

Body Planes and Directions

Objectives

- Demonstrate precise medical language to clearly communicate ideas
- Accurately interpret, transcribe, and communicate medical terminology
- Interpret technical material

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

When should students use medical terminology?

Word Parts/Building Blocks

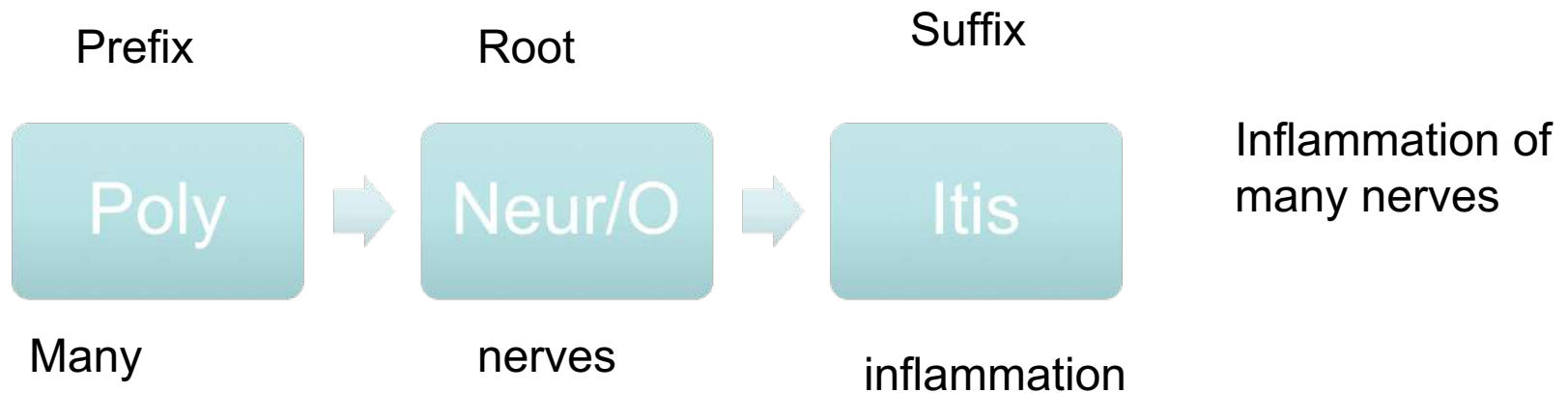
PREFIXES: Usually indicate time, location, or number at the beginning of a word

SUFFIXES: Usually indicate the procedure, disease, or condition after the root word

ROOT WORD: Usually indicates the body part involved

COMBINED VOWEL: Usually “o”

- Attached to the root word to make the term easier to pronounce
- NOT used when a suffix begins with a vowel
- IS used when a suffix begins with a constant



