Introduction

The Boulder Career and Technical Education Center Health Occupations Nursing Assistant Program prepares the student to perform the fundamental skills of the nurse aide. Basic nursing skills, communication skills, restorative services, personal care skills, safety and emergency care issues are covered. The curriculum includes knowledge and/or principles of asepsis, OSHA and HIPAA regulations. Ethical behaviors, cultural sensitivity and principles of mental health will be addressed, as well as patient/resident rights. The course provides theory and clinical practice of care of the elderly client, with emphasis on the special needs and problems of the client in a long-term care organization.

Students will learn how to form a relationship, and communicate and interact competently on a one-to-one basis with patients/residents. They will establish beginning competency in the provision of patient care by demonstrating sensitivity to residents’/patients’ emotional, social and mental health needs, assisting residents/patients in attaining and maintaining independence. As a nursing assistant they will exhibit behaviors that supports and promotes residents’/patients’ rights, and establish observational and documentation skills needed in the promotion of residents’/patients’ health, physical condition and well-being.

The student will also gain knowledge in leadership development, motivation, and recognition by participating in the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Organization. HOSA is the largest student organization that prepares students to enter the health care field.
# Nursing Assistant Overview

## Course Description

Boulder CTEC’s Nursing Assistant program is designed to function in a traditional nurse aide role in a nursing center such as hospitals and long-term care facilities. Boulder CTEC believes that a legal and ethical necessity exists to provide students with the necessary education and training for safe effective and sensitive functioning within the health care industry. Our focus is nursing assistant skills and functions, safety, and psychosocial approach to resident and patient care.

## Topics at a Glance

- Membership in the Health Occupations Student Organization (HOSA)
- Law and Ethics
- Communication and Interpersonal Skills
- Client Rights
- Personal Care
- Infection Control
- Basic Nursing Skills
- Basic Restorative Services
- Psychosocial and mental Health Needs
- Safety and Emergency

## Assessments

- Formative
- Summative
- Professionalism
- Participation
- Clinical Skills Evaluation

Companies throughout Boulder County use desktop publishing software to create various documents and multimedia. Even for students not employed directly in desktop publishing field, these skills make students incredibly valuable assets to any employer.
Prepared Graduates

The preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

1. CTE Essential Skills: Academic Foundations

ESSK.01: Achieve additional academic knowledge and skills required to pursue the full range of career and postsecondary education opportunities within a career cluster.

Prepared Graduate Competencies in the CTE Essential Skills standard:

- Complete required training, education, and certification to prepare for employment in a particular career field
- Demonstrate language arts, mathematics, and scientific knowledge and skills required to pursue the full range of post-secondary and career opportunities

2. CTE Essential Skills: Communications Standards

ESSK.02: Use oral and written communication skills in creating, expressing, and interrupting information and ideas, including technical terminology and information

Prepared Graduate Competencies in the CTE Essential Skills standard:

- Select and employ appropriate reading and communication strategies to learn and use technical concepts and vocabulary in practice
- Demonstrate use of concepts, strategies, and systems for obtaining and conveying ideas and information to enhance communication in the workplace

3. CTE Essential Skills: Problem Solving and Critical Thinking

ESSK.03: Solve problems using critical thinking skills (analyze, synthesize, and evaluate) independently and in teams using creativity and innovation.
Prepared Graduate Competencies in the CTE Essential Skills standard:

- Employ critical thinking skills independently and in teams to solve problems and make decisions
- Employ critical thinking and interpersonal skills to resolve conflicts with staff and/or customers
- Conduct technical research to gather information necessary for decision-making

4. CTE Essential Skills: Safety, Health, and Environmental

ESSK.06: Understand the importance of health, safety, and environmental management systems in organizations and their importance to organizational performance and regulatory compliance

Prepared Graduate Competencies in the CTE Essential Skills standard:

- Implement personal and jobsite safety rules and regulations to maintain safe and helpful working conditions and environment
- Complete work tasks in accordance with employee rights and responsibilities and employers obligations to maintain workplace safety and health

5. CTE Essential Skills: Leadership and Teamwork

ESSK.07: Use leadership and teamwork skills in collaborating with others to accomplish organizational goals and objectives

Prepared Graduate Competencies in the CTE Essential Skills standard:

- Employ leadership skills to accomplish organizational skills and objectives
6. CTE Essential Skills: Employability and Career Development

ESSK.09: Know and understand the importance of employability skills; explore, plan, and effectively manage careers; know and understand the importance of entrepreneurship skills

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prepared Graduate Competencies in the CTE Essential Skills standard:</th>
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<tr>
<td>➢ Identify and demonstrate positive work behaviors and personal qualities needed to be employable</td>
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<tr>
<td>➢ Develop skills related to seeking and applying for employment to find and obtain a desired job</td>
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COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION TECHNICAL STANDARDS REVISION & ACADEMIC ALIGNMENT PROCESS

Colorado’s 21st Century Career & Technical Education Programs have evolved beyond the historic perception of vocational education. They are Colorado’s best kept secret for:

• Relevant & rigorous learning
• Raising achievement among all students
• Strengthening Colorado’s workforce & economy

Colorado Career & Technical Education serves more than 116,000 Colorado secondary students annually through 1,200 programs in 160 school districts, 270 High Schools, 8 Technical Centers, 16 Community Colleges & 3 Technical Colleges. One of every three Colorado high school students gains valuable experiences by their enrollment in these programs.

ALIGNMENT REQUIRED BY SB 08-212

22-7-1005. Preschool through elementary and secondary education - aligned standards - adoption - revisions.

2(b): In developing the preschool through elementary and secondary education standards, the State Board shall also take into account any Career & Technical Education standards adopted by the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education, created in Section 23-60-104, C.R.S., and, to the extent practicable, shall align the appropriate portions of the preschool through elementary and secondary education standards with the Career and Technical standards.

STANDARDS REVIEW AND ALIGNMENT PROCESS

Beginning in the fall of 2008, the Colorado Community College System conducted an intensive standards review and alignment process that involved:

NATIONAL BENCHMARK REVIEW

Colorado Career & Technical Education recently adopted the Career Cluster and Pathway Model endorsed by the United State Department of Education, Division of Adult and Technical Education. This model provided access to a national set of business and industry validated knowledge and skill statements for 16 of the 17 cluster areas. California and Ohio provided the comparative standards for the Energy cluster.

• Based on this review Colorado CTE has moved from program-specific to Cluster & Pathway based standards and outcomes
• In addition, we arrived at fewer, higher, clearer and more transferrable standards, expectations and outcomes.

COLORADO CONTENT TEAMS REVIEW

The review, benchmarking and adjusting of the Colorado Cluster and Pathway standards, expectations and outcomes was through the dedicated work of Content Teams comprised of secondary and postsecondary faculty from across the state. Participation by instructors from each
level ensured competency alignment between secondary and postsecondary programs. These individuals also proposed the draft academic alignments for math, science reading, writing and communication, social studies (including Personal Financial Literacy) and post secondary and workforce readiness (PWR.)
ACADEMIC ALIGNMENT REVIEW

In order to validate the alignment of the academic standards to the Career & Technical Education standards, subject matter experts in math, science, reading, writing and communication, and social studies were partnered with career & technical educators to determine if and when a true alignment existed.

CURRENT STATUS

• One set of aligned Essential skills to drive Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness inclusion in all Career & Technical Education programs.

• 52 pathways with validated academic alignments

• 12 pathways with revised standards ready for alignment (currently there are no approved programs in these pathways)

• 21 pathways where no secondary programming currently exists. Standards and alignments will be developed as programs emerge.

• Available for review at: www.coloradostateplan.com/content_standards.htm
Colorado Career & Technical Education Standards Academic Alignment Reference System

The Career & Technical Education standards have been organized by Career Cluster (17) and Pathway (81). In addition, a set of “Essential Skills” was developed to ensure the Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness within any cluster or pathway. These workforce readiness skills are applicable to all career clusters and should form the basis of each CTE program.

Organization

Essential Skills
There exists a common set of knowledge and skills that are applicable to all students regardless of which cluster or pathway they choose. This set of standards, is meant for inclusion in each program to enhance the development of postsecondary and workforce readiness skills.

Career Cluster
A Career Cluster is a grouping of occupations and broad industries based on commonalities. The 17 Career Clusters organize academic and occupational knowledge and skills into a coherent course sequence and identify pathways from secondary schools to two- and four-year colleges, graduate schools, and the workplace. Students learn in school about what they can do in the future. This connection to future goals motivates students to work harder and enroll in more rigorous courses.

Career Pathway
Pathways are sub-groupings of occupations/career specialties used as an organizing tool for curriculum design and instruction. Occupations/career specialties are grouped into Pathways based on the fact that they require a set of common knowledge and skills for career success.

Prepared Completer Competency
This level targets the “big ideas” in each pathway. These are the competencies that all students who complete a CTE pathway must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting. Prepared Completer Competencies will not usually be “course” specific but grow with the student’s progression through the sequence of courses.

Concept/Skill
The articulation of the concepts and skills that indicates a student is making progress toward being a prepared completer. They answer the question: What do students need to know and be able to do?

Evidence Outcome
The indication that a student is meeting an expectation at the mastery level. How do we know that a student can do it?
Academic Alignments

Academic alignments, where appropriate in Math, Reading, Writing and Communication, Science and Social Studies (including Personal Financial Literacy) were defined by CTE and academic subject matter experts using the following criteria:

- It was a point where technical and academic content naturally collided;
- The student must demonstrate adequate proficiency with the academic standard to perform the technical skill; and
- It could be assessed for both academic and technical understanding.

Colorado’s CTE programs have had academic alignments dating back to the early 1990’s. While these alignments resulted in an increase in academic focus in CTE programs, the reality is that a true transformation in intentional teaching toward the academic standard was limited.

With these alignments comes a new expectation: If a CTE instructor is teaching a CTE concept that has an identified alignment, they must also be intentional about their instruction of the academic standard. CCCS will be providing professional development and instructional resources to assist with the successful implementation of this new expectation. In addition, this expanded expectation will require increased collaboration between CTE and academic instructors to transform teaching and learning throughout each school.

For each set of Cluster and Pathway standards, the academic alignments have been included and are separated by academic area. CCCS chose to align at the “Evidence Outcome” level. The aligned academic evidence outcome follows the CTE evidence outcome to which it has been aligned. For a sample, see Illustration A.
AGBS.01 The student will describe agribusinesses, the relationship of agribusiness to the industry of agriculture and will identify opportunities in the agribusiness systems pathway.

AGBS.01.a The student will understand the history and global significance of agribusinesses.

AGBS.01.a.b Define the major trends and relationship of agribusiness to global agriculture production.

MA1-GR HS-S.1-GLE.3-EO.a Reason quantitatively and use units to solve problems (CCSS: N-Q)

The academic standard number used in the alignments matches the Colorado Department of Education standards numbering convention.
### Career Pathway Abbreviations

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Nursing Assistant

PCSP.01 Use the technical knowledge skills required to pursue the targeted careers for all pathways in the career cluster, including knowledge of design, operation and maintenance of technological systems critical to the career cluster.

PCSP.01.01 Describe and apply technical knowledge and skills required to be successful in careers in the human services area.

PCSP.01.01.a Practice skills in a chosen career path to gain familiarity with technical processes.

PCSP.01.02 Select and use cost effective resources to assist with planning the delivery of human services.

PCSP.01.02.a Practice skills in a chosen career path to gain familiarity with technical processes.

PCSP.01.03 Describe and apply human development principles to enhance the well being of individuals served by the human services industry.

PCSP.01.03.a Demonstrate services that align with human development principles.

PCSP.01.04 Synthesize client and professional information to attract new clientele and retain present clientele.

PCSP.01.04.a Research/assess client records to determine trends.

PCSP.01.04.b Research current techniques and trends to determine applicability to business/organization.

PCSP.01.05 Employ administrative/clerical procedures and systems to provide client satisfaction.

PCSP.01.05.a Use software to create in - house documents and advertising materials.

PCSP.01.05.b Maintain current and accurate client records using office/records management systems.
PCSP.01.06 Select and apply various methods of obtaining feedback from clients and their families to understand their expectations and promote high quality standards.

PCSP.01.06.a Identify client/family needs through evaluation of information elicited through various methods.

PCSP.01.06.b Provide high-quality services and products.

PCSP.01.06.c Design alternative delivery of services to serve special needs clients.

PCSP.01.06.d Create a customer satisfaction survey to collect feedback on services provided.

PCSP.01.06.e Use a customer satisfaction survey to collect feedback on services provided.

PCSP.01.07 Employ techniques, principles, tools and instruments when developing efficient and safe delivery of client services to enhance client satisfaction.

PCSP.01.07.a Produce and use precision technical plans to develop delivery of client services.

PCSP.01.07.b Create and use drawings and models to develop delivery of client services.

ESSK.01 ACADEMIC FOUNDATIONS: Achieve additional academic knowledge and skills required to pursue the full range of career and postsecondary education opportunities within a career cluster.

ESSK.01.01 Complete required training, education, and certification to prepare for employment in a particular career field.

ESSK.01.01.a Identify training, education, and certification requirements for occupational choice.

ESSK.01.01.b Participate in career-related training and/or degree programs.

ESSK.01.01.c Pass certification tests to qualify for licensure and/or certification in chosen occupational area.

ESSK.01.02 Demonstrate language arts knowledge and skills required to pursue the full-range of post-secondary and career opportunities.

ESSK.01.02.a Model behaviors that demonstrate active listening.

ESSK.01.02.b Adapt language for audience, purpose, situation. (i.e. diction/structure, style).

ESSK.01.02.c Organize oral and written information.

ESSK.01.02.d Compose focused copy for a variety of written documents such as agendas, audio-visuals, bibliographies, drafts, forms/documents, notes, oral presentations, reports, and technical terminology.
ESSK.01.02.e  Edit copy to create focused written documents such as agendas, audiovisuals, bibliographies, drafts, forms/documents, notes, oral presentations, reports, and technical terminology.

ESSK.01.02.f  Comprehend key elements of oral and written information such as cause/effect, comparisons/contrasts, conclusions, context, purpose, charts/tables/graphs, evaluation/critiques, mood, persuasive text, sequence, summaries, and technical subject matter.

ESSK.01.02.g  Evaluate oral and written information for accuracy, adequacy/sufficiency, appropriateness, clarity, conclusions/solutions, fact/opinion, propaganda, relevancy, validity, and relationship of ideas.

ESSK.01.02.h  Identify assumptions, purpose, outcomes/solutions, and propaganda techniques.

ESSK.01.02.i  Predict potential outcomes and/or solutions based on oral and written information regarding trends.

ESSK.01.02.j  Present formal and informal speeches including discussion, information requests, interpretation, and persuasive arguments.

ESSK.01.03  Demonstrate mathematics knowledge and skills required to pursue the full range of postsecondary education and career opportunities.

ESSK.01.03.a  Identify whole numbers, decimals, and fractions.

ESSK.01.03.b  Demonstrate knowledge of basic arithmetic operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

ESSK.01.03.c  Demonstrate use of relational expressions such as equal to, not equal, greater than, less than, etc.

ESSK.01.03.d  Apply data and measurements to solve a problem.

ESSK.01.03.e  Analyze Mathematical problem statements for missing and/or irrelevant data.

ESSK.01.03.f  Construct charts/tables/graphs from functions and data.

ESSK.01.03.g  Analyze data when interpreting operational documents.

ESSK.01.04  Demonstrate science knowledge and skills required to pursue the full range of postsecondary and career education opportunities.

ESSK.01.04.a  Evaluate scientific constructs including conclusions, conflicting data, controls, data, inferences, limitations, questions, sources of errors, and variables.

ESSK.01.04.b  Apply scientific methods in qualitative and quantitative analysis, data gathering, direct and indirect observation, predictions, and problem identification.
ESSK.02 Communications: Use oral and written communication skills in creating, expressing, and interpreting information and ideas including technical terminology and information.

ESSK.02.01 Select and employ appropriate reading and communication strategies to learn and use technical concepts and vocabulary in practice.

ESSK.02.01.a Determine the most appropriate reading strategy for identifying the overarching purpose of a text (i.e. skimming, reading for detail, reading for meaning or critical analysis).

ESSK.02.01.b Demonstrate use of content, technical concepts and vocabulary when analyzing information and following directions.

ESSK.02.01.c Select the reading strategy or strategies needed to fully comprehend the content within a written document (i.e., skimming, reading for detail, reading for meaning or critical analysis).

ESSK.02.01.d Interpret information, data, and observations to apply information learned from reading to actual practice.

ESSK.02.01.e Transcribe information, data, and observations to apply information learned from reading to actual practice.

ESSK.02.01.f Communicate information, data, and observations to apply information learned from reading to actual practice.

ESSK.02.02 Demonstrate use of the concepts, strategies, and systems for obtaining and conveying ideas and information to enhance communication in the workplace.

ESSK.02.02.a Employ verbal skills when obtaining and conveying information.

ESSK.02.02.b Record information needed to present a report on a given topic or problem.

ESSK.02.02.c Write internal and external business correspondence that conveys and/or obtains information effectively.

ESSK.02.02.d Communicate with other employees to clarify workplace objectives.

ESSK.02.02.e Communicate effectively with customers and employees to foster positive relationships.

ESSK.02.03 Locate, organize and reference written information from various sources to communicate with coworkers and clients/participants.

ESSK.02.03.a Locate written information used to communicate with co-workers and customers.

ESSK.02.03.b Organize information to use in written and oral communications.

ESSK.02.03.c Reference the sources of information.
ESSK.02.04  Evaluate and use information resources to accomplish specific occupational tasks.

- ESSK.02.04.a Use informational texts, Internet web sites, and/or technical materials to review and apply information sources for occupational tasks.
- ESSK.02.04.b Evaluate the reliability of information from informational texts, Internet Websites, and/or technical materials and resources.

ESSK.02.05  Use correct grammar, punctuation, and terminology to write and edit documents.

- ESSK.02.05.a Compose multi-paragraph documents clearly, succinctly, and accurately.
- ESSK.02.05.b Use descriptions of audience and purpose when preparing and editing written documents.
- ESSK.02.05.c Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization when preparing written documents.

ESSK.02.06  Develop and deliver formal and informal presentations using appropriate media to engage and inform audiences.

- ESSK.02.06.a Prepare oral presentations to provide information for specific purposes and audiences.
- ESSK.02.06.b Identify support materials that will enhance an oral presentation.
- ESSK.02.06.c Prepare support materials that will enhance an oral presentation.
- ESSK.02.06.d Deliver an oral presentation that sustains listeners' attention and interest.
- ESSK.02.06.e Align presentation strategies to the intended audience.
- ESSK.02.06.f Implement multi-media strategies for presentations.

ESSK.02.07  Interpret verbal and nonverbal cues/behaviors to enhance communication with co-workers and clients/participants.

- ESSK.02.07.a Interpret verbal behaviors when communicating with clients and coworkers.
- ESSK.02.07.b Interpret nonverbal behaviors when communicating with clients and coworkers.

ESSK.02.08  Apply active listening skills to obtain and clarify information.

- ESSK.02.08.a Interpret a given verbal message/information.
- ESSK.02.08.b Respond with restatement and clarification techniques to clarify information.
ESSK.02.09  Develop and interpret tables, charts, and figures to support written and oral communications.

ESSK.02.09.a  Create tables, charts, and figures to support written and oral communications.

ESSK.02.09.b  Interpret tables, charts, and figures used to support written and oral communication.

ESSK.02.10  Listen to and speak with diverse individuals to enhance communication skills.

ESSK.02.10.a  Apply factors and strategies for communicating with a diverse workforce.

ESSK.02.10.b  Demonstrate ability to communicate and resolve conflicts within a diverse workforce.

ESSK.02.11  Exhibit public relations skills to increase internal and external customer/client satisfaction.

ESSK.02.11.a  Communicate effectively when developing positive customer/client relationships.

ESSK.03  Problem Solving and Critical Thinking: Solve problems using critical thinking skills (analyze, synthesize, and evaluate) independently and in teams. Solve problems using creativity and innovation.

ESSK.03.01  Employ critical thinking skills independently and in teams to solve problems and make decisions (e.g., analyze, synthesize and evaluate).

ESSK.03.01.a  Identify common tasks that require employees to use problem-solving skills.

ESSK.03.01.b  Analyze elements of a problem to develop creative solutions.

ESSK.03.01.c  Describe the value of using problem-solving and critical thinking skills to improve a situation or process.

ESSK.03.01.d  Create ideas, proposals, and solutions to problems.

ESSK.03.01.e  Evaluate ideas, proposals, and solutions to problems.

ESSK.03.01.f  Use structured problem-solving methods when developing proposals and solutions.

ESSK.03.01.g  Generate new and creative ideas to solve problems by brainstorming possible solutions.

ESSK.03.01.h  Critically analyze information to determine value to the problem-solving task.

ESSK.03.01.i  Guide individuals through the process of recognizing concerns and making informed decisions.
Identify alternatives using a variety of problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Evaluate alternatives using a variety of problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Employ critical thinking and interpersonal skills to resolve conflicts with staff and/or customers.

- Analyze situations and behaviors that affect conflict management.
- Determine best options/outcomes for conflict resolution using critical thinking skills.
- Identify with others’ feelings, needs, and concerns.
- Implement stress management techniques.
- Resolve conflicts with/for customers using conflict resolution skills.
- Implement conflict resolution skills to address staff issues/problems.

Identify, write and monitor workplace performance goals to guide progress in assigned areas of responsibility and accountability.

- Write realistic performance goals, objectives and action plans.
- Monitor performance goals and adjust as necessary.
- Recognize goal achievement using appropriate rewards in the workplace.
- Communicate goal achievement with managers and co-workers.

Conduct technical research to gather information necessary for decision-making.

- Align the information gathered to the needs of the audience.
- Gather technical information and data using a variety of resources.
- Analyze information and data for value to the research objectives.
- Evaluate information and data to determine value to research objectives.

Information Technology Applications: Use information technology tools specific to the career cluster to access, manage, integrate, and create information.

Use Personal Information Management (PIM) applications to increase workplace efficiency.

- Manage personal schedules and contact information.
ESSK.04.01.b Create memos and notes.

ESSK.04.02 Employ technological tools to expedite workflow.
   ESSK.04.02.a Use information technology tools to manage and perform work responsibilities.

ESSK.04.03 Operate electronic mail applications to communicate within a workplace.
   ESSK.04.03.a Use email to share files and documents.
   ESSK.04.03.b Identify the functions and purpose of email systems.
   ESSK.04.03.c Use email to communicate within and across organizations.

ESSK.04.04 Operate Internet applications to perform workplace tasks.
   ESSK.04.04.a Access and navigate Internet (e.g., use a web browser).
   ESSK.04.04.b Search for information and resources.
   ESSK.04.04.c Evaluate Internet resources for reliability and validity.

ESSK.04.05 Operate writing and publishing applications to prepare business communications.
   ESSK.04.05.a Prepare simple documents and other business communications.
   ESSK.04.05.b Prepare reports and other business communications by integrating graphics and other non-text elements.
   ESSK.04.05.c Prepare complex multi-media publications.

ESSK.04.06 Operate presentation applications to prepare presentations.
   ESSK.04.06.a Prepare presentations for training, sales and information sharing.
   ESSK.04.06.b Deliver presentations with supporting materials.

ESSK.04.07 Employ spreadsheet applications to organize and manipulate data.
   ESSK.04.07.a Create a spreadsheet.
   ESSK.04.07.b Perform calculations and analyses on data using a spreadsheet.

ESSK.04.08 Employ database applications to manage data.
   ESSK.04.08.a Manipulate data elements.
   ESSK.04.08.b Manage interrelated data elements.
   ESSK.04.08.c Analyze interrelated data elements.
ESSK.04.08.d Generate reports showing interrelated data elements.

ESSK.04.09 Employ collaborative/groupware applications to facilitate group work.

ESSK.04.09.a Facilitate group work through management of shared schedule and contact information.

ESSK.04.09.b Facilitate group work through management of shared files and online information.

ESSK.04.09.c Facilitate group work through instant messaging or virtual meetings.

ESSK.04.10 Employ computer operations applications to manage work tasks.

ESSK.04.10.a Manage computer operations.

ESSK.04.10.b Manage file storage.

ESSK.04.10.c Compress or alter files.

ESSK.04.11 Use computer-based equipment (containing embedded computers or processors) to control devices.

ESSK.04.11.a Operate computer-driven equipment and machines.

ESSK.04.11.b Use installation and operation manuals.

ESSK.04.11.c Troubleshoot computer driven equipment and machines.

ESSK.04.11.d Access support as needed to maintain operation of computer driven equipment and machines.

ESSK.05 SYSTEMS: Understand roles within teams, work units, departments, organizations, interorganizational systems, and the larger environment. Identify how key organizational systems affect organizational performance and the quality of products and services. Understand global context of industries and careers.

ESSK.05.01 Describe the nature and types of business organizations to build an understanding of the scope of organizations.

ESSK.05.01.a List the types and functions of businesses.

ESSK.05.01.b Describe the types and functions of businesses.

ESSK.05.01.c Explain the functions and interactions of common departments within a business.

ESSK.05.02 Implement quality control systems and practices to ensure quality products and services.

ESSK.05.02.a Describe quality control standards and practices common to the workplace.
ESSK.06 SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL: Understand the importance of health, safety, and environmental management systems in organizations and their importance to organizational performance and regulatory compliance. Follow organizational policies and procedure.

ESSK.06.01 Implement personal and jobsite safety rules and regulations to maintain safe and healthful working conditions and environments.

ESSK.06.01.a Assess workplace conditions with regard to safety and health.

ESSK.06.01.b Align safety issues with appropriate safety standards to ensure a safe workplace/jobsite.

ESSK.06.01.c Identify safety hazards common to workplaces.

ESSK.06.01.d Identify safety precautions to maintain a safe worksite.

ESSK.06.01.e Select appropriate personal protective equipment as needed for a safe workplace/jobsite.

ESSK.06.01.f Inspect personal protective equipment commonly used for selected career pathway.

ESSK.06.01.g Use personal protective equipment according to manufacturer rules and regulations.

ESSK.06.01.h Employ a safety hierarchy and communication system within the workplace/jobsite.

ESSK.06.01.i Implement safety precautions to maintain a safe worksite.

ESSK.06.02 Complete work tasks in accordance with employee rights and responsibilities and employers obligations to maintain workplace safety and health.

ESSK.06.02.a Identify rules and laws designed to promote safety and health in the workplace.

ESSK.06.02.b State the rationale of rules and laws designed to promote safety and health.

ESSK.06.03 Employ emergency procedures as necessary to provide aid in workplace accidents.

ESSK.06.03.a Use knowledge of First Aid procedures as necessary.

ESSK.06.03.b Use knowledge of CPR procedures as necessary.

ESSK.06.03.c Use safety equipment as necessary.

ESSK.06.04 Employ knowledge of response techniques to create a disaster and/or emergency response plan.
**ESSK.06.04.a** Complete an assessment of an emergency and/or disaster situation.

**ESSK.06.04.b** Create an emergency and/or disaster plan.

**ESSK.07** LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK: Use leadership and teamwork skills in collaborating with others to accomplish organizational goals and objectives.

**ESSK.07.01** Employ leadership skills to accomplish organizational goals and objectives.

**ESSK.07.01.a** Analyze the various roles of leaders within organizations (e.g. contribute ideas; share in building an organization; act as role models to employees by adhering to company policies, procedures, and standards; promote the organization’s vision; and mentor

**ESSK.07.01.b** Exhibit traits such as empowerment, risk, communication, focusing on results, decision-making, problem solution, and investment in individuals when leading a group in solving a problem.

**ESSK.07.01.c** Exhibit traits such as compassion, service, listening, coaching, developing others, team development, and understanding and appreciating others when acting as a manager of others in the workplace.

**ESSK.07.01.d** Exhibit traits such as enthusiasm, creativity, conviction, mission, courage, concept, focus, principle-centered living, and change when interacting with others in general.

**ESSK.07.01.e** Consider issues related to self, team, community, diversity, environment, and global awareness when leading others.

**ESSK.07.01.f** Exhibit traits such as innovation, intuition, adaptation, life-long learning and coachability to develop leadership potential over time.

**ESSK.07.01.g** Analyze leadership in relation to trust, positive attitude, integrity, and willingness to accept key responsibilities in a work situation.

**ESSK.07.01.h** Describe observations of outstanding leaders using effective management styles.

**ESSK.07.01.i** Participate in civic and community leadership and teamwork opportunities to enhance skills.

**ESSK.07.02** Employ organizational and staff development skills to foster positive working relationships and accomplish organizational goals.

**ESSK.07.02.a** Implement organizational skills when facilitating others’ work efforts.

**ESSK.07.02.b** Explain how to manage a staff that satisfies work demands while adhering to budget constraints.

**ESSK.07.02.c** Describe how staff growth and development to increase productivity and employee satisfaction.
ESSK.07.02.d Organize team involvement within a group environment.

ESSK.07.02.e Work with others to develop and gain commitment to team goals.

ESSK.07.02.f Distribute responsibility and work load fairly.

ESSK.07.02.g Model leadership and teamwork qualities to aid in employee morale.

ESSK.07.02.h Identify best practices for successful team functioning.

ESSK.07.02.i Explain best practices for successful team functioning.

ESSK.07.03 Employ teamwork skills to achieve collective goals and use team members' talents effectively.

ESSK.07.03.a Work with others to achieve objectives in a timely manner.

ESSK.07.03.b Promote the full involvement and use of team members' individual talents and skills.

ESSK.07.03.c Employ conflict-management skills to facilitate solutions.

ESSK.07.03.d Demonstrate teamwork skills through working cooperatively with coworkers, supervisory staff, and others, both in and out of the organization, to achieve particular tasks.

ESSK.07.03.e Demonstrate teamwork processes that provide team building, consensus, continuous improvement, respect for the opinions of others, cooperation, adaptability, and conflict resolution.

ESSK.07.03.f Develop plans to improve team performance.

ESSK.07.03.g Demonstrate commitment to and a positive attitude toward team goals.

ESSK.07.03.h Take responsibility for shared group and individual work tasks.

ESSK.07.03.i Assist team members in completing their work.

ESSK.07.03.j Adapt effectively to changes in projects and work activities.

ESSK.07.03.k Negotiate effectively to arrive at decisions.

ESSK.07.04 Establish and maintain effective working relationships with all levels of personnel and other departments in order to accomplish objectives and tasks.

ESSK.07.04.a Build effective working relationships using interpersonal skills.

ESSK.07.04.b Use positive interpersonal skills to work cooperatively with coworkers representing different cultures, genders and backgrounds.

ESSK.07.04.c Manage personal skills to accomplish assignments.
ESSK.07.04.d  Treat people with respect.
ESSK.07.04.e  Provide constructive praise and criticism.
ESSK.07.04.f  Demonstrate sensitivity to and value for diversity.
ESSK.07.04.g  Manage stress and control emotions.

