BASIC ETYMOLOGY OF THE STOMATOLOGICAL LANGUAGE: AN ESSAY

Etimologia básica da linguagem estomatológica: ensaio

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Wilson Denis Martins 2

Introduction
The semiologic and stomatologic language may present some difficulties both to students and health professionals. Such difficulties may be justified by the lack of knowledge of greek and latin, since the scientific terminology is chiefly composed by roots from these languages. With no intention to present an exhaustive work, a list of roots was performed, containing some terms used in the daily practice of Dentistry, and Stomatology in special.

Keywords: Etymology; Greek roots; Latin roots; Semiology; Stomatology.

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Abbreviations
Gr. Greek; L. Latin; OE. Old English; O.F. old French; O.G. old German

A
A, an Gr. prefix = not. Ex.: ataxia: a = not + taxis (Gr. order) and -ia = condition; anodontia: a + odonto (L.).
Ab - L. ab = away from. Ex.: abductor: ab + ducere = to lead; ablation; abrasion.
Acanto Gr. akantha = prickle. Ex.: acanthosis.
Accessory L. accedere = to be added to; from ad (L.) = to and cedere (L.) = to come. Ex.: accessory nerve.
Acinus Gr. akinos = grape berry. Ex.: salivary gland acini.
Acro Gr. akron = tip or extremity. The word akron gives the combining forms acra or acro-.
Actino Gr. aktis = ray, beam. Ex.: actinomyces.
Acu - L. acus = needle. Ex.: acupuncture; acute.
Ad - L. ad = to; togheter. Ex.: adhesion; adjustable; adjacent.
Adeno Gr. aden = gland. Ex.: adenoma: aden + oma (Gr. tumor); adenoid: aden + eidos (Gr. resemblance).
Adipose L. adiposus = fat; grease.
Adrenal L. ad = to; and ren = kidney.
Adventitia L. adventitius = coming from abroad; from ad = to + venire = to come. Aero Gr. aeros = air; gas. Ex.; aerobic. Afferent L. ad (af-) = to and ferre = to carry.
Ala - L. ala = a wing. It is believed that ala is an eroded form of axilla.
Algesia Gr. algos = pain; Ex.: analgesic.
Albicans L. albicare = to be white. Ex.: Candida albicans
Alelo - Gr. alelon = one to another. Ex.: alelomorphus.
Alimentary L. alimentum = nourishment.

Allantois Gr. alais = a sausage and eidos (Gr. resemblance).
Alo Gr. alos = different. Ex.; aloplastec.
Alveolus L. diminutive of alveus = any hollowed out structure.
Ameloblast O.Fr. en = on; amel = enamel, and Gr. blastos = germ.
Amylo - G r. amylo = fine powder. Ex.: amyloidosis.
Ampulla L. ampulla = a jug. Amygdala Gr. amygdale = an almond. Ana - Gr. ana = up or apart.
Anastomosis Gr. ana = up, apart; and stoma = mouth.
Anatomy Gr. ana = up or apart, tome = a cutting.
Andro - Gr. andros = man.
Anencephaly Gr. (an-) = not and enkephalon = brain.
Aneurysm Gr. aneurysma = a widening; from ana = across and eurys = broad.
Angio - Gr. angeion = blood or linphatic vessel. Ex.: angiography; angiology.
Aniso - L. anisos = not equal; different. Ex.; anisocytosis.
Annulus L. anus = ring, and -ulnus, a diminutive suffix.
Ankylo Gr. ankylos = bend, curvature. Ex.: ankylolgia.
Antero - L. anterior = in front of.
Anti - Gr. anti = against. Ex.: antibody; antigen.
Antropo Gr. man; human being. Ex.: antropology.
Antrum Gr. antron = a cave.
Anus L. anus = a ring.
Aorta Gr. aeirein = to lift up, or to be hung. Apical L. apex = tip, top, or pointed end. Aponeurosis Gr. apo = from and neuron = anything of a fibrous nature.
Appendix L. appendere = to hang upon; from ad = to and pendere = to hang.
Aqueduct L. aqua = water, and ductus = a canal. In Latin the word was spelled aquaeductus.
Arachnoid Gr. arachne = spider, and eidos (Gr. resemblance).
Areola  -  L. area = a courtyard or space, and diminutive suffix -ola.
Artery  Gr. aer = air and terein = to keep.
Arthro  Gr. arthron = joint. Ex.: arthrography; arthrocentesis.
Articulation  L. articulus, diminutive of artus = joint, and -atio, a suffix originally denoting action.
Arytenoid  Gr. aryta = a pitcher
Author  Gr. autos = own. Ex.: automatic.
Axo, axis  Gr. axon = axle.
Ascites  Gr. askos = a bag or bladder.
Ataxia  Gr. a = not, taxis = order, and -ia = condition.
Atelectasis  Gr. atelis = imperfect, and ektasis = expansion.
Atheroma  Gr. athere = porridge; an unexpected derivation.
Atlas  Gr. Atlas; mythological Titan who supported the world on his shoulders.
Atresia  Gr. a = not; tressis = a boring, and -ia = a condition.
Atrium  L. atrium = a hall, or an entrance.
Atrophy  Gr. a = without and trophe = nourishment.
Atropine  Gr. Atropos = one of the Fates.
Auditory  L. audire = to hear.
Auricle  L. auricula, diminutive of auris = ear. Autonomic -Gr. autos = self, and nomos = law.
Autopsy  Gr. autos = self, and opsis = to look at. Axial, axis L. axis = axle or pivot
Axe  Gr. axon = axle.

