

Prefixes

a-, an-	without, lack of, not
ab-	away from
ad-	toward, to, near
ambi-, amphi-, amphi-	both
ana-	up, toward, apart
ante-	before, in front of, forward
anti-	against, opposing
apo-	separation from, derived from
auto-	self
bi-	two, double, twice
cata-	down, under, lower, against
circum-	around
co-, com-, con-	with together
contra-	opposed
de-	reverse, remove
di-	two, twice
dia-	between, through, apart, across, completely
dis-	apart from, free from
dys-	difficult, painful, abnormal
e-, ec-, ex-	out of, from, away from
ecto-, exo-	outer, outside, situated on
em-, en-	in
endo-	within, inner
ep-, epi-	upon, on, over, above
eu-	normal, good, well, healthy
extra-	outside of, beyond
hemi-	half
hyper-	excessive, above, beyond
hyp-, hypo-	under, deficient, beneath
im-, in-	in, into, within, not
infra-	below, beneath
inter-	between
intra-	within
intro-	into, within
mes-, meso-	middle
meta-	change, beyond, after
micr-, micro-	small
mult-, multi-	many
neo-	new, recent
pan-	all, entire
para-	beside, beyond
per-	through, excessive
peri-	around
poly-	many, much, excessive
post-	after, behind
pre-, pro-	before, in front of
pseudo-	false
re-	again, backward
retro-	backward, behind
semi-	half, partial

sub-
super-, supra-
sym-, syn-
trans-
ultra-

under
above, superior, excess
together, with
across, through
beyond, excess

Suffixes

-ac, -al, -ic, -ous, -tic
-algia
-ate
-cele
-centesis
-cle, -cule, -ole, -ola, -ule, -ulum, -ulus
-cyte
-ectomy
-emesis
-emia
-ent, -er, -ist, -or
-esis, -ia, -iasis, -ism, -ity, -osis, -sis, -tion, -y
-form, -oid
-genesis
-gram, -graphy
-graph
-ible, -ile
-itis
-ize
-logy
-oma
-penia
-pexy, -pexis
-phage, -phagy
-phobia
-plasia, -plastic, -plasty
-pnea
-rrhaphy
-rrhea
-rrhexis
-scope
-scopy
-stomy
-tome
-tomy

pertaining to, relating to
pain
having, resembling, acting upon
protrusion
surgical puncture to remove fluid
small (diminutive)
cell
cutting out
vomit
blood condition
person or agent
state or condition
resembling, shaped like
development, origin
recording, written record
instrument that records
capable, able
inflammation
use, subject to
science, study of
tumor
deficiency of, lack of
fixation
eating
abnormal fear or intolerance
forming, growing, changing
breathing
suturing in place
flow of discharge
rupture
instrument for examining
act of examining
surgical opening
instrument for cutting
cutting, incision

External Root Words

Blephar/o-
Brachi/o-
Bucc/o-
Canth/o-
Capit/o-
Carp/o-

eyelid or eyelash
arm
cheek
angle at either end of the slit between the eyelids
head
area corresponding to the human wrist

Cephal/o-	head
Cervic/o-	neck
Cheil/o-, chil/o-	lip
Cili/o-	eyelid, eyelash, or small hairlike projection
Cor/e-, cor/o-	pupil of eye
Dactyl/o-	digit, toe
Dent/i-, dent/o-	tooth or teeth
Derm/a-, derm/o-, dermat/o-	skin
Dors/i-, dors/o-	back
Faci/o-	face
Gingiv/o-	gums
Gloss/o-	tongue
Gnath/o-	jaw
Irid/o-	iris of eye
Labi/o-	lip, especially lips of mouth
Lapar/o-	flank, abdomen
Later/o-	side
Lingu/o-	tongue
Mamm/a-, mamm/o-	mammary gland
Mast/o-	mammary gland
Nas/o-	nose
Occipit/o-	back of head
Ocul/o-	eye
Odont/o-	tooth or teeth
Omphal/o-	navel or umbilicus
Onych/o-	nail or claw
Ophthalm/o-	eye or eyes
Or/o-	mouth
ot/o-	ear
papill/o-	nipple or nipple-shaped projection
phall/o-	penis
pil/o-	hair
pod/o-	foot or foot-shaped part
rhin/o-	nose
somat/o-, somatic/o-	body
steth/o-	chest
stom-, stomat/o-	mouth
tars/o-	area corresponding to the human ankle or the edge of the eyelid.
Thorac/o-	chest or thorax
Trich/o-	hair or hairlike structure
Ventr/i-, ventr/o-	belly, underside of quadruped