ESSK.07.05  Conduct and participate in meetings to accomplish work tasks.
ESSK.07.05.a  Develop meeting goals, objectives and agenda.
ESSK.07.05.b  Assign responsibilities for preparing materials and leading discussions.
ESSK.07.05.c  Prepare materials for leading discussion.
ESSK.07.05.d  Assemble and distribute meeting materials.
ESSK.07.05.e  Conduct meeting to achieve objectives within scheduled time.
ESSK.07.05.f  Demonstrate effective communication skills in meetings.
ESSK.07.05.g  Produce meeting minutes including decisions and next steps.
ESSK.07.05.h  Use parliamentary procedure, as needed, to conduct meetings.

ESSK.07.06  Employ mentoring skills to inspire and teach others.
ESSK.07.06.a  Use motivational techniques to enhance performance in others.
ESSK.07.06.b  Provide guidance to enhance performance in others.

ESSK.08  ETHICS AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES: Know and understand the importance of professional ethics and legal responsibilities.

ESSK.08.01  Apply ethical reasoning to a variety of workplace situations in order to make ethical decisions.
ESSK.08.01.a  Evaluate alternative responses to workplace situations based on legal responsibilities and employer policies.
ESSK.08.01.b  Evaluate alternative responses to workplace situations based on personal or professional ethical responsibilities.
ESSK.08.01.c  Identify personal and long-term workplace consequences of unethical or illegal behaviors.
ESSK.08.01.d  Explain personal and long-term workplace consequences of unethical or illegal behaviors.
ESSK.08.01.e  Determine the most appropriate response to workplace situations based on legal and ethical considerations.
ESSK.08.01.f Explain the most appropriate response to workplace situations based on legal and ethical considerations.

ESSK.08.02 Interpret and explain written organizational policies and procedures to help employees perform their jobs according to employer rules and expectations.

ESSK.08.02.a Locate information on organizational policies in handbooks and manuals.

ESSK.08.02.b Discuss how specific organizational policies and procedures influence a specific work situation.

ESSK.09 Employability and Career Development: Know and understand the importance of employability skills. Explore, plan, and effectively manage careers. Know and understand the importance of entrepreneurship skills.

ESSK.09.01 Identify and demonstrate positive work behaviors and personal qualities needed to be employable.

ESSK.09.01.a Demonstrate self-discipline, self-worth, positive attitude, and integrity in a work situation.

ESSK.09.01.b Demonstrate flexibility and willingness to learn new knowledge and skills.

ESSK.09.01.c Exhibit commitment to the organization.

ESSK.09.01.d Identify how work varies with regard to site, from indoor confined spaces to outdoor areas, including aerial space and a variety of climatic and physical conditions.

ESSK.09.01.e Apply communication strategies when adapting to a culturally diverse environment.

ESSK.09.01.f Manage resources in relation to the position (i.e. budget, supplies, computer, etc).

ESSK.09.01.g Identify positive work-qualities typically desired in each of the career cluster's pathways.

ESSK.09.01.h Manage work roles and responsibilities to balance them with other life roles and responsibilities.

ESSK.09.02 Develop a personal career plan to meet career goals and objectives.

ESSK.09.02.a Develop career goals and objectives as part of a plan for future career direction.

ESSK.09.02.b Develop strategies to reach career objectives.

ESSK.09.03 Demonstrate skills related to seeking and applying for employment to find and obtain a desired job.

ESSK.09.03.a Use multiple resources to locate job opportunities.
ESSK.09.03.b Prepare a résumé.
ESSK.09.03.c Prepare a letter of application.
ESSK.09.03.d Complete an employment application.
ESSK.09.03.e Interview for employment.
ESSK.09.03.f List the standards and qualifications that must be met in order to enter a given industry.
ESSK.09.03.g Employ critical thinking and decision-making skills to exhibit qualifications to a potential employer.

ESSK.09.04 Maintain a career portfolio to document knowledge, skills and experience in a career field.
ESSK.09.04.a Select educational and work history highlights to include in a career portfolio.
ESSK.09.04.b Produce a record of work experiences, licenses, certifications and products.
ESSK.09.04.c Organize electronic or physical portfolio for use in demonstrating knowledge, skills and experiences.

ESSK.09.05 Demonstrate skills in evaluating and comparing employment opportunities in order to accept employment positions that match career goals.
ESSK.09.05.a Compare employment opportunities to individual needs and career plan objectives.
ESSK.09.05.b Evaluate employment opportunities based upon individual needs and career plan objectives.
ESSK.09.05.c Demonstrate appropriate methods for accepting or rejecting employment offers.

ESSK.09.06 Identify and exhibit traits for retaining employment to maintain employment once secured.
ESSK.09.06.a Model behaviors that demonstrate reliability and dependability.
ESSK.09.06.b Maintain appropriate dress and behavior for the job to contribute to a safe and effective workplace/jobsite.
ESSK.09.06.c Complete required employment forms and documentation such as I-9 form, work visa, W-4 and licensures to meet employment requirements.
ESSK.09.06.d Summarize key activities necessary to retain a job in the industry.
ESSK.09.06.e Identify positive work behaviors and personal qualities necessary to retain
employment.

**ESSK.09.07** Identify and explore career opportunities in one or more career pathways to build an understanding of the opportunities available in the cluster.

**ESSK.09.07.a** Locate and identify career opportunities that appeal to personal career goals.

**ESSK.09.07.b** Match personal interest and aptitudes to selected careers.

**ESSK.09.08** Recognize and act upon requirements for career advancement to plan for continuing education and training.

**ESSK.09.08.a** Identify opportunities for career advancement.

**ESSK.09.08.b** Pursue education and training opportunities to acquire skills necessary for career advancement.

**ESSK.09.08.c** Examine the organization and structure of various segments of the industry to prepare for career advancement.

**ESSK.09.08.d** Research local and regional labor (workforce) market and job growth information to project potential for advancement.

**ESSK.09.08.e** Manage employment relations to make career advancements.

**ESSK.09.09** Continue professional development to keep current on relevant trends and information within the industry.

**ESSK.09.09.a** Use self assessment, organizational priorities, journals, Internet sites, professional associations, peers and other resources to develop goals that address training, education and selfimprovement issues.

**ESSK.09.09.b** Read trade magazines and journals, manufacturers’ catalogues, industry publications and Internet sites to keep current on industry trends.

**ESSK.09.09.c** Participate in relevant conferences, workshops, mentoring activities and in-service training to stay current with recent changes in the field.

**ESSK.09.10** Examine licensing, certification and credentialing requirements at the national, state and local levels to maintain compliance with industry requirements.

**ESSK.09.10.a** Examine continuing education requirements related to licensing, certification, and credentialing requirements at the local, state and national levels for chosen occupation.

**ESSK.09.10.b** Examine the procedures and paperwork involved in maintaining and updating licensure, certification and credentials for chosen occupation.

**ESSK.09.10.c** Align ongoing licensing, certification and credentialing requirements to career plans and goals.
Examine employment opportunities in entrepreneurship to consider entrepreneurship as an option for career planning.

ESSK09.11.a Describe the opportunities for entrepreneurship in a given industry.

Technical Skills: Use of technical knowledge and skills required to pursue careers in all career clusters, including knowledge of design, operation, and maintenance of technological systems critical to the career cluster.

ESSK.10.02 Employ planning and time management skills and tools to enhance results and complete work tasks.

ESSK.10.02.a Develop goals and objectives.

ESSK.10.02.b Prioritize tasks to be completed.

ESSK.10.02.c Develop timelines using time management knowledge and skills.

Independent Living: Know and understand the skills, rights, resources, and responsibilities required to live independently in society.

ESSK.11.03 Understand an individual’s rights in society.

ESSK.11.03.a Identify how to access Workmen’s Compensation for an injury that occurs on the job.

ESSK.11.03.b Demonstrate an understanding of the role of OSHA in workplace safety.

ESSK.11.03.g Demonstrate an understanding of how to handle workplace discrimination and sexual harassment on the job.

ESSK.11.04 Understand the responsibilities of citizenship.

ESSK.11.04.b Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of volunteerism and giving back to the community, on both the personal and corporate levels.

ESSK.11.04.c Explain the importance of health and wellness in an individual’s personal and employment environments.

Understand an individual’s rights in society.

ESSK.11.03.c Demonstrate an understanding of workers’ rights under the Fair Labor Standards Act.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>abdominal</td>
<td>Pertaining to the abd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>abdominal cavity</td>
<td>The superior portion of the abdominopelvic cavity. In an emergency situation this pain is usually acute. Requires immediate evaluation since there may be a need for surgery. Using ultrasound equipment to produce sound waves that create an image of the abdominal organs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abdominal pain</td>
<td>In an emergency situation this pain is usually acute. Requires immediate evaluation since there may be a need for surgery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abdominal ultrasonography</td>
<td>A ventral cavity consisting of the abdominal and pelvic cavities. It contains digestive, urinary, and reproductive organs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abdominopelvic cavity</td>
<td>A ventral cavity consisting of the abdominal and pelvic cavities. It contains digestive, urinary, and reproductive organs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abdominoplasty</td>
<td>Surgical repair of the abdomen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abduction</td>
<td>Directional term meaning to move away from the median or middle line of the body. The study and treatment of behaviors that are outside of normal and are detrimental to the person or society. These maladaptive behaviors range from occasional difficulty coping with stress, to bizarre actions and beliefs, to total withdrawal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Syndrome (AIDS)  opportunistic infections that occur in the final stages of infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). This virus attacks T4 lymphocytes and destroys them, which reduces the person's ability to fight infection.

acromegaly  Chronic disease of adults that results in an elongation and enlargement of the bones of the head and extremities. There can also be mood changes.

active acquired immunity  Immunity developing after direct exposure to a pathogen.

active exercises  Exercises that a patient performs without assistance.

active range of motion (AROM)  Range of motion for joints that a patient is able to perform without the assistance of someone else. Exercises in which the patient will work against an artificial resistance applied to a muscle, such as weight. Used to increase strength.

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activities of daily living (ADL)  The activities usually performed in the course of a normal day, such as eating, dressing, and washing.

acute care hospital  Hospitals that typically provide services to diagnose (laboratory, diagnostic imaging) and treat (surgery, medications, therapy) diseases for a short period of time. In addition, they usually provide emergency and obstetrical care. Also called general hospital.

acute glomerulonephritis (AGM)  A form of nephritis that usually follows a streptococcal infection of the upper respiratory tract.

acute illness  Illness that begins suddenly and does not last long.

acute myocardial infarction (AMI)  Occurs when a portion of the heart muscle dies due to the partial or complete closure of the coronary arteries. Also called a heart attack. Equipment used by the elderly that has been structure to aid them in mobility, eating, and managing the other activities of daily living. This equipment includes special walkers and spoons for the stroke patient.

addiction  Acquired dependence on a drug.

Addison's disease  Disease named for Thomas Addison, a British physician, that results from a deficiency in adrenocortical hormones. These may be an increased pigmentation of the skin, generalized weakness, and weight loss.

adduction  Directional term meaning to move toward the median or middle line of the body.

adductor longus  A leg muscle named for the direction the fibers pull. This muscle contracts to adduct or pull the leg in toward the midline.

adenocarcinoma  Malignant adenoma in a glandular organ.

adenoidectomy  Excision of the adenoids.

adenoiditis  Inflammation of the adenoid tissue.

adenoids  Another term for pharyngeal tonsils. The tonsils are a collection of lymphatic tissue found in the nasal-pharynx to combat microorganisms entering the body through the nose.

adenoma  Neoplasm or tumor of a gland.

adipectomy  Surgical removal of fat.

adipose tissue  A type of connective tissue. Also called fat. It stores energy and provides protective padding for underlying structures.
adrenal glands

A pair of glands in the endocrine system located just above each kidney. This gland is composed of two sections, the cortex and the medulla, that functions independently of each other. The cortex secretes steroids, such as aldosterone, cortisol, androgens, estrogens, and progesterins. The medulla secretes epinephrine and norepinephrine. The adrenal glands are regulated by adrenocorticotropic hormone, which is secreted by the pituitary gland.

adrenal medulla

The inner portion of the adrenal gland. It secretes epinephrine and norepinephrine.

adrenalectomy

Excision of the adrenal gland.

adrenaline

A hormone produced by the adrenal medulla. Also known as epinephrine. Some of its actions include increasing heart rate and force of contraction, bronchodilation, and relaxation of intestinal muscles.

adrenalitis

Inflammation of an adrenal gland.

adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH)

A hormone secreted by an anterior pituitary.

adrenomegaly

Enlarged adrenal gland.

adrenopathy

Adrenal gland disease.

adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)

Acute respiratory failure in adults characterized by tachypnea, dyspnea, cyanosis, tachycardia, and hypoxemia.

aerosol

Drugs inhaled directly into the nose and mouth.

afferent arteriole

Arteriole that carries blood into the glomerulus.

afferent neurons

Nerve that carries impulses to the brain and spinal cord from the skin and sense organs. Also called sensory neurons.

agglutinate

Clumping together to form small clusters. Platelets agglutinate to start the clotting process.

agglutination

Antigen-antibody reaction in which a solid antigen clumps together with a soluble antibody. Often used to refer to the process of clumping together of blood cells.

aging

Gradual progressive changes that relate to the passage of time. There is no standard by which everyone ages.

agranulocyte

Nongranular leukocyte. This is one of the two types of leukocytes found in plasma that are classified as either monocytes or lymphocytes.

aided exercises

Exercises in which the patient has assistance in performing the exercise from someone or something else.

AIDS related complex (ARC)

Early stage of AIDS.

air contrast barium enema

Using both barium and air to visualize the colon.

airway

Includes the mouth, pharynx, larynx, trachea, bronchi, and lungs. These must remain patent (open) for respiration to take place.

albino

A person not able to produce melanin. An albino person has white hair and skin and the pupils of the eye are red.

albumin

A protein that is normally found circulating in the bloodstream. It is abnormal for albumin to be in the urine.

aldosterone

A hormone produced by the adrenal cortex. It regulates the levels of sodium and potassium in the body and as a side-effect the volume of water lost in urine.
alimentary canal
Also known as the gastrointestinal system or digestive system. This system covers the area between the mouth and the anus and includes 30 feet of intestinal tubing. It has a wide range of functions. This system serves to store and digest food, absorb nutrients, and eliminate waste. The major organs of this system are the mouth, pharynx, esophagus, stomach, small intestine, colon, rectum, and anus.

allergen
Antigen capable of causing a hypersensitivity or allergy in the body.

allergic reaction
Can be life threatening if there is a severe drop in blood pressure and a swelling of the airway as a result of an allergy.

allergy
Hypersensitivity to a substance in the environment or a medication.

alopecia
Absence or loss of hair, especially of the head.
The tiny air sacs at the end of each bronchiole. The alveoli are surrounded by a capillary network. Gas exchange takes place as oxygen and carbon dioxide diffuse across the alveolar and capillary walls.

Alzheimer's disease
Chronic, organic mental disorder consisting of dementia that is more prevalent in adults between 40 and 60. Involves progressive disorientation, apathy, speech and gait disturbances, and loss of memory.

ambulatory
Able to walk

ambulatory care center
A facility that provides services that do not require overnight hospitalization. The services range from simple surgeries, to diagnostic testing, to therapy. Also called a surgical center or an outpatient clinic.

amenorrhea
Absence of menstruation, which can be the result of many factors, including pregnancy, menopause, and dieting.

American Sign Language (ASL)
Nonverbal method of communicating in which the hands and fingers are used to indicate words and concepts. Used by people who are deaf and speech-impaired.

amino acids
An organic substance found in plasma. It is used by cells to build proteins.

ammonia
A waste produced of cell metabolism found in plasma.

amnesia
Loss of memory in which people forget their identity as a result of a head injury or disorder, such as epilepsy, senility, and alcoholism. Can be either temporary or permanent.

amniocentesis
Puncturing of the amniotic sac using a needle and syringe for the purpose of withdrawing amniotic fluid for testing. Can assist in determining fetal maturity, development, and genetic disorders. The amniotic fluid in which the baby floats.

amnio
Discharge of amniotic fluid

amniolrolrhea
Procedure to view inside the amniotic sac.

amniotic fluid
The fluid inside the amniotic sac.

amniotomy
Incision into the amniotic sac.

amplification device
Used to increase certain sounds for hearing impaired person. Also known as hearing aid.

amputation
Partial or complete removal of a limb for a variety of reasons, including tumors, gangrene, intractable pain, crushing injury, or uncontrollable infection.

amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
Disease with muscular weakness and atrophy due to degeneration of motor neurons of the spinal cord. Also called Lou Gehrig's disease, after the New York Yankees' baseball player who died from the disease.
anacusis  Total absence of hearing; unable to perceive sound. Also called deafness.
anal sphincter  Ring of muscle that controls anal opening. Relieves pain without the loss of consciousness. May be either narcotic or nonnarcotic. Narcotic drugs are derived from the opium poppy and act on the brain to cause pain relief and drowsiness.
analgesia  Life threatening condition resulting from the ingestion of food or medications that produce a severe allergic response. There are circulatory and respiratory problems that occur, including respiratory distress, hypotension, edema, tachycardia, and convulsions.
anaphylactic shock  Severe reaction to an antigen.
anaphylaxis  Severe reaction to an antigen.
anastomosis  Creating a passageway or opening between two organs or vessels.
anatomical divisions  System that divides the abdomen into nine regions.
anatomical position  Used to describe the positions and relationships of a structure in the human body. For descriptive purposes the assumption is always that the person is in the anatomical position. The body is standing erect with the arms at the side of the body, the palms of the hands facing forward, and the eyes looking straight ahead. The legs are parallel with the feet and toes pointing forward.
Ancillary Report  Report in a patient's medical record from various treatments and therapies the patient has received such as rehabilitation, social services, respiratory therapy, or from the dietician.
androgen  A class of steroid hormones secreted by the adrenal cortex. These hormones, such as testosterone, produce a masculinizing effect.
anemia  Reduction in the number of red blood cells (RBC's) or amount of hemoglobin in the blood; results in less oxygen reaching the tissues.
anesthesia  Partial or complete loss of sensation with or without a loss of consciousness as a result of a drug, disease, or injury.
anesthesiologist  A physician who has a specialization in the practice of administering anesthetics.
Anesthesiologist's Report  A medical record document that relates the details regarding the drugs given to a patient and the patient's response to anesthesia and vital signs during surgery. Produces a lack of feeling that may be of local or general effect, depending on the type of administration.
anesthetic  aneurysm  Weakness in the wall of an artery that results in localized widening of the artery.
aneurysmectomy  Surgical removal of the sac of an aneurysm.
angina pectoris  Severe chest pain with a sensation of constriction around the heart. Caused by a deficiency of oxygen to the heart muscle.
angiocardiography  X-ray of the heart's blood vessels after injecting a radiopaque dye.
angiocardiitis  Inflammation of the heart and blood vessels.
angiogram  X-ray of a blood or lymphatic vessel that is taken in rapid sequence after injection of a radiopaque substance into the blood vessel.
angiography  Process of taking an X-ray of blood or lymphatic vessels after injection of a radiopaque substance.
angioma  Tumor, usually benign, consisting of blood vessels.
angioplasty  Surgical repair of blood vessels.
angioprrhaphy  Suturing a vessel.
angioscope  Instrument used to view inside a vessel.
angiospasm  Involuntary muscle contraction of a vessel.
angiostenosis  Narrowing of a vessel.
ankylosis  Stiffening of a joint due to a disease process. Joint may fuse with bony or fibrous tissue.
anorchism  Congenital absence of one or both testes.
anorexia  Loss of appetite that can accompany other conditions such as a gastrointestinal (GI) upset. A type of eating disorder characterized by severe disturbance in body image and marked refusal to eat.
anoxemia  Absence of oxygen in the blood.
anoxia  Lack of oxygen.
antacid  Neutralizes acid in the stomach.
anteflexion  While the uterus is normally in this position, an exaggeration of the forward bend of the uterus is abnormal. The forward bend is near the neck of the uterus. The position of the cervix, or opening of the uterus, remains normal.
antepartum  Before birth
anterior  Directional term meaning near or on the front or belly side of the body.

anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) reconstruction  Replacing a torn ACL with a graft by means of arthroscopy.
anterior love  The anterior portion of the pituitary gland. It secretes adrenocorticotropic hormone, follicle stimulating hormone, growth hormone, luteinizing hormone, melanocyte stimulating hormone prolactin, and thyroid stimulating hormone.
anteversion  tipped toward the sacrum and the fundus is tipped toward the pubis.
antianxiety  Relieves or reduces anxiety and muscle tension. Used to treat panic disorders, anxiety, and insomnia.
antiarhythmic  Controls cardiac arrhythmias by altering nerve impulses within the heart.
antibiotic  Destroys or prohibits the growth of microorganisms. Used to treat bacterial infections. Have not been found to be effective in treating viral infections. To be effective must be taken regularly for a specified period.

antibody  Protein material produced in the body as a response to the invasion of a foreign substance.
antibody-mediated immunity  The production of antibodies by B cells in response to an antigen. Also called humoral immunity.
anticholinergic  Blocks the function of the parasympathetic nervous system. Used to treat intestinal, bladder, and bronchial spasms.
anticoagulant  Substance that prevents or delays the clotting or coagulation of blood.
anticonvulsant  Prevents or relieves convulsions. Drugs such as phenobarbital reduce excessive stimulation in the brain to control seizures and other symptoms of epilepsy.
antidepressant  Prevents or relieves the symptoms of depression. Also used in the prevention of migraine headaches.
antidiabetic  Insulin drug that controls diabetes by regulating the level of glucose in the blood and the metabolism of carbohydrates and fat.
antidiarrheal  Prevents or relieves diarrhea.
antidiuretic  Any substance that reduces the volume of urine.
antidiuretic hormone (ADH)  
A hormone secreted by the posterior pituitary. It promotes water reabsorption by the kidney tubules.

antidote  
Substance that will neutralize poisons or their side effects.

antiemetic  
Controls nausea and vomiting.

antigen  
Substance that is capable of inducing the formation of an antibody. The antibody then interacts with the antigen in the antigen-antibody reaction.

antigen antibody reaction  
Combination of the antigen with its specific antibody to increase susceptibility to phagocytosis and immunity.

antihemorrhagic  
Substance that prevents or stops hemorrhaging.

antiemetic  
Controls nausea and vomiting.

antihistamine  
Acts to control allergic symptoms by counteracting histamine, which exists naturally in the body, and which is released in allergic reactions.

antihypertensive  
Prevents or controls high blood pressure. Some of these drugs act to block nerve impulses that cause arteries to constrict and thus increase the blood pressure. Other drugs slow the heart rate and decrease its force of the contraction. Still others may reduce the amount of the hormone aldosterone in the blood that is causing the blood pressure to rise.

anti-inflammatory  
Acts to counteract inflammation.

antipyretic  
Used to reduce fever.

antisocial personality  
A personality disorder in which the patient engages in behaviors that are illegal or outside of the social norms.

antitussive  
Controls or relieves coughing. Codeine is an ingredient in many prescription cough medicines that acts upon the brain to control coughing.

antrum  
The tapered distal end of the stomach.

anuria  
Complete suppression of urine formed by the kidneys and a complete lack of urine excretion.

anus  
The terminal opening in of the digestive tube.

anxiety  
A feeling of apprehension or worry.

aorta  
The largest artery in the body. It is located in the mediastinum and carries oxygenated blood away from the left side of the heart.

aortic  
Pertaining to the aorta.

aortic insufficiency (AI)  
Failure of the aortic valve to close completely, which allows blood to leak back into the left ventricle.

aortic stenosis  
Narrowing of the aorta.

aortic valve  
The semilunar valve between the left ventricle of the heart and the aorta in the heart. It prevents blood from flowing backwards into the ventricle.

aortogram  
X-ray record of the aorta after a radiopaque dye has been inserted.

aortography  
Process of taking an X-ray of the aorta after injection of a radiopaque material. Stands for anteroposterior; positioning the patient so that the X-rays pass through the body form the anterior side to the posterior side.

apex  
Directional term meaning tip or summit.

aphagia  
Not eating.

aphasia  
Inability to communicate through speech. Often an aftereffect of a stroke (CVA)

apnea  
The condition of not breathing.
apocrine gland
Type of sweat gland that open into hair follicles located in the pubic, anal, and mammary areas. These glands secrete a substance that can produce an odor when it comes into contact with bacteria on the skin causing what is commonly referred to as body odor.

appendectomy
Surgical removal of the appendix.

appendicitis
Inflammation of the appendix.

appendicular skeleton
The appendicular skeleton consists of the bones of the upper and lower extremities, shoulder, and pelvis.

appendix
A small outgrowth at the end of the cecum. Its function or purpose is unknown.

aquaous humor
A watery fluid filling the spaces between the cornea and lens.

arachnoid layer
The delicate middle layer of the meninges.

areola
The pigmented area around the nipple of the breast.

arrhythmia
Irregularity in the heartbeat or action.

arterial
Pertaining to the artery.

arterial blood gases (ABG)
Lab test that measures the amount of oxygen, carbon dioxide, and nitrogen in the blood, and the pH.

arterial embolism
Obstruction of an artery by a floating blood clot.

arteries
The blood vessels that carry blood away from the heart.

arteriography
Process of taking an X-ray of arteries after injection of a radiopaque dye.

arterioles
The smallest branches of the arteries. They carry blood to the capillaries.

arteriorrhesis
A ruptured artery.

arteriosclerosis
Condition with thickening, hardening, and loss of elasticity of the walls of the arteries.

arteriosclerotic heart disease (ASHD)
Chronic heart disorder caused by a hardening of the walls of the coronary arteries.

artery graft
Section of a blood vessel that is transplanted from one part of the body to another to repair a defect.

arthralgia
Pain in a joint

arthritis
Inflammation of a joint that is usually accompanied by pain and swelling. A chronic disease.

arthrocentesis
Removal of synovial fluid with a needle from a joint space, such as in the knee, for examination.

arthroclasia
Surgically breaking loose a stiffened joint.

arthrodesis
Surgical fusion or stiffening of a joint to provide stability. This is sometimes done to relieve the pain of arthritis.

arthrography
Visualization of a joint by radiographic study after injection of a contrast medium into the joint space.

arthroplasty
Surgical reconstruction of a joint.

arthroscopic surgery
Use of an arthroscope to facilitate performing surgery on a joint.

arthroscopy
Examination of the interior of a joint by entering the joint with an arthroscope. The arthroscope contains a small television camera that allows the physician to view the interior of the joint on a monitor during the procedure.

arthrotomy
Surgically cutting into a joint.

articulation
Another term for a joint, the point where two bones meet.

artificial pacemaker
Electrical device that substitutes for the natural pacemaker of the heart. It controls the beating of the heart by a series of rhythmic electrical impulses.

artificial ventilation
Forcing air or oxygen into the lungs when breathing has stopped or is inadequate.

ascending colon
The section of the colon following the cecum. It ascends the right side of the abdomen.
| **ascites** | Collection or accumulation of fluid in the peritoneal cavity. |
| **aspermia** | Lack of, or failure to ejaculate, sperm. |
| **asphyxia** | Lack of oxygen that can lead to unconsciousness and death if not corrected immediately. Some of the common causes are drowning, foreign body in the respiratory tract, poisoning, and electric shock. |
| **aspirator** | A surgical instrument used to suction fluids. |
| **assisted living** | Living arrangement in which the person may have his or her own apartment space but joins other residents for meals and other activities. |
| **asthenia** | Lack or loss of strength, causing extreme weakness. |
| **asthma** | Disease caused by various conditions, such as allergens, and resulting in constriction of the bronchial airways and labored respiration. Can cause violent spasms of the bronchi (bronchospasms) but is generally not a life threatening condition. Medication can be very effective. |
| **asthmatic attack** | Attack of difficulty in breathing (dyspnea) and wheezing due to bronchial constriction. |
| **astigmatism (astigm)** | A condition in which light rays are focused unevenly on the eye, which causes a distorted image due to an abnormal curvature of the cornea. |
| **astringent** | Substance that causes tissues to dry up and contract; also may be used to stop bleeding. |
| **astrocyte** | Star shaped cells found in the nervous system that surround and support the neurons. They perform important metabolic functions, but do not participate in conducting electrical impulses. |
| **astrocytoma** | Tumor of the brain or spinal cord that is composed of astrocytes. |
| **ataxia** | Having a lack of muscle coordination as a result of a disorder or disease. |
| **atelectasis** | Condition in which lung tissue collapses, which prevent the respiratory exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide. Can be caused by a variety of conditions, including pressure upon the lung from a tumor or other object. |
| **atherectomy** | Excision of fatty substance. |
| **atherosclerosis** | The most common form of arteriosclerosis. Caused by the formation of yellowish plaques of cholesterol buildup on the inner walls of the arteries. |
| **atria** | The two upper chambers of the heart. The left atrium receives blood returning from the lungs, and the right atrium receives blood returning from the body. |
| **atrial natriuretic hormone (ANF)** | Pertaining to the atrium. A hormone secreted by special cells in the heart’s atrial wall. This hormone stimulates the kidney tubules to secrete more sodium and in this way lose more water. |
| **atrioventricular defect** | Heart defect between the atrium and ventricle. |
| **atrioventricular node** | This area at the junction of the right atrium and ventricle receives the stimulus from the sinoatrial node and sends the impulse to the ventricles through the bundle of His. |
| **atrophic valve (AV)** | The heart valves located between an atria and a ventricle. Includes the tricuspid valve in the right side of the heart and the bicuspid or mitral valve in the left side of the heart. |
| **atrophy** | Lack or loss of normal development. |
| **attention deficit disorder** | A type of mental disorder diagnosed in childhood characterized by poor attention and inability to control behavior. The child may or may not be hyperactive. |
| **atypical** | Abnormal |
audiogram  Chart that shows the faintest sounds a patient can hear during audiometry testing.  Medical professional trained to perform hearing tests using equipment such as an audiometer, fit and test hearing aids, and provide auditory rehabilitation.

audiologist  Medical professional trained to perform hearing tests using equipment such as an audiometer, fit and test hearing aids, and provide auditory rehabilitation.

audiology  Study of hearing.

audiometer  Instrument to measure hearing.

audiometric test  Test of hearing ability by determining the lowest and highest intensity (decibels) and frequencies (hertz) that a person can distinguish. The patient may sit in a soundproof booth and receive sounds through earphones as the technician decreases the sound or lowers the tones.

audiometry  Process of measuring hearing.

audiometry  Process of measuring hearing.

auditory canal  The canal that leads from the external opening of the ear to the ear drum.

aural  Pertaining to the ear.

auricle  Also called the pinna. The external ear. It functions to capture sound waves as they go past the outer ear.

auscultation  Listening to the sounds within the body by using a stethoscope.

autism  A type of mental disorder diagnosed in childhood in which the child exhibits an extreme degree of withdrawal from all social contacts.

autohemotherapy  Using a person's own blood in a transfusion by withdrawing and injecting the blood intramuscularly.

autologous transfusion  Procedure for collecting and sorting a patient's own blood several weeks prior to the actual need. It can then be used to replace blood lost during a surgical procedure.

autonomic nervous system  The portion of the nervous system that consists of nerves to the internal organs that function involuntarily. It regulates the functions of glands (especially the salivary, gastric, and sweat glands), the adrenal medulla, heart, and smooth muscle tissue. This system is divided into two parts: sympathetic and parasympathetic.

axial skeleton  The axial skeleton includes the bones in the head, spine, chest, and trunk. Commonly referred to as the armpit. There is a collection of lymph nodes in this area that drains each arm.

axon  Single projection of a neuron that conducts impulse away from nerve cell body.

azoospermia  Absence of sperm in the semen. Common name for B-lymphocytes, responds to foreign antigens by producing protective antibodies.

