



# List of medical roots, suffixes and prefixes

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This is a **list of roots, suffixes, and prefixes** used in medical terminology, their meanings, and their etymologies. Most of them are combining forms in Neo-Latin and hence international scientific vocabulary. There are a few general rules about how they combine. First, prefixes and suffixes, most of which are derived from ancient Greek or classical Latin, have a droppable vowel, usually -o-. As a general rule, this vowel almost always acts as a joint-stem to connect two consonantal roots (e.g. arthr- + -o- + -logy = arthrology), but generally, the -o- is dropped when connecting to a vowel-stem (e.g. arthr- + -itis = arthritis, instead of arthr-o-itis). Second, medical roots generally go together according to language, i.e., Greek prefixes occur with Greek suffixes and Latin prefixes with Latin suffixes. Although international scientific vocabulary is not stringent about segregating combining forms of different languages, it is advisable when coining new words not to mix different lingual roots.

## Prefixes and suffixes

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The following is an alphabetical list of medical prefixes and suffixes, along with their meanings, origins, and English examples.

## A

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>a-, an-</b>	not, without ( <u>alpha privative</u> )	Greek <u>ἀ-/άν-</u> ( <i>a-/an-</i> ), not, without	<u>analgesic</u> , <u>apathy</u> , <u>anencephaly</u>
<b>ab-</b>	from; away from	Latin	<u>abduction</u> , <u>abdomen</u>
<b>abdomin-</b>	of or relating to the <u>abdomen</u>	Latin <u>abdōmen</u> , abdomen, fat around the belly	<u>abdomen</u> , <u>abdominal</u>
<b>-ac</b>	pertaining to; one afflicted with	Greek <u>-ακός</u> ( <i>-akós</i> )	<u>cardiac</u> , <u>celiac</u>
<b>acanth-</b>	<u>thorn</u> or <u>spine</u>	Greek <u>ἄκανθα</u> ( <i>ákantha</i> ), thorn	<u>acanthion</u> , <u>acanthocyte</u> , <u>acanthoma</u> , <u>acanthulus</u>
<b>acou-</b> <sup>[1]</sup>	of or relating to <u>hearing</u>	Greek <u>ἀκούειν</u> ( <i>akouéin</i> ), <u>ἀκουστικός</u> ( <i>akoustikós</i> ), of or for hearing	<u>acoumeter</u> , <u>acoustician</u> , <u>hyperacusis</u>
<b>acr-</b>	extremity, topmost	Greek <u>ἄκρον</u> ( <i>ákron</i> ), highest or farthest point	<u>acrocrany</u> , <u>acromegaly</u> , <u>acroosteolysis</u> , <u>acroposthia</u> , <u>acrosome</u>
<b>-acusis</b>	hearing	Greek <u>ἀκουστικός</u> ( <i>akoustikós</i> ), of or for hearing	<u>paracusis</u>
<b>-ad</b>	toward, in the direction of	Latin <u>ad</u> , toward, to	<u>dorsad</u> , <u>ventrad</u>
<b>ad-</b>	at, increase, on, toward	Latin <u>ad-</u> , to	<u>adduction</u> , <u>addition</u>
<b>aden-</b>	of or relating to a <u>gland</u>	Greek <u>ἀδήν</u> , <u>ἀδέν-</u> , ( <i>adén, adén-</i> ), an acorn; a <u>gland</u>	<u>adenocarcinoma</u> , <u>adenology</u> , <u>adenotome</u> , <u>adenotyphus</u>
<b>adip-</b>	of or relating to <u>fat</u> or fatty tissue	Latin <u>adeps</u> , <u>adip-</u> , fat	<u>adipocyte</u>
<b>adren-</b>	of or relating to the <u>adrenal glands</u>	Latin <u>ad</u> + <u>rēnēs</u> , kidneys	<u>adrenal artery</u>
<b>-aemia, ema, hemat</b> (BrE)	<u>blood</u> condition	Greek <u>ἀναιμία</u> ( <i>anaimía</i> ), without blood	<u>anaemia</u>
<b>aer(o)-</b>	air, gas	Greek <u>ἄηρ</u> , <u>ἄερος</u> ( <i>aér, aéros</i> )	<u>aerosinusitis</u> , <u>aerodynamics</u>
<b>aesthesi-</b> (BrE)	sensation	Greek <u>αἴσθησις</u> ( <i>aísthēsis</i> )	<u>anaesthesia</u>
<b>-al</b>	pertaining to	Latin <u>-alis</u>	<u>abdominal</u> , <u>femoral</u>
<b>alb-</b>	denoting a white or pale color	Latin <u>albus</u> , white	<u>albino</u> , <u>tunica albica</u>
<b>alge(si)-</b>	<u>pain</u>	Greek <u>ἄλγος</u> ( <i>álgos</i> )	<u>analgesic</u>
<b>-algia, alg(i)o-</b>	pain	Greek	<u>myalgia</u>
<b>all-</b>	denoting something as different, or as an addition	Greek <u>ἄλλος</u> ( <i>állōs</i> ), another, other	<u>alloantigen</u> , <u>allopathy</u>

<b>ambi-</b>	denoting something as positioned on both sides; describing both of two	Latin <i>ambi-</i> , <i>ambo</i> , both, on both sides	<u>ambidextrous</u>
<b>amnio-</b>	Pertaining to the membranous fetal sac (amnion)	Greek <i>ἄμνιον</i> ( <i>ámnion</i> )	<u>amniocentesis</u>
<b>amph(i)-</b>	on both sides	Greek <i>ἀμφί</i> ( <i>amphí</i> )	<u>amphicrania</u> , <u>amphismela</u> , <u>amphomycin</u>
<b>amyo-</b>	starchy, carbohydrate-related	Latin <i>amylum</i> , starch	<u>amylase</u> , <u>amylophagia</u>
<b>an-</b>	not, without ( <u>alpha privative</u> )	Greek	<u>analgesia</u>
<b>ana-</b>	back, again, up	Greek <i>ἀνα-</i> ( <i>ana-</i> )	<u>anaplasia</u>
<b>an-</b>	<u>anus</u>	Latin	anal
<b>andr-</b>	pertaining to a <u>man</u>	Greek <i>ἀνῆρ</i> , <i>ἄνδρ-</i> ( <i>anér</i> , <i>andr-</i> ), male	<u>android</u> , <u>andrology</u> , <u>androgen</u>
<b>angi-</b>	<u>blood vessel</u>	Greek <i>ἀγγεῖον</i> ( <i>angeíon</i> )	<u>angiogram</u> , <u>angioplasty</u>
<b>aniso-</b>	describing something as unequal	Greek <i>ἄνισος</i> ( <i>ánisos</i> ), unequal	<u>anisocytosis</u> , <u>anisotropic</u>
<b>ankyl-, ancyl-</b>	denoting something as crooked or bent	Greek <i>ἀγκύλος</i> ( <i>ankúlos</i> ), crooked, curved	<u>ankylosis</u>
<b>ante-</b>	describing something as positioned in front of another thing	Latin <i>āntē</i> , before, in front of	<u>antepartum</u>
<b>anthropo-</b>	human	Greek <i>ἄνθρωπος</i> ( <i>ánthrōpos</i> ), human	<u>anthropology</u>
<b>anti-</b>	describing something as 'against' or 'opposed to' another	Greek <i>ἀντί</i> ( <i>antí</i> ), against	<u>antibody</u> , <u>antipsychotic</u>
<b>apo-</b>	away, separated from, derived from	Greek <i>ἀπό</i> ( <i>apó</i> )	<u>apoptosis</u> , <u>apocrine</u>
<b>archi-</b>	first, primitive	Greek <i>ἀρχι-</i> ( <i>arkhi-</i> )	archinephron
<b>arsen(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to a male; masculine	Greek <i>ἀρσενικός</i> ( <i>arseníkós</i> )	arsenoblast
<b>arteri(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to an <u>artery</u>	Greek <i>ἀρτηρία</i> ( <i>artēría</i> ), a wind-pipe, artery (used distinctly versus a vein)	<u>arteriole</u> , <u>artery</u>
<b>arthr-</b>	of or pertaining to the joints, limbs	Greek <i>ἄρθρον</i> ( <i>áarthron</i> ), a joint, limb	<u>arthritis</u>
<b>articul-</b>	joint	Latin <i>articulus</i>	<u>Articulation</u>
<b>-ary</b>	pertaining to	Latin <i>-arius</i>	<u>biliary tract</u> , <u>coronary</u>
<b>-ase</b>	<u>enzyme</u>	from Greek διάσπασις ( <i>δια-</i> ( <i>dia-</i> , part, apart) + <i>στάσις</i> ( <i>stásis</i> , stand)), division	<u>Lactase</u>
<b>-asthenia</b>	<u>weakness</u>	Greek <i>ἀσθένεια</i> ( <i>asthéneia</i> )	<u>Myasthenia gravis</u>

<b>atel(o)-</b>	imperfect or incomplete development	Greek ἀτελής ( <i>atelḗs</i> ), without end, incomplete	<u>atelocardia</u>
<b>ather-</b>	fatty deposit, soft gruel-like deposit	ἀθήρη ( <i>athárē</i> )	<u>Atherosclerosis</u>
<b>-ation</b>	process	Latin	<u>medication, civilization</u>
<b>atri-</b>	an atrium (esp. heart atrium)	Latin	<u>atrioventricular</u>
<b>aur-</b>	of or pertaining to the ear	Latin <i>auris</i> , the ear	<u>Aural</u>
<b>aut-</b>	self	Greek αὐτός, αὐτο- ( <i>autós, auto-</i> )	Autoimmune, autograph, autobiography, automobile, automatic
<b>aux(o)-</b>	increase; growth	Greek αὐξάνω, αὔξω ( <i>auxánō, aúxō</i> )	Auxocardia: enlargement of the heart, <u>auxology</u>
<b>axill-</b>	of or pertaining to the armpit (uncommon as a prefix)	Latin <i>axilla</i> , armpit	<u>Axilla</u>
<b>azo(to)-</b>	nitrogenous compound	French <i>azote</i> , nitrogen; from Greek ἀζωτικός ( <i>ázōtikós</i> ) ἀ- ( <i>a-</i> , no, without) + ζωή ( <i>zōḗ</i> , life), mephitic air	azothermia: raised temperature due to nitrogenous substances in blood

## B

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>bacillus</b>	rod-shaped	Latin <i>baculus</i> , stick	<u>Bacillus anthracis</u>
<b>bacteri-</b>	Pertaining to <u>bacteria</u>	Latin <i>bacterium</i> ; Greek βακτήριον ( <i>baktḗrion</i> ), small staff	bacteriophage, <u>bactericide</u>
<b>balan-</b>	of the glans penis or glans clitoridis	Greek βάλανος ( <i>bálanos</i> ), acorn, glans	<u>balanitis</u>
<b>bas-</b>	of or pertaining to base	Greek βάσις ( <i>básis</i> ), foundation, base	basolateral
<b>bi-</b>	twice, double	Latin <i>bi-</i>	binary vision, bicycle, bisexual
<b>bio-</b>	life	Greek βίος ( <i>bíos</i> )	<u>biology, biological</u>
<b>blast-</b>	<u>germinate</u> or bud	Greek βλαστός ( <i>blastós</i> )	<u>blastomere</u>
<b>blephar(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the eyelid	Greek βλέφαρον ( <i>blépharon</i> ), eyelid	<u>blepharoplasty</u>
<b>brachi(o)-</b>	of or relating to the arm	Latin <i>bracchium</i> , from Greek βραχίον ( <i>brakhíōn</i> ), arm	<u>brachium of inferior colliculus</u>
<b>brachy-</b>	indicating 'short' or less commonly 'little'	Greek βραχύς ( <i>brakhús</i> ), short, little, shallow	<u>brachycephalic</u>
<b>brady-</b>	slow	Greek βραδύς ( <i>bradús</i> ), slow	<u>bradycardia, bradyzoite</u>
<b>bronch(i)-</b>	of or relating to the <u>bronchus</u>	Latin <i>bronchus</i> ; Greek βρόγχος ( <i>brónkhos</i> ), windpipe	<u>bronchitis, bronchiolitis obliterans</u>
<b>bucc(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>cheek</u>	Latin <i>bucca</i> , cheek	buccolabial

<b>burs(o)-</b>	<u>bursa</u> (fluid sac between the bones)	Latin <u>bursa</u> , purse; Greek βύρσα ( <u>búrsa</u> ), hide, wine-skin	<u>bursa</u> , <u>bursitis</u>
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## C

