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• Science Prof Online (SPO) is a free science education website that provides fully-developed Virtual Science Classrooms, science-related PowerPoints, articles and images. The site is designed to be a helpful resource for students, educators, and anyone interested in learning about science.

• The SPO Virtual Classrooms offer many educational resources, including practice test questions, review questions, lecture PowerPoints, video tutorials, sample assignments and course syllabi. New materials are continually being developed, so check back frequently, or follow us on Facebook (Science Prof Online) or Twitter (ScienceProfSPO) for updates.

• Many SPO PowerPoints are available in a variety of formats, such as fully editable PowerPoint files, as well as uneditable versions in smaller file sizes, such as PowerPoint Shows and Portable Document Format (.pdf), for ease of printing.

• Images used on this resource, and on the SPO website are, wherever possible, credited and linked to their source. Any words underlined and appearing in blue are links that can be clicked on for more information. PowerPoints must be viewed in *slide show mode* to use the hyperlinks directly.

• Several helpful links to fun and interactive learning tools are included throughout the PPT and on the Smart Links slide, near the end of each presentation. You must be in *slide show mode* to utilize hyperlinks and animations.

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From the FREE science education website ScienceProfOnline.com

Image: Compound microscope objectives, T. Port

Construction of Medical Terms

Medical Word Elements

Medical terms are built by combining and connecting word parts called elements. Word elements include Prefixes, Word Roots, Combining Vowels and Suffixes.

- **Word Root** (WR): The core of a word. This element provides the term's central meaning. Medical terms may have more than one WR. *Examples: pod = foot; hyster = uterus; febr = fever*

- **Combining Vowel** (CV): Word Roots sometimes need a Combining Vowel to join them to other word elements. The vowel "o" is most commonly used. Vowels "a, e, i, u and y" are also used, but less often. *Examples: pod / o ; hyster / o ; febr / I*

- **Combining Form** (CF): A Word Root and its Combining Vowel together are called a Combining Form. *Examples: podo; hystero; febri*

- **Prefix** (P): Only used at beginning of word. *Examples: anti- = against; intra- = within; brady- = slow*

- **Suffix** (S): Only used at end of the term, to complete the word. The suffix indicates whether the word is a noun or an adjective. The following suffix elements make the term a noun: a, e, ia, is, on, um, us, y. These suffix elements make the term an adjective: ac, ic, al, ar, eal, eous, ous. A suffix ending means <u>pertaining to</u>. Examples: hysterectomy, (noun); thoracic (adjective).

Construction of Medical Terms

Rules for Constructing Medical Terms

Element Order: The first part in a medical term's definition is usually the last element in the medical term. The last element of the medical term is usually the first part of the definition. *Example: psychologist = one who (ist), studys (log), mind (psych)*

Combining Elements: In the case of a medical term with multiple Word Roots, when adding another WR, Combining Vowel from the previous WR is usually retained.
Examples: gastr/ o /enter / itis ; leuk / o / cyt / o /penia

Prefix: A Prefix is usually not modified when added to a WR.

Suffix: A Suffix that begins with a consonant is usually preceded by a Combining Vowel. A Suffix that begins with a vowel is usually added directly to the Word Root. Examples: carcin / o / cyte ; crypt / orchid

Analyzing Medical Terms

Slash Marks: Insert between each element of the term.

Identify the Elements: Label each element as a WR, CV, CF, P and S.

Examples: cardi (WR) / o (CV) / log (WR) / ist (S) ; hypo (P) / gloss (WR) / al (s)

Medical Procedures
Medical Terminology Flashcards

Print 4 slides per page and you will be able to cut and fold the printout to easily make flashcards.

tom / o

WR   CV

_____

CF

to cut, section or layer

- assay

Suffix

examine, analyze, test, measure

- plasty

Suffix

surgical repair

- **pexy**

Suffix

surgical fixation

- rrhaphy

Suffix

surgical suturing

1. - gram

2. -graph

Suffix

1. record

2. instrument to record

- meter

Suffix

instrument to measure

1. - otomy

2. - ostomy

Suffix

1. temporary opening, incision

2. permanent opening

- centesis

Suffix

surgical puncture

– ectomy

Suffix

excision, removal

1. -scope

2. - scopy

Suffix

1. instrument to examine

2. process of examination

ablation

surgical removal of body tissue

- therapy

Suffix

treatment

- pheresis

process of removing a specific component from blood temporarily