B cells  The humoral immunity cells, which respond to foreign antigens by producing protective antibodies.

B lymphocytes  Simple referred to as B cells. Reflex test to determine lesions and abnormalities in the nervous system. This reflex is present if the great toe extends instead of flexes when the lateral sole of the foot is strokes. The normal response to this stimulation would be a flexion, or upward movement of the toe. Primitive, single celled microorganisms that are present everywhere. Some are capable of causing disease in humans.

bacterium  Single celled microorganisms. In the stomach, bacterium may cause peptic or stomach ulcers.

balanitis  Inflammation of the skin covering the glans penis.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>balanoplasty</td>
<td>Surgical repair of the glans penis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>balanorrhea</td>
<td>Discharge form the glans penis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ball and socket</td>
<td>A type of freely moving synovial joint. Two main examples in humans are the shoulder and hip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>joints.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>barium (Ba)</td>
<td>Soft metallic element form the earth used as a radiopaque X-ray dye.</td>
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<tr>
<td>barium enema (BE, lower GI series)</td>
<td>Radiographic examination of the small intestine, large intestine, or colon in which an enema</td>
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<td></td>
<td>containing barium is administered to the patient while the X-ray pictures are taken.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barium swallow (upper GI series)</td>
<td>A barium mixture swallowed while X-ray pictures are taken of the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum used to visualize the upper gastrointestinal tract (upper GI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bartholin’s glands</td>
<td>Glands located on either side of the vaginal opening that secrete mucus for vaginal lubrication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basal cell carcinoma</td>
<td>A frequent type of skin cancer that rarely metastasizes or spreads. These cancers can arise on sun exposed skin. The deepest layer of the epidermis. This living layer constantly multiplies and divides to supply cells to replace the cells that are sloughed off the skin’s surface.</td>
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<tr>
<td>basal layer</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>basal metabolic rate (BMR)</td>
<td>Somewhat outdated test to measure the energy used when the body is in a state of rest.</td>
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<tr>
<td>base</td>
<td>Directional term meaning bottom or lower part.</td>
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<tr>
<td>basic life support</td>
<td>Combination of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and emergency cardiac care to maintain respiration and circulation of a victim until victim is transported to a medical facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basophils</td>
<td>A granulocyte white blood cell that releases histamine and heparin in damaged tissues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bedside commode</td>
<td>Chair like portable toilet that can be placed at the side of the bed for people who have difficulty walking. One sided facial paralysis with an unknown cause. The person cannot control salivation, tearing of the eyes, or expression. The patient will eventually recover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bell’s palsy</td>
<td>A tumor that is not cancerous. A benign tumor is generally not progressive or recurring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>benign prostatic hypertrophy (BPH)</td>
<td>Enlargement of the prostate gland commonly seen in males over 50. An arm muscle named for the number of attachment points. Bi- means two and biceps have two heads attached to the bone. Premolar permanent teeth having two cusps or projections that assist in grinding food. Humans have eight bicusps. A valve between the left atrium and ventricle. It prevents blood from flowing backwards into the atrium. It has two cusps or flaps. It is also called the mitral valve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bile</td>
<td>Substance produced by the liver and stored in the gallbladder. It is added to the chyme in the duodenum and functions to emulsify fats so they can be digested and absorbed. Cholesterol is essential to bile production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>binocular</td>
<td>Pertaining to the eye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biopsy (BX, bx)</td>
<td>A piece of tissue is removed by syringe and needle, knife, punch, or brush to examine under a microscope. Used to aid in diagnosis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bipolar disorder</td>
<td>A mental disorder in which the patient has alternating periods of depression and mania.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bite or sting</td>
<td>Puncture wound of the skin made by humans, animals, insects, ticks, bees, hornets, or wasps. There is a danger of infection. An emergency situation arises if the person is allergic to venom in stings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
bite wing X-ray  
X-ray taken with part of the film holder held between the teeth, and the film held parallel to the teeth.

bladder neck obstruction  
Blockage of the bladder outlet into the urethra.

bleeding time  
Test to measure the amount of time needed for the blood to coagulate.

blepharitis  
Inflammatory condition of the eyelash follicles and glands of the eyelids that results in swelling, redness, and crusts of dried mucus on the lids. Can be the result of allergy or infection. In this condition the upper eyelid increases in size due to a loss of elasticity, which is followed by swelling and recurrent edema of the lids. The skin may droop over the edges of the eyes when the eyes are open.

blepharochalasis  
In this condition the upper eyelid increases in size due to a loss of elasticity, which is followed by swelling and recurrent edema of the lids. The skin may droop over the edges of the eyes when the eyes are open.

blepharoectomy  
Surgical repair of the eyelid.

blepharoptosis  
Drooping eyelid.

blood  
The major component of the hematic system. It consists of water plasma, red blood cells, and white blood cells.

blood pressure (BP)  
Measurement of the pressure that is exerted by blood against the walls of a blood vessel. Blood test to measure the level of substances such as calcium, electrolytes, testosterone, insulin, and glucose. Used to assist in determining the function of various endocrine glands. The blood of one person is different from another’s due to the presence of antigens on the surface of the erythrocytes. The major method of typing blood is the ABO system and includes types A, B, O, and AB. The other major method of typing blood is the Rh factor, consisting of the two types, Rh+ and Rh-. Blood test to measure kidney function by the level of nitrogenous waste, or urea that is in the blood.

blood serum test  
Blood test to measure the level of substances such as calcium, electrolytes, testosterone, insulin, and glucose. Used to assist in determining the function of various endocrine glands. The blood of one person is different from another’s due to the presence of antigens on the surface of the erythrocytes. The major method of typing blood is the ABO system and includes types A, B, O, and AB. The other major method of typing blood is the Rh factor, consisting of the two types, Rh+ and Rh-.

blood urea nitrogen (BUN)  
Blood test to measure kidney function by the level of nitrogenous waste, or urea that is in the blood.

blood vessels  
The closed system of tubes that conducts blood throughout the body. It consists of arteries, veins, and capillaries.

body  
The main portion of the stomach.

body mechanics  
Use of good posture and position while performing activities of daily living to prevent injury and stress on body parts.

boil  
Acute inflammation of subcutaneous layer of skin, gland, or hair follicle. Also called a furuncle.

bolus  
Chewed up morsel of food ready to be swallowed.

bone  
A type of connective tissue and an organ of the musculoskeletal system. They provide support for the body and serve as sites of muscle attachments. Piece of bone taken from the patient and used to replace a removed bone or a bony defect at another site. Removing a sample of bone marrow by syringe for microscopic examination. Useful for diagnosing such diseases as leukemia. For example, a proliferation (massive increase) of white blood cells could confirm the diagnosis of acute leukemia. Removal of a small amount of bone marrow for microscopic examination to determine the presence of malignant tumor cells.

bone scan  
Patient is given a radioactive dye and then scanning equipment is used to visualize bones. It is especially used in observing the progress of treatment for osteomyelitis and cancer metastases to the
Bowman’s capsule

Bone. Also called the glomerular capsule. Part of the renal corpuscle. It is a double walled cuplike structure that encircles the glomerulus. In the filtration stage of urine production, waste products filtered from the blood enter Bowman’s capsule as the glomerular filtrate.

Bradycardia

Abnormally slow heart rate, below 60 bpm.

Bradykinesia

Slow movement, commonly seen with the rigidity of Parkinson’s disease.

Bradypepsia

Slow digestion rate.

Brain

The brain is one of the largest organs in the body and coordinates most body activities. It is the center for all thought, memory, judgment, and emotion. Each part of the brain is responsible for controlling different body functions, such as temperature regulation and breathing. The four sections to the brain are the cerebrum, cerebellum, diencephalon, and brain stem.

Brain scan

Injection of radioactive isotopes into the circulation to determine the function and abnormality of the brain. This area of the brain has three components: medulla oblongata, pons, and the midbrain. The brain stem is a pathway for impulses to be conducted between the brain and the spinal cord. It also contains the centers that control respiration, heart rate, and blood pressure. In addition, the twelve pairs of cranial nerves begin in the brain stem.

Brain tumor

Intracranial mass, either benign or malignant. A benign tumor of the brain can be fatal since it will grow and cause pressure on normal brain tissue. The most malignant brain tumors in children are gliomas. The name a pharmaceutical company chooses as the trademark or market name for its drug. Also called proprietary or trade name.

Breast

Milk producing glands to provide nutrition for newborn. Also called mammary glands.

Breech presentation

Placement of the fetus in which the buttocks or feet are presented first for delivery rather than the head.

Bridge

Dental appliance that is attached to adjacent teeth for support to replace missing teeth.

Broad spectrum

Ability of a drug to be effective against a wide range of microorganisms.

Bronchi

The plural of bronchus.

Bronchial tree

Term referring to the branched bronchial tube system throughout the lungs.

Bronchial tubes

An organ of the respiratory system that carries air into each lung. Results from a dilation of a bronchus or the bronchi that can be the result of infection. This abnormal stretching can be irreversible and result in destruction of the bronchial walls. The major symptom is a large amount of purulent sputum. Rales and hemoptysis may be present.

Bronchioles

The narrowest air tubes in the lungs. Each bronchiole terminates in tiny air sacs called alveoli.

Bronchitis

An acute or chronic inflammation of the lower respiratory tract that often occurs after other childhood infections such as measles.

Bronchodilator

Dilates or opens the bronchi to improve breathing.

Bronchogenic carcinoma

Malignant lung tumor that originates in the bronchi. Usually associated with a history of cigarette smoking.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bronchogram</td>
<td>An X-ray record of the lungs and bronchial tubes. Process of taking an X-ray of the lung after a radiopaque substance has been placed into the trachea or bronchial tree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bronchography</td>
<td>Surgical repair of a bronchial defect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bronchoplasty</td>
<td>An instrument to view inside a bronchus. Using the bronchoscope to visualize the bronchi. The instrument can also be used to obtain tissue for biopsy and to remove foreign objects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bronchospasm</td>
<td>Surgical incision of a broncus, larynx, or trachea. Each main bronchus is subdivided into smaller branches. The smallest bronchi are the bronchioles. Each bronchiole ends in tiny air sacs called alveoli.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bronchotomy</td>
<td>Term used interchangeably with the word murmur. A gentle, blowing sound that is heard during auscultation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bronchus</td>
<td>Drugs that are placed under the lip or between the cheek and gum. Also called Cowper's gland. These two small male reproductive system glands are located either side of the urethra just distal to the prostate. The secretion from these glands neutralizes the acidity in the urethra and the vagina.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bulit</td>
<td>Eating disorder that is characterized by recurrent binge eating and then purging of the food with laxatives and vomiting. The bundle of His is located in the interventricular septum. It receives the electrical impulse from the atrioventricular node and distributes it through the ventricular walls causing them to contract simultaneously.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>buccal</td>
<td>Inflammation of the bursa of the great toe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bulbourethral gland</td>
<td>Removal of the bursa at the joint of the great toe. Tumor of the lymph tissue that involves sites other than lymph nodes. Commonly found in the jaw and more common in Central Africa. A full thickness burn exists when all the layers are burned; also called a third degree burn. A partial thickness burn exists when the first layer of the skin, the epidermis is burned, and the second layer of skin, dermis, is damaged; also called a second degree burn. A saclike connective tissue structure found in some joints. It protects moving parts from friction. Some common bursa locations are the elbow, knee, and shoulder joints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bundle of His</td>
<td>A stone in a bursa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bursa</td>
<td>A hormone secreted by the thyroid gland. It stimulates deposition of calcium into bone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bursis</td>
<td>An inorganic substance found in plasma. It is important for bones, muscles, and nerves. A stone formed within an organ by an accumulation of mineral salts. Found in the kidney, renal pelvis,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ureters, bladder, or urethra. Plural is calculi.

calyx  A duct that connects the renal papilla to the renal pelvis. Urine flows through the calyx and into the renal pelvis.

cancellous bone  The bony tissue found inside a bone.
cancer (Ca)  Malignant tumors are the leading cause of death in children between the ages of 3 and 15.
candidiasis  Yeast like infection of the skin and mucous membranes that can result in white plaques on the tongue and vagina.
canines  Also called the cuspid teeth or eyeteeth. Permanent teeth located between the incisors and the bicuspids that assist in biting and cutting food. Humans have four canine teeth.
capillaries  The smallest blood or lymphatic vessels.
carbonate  A waste product of cellular energy production. Inflammation and infection of the skin and hair follicle that may result from several untreated boils.
cardiocle  Instrument that uses electrodes placed externally over the heart to provide an electric shock for the purpose of converting an arrhythmia to normal sinus rhythm.
caries  Gradual decay and disintegration of teeth that can result in inflamed tissue and abscessed teeth.
carotid endarterectomy  Surgical procedure for removing an obstruction within the carotid artery, a major artery in the neck that carries oxygenated blood to the brain.
carpal tunnel release  Surgical cutting of the ligament in the wrist to relieve nerve pressure caused by carpal tunnel disease, which can be caused by repetitive motion such as typing.
carpal tunnel syndrome  A painful disorder of the wrist and hand, induced by compression of the median nerve as it passes under ligaments on the palm side of the wrist. Symptoms include weakness, pain, burning, tingling, and aching in the forearm, wrist, and hand.
carpals  The wrist bones in the upper extremity.
cartilage  Strong flexible connective tissue found in several location in the body, such as covering the ends of bones in a synovial joint, nasal septum, external ear, eustachian tube larynx, trachea, bronchi, and the intervertebral discs.
cartilaginous joint  A joint that allows slight movement but holds bones firmly in place by a solid piece of cartilage.
cartilaginous tissue  Strong but flexible connective tissue. Application of a solid material to immobilize an extremity or portion of the body as a result of a fracture, dislocation, or severe injury.
castration  Excision of the testicles in the male or the ovaries in the female.
cataract  Diminished vision resulting from the lens of the eye becoming opaque or cloudy.
cathartic  Causes bowel movements to occur.
catheterization  Insertion of a tube through the urethra and into the urinary bladder for the purpose of withdrawing urine or inserting dye.
caudal  Directional term meaning toward the feet or tail, or below.
cauterization  Destruction of tissue using an electric current, a caustic product, or a hot iron, or by freezing.
cecum  First portion of the colon. It is a blind pouch off the beginning of the large intestine.
celiac disease  The chronic inability to tolerate foods containing gluten (wheat).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>celiotomy</td>
<td>Incision into the abdomen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cell</td>
<td>The basic unit of all living things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cell body</td>
<td>The portion of the nerve cell that includes the nucleus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cell-mediated immunity</td>
<td>Immunity that results form the activation of sensitized T lymphocytes. Also called cellular immunity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cellular immunity</td>
<td>Also called cell-mediated immunity. NK, cells that directly attach to foreign cells.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cellulitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the cellular or connective tissues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>central nervous system</td>
<td>The portion of the nerve system that consists of the brain and spinal cord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cephalalgia</td>
<td>A headache.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cephalic</td>
<td>Directional term meaning toward the head, or above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebellar</td>
<td>Pertaining to the cerebellum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebellitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the cerebellum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebellum</td>
<td>The second largest portion of the brain, its located beneath the posterior portion of the cerebrum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebral</td>
<td>Pertaining to the cerebrum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebral angiography</td>
<td>X-ray of the blood vessels of the brain after the injection of a radiopaque dye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebral cortex</td>
<td>The outer layer of the cerebrum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebral palsy (CP)</td>
<td>A group of disabilities caused by injury to the brain either before or during birth or very early in infancy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebrospinal</td>
<td>Pertaining to the cerebrum and spine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebrospinal fluid</td>
<td>Watery clear fluid found in the ventricles of the brain. It provides protection from shock or sudden motion to the brain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) analysis</td>
<td>Laboratory examination of the clear, watery, colorless fluid from within the brain and spinal cord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebrovascular accident (CVA)</td>
<td>A surgical procedure in which a bypass is created to drain cerebrospinal fluid. Also called a stroke. The development of infarct due to loss in the blood supply to an area of the brain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerebrum</td>
<td>The largest section of the brain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerumen</td>
<td>Also called ear wax. A thick waxy substance produced by oil glands in the auditory canal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cervical</td>
<td>Pertaining to the neck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cervical biopsy</td>
<td>Taking a sample of the tissue from the cervix to test for the presence of cancer cells.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cervical cancer</td>
<td>Malignant growth in the cervix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cervical polyps</td>
<td>Fibrous or mucous tumor or growth found in the cervix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cervical vertebrae</td>
<td>The seven vertebrae in the neck region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cervicectomy</td>
<td>Excision of the cervix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cervicitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the cervix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cesarean section</td>
<td>Surgical delivery of a baby through an incision into the abdominal and uterine walls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chaloazion</td>
<td>Small hard tumor or mass, similar to a sebaceous cyst, developing on the eyelids.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chancroid</td>
<td>Highly infectious nonsyphilitis venereal ulcer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chart</td>
<td>Documents the details of a patients hospital stay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheilorrhaphy</td>
<td>Suture of the lip.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chemical name</td>
<td>The name for a drug based on its chemical formula or molecular structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chemobrasion</td>
<td>Abrasion using chemicals. Also called a chemical peel.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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chemotherapy  
Treating disease by using chemicals that have a toxic effect upon the body, especially cancerous tissue.

chest X-ray  
Taking a radiographic picture of the lungs and heart from the back and sides.

Cheyne-Strokes respiration  
Abnormal breathing pattern in which there are long periods of apnea followed by deeper, more rapid breathing.

chickenpox  
A contagious infection caused by a Herpes virus.

chiropractic  
Specialist in treating disorders of the feet.

chiropractor  
Practice of treating patients using manipulation of the vertebral column.

chlamydial infection  
Parasitic microorganism causing genital infections in males and females.

choking  
Obstruction within the respiratory passage that interferes with breathing and circulation.

cholangiogram  
X-ray picture of the bile ducts.

cholecystectomy  
Surgical excision of the gallbladder.

cholecystitis  
Inflammation of the gallbladder.

cholecystogram  
Dye given orally to the patient is absorbed and enters the gallbladder. An X-ray is then taken.

choledocholithotomy  
Removal of a gallstone through an incision into the bile duct.

choledocholithotripsy  
Crushing of a gallstone in the common bile duct.

cholelithiasis  
Formation or presence of stones or calculi in the gallbladder or common bile duct. An organic substance found in plasma. It is used by cells to build cell membranes and by the liver to produce bile.

chondrectomy  
Excision of cartilage.

chondromalacia  
Softening of cartilage.

chondroplasty  
Surgical repair of cartilage.

chondrosarcoma  
Sarcoma of cartilage tissue.

chorea  
Involuntary nervous disorder that results in muscular twitching of the limbs or facial muscles.

choriocarcinoma  
Rare type of cancer of the uterus. It may occur after normal pregnancy or abortion.

chorion  
The outer of two membranous sacs surrounding the fetus. It helps to form the placenta.

choroid  
The middle layer of the eyeball. This layer provides the blood supply for the eye.

chronic disease  
Illness that comes on slowly and can be long lasting.

chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)  
Progressive, chronic, and usually irreversible condition in which the lungs have a diminished capacity for inspiration and expiration.

chyme  
Semi-soluble mixture of food and digestive fluids that pass from the stomach into the small intestines.

cicatrix  
a scar.

cilia  
A term for eyelashes that protect the eye from foreign particles or for nasal hairs that help filter dust and bacteria out of inhaled air.

ciliary body  
The intraocular eye muscles that change the shape of the lens.

circulating nurse  
Nurse who assists the surgeon and scrub nurse by providing needed material during the procedure and by handling the surgical specimen. This person does not wear sterile clothing and may enter and leave the operating room during the procedure.

circulatory system  
System that transports blood to all areas of the body.

circumcision  
Surgical removal of the end of the prepuce or foreskin of the penis.
circumduction  Movement in a circular direction from a central point.
cirrhosis  Chronic disease of the liver.
cisterna chyli  A pouch like sac at the beginning of the thoracic duct.
clamp  A surgical instrument used to grasp tissue and control bleeding.
clavicle  Also called the collar bone. A bone of the pectoral girdle.
clean catch specimen (CC)  Urine sample obtained after cleaning off the urinary opening and catching or collecting a sample in midstream.
cleft lip  Congenital anomaly in which the upper lip fails to come together.
clinical divisions  System that divides the abdomen into four regions.
clinical psychologist  A specialist in evaluating and treating persons with mental and emotional disorders.
clitoris  A small organ containing erectile tissue that is covered by the labia minora. It contains sensitive tissue that is aroused during sexual stimulation and is similar to the penis in the male.
closed fracture  A simple fracture with no open skin or wound.
coarctation of the aorta  Severe congenital narrowing of the aorta.
coccygeal  Pertaining to the coccyx or tail bone.
coccyx  The tail bone, the four small fused vertebrae at the distal end of the vertebral column.
cochlear  Pertaining to the cochlea.
cochlear implant  Mechanical device that is surgically placed under the skin behind the outer ear. It converts sound signal into magnetic impulses to stimulate the auditory nerve.
coitus  Term for sexual intercourse.
colectomy  Surgical removal of the colon.
collagen  An insoluble fibrous protein present in connective tissue that forms a flexible mat to protect the skin and other parts of the body.
collecting tubule  A portion of the renal tubule.
Colles' fracture  A specific type of wrist fracture.
colon  Also called the large intestines. Functions to reabsorb most of the fluid in the digested food.
colonoscope  Instrument to view inside the colon.
colonoscopy  A flexible fiberscope passed through the anus, rectum, and colon is used to examine the upper portion the colon.
color vision test  Use of polychromic charts to determine the ability of the patient to recognize color.
colostomy  Surgical creation of an opening in some portion of the colon through the abdominal wall to the outside surface. The fecal matter drains into a bag worn on the abdomen.
colposcope  Instrument to view inside the vagina.
coma  Abnormal deep sleep or stupor resulting from an illness or injury.
combining form  The word root plus the combining vowel.
combining vowel  A vowel inserted between word parts that make it possible to pronounce long medical terms. It is usually the vowel o.
comedo  Medical term for a blackhead. An accumulation of sebum in a sebaceous gland that has blackened.
comminuted fracture  A fracture in which the bone is shattered, splintered, or crushed into many pieces or fragments.
comissurotomy  Surgical incision to change the size of an opening.
common bile duct
A duct that carries bile from the gallbladder to the duodenum.

compact bone
The hard exterior surface bone.

complete blood count
Blood test that consists of five tests: red blood cell count, white blood count, hemoglobin, hematocrit, and white blood cell differential.

complete fracture
A fracture in which the bone is completely broken through with neither fragment connected to the other.

compound fracture
An open fracture in which the skin has been broken through by the fracture.

computerized axial tomography
Computer assisted X-ray used to detect tumors and fractures. Also referred as CT scan or CAT.

concussion
Injury to the brain that results from a blow or impact from an object. Loss of hearing as a result of the blocking of sound transmission in the middle ear and outer ear.

conductive hearing loss
Loss of hearing as a result of the blocking of sound transmission in the middle ear and outer ear.

condyle
Refers to the rounded portion at the end of a bone.

cones
The sensory receptors of the retina that are active in bright light and see in color.

congenital anomaly
Any abnormality present at birth.

congenital heart anomaly
Heart defect that is present at birth.

congenital hip dysplasia
An orthopedic condition in which the head of the femur does not articulate with the acetabulum. The hip dislocation can be partial or complete.

congenital septal defect
Defect, present at birth, in the wall separating two chambers of the heart.

congestive heart failure
Pathological condition of the heart in which there is a reduced outflow of blood from the left side of the heart.

conization
Surgical removal of the core of cervical tissue.

conjunctiva
A protective mucous membrane lining on the underside of each eyelid and across the anterior surface of each eyeball.

conjunctivitis
Also referred to as pinkeye or an inflammation of the conjunctiva.

connective tissue
The supporting and protecting tissue in body structures.

connective tissue membrane
A membrane that contains only a single layer of connective tissue. It does not have an epithelial layer.

conscious
Condition of being awake and aware of surroundings.

constipation
Experiencing difficulty in defecation or infrequent defecation.

Consultation Report
Document in a patient’s medical record.

contraception
Prevention of a pregnancy using artificial means such as an intrauterine device or medication.

contraction
Contraction of the muscles of the uterus to forcibly expel the fetus.

contraindication
Condition in which a particular drug should not be used.

Controlled Substance Act of 1970
Law that regulates the manufacture and distribution of drugs that are capable of causing dependence.

convergence
The moving inward of the eyes to see an object close to the face.

conversion reaction
A somatoform disorder in which the patient unconsciously substitutes physical signs or symptoms for anxiety. Severe involuntary muscle contractions and relaxations. These have a variety of causes, such as epilepsy, fever, and toxic conditions.

convulsion
Severe involuntary muscle contractions and relaxations. These have a variety of causes, such as epilepsy, fever, and toxic conditions.

Cooley's anemia
Condition in which a rare form of anemia or a reduction of red blood cells is found in some people of
copulation  Mediterranean origin.

cor pulmonale  Term for sexual intercourse.

cordectomy  Hypertrophy of the right ventricle of the heart as a result of lung disease.

corium  Removal of part of the spinal cord.

The living layer of skin located between the epidermis and the subcutaneous tissue. Also
referred to as

cornea  the dermis.

coronal plane  A portion of the sclera that is clear and transparent and allows light to enter the interior of the

corpus  eye.

coronary  A vertical plane that divides the body into front and back sections.

coronary  Pertaining to the heart.

coronary artery  A group of three arteries that branch off the aorta and carry blood to the myocardium.

coronary artery bypass  Open heart surgery in which a blood vessel is grafted to route blood around the point of

coronary artery bypass  constriction

in a diseased coronary artery.

coronary care unit  Specialized hospital unit equipped to care for and monitor patients who have suffered a heart

coronary care unit  attack.

coronary ischemia  Insufficient blood supply to the heart muscle due to an obstruction.

coronary thrombosis  Blood clot in a coronary vessel of the heart causing the vessel to close completely or partially.

corpus  The body or central portion of the uterus.

cortex  The outer layer of an organ.

cortical  Pertaining to the cortex.

cortical bone  The hard exterior surface bone.

corticosteroids  General term for the group of hormones secreted by the adrenal cortes.

cortisol  A steroid hormone secreted by the adrenal cortex.

cortisol  Also called bulbourethral gland. These two small male reproductive system glands are located on

cortical bone  either side of the urethra just distal to the prostate.

cranial  Pertaining to the skull.

cranial cavity  A dorsal body cavity. It is within the skull and contains the brain.

cranial nerves  Nerves that arise from the brain.

craniocele  Protrusion of the brain from within the skull.

cranioplasty  Surgical repair of the skull.

craniotomy  Incision into the skull.

cranium  The skull.

crash cart  Emergency cart on wheels that contains medications and equipment needed in emergency

crash cart  situations.

creatine  A waste product of muscle metabolism.

crepitation  Sound of broken bones rubbing together.

cretinism  Congenital condition due to a lack of thyroid that may result in arrested physical and mental

cranial nerve  development.

Crohn’s disease  Form of chronic inflammatory bowel disease affecting the ileum and/or colon.

croup  Acute viral respiratory infection common in infants and young children and characterized by a

croup  hoarse cough.

crown  Portion of a tooth that is covered by enamel. Also an artificial covering for the tooth created to

crown  replace the original enamel.

crowning  When the head of the baby is visible through the vaginal opening.
cryoextraction  Procedure in which cataract is lifted from the lens with an extremely cold probe.
cryoretinopexy  Surgical fixation of the retina by using extreme cold.
cryosurgery  Exposing tissues to extreme cold in order to destroy them.
cryotherapy  Using cold for therapeutic purposes.
cryptorchidism  Failure of the testes to descend into the scrotal sac before birth.
CT scan (CAT)  Use of computerized tomography to diagnose disorders of the lymphoid organs.
culdoscopy  Examination of the female pelvic cavity by introducing an endoscope through the vaginal wall. A laboratory test in which a colony of pathogens that have been removed from an infected area are grown to identify the pathogen and then determine its sensitivity to a variety of antibiotics.
cumulative action  Action that occurs in the body when a drug is allowed to accumulate or stay in the body.
curette  A surgical instrument used to scrape and remove tissue.
Current Procedural Terminology (CPT)  A coding system developed by the American Medical Association. Providers use this system to report the procedures it provides to a patient.
Cushing's syndrome  Set of symptoms named after Harvey Cushing, an American neurosurgeon that result from hypersecretion of the adrenal cortex. Permanent teeth located between the incisors and the bicuspids that assist in biting and cutting food.
cusps  The leaflets or flaps of a heart valve.
cutaneous membrane  Another term for the skin.
cuticle  The thin skin like layer overlapping the base of a nail.
cyanosis  The slightly bluish color of the skin due to a deficiency of oxygen and an excess of carbon dioxide in the blood.
cyclotron  Equipment consisting of a particle accelerator in which the particles are rotated between magnets.
cyst  Fluid filled sac under the skin.
cystalgia  Bladder pain.
cystectomy  Excision of the bladder.
cystic fibrosis  Hereditary condition causing the exocrine glands to malfunction. The patient produces very thick mucous that causes severe congestion within the lungs and digestive system.
cystitis  Inflammation of the bladder.
cystoceles  Hernia or outpouching of the bladder that protrudes into the bladder.
cystectomy  Process of instilling a contrast material or dye into the bladder by catheter to visualize the urinary bladder on X-ray.
cystolith  Bladder stone.
cystoplasty  Surgical repair of the bladder.
cystorrhagia  Rapid bleeding from the bladder.
cystoscopy  Visual examination of the urinary bladder using an instrument called a cystoscope.
cystostomy  Creation of an opening through the body wall and into the bladder.
cystotomy  Incision into the bladder.
cytologic testing  Examination of cells to determine their structure and origin.
cytopenia  A decrease in the number of circulating cells in the blood.
cytotoxic  Pertaining to poisoning cells.
cytotoxic cells
T cells that are destructive to cells and can kill foreign invasion cells. Also called T8 cells.
dacrystocystitis
Inflammation of tear sac.
day surgery
A type of outpatient surgery in which the patient is discharged on the same day he or she is admitted.
deafness
The inability to hear or having some degree of hearing impairment.
debreadment
Removal of foreign material and dead or damaged tissue from a wound.
decibel
Measures the intensity or loudness of a sound.
deciduous teeth
The twenty teeth that begin to erupt around the age of six months. Eventually pushed out by the permanent teeth.
decorticating
Reduces nasal congestion and swelling.
decubitus ulcers
Bedsores or pressure sores caused by pressure over bony prominences on the body.
dear
Directional term meaning away from the surface of the body.
defibrillation
A procedure that converts serious irregular heart beats, such as fibrillation, by giving electric shocks to the heart.
defibrillator
Equipment that sends an electrical charge through a persons body in an attempt to enable the heart to start beating in a normal manner.
delirium
State of mental confusion with a lack of orientation to time and place.
delusions
A false belief held with conviction even in the face of strong evidence to the contrary.
dementia
Progressive impairment of intellectual function that interferes with performing the activities of daily living.
dendrites
Branched processes off a neuron that receives impulses and carries them to the cell body.
dental
Pertaining to teeth.
dentin
The amin bulk of the tooth. It is covered by enamel.
dentist
Person who is authorized, based on education, training, and licensure, to practice dentistry.
denture
Partial or complete set of artificial teeth that are set in plastic materials.
deoxygenated
Blood in the veins that is low in oxygen content.
depigmentation
Loss of normal skin color or pigment.
dermabrasion
Abrasions or rubbing using wire brushes or sandpaper.
dermatitis
Inflammation of the skin.
dermatofibroma
Fibrous tumor of the skin.
dermatographia
Skin writing. Wheals develop on the skin resulting of tracing on the skin with an instrument or fingernail.
dermatologist
A physician specialized in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the integumentary system.
dermatology
The branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the integumentary system.
dermatome
Instrument for cutting the skin or thin transplants of skin.
dermatopathy
General term for skin disease.
dermatoplasty
The surgical repair of the skin.
dermis
The living layer of skin located between the epidermis and subcutaneous tissue.
descending colon
The section of the colon that descends the left side of the abdomen.
developmental disabilities
A disorder that interferes with the normal growth and development of a child.
diabetes insipidus
Disorder caused by the inadequate secretion of a hormone by the posterior lobe of the pituitary gland.
diabetes mellitus  A serious disease in which the pancreas fails to produce insulin or the insulin does not work properly.
diabetic coma  Abnormal deep stupor occurring as a result of lack of insulin.
diabetic retinopathy  Secondary complication of diabetes that affects the blood vessels of the retina, resulting in visual changes and even blindness.
Diagnosis Related Groups  A method of classification placing patients into groups based on their primary and secondary diagnoses that was developed from Medicare.
diagnostic  Procedure to determine the cause and nature of a persons illness.
Diagnostic Reports  Found in a patients medical record. It consists of the results of all diagnostic tests performed.
Diaphoresis  Excessive or profuse sweating.
diaphragm  The major muscle of inspiration.
diaphragmatic breathing  The correct style of breathing for singers and public speakers. The abdomen expands during inspiration and contracts during expiration.
diaphragmatocele  A protrusion go the stomach through the diaphragm into the chest cavity. Also called a hiatal hernia.
diaphysis  The shaft portion of a long bone.
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If a person has one dominant and one recessive gene for a trait, the dominant gene will mask the recessive gene, allowing the dominant trait to be displayed.

