

المصطلحات الطبية

Medical Terminology

العناصر الأساسية المكونة للمصطلح الطبي Basic Elements of medical word

لبناء المصطلح الطبي يتم إتباع قواعد بسيطة وسهلة وعند تعلم هذه القواعد فإنه يصبح من السهل تكوين وبناء العديد من الكلمات الطبية والتعرف عليها .

ولتحليل الكلمات الطبية يحتاج الطالب تحديد العناصر الأربعة التي قد تستخدم لتكوين الكلمات الطبية وهي :

- جذور الكلمة Word Roots

- البادئات Prefixes

- اللواحق Suffixes

دليل لفظ المصطلحات الطبية :

مع ان المصطلحات الطبية تتبع في لفظها نفس الطريقة في لفظ اللغة الانجليزية إلا انها قد تكون صعبة اللفظ وخاصة اذا واجهها الطالب للمرة الاولى وهنا نقدم بعض القواعد العامة للفظ المصطلحات والتي قد تفيد الطالب.

Letters	Explanation	Examples	
ae, oe	Only the second vowel is pronounced	Pleurae, roentegen	
c, g	given the soft sound before (e,i,y)	cerebrum, gel, gingivitis	
c, g	Have a hard sound before other letters	cardic. gastric ,	
ch	Is sometimes pronounced like (K)	cholesterol , cholera	
i	at the end of a word (to form a plural)is pronounced (eye)	bronchi , labi ,chemi	
pn	at the beginning of a word is pronounced with only the (N) sound	pneumonia , pneumotoxin	
pn	at the middle of a word is pronounced with a hard (P) and a hard (N)	Orthopnea , hyperpnea, pneometer	
Ps	is pronounced like (S)	Psychology , psychosis, psorias,	
pt	t	pterygoid	
gn	n	gnathitis	
mn	n	mnemonic	

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If a prefix ending in a vowel comes before the following combination of letters then the first letter is pronounced:

<i>Word</i>	<i>pronunciation</i>
hemop pt ysis	he-mop'tĩ-sis
pro gn athism	prog'nah-thizm
Polyp p nea	pol''ip-ne'ah
dys gn athia	dis-na'the-ah

Combination of vowels – **oe** and **ae** (English spelling) – are pronounced as

'ee'. **Ce/cae/coe** as **'see'** and **ge/gae/goe** as **'jee'** in English.

<i>word</i>	<i>pronunciation</i>
haema	he'mah
ru gae	roo'je
co elum	se'lom
septic ae mia	sep'tĩ-se'me-ah
cae cum	se'kum

Another combination of letter are pronounced in the following way:

<i>Letter combination</i>	<i>sound</i>	<i>word</i>	<i>pronunciation</i>
ph	f	phrenoplegia	fren''o-ple'je-ah
rh	r	rhytidosis	rit''ĩ-do'sis
ch	k	cochlea	kok'le-ah
x	z	xanthic	zan'thik
dys	dis	dysphagia	dis-fa'je-ah

القواعد الأساسية لبناء ومعرفة الكلمات الطبية

Basic rules for building and defining medical word

بناء الكلمات الطبية

الربط linking

يوجد قاعدتان أساسيتان لربط عناصر المصطلح الطبي ببعضها البعض

- القاعدة الاولى : وضع الجذر (Root) قبل اللاحقة (Suffix) ذات البداية المتحركة
- القاعدة الثانية : يستخدم حرف وصل (o.a.e.i.u) لربط الجذر (Root) باللاحقة والتي تبدأ بحرف ساكن وايضا لربط جذر مع جذر آخر وتكوين كلمة مركبة

آلية بناء المصطلح الطبي:

القواعد التالية تساعد على بناء الكلمة :

- التعرف على الكلمة التي تود تركيبها . فعلى سبيل المثال لو أردنا بناء كلمة تعني " ارتفاع نسبة السكر في الدم "
 - اختيار لاحقة مناسبة (suffix) التي تعني حاله دم وهي (-emia)
 - اختيار بادئة (او اكثر) مناسبة (Prefix) فمثلا البادئة التي تعني ارتفاع (زيادة) هي (hyper-)
 - جذر الكلمة التي تعني سكر هي (glyco-)
 - اختيار البادئات حسب الاهمية التصاعدية ثم اللاحقة بعد آخر بادئة أو جذر مثلاً .
- و بما ان كلمة سكر " glyco- " هي أهم من كلمة زيادة " hyper- " . إذا فكلمة " glyco- " تلي كلمة " hyper- " فتصبح الكلمة كالتالي (glycol.hyper.emia) وتترتب كالتالي (hyper.glyco.emia)
- ننزع جميع الفواصل في الكلمة وإذا كانت اللاحقة تبدأ بحرف متحرك فإننا نحذف الحرف الاخير من البادئة (أي ان المقطع " -emia " يبدأ بحرف متحرك) لذا فالكلمة (hyperglycemia)

إرشادات تفصيلية عند بناء المصطلح الطبي:

يجب الانتباه الى النقاط التالية عند بناء المصطلح الطبي:

- نوعية المرض يستدل بها عن بواسطة اللاحقة و امام هذه اللاحقة يتوضع التالي :

○ العضو او النسيج المصاب	gengiv / itis	bronch / itis
○ المكون الشاذ الاساسي المسبب للمرض	cand / iasis	amoeb / iasis
○ الصيغة الطاغية على حاله المرضية	myo / dynia	adeno / pathy
- التعبير عن فرط او نقص أو سوء أو اضطراب وظيفي لعضو أو مرض

○ Hyper-	Hypo-
○ Dys-	Mal-
○ -rrhe	rrhge

- في المصطلحات الطبية قد ترى مترادفات لنفس الجذر وهذا يعود الى ان المصطلحات مشتقة من لغتين هما اللاتينية والاغريقية

تحديد معنى المصطلح الطبي

هناك ثلاثه مراحل أساسية لتحديد معنى المصطلح الطبي وهي :

١. يتم التعرف على الـ " suffix " أو الجزء الاخير من الكلمة

٢. يتم التعرف على الـ " prefix " أو الجزء الاول من الكلمة

٣. يتم التعرف على وسط الكلمة

مثال :

First part of the word	Meddle	Suffix
Gastr / o /	enter	/ itis
stomach	intestine	Inflammation

أقسام المصطلح الطبي

أولاً : حروف الوصل Combining Vowels

مميزاتها :

- غالباً ما تكون مكونة من الاحرف التالية (o,a,e,i,u) ولكن اكثرها استخداماً هو حرف " O "
 - يضاف حرف الوصل عادة الى الجذر ليكونا معا ما يسمى بالصيغة المركبة combining form
 - اذا كانت اللاحقة تبدأ بحرف متحرك (o,a,e,i,u) فإننا في هذه الحالة نسقط حرف الوصل المرتبط مع الجذر حتى لا يجتمع حرفان متحركان فيصعب بذلك لفظ المصطلح .
- أمثله :

Root	Combining Vowels	Suffix	combining form
Hemat-	O ✓	-logy	Hematology
Gastr-	O ×	-ectomy	Gastrectomy

ثانياً: الصيغة المركبة combining form

الصيغة المركبة combining form : هي عبارة عن جذر مضافاً اليه حرف وصل وكما هو الحال في الجذر فان الصيغة المركبة ايضاً تدل على جزء تشريحي من اجزاء الجسم

ثالثاً : جذر الكلمة Word Roots

يعرف جذر الكلمة Root : هو العنصر الاساسي ضمن المصطلح الذي يشكل العنصر الفعال او الموضوع الاساسي و غالباً ما يكون جزء تشريحي او فسيولوجي من أجزاء الجسم.

