



Medical Terminology

Lecture One

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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).

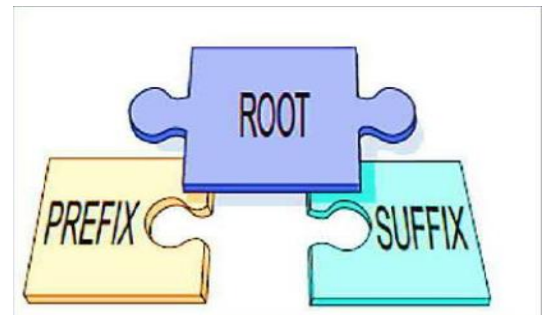
3. Fields of Medical Terms applications?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Doctors | الأطباء |
| 2. Dental Team | فريق طب الأسنان |
| 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 الإدارة 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 | hard 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 اكثر زيادة | Hypertension ارتفاع ضغط الدم |
| hypo | Below اقل 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 | Haemolysis 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 |