

## Medical Terminology / Lecture (3)

### CHAPTER 2

#### Frequently Used Building Blocks

##### KEY TERMS

<b>Anatomy</b>	(ah-NAT-oh-mee)	The study of the structure of an organism
<b>pathology</b>	(pah-THOL-oh-jee)	The study of the basic nature of disease and the changes in the structure and function of cells, tissues, and organs that lead to disease
<b>physiology</b>	(fiz-ee-OL-oh-jee)	The study of how a living organism and its chemical processes involved in those functions
<b>Surgery</b>	(SER-jer-ee)	The branch of medicine in which manual and operative procedures are used to correct deformities and defects, to repair injuries, to diagnose and treat certain diseases

On the following pages are prefixes, roots, and suffixes that you will use throughout this text in achieving your goal of developing a practical medical vocabulary. Some you will recognize from chapter 1. Many of these building blocks will appear again and for table with these basic word parts. In later chapters you will add new terms that relate to specific body systems.

The prefixes and roots are listed in alphabetic order. The suffixes are listed in three separate groups to help you remember how they are used (figure 2.1) these groups are:

**Anatomy and physiology**

**pathology**

**Surgical or treatment**

Figure 2.1 many word parts can be grouped by type of use

M.Sc Rusul Y. ALabada

•Suffixes related to anatomy and physiology. These word endings refer to a structure or function of the body in a normal state.

•Suffixes related to pathology. These word endings indicate the nature and cause of conditions that occur with a change from normal.

•Suffixes related to surgery or treatment. The surgical suffixes describe what was or will be done either manually or through a cutting procedure to change a body condition

## FREQUENTLY USED SUFFIXES

### Anatomy and physiology

Suffix	Meaning	Example word and definition
-blast	Immature stage of cell	Myoblast (MY-oh-blast):the immature stage of a muscle-forming cell
-cyte	Mature cell	Leukocyte (LOO-koh-sight): a white blood cell
-genesis	Production, Development	Myogenesis (MY-oh-JEN-eh-sis): development of muscle tissue
-genic	Origination	Carcinogenic (Kar- sil- noh- JEN-ick): Producing cancer
-phagia, phagy	Eating, swallowing	Dysphagia ( dis- FAY- jee- ah): difficulty in swallowing
-phasia	Speaking	Aphasia (ah- FAY- zee- ah): loss of impairment of speech
-poiesis	Formation	Hidropoiesis ( high- droh- poy- ee- sis): the formation of sweat

## Pathology

Suffix	Meaning	Example word and definition
<b>-algia</b>	Pain	Analgia (an- AL- jee- ah): absence of pain
<b>-cele</b>	Pouching, hernia	Enterocoele (EN- ter- oh- sell): hernia of the intestine
<b>-dynia</b>	Pain	Gastrodynia (gas- troh- DIN- ee- ah): pain in the stomach
<b>-ectasis</b>	Dilatation, expansion	Angiectasis (an- hee- ECK- tah- sis): dilatation of a blood or lymph vessel
<b>-emia</b>	Blood	Glycemia (glie-SEE-mee- ah):sugar in the blood. Note: in this form, the it is dropped from the root heme, which means blood.
<b>-iasis</b>	Condition, presence of	Cholelithiasis (koh- lee- lih-THIGH ah- sis): presence of stones in the gallbladder
<b>-itis</b>	Inflammation	Bronchitis (brong- KYE- tis): inflammation of the breathing tubes
<b>-lysis</b>	Dissolution, breaking down	Cytolysis (sigh- TOL- ih- sis): inflammation of the breathing tubes
<b>-malacia</b>	Softening	Splenomalacia (spleh- no- mah-LAY- she- ah): softening of the spleen
<b>-megaly</b>	Enlargement	Acromegaly (ack- roh- MEG- ah- lee): Enlargement of the extremities (arms and legs)
<b>-oid</b>	Resembling, like	Fibroid (FIE-broyed): containing or resembling fibers
<b>-oma</b>	Tumor	Lipoma (lih-POH- mach): a fatty tumor
<b>-osis</b>	Abnormal condition	Dermatosis (der- mah- TOH- sis): any skin disease
<b>-pathy</b>	Disease	Uropathy (you- ROP- ah- thee): any abnormality of the urinary tract
<b>-penia</b>	Abnormal reduction	Cytopenia (sigh- toh- PEE- nee- nee- ah): Deficient number of cells