مميزاته :

- هو العنصر الاساسي والفاعل والرئيسي ضمن المصطلح الطبي
- يعبر عن جزء تشريحي او فسيولوجي من اجزاء الجسم
- قد يحتوي المصطلح الطبي الواحد على اكثر من جذر
- يرتبط عادة بحرف وصل (o.a.e.i.u) ليكونا صيغه مركبة
- بإضافة الـ prefix و الـ suffix الى جذر الكلمة يتحدد المعنى العام للمصطلح

أمثله :

Root	Meaning	
Adeno-	Gland	
Artho-	Joint	
Cerebr-	Brain	

جدول يوضح الجذور الشائعة الاستخدام :

ROOT LIST

<i>Medical prefix</i>	<i>Means</i>	<i>Note</i>
abdomin/o	abdominal	
acr/o	extremities	
aden/o	gland	
adip/o,	fat	
adren/o	adrenal glands	
aer/o	air	
angi/o	vessel	
anter/o	front, anterior	
aort/o	aorta	
arteri/o	artery	
arthr/o	joint	
audi/o	sound	
bronchi/o,	bronch/o bronchus	
calc/o	calicum	
carcin/o	cancer	
cardi/o	heart	
cephal/o	head	
cerebr/o	brain, cerebrum	
chondr/o	cartilage	
col/o, colon/o	colon	
cost/o	ribs	
crani/o	cranium, skull	
cyan/o	blue	
cyst/o	bladder	
cyt/o	cell	
dent/o	teeth	
derm/o	skin	
dipl/o	double	
dist/o	far, farthest	
dors/o	back (of body)	
encephal/o	brain	
enter/o	intestine	
erythr/o	red	
esophag/o	esophagus	
gastr/o	stomach	
gingiv/o	gum	
gloss/o	tongue	
gluc/o, glyc/o	sugar, glucose	
hema, hemat/o, hem/o	blood	
hepat/o	liver	
hidr/o	sweat	
hist/o	tissue	
hydr/o	water	

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lapar/o	abdominal	
laryng/o	larynx (voice box)	
latr/o	side	
leuk/o	white	
lingu/o	tongue	
lip/o	fat	
lith/o	stone	
lumb/	o lower back	
lymph/o	lymph	
melan/o	black	
mening/o	meninges	
myc/o	fungus	
myel/o	spinal cord, bone marrow	
my/o	muscle	
nas/o	nose	
necr/o	death	
nephr/o	kidneys	
neur/o	nerve	
noct/o	night	
odont/o	teeth	
olig/o	scanty, little	
ophthalm/o, ocul/o, opt/o	eye	
or/o, stomat/o	mouth	
orth/o	straight	
oste/o	bone	
ot/o	ear	
pelv/o,	pelv/i pelvis	
phalang/o	fingers and toes	
pharyng/o	pharynx (throat)	
phleb/o	vein	
pleur/o	pleura	
pneum/o	lung	
poster/o	back (of body), behind, posterior	
proxim/ o	near, nearest	
py/o	pus	
radi/o	x-rays, radiation	
rhin/o	nose	
tend/o	tendons	
therm/o	heat	
thorac/o	chest	
thromb/o	blood clot	
toxic/o, tox/o	poison	
trache/o	trachea (windpipe)	
ur/o	urine	
vascul/o	blood vessel	
vertebr/o	vertebra (backbone)	

رابعاً: البادئة Prefix

تعريف البادئة Prefix : هي عنصر يستخدم في بداية المصطلح الطبي وقد يغير معنى المصطلح أو يجعله أكثر تحديداً
مميزاتها :

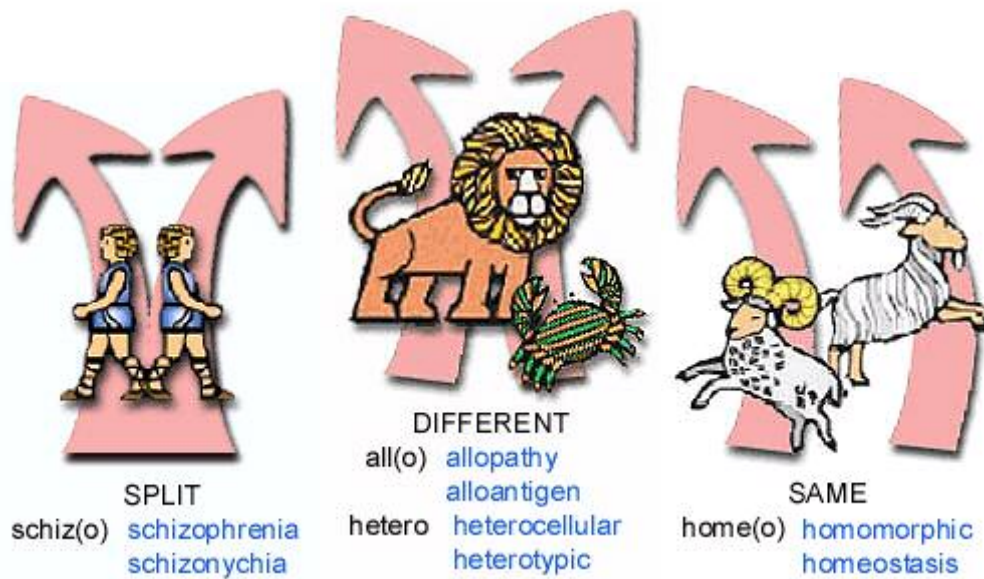
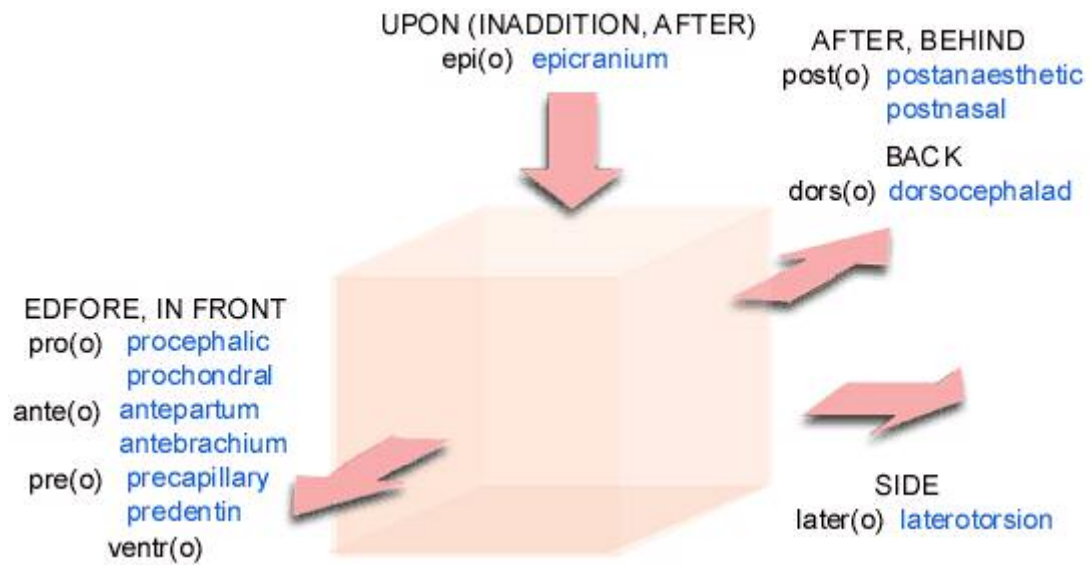
- تكون عادة في بداية الكلمة
- تكون قصيرة المقطع
- لها معنى خاص بها
- لا تحتوي على حرف وصل (o.a.e.i.u)
- إذا أضيفت الى جذر الكلمة فإنها تغير المعنى العام للكلمة بمجملته
- البادئات يمكن ان توجد في اللغة العامة كما في المصطلحات العلمية والطبية
- البادئات عادة تعبر عن رقم ، زمن ، موقع ، إتجاه ، لون ، حجم الخ