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>capill-</b>	of or pertaining to hair	Latin <u>capillus</u> , hair	<u>capillus</u>
<b>capit-</b>	pertaining to the head as a whole	Latin <u>caput</u> , <u>capit-</u> , the head	<u>capitation</u> , <u>decapitation</u>
<b>carcin-</b>	<u>cancer</u>	Greek <u>καρκίνος</u> ( <u>karkínos</u> ), crab	<u>carcinoma</u>
<b>cardi-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>heart</u>	Greek <u>καρδία</u> ( <u>kardía</u> ), heart	<u>cardiology</u>
<b>carp-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>wrist</u>	Latin <u>carpus</u> < Greek <u>καρπός</u> ( <u>karpós</u> ), wrist; NOTE: This root should not be confused with the mirror root <u>carp(o)-</u> meaning fruit.	<u>carpal</u> , <u>carpopedal spasm</u> , <u>metacarpal</u>
<b>cata-</b>	down, under	Greek <u>κατά</u> ( <u>katá</u> )	<u>catabolism</u> , <u>catacombs</u> , <u>cataract</u>
<b>-cele</b>	pouching, <u>hernia</u>	Greek <u>κήλη</u> ( <u>kéle</u> )	<u>hydrocele</u> , <u>varicocele</u>
<b>-centesis</b>	surgical puncture for <u>aspiration</u>	Greek <u>κέντησις</u> ( <u>kéntēsis</u> )	<u>amniocentesis</u>
<b>cephal(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the head (as a whole)	Greek <u>κεφαλή</u> ( <u>kephalé</u> ), the head	<u>cephalalgia</u> , <u>hydrocephalus</u>
<b>cerat(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>cornu</u> ; a horn	Greek <u>κέρας</u> , <u>κερατ-</u> ( <u>kéras</u> , <u>kerat-</u> ), a horn	<u>ceratoid</u>
<b>cerebell(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>cerebellum</u>	Latin <u>cerebellum</u> , little brain	<u>cerebellum</u>
<b>cerebr(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>brain</u>	Latin <u>cerebrum</u> , brain	<u>cerebrology</u>
<b>cervic-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>neck</u> or the <u>cervix</u>	Latin <u>cervix</u> , <u>cervīc-</u> ), neck, cervix	<u>cervical vertebrae</u> , <u>cervicodorsal</u>
<b>cheil-</b>	of or pertaining to the lips	Greek <u>χείλος</u> ( <u>kheîlos</u> ), lip, mouth, beak	<u>angular cheilitis</u>
<b>chem(o)-</b>	chemistry, drug	Greek <u>χημεία</u> ( <u>khēmeía</u> )	<u>chemical</u> , <u>chemistry</u> , <u>chemotherapy</u>
<b>chir-, cheir-</b>	of or pertaining to the hand	Greek <u>χείρ</u> , <u>χειρο-</u> ( <u>kheír</u> , <u>kheiro-</u> ), hand	<u>chiropractor</u>
<b>chlor-</b>	denoting a green color	Greek <u>χλωρός</u> ( <u>khlōrós</u> ), green, yellow-green	<u>chlorophyll</u>
<b>bil(i)-, chol(e)-</b>	of or pertaining to <u>bile</u>	Greek <u>χολή</u> ( <u>kholé</u> ), bile	<u>cholaemia</u> (UK) / <u>choleemia</u> (US), <u>cholecystitis</u>
<b>cholecyst(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>gallbladder</u>	Greek <u>χοληκύστις</u> ( <u>kholēkústis</u> ), gallbladder < <u>χολή</u> ( <u>kholé</u> ), bile, gall + <u>κύστις</u> ( <u>kústis</u> ), bladder	<u>cholecystectomy</u>
<b>chondr(i)o-</b>	cartilage, gristle, granule, granular	Greek <u>χονδρός</u> ( <u>grc</u> )	<u>chondrocalcinosis</u>

<b>chrom(ato)-</b>	color	Greek <u>χρῶμα</u> ( <i>chrōma</i> )	<u>hemochromatosis</u>
<b>-cidal, -cide</b>	killing, destroying	Latin <u>-cīda</u> , cutter, killer	<u>bacteriocidal</u> , suicide, <u>suicidal</u>
<b>cili-</b>	of or pertaining to the cilia, the eyelashes; eyelids	Latin <u>cilium</u> , eyelash; eyelid	<u>ciliary</u>
<b>circum-</b>	denoting something as 'around' another	Latin <u>circum</u> , around	<u>circumcision</u>
<b>cis-</b>	on this side	Latin <u>cis</u>	<u>cisgender</u>
<b>-clast</b>	break	Greek <u>κλαστός</u> ( <i>klastós</i> ), broken	<u>osteoclast</u>
<b>clostr-</b>	spindle	Greek <u>κλωστήρ</u> ( <i>klōstēr</i> ), spindle, thread	<u>Clostridium</u>
<b>co-</b>	with, together, in association	Latin <u>co-</u>	coenzymes, co-organization
<b>-coccus, -coccal</b>	round, spherical	Greek <u>κόκκος</u> ( <i>kókkos</i> ), berry, seed	<u>Streptococcus</u>
<b>col-, colo-, colono-</b>	<u>colon</u>	Greek <u>κόλον</u> ( <i>kólon</i> )	<u>colonoscopy</u>
<b>colp-</b>	of or pertaining to the vagina	Greek <u>κόλπος</u> ( <i>kólpōs</i> ), bosom, womb; hollow, depth	<u>colposcopy</u>
<b>com-</b>	with, together	Latin <u>cum</u>	communicate
<b>contra-</b>	against	Latin <u>contrā</u>	<u>contraindication</u>
<b>cor-</b>	with, together	Latin <u>cor-</u>	corrective
<b>cor-</b>	of or pertaining to the eye's pupil	Greek <u>κόρη</u> ( <i>kórē</i> ), girl, doll; pupil of the eye	<u>corectomy</u>
<b>cord(i)-</b>	of or pertaining to the heart ( <i>uncommon as a prefix</i> )	Latin <u>cor</u> , heart	<u>commotio cordis</u> ,
<b>cornu-</b>	applied to describing processes and parts of the body as likened or similar to horns	Latin <u>cornū</u> , horn	<u>greater cornu</u>
<b>coron-</b>	pertaining to the <u>heart</u>	Latin <u>corōna</u>	<u>coronary heart disease</u>
<b>cortic-</b>	cortex, outer region	Latin <u>cortex</u> , bark of a tree	<u>corticosteroid</u>
<b>cost-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>ribs</u>	Latin <u>costa</u> , rib	<u>costochondral</u>
<b>cox-</b>	of or relating to the <u>hip</u> , haunch, or hip-joint	Latin <u>coxa</u> , hip	<u>coxopodite</u>
<b>crani(o)-</b>	belonging or relating to the <u>cranium</u>	Latin <u>cranium</u> , from Greek <u>κρᾶνίον</u> ( <i>krānion</i> ), cranium, skull, bones enclosing the brain	<u>craniology</u>
<b>-crine, crin(o)-</b>	to secrete	Greek <u>κρίνω</u> ( <i>krínō</i> ), separate, divide, discern	<u>endocrine</u>
<b>cry(o)-</b>	cold	Greek <u>κρύος</u> ( <i>krúos</i> ), cold, frost	<u>cryoablation</u> , cryogenic
<b>cutane-</b>	skin	Latin <u>cutis</u>	<u>subcutaneous</u>
<b>cyan(o)-</b>	having a blue color	Greek <u>κύανος</u> , <u>κυάνεος</u> ( <i>kúanos</i> , <i>kuáneos</i> , blue, of the color blue)	<u>cyanopsia</u> , <u>cyanosis</u>

<b>cycl-</b>	circle, cycle	Greek <u>κύκλος</u> ( <i>kúklos</i> )	<u>cyclosis</u> , <u>cyclops</u> , <u>tricycle</u>
<b>cyph(o)-</b>	denotes something as bent ( <i>uncommon as a prefix</i> )	Greek <u>κυφός</u> ( <i>kuphós</i> ), bent, hunchback	<u>cyphosis</u>
<b>cyst(o)-, cyst(i)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>urinary bladder</u>	Greek <u>κύστις</u> ( <i>kústis</i> ), bladder, cyst	<u>cystotomy</u>
<b>cyt(o)-, -cyte</b>	<u>cell</u>	Greek <u>κύτος</u> ( <i>kútos</i> ), a hollow, vessel	<u>cytokine</u> , <u>leukocyte</u> , <u>cytoplasm</u>

## D

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>dacry(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to <u>tears</u>	Greek <u>δάκρυ</u> , tear	<u>dacryoadenitis</u> , <u>dacryocystitis</u>
<b>-dactyl(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to a finger, toe	Greek <u>δάκτυλος</u> ( <i>dáktulos</i> ), finger, toe	<u>dactylogy</u> , <u>polydactyly</u>
<b>de-</b>	from, down, or away from	Latin <u>de-</u>	<u>dehydrate</u> , <u>demonetize</u> , <u>demotion</u>
<b>dent-</b>	of or pertaining to teeth	Latin <u>dens</u> , <u>dentis</u> , tooth	<u>dentifrice</u> , <u>dentist</u> , <u>dentition</u> , <u>dental</u>
<b>dermat(o)-, dermat(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the skin	Greek <u>δέρμα</u> , <u>δέρματος</u> ( <i>dérma, dérmatos</i> ), skin, human skin	<u>dermatology</u> , <u>epidermis</u> , <u>hypodermic</u> , <u>xeroderma</u>
<b>-desis</b>	binding	Greek <u>δέσις</u> ( <i>désis</i> )	<u>arthrodesis</u>
<b>dextr(o)-</b>	right, on the right side	Latin <u>dexter</u>	<u>dextrocardia</u>
<b>di-</b>	two	Greek <u>δι-</u>	<u>diplopia</u> ,
<b>di-, dif-, dis-</b>	apart, separation, taking apart	Latin <u>dis-</u> , <u>dif-</u> , <u>di-</u>	<u>dilation</u> , <u>distal</u> , <u>dilute</u> , <u>different</u> , <u>dissection</u>
<b>dia-</b>	through, during, across	Greek <u>διά</u> ( <i>diá</i> ), through, during, across	<u>dialysis</u>
<b>digit-</b>	of or pertaining to the finger [ <i>rare as a root</i> ]	Latin <u>digitus</u> , finger, toe	<u>digit</u>
<b>diplo-</b>	twofold	Greek <u>διπλός</u> ( <i>díplós</i> )	<u>diploid</u> , <u>diplosis</u>
<b>-dipsia</b>	(condition of) thirst	Greek <u>δίψα</u> ( <i>dípsa</i> )	<u>dipsomania</u> , <u>hydroadipsia</u> , <u>oligodipsia</u> , <u>polydipsia</u>
<b>dors(o)-, dors(i)-</b>	of or pertaining to the back	Latin <u>dorsum</u> , back	<u>dorsal</u> , <u>dorsocephalad</u>
<b>dromo-</b>	running, conduction, course	Greek <u>δρόμος</u> ( <i>drómos</i> )	<u>dromotropic</u> , <u>syndrome</u>
<b>duodeno-</b>	twelve	Latin <u>duodeni</u>	<u>duodenal atresia</u> , <u>duodenum</u>
<b>dura-</b>	hard	Latin <u>durus</u>	<u>dura mater</u>
<b>dynam(o)-</b>	force, energy, power	Greek <u>δύναμις</u> ( <i>dúnamis</i> )	hand strength <u>dynamometer</u> , <u>dynamics</u>
<b>-dynia</b>	pain	Greek <u>ὀδύνη</u> ( <i>odúnē</i> )	<u>vulvodynia</u>

<b>dys-</b>	bad, difficult, defective, abnormal	Greek <u>δυσ-</u> ( <i>dus-</i> )	<u>dysentery</u> , <u>dysphagia</u> , <u>dysphasia</u>
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## E

