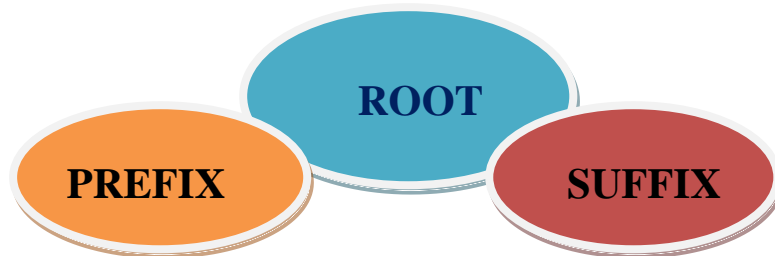


BASIC TERM COMPONENTS

Analysis of Term Component

Most of medical terms have 3 components: root,suffix,&prefix.



ROOT & SUFFIX

Each term is formed by combining at least one root the foundation or subject of the word & asuffix the ending that modifies & gives essential meaning to the root

Ex. Lipemia:

lip / emia

ROOT SUFFIX

FAT Blood condition

It indicate acondition of fat in the blood

PREFIX

The prefix is aword structure placed at the beginning of aterm when needed to further modify the root or roots.

Ex. Hyperlipemia:

hyper / lip / emia

PRE. ROOT SUFFIX

excessive fat blood condition

The condition of the prefix,hyper,modifies the root to denote excessive fat in blood

ADDITIONAL ROOTS

Often a medical term is formed of two or more roots.

Ex. hyperlipoproteinemia:

hyper / lip / o / protein / emia

PRE. ROOT1 VOWEL ROOT2 SUFFIX

EXC. FAT PROTEIN B.CONDI.

In this term the additional root protein(joined to lip by vowel “o”) further defines the word to indicate an excessive amount of fat& protein in the blood.

Combining vowels& Combining Forms

When a medical term has more than one root each is joined by a vowel usually an”o “ as shown in the term hyper/lip/o/protein/emia the “o” links the two roots & fosters the easier pronunciation this vowel is known as compining vowel ;o is the most common compining vowel ,I is the second most common & is used so frequently to join root to root or root to suffix that is routinely attached to the root & presented as a compining form:

Lip root

Lip/o compining form

Rules for forming & spelling Medical Terms

1- a compining vowel is used to join root to root as well as root to any suffix beginning with a consonant

Ex.

elect + cardi + -gram

root root suffix

Electric heart record

electr/o/cardi/o/gram

Electrical recored of the heart

2- a combining vowel is not used before a suffix begins with a vowel:

vas + ectomy

root suffix

vessel excision

vas/ectomy

Excision of a vessel

3- if the root ends in avowel and the suffix begins with the same vowel drop the final vowel from the root and do not use a combining vowel:

Ex.

cardi + itis

root suffix

Heart inflammation

card/itis

inflammation of the heart

4- most often acombining vowel is inserted between 2 roots even when the second root begins with a vowel:

cardi + esophag + eal

root root suffix

Heart esophagus pertaining to
cardi/o/esophageal

Pertaining to the heart and esophagus

5- occasionally when a prefix ends in a vowel and the root begins with a vowel the final vowel is dropped from the prefix:

para + enter + al

prefix root suffix

Alongside of intestine pertaining to

par/enter/al

pertaining to alongside of the intestine

Defining Medical terms through word structure analysis

You can usually define a term by interpreting the suffix first then the prefix (if present) then the succeeding roots

Ex.

peri / card / itis

prefix root suffix

2 3 1

around heart inflammation

Pericarditis = inflammation around the heart

Formation of Medical terms

Most medical terms build from the root prefix and suffixes are attached to the root to modify its meaning often 2 or more roots are linked before being modified

Exs.

Root/suffix

cardi / ac

heart pertaining to

pertaining to the heart

prefix/root/suffix

epi / card / ium

upon heart tissue

tissue upon the heart

prefix/prefix/root/suffix

sub / endo / cardi / al

beneath within heart pertaining to

pertaining to the beneath and within the heart

Root/combining vowel/suffix

cardi / o / logy

heart study of

study of the heart