

IRB

Glossary of Lay Terminology

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[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Z](#)

A	
Abdomen	belly
Abdominal	having to do with the belly
Abdominal cavity	space in the belly containing the stomach and other organs
Abdominocentesis	use of needle or tube to drain fluid from the belly
Abdominoperineal resection	surgery to remove the middle and end of the large intestine
Abdominoplasty	surgery to fix the stomach
Abduction	Spreading of the arms or legs; movement away from the middle of the body
Ablative Therapy	Treatment that involves removing or destroying tissue
Abortion	Early stopping of pregnancy
Abrasion	area where skin or other tissue is scraped away
Abruptio placentae	when the placenta separates too soon from the mother
Abscess	swelling filled with pus
Absorb	take up fluids, take in
Absorption	Soaking up; taking in
Abstinence	Choosing not to
Acapnia	less than normal amount of carbon dioxide in the blood or tissue
Acceptable	good; decent; capable
Acetabulum	pocket in the hip bone that holds the top of the upper leg bone
Acidosis	increase of acid in the blood
Acne	pimples
Acoumeter	tool used to measure hearing
Acoustic neuroma	growth in the ear canal
Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)	virus disease that attacks the immune system; illness that results in decreased ability of the body to protect itself from other illnesses; development of the disease or conditions associated with the disease results from Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
Acromegaly	too much growth of parts of the body, caused by too much growth hormone
Actinic keratosis	thick, scaly patches of skin caused by too much exposure to the sun, may turn into cancer

Activated partial thromboplastin time	measurement of how long it takes blood to clot
Acuity	Clearness of vision or airways
Acute	Lasting a short time but often serious
Acute Myocardial Infarction (MI)	Heart attack
Addison's disease	hormone disease that causes weakness, low blood pressure, and other serious problems
Adduction	movement toward the middle of the body
Adenohypophysis	Part of the pituitary gland in the brain that makes many hormones that control body functions
Adenoidectomy	surgery to take out the adenoids
Adenoiditis	pain and swelling of the adenoids
Adenoids	infection-fighting glands in the back of the throat
Adenomyosis	a growth of muscle in the uterus
Adenopathy	swollen lymph nodes (glands)
Adenotome	tool used to remove adenoids
Adequate	Reasonably good
Adhesion	tissue stuck together
Adipose	Fat; having to do with fat
Adjuvant	Addition that helps
Adjuvant Therapy	Added treatment
Adjuvant Treatment	added treatment
Administer	give (to)
Administration (of)	giving (of)
Adrenal gland	a gland found over each kidney that helps control heart rate, blood pressure and other functions
Adrenalectomy	surgery to remove an adrenal gland
Adrenaline	hormone made by the adrenal glands that speeds up body functions
Adrenalitis	inflammation of one or both adrenal glands
Adrenocortical Hormone	any of the hormones made by the outer layer of the adrenal glands
Adrenocorticohyperplasia	increased growth of one or both adrenal glands
Adrenocorticotropic Hormone	hormone made by the brain that activates the adrenal glands
Adrenomegaly	increase in size of one or both adrenal glands
Adrenopathy	disease of one or both adrenal glands
Adverse Effect/Event/Reaction	harmful, bad side effect
Aerosol	drug or substance made as a mist to be breathed in
Afferent	going toward the center area
Afterbirth	material that provides nutrition for the unborn baby and comes out after the baby is born

Airway	tube through which air passes in and out of the lungs
Akathisia	feeling of restlessness
Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT)	chemical in blood that is measured to check for liver disease
Albino	white; lacking color
Albuminuria	protein in the urine
Alcohol	drug found in whisky, wine, and beer that slows down the central nervous system
Aldosterone	hormone made by the adrenal glands that controls the balance of salt and water in the body
Allergen	substance that causes the immune system to produce an allergic reaction
Allergic Reaction	rash, swelling, or trouble breathing
Allergy	Too much sensitivity to something
Alopecia	hair loss
Alpha-Fetoprotein	chemical in blood that is measured to check for liver cancer, testicular cancer, and spina bifida
Alternative Therapy	Non-conventional treatment used instead of conventional therapy
Alzheimer's Disease	disorder that causes mental confusion
Ambulate/Ambulation/Ambulatory	walk, able to walk
Amenorrhea	when a woman has no menstrual period
Amniocentesis	removal of some of the waters from around an unborn baby for laboratory testing
Amniochorial	having to do with the tissues that surround the unborn baby
Amniography	taking an X-ray picture of the uterus (womb) and unborn baby
Amnion	tissue that covers the unborn baby
Amnionitis	inflammation of the amnion
Amniorrhea	leaking of waters from around the unborn baby
Amniorrhexis	breaking of the amnion
Amnioscope	a lighted tube inserted through the cervix to look at the amniotic sac and the unborn baby
Amniotic Fluid	waters around the unborn baby
Amniotic Sac	bag of tissue that surrounds the unborn baby
Amniotomy	rupture of the membranes (breaking of the tissues around the unborn baby)- done to start labor
Amphetamines	drugs that speed up metabolism and decrease appetite ("speed")
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)	a disease of the nerves and muscles that causes weakness
Anal	having to do with the anus
Analgesic	drug used to control pain
Anaphylactic shock	A very serious allergic reaction to a something (e.g., food, drug)
Anaphylaxis	Sudden and very serious, potentially life threatening, allergic reaction

Androgen	male sex hormone
Anemia	decreased number of red blood cells
Anesthesia	numbing or putting to sleep to stop pain
Anesthetic	drug that is used to produce loss of pain sensation
Anesthetic (General)	drug used to stop pain by putting you to sleep
Anesthetic (Local)	Drug used to numb an area of your body so you do not feel pain there
Anesthetic (Regional)	drug used to block pain from the muscle and the skin
Aneurysm	Bulge in the wall of a blood vessel
Aneurysmectomy	surgery to take out an aneurysm
Angina/Angina Pectoris	pain resulting from not enough oxygen to the heart
Angiocarditis	inflammation of the heart and the blood vessels entering the heart
Angioma	growth made up of blood vessels or lymph vessels
Angioplasm	cramp in the blood vessels
Angioplasty	surgery to open up a narrow blood vessel
Angiorrhaphy	stitching a blood vessel
Angiostenosis	narrowing of the inside of a blood vessel
Ankylosing Spondylitis	inflammation of the spine causing pain and stiffness
Ankylosis	joint stiffness
Anoplasty	surgery to fix the anus
Anorexia	when the fear of getting fat causes severe weight loss
Anorexia Nervosa	when the fear of getting fat causes severe weight loss
Anoxia	no oxygen
Antacid	drug used to decrease acid in the stomach (e.g., Tums, Rolaids)
Antecubital	in front of the elbow
Antepartum	before childbirth
Anterior	having to do with the front of the body
Anterior And Posterior Colporrhaphy	surgery to fix weak muscles in the pelvic area
Anterior Lobe	front part of an organ
Anterior Lobe Of The Pituitary	part of the pituitary gland that discharges many hormones
Antianginal	drug used to relieve chest pain
Antiarrhythmic	drug used to restore the natural rhythm of the heart
Antibiotic	A drug that kills bacteria; drug used to stop or slow down the growth of germs
Antibody	particle that sticks to germs and foreign matter to protect the body from infection
Anticoagulant	drug used to thin blood
Anticonvulsant	drug used to stop seizures
Anticubital	area inside the elbow
Antidiarrheal	drug used to stop diarrhea
Antidiuretic Hormone	hormone made by the pituitary gland that helps the kidneys keep water in the body by making less urine
Antidote	substance used to treat allergic reactions
Antiemetic	drug used to stop vomiting

Antihistamine	drug used to treat allergic reaction
Antilipidemic	a drug that decreases the level of fat(s) in the blood
Antimicrobial	drug that kills bacteria and other germs
Antinauseant	drug used to stop nausea and vomiting
Antipruritic	drug used to stop itching
Antiretroviral	drug that fights certain viruses
Antiseptic	substance used to stop or slow down the growth of germs
Antitussive	a drug used to relieve coughing
Antrectomy	surgery to remove the lower part of the stomach
Antrum	lower part of the stomach
Anuria	no urine being made
Anus	ring of muscle that keeps the opening at the end of the digestive tract closed
Aorta	biggest artery in the body
Aortic Stenosis	narrowing of the aorta where it comes out of the heart
Aortogram	x-ray of the aorta
Apepsia	without digestion
Aphagia	not able to swallow
Aphasia	not able to speak or write and not able to understand spoken or written words
Apnea	stopping of breathing
Aponeurorrhaphy	stitching of an aponeurosis
Aponeurosis	strong tissue that joins muscle to bone
Appendectomy	surgery to remove the appendix
Appendicitis	inflammation of the appendix
Appendix	short tube off the large intestine that had no known function
Appropriate	(the) right; correct
Approximately	nearly, about
Aqueous Humor	liquid in the eyes
Arachnoid	middle layer of the tissue that covers the brain and spinal cord
Areola	dark-colored skin around the breast nipple
Arrhythmia	uneven heart beat
Arteriogram	x-ray picture of an artery
Arterioles	small branches of arteries
Arteriorrhexis	breaking of an artery
Arteriosclerosis	hardening of the artery
Artery	blood vessel that carries blood and oxygen from the heart to the rest of the body
Arthralgia	pain in a joint
Arthritis	joint pain
Arthrocentesis	use of a needle to remove fluid from a joint
Arthroclasia	surgery to free up a joint that it is stiff so it cannot move
Arthrodesia	surgery to fasten a joint so it cannot move
Arthrogram	x-ray of a joint

Arthroplasty	surgery to fix a joint
Arthrosclerosis	stiffening of the joints
Arthroscope	A lighted tube used to look into a joint
Arthrotomy	surgery to cut into a joint
Articular Cartilage	smooth tissue that covers the bones inside a joint
Artificial Insemination	using a device to put sperm into the vagina to begin pregnancy
Ascites	fluid in the belly
Aspartate Aminotransferase (AST)	chemical in blood that is measured to detect liver disease
Aspermia	no sperm
Asphyxia	suffocation
Aspirate	remove fluid using suction; breath in fluid
Aspiration	fluid entering lungs
Assay	lab test
Assess	to learn about (the health/wellness of)
Assigned	placed in (into a group)
Associated (with)	having to do (with)
Asthma	A lung disease that causes wheezing and difficulty breathing
Astigmatism	imperfect curve of the eye
Asymptomatic	having no symptoms or problems
At Risk	having a possibility that something negative may happen
Ataxia	unable to coordinate muscle movement; uncontrolled muscle movement
Atelectasis	collapse of a lung
Atherosclerosis	hardening of the arteries
Atraumatic	not damaging to tissue
Atrioventricular Defect	hole in the heart present at birth
Atrophy	wasting away, or decrease in size, of a body organ
Audiogram	report of a hearing test
Audiologist	doctor who studies and treats hearing
Audiology	the study of hearing
Audiometer	device used to measure hearing
Audiometry	measurement of hearing
Audiotape	a cassette tape that is listened to
Aural	having to do with the ear
Auricle	outside flap of the ear
Auscultation	use of a stethoscope to listen to sounds inside the body
Autism	condition causing abnormal perceptions and relationships

Autoimmune Disease	disorder in which a person's immune system attacks parts of his or her own body
Autologous Bone Marrow Transplantation	removing your bone marrow, treated it for a disease, and then returning it to tyour body
Axilla	armpit
B	
Bacteria	type of germs
Bacterial	having to do with bacteria
Bacterial Analysis	test used to detect and identify bacteria
Bacterial Endocarditis	bacterial infection of the inner lining of the heart
Bag Of Waters	sack containing liquid that surrounds the unborn baby
Balanitis	inflammation of the end of the penis
Balanorrhagia	balanitis with discharge of pus from the end of the penis
Balanorrhea	discharge of fluid from the penis
Banking	storing a sample of blood, tissue, etc., for future research use
Barbiturates	group of drugs that are used for different reasons, including general anesthesia, sedation, and stopping seizures
Barium Enema	taking an X-ray picture of the large intestine using a dye given as an enema
Bartholin's Adentitis	inflammation of the mucus-producing glands in the vagina
Bartholin's Glands	mucus-producing glands in the vagina
Basal Cell Carcinoma	tumor of the skin (type of skin cancer)
Baseline	a patient's medical status before any treatment or research is done
Benefit	a good effect
Benign	not malignant, without serious consequences
Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia	an enlargement of the prostate caused by disease or inflammation
Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy	increase in size of the prostate gland
Beta Blocker	drug used to slow down the heart
Beta-HCG (Human Chorionic Gonadotropin)	chemical in blood that is measured to detect cancer of the testicles
BID	Twice a day
Bicuspid Valve	a valve in the heart that controls the flow of blood by opening and closing with each heart beat
Bilateral	having to do with both sides of the body
Bile	brown-yellow-green fluid made in the liver and stored in the gallbladder that helps with digestion

Bile Acids	acids made by the liver that work with bile to break down fats
Bile Duct	tube that carries bile from the liver to the gallbladder and intestines
Bilirubin	a yellow-red chemical made from hemoglobin; too much causes jaundice
Binding/Bound	carried by, to make stick together, transported
Binocular	having to do with both eyes
Bioavailability	the extent to which a drug or other substance becomes available to the body
Biological Therapy	Using substances that boost the body's immune system to fight against cancer
Biopsy	removing a small sample of tissue for evaluation
Bleeding Time	test to measure how long it takes for a small cut to stop bleeding
Blepharitis	inflammation of the eyelid
Blepharoplasty	surgery to fix the eyelid
Blepharoptosis	drooping of the upper eyelid
Blood	red liquid pumped by the heart
Blood Chemistry	Chemicals in the blood
Blood Clot	lump of blood that is stuck together
Blood Collection	Taking of blood
Blood Components	red blood cells, white blood cells, electrolytes (salts & minerals), enzymes
Blood Counts	Number of white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets in a blood sample
Blood Draw	Taking of blood; insert needle through the skin and take out blood
Blood Pressure (BP)	the pressure of blood flowing through blood vessels
Blood Profile	series of blood tests
Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)	chemical in blood that is measured to check kidney function
Blood Vessels	tubes that carry blood through the body
Bolus	a large amount
Bone Marrow	soft tissue inside bones that makes blood cells
Bone Marrow Biopsy	use of a needle to remove bone marrow so that it can be tested
Bone Marrow Transplant	putting normal bone marrow from one person into another person
Bone Mass	bone density; amount of calcium in a given amount of bone
Bone Scan	taking an X-ray picture of a bone
Bone Survey	taking X-ray pictures of all the bones of the body

Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD)	characterized by instability in mood and interpersonal relationships, suicide attempts, self-injury, role confusion, and impulsive behaviors
Bowel	the intestine
Bradycardias	slow irregular heart beats
Bradycardia	slow heart beat
Bradykinesia	moving slow
Bradypepsia	slow digestion
Brain	main part of the central nervous system
Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF)	protein, widely secreted in the hippocampus; has been found to play a role in hippocampal morphology and associated cognitive functions such as memory
Brain Scan	taking a picture of the brain using a radioactive dye
Brain Stem	lowest part of the brain just above the spinal cord; joins the brain to the spinal column
Brand Name	commercial name for a drug
Breasts	milk-producing glands of women
Breech Birth	when feet, buttocks, or knees come out before head at birth
Brochoconstrictor	drug that makes airways in the lungs tighten up
Bronchi	Airways in the lungs
Bronchitis	coughing and chest discomfort, inflammation of the airways in the lungs
Bronchoconstriction	Tightness in the lungs; difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
Bronchodilator	Drug that makes the airways in the lungs open up
Bronchogenic	beginning in the bronchus
Bronchogram	x-ray of the airways in the lungs
Bronchoplasty	surgery to fix the airways in the lungs
Bronchopneumonia	inflammation and often infection of the airways in the lungs
Bronchoscope	a lighted tube used to look into the airways in the lungs
Bronchospasm	sudden breathing distress caused by narrowing of the airways in lungs
Bronchus	Airway in the lungs
Bulimia	an eating disorder in which a person cannot stop eating and often vomits to make room for more food
Bunion	bone growth inside the base of the big toe
Bursa	small sack filled with liquid that cushions moving parts, such as two bones in a joint
Bursitis	inflammation of the bursa
Bursolith	stone in a bursa
Bursotomy	surgery to cut into a bursa

Bypass	an artificial passageway from one blood vessel to another to get around a blood clot
C	
Cachexia	Wasting away caused by disease; general weakness
Caffeine	drug in coffee, tea and soft drinks that speeds up heart rate and causes other effects
Calcaneus	heel bone
Calcipenia	Not enough calcium in the blood and tissues
Cancellous Bone	a type of bone that looks like a sponge
Cancer	abnormal tissue that grows and spreads in the body without control
Cancer Chemotherapy	treatment of cancer using drugs
Cancer Radiotherapy	treatment of cancer using x-rays
Cancer Susceptibility Gene	a gene that, when mutated, gives a person a risk for developing certain types of cancer
Cancerous	having to do with cancer
Capillary	tiny blood vessel
Capsule Endoscopy	looking inside the body with a camera in a pill
Carbohydrates	type of fuel for the body that includes sugars and starches
Carbuncle	Large boil
Carcinoembryonic Antigen	substance in blood that is measured to detect tumors of stomach or intestines
Carcinogenic	Can cause cancer
Carcinoma	a cancer of the tissue that covers organs, glands and body structures
Carcinoma In Situ	Cancer that has not spread
Cardiac	having to do with the heart
Cardiac Arrest	stopping of the heart
Cardiac Catheter	a tube in the heart to test for or treat a heart problem
Cardiac Catheterization	putting a catheter into the heart to test for or treat a heart problem
Cardiac Pacemaker	battery-powered device put under the skin to control the heart rate
Cardiac Scan	using sound waves to look at the structure of the heart
Cardiac Tamponade	squeezing of the heart caused by fluid or blood build-up in the sac around the heart
Cardiodynia	pain in the heart
Cardiogenic	beginning in the heart
Cardiologist	doctor who treats heart problems
Cardiology	the study and treatment of the heart

Cardiomegaly	enlargement of the heart
Cardiomyopathy	disease of the heart muscle
Cardiopulmonary Bypass	artificial passageway through which blood goes around the heart during open-heart surgery
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	restoring normal breathing and heart beat with mouth-to-mouth breathing and pressing on the chest
Cardiotonic	drug used to strengthen the pumping action of the heart
Cardiovalvulitis	inflammation of the heart valves
Cardioversion	use of electric shock to make the heart beat with normal rhythm
Carotid Artery	artery to the head
Carotid Intima-Media Thickness Study (Carotid IMT)	ultrasound test on blood vessels in the neck; painless test that uses sound waves from a small, hand-held machine
Carpal	having to do with the wrist
Carpal Bones	wrist bones
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome	pain caused by a pinched nerve in the wrist
Carpectomy	surgery to remove a wrist bone
Carpoptosis	drooping wrist
Cartilage	a rubbery type of tissue that pads the joints and keeps the shape of the nose and outside ear flaps
Cataract	clouding of the lens of the eye
Cathartic	drug used to stop constipation
Catheter	tube inserted in the body for inserting or taking out fluids
Catheter – Epidural	a tube placed near the spinal cord used for anesthesia indwelling epidural during operations
Caudal	toward the "tail end" or lower or back side
Cecum	the first part of the large intestine, which is shaped like a pouch
Celiotomy	Cutting into the belly
Cell	the basic building block of all living things
Cell Culture	Growing cells outside the body in a laboratory
Cell Membrane	layer that surrounds a cell
Cellulitis	inflammation of the tissue under the skin
Central Nervous System (CNS)	the brain and spinal cord
Central Nervous System Drugs	drugs that speed up or slow down the central nervous system
Central Venous Access Device or Catheter	a catheter placed in a large vein in the chest; such as a Port or PICC
Cephalagia	headache
Cephalic	Having to do with the head

Cephalosporin	type of antibiotic
Cerebellitis	inflammation of the cerebellum
Cerebellum	the part of the brain that controls the movement of the muscles and helps maintain balance
Cerebral	having to do with the cerebrum
Cerebral Aneurysm	bulge in a blood vessel in the brain
Cerebral Angiography	x-ray of the blood vessels in the brain
Cerebral Palsy (CP)	Birth disorder of the brain that makes it hard to move
Cerebral Thrombosis	blood clot in the brain
Cerebral Trauma	damage to the brain
Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)	the liquid around and in the brain and spinal cord
Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA)	stroke
Cerebrum	largest part of the brain, divided into right and left side
Cerumen	ear wax
Ceruminoma	growth inside the gland that makes ear wax
Cervical Vertebrae	bones of the neck
Cervicectomy	surgery to remove the cervix
Cervicitis	inflammation of the cervix
Cessation	stopping
Chalazion	pimple on the eyelid caused by an inflamed gland
CHD	coronary heart disease
Cheilorrhaphy	surgery to stitch a lip
Chemical Name	Not the brand name; chemical formula for a drug (generic)
Chemotherapeutic Agent	anticancer drug
Chemotherapy	using drugs to treat disease; treatment of disease, usually cancer, by chemical agents
Chest Cavity	Space inside the rib cage; space where the heart, lungs, esophagus, trachea, bronchi, and thymus are located
Chiropodist	doctor who treats problems of the feet
Chiropractor	doctor who treats disorders of the spine and nerves
Chlamydia	type of germ that usually infects the eyes, lungs, or sex organs
Chloasma	Dark spots on the skins
Cholangiogram	x-ray picture of the gallbladder and bile ducts
Cholangioma	cancer of a bile duct
Cholecystectomy	surgery to remove the gallbladder
Cholecystitis	inflammation of the gallbladder
Choledocholithiasis	gallstones in a bile duct
Choledocholithotripsy	surgery to crush gallstones in a bile duct

Cholelithiasis	gallstones
Cholinergic	Type of drug that treats nerve problems
Chondrectomy	surgery to remove cartilage
Chondromalacia	softening of joint cartilage, usually inside the knee
Chorea	disease of the nerves that can cause spasms and lack of coordination; Involuntary movements
Chorioamnionitis	inflammation of the tissue that covers the unborn baby
Chorion	outside layer of the tissue that covers the unborn baby
Choroid	middle layer of the eyeball
Chromosomes	structures in the nucleus of a cell that contain the genes
Chronic	lasting a long time
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	Disease that blocks the flow of air into the lungs (e.g., emphysema)
Cicatrix	scar
Circumcision	surgery to remove the foreskin
Cirrhosis	serious liver disorder in which connective tissue replaces normal liver tissue, and liver failure often occurs
Clavicle	collarbone
Cleft Lip And Plate	birth defect in which there is a split in the lip and the roof of the mouth
CLIA Lab	certified clinical laboratory that is authorized to release results from patient tests for clinical and diagnostic purposes
Clinical	Having to do with medical treatment
Clinical Trial	Scientific human research study
Clinically Significant	Important to your health and medical care
Clitoris	sensitive female sex tissue located above the opening for urination
Coagulation	sticking together in a lump
Coagulation Time	how long it takes for blood to clot
Coarctation Of The Aorta	birth disorder in which an area of the aorta is very narrow
Coccyx	tailbone
Cochlea	part of the organ of hearing inside the ear
Cochlear Implant	a small, complex electronic device that can help to provide a sense of sound to a person who is profoundly deaf or severely hard-of-hearing
Cognitive	mental functioning
Coitus	sexual intercourse between a man and a woman
Colectomy	surgery to remove part or all of the colon
Colon	Part of the large intestine

Colon Polyp	small, mushroom-shaped growth in the colon
Colonoscope	A lighted tube used to look into the colon
Colonoscopy	Looking inside the colon with a lighted tube
Colorectal Cancer	cancer of the colon and rectum
Colostomy	making an opening from the outside of the body to the colon
Colpitis	inflammation of the vagina
Colporrhaphy	stitching of the vagina
Colposcope	tool with magnifying glass used to look into the vagina and at the cervix
Coma	unconscious state from which you may not wake up
Compact Bone	hard layers of the bone
Compensation	payment or gift to a research subject/volunteer
Complete Blood Count	measuring the size, number and maturity of all the blood cells in a volume of blood
Complete Response	total disappearance of disease
Complications	difficulties, problems
Complimentary Therapy	Non-conventional treatment used with conventional therapy
Computerized Axial Tomography (CAT)	x-ray machine that uses a computer to make pictures of the body
Computerized Tomography (CT)	x-ray machine that uses a computer to make pictures of the organs of the body
Conception	the beginning of pregnancy when the fertilized egg implants in the uterus
Conclude/Conclusion	end
Concomitant	given at the same time
Concussion	blow to the head that injures the brain
Condom	cover worn over the penis during sexual intercourse to prevent infection or pregnancy
Cone Biopsy	cutting a relatively large cone-shaped piece of tissue from the cervix
Confidentiality	Other people will not find out; keeping all information about a research subject/volunteer private
Congenital	Present at or before the time of birth
Congenital Anomaly	birth defect
Congenital Heart Disease (CHD)	heart disease present at birth
Congenital Heart Failure (CHF)	failure of the heart resulting in fluid build-up in the lungs, other body tissues, or both
Congestive Heart Failure	when the heart cannot pump blood and fluid builds up in the lungs
Conjunctiva	tissue that lines the inside of the eyelids and covers part of the eye inside its socket

Conjunctivitis	irritation and redness of the tissue covering the eye
Connective Tissue	type of tissue that connects, supports, touches, and surrounds various body parts
Conscious	awake and aware
Consequence	result; effect; outcome
Consists Of	includes
Consolidation Phase	treatment phase intended to make a remission permanent, follows induction
Constipation	decreased number of or difficulty making bowel movements
Contagious	easily spread
Contraindications	medical reasons that prevent a person from using a certain drug or treatment
Control Group	group not receiving the experimental treatment
Controlled Trial	study in which the experimental treatment or procedure is compared to a standard (control) treatment or procedure
Contusion	bruise
Convulsion	seizure
Coombs' Test	a test of red blood cells for blood compatibility
Cooperative Group	association of research sites that work on clinical trials together
Cor Pulmonale	heart disease caused by problems in the lungs
Cornea	clear tissue covering the front part of the eye
Corneitis	inflammation of the cornea and iris
Coronary	Having to do with the heart
Coronary Artery	artery that supplies blood to the heart
Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)	surgery to add a new blood vessel to supply blood to the heart
Coronary Artery Disease	when the arteries to the heart narrow and reduce blood flow to the heart
Coronary Ischemia	not enough blood going to the heart
Coronary Thrombosis	blood clot in an artery that supplies blood to the heart
Corpus	Body; main part of an organ
Cortex	outer layer of an organ or other structure in the body
Cortical	having to do with the outer layer of an organ or other structure in the body
Corticotropin	hormone made by the brain that turns on the adrenal glands
Cortisol	hormone made by the adrenal gland that may increase in amount due to stress
Costectomy	surgery to remove a rib
Cough	sudden, loud flow of air from the lungs

Cranial	having to do with the skull and the space inside the skull
Cranial Cavity	space inside the skull that holds the brain
Cranioplasty	surgery to fix the skull
Craniotomy	surgery on the skull or to make an opening in the skull
Cranium Bifidum	birth defect in which there is a crack in the skull
Creatinine Clearance Test	blood test used to see if the kidneys can effectively remove creatinine from the blood
Cretinism	a birth defect in which lack of thyroid hormone results in stopping of physical and mental development
Crohn's Disease	serious inflammation in lower part of the digestive system
Crossmatch	blood test to check if it is safe to give one person's blood to another person
Crossover	method used to switch subjects from one study group to another in a clinical trial
Croup	children's disease that causes coughing and harsh breathing
Cryoextraction of the Lens	surgery using low temperatures to remove a cataract
Cryoretinopexy	surgery to repair a detached retina
CT Scan (CAT)	Computerized series of x-rays
Culdocentesis	removing fluid surrounding the ovaries to test for ovarian cancer
Culdoscope	a lighted tube used to look into the pouch between the vagina and the rectum
Culture	grow germs to check for their presence; test for infection or organisms that could cause infection
Cumulation	increased action of a drug when given over a period of time
Cumulative	total sum (of individual events, experiences, treatments)
Curt (Curette)	spoon shaped tool used for scraping or cutting
Curved	having a curved handle or a curved blade
Cushing's Syndrome	disease caused by too much of production of adrenal hormones or long-term use of cortisone-type drugs, causing many symptoms, including a fat, round face and weakness
Cutaneous	relating to the skin
CVA	stroke (cerebrovascular accident)
Cyanosis	blue color of tissues such as the skin or gums caused by too little oxygen
Cyesiology	the study of pregnancy
Cyesis	pregnancy
Cyst	a closed sac in the body that contains fluid; may be

	filled with pus
Cystectomy	surgery to remove a cyst or the urinary bladder or gallbladder
Cystic Fibrosis (CF)	genetic disease of glands resulting in lung and digestive problems
Cystitis	inflammation of the urinary bladder
Cystocele	type of hernia in which the urinary bladder bulges into the vagina
Cystogram	x-ray picture of the urinary bladder
Cystolith	stone in the urinary bladder
Cystolithotomy	surgery to remove a stone from the urinary bladder
Cystoscope	lighted tube used to look into the urinary bladder
Cystostomy	surgery to make an opening into the urinary bladder
Cystotrachelotomy	surgical cut into the neck of the urinary bladder
Cystoureterogram	x-ray of the urinary bladder and ureters
Cytogenic	making cells
Cytoid	like a cell
Cytology	the study of cells
Cytomegalovirus (CMV)	type of herpes virus
Cytoplasm	material inside a cell