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>-eal</b> (see <u>-al</u> )	pertaining to	English <u>-al</u> , from Latin <u>-ālis</u>	adenohypophyseal, corneal, <u>esophageal</u> , <u>perineal</u>
<b>ec-</b>	out, away	Greek <u>ἐκ</u> ( <i>ek</i> ), out of, from	<u>ectopia</u> , <u>ectopic pregnancy</u>
<b>ect(o)-</b>	outer, outside	Greek <u>ἐκτός</u> ( <i>ektós</i> )	<u>ectoblast</u> , <u>ectoderm</u> , <u>ectoplasm</u>
<b>-ectasia</b> , <b>-ectasis</b>	expansion, <u>dilation</u>	Greek <u>ἐκτασις</u> ( <i>éktasis</i> )	<u>bronchiectasis</u> , <u>telangiectasia</u>
<b>-ectomy</b>	denotes a surgical operation or removal of a body part; resection, excision	Greek <u>ἐκτομή</u> ( <i>ektomé</i> ), excision	<u>mastectomy</u>
<b>-edema</b>	swelling	Greek <u>οἰδημα</u> ( <i>oídēma</i> ), swelling	<u>lymphedema</u> , <u>lipedema</u>
<b>-emesis</b>	<u>vomiting</u> condition	Greek <u>ἔμεσις</u> ( <i>hémesis</i> )	<u>hematemesis</u>
<b>-emia</b>	blood condition (Am. Engl.)	Greek <u>αἷμα</u> ( <i>haîma</i> ), "blood"	<u>anemia</u>
<b>encephal(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the brain; see also <u>cerebro-</u>	Greek <u>ἐγκέφαλος</u> ( <i>enképhalos</i> ), the brain	<u>encephalogram</u>
<b>endo-</b>	denotes something as inside or within	Greek <u>ἐνδον</u> ( <i>éndon</i> ), inside, internal	<u>endocrinology</u> , <u>endospore</u> , <u>endoskeleton</u>
<b>eosin(o)-</b>	having a red color	Greek <u>ἠώς</u> ( <i>ēós</i> ), dawn, daybreak, morning red, goddess of the dawn ( <u>Ἥως</u> , <u>Ἐός</u> )	<u>eosinophil granulocyte</u>
<b>enter(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the intestine	Greek <u>ἔντερον</u> ( <i>énteron</i> ), intestine	<u>gastroenterology</u>
<b>epi-</b>	on, upon	Greek <u>ἐπι-</u> ( <i>epi-</i> ), before, upon, on, outside, outside of	<u>epicardium</u> , <u>epidermis</u> , <u>epidural</u> , <u>episclera</u> , <u>epistaxis</u> , <u>epidemic</u>
<b>episi(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the pubic region, the loins	Greek <u>ἐπίσιον</u> ( <i>epísion</i> ), the pubic area, loins; vulva	<u>episiotomy</u>
<b>erythr(o)-</b>	having a red color	Greek <u>ἐρυθρός</u> ( <i>eruthrós</i> ), red	<u>erythrocyte</u>
<b>-esophageal</b> , <b>-esophago-</b>	gullet (AmE)	Greek <u>οἰσοφάγος</u> ( <i>oisophágos</i> )	<u>esophagus</u>
<b>esthesio-</b>	sensation (AmE)	Greek <u>αἴσθησις</u> ( <i>aísthēsis</i> ), to perceive	<u>esthesioneuroblastoma</u> , <u>esthesia</u>
<b>eu-</b>	true, good, well, normal	<u>εὖ</u> ( <i>eû</i> )	<u>eukaryote</u> , <u>euglycemia</u>
<b>ex-</b>	out of, away from, to remove	Latin <u>ex-</u>	<u>excision</u> , <u>exsanguination</u>



<b>exo-</b>	denotes something as "outside" another	Greek <u>ἔξω</u> ( <i>éxō</i> ), outside of, external	<u>exophthalmos</u> , <u>exoskeleton</u> , <u>exoplanet</u>
<b>extra-</b>	outside	Latin <u>extra</u> , outside of, beyond	<u>extradural hematoma</u> <u>extraordinary</u> , <u>extreme</u>

## F

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>faci-</b>	of or pertaining to the face	Latin <u>faciēs</u> , the face, countenance	<u>facioplegic</u> , <u>facial</u>
<b>fibr-</b>	fiber	Latin <u>fibra</u> , fiber, filament, entrails <sup>[2]</sup>	<u>fibril</u> , <u>fibrin</u> , <u>fibrinous</u> <u>pericarditis</u> , <u>fibroblast</u> , <u>fibrosis</u>
<b>fil-</b>	fine, hair-like	Latin <u>filum</u> , thread	<u>filament</u> , <u>filum terminale</u>
<b>foramen</b>	hole, opening, or aperture, particularly in bone	Latin <u>forāmen</u>	<u>foramen magnum</u>
<b>-form</b>	used to form adjectives indicating "having the form of"	Latin <u>fōrma</u> , form, shape	<u>cruciform</u> , <u>cuneiform</u> , <u>falciform</u>
<b>fore-</b>	before or ahead	Old English <u>fōr(e)-</u> , before, in front of	<u>foregut</u> , <u>foreshadow</u>
<b>fossa</b>	a hollow or depressed area; a trench or channel	Latin <u>fossa</u> , ditch, pit	<u>fossa ovalis</u>
<b>front-</b>	of or pertaining to the forehead	Latin <u>frōns</u> , <u>front-</u> , the forehead	<u>frontonasal</u>

## G

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>galact-</b>	milk	Greek <u>γάλα</u> , <u>γαλακτ-</u> ( <i>gála</i> , <i>galakt-</i> )	<u>galactorrhoea</u> , <u>galaxy</u>
<b>gastr-</b>	of or pertaining to the stomach	Greek <u>γαστήρ</u> , <u>γαστρ-</u> ( <i>gastḗr</i> , <i>gastr-</i> ), stomach, belly	<u>gastroenterology</u> , <u>gastropod</u>
<b>-gen</b>	*born in, from ▪ of a certain kind	Greek <u>-γενής</u> ( <i>-genḗs</i> ), from <u>γεν-νάειν</u> ( <i>gen-náein</i> ), to be born	* <u>endogen</u> ▪ <u>heterogenous</u>
<b>-genic</b>	formative; pertaining to producing	Greek <u>-γενής</u> ( <i>-genḗs</i> )	<u>cardiogenic shock</u>
<b>genu-</b>	of or pertaining to the knee	Latin <u>genū</u> , knee	<u>genu valgum</u>
<b>-geusia</b>	taste	Greek <u>γεῦσις</u> ( <i>geúsis</i> )	<u>ageusia</u> , <u>dysgeusia</u> , <u>hypergeusia</u> , <u>hypogeusia</u> , <u>parageusia</u>
<b>gingiv-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>gums</u>	Latin <u>gingīva</u> , gum	<u>gingivitis</u>
<b>glauc(o)-</b>	Having a grey or bluish-grey colour	Greek <u>γλαυκός</u> ( <i>glaukós</i> ), grey, bluish-grey	<u>glaucoma</u>

<b>gloss(o)-, glott(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>tongue</u>	Greek γλῶσσα, γλῶττα ( <i>glōssa, glōtta</i> ), tongue	<u>glossology</u>
<b>gluco-</b>	sweet	Greek γλυκύς ( <i>glukús</i> ), sweet	<u>glucocorticoid</u> , <u>glucose</u>
<b>glyc-</b>	<u>sugar</u>	Greek γλυκύς ( <i>glukús</i> ), sweet	<u>glycolysis</u>
<b>gnath-</b>	of or pertaining to the jaw	Greek γνάθος ( <i>gnáthos</i> ), jaw	<u>gnathodynamometer</u>
<b>-gnosis</b>	knowledge	Greek γνῶσις ( <i>gnôsis</i> ), inquiry, knowledge	<u>diagnosis</u> , <u>prognosis</u>
<b>gon-</b>	seed, semen; reproductive	Greek γόνος ( <i>gónos</i> ), fruit, seed, procreating	<u>gonorrhea</u>
<b>-gram, -gramme</b>	record or picture	Greek γράμμα ( <i>grámma</i> ), picture, letter, writing	<u>angiogram</u> , <u>gramophone</u>
<b>-graph</b>	instrument used to record data or picture	Greek -γραφία ( <i>-graphía</i> ), written, drawn, graphic interpretation	<u>electrocardiograph</u> , <u>seismograph</u>
<b>-graphy</b>	process of recording	Greek -γραφία ( <i>-graphía</i> ), written, drawn, graphic interpretation	<u>angiography</u>
<b>gyno-, gynaeco- (BrE), gynec- (AmE)</b>	woman	Greek γυνή, γυναίκα ( <i>guné, gunaik</i> )	<u>gynaecology</u> , <u>gynecomastia</u> , <u>gynoecium</u>

## H

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>halluc-</b>	to wander in mind	Latin <i>ālūcinor</i> , to wander in mind	<u>hallucinosis</u> , <u>hallucination</u>
<b>hem(at)-, haem(ato)-</b>	of or pertaining to <u>blood</u>	Latin <i>hæma</i> , from Greek αἷμα, αἱματ- ( <i>grc</i> ), blood	<u>hematology</u> , older form <u>haematology</u>
<b>hema-, hemo-</b>	blood (AmE)	Greek αἷμα, ( <i>grc</i> ), blood	hemal, <u>hemoglobin</u>
<b>hemangi(o)-</b>	blood vessels	Greek αἷμα, ( <i>grc</i> ), blood, + ἀγγεῖον ( <i>angeîon</i> ), vessel, urn	<u>hemangioma</u>
<b>hemi-</b>	one-half	Greek ἥμι- ( <i>hēmi-</i> ), half	<u>cerebral hemisphere</u>
<b>hepat-, hepatic-</b>	of or pertaining to the liver	Greek ἥπαρ, ἥπατ- ( <i>hēpar, ēpat-</i> ), the liver	<u>hepatology</u> , <u>hepatitis</u>
<b>heter(o)-</b>	denotes something as "the other" (of two), as an addition, or different	Greek ἕτερος ( <i>héteros</i> ), the other (of two), another; different	<u>heterogeneous</u>
<b>hidr(o)-</b>	<u>sweat</u>	Greek ἰδρῶς, ἰδρωτ- ( <i>hidrós, hidrôt-</i> ), sweat, perspiration	<u>hyperhidrosis</u>
<b>hist(o)-, histio-</b>	<u>tissue</u>	Greek ἱστός ( <i>histós</i> ), web, tissue	<u>histology</u>
<b>home(o)-</b>	similar	Greek ὁμοῖος ( <i>homoios</i> ), like, resembling, similar	<u>homeopathy</u>
<b>hom(o)-</b>	denotes something as "the same" as another or common	Greek ὁμός ( <i>homós</i> ), the same, common	<u>homosexuality</u> , <u>homozygote</u> , <u>homophobic</u>

<b>humer(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the shoulder (or [rarely] the upper arm)	Latin <i>umerus</i> , shoulder	<u>humerus</u>
<b>hydr(o)-</b>	water	Greek ὑδωρ ( <i>húdōr</i> ), water	<u>hydrophobe</u> , hydrogen
<b>hyper-</b>	extreme or beyond normal	Greek ὑπέρ ( <i>hypér</i> ), over, above; beyond, to the extreme	<u>hypertension</u> , <u>hypertrichosis</u>
<b>hyp(o)-</b>	below normal	Greek ὑπό, ὑπο- ( <i>hypó</i> ), below, under	<u>hypovolemia</u> , <u>hypoxia</u>
<b>hyster(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the womb or the <u>uterus</u>	Greek ὑστέρα ( <i>hustéra</i> ), womb	<u>hysterectomy</u> , <u>hysteria</u>

## I

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>-iasis</b>	condition, formation, or presence of	Latin <i>-iasis</i> , pathological condition or process; from Greek ἰασις ( <i>íasis</i> ), cure, repair, mend	<u>mydriasis</u>
<b>iatr(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to medicine or a physician ( <i>uncommon as a prefix but common as a suffix; see -iatry</i> )	Greek ἰατρός ( <i>iatrós</i> ), healer, physician	<u>iatrochemistry</u> , <u>iatrogenesis</u>
<b>-iatry</b>	denotes a field in medicine emphasizing a certain body component	Greek ἰατρός ( <i>iatrós</i> ), healer, physician	<u>podiatry</u> , <u>psychiatry</u>
<b>-ic</b>	pertaining to	Greek -ικός ( <i>-ikós</i> )	<u>hepatic artery</u>
<b>-ics</b>	organized knowledge, treatment	Latin <i>-icus</i> , collection of related things, theme; cognate with Greek -ικός ( <i>ikós</i> ), of, pertaining to	<u>obstetrics</u>
<b>idio-</b>	self, one's own	Greek ἴδιος ( <i>ídios</i> ), one's own	<u>idiopathic</u>
<b>ileo-</b>	<u>ileum</u>	Greek εἰλεός ( <i>eileós</i> ), to shut in, intestinal obstruction	<u>ileocecal valve</u>
<b>infra-</b>	below	Latin <i>infrā</i> , below	<u>infrahyoid muscles</u>
<b>inter-</b>	between, among	Latin <i>inter</i>	<u>interarticular ligament</u>
<b>intra-</b>	within	Latin <i>intrā</i>	<u>intramural</u>
<b>ipsi-</b>	same	Latin <i>ipsi-</i>	<u>ipsilateral</u>
<b>irid(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>iris</u>	Latin <i>īris</i> , rainbow; from Greek ἴρις ( <i>īris</i> ), rainbow	<u>iridectomy</u>
<b>isch-</b>	restriction	Greek ἴσχω ( <i>ískhō</i> ), hold back, restrain	<u>ischemia</u>
<b>ischio-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>ischium</u> , the hip-joint	Greek ἰσχίον ( <i>iskhíon</i> ), hip-joint, ischium	<u>ischioanal fossa</u>
<b>-ine</b>	of or pertaining to	Latin <i>-inus</i> , of or pertaining to; cognate with Greek -ινος, added to form adjectives relating to material, time, and so on	<u>morphine</u> , masculine/ feminine