*M.Sc Rusul Y. ALabada*



<b>-phobia</b>	Exaggerated fear	Agoraphobia (ag- oh- rah-FOH- bee- ah): fear of being in a large open space
<b>-plegia</b>	Paralysis	Hemiplegia (hem- ee- PLEE- jee- ah): paralysis of half of the body
<b>-ptosis</b>	Downward Displacement	Blepharoptosis (blef- ah- roh- TOH-sis): drooping of an upper eyelid
<b>-rhage, rhagia</b>	Excessive flow, hemorrhage	Rhinorrhagia (rye- no- RAY- jee- ah): profuse bleeding from the nose
<b>-rhea</b>	Discharge	Pyorrhea ( pie- oh- REE- ah): discharge of pus
<b>-rhexis</b>	Rupture	Angiorrhexis (an- jee- oh- RECK- sis): rupture of a vessel
<b>-uria</b>	Urine	Hematuria (hem- ah- TOO- ree- ah): blood in the urine

### Surgery or treatment

Suffix	Meaning	Example word and definition
<b>-centesis</b>	Puncture for aspiration (draining)	Cephalocentesis (sef- ah- loh- sen- TEE- sis): surgical Puncture of skull
<b>-desis</b>	Binding, fixation	Arthrodesis (ar- throh- DEE- sis): Surgical fixation of a joint
<b>-ectomy</b>	Excision, cutting out	Appendectomy (ap- en- DECK- toh- mee):excision of the appendix
<b>-pexy</b>	To fix in place	orchiopexy (or- kee- oh- peck- see): suturing (stitching) of an Undescended testis to fix it in the scrotum
<b>-plasty</b>	To mold or shape	otoplasty (OH- toh-plas- tee): plastic Surgery of the ear
<b>-rhaphy</b>	Suturing ( stitching or closing)	glossorrhaphy (glaw- SOR- ah- free): Suturing of a wound of the tongue
<b>-sclerosis</b>	Hardening	arteriosclerosis (ar- tee- ree- oh- skleh- ROH- sis).

*M.Sc Rusul Y. ALabada*

		hardening of the arteries
<b>-scope</b>	Examining instrument	anoscope (AY- noh-skohp): instrument for examining the lower rectum and anus
<b>-scopy</b>	Internal examination	Cystoscopy (sis- TOS- koh- pee): the process of examining the bladder with a cystoscope
<b>-stomy</b>	Creation of opening	Enterostomy (en- ter- OS- toh- mee): Surgical creation of a permanent opening into an intestine through the abdominal wall
<b>-tomy</b>	Incising or cutting	Nephrotomy (neh- FRAH- toh- mee): Cutting into the kidney
<b>-tripsy</b>	Crushing, friction	Lithotripsy (LITH- oh- trip- see): crushing of a stone. Used in referring to a stone in the bladder or urethra

- **Frequently used roots**

The following list includes some commonly used roots. You may notice that two apparently different roots are used to refer to the same structure or organ. For example, the root *hyster* and the root *uter* are both used in words referring to the womb. The root *hyster* comes to us from the Greeks; the root *uter* is latin. The two roots are both used.

### Root and Combining vowel

(if used)	Meaning	Example word and definition
<b>Aden/o</b>	Gland	Adenoid (ADD- eh- noyd: resembling or having the appearance of a gland
<b>Angi/o</b>	Vessel	Angiotomy (an- jee- OT- oh- mee): cutting of blood vessels
<b>Arter/i/o</b>	Artery	Arteriosclerosis (ar- tee- ree- oh- skleh- ROH- sis): thickening ("hardening") of an artery
<b>Arthr/o</b>	Joint	Arthralgia (ar- THRAL- jee- ah): pain in a joint