D

Dacryocystorhinostomy	surgery to make an opening between the tear sac and the nose
Dacryocystitis	inflammation of the tear sac
Debridement	surgery to clean foreign material and dead tissue out of a wound
Decubital Ulcer	bedsore
Deep	inside the body
Deep Vein Thrombosis	blood clot in a deep vein
Defecation	making a bowel movement
Defibrillation	use of electric shock to make the heart start beating, or to correct an abnormal heart rate or rhythm
Dehydration	No enough water in the body.
Delusion	a false belief held in the face of strong differing evidence, especially as a symptom of psychiatric disorder
Dementia	Decreasing mental ability; mental decline
Demographic Personal Statistics	personal information; information about you
Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA)	genetic material in the cells in the body that serve as blueprints for making proteins; material that makes up genes

Depressant	drug that slows down the action of the brain
Dermabrasion	method used to remove scars from the skin
Dermatitis	Skin rash, inflammation
Dermatoautoplasty	skin grafting using skin from another area of the patient's body
Dermatofibroma	type of benign skin growth
Dermatoheteroplasty	skin grafting using skin from another person
Dermatologic	pertaining to the skin
Dermatologist	doctor who treats disorders of the skin
Dermatome	tool used to cut thin slices of the skin to use as skin grafts
Dermatoplasty	surgery to repair the skin
Dermis	inner layer of the skin
Detached Retina	When the retina comes loose from the layer behind it
Determine	find out, see if
Deviated Septum	when the inside wall between the two sides of the nose is off to one side
Diabetes Insipidus	hormone disease that causes too much urination and extreme thirst
Diabetes Mellitus	disease in which problems with insulin cause high blood sugar, increased thirst and urine and many other side effects
Diagnosis	finding out the cause of a medical problem
Diaphoresis	heavy sweating
Diaphragm	flat muscle between the chest cavity and the belly that helps with breathing
Diaphragmatocele	a hole in the diaphragm
Diaphysis	the long part of arm and leg bones
Diarrhea	frequent, loose bowel movement
Diastole	when the heart is resting and filling with blood
Diastolic	lower number in blood pressure reading; pertaining to resting or relaxation phase of heart beat
Digital Rectal Exam	exam using a finger inside the rectum to feel internal organs such as the prostate gland and uterus
Dilation and Curettage (D&C)	surgery to remove the contents and inner lining of the uterus after a miscarriage or abortion; procedure is also used to treat abnormal bleeding
Dilator	tool used for stretching or enlarging an opening or tube
Diplopia	seeing double
Discomfort	pain
Discectomy	surgery to remove one of the pads between the bones in the spine
Dissector	tool used to cut apart tissue

Disseminate	scatter or spread
Dissociative Symptoms	feeling disconnected from your surroundings, or feeling unreal
Distal	toward the end, away from the center of the body
Distended	stretched out or swollen, such as a full bladder
Diuresis	increased discharge of urine
Diuretic	drug that causes an increase in urination; "water pill"
Diverticulectomy	surgery to remove abnormal pouches in the colon
Diverticulitis	inflammation of pouches in the colon wall
Diverticulosis	abnormal pouches coming off the colon
Doppler	way in which the frequency of sound waves changes
Doppler Flow Studies	use of ultrasonography to see blood flow inside blood vessels
Dorsal	having to do with the back of the body
Double Blind(ed)	in a clinical study, when neither you nor the researcher knows what treatment you are getting
Double-Barrier Birth Control Methods	condoms with spermicide, sponge with spermicide, or diaphragm with spermicide
Double-Blind Trial	test or experiment in which neither the person giving the treatment nor the patient knows which treatment the patient is receiving
Down's Syndrome	birth defect in which an extra chromosome causes mental retardation, and changed appearance of the head, hands, and feet
Duct	tube that carries a body fluid
Ductus Deferens	tube that carries sperm out of the testicle
Duodenal Ulcer	sore in the first part of the small intestine
Duodenum	beginning part of the small intestine; first part of the small intestine
Dura Mater	outer layer of the membranes that surround brain and spinal cord
Duritis	inflammation of the dura mater
Dyscrasia	imbalance in the types of blood cells
Dysentery	severe diarrhea with pain and blood in bowel movements
Dysfunction	No functioning right
Dysmenorrhea	painful menstruation
Dyspepsia	upset stomach after eating
Dysphagia	trouble swallowing
Dysphasia	difficulty speaking and putting words together
Dysphonia	trouble with the voice and speaking
Dysplasia	abnormal development or cell growth

Dyspnea	trouble breathing
Dystocia	difficult childbirth
Dystonia	when some muscle has good tone and other muscle does not; disorder that causes focal or generalized sustained muscle contractions, postures, and/or involuntary movements; sudden start of painful twisting and abnormal postures
Dysuria	pain when urinating

E

Ecchymosis	black and blue mark; bruise
Echocardiogram	picture of the heart in motion made using ultrasonography
Echocardiogram	sound wave test of the heart
Echoencephalography	use of sound waves to measure the shape of the brain
Eclampsia	convulsions in a pregnant woman caused by high blood pressure and other medical problems
Ectopic Pregnancy	pregnancy growing outside the uterus, often in fallopian tubes
Eczema	type of itchy skin rash; skin problem that causes redness, scaling, crusting, oozing and itching
Edema	swelling caused by a buildup of fluid in the tissues
Effective	works; works well; works better (than)
Effectiveness	working ability
Effects	good and bad results
Efferent	Going outward; going away from the center of the body
Efficacy	How well it works
Ejaculation	discharge of semen from the penis during the climax of sexual intercourse
Electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG)	picture of electrical tracing of heartbeat or heart rhythm
Electrocardiograph	machine that records the electrical action of the heart
Electroencephalogram (EEG)	electric brainwave measurement
Electroencephalograph	machine that records brain wave activity
Electrolyte Imbalance	imbalance of salts in the blood
Elevate	raise
Elevation of Liver Function Tests	proof of liver or kidney damage
Embolectomy	surgery to remove a blood clot
Embolus	blood clot
Embryo	unborn baby from 2 to 8 weeks after it is formed
Embryoid	looking like an embryo
Embryology	the study of the development of the unborn baby
Emesis	vomiting

Emetic	drug that makes you vomit; useful in treating poisoning
Emmetropia	when the eye focuses light correctly
Emollient	substance that softens the skin
Emphysema	disorder in which too much air collects deep in the lungs and cannot be breathed out
Empiric	based on experience
Encephalitis	inflammation of the brain
Encephalomyeloradiculitis	inflammation of the brain, the spinal cord, and the spinal nerve roots
Encephalosclerosis	hardening of the brain
End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)	Chronic kidney failure
Endocervicitis	inflammation of the inner lining of the cervix
Endocrinologist	doctor who treats disorders of the glands that make hormones
Endocrinopathy	disease of the glands that make hormones; hormonal imbalance
Endometrial Biopsy	obtaining a sample of the lining of the uterus
Endometrial Hyperplasia	when the lining of the uterus becomes thick because of too much cell growth
Endometriosis	growths outside the uterus of tissues that normally line the uterus
Endometritis	inflammation of the inner lining of the uterus
Endometrium	inner lining of the uterus
Endophthalmitis	inflammation of the inside of the eye
Endorphin	A chemical made by the body to stop pain
Endoscope	a lighted tube used to look inside the body
Endoscopic Examination	examination of an internal part of the body with a lighted tube; looking at a part of the body with a lighted tube
Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)	x-ray of the bile and pancreatic ducts made using an endoscope
Endoscopy	looking inside the body with a lighted tube
Endosteum	tissue that lines the inside of bone
Endotracheal	inside the windpipe
Enema	liquid that is injected into the rectum to promote bowel movement
Enteral	by way of the intestines
Enteral Feeding	feeding through a tube into the digestive tract
Enteral Nutrition	feeding through a tube into the digestive tract
Enterorrhaphy	surgery to stitch the intestine
Eucleation	surgery to remove the eye
Enzyme Replacement Therapy	Treating a genetic disease by replacing the missing or

	defective enzyme
Epidermal	having to do with the outer layer of the skin
Epidermis	outer layer of skin
Epididymis	tubes that stores and carries sperm
Epidural	outside the spinal cord
Epigastric Region	area above the navel
Epiglottis	flap of skin that keeps food from going down the windpipe
Epiglottitis	inflammation of the epiglottis
Epilepsy	seizure disorder
Epinephrine	hormone made by the adrenal glands that speeds up body organs and helps the body deal with stress
Epiphysis	growth area of a long bone
Episioperineoplasty	surgery to fix the vulva and perineum
Episiorrhaphy	stitching a tear in the vulva
Episiotomy	surgical cut in the vagina to keep it from tearing when a baby is being born
Epistaxis	nosebleed
Epithelial	having to do with the epithelium
Epithelioma	benign or malignant growth made up of epithelial tissue
Epithelium	tissue that covers the outside of the body and makes up the lining and outer layers of most body organs and parts
Equivalent	equal, same
Eradicating	getting rid of (such as a disease)
Erosive Esophagitis	caused by gastroesophageal reflux; deterioration of the protective lining on the inner wall of the lower esophagus
Erythema	redness
Erythrocyte Count	the number of red blood cells in the blood
Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate (ESR)	blood test for inflammation
Erythrocytes	cells in blood that carry oxygen; red blood cells
Erythrocytosis	increase in number of red blood cells
Erythroderma	red skin
Esophagogastroduodenoscopy	using a lighted tube to look into the upper part of the digestive system (esophagus, stomach, and duodenum)
Esophagoscope	a lighted tube used to look into the esophagus
Esophagus	the passageway between the mouth and the stomach
Estrogen	female sex hormone
Estrogen Receptor Assay	blood test used to detect tumor cells in patients with breast cancer
Etiology	the cause or causes of an illness

Eupnea	normal breathing
Eustachian Tube	tube that connects the middle ear and the throat
Evaluate	rate the level (of health/wellness), judge (the health/wellness of)
Eversion	turning inside out
Excretion	the way that substances leave the body
Exophthalmic	has a bulging eyeball or eyeballs
Exophthalmos	bulging of one or both eyeballs
Exostosis	bony growth on the surface of a bone
Expectant Therapy	Watching the progress of a disease rather than treating it; “watchful waiting”
Experimental Drug	Drug not approved for use by the US FDA
Experimental Group	group receiving the experimental treatment
Extension	the straight position of an arm or leg
External	outside the body
External Auditory Meatus	opening between the outside of the ear and the eardrum
External Beam Therapy	using a narrow beam of radiation to treat cancer
External Ear	outside part of the ear
External Genitalia	sex organs on the outside of the body: penis, scrotum, and urethra in men; vulva, clitoris, and urethra in women
Extracorporeal	outside of the body
Extravasate	to leak outside of a blood vessel
Extravasation	Leaking out of a blood vessel
Eye Fundus	Back of the eye
F	
Fallopian Tube	tube from the ovaries to the uterus down which the egg travels
Fast	Nothing to eat or drink (set time varies)
Fasting Blood Sugar	blood test used to measure the amount of sugar in the blood after not eating or drinking for a set amount of time
FDA	United States Food and Drug Administration, the government agency that regulates foods and drugs to assure their safety
Fecal Occult Blood Test	a test for blood in the stool
Feces	material excreted during bowel movement; stool
Femoral	having to do with the thigh area
Femoropopliteal Bypass	surgery to make a passageway from one artery to another in the leg
Femur	thigh bone
Fertility	ability to have children

Fetus	unborn baby from 9 weeks after it is formed until it is born
Fever	an increase in body temperature
Fibrillation	fast uncontrolled heart beat
Fibroid Tumor	growth made up of fibrous tissue
Fibrous	having many fibers, such as scar tissue
Fibula	the lower leg bone behind the shin
Fimbria	tissue that looks like a fringe on the end of the fallopian tubes
First Degree Relative	a patient's spouse, mother, father, sister, brother, or child
Fissure	crack or groove in tissue
Flatus	passing gas
Flexion	bent position of the arm or leg
Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody Absorption (Fta-Abs) Test	blood test used to detect syphilis
Follow-Up	returning to see the doctor at a later time
Food And Drug Administration (FDA)	government agency that regulates foods and drugs
Forceps	tool with two blades and a handle used for handling tissue or dressings
Foreskin	fold of skin that covers the penis and is removed in circumcision
Fracture	broken bone
Fulguration	use of electric sparks to remove tissue such as tumors
Fundus	top of the uterus; back of the eye; large part of the stomach
Fungal	having to do with fungi
Fungal Test	test used to detect and identify a fungus
Fungi	more than one fungus
Fungus	type of living organisms, such as yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, some of which cause infection and some of which look like plants
Furuncle	painful skin boil
G	
Gadolinium	contrast material, similar to a dye, to make images appear clearer
Gait	the way a person walks
Galactorrhea	too much discharge of milk from the breast
Gallbladder	small sack under the liver that holds bile
Gamma Globulin	type of protein in the blood that helps the body fight infection