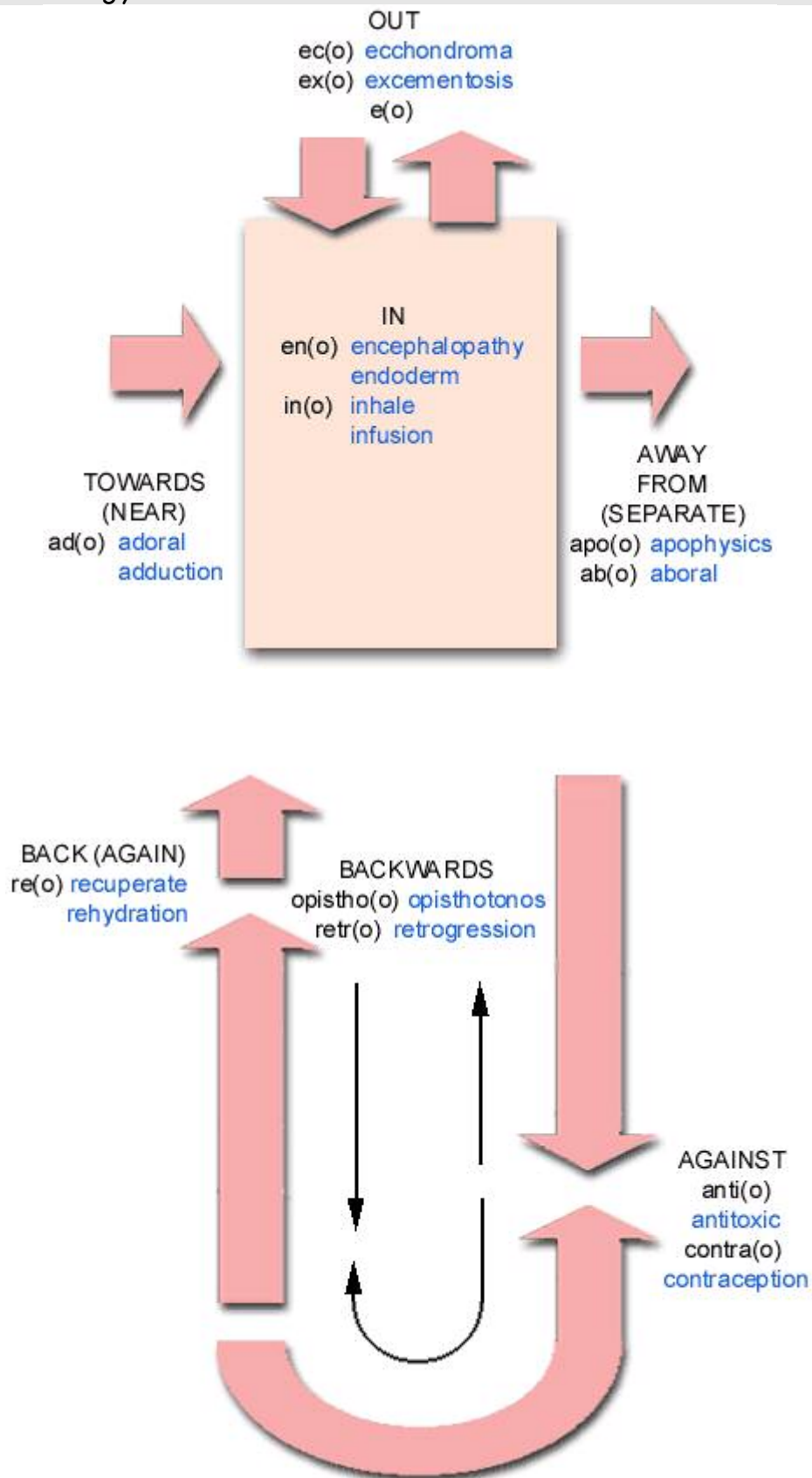
أمثله :

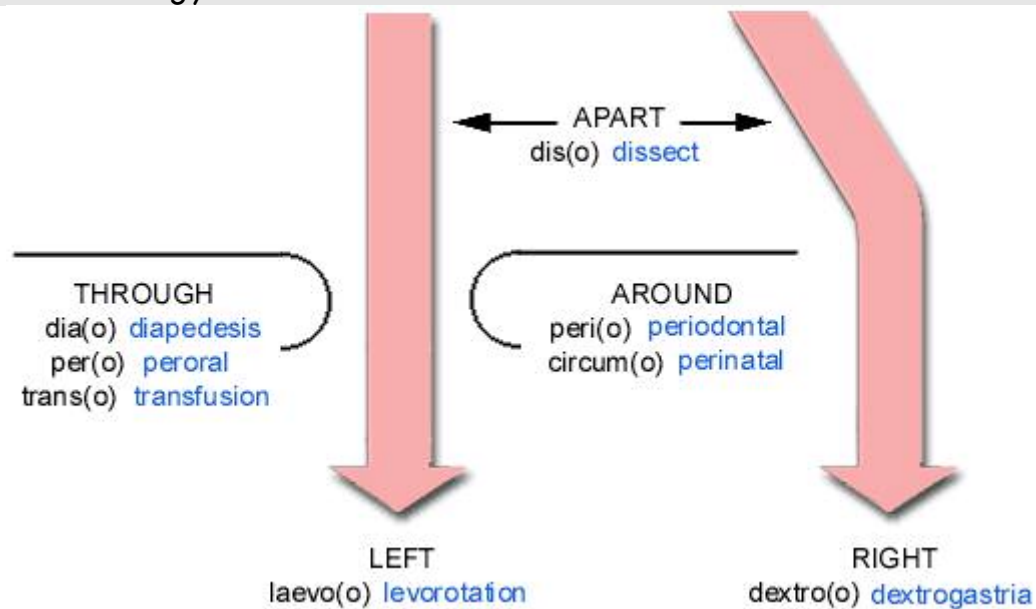
Laten/Greek prefix	Meaning	
Di-	Two , twice	
Micro-	Little	
Erythro-	Red	

prefixes position مواقع البادئات

The following illustrations are of prefixes showing position.



