

**Ministry of higher education & scientific research  
AL-Mustaqbal University College  
Radiology Technique Department**



# ***Medical Terminology***

**Lecture One**

**MSc. Doua'a S. Altaee**

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## 1. Medical Terminology

❖ **Medical Terminology** is the **professional language** of those who are directly or indirectly engaged in the art of healing and it is necessary for communicating with other medical personnel.

❖ Studying **medical terminology** is very similar to learning a new language. This is because most medical terms stem from Greek or Latin origins.

## 2. Medical terms is based on:

• **Greek and Latin origin** (originated as early as the 1st century when Hippocrates practiced medicine).

• **Eponyms** (words formed from a person's name). examples:  
Alzheimer's disease

• **Modern language** terms (example MRI: magnetic resonance image).

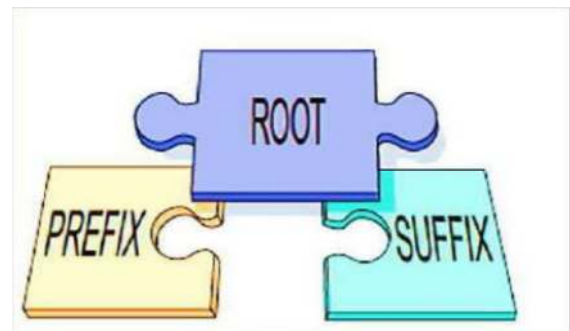
## 3. Fields of Medical Terms applications?

1. Doctors الأطباء
2. Dental Team فريق طب الاسنان
3. Healthcare Science علوم الرعاية الصحية
4. Health Informatics المعلوماتية الصحية
5. Nursing التمريض
6. Midwifery القبالة
7. Allied Health professionals المهنيين الصحيين
8. Medical management careers وظائف الادارة الطبية

## 4. Basic Elements of a medical Word

A medical word consists of some or all of the following elements :

1. **Word root** جذر الكلمة
2. **Prefix** بادئة
3. **Suffix** النهاية
4. **Combining form** الجمع بين الشكل



## 1. Word root

- A word root is the main part of a medical word.
- All medical terms have one or more roots.

Word root	Meaning	Example
Card	heart قلب	Cardiopathy امراض القلب
Splen	Spleen طحال	Splenomegaly تضخم الطحال

## 2. Prefix

Prefix is a short word part added before a root to modify its meaning.

prefix	Meaning	Example
hyper	Above أكثر زيادة	Hypertension ارتفاع ضغط الدم
hypo	Below أقل نقصان	Hypotension انخفاض ضغط الدم

## 3. Suffixes

A suffix is a word element located at the end of a word.

Suffixes	Meaning	Example
lysis	Dissolution تحلل	Hemolysis انحلال الدم
itis	Inflammation التهاب	Gastritis التهاب المعدة

## 4. Combining Forms(CF)

combining vowel is added to make the resulting medical term easier to pronounce.

word root + a vowel (usually an o) forms a new element known as a combining form (CF).

### Examples:

Hematology (Hemato: blood) (O: vowel) (logy: study)

Neuritis (Neur: nerve) (no vowel) (itis: inflammation)

## 5. Three Rules of Word Building

There are three important rules of word building:

**Rule 1:** A word root links a suffix that begins with a vowel.

**e.g:** Link the following roots with suffixes, each of which begins with a vowel.

Word root	Suffixes	Medical term
tonsill	itis	Tosill/itis
gastr	ectomy	Gastr/ectomy

**Rule 2:** A combining form (root + o) links a suffix that begins with a consonant.

**e.g:** Change the following roots to combining forms and link them with suffixes that begin with a consonant.

Word root	Suffixes	Medical term
scler	derma	Scler/o/derma
arthr	plasty	Arthr/o/plasty

**Rule 3:** A combining form (root + o) links a root to another root to form a compound word. (This rule holds true even if the next root begins with a vowel.)

oste + chondr + -itis becomes oste/o/chondr/itis

oste + chondr + -oma becomes oste/o/chondr/oma

gastr + enter + -itis becomes gastr/o/enter/itis