Chapter 5
Medical Terminology

Health Care Science Technology

Objectives

- **Identify the 4 medical technology word parts.**
- **Build and break apart medical terms to create or define medical terminology.**
- **Know how to "read" medical terms.**
- **Use the common medical terminology for each body system.**
- **List common medical abbreviations.**

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Understanding Medical Terminology 5-1

- **Using Word Parts to Build Medical Terminology**
- **Decoding Medical Terms**

Using Word Parts to Build Medical Terminology

- **Word root (WR)** – **The basic meaning of the medical term, usually from Latin or Greek words.**

- **Examples:**
  - **neur = nerve**
  - **cost = rib**

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Using Word Parts to Build Medical Terminology (cont.)

- **Combining form (CF)** – Word root plus a vowel, usually an "o", to help in pronunciation.

- Examples:
  - neur/o = nerve
  - cost/o = rib

Using Word Parts to Build Medical Terminology (cont.)

- **Suffix (S)** – Attached to the end of a word, to change the meaning to a noun, adjective, or verb. All medical terms have suffixes.

- Examples:
  - -ectomy = excision or surgical removal (N)
  - -al = pertaining to (A)

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Using Word Parts to Build Medical Terminology (cont.)

- **Prefix (P)** – Attached to the beginning of a word, to describe, modify, or limit. Not all medical terms have prefixes.

- Examples:
    - trans – across, through
    - intra – in, within
    - sub – less than, under

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Decoding Medical Terms

- **Start with the suffix (the word ending), and define the suffix.**

- **Go to the prefix; define the prefix.**

- **Then, go to the middle of the word; define the word root, combining form, or both if both exist in the same word.**

- **Combine the definitions.**

Section 5-1
Apply Your Knowledge

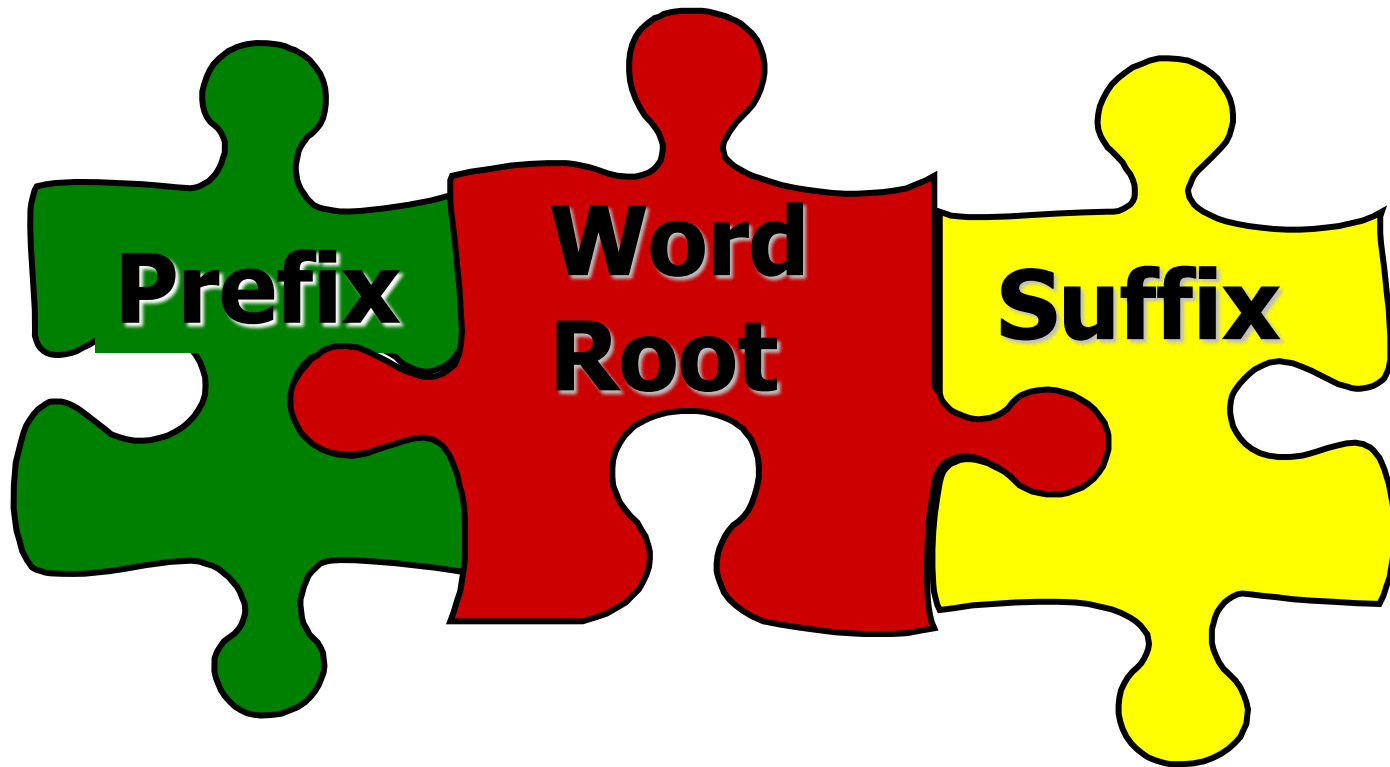**When defining a medical term, you should start with which part?**

Answer:

When defining a medical term, you should start with the suffix.