B
Basilar  L. basilaris = basal; originally from Gr. basis = a base
Bicuspid  L. bi = two, and cuspid = point
Bile  L. bilis = bile. Ex.: bilirubin (ruber = red); biliverdin (viridis = green). Bio Gr. bios = life. Ex.: biochemistry.
Biopsy  Gr. bios = life and opsis = vision. Blasto Gr. blastos = origin, germ. Ex.: blas-tomycosis.
Blastula  Gr. blastos = germ or bud and derma = skin.

Blefaro  Gr. blepharon = eyelid. Ex.: blefaroplasty; blefaroptosis.
Brachial  L. brachium = an arm.
Brady  Gr. bradis = slow. Ex.; bradycardia = brady + kardia (Gr. heart). Bregma Gr. bregma = front of the head. Brevis - L. brevis = short.
Bronchial  Adjective from Gr. bronchus
Bronchus  Gr. bronchos = windpipe; originally from Gr. brechein = to moisten.
Bruit  Fr. bruit = sound or noise.
Buccal  L. bucca = the cheek.
Buccinator  L. buccinator = a trumpeter.
Bulla  L. bulla = a bubble. The adjective is bullous.
Bursa  L. bursa = a purse; hence any closed sac. Ex.: burstis.
C
Caco  Gr. kakos = bad. Ex.: cacosmia.
Cadaver  L. cadere = to fall dead.
Cancer  Gr. cancer = crab.
Canthus  Gr. kanthos = corner of the eye.
Capillary  L. capillaris = relating to the hair; hence any structure as fine as a hair.
Carcino  Gr. karkinos = a crab. Ex.: carcinoma: carcino + -oma = tumor or neoplasm.
Cardia  Gr. kardia = heart
Carie  L. caries = progressive destruction. Ex.: dental caries.
Carina  - L. carina = keel of a boat.
Cario  Gr. karyon = nucleous.
Carotid  Gr. karoun = to put to sleep. In early Greece, jesters used to cause goats to fall down motionless by pressure on these arteries and to return to normal by release of pressure. This is because horses and goats depend entirely on the carotids for their cerebral blood supply, since the vertebral arteries are insufficient.
Cartilage  L. cartilago = gristle.
Casei  L. caseus = cheese.
Cauda  L. cauda = a tail.
Cata  Gr. kata = down.
Special contribution

Basic etymology of the stomatological language: an essay


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Causa - Gr. kausis = burn. Ex.: causalgia: burning pain in a peripheric nerve.

Cecum L. caecus = blind. Ex.: foramen cecum of the tongue.

Cele Gr. kele = swelling.

Cell - L. cella = a small chamber.

Cephalic Gr. kephale = head.

Cerebellum L. diminutive of cerebrum = brain.

Cerebrum L. cerebrum = brain.

Cervical Look at cervix.

Cervix - L. cervix = neck.

Cheilo Gr. kheilos = lip. Ex.: cheiloplasty. Chiasm Gr. chiasma = two crossing lines. From the Greek letter chi which in Greek script was written c.

Choana Gr. choane = a funnel. Applied to the posterior naris.

Cholangitis Gr. chole = bile, angeion = vessel, and -itis = inflammation.

Chondral Gr. chondros = cartilage. Ex.: chondritis; chondroplasty.

Chondriо Gr. khondron = granules.

Chorda L. chorda = a string or cord. Gr. chorde = intestine.