PLANES

- Median (Mid Sagittal)
- Frontal (Coronal)
- Transverse

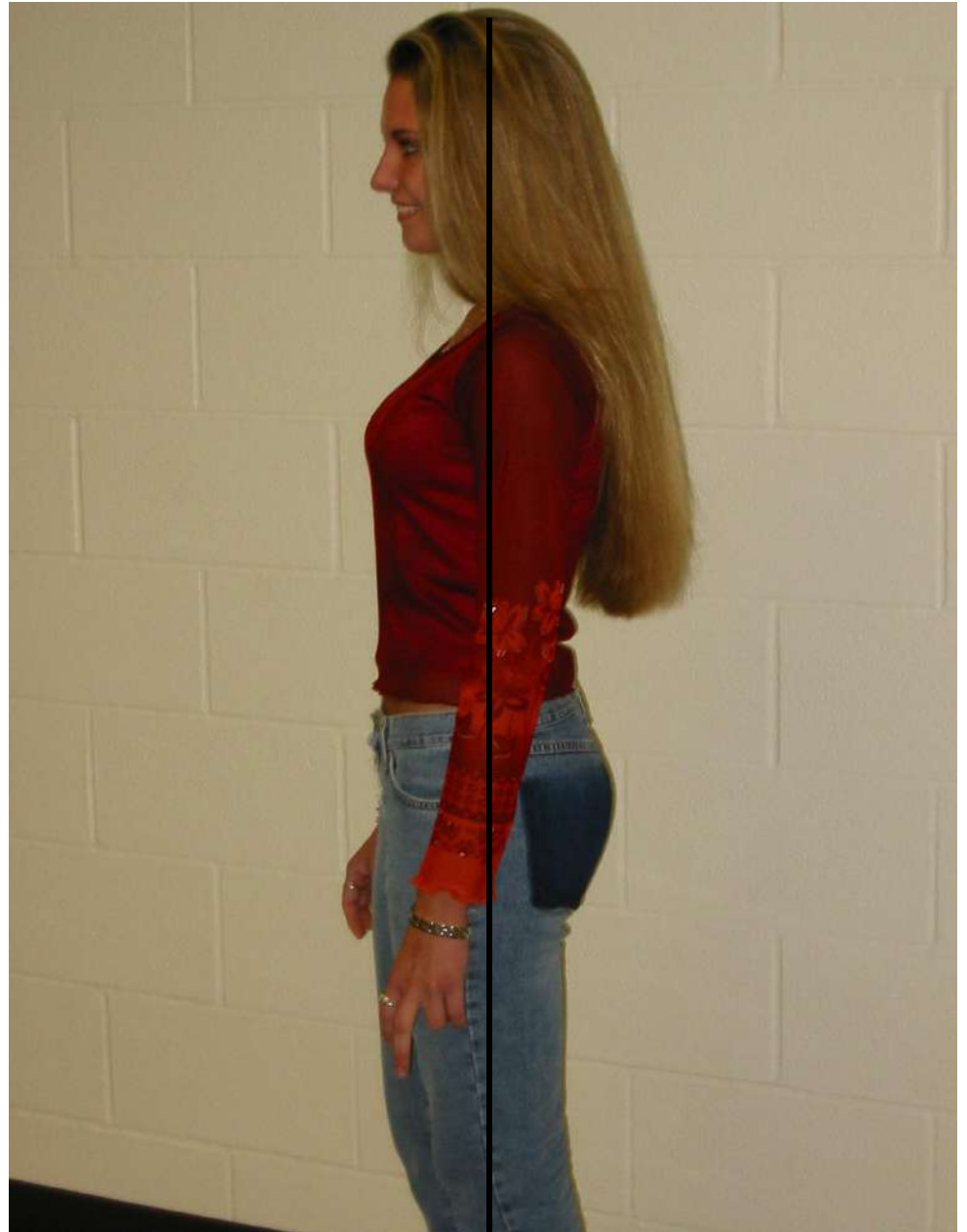
Median (Midsagittal) Plane

Divides body into equal
right & left halves.



