stomach
nebulizer	device used to turn liquids into mists for breathing treatments
necrosis	death of tissue or skin
Negligible	Small or Unimportant
neonate	newborn infant
neonatology	the study of disorders of newborn infants
NEOPLASIA	Tumor, may be non-cancerous or cancerous
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
nephrosonography	use of ultrasonography
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
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 muscle 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	Decrease in the main part of the white blood cells
nevus	mole; birthmark
nocturia	too much urination at night
NON-INVASIVE	Not breaking, cutting or entering the skin
norepinephrine	hormone discharged from nerves, the brain, and the adrenal glands that help the body deal with stress and low blood pressure
NOSOCOMIAL PNEUMONIA	Pneumonia 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
Obese(ity)	Excessively Overweight
obstetrician	doctor who takes care of pregnant women and delivers babies
obstetrics	the study of pregnant women and childbirth
obstructive sleep apnea	breathing problems while sleeping because the airways collapse or get closed off
occlude	close off
OCCLUSION	Closing; obstruction
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	deceased 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
onychectomy	surgery to remove a nail
onychocryptosis	ingrown nail
onychomalacia	softening of the nails
onychomycosis	fungal 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
OPHTHALMIC	Pertaining to 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
oral administration	giving a drug by mouth
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
Origin	Beginning, Cause
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
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
osteoblast	immature cell that will become a cell that makes bone
osteocarcinoma	bone cancer growth
osteocondritis	inflammation of bone and cartilage
osteoclasis	surgery to break a bone
osteocyte	mature bone cell
osteofibroma	benign tumor of bone and connective tissue
osteogenesis imperfecta	genetic disorder in which the bones are delicate and breaks 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	Bone disorder characterized by loss of calcium leading to increased risk of fracture
osteosarcoma	cancer of bone
osteotome	chisel-like tool used for cutting or marking 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; female organs which release eggs
ovulation	discharge of an egg from the ovary
ovum	the female sex cell that joins with the male sperm to make 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 breast'
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
pallor	pale color of the skin
palmar	having to do with the palm of the hand
Palpitation	Rapid Heart Beat

pancreas	organ that makes hormones, including insulin, and digestive juices
pancreatic	having to do with the pancreas
pancreatitis	inflammation of the pancreas
panplesia	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
Parameter	Limit, Measurement
paranasal sinuses	air cavities inside the bones of the face around the nose
paraplegia	complete loss of muscle control and total loss of feeling frm 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 movw muscles with loss of feeling also
PARENTERAL	Administration by injection
parenteral administration	giving a substance by injection ratheby mouth
paresis	muscle weakness; partial paralysis
parietal layer	layer of tissue in the wall of a cavity
parietal layer of the pericardium	layer of tissue in the sack around the heart
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
patch test	allergy test performed by putting an allergy-causing material on/under 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	The initial cause of a disease
pathogenic	causing disease
pathologist	doctor who studies the changes in the body and its tissue caused by disease
pathology	the study of the changes in the body and body tissue caused by disease
pediculosis	infection with lice, which are tiny bugs
pelvic bone	hip bone
pelvimetry	x-ray of the pelvis of the mother to make sure her pelvis is karge enough for the baby 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 sex organ of the male
peptic ulcer	sore in the stomach or in the lining of the stomach
PER OS (PO)	By mouth
percutaneous	through the skin
PERCUTANEOUS	Through the skin
PERFORATION	Puncture, tear or hole
pericardiotomy	surgery to make an opening into the pericardium
pericarditis	inflammation of the pericardium (sac around the heart)
pericardium	two-layer sack of tissue around the heart
perimetritis	inflammation of the perimetrium (outer layer of tissue around the uterus)
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
periosteum	layer of tissue that covers bone
PERIPHERAL	Not central
Peripheral Blood	Blood From a Vein
pertussis	whooping cough
petechia	tiny red or purple spot on skin or other tissue caused by
phacoemulsification	method of removing a cataract by using sound waves to
phalanges	finger and toe bones
pharmacist	person licensed to prepare and dispense drugs and fill perscriptions
pharmacodynamics	the study of how drugs act on the body
pharmacokinetics	the study of the way a drug enters and leaves the blood
PHARMACOKINETICS	Study of the way the body absorbs, distributes and gets rid of a drug
pharyngitis	sore throat
phenothiazines	group of drugs used for the control of mental illness
phenylketonuria (PKU)	dangerous build-up of toxic materilas in the body
PHLEBITIS	Irritation or inflammation of a vein
phlebography	x-ray of a vein or veins using a dye to outline them
phlebotomy	nicking or 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
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
PLACEBO	An inactive substance which may resemble an active agent but has no medical value
PLACEBO EFFECT	Symptom or change of condition seen when a placebo is given; not attributable to an active drug agent
Placenta	Afterbirth