Ganglion	group of nerve cells found outside the central nervous system; a type of benign tumor on muscle connective tissue or on a tendon
Ganglionectomy	surgery to remove a ganglion
Ganglionitis	inflammation of a ganglion
Gangrene	death of tissue caused by loss of blood flow and usually followed by infection
Gastrectomy	surgery to remove all or part of the stomach
Gastric Lavage	washing the stomach out
Gastric Ulcer	sore in the stomach
Gastriodynia	pain in the stomach
Gastritis	inflammation of the stomach
Gastroenteritis	stomach and intestines upset
Gastroesophageal Reflux	flow of stomach acid up into the passageway between the mouth and the stomach
Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)	flow of stomach acid up into the passageway between the mouth and the stomach causing frequent persistent heartburn, flow of bitter fluid into mouth, difficulty swallowing, and upper abdominal pain
Gastroscope	a lighted tube used to look into the stomach
Gastrostomy	surgery to make an opening from the outside of the body into the stomach
Gavage	feeding you through a tube into your stomach
Gene Therapy	Using genetic material to treat a disease
General Anesthesia	put you to sleep so you will not feel any pain
Generic Name	chemical name for a drug
Genes	material passed from parent to child that determines the make-up of the body and mind
Genetic	passed down from birth parents in the genes
Genital	having to do with the sex organs
Genital Herpes	disease of the genitals caused by a herpes virus
Genitalia	male and female sex organs
Germ Cell	sex cell of the body: egg or sperm
Gestational	pertaining to pregnancy
Gingiva	the gums
Gingivectomy	surgery to remove gum tissue
Gingivitis	inflammation of the gums
Gland	tissue that produces a material, such as the saliva or a hormone
Glans Penis	end of the penis
Glaucoma	too much pressure inside the eye that causes visual problems

Globulins	proteins in the blood
Glomerulonephritis	inflammation of the kidney
Glomerulus	place in the kidney where urine is formed
Glossitis	inflammation of the tongue
Glossopathy	disease of the tongue
Glossorrhaphy	surgery to stitch the tongue
Glucocorticoids	drugs or natural substances made by the adrenal glands that have many effects on body metabolism, raise sugar level in the blood, and reduce inflammation
Glucose	type of sugar found in the blood
Glucose Tolerance Test	A test that measures how your blood sugar levels change after you drink a beverage that contains a measured amount of sugar
Glycosuria	sugar in urine
Gonad	sex gland: female ovary or male testicle
Gonorrhea	type of bacterial infection in the sex organs and sometimes in the skin and joints
Gout	disorder in which crystals of uric acid deposit in and around joints, causing pain and arthritis
Granulocytopenia	drop in white blood cell count
Growth Hormone (GH)	hormone made by the pituitary gland that controls the growth of the body
Guaic Test	test for blood in stool
Gynecologist	doctor who treats problems with the sex organs of women
Gynecology	the study and treatment of the reproductive system of women

H

Hair	thin strands of protein that grow up from the hair follicles
Hallucinations	imagining things
Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)	common illness of infants and children; a virus that causes fever, sores in the mouth, and a rash with blisters.
Hand and Foot Syndrome; Palmar-Plantar Erthrodyesthesia	palms of the hands or soles of the feet tingle, become numb, painful swollen, or red
Heart	muscle that moves or pumps blood through the body
Heart Failure	when the heart does not pump enough blood through the body
Heart Murmur	soft swishing sound when blood does not flow right through the heart heard when listening to the heart through a stethoscope
Hematemesis	blood in vomit
Hematocrit	amount of red blood cells in the blood

Hematocytopenia	not enough blood cells
Hematologist	doctor who treats blood disorders
Hematology	the study of blood
Hematoma	a bruise, a black and blue mark
Hematopoiesis	the making of blood cells
Hematosalpinx	blood in the uterine tube
Hematuria	blood in the urine
Hemiparesis	muscle weakness or partial paralysis, usually with loss of feeling, on half of the body
Hemiplegia	total loss of muscle movement, usually with loss of feeling, on half of the body
Hemodialysis	method used to remove waste material from the blood
Hemodynamic	Having to do with blood flow
Hemodynamic Measuring	Measuring fo blood flow
Hemoglobin (Hgb)	substance that carries oxygen and gives blood its red color
Hemolysis	breakdown in red blood cells
Hemolytic Anemia	destruction of red blood cells
Hemophilia	genetic disease that causes blood to clot too slowly
Hemorrhage	Fast loss of blood; bleeding from blood vessels
Hemorrhagic Stroke	stroke due to bleeding
Hemorrhoidectomy	surgery to remove hemorrhoids
Hemorrhoids	twisted and bulging veins in the rectal area
Hemostasis	the stopping of bleeding
Hemothorax	blood in the chest cavity
Heparin Lock	needle placed in the arm with blood thinner to keep the blood from clotting
Hepatitis	inflammation of the liver
Hepatoma	cancer or tumor of the liver
Hepatoma	growth on the liver
Heritable Disease	a disease that can be passed from parent to child through the genes
Hernia	bulging of an organ through an abnormal opening in a muscle wall
Herniated Disk	breaking of a ring-shaped pad in the spine, which often pinches a nerve; slipped disk
Herniorrhaphy	surgery to fix a hernia
Herpes	groups of tiny blisters found on the skin caused by infection with a herpes virus
Heterosexual	person who is attracted to the opposite sex
Hiccup	sudden, uncontrolled spasm of the diaphragm
Hidradenitis	inflammation of a sweat gland

Hip Bone	bone at the lower part of the body trunk
Hirsutism	abnormal hairiness (in women, an adult male pattern of hair distribution)
Histology	the study of tissue under the microscope
Histopathologic	pertaining to the disease status of body tissues or cells
Hodgkin's Disease	a cancer of white blood cells
Holter Monitor	a portable machine for recording heart beats
Homosexual	person who is attracted to the same sex
Hordeolum	infection of the oil glands of the eyelids; stye
Hormonal Birth Control Methods	birth control pill, Norplant, etc.
Hormone	substance made by a gland in the body that regulates another part of the body
Hospital Formulary	list of drugs and their proper doses maintained by each hospital
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)	a life-threatening infection which you can get from an infected person's blood or from having sex with an infected person
Humeral	having to do with the upper arm bone
Humerus	upper arm bone
Hydrocephalus	increase in fluid in usually causing pressure on the brain; water on the brain
Hydronephrosis	a kidney swollen with too much urine
Hydrosalpinx	fluid in the uterine tube
Hymen	fold of tissue at the opening of the vagina
Hymenectomy	surgery to remove the hymen
Hypercalcemia	too much calcium in the blood
Hypercapnia	too much carbon dioxide in the blood
Hyperesthesia	very sensitive to touch
Hyperglycemia	too much sugar in the blood
Hyperkalemia	too much potassium in the blood
Hyperkinesis	overactive movements
Hypernatremia	high blood sodium level
Hyperopia	farsightedness
Hyperplasia	increase in the number of cells that is not normal
Hypertension	high blood pressure
Hypertensive Heart Disease	heart problems caused by high blood pressure
Hyperthyroidism	overactive thyroid gland
Hyperventilation	breathing that is too fast
Hypnotic	drug used to make a person sleep
Hypocalcemia	not enough calcium in the blood
Hypocapnia	not enough carbon dioxide on the blood

Hypochondriac Region	area to the right or left above the naval
Hypodermic	under the skin
Hypodermic Injection	injection of a substance under the skin
Hypoesthesia	Having less than normal feeling in the skin
Hypogastric Region	area below the naval
Hypoglycemia	not enough sugar in the blood
Hypokalemia	not enough potassium in the blood
Hyponatremia	low blood sodium level
Hyponea	weak, slow breathing
Hypospadias	birth defect in which the urethra opens under the penis instead of the tip of the penis
Hypotension	low blood pressure
Hypothermia	low body temperature
Hypothyroidism	underactive thyroid gland
Hypotonia	decreased muscle tone
Hypoventilation	too little air entering the lungs
Hypoxemia	a decrease of oxygen in the blood
Hypoxemia	not enough oxygen in the blood
Hypoxia	not enough oxygen in the tissues
Hysteratresia	birth defect in which the uterus does not open to the outside of the body
Hysterectomy	surgery to remove the uterus
Hysteropexy	surgery to fasten down the uterus in its normal position
Hysterosalpingography	taking an x-ray of the uterus and the uterine tubes using a dye to outline them
Hysterosalpingo-Oophorectomy	surgery to remove all of the internal female reproductive organs
Hysteroscope	tool used to look into the uterus
I	
Iatrogenic	accidentally caused by a medical treatment
Iatrolgy	the science of medicine
Icterus	too much bile in the blood causing a yellow color to the skin, gums, eye, and other tissues
Idiopathic	of unknown cause
Idiosyncrasy	rare side effect of a drug; unusual reaction of a person to a drug
Ileocecal	having to do with the ileum and the cecum
Ileum	third and last part of the small intestine
Ileus	blockage of the intestines
Iliac Regions	areas to the right and left below the naval

Iliofemoral	having to do with the hip and thigh bones
Ilium	wing-shaped upper part of the hip bone
Immune Globulins	proteins that help protect the body from infection and foreign matter
Immune System	the cells and substances that protect the body from infection and foreign matter
Immunity	protection against infection
Immunodeficiency	weakness of the immune system
Immunoglobulin	a protein that makes antibodies
Immunosuppressive	Weakness of the immune system; drug which suppresses the body's immune response, used in transplantation and diseases caused by disordered immunity; reduces the body's defenses against invading substances
Immunotherapy	Treatment to help the body's immune (protective) system; usually used to destroy cancer cells
Impaired function	abnormal function
Impedance Plethysmography	test used to find blood clots
Impetigo	skin infection
Implanted	placed in the body
Impotent	not able to have or to keep an erection during sexual intercourse
Inclusion Criteria	reasons for including you; the characteristics a subject must have to be included in a medical research study
Incontinence	not able to control bladder or bowel actions
Induction Phase	beginning phase or stage of a treatment
Induration	Hardening; hard spot
Indwelling	remaining in a given location, such as a catheter
Indwelling Epidural Catheter	tube placed near the spinal cord, used for anesthesia during an operation
Infarct	death of tissue because it does not get enough blood
Infectious Disease	disease which is transmitted from one person to next
Inferior	toward the lower part of the body
Inflammation	the response of tissues to irritation or injury: redness, heat, swelling and pain
Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)	Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, indeterminate colitis
Influenza	the flu; disease caused by the flu virus
Infusion	slowly putting a liquid into a vein; a fluid or a medicine delivered into a vein by way of a needle
Ingestion	eating; taking by mouth
Inhalant	substance given through the nose or mouth to reach the lungs
Inheritance	something passed down from birth parents

Inherited	a characteristic or condition that is passed down from birth parents
Initial	first
Institutional Review Board (IRB)	the committee that oversees research at the institution
Insulin	the hormone that controls blood sugar levels
Interfere	get in the way of
Interferon	a natural substance and a drug that fights virus infections
Interictal	happening between seizures
Interior	inside of the body
Intermittent	off and on; occurring (regularly or irregularly) between two time points
Intermittent Claudication	On-again, off-again pain and weakness in legs which interferes with walking
Internal	within the body
Internal Cardiac Defibrillator	a device inside the body that makes an electrical shock to make the heart return to its normal rhythm
Intervention	a treatment given during the course of a research study
Intervertebral Disks	pads found between each ring (bone) in the spine
Intracavity Injection	injection of a substance into a body cavity
Intracoronary Thrombolytic Therapy	injection of medicine to dissolve a blood clot in an artery of the heart
Intracranial	inside the skull
Intradermal Injection	injection of a substance into the skin
Intradermal Tests	allergy tests performed by injecting allergy-causing substances underneath the skin to see if they cause a reaction
Intradermally	given into the skin
Intramuscular (IM)	into the muscle
Intramuscular Injection (IM)	injection of a substance into a muscle (e.g., upper arm or backside)
Intraocular	within the eye
Intraperitoneal	In the belly
Intrathecal	into the spinal fluid
Intrathecal Injection	injection of a substance into the space around the spinal cord (i.e., spinal canal)
Intravenous (IV)	into a vein
Intravenous (IV) Catheter	Tube into a blood vessel
Intravenous (IV) Infusion	drip into a blood vessel through a plastic tube
Intravenous (IV) Injection	injection into a vein
Intravenous (IV) Line	a special needle designed to stay in a vein
Intravenous (IV) Push	injection into a vein

Intravenous Pyelogram	x-ray picture of the kidneys and ureters using dye that is injected into the blood
Intravenous (IV) Therapy	treatment with injection of a substance into a vein
Intravesical	in the bladder
Intubate	put a breathing tube into the throat
Intussusception	telescoping of the intestine into itself
Invasive Cancer	cancer that spreads into the tissues around it
Invasive Procedure	puncture, opening or cutting of the skin
Inversion	turning inward
Investigation	study
Investigational	experimental
Investigational Device Exemption (IDE)	the license to test an unapproved new medical device
Investigational New Drug (IND)	drug not yet approved by the FDA
Investigational Method	A treatment method which has not been proven to be beneficial or has not been accepted as standard care
Iritis	inflammation of the iris
Irritable Bowel Syndrome	type of bowel disease that causes pain and diarrhea or constipation
Ischemia	decreased oxygen in a tissue (usually because of decreased blood flow)
Ischemic Stroke	stroke due to a blood clot
Ischium	lower part of the pelvic bone, part you sit on
Islets Of Langerhans	part of the pancreas that makes insulin
Isthmus	thin strip of tissue that joins two parts of the body
J	
Jaundice	too much bile in the blood causing a yellow color to the skin, gums, eye, and other tissues
Jejunum	second and longest part of the small intestine
K	
Kaposi's Sarcoma	purple or brown cancerous pimples on the skin, often associated with AIDS
Karyocyte	cell with a center
Karyoplasm	material inside the center of a cell
Keloid	type of scar tissue that keeps growing inside
Keratin	protein that is found in the hair, nails, and skin
Keratoplasty	surgery to fix the cornea
Ketone Bodies	substances that increase in the blood and urine during starvation or uncontrolled diabetes

Kidney	one of two organs in the lower back that filter blood and make urine
Kidney Dialysis	using a machine to remove waste products from the blood after the kidneys have stopped working
Kidney Failure	when kidneys stop working
Kidney Impairment	when kidneys don't work as well as they should
Kyphosis	hunchback
L	
Labyrinth	structure in the inner ear
Labyrinthectomy	surgery to remove the inner ear
Labyrinthitis	inflammation of the inner ear
Laceration	torn, ragged cut
Lacrimal	having to do with the tears
Lacrimal Duct	type of tear duct
Lactating	making milk
Lactic Dehydrogenase (LDH)	substance measured in a blood test to assess damage to heart and other organs
Lactogenic	causing the making of breast milk
Lactorrhea	too much discharge of milk from the breast
Laminectomy	surgery to remove the top of vertebra
Laparoscope	tool used to look into the abdominal cavity
Laparoscopy	surgery using an laparoscope to see internal organ through a small incision
Laparotomy	surgery to make an opening into the wall of the belly to look inside with a laparoscope
Large Intestine	the bowel between the small intestine and the anus, including the cecum, colon, and rectum
Laryngeal	having to do with the voice box
Laryngeal Nerve	nerve in the throat
Laryngectomy	surgery to remove the voice box
Laryngitis	inflammation of the voice box
Laryngocentesis	surgery to puncture the voice box
Laryngoplasty	surgery to fix the voice box
Laryngoscope	tool used to look into the voice box
Laryngospasm	sudden, uncontrolled cramp in the voice box
Laryngostomy	surgery to make an opening into the voice box
Laryngotracheobronchitis	inflammation of the larynx, windpipe, and bronchi; croup
Larynx	voice box
Laser Angioplasty	using a laser light to open blocked arteries
Lateral	toward or having to do with the side of the body