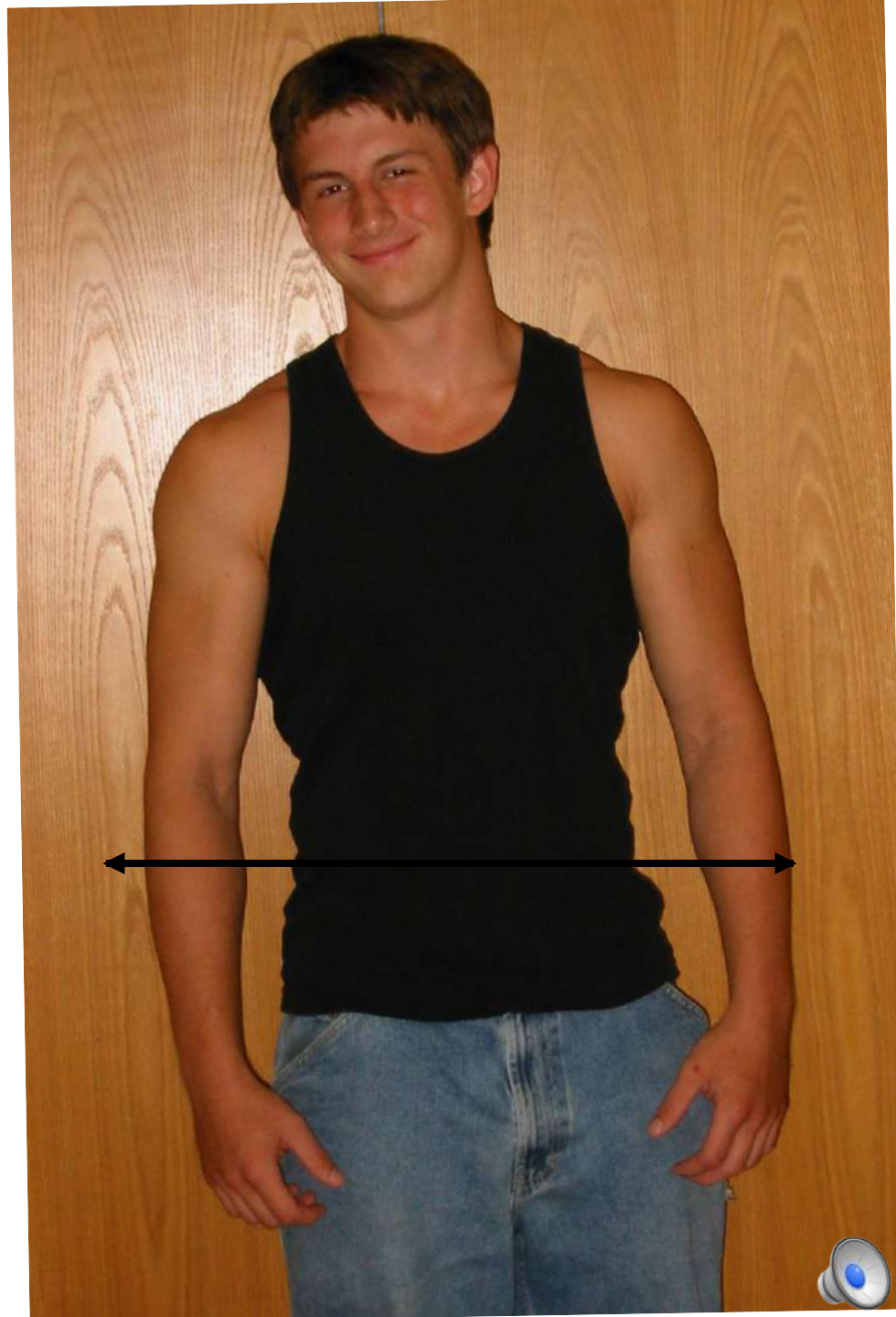
Frontal (Coronal) Plane

Divides body into front &
back portions.



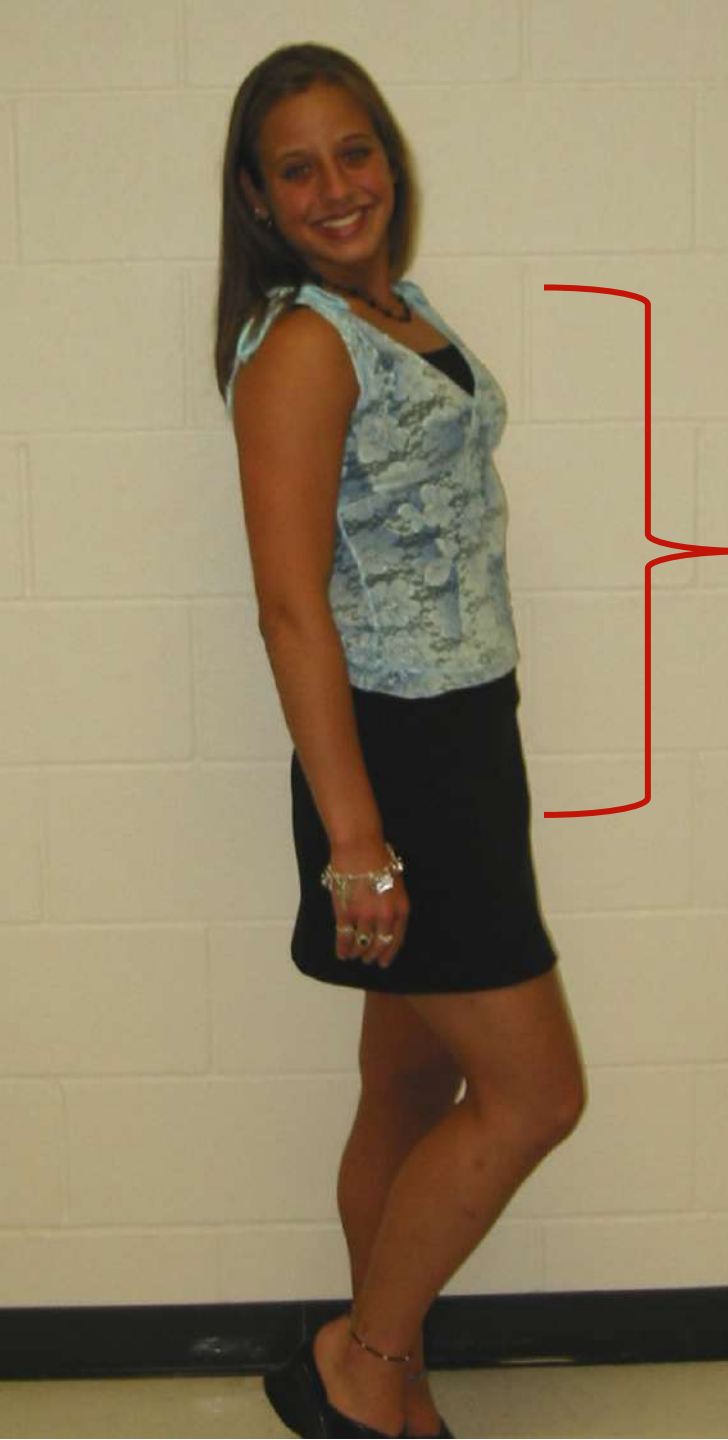
Transverse Plane

Divides body into upper & lower portions.