M.Sc Rusul Y. ALabada

<b>Cardi/o</b>	Heart	Cardioptosis (kar- dee- op- TOH- sis): prolapsed of the heart
<b>Cephal/o</b>	Head	Cephalad (SEF- ah- lad): toward the head
<b>Cerebr/o</b>	Brain	Cerebroathy (ser- eh- BROP- ah- thee): any morbid condition of the brain
<b>Cheil/o</b>	Lip	Cheilosis (kye- LOH- sis): abnormal condition of the lips
<b>Chondr/o</b>	Cartilage	Chondrocyte (KON- droh- sight): a cartilage cell
<b>Cost/o</b>	Rib	Costectomy ( kos- TECK- toh- mee): surgical removal of a rib
<b>Crani/o</b>	Cranium, skull	Craniometer ( KRAY- nee- ah- meh- ter): instrument for measuring the skull
<b>Cyst/o</b>	Sac, bladder	Cystolith (SIS- toh- lith): a bladder stone
<b>cyt/o</b>	Cell	cytoblast ( SIGH- toh- blast): a cell nucleus
<b>Derm/o, dermat/o</b>	Skin	Dermomycosis (der- moh- my- KOH- sis): a skin disease caused by a fungus
<b>Encephal/o</b>	Brain	Encephalocele (en- SEF- ah- loh- seel): herniation of the brain through a crack or fissure of the skull
<b>Enter/o</b>	Intestine	Enterospasm (EN- ter- oh- spazm): painful contractions (cramps) of the intestine
<b>Gastr/o</b>	Stomach	Glossoplegia (gas- TRECK- toh- mee): surgical removal of part or all of the stomach
<b>Gloss/o</b>	Tongue	Glossoplegia ( glos- oh- PELE- jee- jee- ah): paralysis of the tongue
<b>Hem/o, hemat/o</b>	Blood	Hemocyte (HEE- moh- sight): a blood cell
<b>Hepat/o</b>	Liver	Hepatitis ( hep- ah- TIE- tis): inflammation of the liver
<b>Hyster/o</b>	Uterus	Hysterectomy(his- ter- ECK- toh- mee): surgically removing the uterus
<b>Mamm/o, mast/o</b>	Breast	Mammoplasty ( MAM- oh- plas- tee):

*M.Sc Rusul Y. ALabada*



		surgical alteration of the size of the breast which may involve an increase or a decrease Mastitis (mass- TIE- tis): inflammation of the breast
<b>My/o</b>	Muscle	Myoatrophy (MY- oh- AT- roh- fee): Wasting away of muscle
<b>Nas/o, rhin/o</b>	Nose	Nasogastric tube (nay- zoh- GAS- trick Tewb): a tube that is inserted through the nose and extends into the stomach Rhinitis (rye- NIGH- tis): Inflammation of the mucous lining (mucosa) of the nose
<b>Nephr/o, ren/o</b>	Kidney	Nephroptosis (nef- rop- TOH- sis): Downward displacement of the kidney
<b>Neur/o</b>	Nerve	Neurectomy (new- RECK- toh- mee): Partial or total excision of a nerve
<b>Ocul/o, ophthalm/o</b>	Eye	Oculogyric (ock- you- loh- JYE- rick): Pertaining to movements of the eye
<b>Or/o, stoma, stomat/o</b>	Mouth	Oronasal (oh- roh- NAY- zal): Concerning the mouth and nose Stomatitis (stoh- mah- TIE- tis): Inflammation of the mouth
<b>Oste/o</b>	Bone	Osteectopia (os- tee- eck- TOH- pee- ah): Displacement of a bone
<b>Ot/o</b>	ear	Otalgia ( oh- TAL- jee- ah): pain in an ear
<b>Pharyng/o</b>	Pharynx	Pharyngeal (fah- RIN- jee- al): Concerning the pharynx
<b>Phleb/o</b>	vein	Phlebostenosis (fleb- oh- steh- NOH- sis): narrowing or constriction of a vein
<b>Pneum/o, Pneumon/o, Pulmon/o</b>	Lung, air	Pneumectomy (new-MECK- toh- mee): Excision of all or part of a lung Pneumatosis (new- mah- TOH- sis): Abnormal presence of air or gas in the body
<b>Proct/o, rect/o</b>	Rectum	Proctocele ( SROCK- toh- seel): a

*M.Sc Rusul Y. ALabada*

		Herniation of the rectal mucosa into the vagina; also called rectosele
<b>Spleen/o, lien/o</b>	spleen	Splenectomy (spleh- NECK- toh- mee): surgical excision of the spleen Lienitis (lie- eh- NIGH- tis): Inflammation of the spleen
<b>Thorac/o</b>	Chest	Thoracotomy (thoh- rah- KOT- oh- mee): Surgical incision of the chest wall
<b>Ureter/o</b>	Ureter	Ureterography (you- ree- ter- OG- rah- fee): Radiographic (x- ray) examination of the ureter
<b>Urethr/o</b>	Urethra	Urethritis ( you- reh- THRIGH- tis): Inflammation of the urethra
<b>Uter/o</b>	Uterus	Uteroplasty (you- ter- oh- PLAS- tee): Plastic surgery of the uterus