Choroid Gr. chorion = skin and eidos = resemblance.

Chrome Gr. khroma = color. Ex.: chromosome. Chrono Gr. krhonos = time. Ex.: chronic continuing for a long time.

Chyme Gr. chymos = juice. Ex.: parenchyma; mesenchyme.

Cide - L. caedere = kill. Ex.: germicide.

Ciliary L. ciliaris = pertaining to eyelashes; from cilia = eyelashes.

Circulation L. circulare = to make a circle.

Cirro Gr. kirrhos = yellow. Ex.: cirrhosis

Clavicle L. clavicula = diminutive of clavis = a key.

Cléido Gr. kleis, kleidos = clavicles

Clino - Gr. kline, klinos = bed. Ex.: clinics.

Collagen Gr. kolla = glue and gennaо = to produce

Commissure L. commissura; from con (com-) = together and mittere = to put.

Condyle Gr. kondylos = a knuckle. Ex.: condylectomy: kondylos + Gr. tome = cut.

Constrictor L. con = together and stringere = to pull.

Conjunctiva L. con = with, and jungere (junctus) = to join. Ex.: conjunctivitis.

Coronary L. coronarius = pertaining to or like a crown.

Corpus - L. corpus = body.

Cortex - L. cortex = outer layer or bark. Ex.: bone cortical.

Cranium Gr. kranion = skull.

Cribiform L. cribrum = a sieve and forma = form.

Cricoid Gr. krikos = a circle or ring, and eidos = resemblance.

Crio Gr. krios cold. Ex.: criotherapy.

Cripto Gr. kryptos = occult. Ex.: criptogenetics: unknown origin.

Crus L. crista = leg.

Cutaneous L. cutaneus = relating to the skin; from cutis = skin.

Cyano Gr. kyanos = blue. Ex.: cyanosis.

Cyst Gr. kystis = cyst; bladder.

Cyto Gr. kyto = cell. The same of L. vas. Ex.: leucocyte Gr. leukos = white + kyto.

D

Decidua L. decidus = falling off.

Deferens L. de = away, and ferre = to carry.

Demo Gr. demos = people. Ex.: epidemia; demographic.

Dendro Gr. dendron = tree. Ex.: dendrytis.

Deonto Gr. deontos = duty; obligation. Ex.: deodontology.

Depressor L. de = down + premere = to press and the suffix -or = the agent.

Dermo, dermato Gr. derma = skin.

Di - Gr. di = two. Ex.: digastric: di + gaster = belly.

Dis L. de = against. Ex.: disinfection.

Día Gr. dia = to cross; through. Ex.: diapedesis; diaphragma.
Diaphragm  Gr. diaphragma = a wall or partition; from dia = across and phragma = a wall.
Diastole  Gr. dia = apart; through and stellein = to send.
Diencephalon  Gr. dia (di-) = through and encephalon = brain.
Diplo  Gr. diplos = double.
Dipso  Gr. dipsa = thirst.
Distal  L. distare = to stand apart or to be distant.
Dolico  Gr. dolikhos = long. Ex.: dolicocephalus
Dorsal  L. dorsum = the back.
Drome  Gr. dromos course; direction. Ex.: prodromic. Duodenum L. duodeni = twelve
Dura  L. durus = hard.
Dys -  Gr. dys = altered. Ex.: dysplasia: dys + Gr. plasis = formation.
E  Gr. ek = out. Ex.: ectopy
Eco  Gr. oikos = house; home. Ex.: ecology
Ectasy  Gr. echo = to dilate.
Ecto -  Gr. ektos = out; external. Ex.: ectoderm; ectopic.
Ectomy  Gr. ekto = to extirpate. Ex.: alveolectomy.
Endo  Gr. endon = inside; within. Ex.: endocrine: endon + krinein = to separate.
Entero  Gr. enteron = intestine. Ex.: enterocolitis.
Epi -  Gr. epi = over; upon. Ex.: epiphysis: epi + physis = growth; epigastric: epi + gaster = stomach
Erector  L. erectus = upright.
Ergo, ergy  Gr. ergon = work; action. Ex.: sinergy: combined action to obtain the same effect.
Eritro -  Gr. erythros = red.
Eros  Gr. eros = love. Ex.: erogenous
Esophagus  Gr. oisophagos = gullet. The Greek term was formed from oiso, the future tense of phero = to carry and phagein = food.
Ethmoid  Gr. ethmos = a sieve
Etio, etio  Gr. aitios = cause. Ex.: etiology
Etno -  Gr. ethnos = race. Ex.: etnology
Eversion  L. evertere = to turn outward; from ex (e-) = out, and vertere = to turn.
Ex, exo  Gr. ex = ouside; external. Ex.: exophtalmy
Extensor  L. extendere = to stretch out.
Extra  Gr. extra = beyond. Ex.: extranumerary.
Extrinsic  L. extrinsecus = originating or acting outside; from exter = outside and -secus = on the side.