Building Medical Terms 5-2

- **Compound Words**

Compound Words

Prefix — Word Root — Suffix

Compound Words (cont.)

- **Combining Forms: Transneurocostal**
  - **Suffix - al = pertaining to**
  - **Prefix trans = across**
  - **Combining form neur/o = nerve**
  - **Word root cost = rib**
- **Definition: Pertaining to across the nerves of the ribs.**

Section 5-2
Apply Your Knowledge

In compound words, what forms are used between word roots?

Answer:

In compound words, combining forms are used between word roots.

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Frequently Used Word Parts 5-3

- **Frequently Used Suffixes**
- **Frequently Used Prefixes**
- **Plural Forms**
- **Commonly Used Word Roots**
- **Descriptive Terms**
- **Directional Terms**
- **Word Parts for Colors**

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Plural Forms

- **When a singular word ends in _y_, the plural is often formed by changing _y_ to _i_ and adding _es_.**

- **When a singular word ends in _a_, add _e_ to form the plural.**

- **If a singular word ends in _um_, change the _um_ to _a_ to form the plural.**

Section 5-3
Apply Your Knowledge

What is the plural form of each of the following?

emergency	**emergencies**
fimbria	**fimbriae**
atrium	**atria**

Organ Systems 5-4

- **Cardiovascular System**
- **Respiratory System**
- **Nervous System**
- **Digestive System**
- **Muscular System**
- **Skeletal System**
- **Urinary System**

Organ Systems 5-4 (cont.)

- **Endocrine System**
- **Lymphatic System**
- **Sensory System**
- **Reproductive Systems**
- **Integumentary System**

Organ Systems

- **Word parts can be divided to represent the systems of the body.**

- **These word parts are used to describe diseases and conditions related to each of the systems.**

Organ Systems (cont.)

- **Cardiovascular System**
  - **Angiogram – image of a blood vessel.**
- **Respiratory System**
  - **Adenoidectomy – removal of the adenoids.**
- **Nervous System**
  - **Cerebellum – posterior portion of the brain.**
- **Digestive System**
  - **Appendicitis – inflammation of the appendix.**

Organ Systems (cont.)

- **Muscular System**
  - **Myositis – inflammation of a muscle.**
- **Skeletal System**
  - **Arthritis – inflammation of a joint.**
- **Urinary System**
  - **Cystopexy – surgical fixation of the bladder.**
- **Endocrine System**
  - **Glucogenesis – production of glucose.**

Organ Systems (cont.)

- **Lymphatic System**
  - **Lymphoid – resembling lymph.**
- **Sensory System**
  - **Conjunctivitis – inflammation of the conjunctiva.**
- **Reproductive System**
  - **Hysterectomy – removal of the uterus.**
- **Integumentary System**
  - **Dermatology – study of skin and its diseases.**

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Section 5-4
Apply Your Knowledge #1

Identify the condition or procedure identified by each of the following terms:

- **Hematology** | Study of the blood.

- **Tracheotomy** | Cutting into the trachea.

- **Rhinitis** | Inflammation of the nose.

- **Gastritis** | Inflammation of the stomach.

- **Pharyngitis** | Inflammation of the pharynx.

- **Osteoarthritis** | Inflammation of the bones and joints.

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Section 5-4
Apply Your Knowledge #2

Identify the condition or procedure identified by each of the following terms:

– **Nephrology**   **Study of the kidney.**

– **Pancreatitis**   **Inflammation of the pancreas.**

– **Mastectomy**   **Removal of the breast.**

– **Opthalmoscopy**   **Visual examination of eye.**

– **Amenorrhea**   **Without menstruation.**

– **Dermatitis**   **Inflammation of the skin.**

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Medical Abbreviations 5-5

- **Abbreviations of Organ Systems**
- **Cardiovascular System**
- **Respiratory System**
- **Nervous System**
- **Digestive System**
- **Muscular System**
- **Skeletal System**
- **Urinary System**

Medical Abbreviations 5-5 (cont.)

- **Endocrine System**
- **Lymphatic System**
- **Sensory System**
- **Reproductive System**
- **General Abbreviations**
- **Commonly Used Medical Abbreviations**

Medical Abbreviations

- **System Abbreviations: "When in doubt spell it out."**
  - Example: CXR = chest X ray
- **Abbreviations can consist of the first letter in each word in the term.**
  - Example: ER = emergency room
- **Abbreviations can be from Latin or Greek.**
  - Example: Abbreviation for Latin phrase *ante cibum* is a.c. = before meals

Section 5-5
Apply Your Knowledge

What do the following orders mean?

- **VS q4h**

  Vital signs every 4 hours.

- **NPO**

  Nothing by mouth.

- **BUN, FBS, and MRI in am**

  Blood urea nitrogen, fasting blood sugar, and magnetic resonance imaging in the morning.