

Key: Skeletal System Medical Terminology

Prefixes, Suffixes, Root Words

-al	pertaining to or expressing relationship
algae/i	oversensitivity to pain
-algia	pain
ambi	both
ankyl/o	stiff, crooked, bent
ante	before
-ar	pertaining to
arthr/o	joint
-blast	precursor, developing cell
brachi/o	arm
burs/o	bursa (serous sac)
calcane/o	calcaneus
carp/o	carpals (wrist bone)
-centesis	surgical puncture to remove or aspirate fluid
cervic/o	cervical (neck)
chondr/o	cartilage
-clasis	to break down
-clysis	to wash
-clast	cell to break down
clavic/o	clavicle (collarbone)
cost/o	rib
crani/o	cranium, helmet, skull
crista	ridge
-cyte	cell
-desis	surgical union
dextr/o	right
disk	intervertebral disk
-ectomy	removal of
femor/o	femur
fibul/o	fibula
-gen	producing
-graphy	the process of making a picture
hemat/o	blood
humer/o	humerus
hy/o	u-shaped
-ic	pertaining to
ili/o	ilium (hipbone)
inter	between
ischi/o	ischium

-itis	inflammation of
kyph/o	hump
lamin/o	lamina (layer)
ligament/o	ligament (liga = bind)
lordosis	curvature of the lumbar spine
-malacia	softening
mandibul/o	mandible
maxill/o	maxilla (maxillary)
menisc/o	meniscus
meta	beyond, change
myel/o	bone marrow
-oma	tumor
orth/o	straight
-osis	condition of
osse/o	bone
oste/o	bone
patell/o	patellar (knee cap)
ped	foot
peri	around
phalang/o	phalanges (fingers and toes)
-physis	growth
-poiesis	making or production of
-porosis	porous condition
pub/o	pubis
scapul/o	scapula (shoulder blade)
scoli/o	crooked, curve
-scope	instrument to view or examine
-scopy	to visualize or view
spondyl/o	vertebra or vertebral column
stern/o	sternum (breast bone)
supra	above
syn	with, together
synovi/o	synovial
tars/o	tarsals (ankle bones)
tibi/o	tibial
-um	pertaining to
uln/o	ulna
vertebr/o	vertebral

Medical Terms

ambidextrous	able to use both hands
ankylosis	condition of being crooked, bent, or stiff
arthralgia	joint pain
arthritis	inflammation of the joints
arthrocentesis	surgical puncture to remove fluid from the joint
arthrodesis	surgical union of the joint
arthrography	the process of recording pictures of the joints
arthroplasty	repair of the joints
arthroscope	instrument to view a joint
arthroscopy	procedure to view a joint
brachial	pertaining to the arms
bursitis	inflammation of the bursa
calcaneal	pertaining to the calcaneous (heel bone)
carpals	wrist bones
cervical	pertaining to the neck
chondrectomy	removal of cartilage
chondromalacia	softening of the cartilage
collagen	glue forming (literal translation; refers to a protein found in the matrix of connective tissue)
craniotomy	incision into the cranium
cranium	pertaining to the skull
cribriform	sieve-like plate
femoral	pertaining to the femur
hematopoiesis	pertaining to the production of blood
hyoid	pertaining to something U-shaped
ilium	pertaining to the ilium (hipbone)
infraorbital	pertaining to below the eye
intercostal	pertaining to between the ribs.
interosseus	between the bones
kyphosis	condition of having a hump (humpback or hunchback)
laminectomy	removal of the lamina or vertebrae layers
ligament	ligament (to bind)
lordosis	condition of being bent forward
mental foramen	chin openings or holes
metacarpal	beyond the wrist
metatarsal	beyond the ankles
orthopedic	straightening the feet
osteoarthritis	inflammation of the bones and the joints
osteoblast	cell that develops the bone
osteoclast	cell that breaks down the bone

osteocyte	bone cell
osteoma	bone tumor
osteomalacia	softening of the bone
osteomyelitis	inflammation of the bone and bone marrow
osteoporosis	pertaining to the porous condition of bones
patellar	pertaining to the patella or kneecap
periosteum	pertaining to around the bone
polydactylism	many fingers or toes
scoliosis	condition of being bent
spondylosis	condition of the vertebral column
sternum	pertaining to the sternum (breastbone)
styloid	resembling a pole or stake
synovial	pertaining to the synovial membrane
vertebral	pertaining to the vertebral column

**Medical
Abbreviations:**

amb	ambulate
CXR	chest x-ray
Fx	fractures
Tx	treatment or traction