**Doppler ultrasonography**  
Measurement of sound wave echoes as they bounce off tissues and organs to produce an image.

**Doppler ultrasound**  
Using an instrument placed externally over the uterus to examine the fetal heart.

**dorsal**  
Directional term meaning near or on the back or spinal cord side of the body.

**dorsiflexion**  
Backward bending, as of hand or foot.

**Down syndrome**  
Disorder that produces moderate to severe mental retardation and multiple defects.

**dressing**  
Process of covering the patient with sterile cloths that allow only the operative site to be exposed to the surgeon.

**drowning**  
Asphyxiation due to an immersion in water or a liquid.

**Drug Enforcement Agency**  
The government agency that enforces regulation of controlled substances.

**drug tolerance**  
Decrease in susceptibility to a drug after continues use of the drug.

**Duchenne muscular dystrophy**  
Muscular disorder in which there is progressive wasting away of various muscles, including leg, pelvic, and shoulder muscles.

**ductus deferens**  
A long, straight tube that carries sperm from the epididymis up into the pelvic cavity, where it continues around the bladder and empties into the urethra.

**duodenum**  
The first section of small intestines.

**dura mater**  
The term means tough mother. It is the fibrous outermost meninges layer that forms a though protective layer.

**dwarfisms**  
Condition of being abnormally small.

**dyskinesia**  
Difficulty or painful movement.

**dysmenorrhea**  
Painful cramping that is associated with menstruation.

**dyspepsia**  
Indigestion.

**dysphagia**  
Having difficulty eating.

**dysphasia**  
Impairment of speech as a result of a brain lesion.

**dyspnea**  
Difficult, labored breathing.

**dystocia**  
Abnormal or difficult labor and childbirth.

**dystrophy**  
Abnormal or poor development.

**dysuria**  
Painful or difficult urination. This is a symptom in many disorders.

**ear**  
The sensory organ for hearing.

**ear drops**  
Placed directly into the ear canal for the purpose of relieving pain or treating infection.

**eczema**  
Superficial dermatitis accompanied by papules, vesicles, and crusting.

**edema**  
Condition in which the body tissues contain excessive amounts of fluid.
effacement  The thinning of the cervix during labor.
efferent arteriole  Arteriole that carries blood away from the glomerulus.
efferent neurons  Nerves that carry impulses away from the brain and spinal cord to the muscles and glands.
ejaculation  The impulse of forcing seminal fluid from the male urethra.
elder abuse  Mistreatment of the elderly.
electrocardiogram  Record of the electrical activity of the heart.  Useful in the diagnosis of abnormal activity of the heart.
electrocardiography  Process of recording the electrical activity of the heart.
electrocautery  To destroy tissue with an electric current.
electroconvulsive therapy  A procedure occasionally used for cases of prolonged major depression in which an electrode is placed on one or both sides of the patients head and current is turned on briefly causing a convulsive seizure.
electroencephalogram  A record of the brains electrical activity.
electroencephalograph  Instrument used to record the brains electrical activity.
electroencephalography  Recording the electrical activity of the brain by placing electrodes at various positions on the scalp.
electrolyte  Chemical compound that separates into charged particles, or ionizes, in a solution.
electromyography  Recording of the electrical patterns of a muscle in order to diagnose diseases.
electron  Minute particle with a negative electrical charge that is emitted from radioactive substances.
elephantiasis  Inflammation, obstruction, and destruction of the lymph vessels that results in enlarged tissues due to edema.
ELISA  (Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay)  A blood test for an antibody to the AIDS virus.
embolectomy  Surgical removal of an embolus or clot from blood vessel.
embolism  Obstruction of a blood vessel by a blood clot or foreign substance, such as air or fat.
embolus  Obstruction of a blood vessel by a blood clot that moves from another area.
embryo  The term to describe the developing infant from fertilization until the end of the eighth week.
emergency care  A level of patient care that is reserved for life threatening illnesses that probably require hospitalization.
emergency childbirth  Childbirth that happens quickly before the mother and assists are prepared.
Emergency Medical Technician  Person trained in techniques of administering emergency care.
emergency medicine  The branch of medicine specializing in emergency care of the acutely ill and injured.
emergency room  Area of a hospital or a free standing unit that is prepared to care for the severely ill and injured.
emesis  Vomiting, usually with some force.
ethetic  Inducing vomiting.
emmetropia  State of normal vision.
emphysema  Pulmonary condition that can occur as a result of long term heavy smoking.
empyema  Pus within the pleural space, usually the result of infection.
ENAMEL  The hardest substance in the body.  Covers the outer surface of teeth.
encapsulated  Growth enclosed in a sheath of tissue that prevents tumor cells from invading surrounding tissue.
encephalitis  Inflammation of the brain due to disease factors such as rabies, influenza, measles, or smallpox.
encephalocele  Protrusion of the brain through the cranial cavity.
encephalomalacia  Brain softening.
Encephalosclerosis  Condition of hardening of the brain.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>endarterectomy</td>
<td>Removal of the inside layer of an artery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endocarditis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the inner lining layer of the heart.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endocardium</td>
<td>The inner layer of the heart, which is very smooth and lines the chambers of the heart.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endocervicitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the inner aspect of the cervix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endocrine glands</td>
<td>A glandular system that secretes hormones directly into the bloodstream rather than into a duct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endocrine system</td>
<td>The body system that consists of glands that secrete hormones directly into the blood stream.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endocrinologist</td>
<td>Physician who specializes in the treatment of endocrine glands, including diabetes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endocrinology</td>
<td>The branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the endocrine system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endocrinopathy</td>
<td>A disease of the endocrine system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endometrial biopsy</td>
<td>Taking a sample of tissue from the lining of the uterus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endometrium</td>
<td>The inner lining of the uterus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endophthalmitis</td>
<td>Inflammation within the eye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endoscope</td>
<td>Instrument to view inside a tubular or hollow organ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endoscopic retrograde</td>
<td>Using an endoscope to X-ray the bile and pancreatic ducts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cholangiopancreatography</td>
<td>Endoscopic surgery has to do with looking into the ducts of the liver and pancreas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endoscopic surgery</td>
<td>Use of a lighted instrument to examine the interior of a cavity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endoscopy</td>
<td>A general term for a procedure to visually examine the inside of a body cavity or a hollow organ using</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>an instrument called an endoscope.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endotracheal</td>
<td>Pertaining to inside the trachea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endotracheal intubation</td>
<td>Placing a tube through he mouth to create an airway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enteritis</td>
<td>Inflammation of only the small intestine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enterorrhaphy</td>
<td>Suture small intestines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>entropion</td>
<td>Term referring to inversion of the eyelid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enuresis</td>
<td>Involuntary discharge of urine after the age by which bladder control should have been established.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eosinophils</td>
<td>A granulocyte white blood cell that destroy parasites and increase during allergic reaction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epicardium</td>
<td>The outer layer of the heart.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epicondyle</td>
<td>A projection located above or on a condyle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epidermal</td>
<td>Pertaining to upon the skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epidermis</td>
<td>The superficial layer of skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epidermoid cyst</td>
<td>Cyst in the skull and phalanges of the fingers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epididymectomy</td>
<td>Surgical excision of the epididymis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epididymis</td>
<td>The epididymis is a coiled tubule that lies on top of the testes within the scrotum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epididymitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the epididymis that causes pain and swelling in the inguinal area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epidural hematoma</td>
<td>Mass of blood in the space outside the dura mater of the brain and spinal cord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epigastric</td>
<td>Pertaining to above the stomach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epiglottis</td>
<td>A flap of cartilage that covers the larynx when a person swallows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epiglottitis</td>
<td>Swelling of the epiglottis, causing airway obstruction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epilepsy</td>
<td>Recurrent disorder of the brain in which convulsive seizure and loss of consciousness occur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epinephrine</td>
<td>A hormone produced by the adrenal medulla. Also known as adrenaline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epiphysis</td>
<td>The wide ends of a long bone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>episiorrhaphy</td>
<td>Suture the perineum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>episiotomy</td>
<td>Surgical incision of the perineum to facilitate the delivery process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epispidias</td>
<td>Congenital opening of the urethra on the dorsal surface of the penis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epistaxis</td>
<td>Nosebleed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epithelial</td>
<td>Pertaining to the epithelium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epithelial membrane</td>
<td>Membranes that contain two layers of tissue: a superficial layer and an underlying connective tissue layer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epithelial tissue</td>
<td>Tissue found throughout the body as the skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epstein-Barr virus</td>
<td>Virus that is believed to be the cause of infectious mononucleosis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>equilibrium</td>
<td>The sense of balance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erectile tissue</td>
<td>Tissue with numerous blood vessels and nerve endings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ergonomics</td>
<td>The study of human work including how the requirements for performing work and the work environment affect the musculoskeletal and nervous system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erythema</td>
<td>Redness or flushing of the skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erythroblastosis fetalis</td>
<td>Condition in which antibodies enter the fetus's blood and cause anemia, jaundice, edema, and enlargement of the liver and spleen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erythrocyte</td>
<td>Also called red blood cells or RBC's.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)</td>
<td>Blood test to determine the rate at which mature red blood cells settle out of the blood after the addition of an anticoagulant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erythroderma</td>
<td>Red skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erythropoiesis</td>
<td>The process of forming erythrocytes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>escherichia coli (E coli)</td>
<td>Normal bacteria found in the intestinal track. The most common cause of lower urinary track infections due to improper hygiene after bowel movements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esophageal stricture</td>
<td>Narrowing of the esophagus, which makes the flow of fluids and food difficult.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esophagogastrostomy</td>
<td>Surgical creation of an opening between the esophagus and the stomach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esophagoscopy and biopsy</td>
<td>The esophagus is visualized by passing an instrument down the esophagus. A tissue sample for biopsy may be taken.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esophagostomy</td>
<td>Surgical creation of an opeing into the esophagus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esophagus</td>
<td>The tube that carries food from the pharynx to the stomach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esotropia</td>
<td>Inward turning of the eye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>estimated date of confinement (EDC)</td>
<td>Estimation date when the baby will be born based on a calculation from the last menstrual period of the mother. One of the hormones produced by the ovaries. It works with progesterone to control the menstrual cycle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>estrogen</td>
<td>A cranial bone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ethmoid bone</td>
<td>Normal breathing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eupnea</td>
<td>Tube or canal that connects the middle ear with the nasopharynx and allows for a balance of pressure between the outer and middle ear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>euthyroid</td>
<td>Normal thyroid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eversion</td>
<td>Directional term meaning turning toward.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ewing’s sarcoma</td>
<td>Malignant growth found in the shaft of long bones that spreads through the periosteum. Injection of dye into the bloodstream followed by taking an X-ray to trace the action of the kidney as it excretes the dye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>excretory urography</td>
<td>Scrapping cells from tissue and then examining them under the microscope.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exhalation</td>
<td>To breath air out of the lungs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**exocrine glands**
Glands that secrete substances into a duct.

**exophthalmic**
Pertaining to outward turning eyes.

**exophthalmos**
Condition in which the eyeballs protrude.

**exotropia**
Outward turning of the eyes.

**expectorant**
Assists in the removal of secretions from the bronchopulmonary membranes.

**expiration**
To breath air out of the lungs.

**exploratory laparotomy**
Abdominal operation for the purpose of examining the abdominal organs and tissues for signs of disease or other abnormalities.
Surgery performed for the purpose of determining if there is cancer present or if a known cancer has spread.

**explosive disorder**
An impulse control disorder in which the patient is unable to control violent rages.

**extension**
Movement that brings limb into or toward a straight condition.

**external**
Being on the outside or outer surface.

**external ear**
The outermost portion of the ear.

**extracellular fluid**
Water found outside the cells.

**general hospital**
Hospitals that typically provide services to diagnose and treat diseases for a short period of time.

**generic name**
The recognized and accepted official name for a drug.

**genes**
The basic unit of heredity that occupies a specific location on a chromosome.

**genetics**
The study of heredity and the influences of chemicals on the genes.

**genital herpes**
Creeping skin disease that can appear like a blister or vesicle, caused by sexually transmitted virus.

**genital tract**
Referring to the female or male sexual organs.

**genital warts**
Growths and elevations of warts on the genitalia of both males and females that can lead to cancer of the cervix in females.

**genitalia**
The male and female reproductive organs.

**genitourinary**
Referring to the organs of the urinary system and the female or male sexual organs.

**geriatric chair**
Wheeled chair that reclines and has a tray for meals.

**German Measles**
A contagious viral disease that resembles measles but has a shorter course of infection and little fever. Also called rubella.

**gerontology**
The scientific study of the effects of aging and age related diseases.

**gestation**
Length of time from conception to birth. Ranges from 259-280 days.

**gestational period**
The length of time of pregnancy, approximately forty weeks.
Benign tumor that appears at the epiphysis but does not interfere with joint movement. May become malignant or return after removal.

**gigantism**
Excessive development of the body due to the overproduction of the growth hormone by the pituitary gland.

**gingivectomy**
Excision of the gums.

**gingivitis**
Inflammation of the gums.

**glands**
The organs of the body that release secretions.

**glans penis**
The larger and softer tip of the penis.
Increase in intraocular pressure, which, if untreated, may result in atrophy of the optic nerve and blindness.
glioblastoma  Neurological tumor.
glioma  Sarcoma of neurological origin.
glomerular capsule  Part of the renal corpuscle.
glomerular filtrate  The product of the filtration stage of urine production.
glomerulonephritis  Inflammation of the kidney.
glomerulus  Ball of capillaries encased by Bowman's capsule.
glossectomy  Complete or partial removal of the tongue.
glottis  The opening between the vocal cords.
glucagon  A hormone secreted by the pancreas. It stimulates the liver to release glucose into the blood.
glucocorticoid  A group of hormones secreted by the adrenal cortex. They regulate carbohydrate levels in the body.
glucose  The form of sugar used by the cells of the body to make energy.
glucose tolerance test (GTI)  Test to determine the blood sugar level.
gluteus maximus  A muscle named for its size and location. Gluteus means rump area and maximus means large.
glycosuria  Presence of an excess of sugar in the urine.
goiter  Enlargement of the thyroid gland.
gonads  The organs responsible for producing sex cells. Female-ovaries, Male-testes.
gonioscopy  Use of an instrument called a gonioscope to examine the anterior chamber of the eye to determine ocular motility and rotation.
gonorrhea  Sexually transmitted inflammation of the mucous membranes of either sex.
gout  Inflammation of the joints caused by excessive uric acid.
growth  A tumor can be graded from grade I through grade IV. It is based on the microscopic appearance of the tumor cell.
grand mal  A type of severe epilepsy seizure characterized by a loss of consciousness and convulsions.
granulocytes  Granular polymorphonuclear leukocyte.
Grave's disease  Condition that results in overactivity of the thyroid gland and can result in a crisis situation.
gravid  A pregnant woman.
gray matter  Tissue within the central nervous system. It consists of unsheathed or uncovered nerve cell bodies and dendrites.
greenstick fracture  Fracture in which there is an incomplete break; one side of the bone is broken and the other side is bent. It is commonly found in children due to their softer and more pliable bone structure.
gross motor skills  The use of large muscle groups that coordinate body movements such as walking, running, jumping, and balance.
growth hormone  A hormone secreted by the anterior pituitary that stimulates growth of the body.
gum disease  Inflammation of the gums, leading to tooth loss.
gynecologist  A physician specialized in treating conditions and diseases of the female reproductive system.
gynecology  Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the female reproductive system.
gyri  The convoluted, elevated portions of the cerebral cortex.
habituation  Development of an emotional dependence on a drug due to repeated use.
hair  A structure in the integumentary system.
hair follicle  Cavities in the dermis that contain the hair root.
halitosis  Bad or offensive breath, which can often be a sign of disease.
| **hallucinations** | The perception of an object that is not there or event that has not happened. |
| **Hashimoto's disease** | Chronic form of thyroidities. The large ball shaped end of a bone. It may be separated from the shaft of the bone by an area called the neck. |
| **head** | |
| **head injury** | Blunt trauma to the skull causing bleeding and edema resulting in damage to the brain. |
| **health maintenance organization** | Health maintenance organization (HMO) An organization that contacts with a group of physicians and other health care workers to provide care exclusively for its members. |
| **hearing aid** | Apparatus or mechanical device used by persons with impaired hearing to amplify sound. |
| **hearing impairment** | Loss of hearing sufficient to interfere with a person's ability to communicate. |
| **hearing level** | Audiometer reading in decibels that corresponds to the listener's hearing threshold ratio. |
| **heart** | Organ of the cardiovascular system that contracts to pump blood through the blood vessels. |
| **heart transplantation** | Replacement of a diseased or malfunctioning heart with a donor's heart. |
| **heart valve prolapse** | The cusps or flaps of the heart valve are loose and fail to shut tightly, allowing blood to flow backwards through the valve when the heart chamber contracts. |
| **heart valve stenosis** | The cusps or flaps of the heart valve are too stiff. |
| **heat application** | Applying either dry or moist warmth to a body part to produce the slight dilation of blood vessels in the skin. |
| **heat hydrotherapy** | Application of warm water as a therapeutic treatment. |
| **Heimlich maneuver** | Technique for removing a foreign body or food from the trachea or pharynx when it is choking a person. |
| **hemangioma** | Common benign, vascular tumor usually located on the skull or vertebral body. |
| **hematemesis** | To vomit blood from the gastrointestinal tract, often looks like coffee grounds. |
| **hematocrit** | Blood test to measure the volume of red blood cells within the total volume of blood. |
| **hematocytopenia** | Condition of too few blood cells in the circulation. |
| **hematologist** | A physician who specializes in treating diseases and conditions of the blood. |
| **hematology** | Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the hemat system. |
| **hematoma** | Swelling or mass of blood causing by a break in a vessel in an organ or tissue, or beneath the skin. |
| **hematopoiesis** | The process of forming blood. |
| **hematosalpinx** | Condition of having blood in the fallopian tubes. |
| **hematuria** | Condition of blood in the urine. |
| **hemianopia** | Loss of vision in half of the visual field. |
| **hemiparesis** | Weakness or loss of motion on one side of the body. |
| **hemiplegia** | Paralysis on only one side of the body. |
| **hemisphere** | The left and right halves of the cerebral cortex. |
| **hemodialysis (HD)** | Use of an artificial kidney machine that filters the blood of a person to remove waste products. |
| **hemoglobin (Hg)** | Iron containing pigment of red blood cells that carries oxygen from the lungs to the tissue. |
| **hemolysis** | The destruction of blood cells. |
| **hemolytic disease of the newborn** | Condition in which antibodies in the mothers blood enter the fetus's blood and cause anemia, jaundice, edema, and enlargement of the liver and spleen. Hereditary blood disease in which there is an prolonged blood clotting time. It is transmitted by a sex linked trait from females to males. |
| **hemophilia** | Hereditary blood disease in which there is a prolonged blood clotting time. It is transmitted by a sex linked trait from females to males. |
hemoptysis  Coughing up blood or blood stained sputum.
hemorrhage  Blood flow, the escape of blood from a blood vessel.
hemorrhoidectomy  Surgical excision of hemorrhoids from the anorectal area.
hemorrhoids  Varicose veins in the rectum.
hemostasis  To stop bleeding or the stagnation of the circulating blood.
hemostat  A surgical instrument used to grasp blood vessels to control bleeding.
hemostatic  Any drug, medicine, or clotting protein from blood that stops bleeding, such as vitamin K or factor VIII.
hemorrhage  Condition of having blood in the chest cavity.
hepatic lobectomy  Surgical removal of a lobe of the liver.
hepatitis  Infectious, inflammatory disease of the liver. Hepatitis B and C types are spread by contact with blood and bodily fluids of an infected person. Serious, inflammatory disease of the liver caused by the hepatitis B virus. It spreads through contact with blood and body fluids.
hepatoma  Liver tumor.
herniated nucleus pulposus (HNP)  A rupture of the fibrocartilage disk between two vertebrae. Also called a slipped disk.
herniorrhaphy  Suture a hernia.
hertz (Hz)  Measurement of the frequency or pitch of sound.
hesitancy  A decrease in the force of the urine stream, often with difficulty initiating the flow.
hilum  Center of the concave side of the kidney which is an important landmark on the kidney. It is the site where the renal artery enters, the renal vein leaves, the ureter leaves, and nerves enter and leave the kidney.
hirsutism  Excessive hair growth over the body.
histology  The study of tissues.
histoplasmosis  Pulmonary disease caused by a fungus found in dust in the droppings of pigeons and chickens. Medical record document written by the admitting physician. It details the patient's history, results of the physician's examination, initial diagnoses, and physician's plan of treatment. Also called Hodgkin's lymphoma. Cancer of the lymphatic cells found in concentration in the lymph nodes.
Hodgkin's disease  Portable ECG monitor worn by the patient for a period of a few hours to a few days to assess the heart and pulse activity as the person goes through the activities of the day. Agencies that provide nursing, therapy, personal care, or housekeeping services in the patient's home.
home health care  Steady state or state of balance within the body.
homologous transfusion  Replacement of blood by transfusion of blood received from another person.
hordeolum  Refers to a stye, a small purulent inflammatory infection of a sebaceous gland of the eye.
horizontal plane  A horizontal plane that divides the body into upper and lower sections.
hormone  A chemical substance secreted by an endocrine gland.
hormone therapy  Treatment of cancer with natural hormones or with chemicals that produce hormone like effects.
horny cells  Describes keratin filled epidermal cells. Keratin is the hard protein found in nails and hair. An organized group of health care workers that provide supportive treatment to dying patients and hospices.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Formulary</td>
<td>A resource for drug information. It contains up to date information about drugs and their use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hospitalization</td>
<td>Admission to a hospital for diagnostic tests, surgery, or treatment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hot moist compresses</td>
<td>Applying moist heat with wet pads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)</td>
<td>Virus that causes AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>humerus</td>
<td>The upper arm bone in the upper extremity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>humoral immunity</td>
<td>Immunity that responds to antigens, such as bacteria and foreign agents, by producing antibodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntington's chorea</td>
<td>Rare condition characterized by bizarre involuntary movements called chorea. The patient may have progressive mental and physical disturbances that generally begin around 40.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyaline membrane disease</td>
<td>(HMD) Condition seen in premature infants whose lungs have not had time to develop properly. The lungs are not able to expand fully and a membrane actually forms that causes extreme difficulty in breathing and may result in death.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydrocele</td>
<td>Accumulation of fluid within the testes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydrocephalus</td>
<td>Accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid within the ventricles of the brain, causing the head to be enlarged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydrochloric acid</td>
<td>Acid secreted by the stomach lining. Aids in digestion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydronephrosis</td>
<td>Distention of the pelvis due to urine collecting in the kidney resulting from an obstruction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydrosalpinx</td>
<td>Condition of having water in the fallopian tubes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydrotherapy</td>
<td>Using water for treatment purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hymen</td>
<td>A thin membranous tissue that covers the external vaginal opening or orifice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hystectomy</td>
<td>Surgical removal of the hymen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyoid bone</td>
<td>A single, U shaped bone suspended in the neck between the mandible and larynx. It is a point of attachment for swallowing and speech muscles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperbaric oxygen therapy</td>
<td>Use of oxygen under greater that normal pressure to treat cases of smoke inhalation, carbon monoxide poisoning, and other conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hypercalcemia</td>
<td>Condition of having an excessive amount of calcium in the blood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperemia</td>
<td>Redness of the skin caused by increased blood flow to the skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperesthesia</td>
<td>Having excessive sensation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperglycemia</td>
<td>Having an excessive amount of glucose in the blood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperkalemia</td>
<td>Condition of having an excessive amount of potassium in the blood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperkinesia</td>
<td>An excessive amount of movement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hypernephroma</td>
<td>Renal or kidney cell carcinoma.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperopia</td>
<td>With this condition a person can see things in the distance but has trouble reading material at close vision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperpigmentation</td>
<td>Abnormal amount of pigmentation in the skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperplasia</td>
<td>Excessive development of normal cells within an organ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperpnea</td>
<td>Excessive deep breathing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hypertension</td>
<td>High blood pressure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hypertensive heart disease</td>
<td>Heart disease as a result of persistently high blood pressure, which damages the blood vessels and ultimately the heart.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperthyroidism</td>
<td>Condition resulting from overactivity of the thyroid gland that can result in a crisis situation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
hypertrophy  
An increase in the bulk or size of a tissue or structure.

hypnotic  
Used to produce sleep or hypnosis.

hypocalcemia  
Condition of having a low calcium level in the blood.

hypochondria  
A somatoform disorder involving a preoccupation with health concerns.

hypodermic  
Pertaining to under the skin.

hypogastric  
Pertaining to below the stomach. An anatomical division of the abdomen, the middle section of the bottom row.

hypoglycemia  
Condition of having a low sugar level in the blood.

hypoglycemic  
Lower blood glucose level.

hyponatremia  
Condition of having a low sodium level in the blood.

hypopnea  
Insufficient or shallow breathing.

hypospadias  
Congenital opening of the male urethra on the underside of the penis.

hypotension  
Low blood pressure.

hypothalamus  
A portion of the diencephalon that lies just below the thalamus. It controls body temperature, appetite, sleep, sexual desire, and emotions such as fear.

hypothyroidism  
Result of a deficiency in secretion by the thyroid gland.

hypoxemia  
Deficiency of oxygen in the blood.

hypoxia  
Absence of oxygen in the tissues.

hysterectomy  
Removal of the uterus.

hysteropexy  
Surgical fixation of the uterus.

hysterorrhexis  
Rupture of the uterus.

hysterosalpingography  
Process of taking an X-ray of the uterus and oviducts after a radiopaque material is injected into the organs.

hysteroscopy  
Inspection of the uterus using a special endoscope instrument.

ice packs  
Using ice in a bag or container to treat localized conditions.

idiopathic  
When something occurs without a known cause.

idiosyncrasy  
Unusual or abnormal response to a drug or food.

ileitis  
Inflammation of the ileum.

ileocecal valve  
Sphincter between the ileum and the cecum.

ileostomy  
Surgical creation of a passage through the abdominal wall into the ileum. The third portion of the small intestines. Joins the colon at the cecum and separated by the ileocecal valve.

ilium  
One of three bones that form the os coxae or innominate bone of the pelvis.

immune response  
Ability of lymphocytes to respond to specific antigens.

immunization  
Providing protection against communicable diseases by stimulating the immune system to produce antibodies against the disease.

immunoglobulins  
Antibodies secreted by the B cells. All antibodies are immunoglobulins. They assist in protecting the body and its surfaces from the invasion of bacteria.

immunologist  
A physician who specializes in treating infectious diseases and other disorders of the immune system.

immunosuppressive  
Suppresses the body’s natural immune response to an antigen. This is used to control autoimmune diseases such as multiple sclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis.
immunotherapy

The production or strengthening of a patient’s immune system in order to treat a disease.

impacted fracture

Fracture in which bone fragments are pushed into each other.

impacted wisdom tooth

Wisdom tooth that is tightly wedged into the jawbone so that it is unable to erupt.

impetigo

A highly contagious staphylococcal skin infection, most commonly occurring on the faces of children.

implant

Prosthetic device placed in the jaw to which a tooth or denture may be anchored.

impotent

Inability to copulate due to inability to maintain an erection.

impregnation

Also called fertilization.

impulse

Wave of sudden excitement.

incision and drainage

(I & D) Making an incision to create an opening for the drainage of material such as pus.

incisors

Biting teeth in the very front of the mouth that function to cut food into smaller pieces.