Latex Agglutination Test	blood test used to detect antibodies involved in rheumatoid arthritis
Laxative	drug used to stop constipation
LE (Lupus Erythematosus)-Cell Test	blood test used to detect the presence of a certain type of white blood cell seen in people with lupus erythematosus and similar disorders
Legionnaires' Disease	serious disorder caused by bacterial infection in which there is high fever, stomach pain, headache, and pneumonia
Leiodermia	disorder in which the skin is too smooth and shiny
Leiomyoma	smooth muscle growth
Leiomyosarcoma	cancer of smooth muscle
Lens	structure in the eye that is normally clear and helps to focus light coming into the eye
Lesion	abnormal area of tissue, such as a wound, sore, rash, or boil
Lethargy	sleepiness
Leukemia	blood cancer
Leukocoria	white pupil
Leukocyte	white blood cell that fights infection
Leukocyte Count	number of white blood cells in the blood
Leukocytosis	increase in number of white blood cells in the blood
Leukoderma	white skin
Leukokoria	white pupil
Leukopenia	low white blood cell count
Libido	sexual desire
Ligament	elastic tissue that connects bone or cartilage
Lipid Content	fat content in the blood
Lipid Tests	blood tests that measure how much fat is in the blood
Lipids	fats
Lipoid	fatty
Lipoma	growth made up of fat cells
Lipoprotein Electrophoresis	blood test that measures the amounts of fat and protein in the blood
Lithotripsy	surgery or other method to crush a stone
Liver	large organ that helps in many body functions, including digestion, metabolism, and storage of substances
Lobar Pneumonia	bacterial infection of one or more sections of the lung
Lobectomy	surgery to remove a section of the lung
Local Anesthesia	numbing an area of your body so you do not feel pain there
Localized	restricted to one area, limited to one area

Locally Invasive Tumor	A tumor that sends out “fingers” of cancerous cells into the normal tissue around it
Lochia	normal discharge from the vagina for 1 to 2 weeks after childbirth
Long Bone	bone that is long and slender, such as a leg or arm bone
Long-Term Extension	continuation of a research study
Lordosis	forward curving of the spine, causing saddle back or swayback
Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS)	a disease of the nerves and muscles that causes weakness
Lower GI (Gastrointestinal) Series	taking X-ray pictures of the large intestine using a dye given as an enema
Lumbar Puncture	using a needle to inject drugs or remove spinal fluid from the lower back; spinal tap
Lumbar Region	lower back of the body
Lumbar Vertebrae	bones of the spine in the lower back
Lumen	the space inside a tube such as a blood vessel
Lung Fibrosis	excess of fibrous tissue in the lung
Lung Lobe	one of five sections of the two lungs
Lungs	the two main organs for breathing
Lupus	a disease of the immune system that causes skin rash, arthritis, and other problems
Lupus Erythematosus (LE)	chronic disorders of connective tissue in which there can be skin rash, arthritis, kidney problems, and anemia, among other problems
Lymph	clear fluid that flows through the lymphatic vessels to fight disease
Lymph Gland	tissue that filters germs from the blood and kills them
Lymph Node	tissue that filters disease germs from the blood; also called a lymph gland
Lymph Vessels	thin tubes that carry lymph fluid through the body
Lymphadenitis	inflammation of the lymph nodes
Lymphadenography	x-ray of the lymph nodes
Lymphangiography	taking an X-ray picture of the lymph nodes
Lymphatic System	part of the immune system produces and carries white blood cells to fight disease
Lymphocyte	type of white blood cell that fights infection
Lymphoid Tissue	tissue that contains lymphocytes
Lymphoma	a cancer of the lymph nodes (or tissues)
M	
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)	using magnetic waves to take pictures of of the body

Malaise	a vague feeling of bodily discomfort, feeling bad
Malfunction	condition in which something is not functioning properly
Malignancy	cancer or other progressively enlarging and spreading tumor, usually fatal if not successfully treated
Malignant	cancerous
Mammary Glands	milk-producing tissue in the breasts
Mammary Papilla	breast nipple
Mammogram	x-ray of the breast
Mammoplasty	surgery to reconstruct the breast
Mandible	lower jaw bone
Mantoux Test	skin test used to check for tuberculosis
Mastalgia	pain in the breast
Mastectomy	surgery to remove a breast
Mastitis	inflammation of the mammary gland or of the breast
Mastoid Cells	air spaces inside the mastoid process
Mastoid Process	protruding part of a bone located in the skull behind the ear
Mastoidectomy	surgery to remove the mastoid process or mastoid cells
Mastoiditis	inflammation of the air spaces in the mastoid process that communicate with the middle ear
Mastoidotomy	surgery to cut into the mastoid process
Mastoptosis	drooping breasts
Metatarsal Bones	foot bones
Maxilla	upper jaw bone
Maxillectomy	surgery to remove the upper jaw bone
Maxillitis	inflammation of the upper jaw bone
Meconium	first stool of the newborn
Medial	toward or having to do with the middle of the body
Mediastinum	space between the lungs
Medical History	information about a patient obtained by questioning the patient and the patient's family
Medical Record	a chart containing all of the patient's personal information, doctor's notes, nurse's notes, test results, and treatment information that may be kept by a hospital or clinic
Medications	medicines, drugs
Medulla Oblongata	part of the brain that controls breathing, blood pressure, and other important body functions; brain stem
Medullablastoma	a type of brain tumor
Megaloblastosis	change in red blood cells
Meibomian Cyst	pimple on the eyelid caused by an inflamed gland (stye)

Melanin	material that makes the color of the skin and hair
Melanoma	cancerous black growth on the skin
Melasma	a blotchy brown stain on the skin, usually over the cheeks, forehead, or neck; often associated with pregnancy, menopause, or the use of oral contraceptives
Menarche	time in life when a girl starts having a menstrual period
Meniere's Disease	disorder of the inner ear in which there is dizziness, ringing in the ears, and loss of hearing
Meninges	tissue that covers the brain and spinal cord
Meningitis	infection or inflammation of the tissue that covers the brain and spinal cord
Meningocele	bulging of the tissue that covers the brain and spinal cord through the skull or bones of the spine
Meningomyeloradiculitis	inflammation of the tissue that covers the spinal cord and the roots of the spinal nerves
Meniscectomy	surgery to remove one or both of the pads in the knee joint
Meniscitis	inflammation of the meninges and roots of the spinal nerves
Meniscus	one of two (crescent-shaped) pads inside the knee joint
Menometrorrhagia	too much bleeding from the uterus during menstruation and at other times
Menopause	time in life when a woman stops having a menstrual period
Menses	discharge of blood and tissue from the uterus that happens about every 4 weeks in women who are not pregnant
Menstrual	having to do with menstruation
Menstrual Period	the time of menstruation
Menstruation	monthly discharge of blood and tissue from the uterus when females are not pregnant
Metabolism	total of all the important actions in the body that keep it alive
Metabolize	process of breaking down substances in the cells to obtain energy
Metacarpal Bones	bones of the hand between the wrist and fingers
Metastasis	spread of cancer cells from one part of the body to another
Metrorrhea	discharge from the uterus
Micro-	describes something that is small or delicate
Microcephalus	person with a very small head
Micturate	urinate
Middle Ear	the space between the eardrum and the inner ear
Migraine	type of severe headache that occurs periodically and is

	often associated with nausea, vomiting, and constipation or diarrhea
Mild	not serious
Minimal	slight
Minimize	reduce
Miotic	substance that makes the pupil of the eye smaller (e.g., narcotic)
Miscarriage	loss of an unborn baby from the uterus before it is able to survive outside the mother's body
Mitral Commissurotomy	surgery to repair the mitral valve to enlarge the opening between the two parts of the left side of the heart
Mitral Valve	valve between two chambers on the left side of the heart
Mobility	ease of movement
Moderate	medium level of seriousness
Monitor	watch carefully
Monoclonal Antibody	antibodies that all target the same thing
Monoparesis	weak muscle movement and loss of feeling in one arm or one leg
Monoplegia	loss of movement and loss of feeling in one arm or one leg
Morbidity	undesired result or complication
Mortality	death
Motility	ability to move
Mouth	opening through which food passes into the body to be digested
Mucopurulent	slimy and with pus in it
Mucosa	lining
Mucosa, Mucous Membrane	moist lining of digestive, respiratory, reproductive, and urinary tracts
Mucus	slimy fluid; type of slippery fluid
Multicenter	when a study is carried out at more than one research site; when more than one hospital or medical school team work on a medical research study
Multigravida	women who has been pregnant two or more times
Multipara	woman who has given birth two or more times
Multiple Dose	getting more than one dose of medicine
Multiple Sclerosis (MS)	slowly worsening disorder of the central nervous system that causes weakness, incoordination, numbness, and problems talking and seeing
Muscle	type of tissue that causes movement
Muscular Dystrophy (MD)	genetic problem resulting in muscle weakness and atrophy
Myalgia	muscles aches

Myasthenia	muscle weakness
Myasthenia Gravis	disorder that causes muscles to get tired quickly
Mydriatic	substance that makes the pupil of the eye bigger
Myelodysplasia	blood cancer
Myelogram	x-ray of the spinal cord using dye that is injected into the spinal area
Myeloma	cancer of the types of cells normally found in bone marrow
Myelomalacia	softening of the spinal cord
Myocardial	pertaining to the heart
Myocardial Infarction (MI)	heart attack
Myocardial Ischemia	not enough blood going to the heart
Myocarditis	inflammation of the heart muscle
Myocardium	muscle of the heart
Myoma	growth made up of muscle tissue
Myomectomy	surgery to remove a myoma or a piece of muscle
Myometritis	inflammation of the muscle of the uterus
Myometrium	muscle of the uterus
Myopathy	muscle disorder
Myopia	nearsightedness
Myoplasty	surgery to fix a muscle
Myorrhaphy	surgery to stitch a muscle
Myringitis	inflammation of the eardrum
Myringoplasty	surgery to fix a ruptured eardrum
Myxedema	disorder caused by lack of thyroid hormone in which areas of the skin are swollen
N	
Nail	tough plate of tissue covering the top of the end of each finger and toe
Narcotic	strong habit-forming drug that stops pain and depresses the central nervous system
Nasal	having to do with the nose
Nasal Septum	wall that divides the nose into two sides
Nasogastric Tube (NG Tube)	tube that goes through the nose and into the stomach
Nasolacrimal Duct	tube that drains tears from the eye into the nose; tear duct
Nasopharyngeal	having to do with the nasopharynx
Nasopharyngitis	inflammation of the nasopharynx
Nasopharynx	Passage from the inside of the nose to the back of the throat
Natal	having to do with childbirth

National Cancer Institute (NCI)	institute that supports cancer centers, funds research and training, and provides cancer information
National Institutes of Health (NIH)	the nation's premier biomedical research organization
Nausea	feeling sick to your stomach
Nebulizer	device used to turn liquids into mists for breathing treatments
Necrosis	death of an area of tissue or skin
Needle Biopsy	using a needle to remove tissue, cells or fluid for testing
Neoadjuvant Therapy	additional treatment given before the primary treatment
Neonate	newborn infant
Neonatology	the study of disorders of newborn infants
Neoplasia	tumor, may be benign or malignant
Neoplasm	new growth that is not normal; tumor
Nephrectomy	surgery to remove a kidney
Nephritis	kidney inflammation
Nephroblastoma	type of malignant kidney tumor
Nephrogram	x-ray of the kidney
Nephrohypertrophy	overgrowth of the kidney
Nephrolithiasis	stones in the kidney
Nephroma	growth in the kidney
Nephromegaly	overgrowth of the kidney
Nephropexy	surgery to tie down a kidney
Nephroptosis	sagging kidney
Nerve	string-like tissue that carries messages to and away from the brain and spinal cord and tells muscles to move
Nervous Tissue	type of tissue that makes up the central nervous system and nerves
Neuralgia	nerve pain
Neurectomy	surgery to remove part of a nerve
Neuritis	inflammation of a nerve
Neuroarthropathy	disorder of the joints and the central nervous system or nerves
Neuroblast	cell that will develop into a nerve
Neuroblastoma	a cancer of nerve tissue
Neurohypophysis	part of the brain that discharges hormones including oxytocin and vasopressin
Neuroid	like a nerve
Neurological	pertaining to the nervous system
Neurologist	doctor who treats disorders of the central nervous system and nerves

Neurolysis	surgery to open the covering of a nerve to destroy a nerve
Neuroma	growth made up of nerve tissue
Neuropathy	a disturbance in the function of the brain or spinal cord that may affect the nerves and muscles of the body
Neuropharmacologic Drug	drug that acts on the nervous system
Neuroplasty	surgery to fix a nerve
Neurorrhaphy	stitching a cut nerve
Neurosis	mental and emotional disorder
Neurotomy	surgery to make a break in a nerve
Neutropenia	a decrease in white blood cells
Nevus	mole; birthmark
Nocturia	too much urination at night
Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (NHL)	cancer of the lymph nodes
Non-invasive	not breaking, cutting or entering the skin
Norepinephrine	hormone discharged from nerves, the brain, and the adrenal glands that helps the body deal with stress and low blood pressure
Nosocomial	acquired in the hospital
Nosocomial Pneumonia	Pneumonia acquired in the hospital
Nucleus	center of a cell
Nulligravida	woman that has never given birth
Nullipara	woman that has never given birth to an infant that lived
Nyctalopia	difficulty seeing at night
O	
Obesity	very overweight
Obligated	have to; must
Observe	watch; look at
Obstetrician	doctor who takes care of pregnant women and delivers babies
Obstetrics	the study of pregnant women and childbirth
Obstruction	block, blockage
Obstructive Sleep Apnea	breathing problems while sleeping because the airways close up
Obtain	get; determine
Occlude	close off
Occlusion	closing; obstruction
Occult Blood Test	a test for small amounts of blood in the stool
Occur(s)	take(s) place
Oculmycosis	fungus infection in the eye

