



جامعة المستقبل  
AL MUSTAQBAL UNIVERSITY

كلية العلوم  
قسم الانظمة الطبية الذكية  
**Lecture: (1)**

Subject: **Introduction to medical terminology**

Level: First

Lecturer: MSc. Mustafa Yousif

## Introduction to medical terminology

**Is a science that deals with the proper of medical terms use.**

**It is accurately describing the human body and associated components and processes, conditions**

**procedures in a science-based manner**



## Principles of component parts

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Most of the terms for the body's organs originated from **Latin** words, whereas terms describing diseases that affect these organs have their origins in **Greek**. Many prefixes and suffixes have more than a single definition so one must learn to use the definition that best describes the term.



## Fundamentals of word structure

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The fundamental elements in medical terminology are .....

the component parts used to build medical words

**P = Prefix**

**R = Word Root**

**CF = Combining Form**

**S = Suffix**



## Principles of component parts

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**Prefix** (p)– means to fix before or to fix to the beginning of a word. A prefix is a syllable or a group of syllables placed at the beginning of a word to alter or modify the meaning of the word to create a new word.

**Word Root** (wr)– a root is a word or word element from which other words are formed. It is the foundation of the word and conveys the central meaning of the word.

## Principles of component parts

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**Combining Form (cf)** – a word root to which a vowel has been added to join the root to a second root or to a suffix. The vowel “o” is the most common vowel used to make combining forms. They are found at the beginning of a word or within a word.

**Suffix (s)** – means to fasten on beneath or under. A suffix may be a syllable or group of syllables united with or placed at the end of a word to alter or modify the meaning of the word or to create a new word.

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## Principles of component parts

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### **Prefixes ....**

- with more than a single definition
- that pertain to position or placement
- that pertain to number and amount
- that are descriptive and are used in general

### **Suffixes ....**

- that have more than a single meaning
  - that pertain to pathologic conditions
  - used in diagnostic and surgical procedures
  - that are descriptive and are used in general
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## Identifying medical words

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**Spelling** – medical words of **Greek** origin are often difficult to spell because many begin with a silent letter or have a silent letter within the word. Spelling of all medical words is extremely important because the addition or omission of a single letter may change the meaning of the word.



## Identifying medical words

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### Spelling Guidelines:

... if the suffix **begins** with a **vowel**, drop the combining vowel from the combining form and add the suffix.

... if the suffix **begins** with a **consonant**, keep the combining vowel and add the suffix to the combining form.

... keep the combining vowel between two or more roots in a term.

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# Medical Terms Are Built from Word Parts

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## Word Part

## Example (Meaning)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Word root      | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>cardi</b> ogram (record of the <b>heart</b> )  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prefix         | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>peri</b> cardium ( <b>around</b> the heart)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suffix         | <input type="checkbox"/> cardi <b>itis</b> ( <b>inflammation</b> of heart) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Combining form | <input type="checkbox"/> cardi <b>omyo</b> pathy (heart muscle disease)    |



# Word Root

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- ❑ **Foundation** of the term
- ❑ General meaning of word
- ❑ Often gives body system or part
  - cardi = heart
- ❑ Or may be an action
  - cis = to cut



## Word root

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### **Greek Word**

Kardia (heart)

Gaster (stomach)

Hepar (liver)

Nephros (kidney)

Osteon (bone)

### **Word Root**

Cardi

Gastr

Hepat

Nephr

oste



**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**