Incomplete fracture

Fracture in which the line of fracture doesn’t include the entire bone.

incus

One of the three ossicles of the middle ear.

infarct

Area of tissue within an organ that undergoes necrosis following the loss of blood supply.

inferior

Directional term meaning toward the feet or tail, or below.

inferior venae cavae

The branch of the venae cavae that drains blood from the abdomen and lower body.

inflammatory bowel disease

(IBD) Ulceration of the mucous membranes of the colon of unknown origin. Nonspecific immune response that occurs as a reaction to any type of bodily injury. The signs are redness, heat, swelling, and pain.

informed consent

A medical record document, voluntarily signed by the patient or a responsible party, that clearly describes the purpose, methods, procedures, benefits, and risks of a diagnostic or treatment procedure.

inguinal

Commonly referred to as the groin.

inguinal hernia

Hernia or outpouching of intestines into the inguinal region of the body.

inhalation

To breathe air into the lungs.

inhalation method

Breathing in drugs in vapor form.

innate immunity

Immunity that is not specific to a particular disease and does not require prior exposure to the pathogen.

inner ear

The innermost section of the ear. It contains the cochlea, semicircular canals, saccule, and utricle.

innominate bone

Also called the so coxae or hip bone. It is the pelvis portion of the lower extremity.

insomnia

A sleeping disorder characterized by a marked inability to fall asleep.

inspiration

To breathe air into the lungs.

insulin

The hormone secreted by the pancreas. It regulates the level of sugar in the blood stream.

insulin reaction

Reaction that occurs when a diabetic patient receives too much insulin.

integumentary system

The skin and its appendages including the sweat glands, oil glands, hair, and nails.

intensive care unit (ICU)

Specialized hospital unit equipped to care for and monitor patients who have suffered severe injuries and illnesses and require constant supervision and lifesaving measures.

interatrial

Pertaining to between the atria.

interatrial septum

The wall or septum that divides the left and right atria.

intercostal muscles

Muscles between the ribs. When they contract they raise the ribs, which helps to enlarge the thoracic.

intercostal muscles intermittent positive pressure breathing (IPPB)

Method for assisting patients to breathe using a mask connected to a machine that
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>intermuscular</td>
<td>Pertaining to between the muscles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>internal medicine</td>
<td>Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the internal organs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Classification of Diseases</td>
<td>An official list of diseases was developed by the World Health Organization. This number consists of three to five digits that convey general and specific information regarding a diagnosis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>internist</td>
<td>A physician specializing in treating diseases and conditions of internal organs such as the respiratory system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interpreter</td>
<td>Person with training in areas such as sign language, fingerspelling, and speech, who can transmit verbal or written messages to the hearing impaired person.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interstitial cystitis</td>
<td>Disease of unknown cause in which there is inflammation and irritation of the bladder. Most commonly seen in middle aged women.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interventricular</td>
<td>Pertaining to between the ventricles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interventricular septum</td>
<td>The wall or septum that divides the left and right ventricles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intervertebral</td>
<td>Pertaining to between vertebrae.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intracavitary</td>
<td>Injection into a body cavity such as the peritoneal and chest cavity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intracoronary artery stent</td>
<td>Placing a stent within a coronary artery to treat coronary ischemia due to atherosclerosis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intracranial</td>
<td>Pertaining to inside the skull.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intradermal</td>
<td>Pertaining to within the skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intramuscular</td>
<td>Pertaining to within the muscle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intraocular</td>
<td>Pertaining to within the eye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intrathecal</td>
<td>Injection into the meninges space surrounding the brain and spinal cord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intrauterine device (IUD)</td>
<td>Device that is inserted into the uterus by a physician for the purpose of contraception's. Drugs, such as streptokinase or tissue type plasminogen activator (tPA), and injected into a blood vessel to dissolve clots and restore blood flow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intravenous (IV)</td>
<td>Injection into the veins. This route can be set up so that there is a continuous administration of medication. (IVC) A dye is administered intravenously to the patient that allows for X-ray visualization of the bile vessels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intravenous cholangiogram</td>
<td>A dye is administered intravenously to the patient that allows for X-ray visualization of the gallbladder.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intravenous method</td>
<td>Drugs injected into a vein.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intravenous method</td>
<td>Injecting a contrast medium into a vein and then taking an X-ray to visualize the renal pelvis. Insertion of a tube into the larynx or trachea through the glottis to allow for air to enter the lungs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intubation</td>
<td>An intestinal condition in which one portion of the intestine telescopes into an adjacent portion causing an obstruction, and gangrene if untreated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intussusception</td>
<td>Tendency of a malignant tumor to spread to immediately surrounding tissue and organs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inversion</td>
<td>Directional term meaning turning inward or inside out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>involuntary muscle tissue</td>
<td>Muscles that are not under voluntary control. Includes cardiac muscle and smooth muscle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iodine</td>
<td>A mineral required by the thyroid to produce its hormone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iridectomy</td>
<td>Excision of the iris.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iridoplegia</td>
<td>Paralysis of the iris.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iridosclerotomy</td>
<td>Incision into the iris and sclera.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iris</td>
<td>The colored portion of the eye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iritis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the iris.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irregular bones</td>
<td>A type of bone having an irregular shape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)</td>
<td>Disturbance in the functions of the intestine from unknown causes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ischemia</td>
<td>Localized and temporary deficiency of blood supply due to an obstruction of the circulation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ischium</td>
<td>One of the three bones that form the so coxae or innominate bone of the pelvis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>islets of Langerhans</td>
<td>The regions within the pancreas that secretes insulin and glucagon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaundice</td>
<td>Yellow cast to the skin, mucous membranes, and the whites of the eyes caused by the deposit of bile pigment from too much bilirubin in the blood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jejunoileostomy</td>
<td>Formation of a passage between the jejunum and the ileum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jejunostomy</td>
<td>Surgical creation of a permanent opening into the jejunum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jejunum</td>
<td>The middle portion of the small intestines. Site of nutrient absorption.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>joints</td>
<td>The point at which two bones meet. It provides flexibility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>juvenile rheumatoid arthritis</td>
<td>A form of rheumatoid arthritis that usually affects the larger joints of children under the age of 16 yrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaposi's sarcoma</td>
<td>Form of skin cancer frequently seen in acquired immunodeficiency syndrome patients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kegal exercises</td>
<td>Exercises to strengthen female pubic muscles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keloid</td>
<td>Formation of a scar after an injury or surgery that results in a raised, thickened red area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keratine</td>
<td>A hard protein substance produced by the body.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keratitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the cornea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keratoplasty</td>
<td>Surgical repair of the cornea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keratosis</td>
<td>Overgrowth and thickening of the epithelium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ketocidiosis</td>
<td>Acidosis due to an excess of ketone bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kidney</td>
<td>The two kidneys are located in the lumbar region of the back behind the parietal peritoneum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kleptomania</td>
<td>An impulse control disorder in which the patient is unable to refrain from stealing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kyphosis</td>
<td>Abnormal increase in the outward curvature of the thoracic spine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labia majora</td>
<td>A fold of skin that serves as protection for the female external genitalia and urethral meatus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labia minora</td>
<td>A fold of skin that serves as protection for the female external genitalia and urethral meatus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labor</td>
<td>The period of time beginning with uterine contractions and ending with the birth of a baby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labyrinth</td>
<td>The term that refers to the inner ear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labyrinthectomy</td>
<td>Excision of the labyrinth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labyrinthitis</td>
<td>Labyrinth inflammation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lacrimal</td>
<td>Pertaining to tears.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lacrimal bone</td>
<td>A facial bone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lacrimal ducts</td>
<td>Tear ducts located in the inner corner of the eye socket.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lacrimal gland</td>
<td>A gland located in the outer corner of the eyelid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lacrimal sac</td>
<td>Lacrimal sacs receive tears from the lacrimal duct and carry them to the nasal cavity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lactation</td>
<td>The function of secreting milk after childbirth form the breasts or mammary glands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lactic</td>
<td>Pertaining to milk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lactorrhea</td>
<td>Discharge of milk.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
laminectomy  Removal of a portion of a vertebra in order to relieve pressure on the spinal nerve.
laparoscope  Instrument to view inside the abdomen.
laparoscopy  An instrument or scope is passed into the abdominal wall through a small incision. The abdominal cavity is then examined for tumors and other conditions with this lighted instrument.
laparotomy  Incision into the abdomen.
laryngectomy  Surgical removal of the larynx.
laryngitis  Inflammation of the larynx causing difficulty in speaking.
laryngopharynx  The inferior section of the pharynx.
laryngoplasty  Surgical repair of the larynx.
laryngoscope  An instrument to view the voice box.
laryngoscopy  Examination of the interior of the larynx with a lighted instrument.
laryngostomy  Surgical creation of an opening into the voice box.
larynx  Also called the voice box.
laser  Device that emits intense, small beams of light capable of destroying or fixing tissue in place.
laser-assisted in-situ keratomileusis (LASIK)  Correction of myopia using laser surgery to remove corneal tissue.
laser surgery  Use of a controlled beam of light for cutting, hemostasis, or tissue destruction. Removal of skin lesions and birthmarks using a laser beam that emits intense heat at a close range. The laser converts frequencies of light into one small, powerful beam.
laser therapy  Removal of skin lesions and birthmarks using a laser beam that emits intense heat at a close range. The laser converts frequencies of light into one small, powerful beam.
last menstrual period (LMP)  Date when the last menstrual period started.
lateral (lat)  Directional term meaning to the side.
lateral recumbent  Lying on either the left or right side.
lateral view  Positioning the patient so that the side of the body faces the X-ray machine.
laxative  A mild cathartic.
lead poisoning  Poisoning that occurs in children who ingest lead, often from paint chips.
left hypochondriac  An anatomical division of the abdomen, the left side of the upper row.
left iliac  An anatomical division of the abdomen, the left side of the bottom row.
left inguinal  An anatomical division of the abdomen, the left side of the bottom row.
left lower quadrant (LLQ)  A clinical division of the abdomen. It contains portions of small and large intestines, left ovary and fallopian tube, and left ureter.
left lumbar  An anatomical division of the abdomen, the left side of the middle row.
left subclavian vein  The circulatory system vein that receives lymph from the thoracic duct.
left upper quadrant (LUQ)  A clinical division of the abdomen. It contains the left lobe of the liver, spleen, stomach, portion of the pancreas, and portion of small and large intestines.
Legionnaire's disease  Severe, often fatal disease characterized by pneumonia and gastrointestinal symptoms. The transparent structure behind the pupil and iris. It functions to bend light so they land on the retina.
lethargy  Condition of sluggishness or stupor.
leukemia  Cancer of the WBC-forming bone marrow.
leukocytes  Also called white blood cells or WBC's.
leukoderma  Disappearance of pigment from the skin in patches, causing a milk white appearance.
leukoplakia  Formation of white patches or spots on the mucous membranes of the cheek or tongue.
ligaments  Very strong bands of connective tissue that bind bones together at a joint.
lingual tonsils  Tonsils located on the very posterior section of the tongue as it joins with the pharynx.
lipectomy  Surgical removal of fat.
lipocytes  Medical term for cells that contain fat molecules.
lipoma  Fatty tumor that generally does not metastasize.
liposuction  Removal of fat beneath the skin by means of suction.
lithotomy  Surgical incision to remove kidney stones.
lithotomy position  Lying face up with hips and knees bent to 90 degrees.
lithotripsy  Destroying or crushing kidney stones in the bladder or urethra with a device called a lithotriptor.
liver  A large organ located in the right upper quadrant of the abdomen. It serves many functions in the body. Its digestive system role includes producing bile, processing the absorbed nutrients, and detoxifying harmful substances.
liver biopsy  Excision of a small piece of liver tissue for microscopic examination.
liver scan  A radioactive substance is administered to the patient by an intravenous route. When the substance enters the liver cells, the organ can be visualized.
local anesthesia  Produces a loss of sensation in one localized part of the body. It is administered either topically or via subcutaneous route.
long bone  A type of bone that is longer than it is wide.
long term care facility  A facility that provides long term care for patients who need extra time to recover from an illness or accident before they return home or for when persons who can no longer care for themselves.
loop of Henle  A portion of the renal tubule.
lordosis  Abnormal increase in the forward curvature of the lumbar spine.
low birth weight (LBW)  Abnormally low weight in a newborn. It is usually considered to be less than 5.5 pounds.
low sex drive  A sexual disorder characterized by having a decreased interest in sexual intimacy. Also called the cardia sphincter. Prevents food and gastric juices from backing up into the esophagus.
lower esophageal sphincter  The leg.
lower extremity (LE)  Pertaining to the five low back vertebrae.
lumbar puncture (LP)  Puncture with a needle into the lumbar area to withdraw fluid for examination and for the injection of anesthesia.
lumbar vertebrae  The five vertebrae in the low back region.
lumen  The space, cavity, or channel within a tube or tubular organ or structure in the body.
lungs  The major organs of respiration.
Lunula  The lighter colored, half moon region at the base of a nail.
luteinizing hormone  A hormone secreted by the anterior pituitary. It regulates function of male and female gonads and plays a role in releasing ova in females.
lymph  Clear, transparent, colorless fluid found in the lymphatic vessels and the cisterna chyli.
lymph ducts  The two largest vessels in the lymphatic system, the lymphatic duct and the thoracic duct. Small organs in the lymphatic system that filter bacteria and other foreign organisms form the body fluids.
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>lymphadenectomy</td>
<td>Excision of a lymph node.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphadenitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the lymph glands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphadenography</td>
<td>X-ray image of lymph nodes following infection of a radiopaque dye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphangiogram</td>
<td>X-ray taken of the lymph vessels after the injection of dye. The lymph flow through the chest is traced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphangiography</td>
<td>Process of taking an X-ray of the lymph vessels after the injection of a radiopaque material.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphangioma</td>
<td>Benign mass of lymphatic vessels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphatic</td>
<td>Pertaining to lymph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphatic duct</td>
<td>One of the two largest lymphatic vessels. It drains the right arm, chest walls, and both lungs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphatic system</td>
<td>System that helps the body fight infection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lymphocytes</td>
<td>Macrophage cells that are found in large quantities in the lymph nodes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>macula lutea</td>
<td>Images are projected onto the area of the retina.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>macular degeneration</td>
<td>Deterioration of the macular area of the retina of the eye.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>macule magnetic resonance imaging</td>
<td>(MRI) Medical imaging that uses radio frequency radiation as its source of energy. Useful for visualizing large blood vessels, the heart, the brain, and soft tissues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>major depression</td>
<td>A mood disorder characterized by a marked loss of interest in usually enjoyable activities, disturbance in sleep and eating patterns, fatigue, suicidal thoughts, and feelings of hopelessness, worthlessness, and guilt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malabsorption syndrome</td>
<td>Inadequate absorption of nutrients from the intestinal tract.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>male pattern baldness</td>
<td>Genetically determined pattern of progressive hair loss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malignant</td>
<td>A tumor that is cancerous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malignant lymphoma</td>
<td>Cancerous tumor of lymphatic tissue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malignant melanoma</td>
<td>Malignant, darkly pigmented tumor or mole of the skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malingering</td>
<td>A type of factitious disorder in which the patient intentionally feigns illness for attention or secondary gain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malleus</td>
<td>One of the three ossicles of the middle ear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mammary glands</td>
<td>The breasts; milk producing glands to provide nutrition for newborn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mammogram</td>
<td>X-ray record of the breast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mammoplasty</td>
<td>Surgical repair of the breast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>managed care</td>
<td>A systematic approach to delivering high quality, comprehensive health care while controlling costs, mainly by eliminating duplicate and unwarranted facilities and services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandible</td>
<td>The lower jawbone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mania</td>
<td>A mood disorder characterized by extreme elation and euphoria.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marsupialization</td>
<td>Creating a pouch to promote drainage by surgically opening a closed area such as a cyst.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>masochism</td>
<td>A sexual disorder characterized by receiving sexual gratification from being hurt or abused.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>massage</td>
<td>Kneading or applying pressure by hands to a part of the patient's body to promote muscle relaxation and reduce tension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mastalgia</td>
<td>Breast pain.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
mastectomy  
Excision of the breast.

mastitis  
Inflammation of the breast, which is common during lactation but can occur at any age. Surgical opening made in the cavity within the mastoid process to alleviate pressure from infection and allow for drainage.

mastoid antrotomy  
Surgical opening made in the cavity within the mastoid process to alleviate pressure from infection and allow for drainage.

mastoid proces  
The bony process of the skull felt just behind the ear.

mastoid X-ray  
X-ray taken of the mastoid bone to determine the presence of an infection, which can be an extension of a middle ear infection.

mastoidectomy  
Excision of the mastoid bone.

mastoiditis  
Inflammation of the mastoid bone.

mastoidotomy  
Incision into the mastoid bone.

maxilla  
The upper jawbone.

measles  
A highly contagious viral disease characterized by fever, malaise, lung congestion, and rash.

meatotomy  
Surgical enlargement of the urinary opening. An obstruction of the small intestine of a newborn infant caused by an impaction of thick meconium.

meconium ileus  
a substance that collects in the intestines of a fetus and becomes the first stool of a newborn.

medial  
Directional term meaning to the middle or near the middle of the body or the structure.

mediastinal  
There is a collection of lymph nodes located in the mediastinum that drain the chest.

mediastinum  
The central region of the chest cavity.

medical record  
Documents the details of a patient's hospital stay. Also called a chart.

medulla  
The central area of an organ.

medulla oblongata  
a portion of the brain stem that connects the spinal cord with the brain.

medulloblastoma  
Soft malignant tumor of the brain.

melanin  
The black color pigment in the skin.

melanocytes  
Special cells in the basal layer of the epidermis. They contain the black pigment melanin that gives its color and protects against the ultraviolet rays of the sun.

melanocyte-stimulation hormone  
A hormone secreted by the anterior pituitary. It stimulates pigment production in the skin. Also called malignant melanoma. A dangerous form of skin cancer caused by an overgrowth of melanin in a melanocyte.

membrane  
Thin structures that cover and protect the body surface, line body cavities, and line some of the internal organs, such as the digestive and respiratory passages.

menarche  
The first menstrual period. Abnormal condition within the labyrinth of the inner ear that can lead to progressive loss of hearing.

Menireres disease  
Abnormal condition within the labyrinth of the inner ear that can lead to progressive loss of hearing.

meninges  
Three connective tissue membrane layers that surround the brain and spinal cord.

meningioma  
Slow growing tumor in the meninges of the brain.

meningitis  
Inflammation of the membranes of the spinal cord and brain that is caused by a microorganism. Congenital hernia in which the meninges, or membranes, protrude through an opening in the spinal column or brain.

meningocele  
Congenital hernia in which the meninges, or membranes, protrude through an opening in the spinal column or brain.

meniscectomy  
Removal of the knee cartilage.

menopause  
Cessation or ending of menstrual activity.

menorrhagia  
Excessive bleeding during the menstrual period.

menstruation  
The loss of blood and tissue as the endometrium is shed by the uterus. The flow occurs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mental retardation</td>
<td>A disorder characterized by a diminished ability to process intellectual functions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metabolism</td>
<td>The sum of all the chemical processes taking place in the body.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metacarpals</td>
<td>The hand bones in the upper extremity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metastases</td>
<td>The spreading of a cancerous tumor from its original site to different locations of the body.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metastasis</td>
<td>Movement and spread of cancer cells from one part of the body to another.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metastasized</td>
<td>When cancerous cells migrate away from a tumor site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metatarsals</td>
<td>The ankle bones in the lower extremity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metrorrhoea</td>
<td>Discharge from the uterus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>microorganisms</td>
<td>A microscopic organism that is capable of invading the body and possibly causing disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mictuition</td>
<td>Another term for urination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>midbrain</td>
<td>A portion of the brain stem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>middle ear</td>
<td>The middle section of the ear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>midsagittal plane</td>
<td>A vertical plane that divides the body into equal left and right halves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mineralocorticoid</td>
<td>A group of hormones secreted by the adrenal cortex. They regulate electrolytes and fluid volume in the body.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miotic</td>
<td>Any substance that causes the pupil to constrict.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miscarriage</td>
<td>The unplanned loss of a fetus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitral stenosis</td>
<td>Narrowing of the opening of the mitral valve, which causes an obstruction in the flow of blood from the atrium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitral valve prolapse</td>
<td>Common and serious condition in which the cusp of the mitral valve drops down into the left atrium during systole.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mobility</td>
<td>State of having normal movement of all body parts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>molars</td>
<td>Large somewhat flat topped back teeth. Function to grind food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>monocytes</td>
<td>An granulocyte white blood cell that is important for phagocytosis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mononucleosis</td>
<td>Acute infectious disease with a large number of atypical lymphocytes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>monoparesis</td>
<td>Weakness of one extremity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>monoplegia</td>
<td>Paralysis of one extremity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>monospot</td>
<td>Test for infectious mononucleosis in which there is a nonspecific antibody called heterophile antibody.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>morbidity</td>
<td>Number that represents the number of sick persons in a particular population.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mortality</td>
<td>Number that represents the number of deaths in a particular population. The external opening of the alimentary canal. It contains the teeth and tongue for biting and chewing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mouth</td>
<td>The lining of the stomach and intestines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mucosa</td>
<td>These membranes line body passages that open directly to the exterior of the body, such as the mouth and reproductive tract, and secrete a thick mucus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>multigravida</td>
<td>Woman who has had more than one pregnancy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>multipara</td>
<td>Woman who has given birth to more than one child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>multiple myeloma</td>
<td>Neoplasms that infiltrates the bone and bone marrow and eventually forms multiple tumor masses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple personality disorder</td>
<td>A type of dissociative disorder in which the person displays two or more distinct conscious</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
personalities that alternate in controlling the body.

**multiple sclerosis**  
Inflammatory disease of the central nervous system.

**mumps**  
A contagious viral disease characterized by high fever and inflammation and swelling of the parotid salivary glands.

**murmur**  
An abnormal heart sound such as a soft blowing sound or harsh click.

**muscle biopsy**  
Removal of muscle tissue for pathological examination.

**muscle relaxant**  
Produces the relaxation of skeletal muscle.

**muscle tissue**  
Tissue that is able to contract and shorten its length, thereby producing movement. It may be voluntary or involuntary.

**muscles**  
Muscles are bundles of parallel muscle tissue fibers that contract.

**muscular**  
Pertaining to muscles.

**muscular dystrophy**  
Inherited disease causing a progressive muscle weakness and atrophy.

**musculoskeletal system**  
System that provides support from the body and produces movement.

**mutation**  
Change or transformation from the original.

**myasthenia**  
Lack of muscle strength.

**myasthenia gravis**  
Disorder causing loss of muscle strength and paralysis.

**mydriatic**  
A substance that causes the pupil to dilate.

**myelin**  
Tissue that wraps around many of the nerve fibers. It is composed of fatty material and functions as an insulator.

**myelinated**  
Nerve fibers covered with a layer of myelin.

**myelogram**  
X-ray record of the spinal cord following injection of meninges with radiopaque dye.

**myelography**  
Injection of a radiopaque dye into the spinal canal. An X-ray is then taken to look for abnormalities.

**Myeloma**  
Malignant neoplasm originating in plasma cells in the bone.

**myelomalacia**  
Spinal cord softening.

**myelomeningocele**  
A hernia composed of meninges and spinal cord.

**myocardial**  
Pertaining to heart muscle.

**myocardial infarction**  
Condition caused by the partial or complete occlusion or closing of one or more of the coronary arteries.

**myocarditis**  
Inflammation of the heart muscle.

**myopathy**  
Any disease of the muscle.

**myopia**  
With this condition a person can see things that are close up but distance vision is blurred.

**myoplasty**  
Surgical repair of muscle.

**myorrhaphy**  
Suture a muscle.

**myringitis**  
Ear drum inflammation.

**myringoplasty**  
Surgical reconstruction of the eardrum.

**myringotomy**  
Surgical puncture of the eardrum with removal of fluid and pus from the middle ear, to eliminate a persistent ear infection and excessive pressure on the tympanic membrane.

**myxedema**  
Condition resulting from a hypofunction of the thyroid gland. Symptoms can include anemia, slow speech, enlarged tongue and facial features, edematous skin, drowsiness, and mental apathy.

**nails**  
A structure in the integumentary system.

**narcissistic personality**  
A personality disorder characterized by an abnormal sense of self-importance.
narcolepsy
Chronic disorder in which there is an extreme uncontrollable desire to sleep. Produces sleep or stupor. In moderate doses this drug will depress the central nervous system and relieve pain.
narcotic
A facial bone.
nasal cavity
Large cavity just behind the external nose that receives the outside air.
nasal septum
A flexible cartilage wall that divides the nasal cavity into left and right halves.
nasogastric
Pertaining to the nose and stomach.
nasopharynx
The superior section of the pharynx that receives air from the nose.
natural immunity
Immunity that is not specific to a particular disease and does not require prior exposure to the pathogen.
natural killer cells
T cells that can kill by entrapping foreign cells, tumor cells, and bacterial. Also called T8 cells.
near drowning
When a person lives after being underwater for a period of time that could have resulted in drowning.
necrosis
Dead tissue.
needle biopsy
Using a sterile needle to remove tissue for examination under a microscope.
neonate
Term used to describe the newborn infant during the first four weeks of life.
neonatologist
Physicians specialized in the care of newborn infants.
neonatology
The study of the newborn.
neoplasm
An abnormal growth of tissue that may be benign or malignant.
nephrectomy
Excision of a kidney.
nephritis
Inflammation of a kidney.
nephrography
Process of X-raying the kidney after injecting radiopaque dye.
nephrolithiasis
The presence of calculi in the kidney.
nephrologist
A physician specialized in the diagnosis and treatment of the kidney and urinary system.
nephrology
Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the urinary system.
nephroma
Kidney tumor.
nephromalacia
Softening of the kidney.
nephromegaly
Enlarged kidney.
nephron
The functional or working unit of the kidney that filters the blood and produces the urine.
nephropathy
Kidney disease.
nephropexy
Surgical fixation of a kidney.
nephroptosis
Drooping kidney.
nephorrhaphy
Suturing a kidney.
nephraesarcoma
Cancer of the kidney.
nephrosclerosis
Hardening of the kidney.
nephrosis
Abnormal condition of the kidney.
nephrostomy
Create a new opening across the body wall into the kidney.
nephrotomy
Incision into a kidney.
nerve block
Also referred to as regional anesthesia. It interrupts a patient's pain sensation in a particular region of the body. A test to determine if nerves have been damaged by recording the rate at which an electrical impulse travels along a nerve.
nerve conduction velocity
Structures in the nervous system that conduct electrical impulses from the brain and spinal cord.
nervous system
System that coordinates all the conscious and subconscious activities of the body. Organs include
the brain, spinal cord, and nerves.
nervous tissue
Nervous tissue conducts electrical impulses to and from the brain and the rest of the body.
normal
Pertaining to nerves.
normalgia
Nerve pain.
normalasthenia
Lack of nerve strength.
normalectomy
Excision of a nerve.
normalis
Inflammation of a nerve or nerves, causing pain.
normalblastoma
Malignant hemorrhagic tumor
normalologist
Physician who specializes in disorders of the nervous system.
normalology
Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the nervous system.
normalysis
Nerve destruction.
normaloma
Nerve tumor.
normal
The name for an individual nerve cell.
normaloplasty
Surgical repair of nerves.
normalorrhaphy
Suture a nerve.
normalosis
Mental disorder in which there are symptoms such as depression and anxiety.
A physician specializing in treating conditions and diseases of the nervous systems by surgical means.
normalsurgeon
Branch of medicine specializing in surgery on the nervous system.
normalotomy
Incision into a nerve.
normalaphils
A granulocyte white blood cell that is important for phagocytosis.
normal
Pigmented congenital skin blemish, birthmark or mole.
normalborn
Interchangeable with the term neonate, meaning infants less than one month old.
Waste products that contain nitrogen. These products, such as ammonia and urea, are produced
during protein metabolism.
normaluria
Excessive urination during the night.
normalule
Solid, raised group of cells.
normal-Hodgkin’s lymphoma
Cancer of the lymphatic tissues other than Hodgkin’s lymphoma.
A condition in infants in which the weight remains below the fifth percentile of weight for children
the same age, not associated with a particular disease.
normalprescription drug
Drugs that are accessible in drugstores without a prescription.
The recognized and accepted official name for a drug. Each drug has only one generic name, which
is not subject to trademark, so any pharmaceutical manufacturer may use it. Also called a generic
name.
normalpinephrine
A hormone secreted by the adrenal medulla. It is a strong vasoconstrictor.
normal
Outside air enters the respiratory system through the nose.
normalus
The cell organelle that contains the chromosomes. Mature red blood cells have lost their nuclei.
normaligravida
Woman who has never been pregnant.
normalipara
Woman who has never produced a viable baby.
normurse
To breastfeed a baby.
nurse anesthetist  A registered nurse who has received additional training and education in the administration of anesthetic medications.

Nurse's Notes  Medical record document that records the patient's care throughout the day. It includes vital signs, treatment specifics, patient's response to treatment, and patient's condition.

nursing home  A facility that provides long term care for patients who need extra time to recover from an illness or accident before they return home or for when persons who can no longer care for themselves.

nystagmus  Jerky appearing involuntary eye movement.

obesity  Having an abnormal amount of fat in the body.

oblique fracture  Fracture at an angle to the bone.

oblique muscle  Oblique means slanted. Two of the eye muscles are oblique muscles.

oblique view  Positioning the patient so that the X-rays pass through the body on an angle.

obsessive compulsive disorder  A type of anxiety disorder in which the person performs repetitive rituals in order to reduce anxiety.

obstetrician  A physician specialized in providing care for pregnant women and delivering infants.

obstetrics  Branch of medicine that treats women during pregnancy and childbirth, and immediately after childbirth.

occipital bone  A cranial bone.

occipital lobe  One of the four cerebral hemisphere lobes. It controls eyesight.

occult blood test  Self administered test on the feces to determine if blood is present.

occupational therapy  Assists patients to regain, develop, and improve skills that are important for independent functioning.

oculomycosis  Condition of eye fungus.

olecranon process  A process off the ulna that is part of the elbow joint. It is commonly referred to as the funny bone.

oligomenorrhea  Scanty menstrual flow.

oligospermia  Condition of having few sperm.

oliguria  Condition of scanty amount of urine.

oncogenic  Cancer causing.

oncology  The branch of medicine dealing with tumors.

onychectomy  Excision of a nail.

onychia  Infected nail bed.

onychomalacia  Softening of nails.

onychomycosis  Abnormal condition of nail fungus.

onychophagia  Nail biting.

oophorectomy  Removal of an ovary.

ophoritis  Inflammation of an ovary.

open fracture  Fracture in which the skin has been broken through to the fracture.

open heart surgery  Surgery that involves incision of the heart, coronary arteries, or the heart valves.

open wounds  A wound that has penetrated the skin.