F  Gr. phagein = eat. Ex.: fagocytosis
Falci -  L. falx I = sickle. Ex.: falciform: falx +forma = form.
Pharmacon  Gr. pharmakon = medicine. Ex.:pharmacy.
Fascia -  L. fascia = a ribbon or fillet. Ex.: fascicle.
Fero -  L. fero = make; produce.
Flebo  Gr. phlebos = vein. Ex.: flebolith. Flogo Gr. phlogos = heat; fire. Ex.: flogogen.
Freno -  Gr. phren = intelligence.
Follicle  L. folliculus, diminutive of follis = a bag.
Foramen  L. foramen = an opening; from forare = to bore.
Fornix -  L. fornix = arch or vault.
Fossa  L. fossa = a ditch. Used in anatomy for depressed areas.

G  Gr. ganglion = a swelling.
Gastric  Gr. gaster = stomach or belly.
Geni -  Gr geneion = chin.
Genu  L. genu = knee.
Gero, geronto  Gr. geron, gerontos = old. Ex.: geriatrics.
Glabella  L. glabellus = smooth.
Glans  L. glans = acorn.
Glenoid  Gr. glene = joint socket + eidos = resemblance.
Gnatho Gr. gnathos = mandible. Ex.: gnathology.
Gnose Gr. gnosis = knowledge. Ex.: diagnosis.
Graphy Gr. graphein = write; register. Ex.: radiography.
Gubernaculum L. gubernaculum = helm or little governor; from gubernare = to control and the diminutive suffix -culum.
Gyrus Gr. gyro = a circle.

H
Haemo, haemato, emia Gr. haima = blood. Ex.: haematology; haematia.
Halo - Gr. halos = salt.
Hamarto Gr. hamartia = defect. Ex.: hamartoma.
Hamulus L. hamulus, a diminutive of hamus = a hook.
Helix Gr. helix = a coil or screw. Ex.: helicotrema: helix + trema = a hole.
Hepato Gr. hepar, hepatos = liver. Ex.: hepatology.
Hernia L. hernia = a rupture.
Hetero - Gr. heteros = other; different. Ex.: heterotopic.
Hilum, hulus L. hilum = a small thing.
Histo - Gr. histos = tissue. Ex.: histology.
Homeo Gr. homoios = similar, like, uniform. Ex.: homeopathy.
Hydro Gr. hydor = water. Ex.: hydrocephaly.
Hygro Gr. hygr os = humid; damp. Ex.: hygroscopic
Hyper Gr. hyper = excessive. Ex.: hyperontia; hyperactivity.
Hypo Gr. hypo = less. Ex.: hypodontia.
Hypno Gr. hypnos = sleep. Ex.: hypnotic.

I
Ia Gr. suffix -ia = disease. Ex.: neuralgia.
Iatro Gr. iatros = physician; medicine doctor. Ex.: iatrogenic.
Ictero Gr. ikteros = yellow. Ex.: icteric.
Idio - Gr. idios = own; proper. Ex.: idiopathic.
Incisor L. incidere = to cut into; from in = in + caedere = to cut.
Incus - L. incus, incudis = anvil.
Innominate L. innominatus = unnamed; from in = not + nomen = name.
Insertion L. in = in + serere = to put. Inter - L. inter = between.
Intestine L. intestinum = intestine. The noun intestinum came from the adjective intestinus = inner or inward.
Inversion L. invertere = to turn about or inside out.
Ipsilateral L. ipse = self or same and latus = side.
Iris Gr. iris = rainbow.
Ischium Gr. ischion = hip.
Ism Gr. -ismos = suffix meaning disease, system; attribute. Ex.: cherubism; tropism.
Itis Gr. -itis = inflammation; disease. Ex.: pulpitis.
In vitro See vitreous. In vivo See vitreous.
Jejunum L. jejunus = fasting or empty.
Joint L. jungere = to join.
Jugular L. jugulum = throat. K
Kyphosis Gr. kyphos = bent + -osis = condition.