Anterior (Ventral)

Front part of body



anterior



Superio
r
(cephalic)



Towards the
head



Towards the
feet

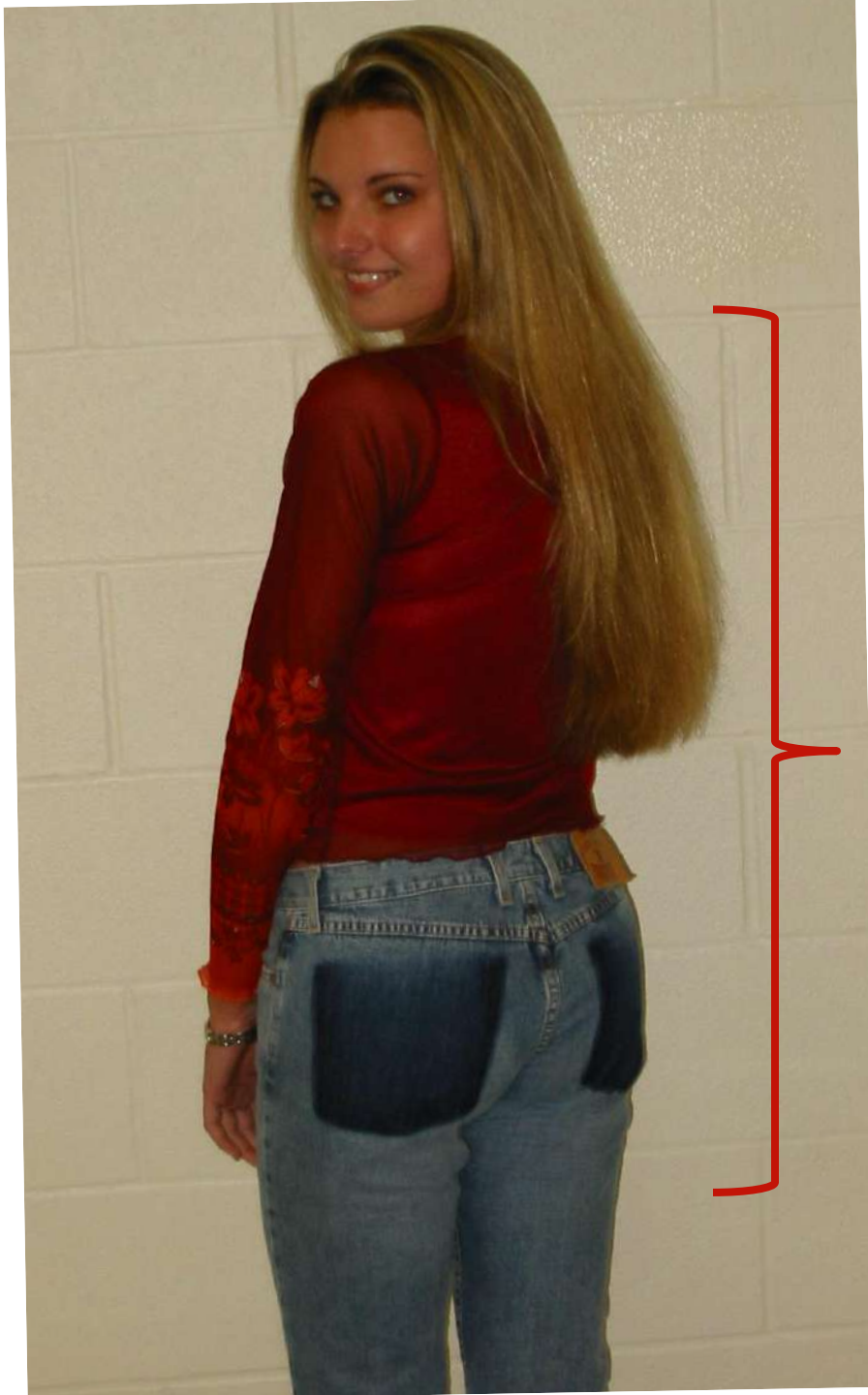


Inferi
or



Posterior (Dorsal)

Back part of
the body



posterior



Media 1

Moving towards the midline
of the body



Lateral

Moving towards the
side of the body