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
platelet count	the number of platelets in the blood
PLATELETS	Small particles in the blood tht help with clotting
pleura	thin tissue that covers the lungs and inner walls of the chest
pleural effusion	fluid in the chest cavity
pleurisy	inflammation of the thin tissues that cover the lungs an dinner walls of the chest with discharge in the chest
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
pneumectomy	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, paraplysis, muscle wasting
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
porphyria	disturbance of metabolism that can be seen as disorders
posterior	having to do with the back of the body
posterior lobe of the pituitary	part of the pituitary gland that discharges oxytocin,
postictal	happening after a seizure
postpartum	after childbirth
POTENTIAL	Possible
POTENTIATE	Increase or multiply the effect of a drug or toxin by administration of another drug or toxin at the same time
potentiation	increase in drug action from using two drugs together
POTENTIATOR	An agent that helps another agent work better
predisposed	more likely to
preeclampsia	serious problem of pregnancy
pregnancy	carrying an unborn baby
preictal	happening before a seizure
premature infant	infant born before it has fully developed
PRENATAL	Before birth

prepuce	fold of skin (foreskin) that covers the penis
presbycusis	loss of hearing because of old age
presbyopia	problems with vision because of old age
primigravida	woman going through her first pregnancy
primipara	woman who has has one pregnancy that lasted at least 20 weeks
Prior To	Before
PRN	As needed
proctologist	doctor who treats disorders of the rectum and anus
proctology	the study of the disorders of the rectum and anus
proctoptosis	fallenanus protruding from the body
proctoscope	tool used to look into the rectum
progestins	type of female hormones that prepare the uterus for pregnancy
prognosis	forecast of the probable outcome of a disease
prolapsed uterus	fallen uterus protruding from the body
Prone	Lying on the Stomach, Face Down
Prophylaxis	Prevention, Preventive Treatment
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 protate cancer
prostatic cancer	cancer of the prostate gland
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 such as arms or legs
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
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 behaviour
psychology	the study of mental action and behavior
psychopathy	any disorder of the mind
psychosis	severe mental disorder
psychosomatic	having a connection between the mind and physical symptms
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 neoplasm	lung tumor
pupil	black spot in the middle of the eye, which is the opening in the centre 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
QD	Every day; daily
QID	Four times a day
quadriplegia	loss of muscle movement and loss of feeling in both arms and legs
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
radius	one of the two lower arm bones
RANDOM	By chance
Randomized	Picked by Chance
RBC	Red blood cell
RBC Red Blood Cell	
RECOMBINANT	Formation of new combination 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
Recurrence	Return
red blood cell (RBC)	a cell in blood that carries oxygen

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
REFRACTORY	Not responding to treatment
REGENERATION	Regrowth of a structure or of lost tissue
REGIMEN	Pattern of administering treatment
RELAPSE	The return or reappearance of a disease
REMISSION	Disappearance of evidence of cancer or other disease
renal	having to do with the kidney
renal biopsy	removing a piece of kidney tissue to look at it under a
renal calculi	kidney stones
Renal Dysfunction	Kidney Failure
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	Capable of being duplicated
reproduction	making babies
reproductive	having to do with reproduction
RESECT	Remove or cut out (surgically)
resectoscope	tool used to remove or biopsy tissue from the urinary bladder, prostate or urethra
Respiration	Breath, Breathing
Restrict(ed)	Limit, Control
retina	innermost layer of the eye
retinal	having to do with the innermost layer of the eye
retinal photocoagulation	use of a laser light to treat disorders of the retina or tumours in the eye
retinitis pigmentosa	eye disorder in which the retina atrophies and vision gradually worsens
retinoblastoma	cancer in the eye growing out 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	inflammation of the 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
rongeur	tool used for cutting hard tissue, such as bone
sacrum	large triangle-shaped bone at the bottom of the spine just above the tail bone
sagittal plane	imaginary line that divides the body into a right and left side
Saline	Salt Water Solution
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
salpingocycosis	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 uterine tube
Sarcoma	Tumor, Tumour
sarcoma	cancer of connective tissue cells
SARCOMA	A type of cancer
saw	tool with a notched blade used for cutting
scabies	itchy skin infection by a microscopic bug called a mite; mange
scapule	shoulder blade
Schick test	skin test used to detect diphtheria
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
scoliosis	S-shaped (side-to-side) curve of the spine
Screening	Examination and Tests Done Before Entry Into a Study/Treatment
scrotum	pouch that holds the testicles
sebaceous gland	gland that discharges oil into the skin
seborrhea	very oily skin
Secreted	Released
sedation	calmness
sedative	drug used to relax a person without making the person sleepy
SEDATIVE	A drug 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
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 tissues
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
sexually transmitted disease (STD)	disorder spread by sexual contact
sharp	with an edge or tip that cuts
shingles	painful, fluid-filled blisters caused by herpesvirus infection
shunt	artificial or natural channel running between two other channels
sialolith	stone in a salivary gland or duct
side effect	an effect of a drug that is not related to the reason the drug is used
sigmoid colon	the lower part of the colon just before the rectum
sigmoidoscope	tool used to look into the sigmoid colon
Significant	Important
Simultaneous	At the Same Time
sinusotomy	incision into the sinus
sleep apnea	breathing problems while sleeping
slipped disk	bulging out of a pad between bones of the spine, which pften causes pinched nerve roots
small intestine	the bowel between the stomach and the large intestine,
smooth	without teeth or grooves; not rough
snare	tool with a wire loop used for removing tissue growth
SOFTWARE	Computer program
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 openinfg 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
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
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	Treatment plan which the majority of the medical community would accept as appropriate
staphylococcus	type of bacteria
STENOSIS	Narrowing of a duct, tube, or one of the heart valves
sterilization	the killing of all living germs; or a process to make a man or a woman unable to have children
sternoclavicular	having to do with the breastbone and the collarbone
sternoid	like the breastbone
sternum	breastbone
stimulant	drug used to speed up the central nervous system
Stimuli	Something Which Causes a Change
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
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 (SC)	under the skin