<b>-ism</b>	condition, disease	Greek <u>-ισμός</u> ( <i>-ismós</i> ), suffix forming abstract nouns of state, condition, doctrine	<u>dwarfism</u>
<b>-ismus</b>	<u>spasm</u> , contraction	Greek <u>-ισμός</u>	<u>hemiballismus</u>
<b>iso-</b>	denoting something as being equal	Greek <u>ἴσος</u> ( <i>ísos</i> ), equal	<u>isotonic</u>
<b>-ist</b>	one who specializes in	Greek <u>-ιστής</u> ( <i>-istḗs</i> ), agent noun, one who practices	<u>pathologist</u>
<b>-ite</b>	the nature of, resembling	Latin <u>-itēs</u> , those belonging to, from Greek <u>-ίτης</u> ( <i>-itēs</i> )	<u>dendrite</u>
<b>-itis</b>	<u>inflammation</u>	Greek <u>-ίτις</u> ( <i>-ítis</i> ) fem. form of <u>-ίτης</u> ( <i>-itēs</i> ), pertaining to, because it was used with the feminine noun <u>νόσος</u> ( <i>nósos</i> , disease), thus <i>-ítis nósos</i> , disease of the, disease pertaining to	<u>tonsillitis</u>
<b>-ium</b>	structure, tissue	Latin <u>-ium</u> , aggregation or mass of (such as tissue)	<u>pericardium</u>

## J–K

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>juxta-</b>	near to, alongside, or next to	Latin <u>iuxta</u>	<u>juxtaglomerular apparatus</u>
<b>kal-</b>	<u>potassium</u>	New Latin <u>kalium</u> , potassium	<u>hyperkalemia</u>
<b>kary-</b> <sup>[3]</sup>	nucleus	Greek <u>κάρυον</u> ( <i>káruon</i> ), nut	<u>eukaryote</u>
<b>kerat-</b> <sup>[4]</sup>	<u>cornea</u> (eye or skin)	Greek <u>κέρας</u> ( <i>kéras</i> ), horn	<u>keratoscope</u>
<b>kine-</b> <sup>[5]</sup>	movement	Greek <u>κινέω</u> ( <i>kinéō</i> ), to move, to change	<u>akinetopsia</u> , <u>kinesthesia</u>
<b>koil-</b> <sup>[6]</sup>	hollow	Greek <u>κοῖλος</u> ( <i>koîlos</i> )	<u>koilocyte</u>
<b>kyph-</b> <sup>[7]</sup>	humped	Greek <u>κυφός</u> ( <i>kuphós</i> ), bent forward, stooping, hunchbacked	<u>kyphoscoliosis</u>

## L

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>labi-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>lip</u>	Latin <u>labia</u> , <u>labium</u> , lip	<u>labiodental</u>
<b>lacrim(o)-</b>	<u>tear</u>	Latin <u>lacrima</u> , tear from crying	<u>Lacrimal canaliculi</u>
<b>lact(i)-, lact(o)</b>	<u>milk</u>	Latin <u>lac</u> , milk	<u>lactation</u> , <u>lactose</u>
<b>lapar(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the abdominal wall, flank	Greek <u>λαπάρα</u> ( <i>lapára</i> ), flank	<u>laparotomy</u>
<b>laryng(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>larynx</u> , the lower throat cavity where the <u>voice box</u> is	Greek <u>λάρυγξ</u> , ( <i>lárunx</i> ), throat, gullet	<u>larynx</u>

<b>latero-</b>	lateral	Latin <i>laterālis</i> , lateral, of or belonging to the side	<u>lateral pectoral nerve</u>
<b>lei(o)-</b>	smooth	Greek <i>λεῖος (leĩos)</i> , smooth	<u>leiomyoma</u>
<b>-leptosis, -lepsy</b>	attack, <u>seizure</u>	Greek <i>ληψις (lêpsis)</i> , seizure	<u>epilepsy, narcolepsy</u>
<b>lept(o)-</b>	light, slender	Greek <i>λεπτός (leptós)</i> , thin, lean	<u>leptomeningeal</u>
<b>leuc(o)-, leuk(o)-</b>	denoting a white color	Greek <i>λευκός (leukós)</i> , white, bright, pale	<u>leukocyte</u>
<b>lingu(a)-, lingu(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the tongue	Latin <i>lingua</i> , tongue, speech, language	<u>linguistics</u>
<b>lip(o)-</b>	fat	Greek <i>λίπος (lípos)</i> , fat, lard	<u>liposuction</u>
<b>liss(os)-</b>	smooth	Greek <i>Λισσός (Lissós)</i> , smooth	<u>lissencephaly</u>
<b>lith(o)-</b>	<u>stone, calculus</u>	Greek <i>λίθος (líthos)</i>	<u>lithotripsy</u>
<b>log(o)-</b>	speech	Greek <i>λόγος (lógos)</i>	<u>dialog, catalog, logos</u>
<b>-logist</b>	denotes someone who studies a certain field (the field of _____-logy); a specialist; one who treats	Greek <i>λογιστής (logistḗs)</i> , studier, practitioner (lit., accountant)	<u>oncologist, pathologist</u>
<b>-logy</b>	denotes the academic study or practice of a certain field; the study of	Greek <i>-λογία (-logiá)</i> base noun for the study of something	<u>hematology, urology</u>
<b>lumb(o)-, lumb(a)-</b>	of or relating to the part of the trunk between the lowest ribs and the pelvis.	Latin <i>lumbus</i> or <i>lumbaris</i> , loin	<u>lumbar vertebrae</u>
<b>lymph(o)-</b>	<u>lymph</u>	Latin <i>lymphā</i> , water	<u>lymphedema</u>
<b>lys(o)-, -lytic</b>	<u>dissolution</u>	Greek <i>λύσις (lúsis)</i> , loosen, release, + -ic	<u>lysosome</u>
<b>-lysis</b>	destruction, separation	Greek <i>λύσις (lúsis)</i> , loosen, release	<u>paralysis</u>

## M

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>macr(o)-</b>	large, long	Greek <i>μακρός (makrós)</i> , long, tall	<u>macrophage</u>
<b>-malacia</b>	softening	Greek <i>μαλακία (malakía)</i> , soft, weak, self-indulgent	<u>osteomalacia</u>
<b>mamm(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>breast</u>	Latin <i>mamma</i> , breast, udder	<u>mammogram</u>
<b>mammill(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>nipple</u>	Latin <i>mammilla</i> , nipple	<u>mammillaplasty, mammillitis</u>
<b>manu-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>hand</u>	Latin <i>manus</i> , hand	<u>manufacture</u>
<b>mast(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>breast</u>	Greek <i>μαστός (mastós)</i> , breast, woman's breast, man's pectoral muscle	<u>mastectomy</u>

<b>meg(a)-, megal(o)-, -megaly</b>	enlargement, million	Greek μέγας ( <i>mégas</i> ), big, large, great, mighty	<u>splenomegaly</u> , <u>megameter</u>
<b>melan(o)-</b>	having a black color	Greek μέλας, μελανο- ( <i>mélās, melano-</i> ), black, dark	<u>melanin</u>
<b>melos</b>	extremity	Greek μέλος ( <i>mélos</i> ), part of a body, limb, member	<u>erythromelalgia</u>
<b>mening(o)-</b>	<u>membrane</u>	Greek μῆνιγξ ( <i>mêninx</i> )	<u>meninges</u> , <u>meningitis</u>
<b>men-</b>	month, <u>menstrual cycle</u>	Greek μῆν ( <i>mēn</i> ), month	<u>menopause</u> , <u>menorrhagia</u>
<b>mer(o)-</b>	part	Greek μέρος ( <i>méros</i> ), part, component, region	<u>merocrine</u> , <u>meroblastic</u>
<b>mes-</b>	middle	Greek μέσος ( <i>mésos</i> ), middle, between, half	<u>mesoderm</u> , <u>mesothelium</u>
<b>met, meta-</b>	after, beside, beyond or change	Greek μετά ( <i>metá</i> ), with, among, along with, in common with	<u>metacarpal</u> , <u>metacarpus</u> , <u>metacromion</u> , <u>metanephros</u> , <u>metatheria</u>
<b>-meter</b>	instrument used to measure or count	Greek μέτρον ( <i>métron</i> ), measure or property, something used to measure	<u>sphygmomanometer</u> , <u>thermometer</u>
<b>-metry</b>	process of measuring, -meter + -y (see -meter)	Greek μέτρον ( <i>métron</i> )	<u>optometry</u>
<b>metr-</b>	pertaining to conditions or instruments of the <u>uterus</u>	Greek μήτρα ( <i>métrā</i> ), womb, uterus	<u>metrorrhagia</u>
<b>micr-</b>	millionth; denoting something as small, relating to smallness	Greek μικρός ( <i>mikrós</i> ), small	<u>microscope</u>
<b>milli-</b>	thousandth	Latin <i>mille</i> , thousand	<u>milliliter</u>
<b>mon-</b>	single	Greek μονός ( <i>monós</i> )	<u>infectious mononucleosis</u>
<b>morph-</b>	form, shape	Greek μορφή ( <i>morphḗ</i> )	<u>morphology</u>
<b>muscul(o)-</b>	<u>muscle</u>	Latin <i>mūsculus</i> , muscle (lit. mouse-like, due to mouse-shaped appearance of some muscles; loanword from Greek μῦς ( <i>mûs</i> ), mouse, + Latin <i>-culus</i> , diminutive suffix)	<u>musculoskeletal system</u>
<b>my(o)-</b>	of or relating to <u>muscle</u>	Greek μῦς, μυ- ( <i>mûs, mu-</i> ), muscle, mouse, mussel	<u>myoblast</u>
<b>myc(o)-</b>	<u>fungus</u>	Greek μύκης, μυκητ- ( <i>múkēs, mukēt-</i> ), mushroom or fungus	<u>onychomycosis</u>
<b>myel(o)-</b>	of or relating to bone marrow or the <u>spinal cord</u>	Greek μυελός ( <i>muelós</i> ), marrow, bone-marrow	<u>myelin sheath</u> , <u>myeloblast</u>
<b>myl(o)-</b>	of or relating to <u>molar teeth</u> or the lower jaw	Greek μύλη ( <i>múlē</i> , mill, grind, molars)	<u>mylohyoid nerve</u>
<b>myri-</b>	ten thousand	Greek μυρίος ( <i>mūríos</i> ), innumerable, countless, infinite	<u>myriad</u>
<b>myring(o)-</b>	<u>eardrum</u>	Latin <i>myringa</i> , eardrum	<u>myringotomy</u>

<b>myx(o)-</b>	<u>mucus</u>	Greek μύξα ( <i>múxa</i> ), mucus, nasal discharge	<u>myxoma</u>
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## N

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>nan(o)-</b>	dwarf, small	Greek νᾶνος ( <i>nânos</i> ), dwarf	<u>nanogram</u> , <u>nanosecond</u>
<b>narc(o)-</b>	numb, <u>sleep</u>	Greek νάρκη ( <i>nárkē</i> ), numbness, torpor	<u>narcolepsy</u>
<b>nas(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>nose</u>	Latin <u>nāsus</u> , nose	nasal
<b>nat(o)-</b>	birth	Latin <u>nātus</u> , born, arisen, made	<u>neonatology</u>
<b>necr(o)-</b>	death	Greek νεκρός ( <i>nekρός</i> ), dead body, corpse, dying person	<u>necrosis</u> , <u>necrotizing fasciitis</u>
<b>neo-</b>	new	Greek νέος ( <i>néos</i> ), young, youthful, new, fresh	<u>neoplasm</u>
<b>nephr(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>kidney</u>	Greek νεφρός ( <i>nephrós</i> ), kidney	<u>nephrology</u>
<b>nerv-</b>	of or pertaining to nerves and the <u>nervous system</u> ( <i>uncommon as a root: neuro- mostly always used</i> )	Latin <u>nervus</u> , tendon, nerve; cognate with Greek νεῦρον ( <i>neûron</i> ), tendon, string, nerve	<u>nerve</u> , <u>nervous system</u>
<b>neur-</b>	of or pertaining to nerves and the <u>nervous system</u>	Greek νεῦρον ( <i>neûron</i> ), tendon, sinew, nerve	<u>neurofibromatosis</u>
<b>noci-</b>	pain, <u>injury</u> , hurt	Latin <u>noceō</u>	<u>nociception</u>
<b>norm-, normo-</b>	normal	Latin <u>nōrma</u> , norm or standard; lit. carpenter's square	<u>normocapnia</u>