Operative Report  A medical record report from the surgeon detailing an operation. It includes a pre- and post-operative diagnosis, specific details of the surgical procedure itself, and how the patient tolerated the procedure.

ophthalmalgia  Eye pain.
ophthalmic  Pertaining to the eyes.
ophthalmic artery  The artery that supplies blood to the eyeball.
ophthalmologist  A physician specialized in treating conditions and diseases of the eye.
ophthalmoplegia  Paralysis of the eye.
ophthalmorrhagia  Rapid bleeding from the eye.
ophthalmoscope  Instrument to view inside the eye.
ophthalmoscopy  Examination of the interior of the eyes using an instrument called an ophthalmoscope. The physician dilates the pupil in order to see the cornea, lens, and retina. Identifies abnormalities in the blood vessels of the eye and some systemic diseases.
opportunistic infections  Infectious diseases that are associated with AIDS since they occur as a result of the lowered immune system and resistance of the body to infections and parasites.
opposition  Moves thumb away from palm; the ability to move the thumb into contact with the other fingers.
optic  Pertaining to the eye.
optic disc  The area of the retina associated with the optic nerve. Also called the blind spot.
optic nerve  The second cranial nerve that carries impulses from the retinas to the brain.
ophtician  Specialist in grinding corrective lenses.
optometer  Instrument to measure vision.
optometrist  A doctor of optometry specializes in testing visual acuity and prescribing corrective lenses.
optometry  Process of measuring vision.
oral  Pertaining to the mouth.
oral cholecystography  The patient swallows a radiopaque dye so that X-ray pictures can be taken that allow visualization of the gallbladder and its components.
oral hypoglycemic agent  Medication taken by mouth that causes a decrease in blood sugar.
oral surgeon  Dentist specializing in surgical treatment of the teeth and surrounding tissues.
orbit  Also called the eye socket.
orchidectomy  Excision of the testes. Surgical fixation to move undescended testes into the scrotum and attaching to prevent retraction.
orchiectomy  Surgical removal of the testes.
orchidopexy  Surgical fixation to move undescended testes.
orchioplasty  Surgical repair of the testes.
orchiotomy  Incision into the testes.
organ of Corti  The sensory receptor hair cells lining the cochlea. These cells change the sounds vibrations to electrical impulses and sends the impulses to the brain via the vestibulocochlear nerve.
organism  A whole, living individual.
organs  Groups of different types of tissue coming together to perform specific functions.
opharynx  The middle section of the pharynx that receives food and drink from the mouth.
orthodontics  The dental specialty concerned with straightening teeth.
orthodontist  Dentist who is an expert in orthodontia, which is straightening teeth. Branch of medicine specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the musculoskeletal system.
**orthopedist**
Physician who specializes in treatment of conditions of the musculoskeletal system.

**orthopnea**
Term to describe a patient who needs to sit up straight in order to breathe comfortably.
The use of equipment, such as splints, and braces to support a paralyzed muscle, promote a specific motion, or correct musculoskeletal deformities.

**orthotist**
Person skilled in orthotics.

**os coxae**
Also called the innominate bone or hip bone.

**osmosis**
Diffusion of water through a permeable membrane that allows the passage of water but does not permit the solute to pass.

**osseous tissue**
Bony tissue.

**ossicles**
The three small bones in the middle ear.

**ossification**
The process of bone formation.
Noninflammatory type of arthritis resulting in degeneration of the bones and joints, especially those bearing weight.

**osteoblast**
An embryonic bone cell.

**osteoblastoma**
Benign lesion or tumor generally found on the spine, where it may cause paralysis.

**osteocarcinoma**
Cancer of the bone.

**osteochondroma**
Tumor composed of both cartilage and bony substance.

**osteoclasia**
Intentional breaking of a bone in order to correct a deformity.

**osteocyte**
Mature bone cells.

**osteoid osteoma**
Painful tumor usually found in the lower extremities.

**osteomalacia**
Softening of the bones caused by a deficiency of phosphorus or calcium.

**osteomyelitis**
Inflammation of the bone and bone marrow due to infection.

**osteopath**
Physician who specializes in osteopathy.
Form of medicine that places great emphasis on the musculoskeletal system and the body system as a whole.

**osteoporosis**
Decrease in bone mass that results in a thinning and weakening of the bone with resulting fractures.

**osteotome**
An instrument to cut bone.

**osteotomy**
Incision into a bone.

**otalgia**
Ear pain.

**otic**
Pertaining to the ear.

**otitis**
Ear inflammation.

**otitis media**
Commonly referred to as middle ear infection.

**otolaryngology**
Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the ear, nose, and throat.

**otologist**
A physician specialized in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the ear.

**otology**
Study of the ear.

**otomycosis**
Fungal infection of the ear, usually in the auditory canal.
The hormone secreted by the parathyroid glands. The more hormone, the higher the calcium level in the blood and the lower the level stored in bone. A low hormone level will cause tetany.

**parathyroidectomy**
Excision of one or more of the parathyroid glands. This is performed to halt the process of hyperparathyroidism.

**parathyroidoma**
A parathyroid gland tumor.
**parenteral**
A route for introducing medication other than through the gastrointestinal tract. It most commonly involves injection into the body through a needle and syringe.

**parietal**
Term meaning the outermost layer.

**parietal bone**
A cranial bone.

**parietal layer**
The outer pleural layer around the lungs.
One of the four cerebral hemisphere lobes. It receives and interprets nerve impulses from sensory receptors.

**parietal pericardium**
The outer layer of the pericardium surrounding the heart.

**parietal peritoneum**
The outer layer of the serous membrane sac lining the abdominopelvic cavity.

**parietal pleura**
The outer layer of the serous membrane sac lining the thoracic cavity.

**Parkinson's disease**
Chronic disorder of the nervous system with fine tremors, muscular weakness, rigidity, and shuffling gait.

**paronychia**
Infection around a nail.

**parotid glands**
A pair of salivary glands located in front of the ears.

**paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea**
Attacks of shortness of breath that occur only at night and awaken the patient.

**passive acquired immunity**
Immunity that results when a person receives protective substances produced by another human or animal.

**passive aggressive personality**
A personality disorder in which the person expresses feelings or anger or hostility through indirect or covert actions. Therapist putting a patient's joints through a full range of motion without assistance from the patient.

**passive range of motion**
Therapist putting a patient's joints through a full range of motion without assistance from the patient.

**patella**
Also called the knee cap.

**patent**
Open or unblocked, such as a patent airway.

**patent ductus arteriosus**
Congenital heart anomaly in which the opening between the pulmonary artery and the aorta fails to close at birth.

**pathogenic**
Microscopic organisms, such as bacteria, that are capable of causing disease.

**pathogens**
Disease bearing organisms.

**pathologic fracture**
Fracture caused by diseased or weakened bone.

**pathological gambling**
An impulse control disorder in which the patient is unable to control the urge to gamble.

**pathologist**
A physician who specialized in evaluating specimens removed from living or dead patients.

**Pathologist's Report**
A medical record report given by a pathologist who studies tissue removed from the patient.

**pediatricians**
Physicians who are involved in the prevention and treatment of childhood diseases.

**pediatrics**
The branch of medicine specialized in caring for children.

**pediculosis**
Infestation with lice.

**pedophilia**
A sexual disorder characterized by having sexual interest in children.

**pelvic**
Pertaining to the pelvis.

**pelvic cavity**
The inferior portion of the abdominopelvic cavity.

**pelvic examination**
Physician examination of the vagina and adjacent organs performed by a physician placing the fingers of one hand into the vagina. A visual examination is performed using a speculum.

**pelvic inflammatory disease**
An inflammation of the female reproductive organs, generally bacterial in nature.

**pelvic ultrasonography**
Use of ultrasound waves to produce an image or photograph of an organ, such as the uterus,
ovaries, or fetus.

**pelvimetry** Measurement of the pelvic area.

**pemphigus vulgaris** Blisters forming in the skin and mucous membranes.

**penis** The male sex organ.

**peptic ulcer** Ulcer occurring in the lower portion of the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum and thought to be caused by acid of gastric juices.

**percussion** Use of the fingertips to tap the body lightly and sharply.

**percutaneous transhepatic cholangiography** A contrast medium is injected directly into the liver to visualize the bile ducts.

**percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty** Method for treating localized coronary artery narrowing. A balloon catheter is inserted through the skin into the coronary artery and inflated to dilate the narrow blood vessel.

**pericardial cavity** Cavity formed by the serous membrane sac surrounding the heart.

**pericardiectomy** Surgical excision of part of the pericardium.

**pericarditis** Inflammatory process or disease of the pericardium.

**pericardium** The double walled outer sac around the heart.

**perimetritis** Inflammation around the uterus.

**perineum** In the male, the external region between the scrotum and anus. In the female, the external region between the vagina and anus.

**periodontal disease** Disease of the supporting structures of the teeth, including the gums and bones.

**perioperative** The period of time that includes before, during, and after a surgical procedure.

**periosteum** The membrane that covers most bones.

**peripheral nervous system** The portion of the nervous system that contains the cranial nerves and spinal nerves. They are responsible for voluntary muscle movement, smell, taste, sight, and hearing. The wave like muscular movements in the wall of the digestive system tube--esophagus, stomach, small intestines, and colon--that functions to move food along the tube. The wave like contractions of the muscles in a tubular organ, such as the ureters, that propel forward any substance inside the tube. Removal of toxic waste substances from the body by placing warm chemically balanced solutions into the peritoneal cavity. Membranous sac that lines the abdominal cavity and encases the abdominopelvic organs. The kidneys are an exception since they lay outside the peritoneum and alongside the vertebral column.

**peritonsillar abscess** Infection of the tissues between the tonsils and the pharynx. The thirty two permanent teeth begin to erupt at about the age of six. Generally complete by the age of sixteen. A contagious bacterial infection of the larynx, trachea, and bronchi characterized by coughing attacks that end with a whooping sound. Also called whooping cough.

**petechiae** Flat, pinpoint, purplish spots from bleeding under the skin.

**petit mal** A type of epilepsy seizure that lasts only a few seconds to half a minute, characterized by a loss of awareness and an absence of activity.
**pH**
A number between 1 and 14 that indicates how acidic or basic a substance is. Use of high frequency sound waves to emulsify a lens with a cataract, which is then aspirated with a needle.

**phacoemulsification**
Use of high frequency sound waves to emulsify a lens with a cataract, which is then aspirated with a needle.

**phagocyte**
Neutrophil component of the blood; has the ability to ingest and destroy bacteria.

**phagocytic cells**
Having the ability to engulf. Phagocytic white blood cells are able to engulf bacteria and other invading pathogens.

**phagocytosis**
The process of engulfing or ingesting material. Several types of white blood cells function by engulfing bacteria.

**phalanges**
The finger bones in the upper extremities and the toe bones in the lower extremities.

**pharmaceutical**
Related to medication or pharmacies.

**pharmacist**
One who is licensed to prepare and dispense drugs.

**pharmacology**
Study of the origins, nature, properties, and effects of drugs on the living organism. Another term for adenoids. The tonsils are a collection of lymphatic tissue found in the nasopharynx to combat microorganisms entering the body through the nose. Inflammation of the mucous membrane of the pharynx, usually caused by a viral or bacterial infection.

**pharyngeal tonsils**
Another term for adenoids. The tonsils are a collection of lymphatic tissue found in the nasopharynx to combat microorganisms entering the body through the nose.

**pharyngitis**
Inflammation of the mucous membrane of the pharynx, usually caused by a viral or bacterial infection. Commonly called a sore throat.

**pharynx**
Medical term for the throat.

**phimosis**
Narrowing of the foreskin over the glans penis that results in difficulty with hygiene.

**phlebitis**
Inflammation of a vein.

**phleborrhaphy**
Suturing a vein.

**phlebotomy**
Creating an opening into a vein to withdraw blood.

**phlegm**
Thick mucus secreted by the membranes that line the respiratory tract.

**phobias**
A type of anxiety disorder in which a person has irrational fears.

**photorefractive keratectomy**
The use of a laser to reshape the cornea to correct errors of refraction.

**photophobia**
Fear of light.

**photosensitivity**
Condition in which the skin reacts abnormally when exposed to light such as the ultraviolet rays of the sun.

**physiatrist**
Physician specializing in rehabilitation or physical medicine.

**physical medicine**
Use of natural methods, including physical therapy, to cure diseases and disorders.

**physical therapy**
Treating disorders using physical means and methods.

**Physician’s Desk Reference**
A resource for drug information.

**Physician’s Orders**
Medical record document that contains a complete list of the care, medications, tests, and treatments the physician orders for the patient.

**Physician’s Progress Notes**
Part of a patient's medical record. It is the physician's daily record of the patient's condition, results of the physician's examinations, summary of test results, updated assessments and diagnoses, and further plans for the patient's care.

**physicians' offices**
Individual or groups of physicians providing diagnostic and treatment services in a private office setting rather than a hospital.
pia mater
The term means soft mother. This thin innermost meninges layer is applied directly to the surface of the brain.

pica
Eating disorder in which there is a craving for material that is not food, such as clay, grass, wood, paper, soap, and plaster.

pilonidal cyst
Cyst in the sacrococcygeal region due to tissue being trapped below the skin.

pineal gland
A gland in the endocrine system that produces a hormone called melatonin. Also called the auricle. The external ear, which functions to capture sound waves as they go past the ear.

pituitary gland
An endocrine gland located behind the optic nerve in the brain. It is also called the master gland since it controls the functions of many other endocrine glands.

placebo
Inactive, harmless substance used to satisfy a patient's desire for medication.

placenta
Also called afterbirth. An organ attached to the uterine wall that is composed of maternal and fetal tissues. The baby is attached to the placenta by way of the umbilical cord.

placenta previa
Occurs when the placenta is in the lower portion of the uterus the thus blocks the birth canal. The third stage of labor, which takes place after delivery of the infant. The uterus resumes strong contractions and the placenta detaches from the uterine wall and is delivered through the vagina.

plantar flexion
Bend sole of the foot.

plaque
Gummy mass of microorganisms that grows on the crowns of teeth and spreads along the roots. It is colorless and transparent.

plasma
The liquid portion of blood containing 90% of water. The remaining 10% consists of plasma proteins.

plasma proteins
Proteins that are found in plasma. It includes serum albumin, serum globulin, fibrinogen, and prothrombin.

platelets
Cells responsible for the coagulation of blood.

pleura
A protective double layer of serous membrane around the lungs.

pleural cavity
Cavity formed by the serous membrane sac surrounding the lungs.

pleural effusion
Abnormal presence of fluid or gas in the pleural cavity. Grating sound made when two surfaces, such as the pleura surfaces, rub together during respiration.

pleural rub

pleurisy
Inflammation of the pleura.

pleurocentesis
A puncture of the pleura to withdraw fluid form the thoracic cavity in order to diagnose disease.

pleuroscopy
Surgical fixation of the pleura.

plication
Taking tucks surgically in a structure to shorten it.

pneumoconiosis
Condition resulting from inhaling environmental particles that become toxic.

pneumocystis carinii
Pneumonia with a nonproductive cough, very little fever, and dyspnea.

pneumonia
X-ray examination of the brain following withdrawal of cerebrospinal fluid and injection of air or gas via spinal puncture.

pneumonectomy
Surgical removal of lung tissue.

pneumonia
Inflammatory condition of the lung.

pneumomycosis
disease of the lungs caused by a fungus.

pneumothorax
Collection of air or gas in the pleural cavity, which can result in the collapse of the lung.
podiatrist  Specialist in treating disorders of the feet.
poisoning  Ingestion of harmful or toxic material into the body.
poliomyelitis  Acute viral disease that causes an inflammation of the gray matter of the spinal cord, resulting in paralysis in some cases.
polyarteritis  Inflammation of many arteries.
polycythemia  Many cells in the blood.
polycythemia vera  Production of too many red blood cells in the bone marrow.
polydipsia  Condition of having an excessive amount of thirst, such as in diabetes.
polyethylene tube  Small tube surgically placed in a child's ear to assist in drainage of infection.
polymyositis  Disease involving muscle inflammation and weakness from an unknown cause.
polynephritis  Inflammation of many nerves.
polyphagia  To eat excessively.
polyposis  Small tumors in the blood.
polyposis  Small tumors that contain a pedicle or footlike attachment in the mucous membrane of the large intestine.
polyuria  Condition of having excessive urine production.
polyuria  Condition of having excessive urine production.
pons  The portion of the brain stem forms a bridge between the cerebellum and cerebrum. It is also where nerve fibers cross from one side of the brain to control functions and movement on the other side of the brain.
posterior lobe  The posterior portion of the pituitary gland. It secretes antidiuretic hormone and oxytocin.
posteroanterior and lateral of the chest  Routine X-ray of the heart and lungs.
postnasal  Pertaining to behind the nose.
postoperative  The period of time immediately following the surgery.
postpartum  Period immediately after delivery or childbirth.
postprandial  Pertaining to after a meal.
postural drainage  Draining secretions from the bronchi by placing the patient in a position that uses gravity to promote drainage.
postural drainage with clapping  Drainage of secretions from the bronchi or a lung cavity by having the patient lies so that the gravity allows drainage to occur.
potassium  An inorganic substance found in plasma. It is important for bones and muscles.
preeclampsia  Toxemia of pregnancy that, if untreated, can result in true eclampsia. Symptoms include hypertension, headaches, albumin in the urine, and edema.
preferred provider organization  A PPO enters into contracts with individual medical professionals who agree to provide services to the PPO members at a reduced rate.
prefix  A word part added in front of the word root.
pregnancy  The time from fertilization of an ovum to the birth of the newborn.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pregnancy test</td>
<td>Chemical test that can determine a pregnancy during the first few weeks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>premature</td>
<td>Early.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>premature birth</td>
<td>Delivery in which the infant is born before the thirty seventh week of gestation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>premature ejaculation</td>
<td>A sexual disorder characterized by rapid sexual climax and ejaculation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>premenstrual syndrome</td>
<td>Symptoms that develop just prior to the onset of a menstrual period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>premolar</td>
<td>Another term for the bicuspid teeth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>prenatal visits</td>
<td>Appointments with a physician or nurse practitioner for the purpose of monitoring the mother's pregnancy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preoperative</td>
<td>The period of time preceding surgery.</td>
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<tr>
<td>prepatellar bursitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the bursa located between the patella and the knee joint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prepuce</td>
<td>Also called the foreskin. A protective covering over the glans penis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>presbycusis</td>
<td>Loss of hearing that can accompany the aging process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>presbyopia</td>
<td>Visual loss due to old age, resulting in difficulty in focusing for near vision.</td>
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<tr>
<td>prescription</td>
<td>A written explanation to the pharmacist regarding the name of the medication, the dosage, and the times of administration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>prescription drug</td>
<td>A drug that can only be ordered by a licensed physician, dentist, or veterinarian.</td>
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<tr>
<td>pressure sore</td>
<td>Open sore caused by excessive rubbing on the skin or lying too long in the same position.</td>
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<tr>
<td>preventative care</td>
<td>Level of patient care that emphasizes immunizations, check ups, and patient education to prevent disease.</td>
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<tr>
<td>primary care</td>
<td>Providers, such as family practice physicians or nurse practitioners, who treat routine medical problems and make referrals to specialists when indicated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>primary site</td>
<td>Designates where a malignant tumor first appeared.</td>
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<tr>
<td>primigravida</td>
<td>Woman who has been pregnant once.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>primipara</td>
<td>Woman who has given birth once.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>probe</td>
<td>A surgical instrument used to explore tissue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>process</td>
<td>A projection from the surface of a bone.</td>
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<tr>
<td>proctology</td>
<td>Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the lower gastrointestinal system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>porctoplasty</td>
<td>Plastic surgery of the anus and rectum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proctoptosis</td>
<td>Drooping rectum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proctoscopy</td>
<td>Examination of the anus and rectum with an endoscope inserted through the rectum. One of the hormones produced by the ovaries. It works with estrogen to control the menstrual cycle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>progesterone</td>
<td>A hormone secreted by the anterior pituitary. It stimulates mild production. When the umbilical cord of the baby is expelled first during delivery and it is squeezed between the baby's head and the vaginal wall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prolapsed umbilical cord</td>
<td>Fallen uterus that can cause the cervix to protrude through the vaginal opening.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pronation</td>
<td>To turn downward or backward, as with the hand or foot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prone</td>
<td>Directional term meaning lying horizontally facing downward.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prophylactic</td>
<td>Procedure performed to prevent something else from happening.</td>
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<tr>
<td>prophylaxix</td>
<td>Prevention of disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proprietary name</td>
<td>The name a pharmaceutical company chooses as the trademark or market name for its drug.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prospective payment system</td>
<td>A payment system in which providers receive a preset reimbursement, regardless of the actual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
expenses incurred.

**prostate cancer**  Slow growing cancer that affects a large number of males after age fifty.

**prostate gland**  A gland in the male reproductive system that produces fluids that nourish the sperm.

**prostate specific antigen**  A blood test to screen for prostate cancer.

**prostatectomy**  Surgical removal of the prostate gland.

**prostatic hyperplasia**  Abnormal cell growth within the prostate.

**prostatitis**  Inflamed condition of the prostate gland that may be a result of an infection.

**prostatocystitis**  Inflammation of the prostate and bladder.

**prostatolith**  Prostate stone.

**prostatolithotomy**  Incision into the prostate in order to remove a stone.

**prostatorrhea**  Discharge from the prostate gland. Artificial device used as a substitute for a body part that is either congenitally missing or absent as a result of accident or disease.

**prosthetist**  Person who fabricates and fits prostheses.

**protein bound iodine test**  Blood test to measure the concentration of thyroxine circulating in the bloodstream. The iodine becomes bound to the protein in the blood and can be measured.

**prothrombin**  Protein element within the blood that interacts with calcium salts to form thrombin.

**prothrombin time**  Measurement of the time it takes for a sample of blood to coagulate.

**protocol**  The actual plan of care, including the medications surgeries, and treatments for the care of a patient.

**protozoa**  A single celled member of the Kingdom Protozoa. Some cause disease.

**proximal**  Directional term meaning located closest to the point of attachment to the body.

**proximal convoluted tubule**  A portion of the renal tubul.

**pruritus**  Severe itching.

**pseudocyesis**  False pregnancy.

**psoriasis**  Chronic inflammatory condition consisting of crusty papules forming patches with circular borders.

**psychedelic**  Drug such as lysergic acid diethylamide that can produce visual hallucinations.

**psychiatric nurse**  A nurse with additional training in the care of patients with mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders.

**psychiatric social worker**  A social worker with additional training in the care of patients with mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders.

**psychiatrist**  Physician who specializes in the treatment and prevention of mental disorders.

**psychiatry**  The branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mental disorders.

**psychogenic**  Caused by the mind.

**psychologist**  Specialist trained in the study of psychological analysis, therapy, and research.

**psychology**  The study of human behavior and the thought process. The study of the effects of drugs on the mind and particularly the use of drugs in treating mental disorders.

**psychopharmacology**  The study of mental disorders.

**psychosis**  Severe mental disorder with symptoms such as depression and anxiety. Pertaining to the relationship between the mind and the body. Relates to physical disorders that are thought to originate in the emotional state of the patient.

**psychosomatic**
psychotherapy  A method of treating mental disorders by mental rather than chemical or physical means.  Beginning of menstruation and the ability to reproduce. Usually occurs around sixteen years of age.

puberty  The point where the left and right pubic bones meet and are held together by a thick piece of cartilage, making it a cartilaginous joint.

pubic symphysis  One of the three bones that form the so coxae or innominate bone.

pubis  Term used when discussing the mother's first there to six weeks after childbirth.

puberperium  Injecting dye into a blood vessel for the purpose of taking an X-ray of the arteries and veins of the lungs.

pubic symphysis  The point where the left and right pubic bones meet and are held together by a thick piece of cartilage, making it a cartilaginous joint.

pubis  One of the three bones that form the so coxae or innominate bone.

puerperium  The large artery that carries deoxygenated blood from the right ventricle to the lungs.

pulmonary angiography  The pulmonary circulation transports deoxygenated blood from the right side of the heart to the lungs where oxygen and carbon dioxide are exchanged. Then it carries oxygenated blood back to the left side of the heart.

pulmonary artery  Condition in which lung tissue retain an excessive amount of fluid. Results in labored breathing.

pulmonary embolism  Blood clot or air bubble in the pulmonary artery or one of its branches.

pulmonary function test  Breathing equipment used to determine respiratory function and measure lung volume and gas exchange.

pulmonary medicine  The study of diseases of the respiratory system.

pulmonary valve  The semilunar valve between the right ventricle and pulmonary artery in the heart.

pulmonary vein  Large vein that returns oxygenated blood from the lungs to the left atrium.

pulmonologist  A physician specialized in treating diseases and disorders of the respiratory system.

pulmonology  Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the respiratory system. Expansion and contraction produced by blood as it moves through an artery. The pulse can be taken at several pulse points throughout the body where an artery is close to the surface. The hole in the center of the iris. The size of the pupil is changed by the iris dilating or constricting.

pulse  Hemorrhages into the skin and mucous membranes.

purpura  A cathartic.

purpura  Purus filled sputum, which can be the result of infection.

purulent  Raised spot on the skin containing pus.

pyelitis  Inflammation of the renal pelvis.

pyelogram  X-ray record of the renal pelvis after injection of a radiopaque dye.

pyelonephritis  Inflammation of the renal pelvis and the kidney.

pyeloplasty  Surgical repair of the renal pelvis.

pyloric sphincter  Sphincter at the distal end of the stomach. Controls the passage of food into the duodenum. Condition in which the pyloric sphincter becomes abnormally narrow. Food is not able to pass from the stomach into the small intestines.

pyogenic  Pus forming.

pyorrhoea  Discharge of purulent material from dental tissue.

pyosalpinx  Condition of having pus in the fallopian tubes.

pyothorax  Condition of having pus in the chest cavity.

pyromania  Triangular or wedge shaped structures found in the medulla of the kidney.

pyromania  An impulse control disorder in which the patient is unable to control the urge to start fires.
pyuria
Presence of pus in the urine.

quad cane
Walking cane with four prongs at the base to provide steady support.

quadriplegia
Paralysis of all four extremities.

radiation therapy
Use of X-rays to treat disease, especially cancer.

radical surgery
Extensive surgery to remove as much tissue associated with a tumor as possible.

radiculitis
Nerve root inflammation.

radioactive
Substance capable of emitting or sending out radiant energy.

radioactive implant
Embedding a radioactive source directly into tissue to provide a highly localized radiation dosage to damage nearby cancerous cells.

radioactive iodine uptake test
Test in which radioactive iodine is taken orally or intravenously and the amount that is eventually taken into the thyroid gland (the uptake) is measured to assist in determining thyroid function.

radiography
Making of X-ray pictures.

radioimmunoassay
Test used to measure the levels of hormones in the plasma of the blood.

radioisotope
Radioactive form of an element.

radiologist
Physician who practices diagnosis and treatment by the use of radiant energy.

radiology
The branch of medicine that uses radioactive substances such as X-rays, isotopes, and radiation to prevent, diagnose, and treat diseases.

radiopaque
Structures that are impenetrable to X-rays appearing as a light area on the radiograph.

radius
One of the forearm bones in the upper extremity.

rales
Abnormal crackling sound made during inspiration.

range of motion
The range of movement of a joint, from maximum flexion through maximum extension. It is measured in degrees of a circle.

Raynaud's phenomenon
Periodic ischemic attacks affecting the extremities of the body, especially the fingers, toes, ears, and nose.

recessive
A person must have two recessive genes in order for the recessive trait to be displayed.

rectal
Introduced directly into the rectal cavity in the form of suppositories or solution.

rectum
An area at the end of the digestive tube for storage of feces that leads to the anus.

rectus abdominis
A muscle named for its location and the direction of its fibers; rectus means straight and abdominis means abdominal.

rectus muscle
Rectus means straight. Four of the eye muscles are rectus muscles. Also called erythrocytes or RBC's. Cells that contain hemoglobin and iron containing pigment that binds oxygen in order to transport it to the cells of the body.

red blood count
Blood test to determine the number of erythrocytes in a volume of blood. A decrease in the red blood cells may indicate anemia; an increase may indicate polycythemia.

red bone marrow
Tissue that manufactures most of the blood cells.

reduction
Correcting a fracture by realigning the bone fragments.

reflux esophagitis
Acid from the stomach backs up into the esophagus causing inflammation and pain.

refraction
Eye examination performed by a physician to determine and correct refractive error in the eye.

refractive error
Defect in the ability of the eye to focus accurately on the image hitting it.

regional anesthesia
Regional anesthesia is also referred to as a nerve block. This anesthetic interrupts a patient's pain.
sensation in a particular region of the body.

**regurgitation** fluids and solids from the stomach into the mouth. Similar to emesis but without the force.

**rehabilitation** Process of treatment and exercise that can help a disabled person attain maximum function and well-being.

**rehabilitation centers** Facilities that provide intensive physical and occupational therapy. They include inpatient and outpatient treatment.

**remission** Period during which the symptoms of a disease or disorder leave. Can be temporary.

**renal artery** Artery that originates from the abdominal aorta and carries blood to the nephrons of the kidney.

**renal colic** Pain caused by a kidney stone, which can be an excruciating and generally requires medical treatment.

**renal corpuscle** Part of a nephron. It is a double-walled cuplike structure called the glomerular capsule or Bowman’s capsule and contains a capillary network called the glomerulus. An afferent arteriole carries blood to the glomerulus and an efferent arteriole carries blood away from the glomerulus. The filtration stage of urine production occurs in the renal corpuscle as wastes are filtered from the blood in the glomerulus and enter Bowman’s capsule.

**renal pelvis** Large collecting site for urine within the kidney. Collects urine from each calyx. Unite leaves the renal pelvis via the ureter.

**renal transplant** Surgical replacement of a donor kidney.

**renal tubule** Network of tubes found in a nephron. It consists of the proximal convoluted tubule, the loop of Henle, the distal tubule, and the collecting tubule. The reabsorption and secretion stages of urine production occur within the renal tubule. As the glomerular filtrate passes through the renal tubule, most of the water and some of the dissolved substances, such as amino acids and electrolytes, are reabsorbed. At the same time, substances that are too large to filter into Bowman’s capsule, such as urea, are secreted directly from the blood stream into the renal tubule. The filtrate that reaches the collecting tubule becomes urine.

**renal vein** Vein that carries blood away for the kidneys.

**repetitive motion injury** Musculoskeletal system damage that results from simple motions being repeated many times within a given period of time. Often associated with assembly line work in which the worker performs one specialized task over and over.

**reproductive system** System in both males and females that produces eggs and sperm and provides a place for conception and the growth of the fetus. Female organs include the ovaries, fallopian tubes, uterus, vagina, and mammary glands. Male organs include the testes, vas deferens, urethra, prostate gland, and the penis.

**resection** To surgically cut out; excision.

**residency** Time spent by a physician in training after the internship.

**residual hearing** Amount of hearing that is still present after damage has occurred to the auditory mechanism.

**respiratory failure** Failure of the respiratory system to maintain adequate gas exchange in the lungs to sustain life.

**respiratory system** Failure of the respiratory system to maintain adequate gas exchange in the lungs to sustain life.

**respiratory system** System that brings oxygen into the lungs and expels carbon dioxide. Organs include the nose, pharynx, larynx, trachea, bronchial tubes, and lungs.
restorative care  Care focused on assisting the individual to attain the highest level of physical and mental ability possible.

reticulocyte  Red blood cell containing granules or filaments in an immature stage of development.

retina  The innermost layer of the eye. It contains the visual receptors called rods and cones. The rods and cones receive the light impulses and transmit them to the brain via the optic nerve.

retinal  Pertaining to the retina.

retinal blood vessels  The blood vessels that supply oxygen to the rods and cones of the retina.

retinal detachment  Occurs when the retina becomes separated from the choroids layer. This separation seriously damages blood vessels and nerves resulting in blindness.

retinitis pigmentosa  Progressive disease of the eye that results in the retina becoming hard (sclerosed), pigmented (colored), and atrophied (wasting away). There is no known cure for this condition.

retinoblastoma  Malignant glioma of the retina.

retinopathy  Retinal disease.

retroflexion  In this position the uterus is bent back (retro-) upon itself. However, the cervix remains in its normal position.

retrograde pyelogram  A diagnostic X-ray in which dye is inserted through the urethra to outline the bladder, ureters, and renal pelvis.

retroperitoneal  Pertaining to behind the peritoneum. Used to describe the position of the kidneys, which is outside of the peritoneal sac alongside the spine.

retrosternal  Pertaining to behind the sternum.

retroversion  The uterus is turned backward with the cervix in an exaggerated direction of the pubis.

retrovirus  Virus, such as HIV, in which the virus copies itself using the host’s DNA.