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
Subsequent	Later, Following
sulfonamide	type of antibiotic
superficial	close to the outside of the body
superior	toward the top of the body
supine	lying on the back
Supine Position	Lying on the Back, Face Up
Supplement	Addition
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
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
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
syphilis	bacterial infection spread by sexual contact
system	having to do with the whole body
systolic	Top number in blood pressure; pertaining to contraction phase of heart beat
tachypnea	fast breathing
tarsal bones	ankle bones
tarsectomy	surgery to remove one or more of the ankle bones
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 unborn fetuses
Terminated	Ended, Stopped, Discontinued
testes	Male sex glands; male which produce sperm
testicle	one of two male sex glands that make sperm
testicular carcinoma	cancer of the testicles
testis	one of two male sex glands that make sperm
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
thoracalgia	pain in the chest or wall of the chest
thoracentesis	using a needle to remove fluid from the chest cavity
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
throat	area between the mouth and esophagus that performs the swallowing action
THROMBOSIS	Blood clotting within blood vessels
thrombus	a clotting of blood factors that frequently blocks blood flow
thymectomy	surgery to remove the thymus
thymoma	tumor of the thymus
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
TID	Three times a day
tinea	fungal infection of skin; ringworm
tinnitus	ringing, roaring, buzzing, or clicking noises in the ears
tissue	group of cells that work together
Titrate	Adjust
TITRATION	Gradual alteration of drug dose to determine desired effect or most beneficial strength of drug
T-LYMPHOCYTES	Type of white blood cells involved in immune reactions
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	Surface; on the skin
TOPICAL (ANESTHETIC)	Applied to certain area of the skin to reduce pain to specific (limited) 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

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
Traditional	Usual, Standard
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	Brief, Passing, Short Term
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
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	Walking machine often used to determine heart function
treadmill stress test	test used to determine heart function
trichomoniasis	parasite infection that is spread by sexual contact
trichomycosis	fungus infection in the hair
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
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
ulcer	a sore
ulcerative colitis	sores in the colon
ulna	one of the two lower arm bones
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
Ultrasound/Sonogram	Study/Machine/Exam Using Sound Waves to Produce Pictures of Parts of the Body
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 strusture
upper GI (gastrointestinal) series	x-ray using a dye to show the upper part of the digestive sytem

upper respiratory infection (URI)	a cold or flu
UPTAKE	Absorption and incorporation of a substance by living tissues; absorb and incorporate, 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
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
urination	the act of passing urine
urine	pale yellow liquid waste material and sediment
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
urticaria	hives
uterine tube	tube down which the egg travels from the ovary to the uterus
uterus	organ where the unborn baby develops and grows
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
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
VALVULOPLASTY	Plastic repair of a valve, especially of the heart
VARICES	Enlarged veins, usually in legs or lining of tube between mouth and stomach
varicose veins	twisted and bulging veins that are larger than normal
vas deferens	tube that carries sperm out of the testicle
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 blood vessels due to spasm of vessel walls
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	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
viral	having to do with a virus
virus	tiny type of organism that can cause illness
visceral	having to do with the internal organs
vitreous body	jelly-like liquid found in the back chamber of the eye
void	urinate
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
wheal	hive; welt
white blood cell (WBC)	one of several types of infection-fighting cells in the blood and body tissues
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
xanthochromic	having a yellow color
xanthoderma	yellow color to the skin
xanthosis	yellow color
xeroderma	dry skin
xeroma	abnormally dry membranes of the eye
xerostomia	dryness of the mouth due to dysfunction of the salivary gland
xiphoid process	lower part of the breast bone
zygote	the cell made by joining of the female egg and male sperm at the beginning of pregnancy