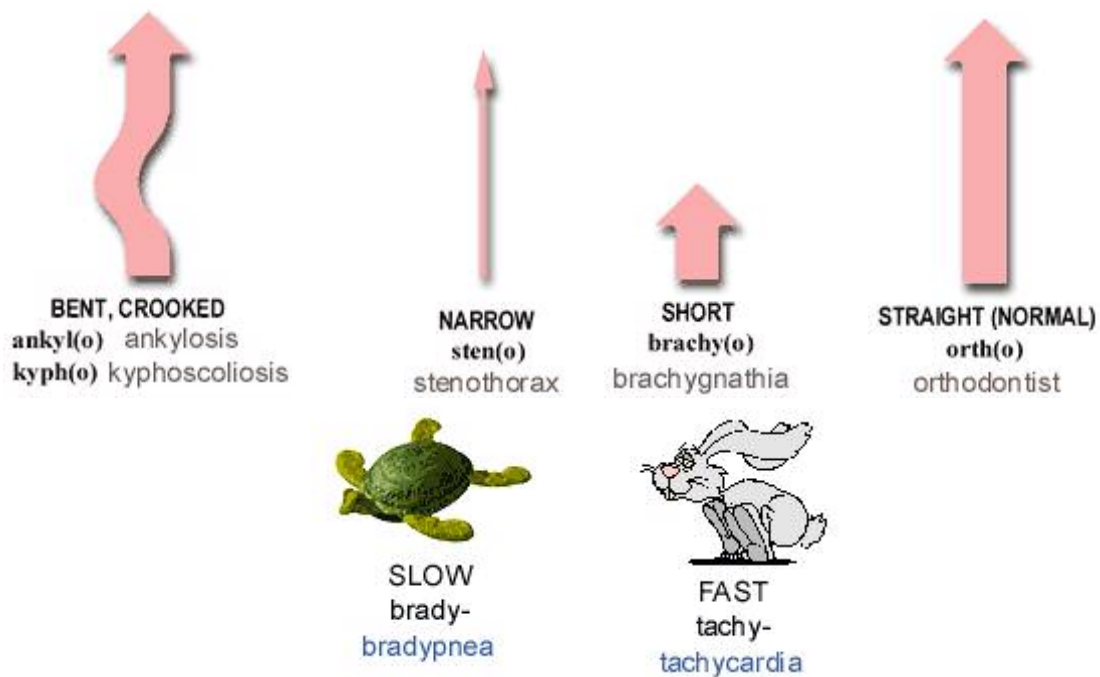




prefixes description وصف البادئات

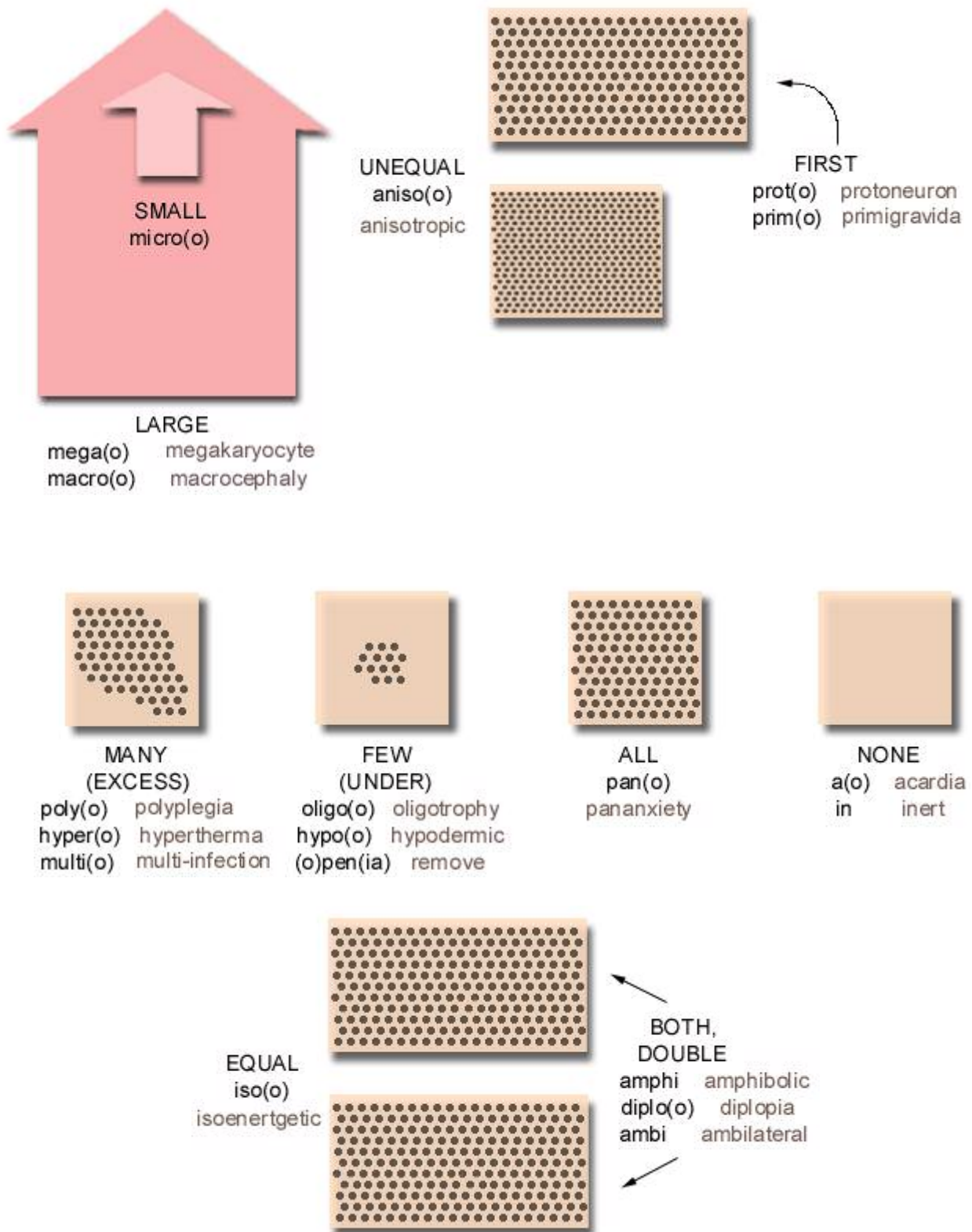
The following list consists of prefixes showing description.