L
Labia - L. labium = lip.
Labyrinth Gr. labyrinthus = a maze. Ex.: labyrinthitis.
Lacrimal L. lacrimal = a tear.
Lacto - L. lactis = milk. Ex.: lactobacillus.
Lalia Gr. lalein = speak. Ex.: dyslalia. Laparo - Gr. laparon = flank; side. Ex.: laproscopy.
Lateral L. latus = side.
Lema Gr. lemma = sheath. Ex.: neurlemma.
Leum Gr. leum = a lentil, and a diminutive suffix.
Leuco - Gr. leukos = white. Ex.: leucocyte.
Levator L. levator = anything that raises; from levare = to lift.
Levo - L. levo = left.
Ligament  L. ligamentum = ligament; from ligare = to bind.

Linea     L. lien = spleen. Related to the Greek term splen = spleen.

Lingula   L. lingula, diminutive of lingua = tongue.

Linph     L. linpha = water. Ex.: linphatic.

Lipo -    Gr. lipos = fat. Ex.: fatty.

Lith      Gr. lithos = stone. Ex.: sialolith; phlebolith.

Logy, logia Gr. logos = word; treatise. Ex.: stomatology; pathology; logosophy.

Longus    L. longus = long.

Lyo -     Gr. leios = smooth.

Lysis     Gr. lysis = solução; decomposition. Ex.: autholysis.

M          
Macro Gr. makron = big; large. Ex.: macroscopy.

Malacia   Gr. malakia = softening. Ex.: chondromalacia.

Mania     Gr. mania = madness. Ex.: cleptomania.

Mandible  L. mandibula = jaw; from mandere = to chew

Masseter  Gr. maseter = chower.

Mastication L. masticare = to chew.

Mastoid   Gr. mastos = breast or nipple.

Maxilla   L. maxilla = jaw bone.

Meatus -  L. meatus = a channel or way.

Mediastinum L. mediastinum = medial, intermediate.

Medulla   L. medulla = marrow.

Mega, megalo, megalia Gr. megas, megalos = big, large; giant.

Melano    Gr. melas = black. Ex.: melanoma; meloncyte.

Meninges  Gr. meninx = membrane; plural, meninges. Ex.: meningitis.

Meno      Gr. men = month. Ex.: menopause.

Mesentery Gr. mesos = middle and enteron = intestine.

Meso      Gr. mesos = middle.

Meta      Gr. meta = after. Ex.: metacarpus: Gr. meta = after or beyond and karpos = wrist.

Metro, metria Gr. metra = uterus.

Micro -   Gr. mikros = small. Ex.: microscopy.

Miso -    Gr. misos = hate.

Mito      Gr. mitos = thread; wire. Ex.: mitosis; mitochondria.

Mnesis    Gr. mnesis = memory. Ex.: amnesia

Molar     L. mola = a millstone.

Mono -    Gr. monos = unique; one. Ex.: monostotic.

Morph     Gr. morphhe = form. Ex.: amorphus.

Motor -   L. motor = producing movement.

Muscle -  L. musculus = diminutive of mus = a mouse.

Mythos    Gr. mythos = myth. Ex.: mythomania

Myelo     Gr. myelos = marrow. Ex.: myelocytic

Myo       Gr. mys, myos = muscle. Ex.: myalgia

Myco      Gr. mykes = fungus, mushroom. Ex.: mycosis

Mylohyoid Gr. myle = a mill and hyoid.

Myxo      Gr. myxa = mucus. Ex.: myxoma. N

Navicular L. navis = boat and the diminutive suffix -cula.

Nares -   L. naris = nostril.

Necro     Gr. nekros = dead. Ex.: necrosis.

Neo       Gr. neos = new. Ex. neoplasia.

Node -    L. nodus = a knot. Ex. lymphnode

Nomia     Gr. nomos = law.

Noso -    Gr. nosos = disease. Ex.: nosology.

O          
Ocro      Gr. okros = yellow; pale.

Oculo -   L. oculus = eye.

Odonto    Gr. odous, odontos = tooth. Ex.: odontology.

Odyno    Gr. odyno = pain.

Oid       Gr. eidos = resemblance. Ex.: mastoid.