Reye’s syndrome  a brain inflammation that occurs in children following a viral infection, usually the flu or chickenpox. It is characterized by vomiting and lethargy and may lead to coma and death.

Rh factor  An antigen marker found on erythrocytes of persons with Rh+ blood.

rheumatic heart disease  Valvular heart disease as a result of having had rheumatic fever.

rheumatoid arthritis (RA)  Chronic form of arthritis with inflammation of the joints, swelling, stiffness, pain, and changes in the cartilage that can result in crippling deformities.

rhinitis  Inflammation of the nose.

rhinomycosis  Condition of having a fungal infection in the nose.

rhinoplasty  Plastic surgery of the nose.

rhinorrhagia  Rapid and excessive flow of blood from the nose.

rhinorrhea  Watery discharge from the nose, especially with allergies or a cold, runny nose. A person with Rh-blood type. The person’s RBCs do not have the Rh marker and will make antibodies against Rh+ blood.

Rh-negative  A person with Rh+ blood type. The person’s RBCs have the Rh marker. Somewhat musical sound during expiration, often found in asthma or infection, and caused by spasms of the bronchial tubes. Also called wheezing.

Rh-positive  A person with Rh+ blood type. The person’s RBCs have the Rh marker.

rhonchi  Somewhat musical sound during expiration, often found in asthma or infection, and caused by spasms of the bronchial tubes. Also called wheezing.

rhytidectomy  Surgical removal of excess skin to eliminate wrinkles. Commonly referred to as a facelift.

rhytidoplasty  Excision of wrinkles. Also called the chest cavity. It is the cavity formed by the curved ribs extending from the vertebral
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rickets</td>
<td>Deficiency in calcium and vitamin D found in early childhood that results in bone deformities, especially bowed legs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right hypochondriac</td>
<td>An anatomical division of the abdomen; the right upper row.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right iliac</td>
<td>An anatomical division of the abdomen; the right lower row. Also called the right inguinal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right inguinal</td>
<td>An anatomical division of the abdomen; the right lower row. Also called the right iliac.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right lower quadrant (RLQ)</td>
<td>A clinical division of the abdomen. It contains portions of small and large intestines, right ovary and fallopian tube, appendix, right ureter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right lumbar</td>
<td>An anatomical division of the abdomen, the right middle row.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right subclavian vein</td>
<td>The circulatory system vein that receives lymph from the right lymphatic duct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right upper quadrant (RUQ)</td>
<td>A clinical division of the abdomen. It contains the right lobe of the liver, the gallbladder, a portion of the pancreas, and portions of small and large intestine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rigor mortis</td>
<td>Stiffness of skeletal muscles that is seen in death.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rinne and Weber tuning-fork tests</td>
<td>The physician holds a tuning fork, an instrument that produces a constant pitch when it is struck against or near the bones on the side of the head. These tests assess both nerve and bone conduction of sound.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rods</td>
<td>The sensory receptors of the retina that are active in dim light and do not perceive color.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roentgen</td>
<td>Unit for describing an exposure dose of radiation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roentgen ray</td>
<td>The preferred term is X-ray.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roentgenologist</td>
<td>Physician who is skilled in X-ray diagnosis and treatment. The preferred term is radiologist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romberg’s test</td>
<td>Test used to establish neurological function in which the person is asked to close his or her eyes and place their feet together. This test for body balance is positive if the patient sways when the eyes are closed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>root canal</td>
<td>Dental treatment involving the pulp cavity of the root of a tooth. Procedure is used to save a tooth that is badly infected or abscessed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roseola</td>
<td>a viral infection with a rosy red rash.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rotation</td>
<td>Moving around a central axis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rugae</td>
<td>The prominent folds in the mucosa of the stomach. They smooth out and almost disappear allowing the stomach to expand when it is full of food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ruptured intervertebral disk</td>
<td>Herniation or outpouching of a disk between tow vertebrae—also called herniated disk. May require surgery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saccule</td>
<td>Found in the inner ear. It plays a role in equilibrium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sacral</td>
<td>Pertaining to the sacrum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sacrum</td>
<td>The five fused vertebrae that form a large flat bone in the upper buttock region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saggital plane</td>
<td>A vertical plane that divides the body into left and right sections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salivary glands</td>
<td>Exocrine glands with ducts that open into the mouth. They produce saliva, which makes the bolus of food easier to swallow and begins the digestive process. There are three pairs of salivary glands: parotid, submandibular, and sublingual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salpingitis</td>
<td>Inflammation of the fallopian tube or tubes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salpingocyesis</td>
<td>Tubal pregnancy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
salpingo-oophorectomy  Removal of a fallopian tube and ovary.
salpingostomy  The creation of an artificial opening in the fallopian tube.
sanguinous  Pertaining to blood.
sarcoidosis  Inflammatory disease of the lymph system in which lesions may appear in the liver, skin, lungs, lymph nodes, spleen, eyes, and small bones of the hands and feet.  Cancer arising from the connective tissue, such as muscle or bone.  May affect the kidneys, bladder, bones, liver, lungs, and spleen.
sarcoma  Contagious skin disease caused by an egg-laying mite that causes intense itching; often seen in children.
scalpel  A surgical instrument used to cut and separate tissue.
scan  Recording the emission of radioactive waves on a photographic plate after a substance has been injected into the body.
scapula  Also called the shoulder blade.  An upper extremity bone.
scarlet fever  A streptococcal infection characterized by fever and a dense bright red rash that is followed by peeling.
sclera  The tough protective outer layer of the eyeball.  It is commonly referred to as the white of the eye.
sclera buckling  Placing a band of silicone around the outside of the sclera to stabilize a detaching retina.
scleroderma  Disorder in which the skin becomes taut, thick, and leatherlike.
scleromalacia  Softening of the sclera.
sclerotomy  Incision into the sclera.
scoliosis  Abnormal lateral curvature of the spine.
scrotum  A sac that serves as a container for the testes.  This sac, which is divided by a septum, supports the testicles and lies between the legs and behind the penis.  Surgical assistant who hands instruments to the surgeon.  This person wears sterile clothing and maintains the sterile operative field.
sebaceous gland  Also called oil glands.  They produce a substance called sebum that lubricates the skin surface.
seborrhea  Excessive discharge of the sebum.
sebum  Thick oily substance secreted by sebaceous glands that lubricates the skin to prevent drying out.
semen  When sebum accumulates, it can cause congestion in the sebaceous glands and white heads or pimples may form.  When the sebum becomes dark it is referred to as a comedo or blackhead.
sedative  Produces relaxation without causing sleep.
seizure  Sudden attack of severe muscular contractions associated with a loss of consciousness.  This is seen in grand mal epilepsy.
semen analysis  This procedure is used when performing a fertility workup to determine if the male is able to produce sperm.  Semen is collected by the patient after abstaining from sexual intercourse for a period of three to five days.  The sperm in the semen are analyzed for number, swimming strength, and shape.  This is also used to determine if a vasectomy has been successful.  After a period of six weeks, no sperm should be present in a sample from the patient.
semicircular  Pertaining to a half circle.

semicircular canals  A portion of the labyrinth associated with balance and equilibrium.

semilunar valve  The heart valves located between the ventricles and the great arteries leaving the heart. The pulmonary valve is located between the right ventricle, and the pulmonary artery and the aortic valve is located between the left ventricle and the aorta.

Two male reproductive system glands located at the base of the bladder. They secrete a fluid that nourishes the sperm into the vas deferens. This fluid plus the sperm constitutes much of the semen.

seminiferous tubules  Network of coiled tubes that make up the bulk of the testes. Sperm development takes place in the walls of the tubules and the mature sperm are released into the tubule in order to leave the testes.

senile  Mental weakness associated with old age in some people.

sensorineural hearing loss  Type of hearing loss in which the sound is conducted normally through the external and middle ear but there is a defect in the inner ear of with the cochlear nerve, resulting in the inability to hear. A hearing aid may help.

sensory receptors  Nerve fibers that are located directly under the surface of the skin. These receptors detect temperature, pain, touch, and pressure. The messages for these sensations are conveyed to the brain and spinal cord from the nerve endings.

septoplasty  Surgical repair of the septum.

serous  Watery secretion of serous membranes.

serous membrane  These membranes are found lining body cavities and secrete a thin, watery fluid that acts as a lubricant as organs rub against one another.

serum  Clear, sticky fluid that remains after the blood has clotted.

serum albumin  One of the proteins in blood serum.

serum electrolyte level  A laboratory test to measure the amount of sodium, potassium and chloride ions in the blood.

serum globulin  Proteins in the blood.

serum glucose tests  Blood test performed to assist in determining insulin levels and useful for adjusting medication dosage.

serum lipoprotein level  A laboratory test to measure the amount of cholesterol and triglycerides in the blood.

sexual intercourse  Process of sexual relations or coitus.

shield  Protective device used to protect against radiation.

shingles  Eruption of vesicles along a nerve, causing a rash and pain. Caused by the same virus as chickenpox.

shock  Situation in which not enough blood is flowing to the heart for normal function. The symptoms of shock are paleness, staring eyes, dilated pupils, weak and rapid pulse, increased shallow respirations and decreased blood pressure.

short bone  A type of bone that is roughly cube-shaped. The carpals are short bones.

shortness of breath (SOB)  Term used to indicate that a patient is having some difficulty breathing. The causes can range from mild SOB after exercise to SOB associated with heart disease.

shower chair  Abnormal connection between two cavities or organs. In a cardiovascular shunt there is an abnormal connection between the cavities of the heart.
sialolith
A salivary gland stone.
Severe, chronic, incurable disorder that results in anemia and causes joint pain, chronic weakness, and infections. It is more common in people of Mediterranean and African heritage. The actual blood cell is crescent-shaped.

sickle cell anemia
Severe, chronic, incurable disorder that results in anemia and causes joint pain, chronic weakness, and infections. It is more common in people of Mediterranean and African heritage. The actual blood cell is crescent-shaped.

side effect
Response to a drug other than the effect desired.

sigmoid colon
The final section of colon. It follows an S-shaped path and terminates in the rectum.

Signing Exact English (SEE-2)
Translation of English into signs. American Sign Language (ASL) used in combination with other sign languages and fingerspelling to correspond exactly to the spoken English.

silicosis
Form of respiratory disease resulting from the inhalation of silica (quartz) dust. Considered an occupational disease.

simple fracture
Fracture with no open skin or wound.

sinoatrial node (SA)
Also called the pacemaker of the heart. It is an area of the right atria that initiates the electrical pulse that causes the heart to contract.

sinus
A hollow cavity within a bone.

sinus X-ray
Taking an X-ray view of the sinus cavity from the front of the head.

sinuses
Air-filled cavities within the facial bones. They are lined with mucous membrane and play a role in sound production.

skeletal muscle
A voluntary muscle that is attached to bones by a tendon.

skin
The major organ of the integumentary system. It forms a barrier between the external and internal environments. The transfer of skin from a normal area to cover another site. Used to treat burn victims and after some surgical procedures.

skin graft
Surgical procedures.

skin tests (ST)
Test to determine the patient’s reaction to a suspected allergen by injecting a small amount under the skin (interdermal) with a needle. The reaction of the patient to this material is then read to indicate any allergy. Examples of such tests are the tuberculin (TB) test, Manatoux (PPD) test, patch test, and Schick test.

sleep disorder
Any condition that interferes with sleep other than environmental noises. Can include difficulty sleeping (insomnia), nightmares, night terrors, sleepwalking and apnea.

sleep walking
A sleeping disorder in which the patient performs complex activities while asleep.

slit lamp microscope
Instrument used in ophthalmology for examining the posterior surface of the cornea.

small intestine
The portion of the digestive tube between the stomach and colon, and the major site of nutrient absorption. There are three sections: duodenum, jejunum, and ileum.

smooth muscle
An involuntary muscle found in internal organs such as the digestive organs or blood vessels.

Snellen’s chart
Chart used for testing distance vision. It contains letters of varying size and is administered for a distance of 20 feet. A person who can read at 20 feet what the average person can read at that distance is said to have 20/20 vision.

sodium
An inorganic substance found in plasma.

sonogram
The image produced by ultrasound waves bouncing off internal body structures.

sound
Metal rod curved at one end with a handle at the other end, used to treat a stricture of an obstruction in the urethra. A physician passes the sound up the urethra.
special sense organs
The special sense organs perceive environmental conditions. The eyes, ears, nose, and tongue contain special sense organs.

specialty care
Providers, such as orthopedists or surgeons, who see patients who have been referred by the primary care provider for problems known to require the services of a specialist.

specialty care hospitals
Hospitals that provide care for very specific types of disease. A good example is a psychiatric hospital.

speculum
A surgical instrument used to spread apart walls of a cavity. Medical professional trained to evaluate and train the person who is hearing impaired in using one, or all, of the following speech, sign language, fingerspelling, and residual hearing. Ability to watch a person’s mouth and word formation during speaking to interpret what they are saying. Also referred to as lipreading.

sperm
Also called spermatozoan (plural is spermatozoa). The male sex cell. One sperm fuses with the ova to produce a new being.

spermatic cord
The term for the cord-like collection of structures that include the vas deferens, arteries, veins, nerves, and lymph vessels. The spermatic cord suspends the testes within the scrotum.

spermatogenesis
Formation of mature sperm.

spermatolysis
Destruction of sperm.

spermatolytic
Destruction of spermatozoa. Also called sperm, the singular is spermatozoon. The male sex cell. One sperm fuses with the ova to produce a new being.

spermatozoa
Also called sperm, the plural is spermatozoa. The male sex cell. One sperm fuses with the ova to produce a new being.

spermatozoon
Also called sperm, the plural is spermatozoa. The male sex cell. One sperm fuses with the ova to produce a new being.

sphenoid bone
A cranial bone.

sphincter
A ring of muscle around a tubular organ. It can contract to control the opening of the tube.

sphygmomanometer
Instrument for measuring blood pressure. Also referred to as a blood pressure cuff.

spina bifida
Congenital defect in the walls of the spinal canal in which the laminae of the vertebra do not meet or close. Results in membranes of the spinal cord being pushed through the opening. Can also result in other defects, such as hydrocephalus.

spinal
Pertaining to the spine.

spinal canal
The canal that extends through the vertebrae and contains the spinal cord.

spinal cavity
A dorsal body cavity within the spinal column that contains the spinal cord. The spinal cord provides a pathway for impulses traveling to and from the brain. It is a column of nerve fibers that extends from the medulla oblongata of the brain down to the level of the second lumbar vertebra.

spinal cord injury (SCI)
Bruising or severing of the spinal cord from a blow to the vertebral column resulting in muscle paralysis and sensory impairment below the injury level.

spinal fusion
Surgical immobilization of adjacent vertebrae. This may be done for several reasons, including correction for herniated disk.

spinal nerves
The nerves that arise from the spinal cord.

spinal puncture
Puncture with a needle into the spinal cord area to withdraw fluid for examination or for the
injection of anesthesia. Also called a lumbar puncture

spinal stenosis
Narrowing of the spinal canal causing pressure on the cord and nerves.

spinal fracture
Fracture in an “S” shaped spiral. It can be caused by a twisting injury.
Instrument consisting of a container into which a patient can exhale for the purpose of measuring the
air capacity of the lungs.

spirograph
Using a devise to measure the breathing capacity of the lungs.

spleen
A radioactive material injected into the patient through an intravenous (IV) route enters the spleen
for visualization of this organ. Used to detect tumors, cysts, abscesses, and other splenomegaly.

splenectomy
Excision of the spleen.

splenomegaly
Enlargement of the spleen.

splenopexy
Artificial fixation of a movable spleen.

spongy bone
The bony tissue found inside a bone. It contains cavities that hold red bone marrow. Also called

cancellous bone.

spontaneous abortion
Loss of a fetus without any artificial aid. Also called a miscarriage.

sprain
Pain and disability caused by trauma to a joint. A ligament may be torn in severe sprains.

sputum
Mucus of phlegm that is coughed up from the lining of the respiratory tract. Tested to determine
what type of bacteria or virus is present as an aid in selecting the proper antibiotic treatment.

sputum culture and sensitivity (CS)
Testing sputum by placing it on a culture medium and observing any bacterial growth. The specimen is then tested to determine antibiotic effectiveness.

sputum cytology
Testing for malignant cells in sputum.

squamous cell carcinoma
Epidermal cancer that may go into deeper tissue but does not generally metastasize.

stabilize
Maintaining a victim’s condition without allowing it to worsen. In most cases the vital signs remain unchanged when a patient is stabilized.

staging
The process of classifying tumors based on their degree of tissue invasion and the potential response to therapy. The TNM staging system is frequently used. The T refers to the tumor’s size and invasion, the N refers to lymph node involvement, and the M refers to the presence of metastases of the tumor cells.

staging laparotomy
Surgical procedure in which the abdomen is entered to determine the extent and staging of a
tumor.

stapedectomy
Removal of the stapes bone to treat otosclerosis (hardening of the bone). A prosthesis of artificial
stapes may be implanted.

stapes
One of the three ossicles of the middle ear. It is attached to the oval window leading to the inner ear.
Also called the stirrup.

stent
A stainless steel tube placed within a blood vessel or a duct to widen the lumen.

sterilization
Process of rendering a male or female sterile or unable to conceive children.

sternum
Also called the breast bone. It is part of the axial skeleton and the anterior attachment for ribs.

steroid sex hormones
A class of hormones secreted by the adrenal cortex. It includes aldosterone, cortisol, androgens,
estrogens, and progestins.

**stethoscope**  
Instrument for listening to body sounds, such as the chest, heart, or intestines.

**stillbirth**  
Birth in which a viable-aged fetus dies before or at the time of delivery.

**stimulant**  
Speeds up the heart and respiratory system. Used to increase alertness.

**stimulus**  
Something that activates or excites the nerve and results in an impulse.

**stomach**  
A J-shaped muscular organ that acts as a sac to collect, churn, digest, and store food. It is composed of three parts: the fundus, body, and antrum. Hydrochloric acid is secreted by glands in the mucous membrane lining of the stomach. Food mixes with other gastric juices and the hydrochloric acid to form a semisoft mixture called chime, which then passes into the duodenum.

**strabismus**  
An eye muscle weakness resulting in each eye looking in a different direction at the same time. May be corrected with glasses, eye exercises, and/or surgery. Also called lazy eye or crossed eyes.

**strabotomy**  
Incision into the eye muscles in order to correct strabismus.

**strain**  
Trauma to muscle from excessive stretching or pulling.

**stratified squamous epithelial**  
Describes the layers of flat or scale-like cells found in the epidermis. Stratified means multiple layers and squamous means flat.

**stress/exercise testing**  
Method for evaluating cardiovascular fitness. The patient is placed on a treadmill or bicycle and then subjected to steadily increasing levels of work. An EKG and oxygen levels are taken while the patient exercises.

**stricture**  
Narrowing of a passageway in the urinary system.

**stridor**  
Harsh, high-pitched, noisy breathing sound that is made when there is an obstruction of the bronchus or larynx. Found in conditions such as croup in children.

**subarachnoid space**  
The space located between the arachnoid layer and pia mater. It contains cerebrospinal fluid.

**subcutaneous**  
Pertaining to under the skin.

**subcutaneous layer**  
This is the deepest layer of the skin where fat is formed. This layer of fatty tissue protects the deeper tissues of the body and acts as an insulation for heat and cold.

**subdural**  
Pertaining to under the dura mater.

**subdural hematoma**  
Mass of blood forming beneath the dura mater of the brain.

**subdural space**  
The space located between the dura mater and the arachniod layer.

**sublingual**  
Pertaining to under the tongue.

**sublingual glands**  
A pair of salivary glands in the floor of the mouth.

**submandibular glands**  
A pair of salivary glands in the floor of the mouth.

**subscapular**  
Pertaining to under the shoulder blade.

**substernal**  
Pertaining to below the sternum.

**sucking chest wound**  
Open wound in the chest that draws outside air into the chest cavity.

**sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)**  
The sudden, unexplained death of an infant in which a postmortem examination fails to determine the cause of death.

**suffix**  
A word part attached to the end of a word. It frequently indicates a condition, disease, or procedure. Almost all medical terms have a suffix.

**sulci**  
Also called fissures. The grooves that separate the gyri of the cerebral cortex.

**superficial**  
Directional term meaning toward the surface of the body.

**superior**  
Directional term meaning toward the head, or above.
superior venae cavae - The branch of the vena cavae that drains blood from the chest and upper body.

supernumerary bone - Extra bone, generally a finger or toe, found in newborns.

supination - Turn the palm or foot upward.

supine - Directional term meaning lying horizontally and facing upward.

suppositories - A method for administering medication by placing it in a substance that will melt after being placed in a body cavity usually rectally, and release the medication.

suprasternal - Pertaining to above the sternum.

surgeon - A physician who has completed additional training for five years or more in a surgical specialty area. The specialty areas include orthopedics, neurosurgery, gynecology, ophthalmology, urology, and thoracic, vascular, cardiac, plastic, and general surgery.

surgery - The branch of medicine dealing with operative procedures to correct deformities and defects, repair injuries, and diagnose and cure diseases. A facility that provides services that range from simple surgeries to diagnostic testing to therapy and do not require overnight hospitalization. Also called an ambulatory care center or an outpatient clinic. Used to close a wound or incision. Examples are catgut, silk thread, or staples. They may or may not be removed when the wound healed, depending on the type of material that is used.

suture material - Used to close a wound or incision. Examples are catgut, silk thread, or staples. They may or may not be removed when the wound healed, depending on the type of material that is used.

sutures - The fibrous joints formed between the cranial bones.

sweat glands - Glands that produce sweat, which assists the body in maintaining its internal temperature by creating a cooling effect when it evaporates.

sweat test - Test performed on sweat to determine the level of chloride. There is an increase in skin chloride in the disease cystic fibrosis.

sympathectomy - Excision of a portion of the sympathetic nervous system. Could include a nerve or a ganglion.

sympathetic - A branch of the autonomic nervous system. This system stimulates the body in times of stress and crisis by increasing heart rate, dilating airways to allow for more oxygen, increasing blood pressure, inhibiting digestion, and stimulating the production of adrenaline during a crisis.

syncope - Fainting.

syndrome - A group of symptoms and signs that when combined present a clinical picture of a disease or condition.

synovial fluid - The fluid secreted by a synovial membrane in a synovial joint. It lubricates the joint and reduces friction.

synovial joint - A freely moving joint that is lubricated by synovial fluid.

synovial membrane - The membrane that lines a synovial joint. It secretes a lubricating fluid called synovial fluid.

syphilis - Infectious, chronic, venereal disease that can involve any organ. May exist for years without symptoms. Treated with the antibiotic penicillin.

systemic - Pertaining to a system

systemic circulation - The systematic circulation transports oxygenated blood from the left side of the heart to cells of the body and then back to the right side of the heart.

systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) - Chronic disease of the connective tissue that injures the skin, joints, kidneys, nervous system, and mucous membranes. May produce a characteristic butterfly rash across the cheeks and nose.
A system is composed of several organs working in a compatible manner to perform a complex function or functions. Examples include the digestive system, the cardiovascular system, and the respiratory system.

The maximum pressure within blood vessels during a heart contraction.

Abbreviation for triiodothyronine, a thyroid hormone.

Abbreviation for thyroxine, a thyroid hormone.

A lymphocyte active in cellular immunity.

A type of lymphocyte involved with producing cells that physically attack and destroy pathogens.

Abnormally fast heart rate, over 100 bpm.

Rapid breathing rate.

Attachment of a radioactive material to a chemical and tracing it as it moves through the body.

Congenital deformity of the foot. Also referred to as a clubfoot.

Only the front of the foot touches the ground, causing the person to walk on the toes.

The arch is broken, causing the entire foot to be flat on the ground.

The foot is everted, with the inner side of the foot resting on the ground.

The foot is inverted, and the outer side of the foot touches the ground.

Disorder caused by a deficiency of an enzyme, which can result in mental and physical retardation and blindness. It is a recessive trait and is most commonly found in families of Eastern European Jewish decent. Death generally occurs before the age of four.

A cranial bone.

One of the four cerebral hemisphere lobes. It controls hearing and smell.

A long-handled clamp surgical instrument.

The strong connective tissue cords that attach skeletal muscles to bones.

Inflammation of a tendon.

Pain in a tendon.

Suture a tendon.

Illness from which one will not recover. The male gonads. The testes are oval glands located in the scrotum that produce sperm and the male hormone, testosterone.

Also called testes (singular is testis). These oval shaped organs are responsible for the development of sperm within the seminiferous tubules. The testes must be maintained at the proper temperature for the sperm to survive. This lower temperature level is controlled by the placement of the scrotum outside the body. The hormone testosterone, which is responsible for the growth and development of the male reproductive organs, is also produced by the testes. Male hormone produced in the testes. It is responsible for the growth and development of the male reproductive organs.

A condition that results from a calcium deficiency in the blood. It is characterized by muscle twitches, cramps, and spasms.

Combination of four congenital anomalies: pulmonary stenosis, and interventricular septal
defect, abnormal blood supply to the aorta, and hypertrophy of the right ventricle. Needs immediate surgery to correct.

tetraplagia
Paralysis of all four limbs. Same as quadriplegia.
thalamus
The thalamus is a portion of the diencephalon. It is composed of gray matter and acts as a center for relaying impulses from the eyes, ears, and skin to the cerebrum. Pain perception is also controlled by the thalamus.

T-helper cells
T cells that help the B cells to recognize the antigens. Also called T4 cells.

therapeutic
Treatment of disease by applying specified remedies.

therapeutic exercise
Exercise planned and carried out to achieve a specific physical benefit, such as improved range of motion, muscle strength, or cardiovascular function.
thermograph
Technique that detects and records surface temperatures of the body. The hot and cold spots on the body are revealed, which assists in disease detection. Used to detect cancer of the breast and blood flow in the limbs.

thermotherapy
Applying heat to the body for therapeutic purposes.

thoracalgia
Chest pain.

thoracentesis
Surgical puncture of the chest wall for the removal of fluids.

thoracic
Pertaining to the chest.

thoracic cavity
A ventral body cavity in the chest area that contains the lungs and heart. The largest lymph vessel. It drains the entire body except for the right are, chest wall, and both empties lymph into the left subclavian vein.

thoracic duct
The largest lymph vessel. It drains the entire body except for the right are, chest wall, and both empties lymph into the left subclavian vein.

thoracic medicine
The study of the respiratory system.

thoracic surgery
Branch of medicine specializing in surgery on the respiratory system and thoracic cavity.

thoracic vertebrae
The twelve vertebrae in the chest region.

thoracostomy
Insertion of a tube into the chest for the purpose of draining off fluid or air.

thoracotomy
Incision into the chest. Removing a small sample of tissue or material from the pharynx and placing it upon a culture medium to determine bacterial growth.

thrombectomy
Surgical removal of a thrombus or blood clot from a blood vessel.

thrombin
A clotting enzyme that converts fibrinogen to fibrin. Also called platelets. Platelets play a critical part in the blood-clotting process by agglutinating into small clusters and releasing thrombokinase.

thrombokinase
An enzyme released by platelets in the clotting process. It reacts with prothrombin to form thrombin.

thrombolysis
Procedure to dissolve a clot.

thrombophlebitis
Inflammation of a vein that results in the formation of blood clots within the vein.

thrombus
A blood clot.

thymectomy
Removal of the thymus gland.

thymoma
Malignant tumor of the thymus gland.

thymosin
Hormone secreted by thymus gland. It causes lymphocytes to change into T-lymphocytes.
thymus gland

An endocrine gland located in the upper mediastinum that assists the body with the immune function and the development of antibodies. As part of the immune response it secretes a hormone, thymosin, that changes lymphocytes to T cells.

thyroid cartilage

A piece of cartilage associated with the larynx. It is also commonly called the Adam’s apple and is larger in males.

thyroid echogram

Ultrasound examination of the thyroid that can assist in distinguishing a thyroid nodule from a cyst.

thyroid function tests (TFT)

Blood tests used to measure the levels of T3, T4, and TSH in the bloodstream to assist in determining thyroid function.

thyroid gland

This endocrine gland is located on either side of the trachea. Its shape resembles a butterfly with a large left and right lobe connected by a narrow isthmus. This gland produces the hormones thyroxine (also known as T4) and triiodothyronine (also known as T3).

thyroid scan

Test in which a radioactive element is administered that localizes in the thyroid gland. The gland can then be visualized with a scanning device to detect pathology such as tumors.

thyroidectomy

Removal of the entire thyroid or a portion (partial thyroidectomy) to treat a variety of conditions, including nodes, cancer, and hyperthyroidism.

thyroidotomy

Incision into the thyroid gland.

thyroid-stimulating hormone

A hormone secreted by the anterior pituitary. It regulates function of the thyroid gland.

thyromegaly

Enlarged thyroid.

thyroparathyroidectomy

Surgical removal (excision) of the thyroid and parathyroid glands.

thyrotoxicosis

Condition that results from overproduction of the thyroid glands. Symptoms include a rapid heartbeat, tremors, enlarged thyroid gland, exophthalmos, and weight loss.

thyroxine (T4)

A hormone produced by the thyroid gland. It is also known as T4 and requires iodine for its production. This hormone regulates the level of cell metabolism. The greater the level of hormone in the bloodstream, the higher cell metabolism will be.

tibia

Also called the shin bone. It is a lower extremity bone.

tic

Spasmodic, involuntary muscular contraction involving the head, face, mouth, eyes, neck, and shoulders.

tic doulourex

Painful condition in which the trigeminal nerve is affected by pressure or degeneration. The pain is of severe stabbing nature and radiates from the jaw and along the face.

tinea

Fungal skin disease resulting in itching, scaling lesions.

tinnitus

Ringing in the ears.

tissues

Tissues are formed when cells of the same type are grouped together to perform one activity. For example, nerve cells combine to form nerve fibers. There are four types of tissue: nerve, muscle, epithelial, and connective.

tolerance

Development of a capacity for withstanding a large amount of a substance, such as foods, drugs, or poison, without any adverse effect. A decreased sensitivity to further doses will develop.

A muscular organ in the floor of the mouth. Works to move food around inside the mouth and is also necessary for speech.

tonometry

Measurement of the intraocular pressure of the eye using a tonometer to check for the condition of
glaucoma. After a local anesthetic is applied, the physician places the tonometer lightly upon the
eyeball and pressure measurement is taken. Generally part of a normal eye exam for adults.

**tonsillectomy**  Surgical removal of the tonsils.

**tonsillitis**  Inflammation of the tonsils.

**tonsils**  The collections of the lymphatic tissue located in the pharynx to combat microorganisms entering the body through the nose or mouth. The tonsils are the pharyngeal tonsils, the palatine tonsils, and the lingual tonsils.

**topical**  Applied directly to the skin or mucous membranes. They are distributed in ointment, cream, or lotion form. Used to treat skin infections and eruptions.