## O

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>ocul-</b>	of or pertaining to the eye	Latin <u>oculus</u> , the eye	<u>Oculist</u>
<b>odont-</b>	of or pertaining to <u>teeth</u>	Greek ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- ( <i>odoús, odont-</i> ), tooth	<u>orthodontist</u>
<b>odyn-</b>	pain	Greek ὀδύνη ( <i>odúnē</i> )	stomatodynia
<b>-oesophageal, oesophago-</b> (BrE)	gullet	Greek οἰσοφάγος ( <i>oisophágos</i> )	oesophagus
<b>-oid</b>	resemblance to	Greek -ειδής ( <i>-eidḗs</i> ), like, connected to, pertaining to	<u>Sarcoidosis</u>
<b>ole</b>	small or little	Latin <u>-olus</u> , suffix to form a diminutive of the noun	<u>arteriole</u>

<b>olig-</b>	having little, having few	Greek <u>ὀλίγος</u> ( <i>olígos</i> ), few	<u>oligotrophy</u>
<b>om(o)-</b>	shoulder	Greek <u>ὤμος</u> ( <i>ômos</i> ), shoulder	<u>omoplate</u>
<b>-oma</b> (singular), <b>-omata</b> (plural)	tumor, mass, fluid collection	Greek <u>-μα</u> ( <i>-ma</i> ), suffix added to verbs to form nouns indicating the result of a process or action; cf. English <u>-tion</u>	<u>sarcoma</u> , <u>teratoma</u> , <u>mesothelioma</u>
<b>omphal(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the navel, the <u>umbilicus</u>	Greek <u>ὀμφαλός</u> ( <i>omphalós</i> ), navel, belly-button	<u>omphalotomy</u>
<b>onco-</b>	tumor, bulk, volume	Greek <u>ὄγκος</u> ( <i>ónkos</i> )	<u>oncology</u>
<b>-one</b>			<u>hormone</u>
<b>onych(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the nail (of a finger or toe)	Greek <u>ὄνυξ</u> , <u>ὄνυχο-</u> ( <i>ónux</i> , <i>onukho-</i> ), nail; claw; talon	<u>onychophagy</u>
<b>oo-</b>	of or pertaining to an (egg), a woman's egg, the ovum	Greek <u>ὠόν</u> , <u>ὠο-</u> ( <i>oión</i> , <i>oio-</i> ), egg, ovum	<u>oogenesis</u>
<b>oophor(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the woman's (ovary)	Neoclassical Greek <u>ὠοφόρον</u> ( <i>oiophóron</i> ), ovary, egg-bearing	<u>oophorectomy</u>
<b>ophthalm(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the (eye)	Greek <u>ὀφθαλμός</u> ( <i>ophthalmós</i> ), the eye	<u>ophthalmology</u>
<b>opistho-</b>	back, behind, rear <sup>[8]</sup>	Greek <u>ὀπίσθεν</u> ( <i>ó pisthen</i> ), behind, at the back	<u>opisthotonus</u>
<b>-opsy</b>	examination or inspection	Greek <u>ὄψις</u> ( <i>ópsis</i> ), view	<u>biopsy</u> , <u>autopsy</u>
<b>optic(o)-</b>	of or relating to chemical properties of the <u>eye</u>	Middle French <i>optique</i> ; from Greek <u>ὀπτικός</u> ( <i>optikós</i> ); cognate with Latin <i>oculus</i> , relating to the eye	<u>opticochemical</u> , <u>biopsy</u>
<b>or(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the mouth	Latin <u>ōs</u> , <i>ōris</i> , mouth	<u>oral</u>
<b>-or</b>	one who, agent noun-forming suffix	generally appended where Latin would do it—to the root of a Latin-type perfect passive participle. Cf. <u>-er</u>	doctor
<b>orchi(o)-, orchid(o)-, orch(o)-</b>	<u>testis</u>	Greek <u>ὄρχις</u> ( <i>órkhis</i> ), testicle, ovary	<u>orchiectomy</u> , <u>orchidectomy</u>
<b>orth(o)-</b>	denoting something as straight or correct	Greek <u>ὀρθός</u> ( <i>orthós</i> ), straight, correct, normal	<u>orthodontist</u>
<b>-osis</b>	a condition, disease, process or increase	Greek <u>-ωσις</u> ( <i>-ōsis</i> ), state, abnormal condition, action	Harlequin type <u>ichthyosis</u> , <u>psychosis</u> , <u>osteoporosis</u> , <u>phagocytosis</u>
<b>ossi-, osse-</b>	<u>bone</u> , bony	Latin <u>os</u> , bone	peripheral ossifying <u>fibroma</u> , <u>osseous</u>
<b>ost(e)-, oste(o)-</b>	bone	Greek <u>ὀστέον</u> ( <i>ostéon</i> ), bone	<u>osteoporosis</u> , <u>osteoarthritis</u>



<b>ot(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>ear</u>	Greek οὖς, ὠτ- ( <i>oûs, ôt-</i> ), the ear	<u>otology</u>
<b>-ous</b>	pertaining to	Latin <i>-ōsus</i> , full of, prone to	<u>porous</u>
<b>ovari(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the ovaries	Latin <i>ōvarium</i> , <u>ovary</u>	<u>ovariectomy</u>
<b>ovo-, ovi-, ov-</b>	of or pertaining to the eggs, the <u>ovum</u>	Latin <i>ōvum</i> , egg, ovum	<u>ovogenesis</u>
<b>oxo-, ox/i</b>	addition of <u>oxygen</u>		
<b>oxy-</b>	sharp, acid, acute; <u>oxygen</u>	borrowed from French <i>oxygène</i> (originally <i>principe oxigine</i> , 'acidifying principle', referring to oxygen's role in the formation of acids, from Greek ὀξύς ( <i>oxús</i> ), sharp, pointed + γένος ( <i>génos</i> ), birth)	<u>oxytocin</u> , <u>oxygenated</u> , <u>oxycodone</u>

## P

<b>Affix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Origin language and etymology</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>pachy-</b>	thick	Greek παχύς ( <i>pakhús</i> ), thick, large, stout	<u>pachyderma</u> , <u>pachyderm</u>
<b>-pagus</b>	Indicates <u>conjoined twins</u> , with the first part denoting the organs fused	Greek πάγος ( <i>págos</i> ), fixed, set, fastened	<u>xiphopagus</u> , <u>parapagus dicephalus</u> , <u>craniopagus parasiticus</u>
<b>palpebr-</b>	of or pertaining to the eyelid ( <i>uncommon as a root</i> )	Latin <i>palpebra</i> , eyelid	<u>palpebra</u>
<b>pan-, pant(o)-</b>	denoting something as 'complete' or containing 'everything'; "all"	Greek πᾶς, παν- ( <i>pâs, pan-</i> ), all, every	<u>panophobia</u> , <u>panopticon</u> , <u>pancytopenia</u> (deficiency in all blood cell types - erythrocytes, leukocytes, thrombocytes) <sup>[9]</sup>
<b>papill-</b>	of or pertaining to the nipple (of the chest/breast)	Latin <i>papilla</i> , nipple; diminutive of <i>papula</i> (see below)	<u>papillitis</u>
<b>papul(o)-</b>	Indicates <u>papulosity</u> , a small elevation or swelling in the skin, a pimple, swelling	Latin <i>papula</i> , pimple, pustle; a small elevation or swelling in the skin	<u>papulation</u>
<b>para-</b>	alongside of	Greek παρά ( <i>pará</i> )	<u>paracysis</u>
<b>-paresis</b>	slight <u>paralysis</u>	Greek πάρεσις ( <i>páresis</i> )	<u>hemiparesis</u>
<b>parvo-</b>	small	Latin <i>parvus</i> , small, little, unimportant	<u>Parvovirus</u>
<b>path(o)-</b>	disease	Greek πάθος ( <i>páthos</i> ), pain, suffering, condition	<u>Pathology</u>
<b>-pathy</b>	denotes (with a negative sense) a disease, or disorder	Greek πάθος ( <i>páthos</i> ), suffering, accident	<u>sociopathy</u> , <u>neuropathy</u>

<b>pauci-</b>	Few	Latin <i>paucus</i>	<u>Pauci-immune</u>
<b>pector-</b>	breast or chest	Latin <i>pectus</i>	<u>pectoralgia</u> , <u>pectoriloquy</u> , <u>pectorophony</u>
<b>ped-, -ped-, -pes</b>	of or pertaining to the foot; -footed	Latin <i>pēs, pēd-</i> , foot	<u>Pedoscope</u>
<b>ped-, pedo-</b>	of or pertaining to the child	Greek <i>παῖς, παιδός (paîs, paidós)</i> , child	<u>pediatrics</u> . <u>pedophilia</u>
<b>pelv(i)-, pelv(o)-</b>	hip bone	Latin <i>pelvis</i> , basin	<u>Pelvis</u>
<b>-penia</b>	deficiency	Greek <i>πενίᾱ</i> , poverty, indigence	<u>osteopenia</u>
<b>peo-</b>	of or pertaining to the penis	Greek <i>πέος (péos)</i>	<u>Peotomy</u>
<b>-pepsia</b>	denotes something relating to digestion, or the digestive tract.	Greek <i>πεπτός (peptós)</i> , cooked, digested < <i>πέσσω (péssō)</i> , I boil, cook; digest	<u>dyspepsia</u>
<b>per-</b>	through	Latin <i>per</i> , through, by means of	<u>percutaneous</u>
<b>peri-</b>	denoting something with a position 'surrounding' or 'around' another	Greek <i>περί (perî)</i> , around, about, concerning	<u>periodontal</u>
<b>-pexy</b>	fixation	Greek <i>πῆξις (pêxis)</i> , fixing in place, fastening	<u>nephropexy</u>
<b>phaco-</b>	lens-shaped	Greek <i>φακός (phakós)</i> , lentil-bean	<u>phacolysis</u> , <u>phacometer</u> , <u>phacoscotoma</u>
<b>-phagia, -phage</b>	Forms terms denoting conditions relating to eating or ingestion	Greek <i>φαγία (phagía)</i> eating < <i>φαγεῖν (phageîn)</i> , to eat	<u>Sarcophagia</u>
<b>-phago-</b>	eating, devouring	Greek <i>-φάγος (-phágos)</i> , eater of, eating	<u>phagocyte</u>
<b>phagist-</b>	Forms nouns that denote a person who 'feeds on' the first element or part of the word	Greek <i>φαγιστής (phagistḗs)</i> eater; see <i>-phagia</i>	<u>Lotophagi</u>
<b>-phagy</b>	Forms nouns that denotes 'feeding on' the first element or part of the word	Greek <i>φαγία (phagia)</i> eating; see <i>-phagia</i>	<u>hematophagy</u>
<b>phall-</b>	<u>phallus</u>	Greek <i>φαλλός (phallós)</i> , penis	<u>Aphallia</u>
<b>pharmac-</b>	drug, medication	Greek <i>φάρμακον (phármakon)</i> , witchcraft, drug	<u>pharmacology</u>
<b>pharyng-</b>	of or pertaining to the pharynx, the upper throat cavity	Greek <i>φάρυγξ, φαρυγγ- (phárunx, pharung-)</i> , throat, windpipe; chasm	<u>pharyngitis</u> , <u>pharyngoscopy</u>
<b>-phil(ia)</b>	attraction for	Greek <i>φιλίᾱ (philíā)</i> , friendship, love, affection	<u>hemophilia</u>
<b>phleb-</b>	of or pertaining to the (blood) veins, a vein	Greek <i>φλέψ, φλεβ- (phléps, phleb-)</i> , blood-vessel, vein	<u>phlebography</u> , <u>phlebotomy</u>
<b>-phobia</b>	exaggerated fear, sensitivity, aversion	Greek <i>φόβος (phóbos)</i> , terror, fear, flight, panic	<u>arachnophobia</u>

