

KEY - Muscular System Medical Terminology

Prefixes, Suffixes, and Root Words

a	without, absence of
ab	from, away from
ad	to, toward
-algia	pain
ambul	walking
-asthenia	weakness, lack of strength
bi	two
blephar/o	eyelids
brady	slow
-cardia	heart
cardi/o	heart
-duction	movement
dys	bad, painful, difficult
electr/o	electricity
end/o	within, inside
epi	on, upon
fasci/o	fascia, fibrous bands
fibr/o	fiber
-gram	recorded picture
hemi	half
hyper	above
-ic	pertaining to
-itis	inflammation of
-ium	pertaining to (not on the words list)
kinesi/o	movement
-kinesia	movement
lei/o	smooth
metr/i	uterine tissue
my/o	muscle
-ology	study of
-oma	tumor
para	beyond (when used with plegia refers to two limbs)
peri	around
-phagia	eating, swallowing
-phasia	speaking
-plasty	surgical repair
-plegia	paralysis
quad	four

-rrhexis	rupture
sarc/o	flesh, muscle
-spasm	sudden, involuntary muscular contraction
tachy	rapid, swift
ten/o	tendon
tend/o	tendon
tendin/o	tendon
tetan	stiff
ton/o	tension, pressure
tri	three
-trophy	development

Medical Terms

abduction	movement away from (the midline)
adduction	movement towards (the midline)
ambulate	to walk
aphasia	without speech
atrophy	without development
blepharospasm	involuntary contraction of the eyelid
bradycardia	slow heart
bradykinesia	slow movement
dysphagia	difficulty swallowing or eating
dysphasia	difficulty speaking or talking
dystrophy	bad development (refers to the disorders when muscle development ceases or slows beyond normal)
electromyogram	recording of the electrical activity of the muscles
endomysium	pertaining to within the muscles
epimysium	pertaining to on or upon the muscles
fascia	fascia or fibrous bands
fibromyalgia	pain in the muscle fibers
hemiplegia	half paralyzed (which usually refers to the left side or the right side of the body being paralyzed)
hypertrophy	overdevelopment
kinesiology	study of movement or motion
leiomyoma	tumors of the smooth muscle
myalgia	muscle pain
myasthenia	muscle weakness
myocardium	referring to the heart muscle
myoma	tumor of the muscles
myometrium	muscular uterine tissue
myorrhesis	rupture of the muscles

paraplegia	beyond paralysis (refers to the paralysis of two limbs, usually the legs)
perimysium	pertaining to around the muscles
phrenic	pertaining to the diaphragm
quadriplegia	paralysis of four (referring to the paralysis of all four limbs)
sarcolemma	muscle (flesh) membrane
tachycardia	rapid heart
tendinitis	inflammation of the tendon
tendinoplasty	surgical repair of the tendon
tetanus	condition of stiffness (refers to constant muscle contractions)

Medical Abbreviations

amb	ambulate
CNS	central nervous system
GI	gastrointestinal
HR	heart rate
IM	intramuscular
K	potassium
kg	kilogram
lb	pound
MI	myocardial infarction
Na	sodium
P	pulse
PK	pain killer
RICE	rest, ice, compression, and elevation