Descriptions



prefixes showing measurement **الاصطلاحات القياسية في البادئات**

The following illustrations are of prefixes showing measurement.



Medical prefix	Means	Note
a -, an -	without	
ab -	away from	
ad -	toward	
al -	like, similar	
allo -	Other, another	
ambi -	both	
amphi -	On both side , around	
amyl -	starch	
ana-	Up to , back, again	
ante -	before	
anti -	against	
ap-, apo	From, back, again	
arterio -	artery	
asthen -	weakness, lack	
aud-, aur -	ear, hearing	
bar-	weight	
bi -	both, two	
bio -	life	
brachy -	Short	
brady -	slow	
buccal -	cheek	
cata-	down	
caud -	tail	
centi -	hundredth (100th)	
chole -	bile	
cholecyst	gallbladder	
chondro -	cartilage	
circum -	around	
con-	together	
contra -	against	
cort -	covering	
costo -	ribs	
coxa -	hip	
cubitus -	elbow, forearm	
cysto -	bladder, sac	
cyt-, cyte -	cell	
deca-	ten	
deci -	tenth (10th)	
di-	two	
dia-	Through , complete	
diplo -	double	
dolicho-	long	
dors -	back	
dur-	Hard , firm	

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Medical prefix	Means	Note
dys -	painful, abdominal	
e- , ec	Out, from out of	
ecto -	Outside	
ek-	out	
em-	in	
en-	into	
endo	inside, within	
ent-	within	
entero -	intestine	
epi -	upper, above	
erythro -	red	
eso-	I will carry	
eu-	well ,abundant, prosperous	
eury-	broad, wide	
ex-, exo -	Out , from out of	
extra-	In addition	
faci -	facies, face	
fascia -	band (fibrous)	
gravid	pregnant	
haemo -	blood	
haplo-	single	
hapto-	bind to	
hemi -	half	
hept-	Seven	
hetero-	different	
hex-	Six	
homo-	same	
hydro -	water	
hyper -	excessive	
hypo -	deficient	
hyster -	uterus, womb	
ile -	intestine (part)	
ili -	hip bone	
in-	Into , to	
in-, im	not	
infra-	below , underneath	
inter -	between	
intra -	inside	
intro -	inword, during	
iso-	equal , same	
juxta-	adjacent to	
kata-	down , down from	
kerat -	cornea; scaly	
kilo -	thousand	
lacto -	milk	

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Medical prefix	Means	Note
laryng -	larynx	
leuko -	white	
lip -	fat	
lith -	stone	
lymph -	fluid	
macro - , mango-	large	
mamm-, mast-	breast	
medi- ,	middle	
mega-	large	
megalo-	very large	
melan -	black	
mening -	membrane	
meno -, mens -	menstruate	
meso -	middle	
meta -	beyond, between	
metro -	uterus, womb	
micro -	small	
milli -	thousandth (1000th)	
mono -	one, single	
myelo -	bone marrow, spinal cord	
myx -	mucus	
nares-/nas -	nose, nostrils	
nares-/nas -	nose, nostrils	
natus -	birth	
natus -	birth	
neo-	new	
neuro -	nerve	
non-	not	
ob-	before , against	
octa- , octo-	Eight	
oligo-	few	
onych -	finger, toe nail	
oophoro -	ovary	
orchid -	testes	
ortho -	straight	
oto -	ear, hearing	
ovario -	ovary	
ovi -	egg	
paed -	child	
pan -	all	
para -	beside	
part -	birth, labour	
ped -, pod-	foot	
per-	by , through	
peri -	around	

Medical Terminology

Medical prefix	Means	Note
pharyng -	pharynx	
phleb -	vein	
phrenic -	diaphragm	
pleo-	more than usual	
pleur -	pleura of lung	
Poly -	many	
post -	behind	
pre -	before	
pro -	forward	
pros- , prox-	besides	
pseudo -	false	
psycho -	mind,soul	
pyelo -	bowl of kidney	
pyo -	pus	
quar-	four	
re- , red-	back , again	
retro -	backward	
salpingo-	tube	
sebum	wax, suet	
semi-	half	
semin -	seed	
sept-	seven	
sex-	six	
sial -	saliva	
soma -	body	
splen -	spleen	
spondyl -	spine	
squam -	scaly	
stric -	narrowing	
sub -	below	
super - , supra -	above	
syn-	together	
sys-	together , with	
tachy -	rapid	
tetra-	four	
thel -	nipple	
thio-	sulfur	
thrombo -	clot	
trache -	trachea	
trans -	across	
tri-	Three	
ultra-	over	
uni-	one	
vesic -	bladder, sac	
viscera -	organ	

Color:

<i>Color</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>Note</i>
Grey	glauc(o)	glaucoma	
Red	erythr(o)	erythrocyte	
Black	melan(o)	melanin	
White	leuc(o), leuk(o)	leukomyelitis	
Blue	cyan(o)	cyanopsia	
Yellow	cirr(h)o	cirrhosis	
Green	chlor(o)	chloroma	

Numerals

<i>Greek & Latin</i>	<i>Meaning in English</i>	<i>Note</i>
Semi- , hemi-	½	
Hen- , uni-	1	
Sesqui-	1-1/2	
dyo (di-, dis-) , duo- (bi-,bis-)	2	
Tri-	3	
Tetra-, tessaro- , quadri	4	
Penta- , quinque	5	
Hex- , hexa , sex-	6	
Hepta-, septum-	7	
Octo-	8	
Ennea- , novem-	9	
Deca- , decem-	10	
Dodeca- , duodecim-	12	
Hecatonta- , centi-	100	
Chilio- , milli-	1000	
Myri- , myriad	Any large or countless number	

خامساً : اللاحقة Suffixes

تعرف اللاحقة Suffixes : بأنها عنصر يستخدم في نهاية المصطلح الطبي (عادة بعد الجذر) ويعبر عن حالة أو فعل طبي أو حالة مرضية أو أحجام صغيرة
مميزاته :

- عنصر يستخدم في نهاية المصطلح الطبي (عادة بعد الجذر Root)
- تصف عادة حاله (state , condition) أو فعل طبي (Medical action) أو احجام صغيرة (small size)
- تكون قصيرة المقطع
- لايتغير شكلها بتغير الكلمة

أمثله :