<b>phon-</b>	sound	Greek <u>φωνή</u> ( <i>phōnē</i> )	phonograph, symphony
<b>phos-</b>	of or pertaining to light or its chemical properties, now historic and used rarely. See the common root <b>phot-</b> below.	Greek <u>φῶς</u> , <u>φᾶος</u> , <u>φωτ-</u> ( <i>phōs</i> , <i>phāos</i> ), light	<u>phosphene</u>
<b>phot-</b>	of or pertaining to light	Greek <u>φωτω-</u> ( <i>phōtō-</i> ), < <u>φῶς</u> ( <i>phōs</i> ), light	<u>photopathy</u>
<b>phren-, phrenic-</b>	the mind	Greek <u>φρήν</u> ( <i>phrēn</i> ), intellect, wits, mind	<u>phrenic nerve</u> , <u>schizophrenia</u>
<b>phyllo-</b>	leaf-like	Greek <u>φύλλον</u> ( <i>phúllon</i> ), leaf, foliage, plant	<u>phyllodes tumour</u> , <u>phyllotaxis</u>
<b>-phyte, phyto-</b>	to grow	Greek <u>φυτόν</u> ( <i>phutón</i> ), plant, tree	<u>hydrophyte</u>
<b>pia</b>	soft	Medieval Latin <i>pia mater</i> , tender mother, from Latin <i>pia</i> , <i>pious</i> , pious, dutiful, good	<u>pia mater</u>
<b>piri-</b>	Pear	Latin <i>pirum</i> , cognate with Greek <u>ἄπιον</u> ( <i>ápiōn</i> ), pear	<u>Piriformis muscle</u>
<b>-plasia</b>	formation, development	Greek <u>πλάσις</u> ( <i>plásis</i> ), moulding, conformation	<u>Achondroplasia</u>
<b>-plasty</b>	surgical repair, reconstruction	Greek <u>πλαστός</u> ( <i>plastós</i> ), molded, formed	<u>rhinoplasty</u>
<b>-plegia</b>	paralysis	Greek <u>πληγή</u> ( <i>plēgē</i> ), stroke (from a sword), from <u>πληγῆ</u> ( <i>plēgē</i> ), to strike or smite	<u>paraplegia</u>
<b>pleio-</b>	more, excessive, multiple	Greek <u>πλεῖον</u> ( <i>pleíōn</i> ), more	<u>pleiomorphism</u>
<b>pleur-</b>	of or pertaining to the ribs	Greek <u>πλευρά</u> ( <i>pleurá</i> ), rib, side of the body	<u>Pleurogenous</u>
<b>-plexy</b>	stroke or seizure	Greek <u>πλήσσω</u> , <u>πλήσσειν</u> ( <i>pléssō</i> , <i>pléssein</i> ), to strike or smite	<u>Cataplexy</u>
<b>pne-, pneum-</b>	air, breath, lung	Greek <u>πνεῖν</u> ( <i>pneîn</i> ), <u>πνεῦμα</u> , <u>πνεύματος</u> ( <i>pneûma</i> , <i>pneûmatos</i> ), <u>πνεύμων</u> ( <i>pneûmōn</i> )	<u>apnea</u> , <u>pneumatology</u> , <u>pneumonocyte</u> , <u>pneumonia</u>
<b>pod-, -pod-, -pus</b>	of or pertaining to the foot, -footed	Greek <u>πούς</u> , <u>ποδ-</u> ( <i>poús</i> , <i>pod-</i> ), foot	<u>podiatry</u>
<b>-poiesis</b>	production	Greek <u>ποίησις</u> ( <i>poiēsis</i> ), poetry, poem, creation	<u>hematopoiesis</u>
<b>polio-</b>	having a grey color	Greek <u>πολιός</u> ( <i>poliós</i> ), grey, grizzled	<u>poliomyelitis</u>
<b>poly-</b>	denotes a 'plurality' of something	Greek <u>πολύς</u> ( <i>polús</i> ), many, a lot of, large, great	<u>polymyositis</u>
<b>por-</b>	pore, porous	Greek <u>πόρος</u> ( <i>poros</i> ), passage, passageway	pore
<b>porphyr-</b>	denotes a purple color	Greek <u>πορφύρα</u> ( <i>porphúra</i> ), Tyrian purple, royal purple	<u>porphyroblast</u>

<b>post-</b>	denotes something as 'after (time)' or 'behind (space)' another	Latin <i>post</i> , after, behind	<u>postoperation</u> , <u>postmortem</u>
<b>pre-</b>	denotes something as 'before' another (in [physical] position or time)	Middle English <i>pre-</i> , from Medieval Latin <i>pre-</i> < (Classical) Latin <i>prae-</i> , before, in front of	<u>premature birth</u>
<b>presby-</b>	old age	Greek <u>πρέσβυς</u> ( <i>présbus</i> ), old man, elder	<u>presbyopia</u> , <u>presbycusis</u> <sup>[10]</sup>
<b>prim-</b>	denotes something as 'first' or 'most-important'	Latin <i>primus</i> , first, most important	primary
<b>pro-</b>	denotes something as 'before' another (in [physical] position or time)	Greek <u>πρό-</u> ( <i>pró-</i> ), before, in front of	<u>procephalic</u>
<b>proct-</b>	<u>anus</u> , <u>rectum</u>	Greek <u>πρωκτός</u> ( <i>prōktós</i> ), anus	<u>proctology</u>
<b>prosop-</b>	<u>face</u>	Greek <u>πρόσωπον</u> ( <i>prósōpon</i> ), face, visage, mask	<u>prosopagnosia</u>
<b>prot-</b>	denotes something as 'first' or 'most important'	Greek <u>πρωτος</u> ( <i>prōtos</i> ), first; principal, most important	<u>protoneuron</u>
<b>pseud-</b>	denotes something false or fake	Greek <u>ψεύδω</u> ( <i>pseúdō</i> ), to lie or deceive	<u>pseudoephedrine</u>
<b>psor-</b>	Itching	Greek <u>ψώρα</u> ( <i>psōra</i> ), itch, mange, scurvy	<u>psoriasis</u>
<b>psych-</b>	of or pertaining to the mind	Greek <u>ψυχή</u> ( <i>psukhē</i> ), breath, life, soul	<u>psychology</u> , <u>psychiatry</u>
<b>ptero-, ptery-</b>	Pertaining to a wing; 'pterygo-', wing-shaped	Greek <u>πτερόν</u> ( <i>pterón</i> ), wing, feather	<u>lateral pterygoid plate</u>
<b>-ptosis</b>	falling, drooping, downward placement, prolapse	Greek <u>πτῶσις</u> ( <i>ptōsis</i> ), falling	<u>apoptosis</u> , <u>nephroptosis</u>
<b>-ptyal-, ptyalo</b>	saliva, salivary glands, sialaden		<u>ptyalolithiasis</u>
<b>-ptysis</b>	spitting	Greek <u>πτύω</u> ( <i>ptūō</i> ), to spit up, disgorge; + <u>-σις</u> ( <i>-sis</i> ), added to verb stems to form abstract nouns or nouns of action, result or process	hemoptysis, the spitting of blood derived from the lungs or bronchial tubes
<b>pulmon-, pulmo-</b>	of or relating to the <u>lungs</u>	Latin <i>pulmō</i> , a lung	pulmonary
<b>py-</b>	<u>pus</u>	Greek <u>πύον</u> ( <i>pyōn</i> ), pus	<u>pyometra</u>
<b>pyel-</b>	<u>pelvis</u>	Greek <u>πέλος</u> ( <i>pyēlos</i> ), pelvis, wash basin	<u>pyelonephritis</u>
<b>pykno-</b>	to thicken (as the nucleus does in early stages of cell death)	Greek <u>πύκνωσις</u> ( <i>pyknōsis</i> ), thickening	<u>pyknosis</u>
<b>pylor-</b>	gate	Greek <u>πυλωρός</u> ( <i>pylōrós</i> ), gate keeper; lower orifice of the stomach	<u>pyloric sphincter</u>
<b>pyr-</b>	<u>fever</u>	Greek <u>πῦρ</u> , <u>πυρετός</u> ( <i>pyr, puretós</i> ), fire, heat, fever	<u>antipyretic</u>

## Q–R

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>quadr(i)-</b>	four	Latin <i>quattuor</i>	<u>quadriceps</u>
<b>radi-</b>	radiation	Latin <i>radiō</i> , I radiate, emit beams; from <i>radius</i> , ray of light, spoke of a wheel	<u>radiowave</u>
<b>radic-</b>	referring to the beginning, or the root, of a structure, usually a nerve or a vein	Latin <i>rādīx</i> , root	<u>radiculopathy</u>
<b>re-</b>	again, back	Latin <i>re-</i>	<u>relapse</u>
<b>rect-</b>	<u>rectum</u>	abbr. of New Latin <i>rectum intestinum</i> ('straight intestine') < Latin <i>rēctus</i> , straight	<u>rectal</u> , <u>rectum</u> , <u>rectus femoris</u>
<b>ren(o)</b>	of or pertaining to the kidney	Latin <i>rēn</i> , <i>rēnes</i> , kidney	<u>renal</u>
<b>reticul(o)-</b>	net	Latin <i>rētīculum</i>	<u>reticulocyte</u>
<b>retro-</b>	backward, behind	Latin <i>retro</i>	<u>retroversion</u> , <u>retroverted</u>
<b>rhabd(o)-</b>	rod shaped, striated	Greek <i>ῥάβδος</i> ( <i>rhábdos</i> ), wand, stick, stripe	<u>rhabdomyolysis</u>
<b>rhachi(o)-</b>	<u>spine</u>	Greek <i>ῥάχις</i> ( <i>rhákhis</i> ), spine or backbone	<u>rachial</u> , <u>rachialgia</u> , <u>rachidian</u> , <u>rachiopathy</u>
<b>rhin(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the nose	Greek <i>ῥίς</i> , <i>ῥίνο-</i> ( <i>rhís</i> , <i>rhīno-</i> ), nose	<u>rhinoceros</u> , <u>rhinoplasty</u>
<b>rhod(o)-</b>	denoting a rose-red color	Greek <i>ῥόδον</i> ( <i>rhódon</i> ), rose	<u>rhodophyte</u>
<b>-rrhage, -rrhagia</b>	burst forth, rapid flow (of blood, usually)	Greek <i>-ραγία</i> ( <i>-ragía</i> ), to break, to burst	<u>hemorrhage</u> , <u>menorrhagia</u>
<b>-rrhaphy</b>	surgical suturing	Greek <i>ῥαφή</i> ( <i>rhapḗ</i> )	<u>hymenorrhaphy</u> , <u>neurorrhaphy</u>
<b>-rrhea (AmE)</b>	flowing, discharge	Greek <i>ῥοία</i> ( <i>rhoiá</i> ), flow, flux	<u>galactorrhoea</u> , <u>diarrhea</u>
<b>-rrhexis</b>	rupture	Greek <i>ῥήξις</i> ( <i>rhêxis</i> ), breaking, bursting, discharge	<u>karyorrhesis</u>
<b>-rrhoea (BrE)</b>	flowing, discharge	Greek <i>ῥοία</i> ( <i>rhoiá</i> ), flow, flux	<u>diarrhoea</u>
<b>rubr(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the red nucleus of the brain	Latin <i>ruber</i> , red	<u>rubrospinal</u>
<b>-rupt</b>	break or burst	Latin <i>rumpō</i>	<u>erupt</u> , <u>interrupt</u>

## S

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>salping(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to tubes, e.g. <u>fallopian tubes</u>	Greek <i>σάλπιγξ</i> , <i>σαλπιγγ-</i> , ( <i>sálpinx</i> , <i>salping-</i> ), trumpet	<u>salpingectomy</u> , <u>salpingopharyngeus muscle</u>
<b>sangui-, sanguine-</b>	of or pertaining to blood	Latin <i>sanguis</i> , blood	<u>sanguine</u>

<b>sapro-</b>	relating to putrefaction or decay	Greek <u>σαπρός</u> ( <i>saprós</i> ), rotten, putrid	saprogenic
<b>sarco-</b>	muscular, flesh-like	Greek <u>σάρξ</u> ( <i>sárx</i> ), flesh	sarcoma, <u>sarcoidosis</u>
<b>scapul(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>scapula</u>	Latin ( <i>scapula</i> ), shoulder	scapulothoracic, <u>facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy</u>
<b>schist(o)-</b>	split, cleft	Greek <u>σχίστος</u> ( <i>skhistós</i> ), cloven, divided	<u>schistocyte</u>
<b>schiz(o)-</b>	denoting something "split" or "double-sided"	Greek <u>σχίζω</u> ( <i>skhízō</i> ), I split, cleave, part; irregular formation of the verb <u>σχίζειν</u> ( <i>skhízein</i> ), to cut, split	<u>schizophrenia</u>
<b>scler(o)-</b>	hard	Greek <u>σκληρός</u> ( <i>sklērós</i> )	<u>scleroderma</u>
<b>-sclerosis</b>	hardening	Greek <u>σκληρός</u> ( <i>sklērós</i> ), hard, harden; + <u>-σίς</u> ( <i>-sis</i> ), added to verb stems to form abstract nouns or nouns of action, result or process	<u>atherosclerosis</u> , <u>multiple sclerosis</u>
<b>scoli(o)-</b>	twisted	Greek <u>σκολιός</u> ( <i>skoliós</i> ), curved, bent	<u>scoliosis</u>
<b>-scope</b>	instrument for viewing	Greek <u>σκόπος</u> ( <i>skópos</i> ), watcher	<u>stethoscope</u>
<b>-scopy</b>	process of viewing	Greek <u>σκοπέω</u> ( <i>skopéō</i> ), to look at, behold, examine	<u>endoscopy</u>
<b>scoto-</b>	darkness	Greek <u>σκότος</u> ( <i>skótos</i> )	<u>scotopic vision</u>
<b>semi-</b>	one-half, partly	Latin <u>semi-</u>	semiconscious
<b>sial(o)-</b>	<u>saliva</u> , <u>salivary gland</u>	Latin <u>salīva</u> , saliva.	<u>sialagogue</u>
<b>sigmoid(o)-</b>	sigmoid, S-shaped curvature	Greek <u>σιγμοειδής</u> ( <i>sigmoeidés</i> ), crescent-shaped, lunate sigma-shaped	<u>sigmoid colon</u>
<b>sinistr(o)-</b>	left, left side	Latin <u>sinister</u>	<u>sinistocardia</u>
<b>sinus-</b>	of or pertaining to the sinus	Latin <u>sinus</u> , a curve, bend, hollow cavity, bosom	<u>sinusitis</u>
<b>sito-</b>	food, grain	Greek <u>σίτος</u> ( <i>sítos</i> )	<u>sitophobia</u>
<b>somat(o)-, somatico-</b>	body, bodily	Greek <u>σῶμα</u> ( <i>sōma</i> )	somatic
<b>somn(o)</b>	Sleep	Latin <u>somnus</u> , sleep, drowsiness	<u>insomniac</u> <sup>[11]</sup>
<b>-spadias</b>	slit, fissure	Greek <u>σπάω</u> ( <i>spáō</i> ), break, split	<u>hypospadias</u> , <u>epispadias</u>
<b>spasmo-</b>	<u>spasm</u>	Greek <u>σπασμός</u> ( <i>spasmós</i> )	<u>Spasmodic dysphonia</u>
<b>sperma-, spermo-, spermato-</b>	<u>semen</u> , <u>spermatozoa</u>	Greek <u>σπέρμα</u> ( <i>spérma</i> ), seed, semen	<u>spermatogenesis</u>
<b>splanchn(i)-, splanchn(o)-</b>	<u>viscera</u>	Greek <u>σπλάγχνον</u> ( <i>splánkhnon</i> ), bowels, guts	<u>splanchnology</u>
<b>splen(o)-</b>	<u>spleen</u>	Greek <u>σπλήν</u> , <u>σπλην-</u> ( <i>splén</i> , <i>splén-</i> ), spleen, milt	<u>splenectomy</u>
<b>spondyl(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the spine, the <u>vertebra</u>	Greek <u>σπόνδυλος</u> / <u>σπόνδυλος</u> ( <i>sphóndulos</i> , <i>spóndulos</i> ), the spine	<u>spondylitis</u>

