

Medical Terminology – Word Parts

PREFIX		SUFFIX	
a-, an-	without, lack of	cent- (2)	hundred
ab-	from, away	-centesis	surgical puncture to remove fluid
-able	capable of	cephal- (2)	head, pertaining to head
-al, -ic	pertaining to	cerebr-	brain
amb- (2)	extremities (arms and legs)	cervic- (2)	neck, neck of the uterus
an-	in, toward, near	cheil- (2)	lip
aden- (2)	gland, glandular	chem- (2)	drug, chemical
adren- (2)	adrenal gland	chir- (2)	hand
ae- (2)	air	chlor- (2)	green
-al	like, similar, pertaining to	chol- (2, 3)	bile, gallbladder
alba-	white	chond- (2, 3, 4)	cartilage
algia-	pain	chrom- (2)	color
-algia	pain	-cide	causing death
amb-	both, both sides	circum-	around, about
an- (2, 3)	anus (opening to rectum)	-cise	cut
angi- (2)	vessel	-clash	washing, irrigation
anky-	cocked, hooked, immovable, fixed	co- (2)	with, together
ante- (2)	before, in front of, ahead	-coccyx	round
anti-	opposed	-cysta	chamber, enlarged space
append- (2, 3)	appendix	col- (2, 3)	colon, bowel, large intestine
arth- (2)	joint	colp- (2, 3)	vagina
arthr- (2)	joint	contra-	against, counter
-ase	enzyme	cost- (2, 3, 4)	rib
-asthenia	weakness, lack of strength	cran- (2)	pertaining to the skull
ather- (2)	fatty, lipid	-crine	secrete
audi- (2)	sound, hearing	cryo-	cold
aur-	ear	crypt-	hidden
auto-	self	cut-	skin
bi- (2)	twice, double, both	cyan- (2)	blue
bio-	life	cyt- (2, 3)	cell, bladder, lung, test
-blast	germ/embryonic cell	cyt- (2, 3)	cell
blephar- (2)	eyelid	diary-	hair duct, tear
brach-	arm	dactyl- (2)	finger, toe
brachy-	short	der- (2, 3)	skin
brady-	slow	derm-	skin
bronch- (2, 3)	air tubes in lungs	dent- (2, 3)	tooth
bucc- (2)	cheek	derm- (2, 3, 4)	pertaining to skin
calc- (2, 3, 4)	stone	-desis	surgical union or fixation
carcin- (2)	cancer, malignancy	derm- (2, 3)	to the right
card- (2, 3)	pertaining to the heart	di- (2)	double, twice
carp- (2)	wrist	dia-	through, between, part
-cele	swelling, tumor, cavity, hernia	dis- (2, 3)	separation, away from