Olfactory L. olfacere = to smell.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix/Root</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Example</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oligo</td>
<td>Gr. oligos = few. Ex.: oligofrenic.</td>
<td>Oligofrenic.</td>
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<td>Oma</td>
<td>Gr. oma = tumor. Ex.: ameloblasto-ma; odontoma; carcinoma.</td>
<td>Odontoma.</td>
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<td>Onco</td>
<td>Gr. onkos = tumor. Ex.: oncolgy</td>
<td>Oncology.</td>
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<td>Onico</td>
<td>Gr. onux, onyxos = nail. Ex.: onicophagy</td>
<td>Onicophagy.</td>
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<td>Onto</td>
<td>Gr. on, ontos = being; person. Ex.:ontology</td>
<td>Ontology.</td>
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<td>Oral</td>
<td>L. os = mouth; genitive, oris.</td>
<td>Oral.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orbicular</td>
<td>L. orbicularis = circular or disc-shaped; from orbis = circle or orb.</td>
<td>Orbicular.</td>
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<td>Orexi</td>
<td>Gr. orexis = desire. Ex.: anorexy.</td>
<td>Anorexy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orbit</td>
<td>L. orbis = a ring or circle.</td>
<td>Orbit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orifice</td>
<td>L. orificium = an opening.</td>
<td>Orifice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ortho</td>
<td>Gr. orthos = right, straight. Ex.: orthodontics; orthopedic.</td>
<td>Orthodontics.</td>
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<td>Ostium</td>
<td>L. ostium = door or opening.</td>
<td>Ostium.</td>
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<td>Osmia</td>
<td>Gr. osme = smell. Ex.: anosmia.</td>
<td>Osmia.</td>
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<td>Osteo</td>
<td>Gr. osteon = bone. Ex.: osteology; osteoblast.</td>
<td>Osteology.</td>
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<td>Oto</td>
<td>Gr. ous, otos = hear. Ex.: otology.</td>
<td>Otology.</td>
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<td>Otomy</td>
<td>Gr. suffix tome = a curting. Ex.: osteotomy</td>
<td>Osteotomy.</td>
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<td>P</td>
<td>Palate -</td>
<td>L. palatum = palate.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Paleo</td>
<td>Gr. palaios = old, antique. Ex.: paleontology.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pan</td>
<td>Gr. pan, pantos = all. Ex.: pansinusitis; pantography.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Panniculus</td>
<td>L. diminutive of pannus = cloth or covering.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Papilla</td>
<td>L. papilla = nipple.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Paqui</td>
<td>Gr. pachys = thick. Ex.: paquimeter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parasymphathetic</td>
<td>Gr. para = beside and sympathetic. A term coined as a name for the autonomic nervous system.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parenchyma</td>
<td>Gr. para = beside and enchyma = infusion or juice.</td>
<td>Parenchyma.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parietal</td>
<td>L. paries = a wall.</td>
<td>Parietal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parotid</td>
<td>Gr. para = beside and ous (ot) = ear.</td>
<td>Parotid.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partheno</td>
<td>Gr. parthenos = virgin. Ex.: parthenogenesis.</td>
<td>Parthenogenesis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patho, pathy</td>
<td>Gr. pathos = disease. Ex.: pathology; enteropathy.</td>
<td>Pathology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patella</td>
<td>L. patella = little plate.</td>
<td>Patella.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pedicle</td>
<td>L. pes (pedis) = foot, and the diminutive suffix -culus.</td>
<td>Pedicle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pedro, paedo</td>
<td>Gr. paidos = child. Ex.: pedodontics; paediatrics.</td>
<td>Pedro.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pelvis</td>
<td>L. pelvis = basin.</td>
<td>Pelvis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penia</td>
<td>Gr. penia = poverty; diminution. Ex.: leucopenia.</td>
<td>Leucopenia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per</td>
<td>L. per = through; across. Ex.: percutaneous.</td>
<td>Percutaneous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peri</td>
<td>Gr. peri = around. Ex.: periodontal</td>
<td>Periodontal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharynx</td>
<td>Gr. pharynx = throat.</td>
<td>Pharynx.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phrenic</td>
<td>Gr. phren = (1) diaphragm, and (2) brain.</td>
<td>Phrenic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pia</td>
<td>L. pia = kindly or tender. Pia is the feminine of pius</td>
<td>Pia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinna</td>
<td>L. pinna = a wing.</td>
<td>Pinna.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Piriform</td>
<td>L. pirum = a pear and forma = form.</td>
<td>Piriform.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pisiform</td>
<td>L. pisum = a pea and forma = form.</td>
<td>Pisiform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pituitary</td>
<td>L. pituita = mucous secretion.</td>
<td>Pituitary.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plasia</td>
<td>Gr. plasis = formation. Ex.: dysplasia.</td>
<td>Plasia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plasty</td>
<td>Gr. plastai = reparation. Ex.: ameloplasty; genioplasty.</td>
<td>Plasty.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Platsmsma</td>
<td>Gr. platsmsma = a plate.</td>
<td>Platsmsma.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plegy</td>
<td>Gr. plege = attack.</td>
<td>Plegy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleo</td>
<td>Gr. pleos = abundant; copious. Ex.: pleomorphism.</td>
<td>Pleo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleura</td>
<td>Gr. pleura = the side of the body or the ribs. Ex.: pleuritis.</td>
<td>Pleura.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pluri</td>
<td>L. plus, pluris = varied; multiple.</td>