<b>squamos(o)-</b>	denoting something as "full of scales" or "scaly"	Latin <i>squāmōsus</i> , full of scales, scaly	<u>squamous cell</u>
<b>-stalsis</b>	contraction	Greek <i>στέλλω (stéllō)</i> , I dispatch, place, set	<u>peristalsis</u>
<b>-stasis</b>	stopping, standing	Greek <i>στάσις (stásis)</i> , to stand, place, set	<u>cytostasis</u> , <u>homeostasis</u>
<b>-statin</b>	maintain cholesterol	Latin ( <i>stare</i> ), to remain or instill	<u>Statin</u>
<b>-staxis</b>	dripping, trickling	Greek <i>στάζω, στακτός (stázō, staktós)</i> , drip, leak, trickle	<u>epistaxis</u>
<b>sten(o)-</b>	denoting something as narrow in shape or pertaining to narrowness	Greek <i>στενός (stenós)</i> , narrow, short	<u>stenography</u>
<b>-stenosis</b>	abnormal narrowing of a blood vessel or other tubular organ or structure	Greek <i>στενός (stenós)</i> , narrow, short; + <i>-σις (-sis)</i> , added to verb stems to form abstract nouns or nouns of action, result or process	<u>restenosis</u> , <u>stenosis</u>
<b>steth-</b>	of or pertaining to the upper chest, the area above the breast and under the neck	Greek <i>στήθος (stêthos)</i> , chest, cuirass	<u>stethoscope</u>
<b>stheno-</b>	strength, force, power	Greek <i>σθένος (sthénos)</i>	
<b>stom-, stomat-</b>	of or pertaining to the mouth; an artificially created opening <sup>[12]</sup>	Greek <i>στόμα, στοματ- (stóma, stomat-)</i> , mouth	<u>stomatogastric</u> , <u>stomatognathic system</u>
<b>-stomy</b>	creation of an opening	New Latin <i>stoma</i> , opening; from Greek <i>στόμα (stóma)</i>	<u>colostomy</u>
<b>sub-</b>	beneath, under	Latin <i>sub</i>	<u>subcutaneous tissue</u>
<b>super-</b>	in excess, above, superior	Latin <i>super</i>	<u>superior vena cava</u>
<b>supra-</b>	above, excessive	Latin <i>supra</i>	<u>supraorbital vein</u>
<b>sy, syl-, sym-, syn-, sys-</b>	indicates similarity, likeness, or being together; assimilates before some consonants: before / to <b>syl-</b> , s to <b>sys-</b> , before a labial consonant to <b>sym-</b>	Greek <i>σύν- (sun-)</i> , with, together	<u>symptom</u> , <u>synalgia</u> , <u>synesthesia</u> , <u>syssarcosis</u>

## T

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>tachy-</b>	denoting something as fast, irregularly fast	Greek <i>ταχύς (takhús)</i> , fast, quickly	<u>tachycardia</u> , <u>tachypnea</u>
<b>-tension, -tensive</b>	<u>pressure</u>	Latin <i>tēnsiō</i> , stretching, extension, tension	<u>hypertension</u>
<b>terato-</b>	Monster	Greek <i>τέρας (téras)</i>	<u>teratoma</u> , <u>teratogen</u>
<b>tetan-</b>	rigid, tense	Greek <i>τέτανος (téтанος)</i>	<u>tetanus</u>

<b>thec-</b>	case, <u>sheath</u>	Greek <u>θήκη</u> ( <i>thékē</i> )	<u>intrathecal</u>
<b>thel-</b>	of or pertaining to a nipple ( <i>uncommon as a prefix</i> )	Greek <u>θηλή</u> ( <i>thēlḗ</i> ), a teat, nipple	<u>Theleplasty</u> , <u>thelarche</u>
<b>thely-</b>	denoting something as relating to a woman, feminine	Greek <u>θηλύς</u> ( <i>thēlus</i> ), female, feminine	<u>Thelygenous</u>
<b>therap-</b>	treatment	Greek <u>θεραπεία</u> ( <i>therapeiā</i> )	<u>hydrotherapy</u> , <u>therapeutic</u>
<b>therm(o)-</b>	heat	Greek <u>θερμός</u> ( <i>thermós</i> )	<u>hypothermia</u> , <u>thermoregulation</u>
<b>thorac(i)-, thorac(o)-, thoracico-</b>	of or pertaining to the upper chest, chest; the area above the breast and under the neck	Latin <u>thōrāx</u> < Greek <u>θώραξ</u> ( <i>thōrāx</i> ), chest, cuirass	<u>thoracic spine</u> , <u>thorax</u>
<b>thromb(o)-</b>	of or relating to a blood clot, clotting of blood	Greek <u>θρόμβος</u> ( <i>thrómbos</i> ), lump, piece, clot of blood	<u>thrombus</u> , <u>thrombocytopenia</u>
<b>thyr(o)-</b>	<u>thyroid</u>	Greek <u>θυρεός</u> ( <i>thureós</i> ), large oblong shield; + <u>εἶδος</u> ( <i>eîdos</i> ), a form or shape	
<b>thym-</b>	emotions	Greek <u>θυμός</u> ( <i>thūmós</i> ), spirit, soul; courage; breath, mind, emotions	<u>dysthymia</u>
<b>-tic</b>	pertaining to	Greek <u>-τικός</u> ( <i>-tikós</i> ), adjective-forming suffix denoting: relating to, able to, suited to	
<b>-tide</b>	bound to, forming a noun from an adjective by dropping -ic and adding -tide.	Greek <u>-πεπτός</u> ( <i>-peptós</i> ), adjective-forming suffix denoting: bound to, relating to, able to, suited to	<u>Glycopeptide</u> <u>Nucleotide</u> <u>Peptide</u>
<b>toco-</b>	childbirth	Greek <u>τόκος</u> ( <i>tókos</i> )	<u>tocolytic</u> , <u>dystocia</u>
<b>-tome</b>	cutting instrument	Greek <u>τομή</u> ( <i>tomḗ</i> ), intersection	<u>osteotome</u>
<b>-tomy</b>	act of cutting; incising, incision	Greek <u>τομία</u> ( <i>-tomía</i> )	<u>Gastrotomy</u> , <u>Phlebotomy</u>
<b>ton-</b>	tone, tension, pressure	Greek <u>τόνος</u> ( <i>tónos</i> ), rope, cord; tension	<u>Tonicity</u> , <u>Isotonic saline</u>
<b>-tony</b>	tension	Greek <u>-τονία</u> ( <i>-tonía</i> )	<u>Hypotonia</u>
<b>top(o)-</b>	place, topical	Greek <u>τόπος</u> ( <i>tópos</i> )	<u>Topical anesthetic</u>
<b>tort(i)-</b>	twisted	Latin <u>tortus</u>	<u>Torticollis</u> , <u>Testicular torsion</u>
<b>tox(i)-, tox(o)-, toxic(o)-</b>	<u>toxin</u> , poison	Greek <u>τοξικόν</u> ( <i>toxikón</i> ), bow (archery), bow-related; from Greek <u>τοξικόν φάρμακον</u> ( <i>toxikón phármakon</i> ), poison for smearing arrows with	<u>Toxoplasmosis</u> , <u>Toxidrome</u>
<b>trache(a)-</b>	<u>trachea</u>	Greek <u>τραχεῖα</u> ( <i>trakheîa</i> ), windpipe	<u>Tracheotomy</u>
<b>trachel(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the neck	Greek <u>τράχηλος</u> ( <i>trákḥēlos</i> ), neck	<u>Tracheloplasty</u>
<b>trans-</b>	denoting something as moving or situated across	Latin <u>trāns</u> , across, through	<u>Transfusion</u>



	or through		
<b>tri-</b>	three	Latin <i>tri-</i>	<u>Triceps</u> , <u>Trisomy</u>
<b>trich(i)-, trichia, trich(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to hair, hair-like structure	Greek <u>θρίξ</u> ( <i>thríx</i> ), hair	<u>Trichocyst</u>
<b>-tripsy</b>	crushing	Greek <u>τρίψις</u> ( <i>trípsis</i> ), rubbing, friction	<u>Lithotripsy</u>
<b>-trophy</b>	nourishment, development	Greek <u>τροφή</u> ( <i>trophḗ</i> ), food, nourishment	<u>Pseudohypertrophy</u>
<b>-trop</b>	turned toward, with an orientation toward, having an affinity for, affecting	Greek <u>τρόπος</u> ( <i>tropos</i> ), a turn, way, manner, style	<u>Geotropic</u> , <u>Phototropic</u>
<b>tympan(o)-</b>	<u>eardrum</u>	Greek <u>τύμπανον</u> ( <i>túmpanon</i> ), drum, eardrum	<u>Tympanocentesis</u> , <u>Tensor tympani</u>

## U

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>-ula, -ule</b>	small	Latin	<u>Nodule</u>
<b>ultra-</b>	beyond, excessive	Latin <i>ultra</i>	<u>ultrasound</u> , <u>ultraviolet</u>
<b>umbilic-</b>	of or pertaining to the navel, the <u>umbilicus</u>	Latin <i>umbilicus</i> , navel, belly-button	<u>umbilical</u>
<b>ungui-</b>	of or pertaining to the nail, a claw	Latin <i>unguis</i> , nail, claw	<u>unguiform</u> , <u>ungual</u>
<b>un(i)-</b>	one	Latin <i>unus</i>	<u>unilateral hearing loss</u>
<b>ur-</b>	of or pertaining to urine, the urinary system	Greek <u>οὐρέω</u> , <u>οὐρεῖν</u> ( <i>ouréō</i> , <i>oureîn</i> ); <u>οὔρον</u> ( <i>oûron</i> ), urine	<u>antidiuretic</u> , <u>diuresis</u> , <u>diuretic</u> , <u>dysuria</u> , <u>enuresis</u> , <u>polyurea</u> , <u>polyuria</u> , <u>uraemia/uremia</u> , <u>uremic</u> , <u>ureter</u> , <u>urethra</u> , <u>urology</u>
<b>urin-</b>	of or pertaining to urine, the urinary system	Latin <i>urina</i> , urine < Greek <u>οὔρον</u> ( <i>oûron</i> ), see <u>ur-</u> above.	<u>uriniferous</u>
<b>uter(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>uterus</u> or womb	Latin <i>uterus</i> , womb, uterus	<u>uterus</u>

## V

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>vagin-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>vagina</u>	Latin <i>vāgīna</i> , sheath, scabbard; <u>vagina</u>	<u>vaginal epithelium</u>
<b>varic(o)-</b>	swollen or twisted <u>vein</u>	Latin <i>varix</i>	<u>varicose</u> , <u>esophageal varices</u>
<b>vas(o)-</b>	duct, <u>blood vessel</u>	Latin <i>vās</i> , vessel, dish, vase	<u>vasoconstriction</u>
<b>vasculo-</b>	<u>blood vessel</u>	Latin <i>vāsculum</i>	<u>cardiovascular</u>