Oculus Dexter (OD)	right eye
Oculus Sinister (OS)	left eye
Oculus Uterque (OU)	each eye
Oligomenorrhea	occasional and irregular menstruation that occurs every 35 days to 6 months
Oligospermia	decreased amount of sperm in semen
Oliguria	decreased amount of urine
Omphalitis	inflammation of the belly button
Omphalocele	a birth defect in which there is bulging of the intestine through the body wall in the belly button region
Oncogenic	causing tumors to form
Oncologist	doctor who treats cancer
Oncology	the study of tumors or cancer
One Tablespoon	3 teaspoons, 15cc = 15ml
One Teaspoon	5cc = 5ml
One-Time Donation	only one sample will be obtained, no further test and/or specimens will be required
Onychectomy	surgery to remove a nail
Onychocryptosis	ingrown nail
Onychomalacia	softening of the nails
Onychomycosis	fungal infection of the nail
Onychophagia	nail biting
Oophorectomy	surgery to remove the uterus and ovaries
Oophoritis	inflammation of the ovary
Oophorohysterectomy	surgery to remove the uterus and ovaries
Open Label	a medical research study in which subjects and researchers are told which treatments the subjects are receiving; when the drug or device is known to the subject and the investigator; “unblinded”
Ophthalmic	pertaining to the eye
Ophthalmalgia	pain in the eye
Ophthalmic	having to do with the eye
Ophthalmologist	doctor who treats eye problems
Ophthalmology	the study and treatment of the eyes
Ophthalmopathy	disorder of the eye
Ophthalmorrhagia	bleeding from the eye
Opiates	morphine-like medications
Opportunity	chance
Optic	having to do with the eye
Optic Nerve	nerve that carries visual messages from the retina to the brain

Optician	person who makes glasses
Optimal	best, most favorable or desirable
Optometer	tool that measures how well the eyes can see
Optometry	the study of the eye and vision
Oral	having to do with the mouth
Oral Administration	By mouth
Orally	taken by mouth; to be swallowed
Orchidopexy	surgery to tie down a testicle in the scrotum
Orchiectomy	surgery to remove one or both testicles
Orchiepididymitis	inflammation of a testicle and epididymis
Orchiopexy	surgery to move an undescended testicle down into the scrotum
Orchioplasty	surgery to fix a testicle
Orchitis	inflammation of a testicle
Organ	a part of the body (such as the heart or lungs) composed of two or more types of tissue that performs a function
Orgasm	the climax of sexual excitement
Orthodontist	dentist who treats teeth and jaw disorders
Orthopedic	pertaining to the bones
Orthopedics	the study of the bones and joints
Orthopedist	doctor who treats bone and joint problems
Orthopnea	difficult breathing except when sitting up
Orthostatic Hypotension	low blood pressure with change of position
Orthotist	person who puts on and teaches the use braces and splints
Ossicles	bones of the middle ear that carry sound
Osteoarthritis (OA)	disease in which the joints become painful and stiff
Osteoblasts	cell that makes bone
Osteocarcinoma	Type of bone cancer
Osteochondritis	inflammation of bone and cartilage
Osteoclasts	surgery to break a bone
Osteocyte	bone cell
Osteofibroma	Non-cancerous tumor of bone and connective tissue
Osteogenesis Imperfecta	genetic disease that causes brittle bones
Osteomalacia	soft bones
Osteomyelitis	infection and inflammation of bone
Osteonecrosis	death of bone tissue
Osteopetrosis	rare genetic disease that causes bones to get thick and hard
Osteoplasty	surgery to fix a bone

Osteoporosis	disease that causes bones to lose calcium and become fragile
Osteosarcoma	cancer of bone
Otalgia	earache
Otitis	inflammation of the ear
Otitis Externa	inflammation of the outer ear canal
Otitis Interna	inflammation of the inner ear
Otitis Media	inflammation of the middle ear
Otologist	doctor who treats problems of the ear
Otology	the study of the ear
Otomastoiditis	inflammation of the ear together with the air spaces in bone behind the ear
Otomycosis	fungus infection in the outer ear canal
Otopyorrhea	discharge of pus from the ear
Otorhinolaryngologist	doctor who treats problems of the ear, nose, and throat
Otosclerosis	bone deposits in the inner ear
Otoscope	tool used to look into the ear
Ovaries	Two female sex glands that make eggs
Ovulation	discharge of an egg from the ovary
Ovum	Egg; the female sex cell that joins with the male sperm to make a zygote and eventually a baby
Oximeter	tool used to measure the amount of oxygen in the blood
Oxytocin	hormone made by the brain that makes the uterus cramp and milk come out of the breasts
P	
Pachyderma	thickening of the skin
Palate	roof of the mouth
Palatitis	inflammation of the roof of the mouth
Palatoplasty	surgery to fix the roof of the mouth
Palliative Care	care intended to relieve pain
Pallor	pale color of the skin
Palmar	having to do with the palm of the hand
Pancreas	organ that makes hormones, including insulin, and digestive juices
Pancreatic	having to do with the pancreas
Pancreatitis	inflammation of the pancreas
Panplegia	total loss of muscle control and feeling
Pansinusitis	inflammation of the all the sinuses on one side of the body
Pap Test	microscope test used to detect virus infection of the cervix or cancer of the vagina, cervix, or lining of the

	uterus
Papule	pimple
Para	woman who has given birth
Parallel-Design	a medical research study comparing the response in two or more groups of subjects receiving different interventions (treatments)
Paranasal Sinuses	air cavities inside the bones of the face around the nose
Paranoia	psychiatric disorder involving extreme distrust and unreasonable suspicion of other people and their motives
Paranoid	showing signs of paranoia
Paraplegia	total loss of muscle control and feeling from the waist down
Parasympatholytic	drug that blocks the activity of a kind of nerve
Parasympathomimetic	drug that imitates the action of a kind of nerve
Parathyroid Gland	gland that makes a hormone to control the amount of calcium in the blood
Parathyroidectomy	surgery to remove the parathyroid gland
Parathyroidoma	growth or cancer on the parathyroid gland
Paralysis	loss of ability to move muscles and loss of feeling
Parenteral	administration by injection
Parenteral Administration	giving a drug by injection
Parenteral Feeding	feeding a patient in a way that does not use the digestive tract, such as by injection into a vein
Parenteral Nutrition	feeding a patient in a way that does not use the digestive tract, such as by injection into a vein
Paresis	muscle weakness; partial paralysis
Parietal Layer of the Pericardium	layer of tissue in the sac around the heart
Parietal Layer	layer of tissue in the wall of a body part or space
Parkinson's Disease	disease of the central nervous system that causes muscle weakness, trembling and sweating
Paronychia	inflammation around the nail
Paroxysm	sudden worsening of an illness; or a spasm or seizure
Partial Seizure	seizure that is not as large as it could be
Partial Thromboplastin Time (PTT)	a test of how long it takes blood to clot
Participant	person taking part
Participate	take part
Participation	taking part
Parturition	childbirth
Patch Test	allergy test performed by putting an allergy-causing material on the skin to see if it causes a reaction
Patella	kneecap

Patellectomy	surgery to remove the kneecap
Patency	condition of being open
Patent	open
Pathogenesis	The initial cause of a disease
Pathogenic	causing disease
Pathologist	doctor who studies the changes in the body and its tissues caused by disease
Pathology	the study of the changes in the body and body tissue caused by disease
Pathology Samples	bone marrow and tissue samples
Pediculosis	infection with lice, which are tiny bugs
Pelvic Bone	hip bone
Pelvic Cavity	space where the urinary bladder, certain reproductive organs, part of the large intestine, and the rectum are found
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID)	infection of the female reproductive organs, including the uterus, uterine tubes, and ovaries
Pelvimetry	X-ray picture of the pelvis of a pregnant woman to make sure her pelvis is large enough for the baby to come through during birth
Pelvis of the Kidney	place where urine leaves the kidney
Penicillin	type of antibiotic; a type of drug used to stop or slow down the growth of germs (bacteria)
Penile Implant	device put into the penis to help a man get an erection
Penis	outer male sex organ
Peptic Ulcer	sore in the stomach or in the lining of the stomach
Per Os (PO)	by mouth
Percussion	tapping of a body surface with the fingers to check the organs under the skin by the sound that is made
Percutaneous	through the skin
Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy	a tube inserted through the wall of the belly and into the stomach
Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty (PTCA)	blowing up a small balloon inside a blood vessel to open it up
Perforation	Hole; tear
Performance Status	ability to do activities
Pericardiotomy	surgery to make an opening into the sac of tissue around the heart
Pericarditis	inflammation of the pericardium
Pericardium	two-layer sac of tissue around the heart
Perimetritis	inflammation of the perimetrium
Perimetrium	outer layer of tissue around the uterus

Perineorrhaphy	Surgery to stitch a tear in the perineum
Perineum	area between the anus and the sex organs (the vulva and rectum in women and between the scrotum and rectum in men)
Periosteum	layer of tissue that covers bone
Peripheral	not central
Pertussis	whooping cough
Petechia	tiny red or purple spot on skin or other tissue caused by bleeding
Phacoemulsification	method of removing a cataract by using sound waves to break it up
Phalanges	finger and toe bones
Pharmacist	person licensed to prepare and dispense drugs and fill prescriptions
Pharmacodynamics	the study of how drugs act on the body
Pharmacogenomics	the study of how an individual's genetic inheritance affects the body's response to drugs
Pharmacokinetics (PK)	the study of how drugs enter and leave the body
Pharyngitis	sore throat
Pharynx	area below the mouth that performs the swallowing action; throat
Phase I	first step in testing a new drug in humans that uses healthy volunteers, primarily to determine safe dosage levels; initial safety testing of a new drug
Phase II	second step of testing a new drug in humans, primarily to obtain safety information
Phase III	third step of testing a new drug in humans, primarily for information on safety and how well it works; a controlled, randomized study testing a specific dose of a new drug and its effectiveness in treating a condition or disease
Phase IV	after a drug has been approved by the FDA and is available for use; a study that looks at how well the drug is being used in the medical community
Phenothiazines	group of drugs used for the control of mental illness
Phenylketonuria (PKU)	genetic disease that causes poisons to build up in the body
Phlebitis	irritation or inflammation of the vein
Phlebography	x-ray of a vein or veins using a dye to outline them
Phlebotomy	putting a needle into a vein to remove blood
Phlectomy	surgery to remove part or all of a vein
Phonocardiogram	Printed recording of heart sounds
Photophobia	when the eye is very sensitive to light
Photoretinitis	inflammation of the back of the eye caused by strong

	light
Phrenic	having to do with the mind; or having to do with a diaphragm
Phrenopathy	mental problem
Pia Mater	inner layer of the tissue that covers the brain and spinal cord
Pinna	outer flap of the ear
Pituitary Gland	gland that sits under the brain and makes many hormones, including some that control other glands
Placebo	an inactive substance; a pretend drug or treatment; "sugar pill"
Placebo Effect	when your health improves after taking a placebo ("sugar pill")
Placebo Response	when your health improves after taking a placebo ("sugar pill")
Placenta	tissues that provide food for the unborn baby
Plantar	having to do with the sole of the foot
Plasma	liquid part of blood where cells float
Plasmapheresis	removing plasma from blood that has been drawn from a person and pumping the rest of the blood back into the body
Platelet Count	the number of platelets in the blood
Platelets	cells that help the blood clot; a decrease can lead to bleeding
Pleura	thin tissue that covers the lungs and inner walls of the chest
Pleural Effusion	fluid in the chest cavity
Pleurisy	inflammation of the lining of the chest with too much fluid in the chest, making breathing painful
Pleuropexy	surgery to fix the film that covers the lungs
Pneumatocele	Swelling caused by too much air; bulging of the lungs through an abnormal opening
Pneumobronchotomy	cutting into the lungs
Pneumoconiosis	dust in the lungs
Pneumocystis Carinii	type of parasite or fungus that causes pneumonia in infants and weakened patients, such as those with AIDS
Pneumonectomy	surgery to remove a lung
Pneumonia	Lung infection; inflammation of the lungs in which the lungs become heavy
Pneumonitis	inflammation of the lungs
Pneumothorax	when air is inside the chest but outside the lungs
Podiatrist	foot doctor
Poliomyelitis (Polio)	virus infection in which there can be fever, headache, and stiff neck followed by paralysis and wasting away of

	muscles
Polyarteritis	inflammation of more than one artery
Polycystic Kidney	kidney with many cysts in it
Polydipsia	too much thirst
Polymyositis	inflammation of more than one muscle
Polyneuritis	inflammation of several nerves
Polyp	type of growth that sticks up out of tissue
Polypectomy	surgery to remove a polyp
Polyuria	too much urine being made
Pons	part of the brain through which the left and right sides communicate
Porphyria	genetic disease that causes an excess of a type of chemicals called porphyrins ; disturbance of metabolism that can be seen as disorders of the skin or other organs
Positron Emission Tomography (PET)	imaging scanner for determining cancer, heart disease, and brain disorders
Post	after
Posterior	having to do with the back of the body
Posterior Lobe Of The Pituitary	part of the pituitary gland that discharges oxytocin, vasopressin, and some proteins
Postherpetic Neuralgia	pain lasting after condition has healed
Postictal	happening after a seizure
Postpartum	after childbirth
Potential	possible
Potentially	could be; possibly
Potentiate	Using one drug to make another drug work better
Potentialiation	Using one drug to make another drug work better
Potentiator	A drug that helps another drug work better
Pre	before
Preeclampsia	serious problem of pregnancy in which there is high blood pressure and excess fluid in the tissues of the mother that can cause convulsions
Pregnant/Pregnancy	carrying an unborn baby
Preictal	happening before a stroke or seizure
Premature Infant	infant born before it has fully developed; weight less than 5.5 lbs
Prenatal	before birth
Prenatal Diagnosis	diagnosing a disease or condition in an unborn baby
Prepuce	Foreskin; fold of skin that covers the end of the penis and is removed in circumcision
Presbycusis	loss of hearing because of old age