Suffix	Meaning	
-dynia	Pain	
-megaly	Larg	
-tomy	Cut	

Medical term	Means	Note
- algia	pain	
- cele	swelling	
- centesis	puncture	
- crine	secrete within	
- dactyl	finger, toe	
- dema	swelling (fluid)	
- desis	surgical fixation	
- duct	opening	
- dynia	pain	
- ectasis	enlargement	
- ectomy	surgical removal	
- emia	blood	
- genic	source, origin	
- gram, - graph	picture	
- itis	inflammation	
- lysis	separation	
- malacia	softening	
- megaly	enlarged	
- oid	like, similar	
- ology	study of	
- olysis	breakdown	
- oma	tumor	
- osis	disease, condition	
- ostomy	surgical opening	
- otomy	surgical opening	
- pathy	disease	
- penia	deficiency	
- pexy	fixation (tissue)	
- phagia	swallow	
- phasia	speech disorder	
- phobia	fear	
- phrenia	mental disorder	
- physis	growth(physical)	
- plasty	plastic surgery	
- plegia	paralysis	
- ptosis	dropping down	
- rrhagia	hemorrhage	
- rrhaphy	suture, stitch	
- rrhea	flowing	
- rrhexis	rupture	
- sarcoma	tumor, cancer	
- sclerosis	hardening	
- scope	picture, inspection	
- spasm	contraction	
- stasis	stoppage	
- tripsy	crushing	
- uria	urine	

Abbreviation (1)

Abbreviation	Means	Note
Aids	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	
ATS	Antitetanus serum	
BCG	Bacilli calmette Guerin	
B.I.D	"Bis in die" (Latin) = twice daily	
B.P.	Blood pressure	
B.P	British pharmacopoeia	
CBC	Complete blood count	
CC	Cubic centimeter	
CNS	Central nervous system	
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid	
CT scanner	Computerized tomography	
DDT	Dichloro diphenyl trichloroethan	
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid	
DPT vaccine	Diphtheria ,Whooping cough , Tetanus	
ECG	Electrocardiogram	
ECT	Electroconvulsive therapy	
EEG	Electroencephalogram	
ECG	Electrocardiogram	
EMG	Electromyogram	
ENT	Ear , Nose , Throat	
ESR	Erythrocyte sedimentation rate	
EFA	Essential fatty acid	
FBS	Fast blood sugar	
GABA	Gama aminobutyric acid	
GI	Gastrointestinal	
GH	Growth hormone	
GU	Gastric ulcer , Genitourinary	
Hb	Haemoglobin	
HBV , HCV	Hepatitis B virus. Hepatitis C virus	
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus	
I.M	Intramuscular	
I.V	Intravenous	
MAO	Monoamine oxidase	
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging	
NF	Neurofibromatosis	
n.p.	"nomen proprium" (Latin) = name of drug	
NOP	"nil per oram " (Latin) = Nothing by the mouth	
NMR	Nuclear magnetic resonance	
o.d.	"omni die" (Latin) = every day	
o.m.	"omni mane" (Latin) = every morning	
o.n.	"omni nocte" (Latin) = every night	
OP	Outpatient	
OTC	Over the counter	
p.c.	"post cibium" (Latin) = after food	
PNS	Peripheral Nervous System	
p.r.	"per rectum" (Latin) = by rectum	

Abbreviation	Means	Note
PMT	Premenstrual tension	
q.d.s OR q.i.d	“quarter in die sumendus” (Latin)= four times a day	
q.s.	“quantum sufficiat” (Latin)=as much as necessary	
R/	“ recipe” (Latin) = prescription = Take	
RBC	Red blood cell	
Rh	Rhesus	
RNA	Ribonucleic acid	
S.C.	Sub Cutaneous	
SCD	Sick-cell disease	
s.o.s	“si opus sit”(Latin) = if necessary	
STD	Sexual transmitted disease	
TB	Tuberculosis	
t.d.s	“terin diem sumendus” (Latin) = three times a day	
t.i.d	“ter in die” (Latin) = three times a day	
USP	United state pharmacopoeia	
UV	Ultraviolet ray	
VD	Venereal disease	
VDH	Valvular disease of the heart	
WBC	White blood cell	
WHO	World heath organization	

Abbreviation (2)

Abbreviation	Means	Note
@	at	
↓	down, decrease	
a	before	
abd	abdomen	
ac	before meals	
ad	lib as desired	
ADL	activities of daily living	
AM (am)	morning	
amb	ambulatory	
amt	amount	
ap (A)	apical	
as tol	as tolerated	
B/B, BB bed bath,	bowel & bladder	
bid	twice a day	
BM (bm)	bowel movement	
BP	blood pressure	
BR	bedrest	
BRP	bathroom privileges	
c	with	
c/o	complains of.....	
CA (ca)	cancer, calcium	
cath	catheter	
CBC	complete blood count	
CBR	complete bed rest	
cc	cubic centimeters	
CCU	coronary care unit	
cl liq	clear liquid	
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation	
CVA	cardiovascular accident	
dc (d/c)	discontinue	
DNR	do not resuscitate	
drsg	dressing	
Dx	diagnosis	
EKG (ECG)	electrocardiogram	
ER	emergency room	
FBS	fasting blood sugar	
FF (ff)	force fluids	
ft	foot or feet	
GI	gastrointestinal	
h (hr)	hour	
H ₂ O	water	
HOB	head of bed	

Medical Terminology

HS (hs)	hour of sleep	
ht	height	
I&O	intake and output	
ICU	intensive care unit	
in	inch	
IV	intravenous	
L	left, liter	
lb	pound	
lg	large	
liq	liquid	
LLQ	left lower quadrant	
lt	left	
LUQ	left upper quadrant	
meds	medications	
mid noc	mid night	
min	minute	
ml	milliliter	
MN	midnight	
n/v	nausea and vomiting	
na	sodium	
neg	negative	
noc	night	
NPO	(npo) nothing by mouth	
O2	oxygen	
od (o.d.)	right eye	
oint	ointment	
OOB	out of bed	
OR	operating room	
os (o.s.)	left eye	
OT	occupational therapy	
ou (o.u.)	both eyes	
oz (OZ)	ounce	
p	after	
pc	after meals	
per	by, through	
PM (pm)	after noon	
po (per os)	by mouth	
post op	postoperative	
preop	preoperative	
prep	preparations	
prn (PRN)	when necessary	
PT	physical therapy	
pt (Pt.)	patient	
q	every	
q_h	every __ hours	
qd	every day	

Medical Terminology

qh	every hour	
qhs	every hour sleep	
qid	four times a day	
qod	every other day	
R	right, respirations, rectal	
RLQ	right lower quadrant	
ROM	range of motion	
Rt	right	
RUQ	right upper quadrant	
s	without	
S/D	safety device	
SOB	shortness of breath	
spec	specimen	
SSE	soap suds enema	
stat	immediately	
supp	suppository	
tbsp	tablespoon	
tid	three times a day	
TLC	tender loving care	
TPR	temperature, pulse,,respirations	
tsp	teaspoon	
UA (ua)	urinalysis	
up,	increase	
VS (vs)	vital signs	
w/c	wheelchair	
WBC	white blood count	
wt	weight	
x	times	

THE ANATOMY OF A PRESCRIPTION

The diagram shows a medical prescription form with the following parts labeled:

- DEA Number:** DEA# AC1273628
- Prescriber Information:** Phone: 555-3732, Eva Adams, M.D., 298 Appleby Street, Eden, NY 14057
- Patient Information:** Name: Laurel Hardy, Age: 41, Address: Abel St, Eden, Date: 06/16/06
- Superscription (Meaning Recipe):** Rx
- Inscription (Medication prescribed):** Phenobarbital 0.075, Dimethicone 0.020, Magnesium Carbonate 0.050, m. fl. 210
- Subscription (Instructions to Pharmacist):** Sig. 2 capsules tid and ho
- Special Instructions:** Refill: 3, Dispense as written
- Signature:** M.D.