<b>ven-</b>	of or pertaining to the veins, venous blood, and the <u>vascular system</u>	Latin <u>vēna</u> , blood-vessel, vein	<u>venule</u> , <u>venospasm</u>
<b>ventr(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the belly, the stomach cavities	Latin <u>venter</u> , belly, stomach, womb	<u>ventrodorsal</u>
<b>ventricul(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>ventricles</u> ; any hollow region inside an organ	Latin <u>ventriculus</u> , the ventricles of the heart, the ventricles of the brain	<u>cardiac ventriculography</u> , <u>atrioventricular node</u>
<b>-version</b>	turning	Latin <u>versiō</u>	<u>anteversion</u> , <u>retroversion</u>
<b>vesic(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the <u>bladder</u>	Latin <u>vēsīca</u> , bladder, blister	<u>vesical arteries</u>
<b>viscer(o)-</b>	of or pertaining to the internal organs, the <u>viscera</u>	Latin <u>viscus</u> (pl. <u>viscera</u> ), internal organ(s)	<u>viscera</u>

## X–Z

Affix	Meaning	Origin language and etymology	Example(s)
<b>xanth(o)-</b>	having a yellow color, especially an abnormally yellow color	Greek ξανθός ( <u>xanthós</u> ), yellow	<u>xanthopathy</u> <u>xanthelasma</u>
<b>xen(o)-</b>	foreign, different	Greek ξένος ( <u>xénos</u> ), foreign, stranger	<u>xenograft</u>
<b>xer(o)-</b>	dry, desert-like	Greek ξηρός ( <u>xērós</u> ), dry	<u>xerostomia</u> , <u>xeroderma</u>
<b>xiph-</b>	sword	Greek ξίφος ( <u>xíphos</u> ), sword	<u>xiphisternum</u> , <u>xiphoid</u> , <u>xiphoidalgia</u>
<b>-y</b>	condition or process of	Latin <u>-ia</u> , from Greek -ῖα, -ειᾶ (- <u>íā</u> , - <u>eia</u> ), suffixes used to form abstract nouns	<u>surgery</u>
<b>ze-</b>	boil	Greek ζέω ( <u>zéō</u> ), to boil, seethe, bubble	<u>eczema</u>
<b>zo(o)-</b>	animal, animal life	Greek ζῷον ( <u>zōion</u> )	<u>zoology</u>
<b>zym(o)-</b>	<u>fermentation</u>	Greek ζύμη ( <u>zúmē</u> ), leaven, yeast	<u>enzyme</u> , <u>lysozyme</u>

## English meanings

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This section contains lists of different root classification (e.g. body components, quantity, description, etc.). Each list is alphabetized by English meanings, with the corresponding Greek and Latin roots given.

## Roots of the body

### Roots of bodily concepts

Bodily concept	Greek root in English	Latin root in English	Other root in English
digestion	-pepsia	–	–
disease	-pathy	–	–
eating	-phagia	-vory	–

### Body parts and substances

Body part or component	Greek root in English	Latin root in English	Other root in English
abdomen	<u>lapar-</u>	abdomin-	–
aorta	aort-	–	–
arm	<u>brachi-</u>	<u>arm-</u>	–
armpit	<u>maschal-</u>	<u>axill-</u>	–
artery	<u>arteri-</u>	–	–
back	<u>not-</u>	<u>dors-</u>	–
big toe	–	allic-, hallic-	–
bladder	<u>cyst-</u>	<u>vesic-</u>	–
blood	<u>haem(at)-</u> (Br. English); <u>hem(at)-</u> (Am. English)	<u>sangui-</u> , <u>sanguin-</u>	–
blood clot	<u>thromb-</u>	–	–
blood vessel	angi-	<u>vas-</u> , <u>vascul-</u>	–
body	<u>soma-</u> , <u>somat-</u>	<u>corpor-</u>	–
bone	<u>oste-</u>	<u>ossi-</u>	–
bone marrow, marrow	<u>myel-</u>	<u>medull-</u>	–
brain	encephal-	<u>cerebr-</u>	–
breast	<u>mast-</u>	mamm-	–
chest	<u>steth-</u>	pector-	–
cheek	parei-	bucc-	–
ear	<u>ot(o)-</u>	aur(i)-	–
eggs, ova	oo-	ov-	–
eye	ophthalm(o)-	ocul(o)-	optic(o)- ( <i>French</i> )
eyelid	blephar(o)-	cili-, palpebr-	–
face	prosop(o)-	faci(o)-	–

<b>fallopian tubes</b>	salping(o)-	–	–
<b>fat, fatty tissue</b>	lip(o)-	adip-	–
<b>finger</b>	dactyl(o)-	digit-	–
<b>forehead</b>	–	front(o)-	–
<b>gallbladder</b>	cholecyst(o)-	fell-	–
<b>genitals, sexually undifferentiated</b>	gon(o)-, phall(o)-	–	–
<b>gland</b>	aden(o)-	–	–
<b>glans penis or clitoridis</b>	balan(o)-	–	–
<b>gums</b>	–	gingiv-	–
<b>hair</b>	trich(o)-	capill-	–
<b>hands</b>	cheir(o)-, chir(o)-	manu-	–
<b>head</b>	cephal(o)-	capit(o)-	–
<b>heart</b>	cardi(o)-	cordi-	–
<b>hip, hip-joint</b>	–	cox-	–
<b>horn</b>	cerat(o)-	cornu-	–
<b>intestine</b>	enter(o)-	–	–
<b>jaw</b>	gnath(o)-	–	–
<b>kidney</b>	nephr(o)-	ren-	–
<b>knee</b>	gon-	genu-	–
<b>lip</b>	cheil(o)-, chil(o)-	labi(o)-	–
<b>liver</b>	hepat(o)-	jecor-	–
<b>loins, pubic region</b>	episi(o)-	puhend-	–
<b>lungs</b>	pneumon-	pulmon(i)-, (pulmo-)	–
<b>marrow, bone marrow</b>	myel(o)-	medull-	–
<b>mind</b>	psych-	ment-	–
<b>mouth</b>	stomat(o)-	or-	–
<b>muscle</b>	my(o)-	–	–
<b>nail</b>	onych(o)-	ungui-	–
<b>navel</b>	omphal(o)-	umbilic-	–
<b>neck</b>	trachel(o)-	cervic-	–
<b>nerve; the nervous system</b>	neur(o)-	nerv-	–
<b>nipple, teat</b>	thele-	papill-, mammill-	–
<b>nose</b>	rhin(o)-	nas-	–
<b>ovary</b>	oophor(o)-	ovari(o)-	–
<b>pelvis</b>	pyel(o)-	pelv(i)-	–
<b>penis</b>	pe(o)-	–	–
<b>pupil (of the eye)</b>	cor-, core-, coro-	–	–

<b>rib</b>	pleur(o)-	cost(o)-	–
<b>rib cage</b>	thorac(i)-, thorac(o)-	–	–
<b>shoulder</b>	om(o)-	humer(o)-	–
<b>sinus</b>	–	sinus-	–
<b>skin</b>	derm-, dermat(o)-	cut-, cuticul-	–
<b>skull</b>	crani(o)-	–	–
<b>stomach</b>	gastr(o)-	ventr(o)-	–
<b>testis</b>	orchi(o)-, orchid(o)-	–	–
<b>throat</b> (upper throat cavity)	pharyng(o)-	–	–
<b>throat</b> (lower throat cavity/voice box)	laryng(o)-	–	–
<b>thumb</b>	–	pollic-	–
<b>tooth</b>	odont(o)-	dent(i)-	–
<b>tongue</b>	gloss-, glott-	lingu(a)-	–
<b>toe</b>	dactyl(o)-	digit-	–
<b>tumour</b>	cel-, onc(o)-	tum-	–
<b>ureter</b>	ureter(o)-	ureter(o)-	–
<b>urethra</b>	urethr(o)-, urethr(a)-	urethr(o)-, urethr(a)-	–
<b>urine, urinary system</b>	ur(o)-	urin(o)-	–
<b>uterine tubes</b>	salping(o)-	salping(o)-	–
<b>uterus</b>	hyster(o)-, metr(o)-	uter(o)-	–
<b>vagina</b>	colp(o)-	vagin-	–
<b>vein</b>	phleb(o)-	ven-	–
<b>vulva</b>	episi(o)-	vulv-	–
<b>womb</b>	hyster(o)-, metr(o)-	uter(o)-	–
<b>wrist</b>	carp(o)-	carp(o)-	–

## Roots of color

<b>Color</b>	<b>Greek root in English</b>	<b>Latin root in English</b>	<b>Other root in English</b>
<b>black</b>	<i>melan-</i>	atr-, nigr-	–
<b>blue</b>	<i>cyan-</i>	cerule-	–
<b>gold</b>	<i>chrys-</i>	aur-	–
<b>gray, grey</b>	<i>poli-</i>	can-	–
<b>green</b>	<i>chlor-</i>	vir-	–
<b>purple</b>	porphyr-	purpur-, purpureo-	–
<b>red</b>	<i>erythr-</i> , rhod-	rub-, rubr-, ruf-	–
<b>red-orange</b>	cirrh-	–	–

<u>silver</u>	–	<u>argent-</u>	–
<u>white</u>	leuc-, leuk-	alb-, cand-	–
<u>yellow</u>	<u>xanth-</u>	<u>flav-</u>	jaun- (French)

## Roots of description

Description	Greek root in English	Latin root in English	Other root in English
<b>bad, incorrect</b>	cac-, dys-	mal-	mis-
<b>bent, crooked</b>	ankyl-	prav-	–
<b>big</b>	mega-, megal(o)-	magn(i)-	–
<b>biggest</b>	megist-	maxim-	–
<b>broad, wide</b>	eury-	lat(i)-	–
<b>cold</b>	cry(o)-	frig(i)-	–
<b>dead</b>	necr(o)-	mort-	–
<b>equal</b>	is(o)-	equ(i)-	–
<b>false</b>	pseud(o)-	fals(i)-	–
<b>fast</b>	tachy-	celer-	–
<b>female, feminine</b>	thely-	–	–
<b>flat</b>	platy-	plan(i)-	–
<b>good, well</b>	eu-	ben(e)-, bon(i)-	–
<b>great</b>	mega-, megal(o)-	magn(i)-	–
<b>hard</b>	scler(o)-	dur(i)-	–
<b>heavy</b>	bar(o)-	grav(i)-	–
<b>hollow</b>	coel(o)-	cav(i)-	–
<b>huge</b>	megal(o)-	magn(i)-	–
<b>irregular</b>	poikil(o)	–	–
<b>large; extremely large</b>	mega-	magn(i)-	–
<b>largest</b>	megist-	maxim-	–
<b>long</b>	macr(o)-	long(i)-	–
<b>male, masculine</b>	arseno-	vir-	–
<b>narrow</b>	sten(o)-	angust(i)-	–
<b>new</b>	ne(o)-	nov(i)-	–
<b>normal, correct</b>	orth(o)-	rect(i)-	–
<b>old</b>	paleo-	veter-	–
<b>sharp</b>	oxy-	ac-	–
<b>short</b>	brachy-	brev(i)-	–
<b>small</b>	micr(o)-	parv(i)- (rare)	–
<b>smallest</b>	–	minim-	–

<b>slow</b>	brady-	tard(i)-	–
<b>soft</b>	malac(o)-	moll(i)-	–
<b>straight</b>	orth(o)-	rect(i)-	–
<b>thick</b>	pachy-	crass(i)-	–
<b>varied, various</b>	poikilo-	vari-	–

## Roots of position

Description	Greek root in English	Latin root in English	Other root in English
<b>around, surrounding</b>	<u>peri-</u>	<u>circum-</u>	–
<b>internal, within</b>	<u>endo-</u>	<u>intra-</u>	–
<b>left</b>	<u>levo-</u>	laev-, sinistr-	–
<b>middle</b>	<u>meso-</u> , <u>mes-</u>	medi-	–
<b>right</b>	dexi-	<u>dex-</u> , <u>dextr-</u> , <u>dextro-</u>	–

## Prefixes of quantity or amount

Description	Greek root in English	Latin root in English	Other root in English
<b>double</b>	diplo-	dupli-	–
<b>equal</b>	iso-	equi-	–
<b>few</b>	oligo-	pauci-	–
<b>half</b>	hemi-	semi-	demi- (French)
<b>many, much</b>	poly-	multi-	–
<b>twice</b>	dis-	bis-	–

## See also

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- Glossary of medicine
- Classical compound
- International scientific vocabulary
- List of medical abbreviations
- Medical dictionary
- Medicine
- List of commonly used taxonomic affixes

## References

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## External links

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- "Root Words & Prefixes: Quick Reference." (<https://www.learnthat.org/pages/view/roots.html>) LearnThatWord. N.p., n.d. Web. 3 March 2013.
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