**topical anesthesia**  Topical anesthesia is applied using either a liquid or gel placed directly onto a specific area. The patient remains conscious. This type of anesthetic is used on the skin, the cornea, and mucous membranes in dental work.

**topically**  Medication applied to the surface of the skin.

**torsion**  Twisting.

**total calcium**  Blood test to measure the total amount of calcium to assist in detecting parathyroid and bone disorders.

**total hip replacement (THR)**  Surgical reconstruction of a hip by implanting a prosthetic or artificial hip joint. Device to restrict blood flow to and from an extremity. Used carefully when hemorrhage is present to prevent further bleeding.

**toxic shock syndrome (TSS)**  Rare and sometimes fatal staphylococcus infection that generally occurs in menstruating women.

**toxicity**  Extent of degree to which a substance is poisonous.

**toxins**  Substances poisonous to the body. Many are filtered out of the blood by the kidney.

**trachea**  Also called the windpipe. It conducts air from the larynx down to the main bronchi in the chest.

**tracheostenosis**  Narrowing and stenosis of the lumen or opening into the trachea. Surgical procedure used to make an opening in the trachea to create an airway. A tracheostomy tube can be inserted to keep the opening patent.

**tracheotomy**  Surgical incision into the trachea to provide an airway.

**trachoma**  Chronic infectious disease of the conjunctiva and cornea caused by bacteria. Occurs more commonly in people living in hot, dry climates. Untreated, it may lead to blindness when the scaring invades the cornea. Trachoma can be treated with antibiotics.

**tract**  A bundle of fibers located within the central nervous system.

**traction**  Process of pulling or drawing, usually with a mechanical device. Used in treating orthopedic (bone and joint) problems and injuries.

**trade name**  The name a pharmaceutical company chooses as the trademark or market name for its drug. Also called proprietary or brand name.

**traits**  The characteristics controlled by genes, such as eye color

**tranquilizer**  Used to reduce mental anxiety and tensions.

**transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS)**  Application of a mild electrical stimulation to skin via electrodes placed over a painful area, causing interference with the transmission of the painful stimuli.
transfusion
Can be used in pain management to interfere with the normal pain mechanism.
Artificial transfer of blood into the bloodstream.

transient ischemic attack (TIA)
Temporary interference with blood supply to the brain, causing neurological symptoms
such as dizziness, numbness, and hemiparesis. may lead eventually to a full-blown stroke
(CVA).

transurethral
Pertaining to across the urethra.
transurethral resection of
Surgical removal of the prostate gland by inserting a device through the
the prostate (TUR)
urethra and removing prostate tissue.
transverse colon
The section of colon that cross the upper abdomen from the right side of the body to the left.
transverse plane
A horizontal plane that divides the body into upper (superior) and lower (inferior) sections. Also
called the horizontal plane.

trauma
Physical wound or injury caused by an external force or violence.
treadmill test
Method for evaluating cardiovascular fitness. The patient is placed on a treadmill and then
subjected to steadily increasing levels of work. An EKG and oxygen levels are taken while the patient
exercises.

Also called a stress test.
tremor
Involuntary quivering movement of a part of the body.
Trendelenburg position
A surgical position in which the patient is lying face up and on an incline with the head
lower than the legs.
Process of cutting out a piece of bone in the skull to gain entry into the brain or relieve
pressure.
trephination
trephine
A surgical saw used to remove the disc-shaped piece of tissue.
triage
Quick screening and classification of sick, wounded, or injured persons during a disaster or war.
Priorities are determined for the efficient use of medical personnel, equipment, and facilities.
Genitourinary infection that is usually without symptoms (asymptomatic) in both males and
females.
trichomoniasis
In women the disease can produce itching and/or burning and a foul-smelling discharge, and
can result in vaginitis.
trichomycosis
Abnormal condition of hair fungus.
tricuspid
Having three cusps or points.
A valve between the right atrium and ventricle of the heart. It prevents blood from flowing
backwards into the atrium. A tricuspid valve has three cusps or flaps.
triiodothyronine (T3)
A hormone produced by the thyroid gland known as T3 that requires iodine for its production.
This hormone regulates the level of cell metabolism. The greater the level of hormone in the
blood stream, the higher cell metabolism will be.

trochanter
The large blunt process that provides the attachment for tendons and muscles.
tubal ligation
Surgical tying off of the fallopian tubes to prevent conception from taking place. Results in
sterilization of the female.
Implantation of a fetus within the fallopian tube instead of the uterus. Requires immediate
surgery.
tubal pregnancy
tubercle
A small, rounded process that provides the attachment for tendons and muscles.
tuberculin skin tests (TB test)
Applying a chemical agent (Tine or Mantoux tests) under the surface of the skin to
determine if the patient has been exposed to tuberculosis.
tuberculosis (TB)
Infectious disease caused by the tubercle bacillus, Mycobacterium tuberculosis. Most commonly
affects the respiratory system and causes inflammation and calcification of the system. Tuberculosis is again on the uprise and is seen in many patients who have AIDS.

**tuberosity**
A large, rounded process that provides the attachment of tendons and muscles.

**tumor**
Abnormal growth of tissue that may be benign or malignant. Also called a neoplasm.

**two-hour postprandial glucose tolerance test**
Blood test to assist in evaluating glucose metabolism. The patient eats a high-carbohydrate diet and fasts overnight before the test. A blood sample is then taken two hours after a meal.

**tympanic**
Pertaining to the ear drum.

**tympanic membrane**
Also called the ear drum. As sound moves along the auditory canal, it strikes the tympanic membrane causing it to vibrate. This conducts the sound wave into the middle ear.

**tympanitis**
Ear drum inflammation.

**tympanometer**
Instrument to measure the ear drum.

**tympanometry**
Measurement of the movement of the tympanic membrane. Can indicate the presence of pressure in the middle ear.

**tympanoplasty**
Another term for the surgical reconstruction of the eardrum. Also called myringoplasty.

**tympanorrhexis**
Ruptured ear drum.

**Type I diabetes mellitus**
Also called insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM). It develops early in life when the pancreas stops insulin production. Therefore, persons with IDDM must take daily insulin injections.

**Type II diabetes mellitus**
Also called non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM). It develops later in life when the pancreas produces insufficient insulin. Persons may take oral hypoglycemic to stimulate insulin secretion, or may eventually have to take insulin.

**Type A**
One of the ABO blood types. A person with type A markers on his or her RBCs. Type A blood will make anti-B antibodies.

**Type AB**
One of the ABO blood types. A person with both type A and type B markers on his or her RBCs. Since it has both markers, it will not make antibodies against either A or B blood.

**Type B**
One of the ABO blood types. A person with type B markers on his or her RBCs. Type B blood will make anti-A antibodies.

**Type O**
One of the ABO blood types. A person with no markers on his or her RBCs. Type O blood will not react with anti-A or anti-B antibodies. Therefore, it is considered the universal donor.

**ulcer**
Open sore or lesion in skin or mucous membrane.

**ulcerative colitis**
Ulceration of unknown origin of the mucous membranes of the colon. Also known as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)

**ulna**
One of the forearm bones in the upper extremity.

**ultrasound (US)**
The use of high-frequency sound waves to create heat in soft tissues under the skin. It is particularly useful for treating injuries to muscles, tendons, and ligaments, as well as muscle spasms. In radiology, ultrasound waves can be used to outline shapes of tissues, organs, and the fetus.

**umbilical**
An anatomical division of the abdomen; the middle section of the middle row.

**umbilical cord**
A cord extending from the baby’s umbilicus (navel) to the placenta. It contains blood vessels that carry oxygen and nutrients from the mother to the baby and carbon dioxide and wastes from the mother to the placenta.
baby to
the mother.

**unconscious**
Condition or state of being unaware of surroundings, with the inability to respond to stimuli.

**ungula**
Pertaining to the nails.

**unit dose**
Drug dosage system that provides prepackaged, prelabeled, individual medications that are ready for immediate use by the patient.

**United States Pharmacopeia-National Formulary**
A resource for drug information that lists all the official drugs authorized for use in the United States.

**universal donor**
not trigger a reaction with anti-A or anti-B antibodies.

**upper extremity (UE)**
The arm.

**upper gastrointestinal (UGI) series**
Administering a barium contrast material orally and then taking an X-ray to visualize the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum.

**uptake**
Absorption of radioactive material and medicines into an organ or tissue.

**urea**
A waste product of protein metabolism. It diffuses through the tissues in lymph and is returned to the circulatory system for transport to the kidneys.

**uremia**
An excess of urea and other nitrogenous waste in the blood.

**ureterectasis**
Dilation of the ureter.

**ureterolith**
A calculus in the ureter.

**ureterostenosis**
Narrowing of the ureter.

**ureters**
Organs in the urinary system that transport urine from the kidney to the bladder.

**urethra**
The tube that leads from the urinary bladder to the outside of the body. In the male it is also used by the reproductive system to release semen.

**urethralgia**
Urethral pain.

**urethritis**
Inflammation of the urethra.

**urethrorrhagia**
Rapid bleeding from the urethra.

**urethroscope**
Instrument to view inside the urethra.

**urethrostasis**
Narrowing of the urethra.

**urgency**
Feeling the need to urinate immediately.

**urgent care**
Level of patient care for those who need immediate attention, but whose condition is not life threatening and does not require hospitalization. A small child with an ear infection or a teenager with simple fracture are good examples.

**uric acid**
A waste product from metabolism found in the plasma. High levels of uric acid are associated with gout.

**urinal**
Urine container for males.

**urinalysis (U/A or UA)**
Laboratory test that consists of the physical, chemical, and microscopic examination of the urine.

**urinary bladder**
Organ in the urinary system that stores urine.

**urinary incontinence**
Involuntary release of urine. In some patients an indwelling catheter is inserted into the bladder for continuous urine drainage.

**urinary meatus**
The external opening of the urethra.
urinary retention
An inability to fully empty the bladder, often indicates a blockage in the urethra.

urinary system
System that filters wastes from the blood and excretes the waste products in the form of urine.

Organs in the urinary system include the kidneys, ureters, urinary bladder, and urethra.

urine
It is the fluid that remains in the urinary system following the three stages of urine production:
filtration, reabsorption, and secretion.

urography
Use of contrast medium to provide an X-ray of the urinary tract.

urologist
A physician specialized in treating conditions and diseases of the urinary system and male reproductive system.

urology
Branch of medicine specializing in conditions of the urinary system and male reproductive system.

urticaria
Hives, a skin eruption of pale reddish wheals (circular elevations of the skin) with severe itching.

Usually associated with food allergy, stress, or drug reactions.

uterus
Also called the womb. An internal organ of the female reproductive system. This hollow, pear-shaped organ located in the lower pelvic cavity between the urinary bladder and rectum, and it becomes implanted in the uterine wall, which provides nourishment and protection for the developing fetus. The uterus receives the fertilized ovum. The uterus is divided into three regions: fundus, corpus, and cervix.

utricle
Found in the inner ear. It plays a role in equilibrium.

vaccination
Providing protection against communicable diseases by stimulating the immune system to produce antibodies against the disease. Children cannot be immunized for the following diseases: hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, Haemophilus influenza type b, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, and chickenpox. Also called immunization.

vaccine
Given to promote resistance to infectious diseases.

vagina
Organ in the female reproductive system that receives the penis and semen.

vaginal orifice
The external vaginal opening. It may be covered by a hymen.

vaginitis
Inflammation of the vagina, generally caused by a microorganism. Surgical resection of the vagus nerve in an attempt to decrease the amount of acid secretion into the stomach. Used as a method of treatment for patients with ulcers.

valve replacement
Excision of a diseased heart valve and replacement with an artificial valve.

valves
They function to prevent the backflow of fluid.

valvulitis
Inflammation of a valve.

varicocele
Enlargement of the veins of the spermatic cord, which commonly occurs on the left side of adolescent males. Seldom needs treatment.

varicose veins
Swollen and distended veins, usually in the legs. Also called ductus deferens. The vas deferens is a long straight tube that carries sperm from the epididymis up into the pelvic cavity, where it continues around the bladder and empties into the urethra. It is one of the components, along with nerves and blood vessels of the spermatic cord. Removal of a segment or all or of the vas deferens to prevent sperm from leaving the male body.

vasectomy
Used for contraceptive purposes.
**vasodilator**
Produces a relaxation of blood vessels to lower blood pressure.

**vasopressor**
Produces the contraction of muscles in the capillaries and arteries that elevates the blood pressure.

**vasovasostomy**
Creation of a new opening between two sections of vas deferens. Used to reverse a vasectomy.

**veins**
Blood vessels of the cardiovascular system that carry blood toward the heart.
The very large vein that returns deoxygenated blood from the body to the right side of the heart.

**venae cavae**
It has a superior and an inferior branch.

**venereal disease (VD)**
Disease usually acquired as the result of heterosexual or homosexual intercourse.

**venipuncture**
Puncture into a vein to withdraw fluids or to insert medication and fluids.

**venography**
Process of taking an X-ray tracing of a vein.

**venotomy**
Surgical incision into a vein.

**venous**
Pertaining to a vein.

**ventral**
Directional term meaning near or on the front or belly side of the body.

**ventricles**
The two lower chambers of the heart that receive blood from the atria and pump it back out of the heart. The left ventricle pumps blood to the body, and the right ventricle pumps blood to the lungs. Also fluid-filled spaces within the cerebrum. These contain cerebrospinal fluid, which is the watery clear fluid that provides a protection from shock or sudden motion to the brain.

**ventricular**
Pertaining to a ventricle.

**venule**
The smallest veins. Venules receive deoxygenated blood leaving the capillaries.

** verruca**
Warts; a benign neoplasm (tumor) caused by a virus. Has a rough surface that is removed by chemicals and/or laser therapy.

**vertebra**
The bones of the spinal column that surround and protect the spinal cord.

**vertebral canal**
The bony canal through the vertebrae that contains the spinal cord.

**vertebral column**
The vertebral column is part of the axial skeleton. It is a column of twenty-six vertebrae that forms the backbone and protects the spinal cord. It is divided into five sections: cervical vertebrae, thoracic vertebrae, lumbar vertebrae, sacrum, and coccyx. Also called the spinal column.

**vertigo**
Dizziness.

**vesicle**
Small, fluid-filled raised spot on the skin.

**vestibular apparatus**
Part of the inner ear responsible for equilibrium. Conditions resulting in loss of balance may arise from this area.

**vestibular nerve**
The branch of the vestibulocochlear nerve responsible for sending equilibrium information to the brain.

**vestibulocochlear nerve**
The eighth cranial nerve. It is responsible for hearing and balance.

**viable**
A fetus developed sufficiently to live outside the uterus.

**viruses**
A group of infectious particles that cause disease.

**viscera**
The name for the internal organs of the body, such as the lungs, stomach, and liver.

**visceral**
Pertaining to the viscera or internal organs.

**visceral layer**
The inner pleural layer. It adheres to the surface of the lung.

**visceral pericardium**
The inner layer of the pericardium surrounding the heart.

**visceral peritoneum**
The inner layer of the serous membrane sac encasing the abdominopelvic viscera.

**visceral pleura**
The inner layer of the serous membrane sac encasing the thoracic viscera.

**visual acuity (VA)**
Measurement of the sharpness of a patient's vision. Usually, a Snellen's chart is used for this
test
and the patient identifies letters from a distance of twenty feet.

**vital signs (VS)**
Respiration, pulse, temperature, skin color, blood pressure, and reaction of the pupils. These are signs of the condition of body functions.

**vitamin**
Organic substance found naturally in foods that is essential for normal metabolism. Most have been produced synthetically to be taken in pill form. Disappearance of pigment from the skin in patches causing a milk-white appearance. Also called leukoderma.

**vitiligo**
Disappearance of pigment from the skin in patches causing a milk-white appearance. Also called leukoderma.

**vitrectomy**
Surgical procedure for replacing the contents of the vitreous chamber of the eye.

**vitreous humor**
The transparent jelly-like substance inside the eyeball.

**vocal cords**
The structures within the larynx that vibrate to produce sound and speech.

**voluntary muscle tissue**
Muscles under voluntary control such as the striated muscles attached to the skeleton.

**volvulus**
Condition in which the bowel twists upon itself and causes a painful obstruction that requires immediate surgery.

**vomer bone**
A facial bone.

**von Recklinghausen’s disease**
Excessive production of parathyroid hormone, which results in degeneration of the bones. Named for Friedrich von Recklinghausen, a German histologist. A sexual disorder characterized by receiving sexual gratification from observing others engaged in sexual acts.

**voyeurism**
A sexual disorder characterized by receiving sexual gratification from observing others engaged in sexual acts.

**vulva**
A general term meaning the external female genitalia. It consists of the Bartholin’s glands, labia majora, labia minora, and clitoris.
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<td>-</td>
<td>Minus/Concave</td>
<td>ALS</td>
<td>amyotrophic lateral sclerosis</td>
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<td>AML</td>
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<td>before meals</td>
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<td>atrial premature beat</td>
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<td>automated computerized axial tomography</td>
<td>aq</td>
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<td>accommodation</td>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>AIDS - related complex</td>
<td>BX, bx</td>
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<td>anterior cruciate ligament</td>
<td>ARDS</td>
<td>adult respiratory distress syndrome</td>
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<td>advanced cardiac life support</td>
<td>ARF</td>
<td>acute renal failure</td>
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<td>ASL</td>
<td>American Sign Language</td>
<td>CAD</td>
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<td>astigm.</td>
<td>astigmatism</td>
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<td>both ears</td>
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<td>barium enema</td>
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<td>baso</td>
<td>basophil</td>
<td>CBD</td>
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<td>clean-catch urine specimen</td>
<td>CUC</td>
<td>chronic ulcerative colitis</td>
<td>DT'S</td>
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<td>CV</td>
<td>cardiovascular</td>
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### Prefix / Suffix Appendix

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tocia  labor, childbirth

tome  instrument used to cut

toxic  poison
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<td>leuk/o</td>
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<td>leukocyto/o</td>
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<td>lingu/o</td>
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<td>lith/o</td>
<td>stone</td>
<td>myc/o</td>
<td>fungus</td>
<td>orth/o</td>
<td>straight, upright</td>
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<td>lob/o</td>
<td>lobe</td>
<td>myel/o</td>
<td>spinal cord, bone marrow</td>
<td>oste/o</td>
<td>bone</td>
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<td>lord/o</td>
<td>swayback, curve</td>
<td>myring/o</td>
<td>eardrum</td>
<td>ot/o</td>
<td>ear</td>
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<tr>
<td>lumb/o</td>
<td>loin, lower back</td>
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<td>mucus</td>
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<td>ovul/o</td>
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<td>stain, spot</td>
<td>nat/i</td>
<td>birth</td>
<td>ox/i</td>
<td>oxygen</td>
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<td>malleol/o</td>
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<td>birth</td>
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<td>natr/o</td>
<td>sodium</td>
<td>oxy/o</td>
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<td>mandible, jaw bone</td>
<td>necr/o</td>
<td>death</td>
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<td>norm/o</td>
<td>rule, order</td>
<td>par/o</td>
<td>labor, childbirth</td>
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<td>o/o</td>
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<td>part/o</td>
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<td>semen</td>
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<td>path/o</td>
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<td>proxim/o</td>
<td>near</td>
<td>seps/o</td>
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<td>pector/o</td>
<td>chest</td>
<td>psych/o</td>
<td>mind</td>
<td>sial/o</td>
<td>salva, salivary gland</td>
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<td>ped/o</td>
<td>foot, child</td>
<td>pub/o</td>
<td>pubis, part of the hip</td>
<td>sigmoid/o</td>
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<td>pelvis</td>
<td>pubmon/o</td>
<td>lung</td>
<td>sinus/o</td>
<td>sinus, cavity</td>
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<td>phag/o</td>
<td>eat, swallow</td>
<td>pylor/o</td>
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<td>spermat/o</td>
<td>spermatozoa, aspermia</td>
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<td>phalanges, bones of the</td>
<td>pyret/o</td>
<td>fever</td>
<td>spher/o</td>
<td>round</td>
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<td></td>
<td>fingers and toes</td>
<td>radi/o</td>
<td>radiation, X-ray, radius</td>
<td>sphygm/o</td>
<td>pulse</td>
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<td>pharmaco/o</td>
<td>drug</td>
<td>radicul/o</td>
<td>nerve root</td>
<td>spin/o</td>
<td>spine, back bone</td>
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<tr>
<td>pharyng/o</td>
<td>throat</td>
<td>rect/o</td>
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<td>spir/o</td>
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<td>vein</td>
<td>rhin/o</td>
<td>nose</td>
<td>spondyl/o</td>
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<tr>
<td>phon/o</td>
<td>voice</td>
<td>rhyn/o</td>
<td>wrinkle</td>
<td>squam/o</td>
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<td>light</td>
<td>rhyn/o</td>
<td>nose</td>
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<td>phren/o</td>
<td>diaphragm, mind</td>
<td>rhyn/o</td>
<td>nose</td>
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<td>phys/o</td>
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<td>steat/o</td>
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<td>pil/o</td>
<td>hair</td>
<td>roentgen/o</td>
<td>X-ray</td>
<td>ster/o</td>
<td>steroid, solid</td>
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</table>

7/2/2012 BVSD Curriculum Essentials 121
pituitar/o  pituitary gland  rhythm/o  rhythm  stern/o  sternum, breast bone
plas/o  formation of cells  sacr/o  sacrum  steth/o  chest
pleur/o  pleura, side  salping/o  fallopian tubes, uterine tubes  stomat/o  mouth
pneum/o  lung, air  sangui/o  blood  super/o  above  system/o  system
pneumon/o  lung, air  sarc/o  flesh  tend/o  tendon  tendin/o  tendon
poli/o  gray matter  scapul/o  scapula, shoulder blade  ten/o  tendon  tars/o  ankle
polypl/o  polyp  scler/o  divided  tendin/o  tendon
poster/o  back of body  scler/o  hard, sclera  test/o  testes
presby/o  old age  scoli/o  vertebra, backbone  thel/o  nipple
proct/o  anus and rectum  seb/o  sebum, oil  tox/o  toxic, poison
prostat/o  prostate  sect/o  cut  toxic/o  toxic, poison
therm/o  heat  ven/o  vein  venul/o  venule
thorac/o  chest  ventr/o  belly  vertebr/o  vertebra, backbone
thomb/o  clot  ventricul/o  ventricle  vesicul/o  seminal vesicle
thrombocyt/o  platelet  venul/o  venule  viscer/o  internal organ
thym/o  thymus  vit/o  blemish  vitre/o  glassy
thyri/o  thyroid gland  vesic/o  bladder, blister  vag/o  vagus nerve
thyroid/o  thyroid gland  vesicul/o  seminal vesicle  vagin/o  vagina
thi/bi/o  tibia, inner bone of the leg  viscer/o  internal organ  xer/o  dry
toc/o  childbirth  toc/o  childbirth  xer/o  dry
tonsill/o  tonsils  tox/o  toxic, poison  tox/o  toxic, poison
trach/o  trachea, windpipe  tox/o  toxic, poison  trach/o  trachea, windpipe
terch/o  hair  tox/o  toxic, poison  trich/o  hair
tympan/o  eardrum, middle ear  tox/o  toxic, poison  tympan/o  eardrum, middle ear
uln/o  ulna, lower arm  tox/o  toxic, poison  uln/o  ulna, lower arm
umbilic/o  navel, umbilical  tox/o  toxic, poison  umbilic/o  navel, umbilical
un/gu/o  nail  ureter/o  ureter, urinary tube  ureth/o  urethra
ur/o  urine, urinary tract  ureth/o  urethra  urin/o  urine, urinary tract
utero/o  uterus  urin/o  urine, urinary tract  uve/o  vascular
uvul/o  uvula  uve/o  vascular  vag/o  vagus nerve
vagin/o  vagina  vagin/o  vagina  valv/o  valve
valvul/o  valve
varic/o  varicose veins
vas/o  vas deferens
vas/o  vessel
# NUA 101

## Title:
Nurse Aide Health Care Skills

## Long Title:
Nurse Aide Health Care Skills

## Course Description:
Prepares the student to perform the fundamental skills of the nurse aide. Basic nursing skills, communication skills, restorative services, personal care skills, safety and emergency care issues are covered. Includes knowledge and/or principles of asepsis, OSHA and HIPAA regulations. Ethical behaviors, cultural sensitivity and principles of mental health will be addressed, as well as patient/resident rights.

## Min Credit:
4

## Max Credit:

## Course Notes:
Course revisions 6/16/06 s@

## Origin Notes:
ACC

## STANDARD COMPETENCIES:

I. Form a relationship, communicate and interact competently on a one-to-one basis with patients/residents.

II. Demonstrate sensitivity to patients`/residents` emotional and mental health needs.

III. Assist patients/residents in attaining and maintaining independence.

IV. Exhibit behavior that supports and promotes patients`/residents` rights

V. Demonstrate observational and documentation skills needed in the care of patients`/residents` health, physical condition and well-being.

VI. Demonstrate fundamental competency in basic skills for patient/resident care in a lab setting.

VII. Demonstrate principles of OSHA in all manual skills.

VIII. Explain general concept of HIPAA and relate it to nurse aide practice.

IX. Acquire beginning knowledge and skill related to end of life care.

X. Demonstrating an awareness of the Colorado Nurse Aide Practice Act.

## TOPICAL OUTLINE:

I. Introduction to Nurse Aide Course

II. The Health Care System

III. Role of the Nurse Aide

IV. Communication Skills

V. Patient/Resident Rights & Promotion of Independence

VI. The Human Body

VII. Medical Terminology
VIII. Emergency Care-Heimlich Maneuver  
IX. The Circulatory System and Related Care  
X. Measuring Vital Signs  
XI. Infection Control-Handwashing  
XII. The Patient`s Environment  
XIII. Body Mechanics: Transfer, Repositioning in Bed and Wheelchair  
XIV. Admitting/Transferring and Discharging a Patient; Height/Weight  
XV. Bed Making  
XVI. Personal Care of the Patient  
XVII. Bed Bath, Back Rub  
XVIII. Bedpans, Peri-care, Grooming, Shaving, Denture Care, Hair Care, Care of Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids.  
XIX. The Respiratory System and Related Care, Oxygen and CPR  
XX. The Gastrointestinal System and Related Care, Colostomy Care  
XXI. Nutrition for the Patient  
XXII. The Urinary System and Related Care, I & O  
XXIII. Specimen Collection  
XXIV. Integumentary System & Related Care, Warm/Cold Applications  
XXV. Care of the Surgical Patient, TEDS, Ace Bandages, Thrombophlebitis  
XXVI. Growth and Development  
XXVII. The Musculoskeletal System & Related Care, ROM  
XXVIII. The Older Adult Patient & Long Term Care  
XXIX. The Nervous System & Related Care  
XXX. The Endocrine System & Related Care  
XXXI. Home Health Care  
XXXII. Restorative Care  
XXXIII. Patients with Special Needs  
XXXIV. End of Life Care and Postmortem Care

Common Course Numbering System

Your current Institution is CCCS

Searching Current Courses For Spring 2012

Course: NUA 105  
Title: Home Health Aide Theory  
Long Title: Home Health Aide Theory  
Course Description: Introduces the student to the expanding field of Home Health Nursing, The student will discover the uniqueness of Home Health Care and the vital role that the nursing assistant plays as part of the home care team. The student will learn how to assist home care patients with activities of daily living and maintain a safe, clean and comfortable environment. The student will also learn the differences and challenges of caring for patient in their natural home environment versus institutional settings.

Min Credit: 2  
Max Credit:
STANDARD COMPETENCIES:

I. Demonstrate basic nurse aide skills in the home health care setting.
II. Perform skills that enhance home and family life.
III. Develop skills to work with the elderly, ill, disabled, and/or children

TOPICAL OUTLINE:

I. Four categories of Home Health Care providers
II. Home Health Aides’ role, responsibilities, qualities and characteristics
III. Basic Home Health Aide tasks and procedures
IV. Nine procedures not to perform in the home
V. Infection Control in the home
VI. Family relationships and family dynamics
VII. Safety hazards
VIII. Fire safety and burn prevention
IX. Reporting an accident or emergency by phone
X Phone numbers to keep handy
XI. Calling for help, 911
XII. Housekeeping responsibilities in the home
XIII. Cleaning techniques for the bathroom and kitchen
XIV. Preparing meals and shopping
XV. Assisting with laundry
XVI. Reporting and recording
XVII. Time and Travel records
XVIII. Personal safety practices
XIX. The “Emergency Kit”

Common Course Numbering System

Your current Institution is CCCS

Searching Current Courses For Spring 2012

Course: NUA 170
Title: Nurse Aide Clinical Experience
Long Title: Nurse Aide Clinical Experience
Course Description: Applies knowledge and skill gained in NUA 101 to patient care.
Min Credit: .25
STANDARD COMPETENCIES:

I. Form a relationship, communicate and interact competently on a one-to-one basis with patients/residents.
II. Demonstrate sensitivity to residents`/patients` emotional, social and mental health needs.
III. Assist residents/patients in attaining and maintaining independence.
IV. Exhibit behaviors that supports and promotes residents`/patients` rights
V. Demonstrate observational and documentation skills needed in the promotion of residents`/patients` health, physical condition and well-being.
VI. Demonstrate beginning competency in the provision of patient care.

TOPICAL OUTLINE:

I. Communication Skills
II. Residents`/Patients` Rights
III. Measuring Vital Signs
IV. Infection Control & Handwashing, OSHA
V. Body Mechanics, Transfer, Reposition in Bed and Wheelchair, ROM
VI. Admitting/Transferring and Discharging a Patient, Height/Weight
VII. Bed Making
VIII. Personal Care of the Patient, Bathing, Back Rub, Shaving, Grooming, Denture Care, care of eyeglasses and hearing aids.
IX. Peri-care, bedpans, Catheter Care
X. Feeding, I & O
XI. Specimen Collection
XII. Care of the Surgical Patient: TEDS, Ace Bandages
XIII. CPR, Oxygen
XIV. Special Care Procedures, Colostomy Care, Oxygen, CPR, Warm/Cold Application
XV. End of Life Care and Postmortem Care

Common Course Numbering System

Searching Current Courses For Spring 2012

Course: NUA 172
Title: Nurse Aide Clinical-Elderly
Long Title: Nurse Aide Clinical Practice with the Elderly
Course Provides theory and clinical practice of care of the elderly client,
Description: with emphasis on the special needs and problems of the client in a long-term care organization.

Min Credit: .25
Max Credit: 6

Origin Notes: CCD

STANDARD COMPETENCIES:

I. Demonstrates understanding of the physiological and psychosocial changes of aging. (I)
II. Identifies commonly occurring health care problems experienced by the elderly patient. (II)
III. Demonstrates clinical skills necessary for caring for the elderly patient in a long term care organization. (III)

TOPICAL OUTLINE:

I. Aging changes.
   A. Physiological changes
   B. Psychosocial changes
II. Health problems of the elderly.
   A. Common pathologies of the biological systems.
   B. Psychosocial problems.
   C. Availability and access to adequate health care.
III. Adaptation of clinical skills to caring for the elderly client.