Internal Root

aden/o-	Gland
adren/o-	adrenal gland
angi/o-	vessel, usually a blood vessel
arteri/o-	artery
arteriol/o-	arteriole
arthr/o-	joint
atri/o-	atrium or upper heart chamber

balan/o-
 bronch/i-, bronch/o-
 bronchiol/o-
 cardi/o-
 cerebell/o-
 cerebr/i-, cerebr/o-
 choledoch/o-
 chondr/i-, chondr/io-, chondr/o-
 chord/o-
 cleid/o-
 colp/o-
 cost/o-
 cyst/i-, cyst/o-
 cyt/o-
 duoden/o-
 encephal/o-
 enter/o-
 episi/o-
 fibr/o-
 gastr/o-
 gli/o-
 hepat/ico-, hepat/o-
 hist/o-
 hyster/o-
 ile/o-
 ili/o-
 jejun/o-
 kerat/o-
 laryng/o-
 lymph/o-
 mening/o-
 metr/a-, metr/o-
 myel/o-
 my/o-
 myring/o-
 nephr/o-
 neur/o-
 oophor/o-
 orchi/o-, orchi/do-
 oss/eo-, oss/i-, ost/e-, ost/eo-
 ovari/o-
 palat/o-
 pharyng/o-
 phleb/o-
 phren/i-, phren/ico-, phren/o-
 pleur/o-
 pneum/a-, pneum/o-, pneum/ato-, pneum/ono-
 proct/o-
 pulm/o-
 pyel/o-
 rect/o-
 ren/i-, ren/o-

glans penis or glans clitoridis
 bronchus
 bronchiolus
 heart
 cerebellum part of brain
 cerebrum part of brain
 common bile duct
 cartilage
 cord, string
 clavicle (collarbone)
 vagina
 rib
 bladder, cyst, sac
 cell
 duodenum section of intestine
 brain
 intestine
 vulva
 fibers
 stomach
 gluey substance
 liver
 tissue
 uterus
 ileum section of intestine
 ilium (upper part of hip bone)
 jejunum section of intestine
 horny tissue (and cornea of eye)
 larynx (voice box)
 lymphatic vessels, lymphocytes
 membranes covering the brain and spinal cord
 uterus
 bone marrow or spinal cord
 muscle
 eardrum
 kidney
 nerve, nerves, nervous system
 ovary
 testis, testes
 bones or bones
 ovary
 palate (roof of mouth)
 pharynx (throat)
 vein or veins
 diaphragm, mind
 pleura, rib (or side)
 lungs, respiration (air, breath)
 rectum or anus
 lungs
 pelvis or kidney
 rectum
 kidney

sacr/o-
salping/o-
sarc/o-
splen/o-
spondyl/o-
stern/o-
tend/o-, ten/o-
thym/o-
thyr/o-
trache/o-
ureter/o-
urethr/o-
vas/o-
ven/e-, ven/i-, ven/o-
viscer/o-

sacrum
fallopian or Eustachian tube
flesh, muscular substance
spleen
vertebra, spinal column
sternum (breastbone)
tendon
thymus gland
thyroid gland
trachea
ureter (kidney to bladder tube)
urethra (bladder tube)
vessel or duct
vein or veins
viscera