Presbyopia	Loss of vision because of old age
Previous	other; done before
Primary Tumor	Original tumor
Primigravida	woman in her first pregnancy
Primipara	woman who has had one pregnancy that lasted at least 20 weeks
Principal Investigator (PI)	the main individual who is responsible and accountable for conducting a medical research study
Prior	before
Proctologist	doctor who treats problems with the rectum, anus, and lower part of the colon
Proctology	the study and treatment of the rectum, anus, and lower part of the colon
Proctoptosis	fallen anus protruding from the body
Proctoscope	tool used to look into the rectum
Progestins	type of female hormones that prepare the uterus for pregnancy
Prognosis	outlook, probable outcomes
Prolapsed Uterus	fallen uterus protruding from the body
Prone	lying face down
Prophylaxis	a drug given to prevent disease or infection
Prospective Study	study following patients forward in time
Prostate Gland	gland in men that makes fluid that aids movement of sperm
Prostatectomy	surgery to remove all or part of the prostate gland
Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA)	substance in blood that is measured to check for prostate cancer
Prostatic Cancer	Cancer of the prostate
Prostatitis	inflammation of the prostate gland
Prostatocystitis	Inflammation of the prostate and bladder
Prostatolith	stone in the prostate gland
Prostatorrhea	discharge of liquid from the prostate
Prosthesis	artificial body part
Protein	a complex natural substance essential to the structure and function of all living cells and viruses; molecule made from amino acids that performs activities in the cell for the body to function normally
Prothrombin Time (PT)	a test of how long it takes blood to clot
Protocol	plan for a clinical study
Proximal	Near the center; closer to the center of the body, away from the end
Pruritus	itchiness

Pseudocyesis	false pregnancy
Psoriasis	scaly skin rash
Psychiatry	the study and treatment of mental diseases
Psychogenic	caused by the mind (rather than the body)
Psychologist	doctor who treats disorders of the mind, thoughts, and behavior
Psychology	the study and treatment of the mind and behavior
Psychopathy	Mental problem; any disorder of the mind
Psychosis	Severe mental problem; abnormal thinking and/or hallucinations
Psychosomatic	when the mind affects physical symptoms
Pterygium	Extra fold of tissue over part of the eye
Puberty	years when the sex organs mature
Puerpera	a woman who has just given birth to an infant
Puerperal	During and right after childbirth
Puerperium	the first 3 to 6 weeks after childbirth
Pulmonary	having to do with the lungs
Pulmonary Edema	fluid in the lungs
Pulmonary Embolism	blood clot in the lungs
Pulmonary Function Testing	breathing tests
Pulmonary Neoplasm	lung tumor
Pupil	black spot in the middle of the eye where the light enters
Pupillometer	tool that measures how wide the pupil is
Purgative	drug used to cause the bowels to empty
Purified Protein Derivative (PPD)	substance used in tuberculosis skin test
Purpura	small purple-red marks in skin or other tissue caused by bleeding
Pustule	pimple filled with pus
Pyelitis	inflammation of the kidney and its pelvis
Pyelogram	x-ray of the kidney and ureters
Pyelolithotomy	surgery to remove a kidney stone
Pyelonephritis	inflammation of the kidneys and its pelvis
Pyeloplasty	surgery to fix the pelvis of the kidney
Pyelostomy	surgery to make an opening into the pelvis of the kidney
Pyloric Sphincter	ring of muscles between the stomach and the small intestine
Pyloromyotomy	surgery to cut muscles of a pyloric sphincter that is too narrow
Pyloroplasty	surgery to fix the pyloric sphincter
Pylorus	the opening of the stomach into the small intestine

Pyosalpinx	pus in the fallopian tubes
Pyuria	pus in the urine
Q	
QD	Every day; daily
QID	Four times a day
Quadriplegia	loss of muscle movement and loss of feeling in both arms and legs
R	
Rachiotomy	surgery to cut into a bone or bones of the spine
Rachischisis.	birth defect in which there is a groove in the spine
Radial Keratotomy	surgery to fix nearsightedness
Radiation Therapy	using x-rays or radioactive chemicals to kill or shrink cancer cells
Radical Prostatectomy	surgery to remove the prostate and the two seminal vesicle glands
Radiculitis	inflammation of a spinal nerve root
Radioimmunoassay (RIA)	laboratory method that uses a radioactive chemical to measure a substance, such as a hormone
Radiological Studies	Studies having to do with x-rays; Gamma and CT scans
Radius	one of the two lower arm bones
Random	by chance
Randomization	selection by chance; "tossing a coin" or "picking numbers out of a hat"
Randomized	like the flip of a coin; 50/50 chance of receiving a study medicine or treatment
Rationale	reason(ing)
Recombinant	formation of new combinations of genes; made up from more than one gene
Reconstitution	putting back together the original parts or elements
Rectal Administration	giving a drug by putting it into the rectum
Rectocele	bulging of the rectum into the vagina
Rectouterine Pouch	sac in the area between the uterus and the rectum
Recur	happen again
Red Blood Cell (RBC)	a cell in the blood that carries oxygen; a decrease can lead to shortness of breath, weakness and fatigue
Red Blood Cell Count	the number of red blood cells in the blood
Red Blood Cell Morphology	the size and shape of individual red blood cells as seen under a microscope
Reflux	upward movement; backward flow
Refractory	not responding to treatment

Refrain	avoid doing
Regarding	about
Regeneration	regrowth of lost tissue
Regimen	Plan for giving treatment
Relapse	the return of a medical problem
Remission	when a medical problem gets better or goes away at least for a while
Remote	slight
Renal	having to do with the kidneys
Renal Biopsy	removing a small piece of kidney to look at it under a microscope
Renal Calculi	kidney stones
Renal Failure	When kidneys stop working
Renal Pelvis	place where urine leaves the kidney
Renal Transplant	kidney transplant
Renogram	x-ray picture of radioactive dye passing through the kidneys
Replicable	possible to duplicate
Reproduction	making babies
Reproductive	having to do with reproduction
Reproductive Tract	The body parts involved in reproduction
Research Study	a process of collecting information about a specific question in order to find an answer
Research Subject(s)	a volunteer(s) taking part in a medical research study
Resect	remove or cut out surgically
Resectoscope	tool used for cutting out small pieces of tissue from spaces inside the body
Retina	layer at the back of the eye that is sensitive to light
Retinal	having to do with the retina
Retinal Photocoagulation	use of a laser light to treat disorders of the retina or tumors in the eye
Retinitis Pigmentosa	eye disease that causes the retina to waste away and decrease vision
Retinoblastoma	cancer of the retina (back of the eye)
Retractor	tool used for holding back tissue
Retrograde Pyelogram	x-ray picture of a kidney and ureter made by injecting dye backward into the ureter
Retrospective Study	study looking back over past experience
Reye's Syndrome	serious disorder of children, which often occurs after a viral infection, affecting the brain, liver, and other body organs
Rhabdomyoma	benign tumor of a muscle

Rhabdomyosarcoma	cancer of a muscle
Rheumatic Fever	bacterial disease in which there is fever and inflammation of the heart, blood vessels, and joints
Rheumatic Heart Disease	damage to the heart caused by rheumatic fever, especially deformed heart valves
Rheumatoid Factor	substance in blood that is measured to check for rheumatoid arthritis
Rhinitis	runny nose
Rhinomycosis	fungus infection in the nose
Rhinoplasty	surgery to fix the nose
Rhinorrhagia	nosebleed
Rhinorrhea	runny nose
Rhizotomy	surgery to cut apart a spinal nerve root
Rhytidectomy	surgery to remove wrinkles
Rhytidoplasty	surgery to remove wrinkles from the face; facelift
Ribonucleic Acid (RNA)	genetic material in the body that serve as blueprints for making proteins
Risk	a possibility of injury or harm
Risk/Benefit Ratio	Risks compared to benefits
Risk Factor	Something that increases your chance of developing a specific disease or condition
Rongeur	tool used for cutting hard tissue, such as bone
S	
Sacrum	large triangle-shaped bone at the bottom of the spine just above the tailbone
Sagittal Plane	divides the body into a right and left side
Saliva	liquid in the mouth that helps with swallowing food; spit
Salivary Glands	glands that make saliva
Salphinx	tube down which the egg travels from the ovary to the uterus
Salpingectomy	surgery to remove the fallopian tube
Salpingitis	inflammation of the fallopian tubes
Salpingocele	fallopian tube bulging out of an opening that should not be there
Salpingocycesis	pregnancy growing outside of the uterus in a fallopian tube
Salpingo-Oophorectomy	surgery to remove the fallopian tubes and ovaries
Salpingostomy	surgery to cut into a fallopian tube
Salvage Therapy	Rescue treatment
Sarcoma	type of cancer of cartilage, fat, muscle or bone
Satisfactorily	(good) enough

Scabies	itchy skin infection by a microscopic bug called a mite; mange
Scapula	shoulder blade
Schick Test	skin test used to detect diphtheria
Schizoaffective	a mixed psychiatric disorder relating to a complex psychotic state that has features of both schizophrenia and a mood disorder such as bipolar disorder
Schizophrenia	A serious psychiatric disorder with symptoms of emotional instability, detachment from reality, often with delusions and hallucinations, and withdrawal into the self
Schizophrenic	relating to schizophrenia or resulting from schizophrenia
Sciatica	pain running down from the lower back to the leg
Sclera	outer protective layer of the eye; "whites of the eyes"
Scleral Buckling	Type of surgery to fix a detached retina
Scleroderma	hardening and thickening of the skin
Sclerokeratitis	inflammation of the sclera and the cornea
Scleromalacia	softening or thinning of the sclera seen in patients with rheumatoid arthritis
Sclerotomy	surgery to cut into the sclera
Scoliosis	S-shaped (side-to-side) curve of the spine
Scratch Test	allergy test performed by putting a small amount of allergy-causing material on small skin patches to see if it causes a reaction
Screening	the process of deciding if someone is qualified to take part in a medical research study or not
Scrotum	pouch that holds the testicles
Sebaceous Gland	gland that discharges oil into the skin
Seborrhea	very oily skin
Secondary Tumor	A tumor that forms as a result of spread (metastasis) of cancer from the place where it started
Sedation	Make calm and perhaps sleepy
Sedative	drug used to make you calm and perhaps sleepy
Seizure	sudden, uncontrolled muscle spasms and loss of consciousness caused by a problem in the brain
Self-Retaining	stays in place without being held
Semen	fluid containing, sperm, which is discharged from the penis during the climax of sexual intercourse
Semen Analysis	test used to count and examine the sperm cells
Semicircular Canals	channels in the inner ear that help maintain balance
Semilunar Valves	valves that control the flow of blood out of the heart by opening and closing with each heart beat
Seminoma	a type of cancer of the testicles
Sepsis	blood infection

Septoplasty	surgery to fix the wall inside the nose
Septotomy	cutting into the wall inside the nose
Sequentially	One after another
Serrations	small grooves in the edges or tips of tools that help to hold tissue
Serum	clear liquid part of blood
Serum Bilirubin	blood test for bilirubin in the blood, a sign of liver problems
Serum Calcium	blood test used to find out how much calcium is in the blood
Serum Creatine Kinase	blood test for creatine in the blood, a sign of kidney problems
Serum Enzyme Test	blood test for chemicals that go into the blood when the heart muscle dies
Serum Phosphorus	blood test used to measure the amount of phosphorus in the blood
Serum Test	blood test used to measure the amount of endocrine material in the blood
Severe	very serious, life threatening
Sex Chromosomes	the X or Y chromosome that determines sex
Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD)	disorder spread by sexual contact
Shingles	painful, fluid-filled blisters caused by herpes virus infection
Shunt	channel to bypass a blockage
Sialolith	stone in a salivary gland or duct
Sickle Cell Anemia	genetic defect of hemoglobin causing red blood cells to change shape; symptoms include pain in the joints and belly, and ulcers on the legs
Side Effects	unwanted or unintended problems with a drug or treatment
Sigmoid Colon	the lower part of the colon just before the rectum
Sigmoidoscope	A lighted tube used to look into the sigmoid colon and rectum
Single Blind(ed)	a medical research study in which the person giving the treatment, but not the patient, knows which treatment the patient is receiving
Single Dose	getting one dose of medicine
Sinusotomy	cutting into the sinus
Site (of investigation)	the place where the medical research study will be carried out
Sleep Apnea	breathing problems while sleeping
Slipped Disk	bulging out of a pad between bones of the spine that can pinch nerves and cause pain

Small Intestine	the bowel between the stomach and the large intestine, including the duodenum, jejunum, and ileum
Snare	tool with a wire loop to grab and pull out tissue
Social History	exercise, smoking, weight gain, recreational drugs, sexual activity, family education, income and employment
Sodium	salt
Somatic	having to do with the body
Somatogenic	caused by the body (rather than the mind)
Somatopathy	disease of the body as opposed to the mind
Somnolence	sleepiness
Spasm	a sudden muscle contraction (cramp)
Specific Gravity	Measurement of the amount of solid material and minerals in a liquid, such as the urine
Speculum	tool used to stretch and hold open an opening into the body, such as the nose or vagina
Sperm	the male sex cell that joins with a female egg to make an embryo
Sphygmocardiograph	tool used to record arterial blood pressure
Sphygmomanometer	tool for measuring blood pressure
Spina Bifida	birth defect in which the spine does not develop fully and close up
Spinal Cavity	space inside the spinal column for the spinal cord
Spinal Cord	the cord of nerve cells and nerve fibers running down the spine that carries messages to and from the brain
Spirometer	device used to measure the amount of air going into and out of the lungs during breathing
Spleen	organ near the left side of the stomach that filters blood and makes white blood cells; largest lymph organ in the body
Splenectomy	surgery to remove the spleen
Splenomegaly	enlarged spleen
Splenopexy	surgery to tie down the spleen
Spondylosyndesis	fusion of the spine
Sponsor	the company, department, or person who is paying for the medical research study
Sputum	Mucus coughed up from the lungs
Squamous Cell Carcinoma	Type of cancer that usually occurs on the skin or in the lungs
Staging	determining the extent and seriousness of the disease
Standard Of Care	Normal medical treatment
Staphylococcus	type of bacteria
Stem Cell	type of cell that grows into all other kinds of cells