<td>Pluri.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pneumo</td>
<td>Gr. pneumon = lung.</td>
<td>Pneumo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poli</td>
<td>Gr. polys = much. Ex.: politraumatism.</td>
<td>Poli.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polio</td>
<td>Gr. polios = grey, ash. Ex.: poliomyelitis.</td>
<td>Polio.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post</td>
<td>L. post = after. Ex.: post operative.</td>
<td>Post.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pons</td>
<td>L. pons = a bridge.</td>
<td>Pons.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Word</td>
<td>Meaning</td>
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<tr>
<td>------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postero-</td>
<td>L. posterus = behind.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre -</td>
<td>L. prae = before. Ex.: preoperative.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Primo -</td>
<td>L. primus = first. Ex.: herpetic primo-infection.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pro</td>
<td>Gr. pro = before. Ex.: prognathism.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Proto</td>
<td>Gr. protos = first. Ex.: protozoary. Proximal L. proximus = next to.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pseudo</td>
<td>Gr. præs = false. Ex.: pseudocyst.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psycho</td>
<td>Gr. psyche = soul, mind. Ex.: psychology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ptosis</td>
<td>Gr. ptosis = fall. Ex.: blepharoptosis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pterylo - Pupil -</td>
<td>L. pupilla, diminutive of pupa = a doll or little girl.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pyelo -</td>
<td>Gr. pyelos = cavity. Ex.: pyelonephritis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pyon</td>
<td>Gr. pyon = suppuration, pus. Ex.: pyogenic</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pyriform</td>
<td>L. pirum = a pear and forma = shape or form.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Quadratus = L. quadratus = a square in shape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Rabdo</td>
<td>Gr. rhabdos = groove. Ex.: rhabdomyosarcoma.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radico</td>
<td>Gr. radix, radicis = root. Ex.: radicular</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radius- Raphy</td>
<td>L. radius = spoke of a wheel.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raqui</td>
<td>Gr. rhakis = spine. Ex.: raquianesthesia.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rectum, rectus</td>
<td>L. rectus = straight.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Renal</td>
<td>L. ren = kidney.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhag -</td>
<td>Gr. rhag, rhagnymii = irruption. Ex.: haemorrhagy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhea - Retina - Retro</td>
<td>L. rete = a net.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhomboid</td>
<td>Gr. rhombus = a lozenge, and eidos = resemblance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhino -</td>
<td>Gr. rhinos = nose. Ex.: rhinoplasty.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risorius</td>
<td>L. risor = one who laughs. Ex.: risorius muscle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhizo</td>
<td>Gr. rhiza = root. Ex.: rhizotomy.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Sagittal -</td>
<td>L. sagitta = arrow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sapro -</td>
<td>Gr. sapros = rotten. Ex.: saprophyte</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarco</td>
<td>Gr. sarkos = meat, pulp. Ex.: sarcoma.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scapula -</td>
<td>L. scapula = shoulder blade.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scopy</td>
<td>Gr. skopeo = to see, to observe. Ex.: microscopy; endoscopy; arthroscopy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sclera</td>
<td>Gr. skleros = hard. Ex.: sclerotic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sclera</td>
<td>L. sella turcica = saddle, and turcica = Turkish.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semio -</td>
<td>Gr. semeion = signal. Ex.: semiology; semiotechnic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sepsis, septic</td>
<td>Gr. sepsis = infection; septikos = rotten. Ex.: antiseptic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serosa</td>
<td>L. sersus = membrane giving off serum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sesamoid</td>
<td>Gr. sesame = an herb.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sialo -</td>
<td>Gr. salion = saliva. Ex.: sialography.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sidero</td>
<td>Gr. sideros = iron. Ex.: sideropenia. Sigmoid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sinus</td>
<td>L. sinus = a bay or anything hollowed out. Ex.: sinusitis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Skeleton</td>
<td>Gr. skeletos = dried up.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Skin -</td>
<td>A.S. scinn = skin.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skull -</td>
<td>A.S. skulle = a bowl.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socket</td>
<td>O.E. socket = spearhead; from O.F. soc = ploughshare.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soma</td>
<td>Gr. soma = the body. Ex.: somatic</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sphenoid</td>
<td>Gr. sphen = wedge.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sphincter</td>
<td>Gr. sphinkter = a band; from sphingein = to bind.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spine -</td>
<td>L. spina = a thorn.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Squamous</td>
<td>Gr. squama = fish-scale.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stapes</td>
<td>L. stapes = stirrup.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stenosis</td>
<td>Gr. stenos = narrow, -osis = condition.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stoma -</td>
<td>Gr. stoma = mouth. Ex.: stomatology; stomatitis; tracheostomy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stomach Gr. stomachos; originally derived from stoma = mouth.

