

Appendix

Word Roots

Root	Meaning
abdomin/o	abdomen
acous, acus	sound, hearing
acro	extremity, end
aden/o	gland
adip/o	fat
adren/o	adrenal gland, epinephrine
adrenal/o	adrenal gland
adrenocortic/o	adrenal cortex
aer/o	air, gas
alg/o, algi/o, algesi/o	pain
amnio	amnion
amyl/o	starch
andr/o	male
angi/o	vessel
an/o	anus
aort/o	aorta
arter/o, arteri/o	artery
arteriol/o	arteriole
arthr/o	joint
atel/o	incomplete, imperfect
atlant/o	atlas
atri/o	atrium
audi/o	hearing
azot/o	nitrogenous compounds
bacill/i, bacill/o	bacillus
bacteri/o	bacterium
balan/o	glans penis
bar/o	pressure
bili	bile
bio	life
blast/o	immature cell, productive cell, embryonic cell

Root	Meaning
blephar/o	eyelid
brachi/o	arm
bronch/i, bronch/o	bronchus
bronchiol	bronchiole
bucc/o	cheek
burs/o	bursa
calc/i	calcium
cali/o, calic/o	calyx
carcin/o	cancer, carcinoma
cardi/o	heart
cec/o	cecum
celi/o	abdomen
centesis	puncture, tap
cephal/o	head
cerebell/o	cerebellum
cerebr/o	cerebrum
cervic/o	neck, cervix
cheil/o	lip
chem/o	chemical
chir/o	hand
cholangi/o	bile duct
chol/e, chol/o	bile, gall
cholecyst/o	gallbladder
choledoch/o	common bile duct
chondr/o	cartilage
chori/o, choroid/o	choroid
chrom/o, chromat/o	color, stain
chron/o	time
clasis	breaking
clitor/o, clitorid/o	clitoris
coccy, coccyg/o	coccyx

Root	Meaning
cochle/o	cochlea (of inner ear)
col/o, colon/o	colon
colp/o	vagina
copro	feces
cor/o, cor/e	pupil
corne/o	cornea
cortic/o	outer portion, cerebral cortex
cost/o	rib
crani/o	skull, cranium
cry/o	cold
crypt/o	hidden
cus	sound, hearing
cycl/o	ciliary body, ciliary muscle (of eye)
cyst/o	filled sac or pouch, cyst, bladder, urinary bladder
cyt/o	cell
dacry/o	tear, lacrimal apparatus
dacryocyst/o	lacrimal sac
dactyl/o	finger, toe
dent/o, dent/i	tooth, teeth
derm/o, dermat/o	skin
dilation, dilatation	expansion, widening
duoden/o	duodenum
dynam/o	force, energy
ectasia, ectasis	dilation, dilatation, distention
edema	accumulation of fluid, swelling
electr/o	electricity
embry/o	embryo
emesis	vomiting
encephal/o	brain
endocrin/o	endocrine
enter/o	intestine
epididym/o	epididymis
episi/o	vulva
erg/o	work
erythr/o-	red, red blood cell
erythrocyt/o	red blood cell

Root	Meaning
esophag/o	esophagus
fasci/o	fascia
fer	carry
ferr/i, ferr/o	iron
fet/o	fetus
fibr/o	fiber
galact/o	milk
gangli/o, ganglion/o	ganglion
gastr/o	stomach
gen	origin, formation
ger/e, ger/o	old age
gingiv/o	gum, gingiva
gli/o	neuroglia
glomerul/o	glomerulus
gloss/o	tongue
gluc/o	glucose
glyc/o	sugar, glucose
gnath/o	jaw
goni/o	angle
gravida	pregnant woman
gyn/o, gynec/o	woman
hem/o, hemat/o	blood
hepat/o	liver
hidr/o	sweat, perspiration
hist/o, histi/o	tissue
hydr/o	water, fluid
hypn/o	sleep
hypophysi/o	pituitary, hypophysis
hyster/o	uterus
iatr/o	physician
ile/o	ileum
ili/o	ilium
immun/o	immunity, immune system
in/o	fiber, muscle fiber
insul/o	pancreatic islets
ir, irit/o, irid/o	iris
jejun/o	jejunum
kali	potassium

Root	Meaning
kary/o	nucleus
kerat/o	cornea, keratin, horny layer of skin
kin/o, kine, kinesi/o, kinet/o	movement
labi/o	lip
labyrinth/o	labyrinth (inner ear)
lacrim/o	tear, lacrimal apparatus
lact/o	milk
lapar/o	abdominal wall
laryng/o	larynx
lent/i	lens
leuk/o	white, colorless, white blood cell
leukocyt/o	white blood cell
lingu/o	tongue
lip/o	fat, lipid
listhesis	slipping
lith	calculus, stone
lumb/o	lumbar region, lower back
lymphaden/o	lymph node
lymphangi/o	lymphatic vessel
lymph/o	lymph, lymphatic system, lymphocyte
lymph/o, lymphocyt/o	lymphocyte
lysis	separation, loosening, dissolving, destruction
malacia	softening
mamm/o	breast, mammary gland
mania	excited state, obsession
mast/o	breast, mammary gland
medull/o	inner part, medulla oblongata, spinal cord
melan/o	dark, black, melanin
mening/o, meninge/o	meninges
men/o, mens	month, menstruation
metr/o	measure
metr/o, metr/i	uterus
morph/o	form, structure
muc/o	mucus, mucous membrane