Stenosis	narrowing of a duct, tube or heart valve
Stereotactic Breast Biopsy	biopsy of breast tissue taken by using a three-dimensional body map to locate the tissue
Sterility	Inability to have children
Sterilization	the killing of all living germs; or a process to make a man or woman not able to have children
Sternoclavicular	having to do with the breastbone and the collarbone
Steroid	like the breastbone
Sternum	breastbone
Stethoscope	tool used to listen to the sounds made by the heart, lungs, intestines, and other organs
Stevens-Johnson Syndrome Or Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis	Potentially life threatening skin rash
Stimulant	drug that makes you more awake and have more energy
Stomach	Large sac above the intestines that holds food for digestion after it is swallowed
Stomatitis	mouth sores, inflammation of the mouth
Stomatogastric	the mouth and stomach
Stool	bowel movement; feces
Stool Culture	test for bacteria in stool
Strabismus	abnormal position of the eye, as in wall eye or crossed eyes
Stratify	arrange in groups for analysis of results (e.g., stratify by age, sex, etc.)
Streptococcus	type of bacteria
Streptomycin	type of antibiotic
Stricture	area where a tube in the body is too narrow
Study Phase	how far along the medical research study is
Stupor	stunned state in which it is difficult to get a response or the attention of the subject
Stye	pimple on the eyelid
Sub-acute	Not serious
Subclavian	under the collarbone
Subcostal	below the ribs
Subcutaneous	under the skin
Subcutaneous Injection	injected under the skin by way of a needle
Subdural	under the outer layer of the tissue that covers the brain and spinal cord
Sublingual	under the tongue
Sublingual Administration	giving a substance by placing it under the tongue (not to be swallowed) (e.g., nitroglycerin)
Submandibular	below the lower jaw

Submaxillary	below the upper jaw
Subscapular	below the shoulder blade
Sulfonamide	type of antibiotic
Superficial	close to the outside of the body
Superior	toward the top of the body
Supine	lying on the back
Supportive Care	medical care of the symptoms, not intended to improve or cure the disease
Suppository	Form of drug that is put it into the rectum, vagina, or urethra
Suprarenal	above the kidney; or having to do with the adrenal gland
Suprascapular	above the shoulder blade
Sutured	stitched
Sweat Glands	tissue in and under the skin that makes sweat
Swimmer's Ear	inflammation of the outer ear canal
Sympatholytic	drug used to slow down the action of certain types of nerves
Sympathomimetic	drug used to speed up heart rate, raise blood pressure, and open up air passages
Symphysis	type of joint where two bones meet but there is no movement
Symptomatic	having symptoms
Symptoms	medical problems which are noticed by a patient
Syncope	fainting or feeling lightheaded
Syndrome	set of signs that happen at the same time in the body
Synergism	when two drugs work together better than they work alone
Synoviosarcoma	cancer of the joint
Synthesized	man-made
Syphilis	bacterial infection spread by sexual contact
System	a group of body organs or structures that together perform one or more vital functions
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)	chronic disorder of connective tissue in which there can be skin rash, arthritis, kidney problems, and anemia, among other problems
Systemic Therapy	Treatment that reaches throughout the body
Systole	when the heart contracts to pump blood
Systolic	top number in blood pressure reading, when the heart is contracting
Systolic Blood Pressure	Top number in blood pressure reading

T

T Cell	cell that fights disease
Tachycardia	Fast heart beat
Tachypnea	fast breathing
Tarsal Bones	ankle bones
Tarsectomy	surgery to remove one or more of the ankle bones
Temperature	how warm or cold a patient's body is
Tendinitis	inflammation of tendons
Tendon	elastic tissue that attaches the end of a muscle to a bone
Tenodynia	pain in a tendon
Tenomyoplasty	surgery to stitch together a ripped tendon
Tenorrhaphy	surgery to fix a tendon and muscle
Tenosynovitis	inflammation of the outside cover of tendons
Tenotomy	surgery to cut tendon of an eye muscle to fix strabismus
Teratogenic	capable of causing deformities in fetuses
Testes	male sex glands
Testicle/Testis	one of two male sex glands that make sperm
Testicular Carcinoma	cancer of the testicles
Tetany	muscle cramps caused by a low amount of calcium
Tetracycline	type of antibiotic
Tetraplegia	total loss of muscle movement and loss of feeling in both arms and legs
Therapy	medicine or medical care given to a patient for a disease or condition
Thoracalgia	pain in the chest or wall of the chest
Thoracentesis	using a needle to remove fluid from the chest cavity
Thoracic Cavity	Inside the chest; space where the heart, lungs, esophagus, trachea, bronchi, and thymus are found
Thoracic Vertebrae	bones of the spine in back of the chest
Thoracoscope	tool used to look into the chest cavity
Thoracotomy	surgery to cut into the chest
Thorax	the chest
Thorough	complete, good
Throat	Tube through the neck that performs the swallowing action
Thrombosis	blood clotting inside a blood vessel
Thrombus	Blood clot that can block blood flow
Thymectomy	surgery to remove the thymus
Thymoma	tumor of the thymus

Thymus	organ in the chest, which is most active at puberty, that makes a type of lymphocyte (white blood cells)
Thyroid Gland	gland in the neck that makes the thyroid hormones, which are important in controlling metabolism
Thyroidectomy	surgery to remove the thyroid gland
Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone (TSH)	hormone that makes the thyroid gland active
Thyroparathyroidectomy	surgery to remove the thyroid and parathyroid glands
Thyrotoxicosis	disorder caused by too much thyroid hormone
Tibia	the larger of the two lower leg bones; the shin bone
TID	Three times a day
Tinea	fungal infection of skin; ringworm
Tinnitus	ringing, roaring, buzzing, or clicking noises in the ears
Tissue	group of cells that work together
Titration	Adjusting to the best dose
T-Lymphocytes	type of white blood cells
Tolerability	ability to take without any serious side effects
Tolerance	When the body gets used to a drug and needs a higher dose
Tonometer	device that measures pressure inside the eye
Tonsil	Two bulges of tissue at the back of the mouth
Tonsillectomy	surgery to remove a tonsil or tonsils
Topical	On the skin; to the skin; surface
Topical Anesthetic	Painkiller applied to the skin and reducing pain only in the area to which applied
Topical Application	Putting a medicine on the skin
Total Parenteral Nutrition	feeding through a tube in a vein
Toxicity	any harmful effect of a drug or poison
Trabeculectomy	surgery to allow fluid to drain from the eye, reducing eye pressure in patients with glaucoma
Trachea	windpipe
Tracheitis	inflammation of the windpipe
Tracheocystitis	inflammation of the neck of the urinary bladder
Tracheoplasty	surgery to fix the windpipe
Tracheostomy	surgery to make a hole through the neck from the windpipe to the outside of the body
Tranquilizer	drug that reduces anxiety
Transdermal	through the skin
Transdermal Patch	patch containing a drug that is put on the skin so the drug will enter the body through the skin
Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)	Brief loss of blood flow to the brain; “mini-stroke”

Transiently	temporarily
Transrectal Ultrasound	Looking inside the belly using sound waves from a probe in the rectum
Transverse Plane	divides the body to make a top and bottom
Trauma	injury; wound
Traumatic	causing damage
Treadmill Stress Test	test using a walking machine to measure heart function
Treatment	medicine or medical care given to a patient
Treatment Regimen	Plan for taking drugs
Trichomoniasis	parasite infection that is spread by sexual contact
Trichomycosis	fungus infection in the hair
Tricuspid Valve	a valve in the heart that controls the flow of blood by opening and closing with each heart beat
Tubal Ligation	surgery to close the fallopian tubes to prevent pregnancy
Tuberculin	substance used in skin tests to test for tuberculosis
Tuberculosis	A serious type of bacterial infection, usually in the lungstu
Tumor	A benign (not cancerous) or malignant (cancerous) mass of tissue
Tumor Marker	A substance that when present in increased amounts in the blood, urine or body tissues, may indicate the presence of cancer
Tumor Suppressor Gene	Gene, that when turned on, stops cancer from growing
Tumor Lysis Syndrome	occurs when many cancer cells are killed quickly, the intracellular contents (inside these cells) pour into the blood stream which causes an imbalance in the normal chemistry of the blood
Tympanic Membrane	eardrum
Tympanitis	inflammation of the ear drum
Tympanometer	device used to mesure hearing
Tympanoplasty	surgery to fix the eardrum and bones of the middle ear
U	
Ulcer	sore
Ulcerative Colitis	sores in the colon
Ulna	one of the two lower arm bones
Ultrasonography	making a picture of internal organs by bouncing sound waves off them and recording the echoes
Ultrasound	making a picture of internal organs by bouncing sound waves off them and recording the echoes
Umbilical Region	area around the naval
Umbilicus	navel; belly button

Unconscious	not awake and not aware; knocked out
Ungual	having to do with the nails
Unilateral	having to do with only one side of the body
Upper Endoscopy	using a lighted tube to look into the upper part of the digestive system
Upper GI Endoscopy	using a lighted tube to look into the upper part of the digestive system
Upper GI (Gastrointestinal) Series	Taking x-ray pictures of the upper part of the digestive system
Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)	Infection in the nose, throat and airways in the lungs
Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)	a cold or flu
Uptake	Absorb, taken in
Uremia	build-up of poisons in the blood, usually because of kidney failure
Ureter	tube that carries urine from a kidney to the urinary bladder
Ureterectomy	surgery to remove all or part of a ureter
Ureteritis	inflammation of the ureter
Ureterocele	bulge at the end of a ureter
Ureterogram	x-ray picture of a ureter
Ureterolithiasis	stones in the ureter
Ureterostenosis	narrow area in a ureter
Ureterostomy	surgery to make an opening into a ureter
Ureterotomy	surgery to cut into a ureter
Urethra	tube that carries urine from the urinary bladder to the outside of the body
Urethritis	inflammation of the urethra
Urethrocystitis	inflammation of the urethra
Urethrometer	device used to measure the size of the urethra
Urethropexy	surgery to tie down the urethra
Urethroplasty	surgery to fix the urethra
Urethrostomy	surgery to make an opening from the urethra to the outside of the body
Uric Acid Test	blood test used to measure the amount of uric acid in the blood
Urinal	container that holds urine
Urinalysis	series of tests done on urine
Urinary	having to do with urine
Urinary Bladder	sack that holds urine before it leaves the body
Urinary Catheterization	passing a tube into the urinary bladder to remove urine
Urinary Incontinence	unable to control the flow of urine
Urinary Retention	abnormal holding of urine

Urinary Suppression	unable to urinate
Urinary Tract	all parts of the body that make and pass urine, including the kidneys, ureters, urinary bladder, and urethra
Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)	bladder infection
Urination	the act of passing urine
Urine	pale yellow liquid waste material and sediment
Urine Casts And Crystals	urine test to check mineral levels and sediment in the urine and to check for infection or inflammation in the urinary tract
Urine Color	normal color for urine is straw yellow
Urine Ph	urine test to find out the chemical make-up of urine (acidity)
Urine Protein	urine test used to measure how much protein is in the urine
Urinometer	Device used to measure the amount of matter in urine
Urodynamics	the force and flow of urine
Urologist	doctor who treats disorders of the urinary tract of men and women and the genital tract of men
Urticaria	hives
Uterus	organ where the unborn baby develops and grows
Utilize	use
Uvula	v-shaped tissue that hangs from the roof of the back of the mouth
Uvulectomy	surgery to remove the uvula
Uvulitis	inflammation of the uvula
V	
Vagina	passageway that connects the uterus to the outside of the body
Vaginitis	inflammation of the vagina
Vaginodynia	pain in the vagina
Vaginoperineorrhaphy	surgery to fix tears in the vagina and vaginal areas
Vaginoplasty	surgery to fix the vagina
Vagotomy	surgery to cut the vagus nerve or nerves, usually done to slow down the making of stomach acid
Vagotonis	increased activity of the vagus nerve causing slow heart rate or low blood pressure
Valvuloplasty	Surgery to repair a heart valve
Varices	enlarged veins
Varicose Veins	twisted and bulging veins that are larger than normal
Vas Deferens	tube that carries sperm out of the testicle
Vasectomy	surgery to cut out part or all of the ductus deferens-done to make a man not able produce children

Vasoconstrictor	drug used to make blood vessels tighten up and become narrower
Vasodilator	drug used to make blood vessels open up and become bigger
Vasospasm	narrowing of the blood vessels in the brain
Vasovasostomy	surgery to undo a vasectomy to make a man able to produce children again
VDRL Test	blood test used to detect syphilis
Vector	a carrier, usually an insect, that transmits disease
Vein	the type of blood vessel that carries blood back to the heart from the rest of the body
Vein Ligation And Stripping	surgery to remove twisted (varicose) veins in the legs
Vena Cava	largest vein in the body
Venipuncture	Needle stick; entering the vein with a needle; putting a needle into a vein
Venogram	x-ray of a vein
Ventilator	machine used to help a person breathe
Ventral	toward or having to do with the front of the body
Ventricle	small space, such as one of several that hold spinal fluid inside the brain and the two lower chambers of the heart
Venule	little vein
Verruca	wart
Vertebra	one of the 33 bones in the spine
Vertebral Column	the spine
Vertebrocostal	having to do with a vertebra and a rib
Vertical Transmission	spread of disease
Vertigo	light-headedness; dizziness
Vesicle	blister
Vesicourethral	having to do with the urethra and the bladder
Vesicovaginal Fistula	abnormal opening between the bladder and vagina
Videotape	a tape played on a VCR to watch and listen to
Viral	having to do with a virus
Virus	tiny type of germ
Visceral	having to do with the internal organs
Vital Signs	blood pressure, heart rate, breathing rate, temperature, weight, height
Vitreous Body	jelly-like liquid in the eye
Void	urinate
Voluntary	individual is free to decide if they will take part in the study
Volvulus	twisting of the intestines causing a blockage

Vomit	Throw-up
Vulva	the tissues around the opening to the vagina
Vulvectomy	surgery to remove the vulva
Vulvovaginal	having to do with the vagina and vulva
Vulvovaginitis	inflammation of the vagina and vulva

W

Washout Period	period when receiving no treatment
Wheal	hive; welt
White Blood Cell	type of blood cell that fights infections
White Blood Cell Differential	test to find out the types and numbers of white blood cells
White Blood Cells (WBCs)	cells that fight infection; a decrease can lead to an increased risk of infection
White Blood Cell Count	number of white blood cells in the blood
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	bacterial infection, usually seen in young children, in which there is a serious, loud, dry cough
Wilms Tumor	A cancer of the kidney
Withdraw, Discontinue	stop taking part
Womb	Uterus

X

Xanthochromic	having a yellow color
Xanthoderma	yellow color to the skin
Xanthosis	yellow color
Xeroderma	dry skin
Xeroma	dryness of the eye
Xerophthalmia	dryness of the eye due to vitamin A deficiency; symptoms may begin in the form of night blindness, and they become progressively worse
Xerostomia	dryness of the mouth because the salivary gland is not working
Xiphoid Process	lower part of the breast bone
X-Ray	Invisible radiation used to take pictures of the inside of the body

Z

Zygote	the cell made by joining of the female egg and male sperm at the beginning of pregnancy
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