Styloid Gr. stylos = pillar.

Sub - L. sub = down. Ex.: submandibular.

Sulcus L. sulcus = groove or furrow.

Supra L. supra = above. Ex.: suprahypoid muscles.

Suture - L. sutura = a sewing or seam.

Symphysis Gr. symphysis = a growing together; from syn = with, and physis = growth.

Synapse Gr. syn = together, and haptein = to touch.

Systole Gr. syn = together, stellein = to draw, to contract.

T

Tachy Gr. tachys = swift or fast.

Thanato Gr. thanatos = death. Ex.: thanatology

Tele Gr. tele = far. Ex.: teleradiography.

Tele Gr. telos = end. Ex.: teleology

Temporal L. temporalis = pertaining to the temples.

Tendon - L. tendo = a tendon; from tendere = to stretch.

Tensor L. tensor = stretcher or puller.

Terato Gr. teras, teratos = monster. Ex.: teratology.

Tetra - Gr. tetra = four. Ex.: tetraplegy.

Therapy Gr. therapeia = treatment. Ex.: therapeutics.

Thermo Gr. theme = heat. Ex.: thermometer.

Thyroid Gr. thryeos = a shield

Tomo, tomy Gr. tome = cut. Ex.: tomography.

Tonsil L. tonsilla = tonsil. Ex.: tonsillectomy.

Topo - Gr. topos = place. Ex.: ectopic.

Toxi - Gr. toxikon = poison.

Trachea Gr. tracheia = rough.

Tragus Gr. tragos = a male goat.

Trans - L. trans = through. Ex.: transplant.

Tresia Gr. = tresis = hole. Ex.: atresia.

Trigo Gr. thrix, trikos = hair. Ex.: hypotricosis.

Trigone Gr. trigonon, from tri = three, and gonia = angle.

Trophi Gr. trope = nutrition. Ex.: atrophy.

Tropo - Gr. tropos = attraction. Ex.: phototropism.

Tubercle L. tuber = a knot or collection, and culum = a diminutive suffix.

Tuberosity L. tuber = knob or localized collection, and -osity = condition.

Tunica - L. tunica = shirt or covering. Ex.: tympanum Gr. tympanon = a drum.

U

Ule Gr. oule = scar. Ex.: ulectomy.

Ulo Gr. oulon = gums. Ex.: ulorragy.

Ultra - L. ultra = beyond. Ex.: ultrasound.

Uncus - L. uncus = a hook.

Uvula L. uva = a grape and the diminutive suffix -ula.

V

Valgus - L. valgus = turn outside.

Varo - L. varus, varum = turn inside.

Vagus L. vagus = wandering.

Vertebra L. vertebra = a joint of the spine; from vertere = to turn.

Viscera - L. viscera, plural of viscus = an internal organ.

Vitreous L. vitreus = glassy.

Vomer - L. vomer = ploughshare. X

Xantho Gr. xanthos = yellow. Ex.: xanthoma.

Xeno Gr. xenos = stranger. Ex.: xenophoby.

Xero Gr. xeros = dry. Ex.: xerostomy.

Xiphoid Gr. xiphos= sword. Xylo Gr. xylon = wood.

Z

Zyme Gr. zyme = ferment. Ex.: enzymology.

Zonula - L. zona = a girdle, belt, or zone, and the diminutive suffix -ula.

Zoo - Gr. zoon = animal. Ex.: zoology; zoonosis.

Zygoma Gr. zygoma = bolt or bar; related to zygon = a yoke.
References


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