Additional text on the form includes: "THIS PRESCRIPTION WILL BE FULFILLED ONLY IF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS ARE FULFILLED" and a box for "Dispense as written".

MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations for disease states and physiologic states relevant to dosing

Term	Meaning
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder
ASHD	Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease
BM	Bowel movement
BP	Blood Pressure
BPM	Beats per Minute
BS	Blood Sugar
Ca	Cancer, carcinoma
CHD	Coronary Heart Disease
CHF	Congestive Heart Failure
CVA	Cerebral Vascular Accident, stroke
DM	Diabetes Mellitus
GERD	Gastro-esophageal Reflux Disease
GI	Gastro-intestinal
ERD	End Stage Renal Disease
HA	Headache
HBP, HTN	High Blood Pressure, Hypertension
HR	Heart Rate
IDD	Insulin Dependent Diabetes
MAP	Mean Arterial Pressure
N&V, N/V	Nausea and Vomiting
NIDD	Non Insulin Dependent Diabetes
PA wedge Pressure, wedge pressure	Pulmonary artery wedge pressure
SOB	Shortness of Breath
Temp	Body Temperature
URI	Upper Respiratory Infection
UTI	Urinary Tract Infection

Abbreviations for Dosage Forms Found in Inscription, Subscription or Signa

Term	Meaning
amp.	Ampule. A hermetically sealed glass vessel containing a sterile drug solution usually used parenteral administration. The ampoule is broken and the solution drawn into a syringe under aseptic conditions just prior to administration. Ampoules are always single dose units. Vials are glass containers with a rubber stopper through which a hypodermic needle can be inserted to remove its contents. Vials can be either single use or multiple use depending on whether a bacteriostatic preservative is present in the solution.
cap.	Capsule. A shell usually made of gelatin that contains the active ingredients in powder or liquid form. When the capsule is swallowed, the gelatin dissolves in the acid environment of the stomach releasing the material inside.
chart.	A divided powder, powder in a paper. The drug or drug mixture is wrapped in folded paper. The patient unfolds the paper and transfers the contents to a tablespoon or a glass and dissolves the contents in water. This solution is swallowed and washed down with water. Archaic dosage form.
cr., crm.	Cream. A semisolid preparation containing drug intended for application to body surfaces like the skin. Creams are heterogenous systems (an oil in water mixture) whose continuous phase is either aqueous or water soluble. Creams absorb into the skin leaving little oily residue.
elix.	Elixir. An oral solution containing drug, water, and some alcohol. When the active ingredients are dissolved exclusively in alcohol the dosage form is called a Spirit.
emul.	Emulsion. A liquid, heterogenous dosage form in which a liquid oil is usually dispersed in a continuous aqueous phase. Usually the drug is dissolved in the internal oil phase. When an emulsion is used topically it is frequently called a lotion. (Topical lotions may also be called suspensions)
Liq.	A solution
Lot.	A lotion.
pulv., pulvis	A bulk powder. Applied directly to the skin from the container.
sol.	Solution. A solution of drug usually in water. May be taken by mouth or applied to skin depending on indication.
supp.,	Suppository. Firm semisolid dosage forms that are designed to be inserted into
sup.,	a particular body opening. The semisolid vehicle melts at body temperature

Medical Terminology

suppos	releasing the incorporated drug into the local body fluids. Rectal and vaginal suppositories are most common.
susp.	Suspension. A liquid, heterogenous dosage form in which a solid is dispersed in the liquid. Usually the drug is not dissolved in the dosage form. When the suspension is used topically it is frequently called a lotion.
syr.	Syrup. A solution that is sweet and highly viscous.
tab.	Tablet. A compressed tablet of drug and other excipients which can only be manufactured on an industrial scale. Tablets are designed to break up into fragments when they enter the stomach or other body fluid allowing the drug to come into contact with the fluid, and dissolve. Tablets are not pills. Pills are an older type of preparation not commonly used anymore, and have a round shape (exception - colchicine is dispensed as pills). A Sublingual Tablet (tab SL. or SL) is designed to be dissolved under the tongue. A sublingually administered drug is intended to be absorbed across the oral mucosa avoiding gastrointestinal-hepatic degradation prior to entry into general circulation (Example Nitroglycerine Sublingual Tablet). Sublingual tablets should not be swallowed.
tinc.,	Tincture. A solution containing a lot of alcohol, although other solvents may
tr.,	be present. Tinctures usually contain drug at high concentrations.
tinct.	
ung,	Ointment. A semisolid preparation containing drug intended for application to body surfaces like the skin. Ointments unlike creams are continuous oil based
oint.	systems. Ointments generally leave an oily residue on the applied surface for a longer time than creams.

Abbreviations Related to the Directions for the Pharmacist - The Subscription Verbs

disp.	Dispense. Provide to the patient.
div. #	Divide. The formula refers to the total amount to be made. Divide the formula into the specified number of dosage units.
d.t.d. #	Give such doses. The formula refers to a single dose. Prepare and dispense a specified number of doses.
ex. aqua	in water
f., ft.	Make. Prepare
M	Mix the contents of the formula
N.B.	Note Well!!! Pay attention to this.
No., #	Number of units to be prepared or dispensed.
S.A.,	According to the art. A vague phrase meaning roughly "use your skill and Secundum judgement" artem
tal. dos.	such doses

Abbreviations used in the directions to the patient or instructions to care providers - The Signa

Term	Meaning
Sig.	write the following directions on the label
ad	up to, don't confuse with right ear (a.d.)
appl.	apply
c, cum	with
dil.	dilute, for example: dil. 5 ml in 6 oz. OJ (orange juice)
D/C, D.C.	Discontinue
e.m.p., ut dict, u.d.	as directed, in the manner prescribed
et	and
NMT	not more than
NPO non rep, N.R.	Nothing by Mouth. The patient is to receive nothing orally do not repeat, (also, no refills when not in Sig.)
rep	repeat, (also, refill when not in Sig.)
s, sine, s	without