Root	Meaning
muscul/o	muscle
myc/o	fungus, mold
myel/o	bone marrow, spinal cord
my/o	muscle
myring/o	tympanic membrane
myx/o	mucus
narc/o	stupor, unconsciousness
nas/o	nose
nat/i	birth
natri	sodium
necrosis	death of tissue
nephr/o	kidney
neur/o, neur/i	nervous system, nerve
noct/i	night
nucle/o	nucleus
nyct/o	night, darkness
ocul/o	eye
odont/o	tooth, teeth
onc/o	tumor
onych/o	nail
oo	ovum
oophor/o	ovary
ophthalm/o	eye
opt/o	eye, vision
orchid/o, orchi/o	testis
or/o	mouth
osche/o	scrotum
osm/o	smell
oste/o	bone
ot/o	ear
ovari/o	ovary
ov/o, ovul/o	ovum
ox/y	oxygen, sharp, acute
palat/o	palate
palpebr/o	eyelid
pancreat/o	pancreas
papill/o	nipple

Root	Meaning
para	woman who has given birth
parathyr/o, parathyroid/o	parathyroid
paresis	partial paralysis, weakness
path/o	disease, any disease of
ped/o	foot, child
pelvi/o	pelvis
perine/o	perineum
periton, peritone/o	peritoneum
phac/o, phak/o	lens
phag/o	eat, ingest
pharm, pharmac/o	drug, medicine
pharyng/o	pharynx
phil	attracting, absorbing
phleb/o	vein
phobia	fear
phon/o	sound, voice
phot/o	light
phren/o	diaphragm
phrenic/o	phrenic nerve
phyt/o	plant
pituitar/i	pituitary, hypophysis
plas	formation, molding, development
pleur/o	pleura
pneum/o, pneumat/o	air, gas, lung, respiration
pneumon/o	lung
pod/o	foot
proct/o	rectum
prostat/o	prostate
prote/o	protein
psych/o	mind
ptosis	dropping, downward displacement, prolapse
ptysis	spitting
puer	child
pulm/o, pulmon/o	lung

Root	Meaning
pupill/o	pupil
pyel/o	renal pelvis
pylor/o	pylorus
py/o	pus
pyr/o, pyret/o	fever, fire
rachi/o	spine
radicul/o	root of spinal nerve
radi/o	radiation, x-ray
rect/o	rectum
ren/o	kidney
reticul/o	network
retin/o	retina
rhabd/o	rod, muscle cell
rhin/o	nose
sacchar/o	sugar
sacr/o	sacrum
salping/o	tube, uterine tube, auditory (eustachian) tube
schisis	fissure
scler/o	hard, sclera (of eye)
sclerosis	hardening
seb/o	sebum, sebaceous gland
semin	semen
sept/o	septum, partition, dividing wall
sial/o	saliva, salivary gland, salivary duct
sider/o	iron
sigmoid/o	sigmoid colon
skelet/o	skeleton
somat/o	body
somn/i, somn/o	sleep
son/o	sound, ultrasound
spasm	sudden contraction, cramp
sperm/i	semen, spermatozoa
spermat/o	semen, spermatozoa
sphygm/o	pulse
spir/o	breathing

Root	Meaning
splen/o	spleen
spondyl/o	vertebra
staped/o, stapedi/o	stapes
stasis	suppression, stoppage
steat/o	fatty
stenosis	narrowing, constriction
steth/o	chest
sthen/o	strength
stoma, stomat/o	mouth
synov/i	synovial joint, synovial membrane
tax/o	order, arrangement
ten/o, tendin/o	tendon
terat/o	malformed fetus
test/o	testis, testicle
thalam/o	thalamus
therm/o	heat, temperature
thorac/o	chest, thorax
thromb/o	blood clot
thrombocyt/o	platelet, thrombocyte
thym/o	thymus gland
thyr/o, thyroid/o	thyroid
toc/o	labor
ton/o	tone
tonsil/o	tonsil
tox/o, toxic/o	poison, toxin
trache/o	trachea
trich/o	hair
trop/o	turning

Root	Meaning
trop	act(ing) on, affect(ing)
troph/o	feeding, growth, nourishment
tympan/o	tympanic cavity (middle ear), tympanic membrane
ureter/o	ureter
urethr/o	urethra
ur/o	urine, urinary tract
urin/o	urine
uter/o	uterus
uve/o	uvea (of eye)
uvul/o	uvula
vagin/o	sheath, vagina
valv/o, valvul/o	valve
varic/o	twisted and swollen vein, varix
vascul/o	vessel
vas/o	vessel, duct, vas deferens
ven/o, ven/i	vein
ventricul/o	cavity, ventricle
vertebr/o	vertebra, spinal column
vesic/o	urinary bladder
vesicul/o	seminal vesicle
vestibul/o	vestibule, vestibular apparatus (of ear)
vir/o	virus
vulv/o	vulva
xen/o	foreign, strange