

Unit 6 Lesson 4

Understanding Roots

Understanding the meaning of prefixes, roots, and suffixes can help you figure out many medical words. A root is the main part of the word. Here are some roots for some medical words that you may see at work. The root will help you figure out the meaning.

Root	Meaning		Root	Meaning
abdomin	abdomen		my	muscle
aden	gland		myel	spinal cord, bone marrow
adren	adrenal gland		necro	death
angi	vessel		ocul	eye
arterio	artery		oophor	ovary
arthr	joint		ophthalm	eye
broncho	bronchus, bronchi		orth	straight, normal, correct
card,cardi	heart		oste	bone
cephal	head		ot	ear
chole, chol	bile		ped	child, foot
chondr	cartilage		pharyng	pharynx
colo	colon, large intestine		phleb	vein
cost	rib		pnea	breathing, respiration
crani	skull		pneum	lung, air, gas
cyan	blue		proct	rectum
cyst	bladder, cyst		psych	mind
cyt	cell		pulmo	lung
dent	tooth		py	pus
derma	skin		rect	rectum
duoden	duodenum		rhin	nose
encephal	brain		salping	eustachian tube uterine tube
enter	intestines		splen	spleen
bibr	fiber, fibrous		sten	narrow, constriction
gastr	stomach		stern	sternum
gloss	tongue		stomat	mouth
gluc	sweetness, glucose		therm	heat
glyc	sugar		thoraco	chest
gyn, gyne, gynec	woman		thromb	clot, thrombus
hem, hema, hemo, hemat	blood		thyr	thyroid
hepat	liver		toxic	poison, poisonous
hydr	water		tox	poison
hyster	uterus		trache	trachea
ile, ili	ileum		urethr	urethra
laparo	abdomen, loin		urin	urine
laryng	larynx		uro	urine, urinary tract, urination
lith	stone		uter	uterus
mamm	breast, mammary gland		vas	blood vessel
mast	breast, mammary gland		vertebr	spine
meno	menstruation			