Verbal Root Words

audi/o-
bio-
caus-, caut-
-clas-, -clast
duct-
-ectas-
-edem-
-esthes-
gen/o
-iatr/o-
kin/e-, kin/o-
-lysis, lys/o-, -lytic
-morph/o-
-op/ia, ops/ia, -opsy
-path-, -pathy
-phage, phag/o-
-phas-
-phil
-plegia
-poiesis
schist/o-, schiz/o-
spasm/o-
-stasis
troph/o-

hearing
life
burn
break
lead
dilate
swelling
sensation
producing
treatment
movement, motion
breaking down
form, structure, shape
vision
disease
eating
speech
affinity, love for
paralysis
formation, production
split, cleft, division
spasm
standing still, stoppage
nourishment, food

Adjectival Root words

Brachy-
Brady-
Brev/i-
Cry/o-
Crypt/o-

short
slow
short
cold
hidden

Dextr/o-	right, right side
dipl/o-	double, twice
dolich/o-	long
glyc/o-, gluc/o-	sugar, sweet
heter/o-	other, different
hom/eo-, hom/o-	same, alike
hydr/o-	wet, water, fluid
is/o-	equal, alike
lept/o-	slender, small, thin
lev/o-	left, to the left
macr/o-	large
mal-	ill, bad
malac/o-	soft, softening
meg/a-, meg/alo-, meg/aly-	large, oversized
necr/o-	death
olig/o-	few, little
orth/o-	straight, normal, correct
pachy-	thick
pale/o-	old, primitive
platy-	flat, wide
ple/o-	more, many
poikil/o-	irregular, varied
-scler/o-	hardness
sinistr/o-	left, to the left
sten/o-	narrow, contracted
stere/o-	solid, three-dimensional
tachy-	rapid, fast
tel/e-, tel/o-	distant, end
therm/o-	heat
xer/o-	dry

Body fluids, Body Substances, Chemicals and Colors

Aqua, hydr/o-	water
Chol/e-, chol/o-	bile
Chyle, chyl/o-	milky fluid-production of digestions
decry/o-, lacrima	tears
galact/o-, lact/o-	milk
hem/a-, hemat/o-, hem/o-	blood
hidr/o-, sudor	sweat
lymph/o-	lymph
mucus, muco-	secretion of mucous membranes
myx/o-	mucus
plasma	fluid portion of blood
ptyal/o-	saliva
pus	liquid product of inflammation
py/o-	pus
sangui-, sanguin/o-	blood, bloody
serum, ser/o-	clear portion of blood fluid
sial/o-	saliva, salivary glands
ur/e-, ur/ea-, ur/eo-, ur/in-, ur/ino-, ur/o-	urine of urea

adip/o-	fat
amyl/o-	starch
cerumen, cerumin/o-	earwax
collagen	fibrous protein of connective tissue, cartilage, bone and skin
ele/o-, ole/o-	oil
ferrum, ferr/o-	iron
gluco-, glyc/o-, sacchar/o-, sacchar/i-	sugar
hal/o-	salt
heme	iron-based, pigment part of hemoglobin
hormone	body-produced chemical substance
hyal/o-, hyaline	glassy, translucent substance
lip/o-, lipid	fat, fatty acids
lith/o-	stone or calculus
mel/i-	honey or sugar
natrium	sodium
petrous	stony hardness
sal	salt
sebum	sabeaceous gland secretion
albus, alba, alb	white
chlor/o-, chloros	green
chrom/o-, chromat/o-	color (as compared with no color)
cirrhos	orange-yellow
cyan/o-	blue
erythr/o-	red
leuc/o-, leuk/o-	white
lutein	saffron yellow
mean/o-	black
photo-	light
poli/o-	gray (relating on the gray matter of the nervous system)
rhod/o-	red
ruber, eubor	red, redness
xanth/o-	yellow, yellowish