Abbreviations frequently used in the Prescription Formula - The Inscription

Term	Meaning
aa., or aa	of each. Used when two or more ingredients are present in the same amount. They are listed sequentially with the symbol placed next to the last item of the group which it refers.
ad	to, up to. don't confuse with a.d. - right ear
Agit.	Shake.
Alb.	White.
ASA	aspirin. an analgesic.
aq., aqua.	water, drinking water. Never used in making prescriptions.
aq. dest.	distilled water, deionized water used in prescriptions. Prepared by distillation.
aq. pur.	purified water USP, An official deionized water used in prescription compounding.
q.s.	a sufficient quantity. Calculate and add the appropriate quantity to make the prescription. Example: the amount of lactose needed to fill capsules.
q.s. ad	a sufficient quantity up to. Add sufficient quantity to achieve a specified total weight or volume. Example: amount of water needed to make 240 ml of total solution.
aa q.s. ad	a sufficient quantity of each up to. Used when more than one substance is to be added in equal quantities to achieve a specified total weight or volume. For example calculate the amount of Lanolin and Petrolatum to make 60 g of ointment.
D5W	Dextrose Injection USP, a sterile isotonic IV Fluid (5% dextrose in water)
HC	Hydrocortisone, a steroid hormone
inj.	Injection, indicating that the injection dosage form is to be used.
MS	Morphine Sulfate. A narcotic analgesic
NF	Natural Formulary, Indicates the ingredient should conform standards prescribed in the official NF compendium
NS, N.S.	Sodium Chloride Solution USP, a sterile, isotonic IV fluid (0.9% NaCl in Water)
1/2NS	0.45% Sodium Chloride for Injection, a sterile IV fluid
NTG	Nitroglycerine, a drug to treat angina pectoris, and other cardiovascular disturbances

Medical Terminology

TPN	Total Parental Nutrition, an intravenous feeding fluid containing carbohydrates, amino acids, electrolytes, and sometimes lipids.
USP	United States Pharmacopeia, Indicates the ingredient should conform standards prescribed in the official USP compendium.

Units of Measure used in the Inscription-Subscription¹

cc., cc	cubic centimeter, USP states 1 cc is equivalent to 1 ml
fl, fld.	specifies that the measure is a fluid measure
g., Gm.	Gram, don't confuse with gr.
gr., gr	Grain, don't confuse with g.
gtt.	Drop, In general not a rigidly standardized measure. Modern preparations are dispensed with the calibrated dropper included with the manufactured product Minum, Don't confuse with ml
mcg., mcg	Microgram, don't confuse with mg.
mEq	Milliequivalent
mg., mg	Milligram, don't confuse with mcg
ml., mL.	Milliliter, USP states that 1 cc is equivalent to 1 ml, don't confuse with minum.
mOsm, mOsmol	Milliosmole
O.	Apothecary pint
oz.	ounce
parts	Some formulas indicate the ratio of ingredient quantities to each other. In a formula given in terms of parts by weight, any unit of weight may be used, but it must be applied to all components. In a formula given in parts by volume, any unit of volume may be used, provide that all components have the same units.
Ratio	Ratio strength is a way of representing the concentration of a formula
Strength	component. It is denoted in terms of total amount of solution or mixture that contains one unit of solute. A 1:25 solution of cinnamon oil means that 1 ml of cinnamon oil is contained in each 25 ml of solution. N.B. the second number in the ratio does not describe the quantity of solvent, but the total quantity of solution. If the solute is a liquid the solution is assumed to be a v/v mixture. For solid solutes its assumed to be a w/v mixture. When the denominator of the ratio is 100, the concentration is denoted as Percentage Strength.
ss., ss	one half

Medical Terminology

tbl.	tablespoonful, a household measure, nominal value 15 ml.
tsp.	teaspoonful, a household measure, nominal value, 5 ml
U, u, I.U.	Unit, International Unit.potency of many antibiotics and endocrine preparations are expressed in terms of official USP units.These units are specific for each substance and determined by an official USP biological activity test

Medical Terminology

Abbreviations used in the directions to the patient or instructions to care providers concerning Dose and Dosing Frequency - The Signa

Term	Meaning
ad lib., prn	use when or as needed. Ex. 1 cap hs prn sleep
a.	before
a.c.	before meals. Take before meals. Usually used in conjunction with q.d., tid etc.
a.m.	morning, before midday
h.	hour
d.	day
q.	every
q4h	every 4 hours, Also specified by the degree symbol. Ex. q 4deg.
q.d.	every day, take one dose a day
q.o.d.	every other day, Take one dose every other day
bid	twice a day, Take one dose twice a day. N.B. does not mean every 12 hours. Loosely means morning and evening.
tid	three times a day, Take one dose three times a day. N.B. does not mean every 8 hours. Loosely means morning, evening, and night.
qid	four times a day. Take one dose four times a day. N.B. does not mean every 6 hours. Loosely means morning, afternoon, evening, and night.
t.i.w.	three times a week, Take a dose three times a week. For example M, W, F
h.s.	at bed time. Take at bedtime
ATC	around the clock, Doses administered at equal time intervals. Ex: q. 6 h. ATC.
m ² , M ²	square meter
BSA	body surface area
p.	after
p.c.	after meals. Take after meals. Usually used in conjunction with q.d., bid, tid etc.
p.m.	evening, afternoon, after midday
noct.	night
STAT	immediately, give at once
s.o.s.	if there is need. Administer again if required. Example: MS 2 mg IV STAT and q 30 min s.o.s. bucking ventilator

Abbreviations used to indicate Route of Administration or Administration Site¹.

Term	Meaning
a.d.	right ear, (the dexter ear)
a.s.	left ear, (the sinister ear)
a.u.	both ears
Aur	ear, ears
D.	Right
IA	intraarterially, inject into artery
ID	intradermal, inject into skin
IM	intramuscular, inject into muscle
IV	intravenous, inject or infuse into vein, rate specified. For intravenous fluid therapy IV also refers to the infusion fluid. IV bottles are consecutively numbered. Ex: IV #10 NS 1000 mL @ 125 cc/h, IV #11 D5W 1000 mL @ 125/hr
IMP, IV bolus	intravenous push, a rapid injection into vein
IVPB	intravenous piggy back. infuse solution into primary intravenous infusion, rate specified Ex: Ampicillin 250 mg IVPB over 30 min q 6 h
KVO	keep vein open. A slow infusion. The rate is set by institution policy or specified used to maintain an intravenous catheter patent.
via Hep Loc	Inject through heparin lock. A small indwelling intravenous cannula filled with a dilute heparin solution to maintain patency. After injection, the heparin lock needs to be flushed and refilled with a dilute heparin solution.
Ocul	eye
o.d.	right eye (the dexter eye) in the right eye
o.l., o.s.	left eye, (the sinister eye) in the left eye
o.u.	both eyes, in each eye
p.o., per os	by mouth, take orally
R, pro rect.	rectal
S.	left
SL	sublingual, Place under tongue and allow to dissolve
subq., s.c.	subcutaneously, inject below the skin
top	topically, apply locally to affected area
vag.	vaginally