

BASIC ETYMOLOGY OF THE STOMATOLOGICAL LANGUAGE: AN ESSAY

Etimologia básica da linguagem estomatológica: ensaio

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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; OF. old French; OG. 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-. Ex.: acromegaly: acro + megas (Gr. large)

Actino Gr. aktis = ray, beam. Ex.: actinomyces.

Acu - L. acus = needle. Ex.: acupuncture; acute.

Ad - L. ad = to; together. 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.: alomorphus.

Alimentary L. alimentum = nourishment.

Allantois Gr. allas = a sausage and eidos (Gr. resemblance).

Alo Gr. allos = different. Ex.: aloplastic.

Alveolus L. diminutive of alveus = any hollowed out structure.

Ameloblast O.Fr. en = on; amel = enamel, and Gr. blastos = germ.

Amylo - Gr. amylon = 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. a(an-) = not and enkephalon = brain.

Aneurysm Gr. aneurysma = a widening; from ana = across and eurys = broad.

Angio - Gr. angeion = blood or lymphatic vessel. Ex.: angiography; angiology.

Aniso - L. anisos = not equal; different. Ex.: anisocytosis.

Annulus L. anus = ring, and -ulus, a diminutive suffix.

Ankylo Gr. ankylos = bend, curvature. Ex.: ankyloglossia.

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.	Blefaró	Gr. blepharon = eyelid. Ex.: blefaroplasty; blefaroptosis.
Artery	Gr. aer = air and terein = to keep.	Brachial	L. brachium = an arm.
Arthro	Gr. arthron = joint. Ex.: arthrography; arthrocentesis.	Brady	Gr. bradis = slow. Ex.: bradycardia = brady + kardia (Gr. heart). Bregma Gr. bregma = front of the head. Brevis - L. brevis = short.
Articulation	L. articulus, diminutive or artus = joint, and -atio, a suffix originally denoting action.	Bronchial	Adjective from Gr. bronchus
Arytenoid	Gr. arytaina = a pitcher	Bronchus	Gr. bronchos = windpipe; originally from Gr. brechein = to moisten.
Autho	Gr. autos = own. Ex.: authomatic.	Bruit	Fr. bruit = sound or noise.
Axo, axis	Gr. axon = axle.	Buccal	L. bucca = the cheek.
Ascites	Gr. askos = a bag or bladder.	Buccinator	L. buccinator = a trumpeter.
Ataxia	Gr. a = not, taxis = order, and -ia = condition.	Bulla	L. bulla = a bubble. The adjective is bullous.
Atelectasis	Gr. ateles = imperfect, and ektasis = expansion.	Bursa	L. bursa = a purse; hence any closed sac. Ex.: bursitis.
Atheroma	Gr. athere = porridge; an unexpected derivation.		
Atlas	Gr. Atlas; mythological Titan who supported the world on his shoulders.	C	
Atresia	Gr. a = not; tresis = a boring, and -ia = a condition.	Caco	Gr. kakos = bad. Ex.: cacosmia.
Atrium -	L. atrium = a hall, or an entrance..	Cadaver	L. cadere = to fall dead.
Atrophy	Gr. a = without and trophe = nourishment.	Cancer	Gr. cancer = crab.
Atropine	Gr. Atropos = one of the Fates.	Canthus	Gr. kanthos = corner of the eye.
Auditory	L. audire = to hear.	Capillary	L. capillaris = relating to the hair; hence any structure as fine as a hair.
Auricle	L. auricula, diminutive of auris = ear. Autonomic -Gr. autos = self, and nomos = law.	Carcino	Gr. karkinos = a crab. Ex.: carcinoma: carcino + -oma = tumor or neoplasm.
Autopsy	Gr. autos = self, and ophis = to look at. Axial, axis L. axis = axle or pivot	Cardia	Gr. kardia = heart
Axo	Gr. axon = axle.	Carie	L. caries = progressive destruction. Ex.: dental caries.
		Carina -	L. carina = keel of a boat.
B		Cario	Gr. karyon = nucleous.
Basilar	L. basilaris = basal; originally from Gr. basis = a base	Carotid	Gr. karoun = to put to sleep. In early Greece, jokesters 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.
Bicuspid	L. bi = two, and cuspis = point	Cartilage	L. cartilago = gristle.
Bile	L. bilis = bile. Ex.: bilirubin (ruber = red); biliverdin (viridis = green). Bio Gr. bios = life. Ex.: biochemistry.	Casei	L. caseus = cheese.
Biopsy	Gr. bios = life and ophis = vision. Blasto Gr. blastos = origin, germ. Ex.: blas-tomycosis.	Cauda -	L. cauda = a tail.
Blastula	Gr. blastos = germ or bud and derma = skin.	Cata -	Gr. kata = down.

Causa -	Gr. kausis = burn. Ex.: causalgia: burning pain in a peripheric nerve.	Condyle	Gr. kondylos = a knuckle. Ex.: condylectomy: kondylos + Gr. tome = cut.
Cecum	L. caecus = blind. Ex.: foramen cecum of the tongue.	Constrictor	L. con = together and stringere = to pull.
Cele	Gr. kele = swelling.	Conjunctiva	L. con = with, and jungere (junctus) = to join. Ex.: conjunctivitis.
Cell -	L. cella = a small chamber.	Coronary	L. coronarius = pertaining to or like a crown.
Cephalic	Gr. kephale = head.	Corpus -	L. corpus = body.
Cerebellum	L. diminutive of cerebrum = brain.	Cortex -	L. cortex = outer layer or bark. Ex.: bone cortical.
Cerebrum	L. cerebrum = brain.	Cranium	Gr. kranion = skull.
Cervical	Look at cervix.	Cribriform	L. cribrum = a sieve and forma = form.
Cervix -	L. cervix = neck.	Cricoid	Gr. krikos = a circle or ring, and eidos = resemblance.
Cheilo	Gr. kheilos = lip. Ex.: cheiloplasty. Chiasm Gr. chiasma = two crossing lines. From the Greek letter chi which in Greek script was written c.	Crio	Gr. krios cold. Ex.: criotherapy.
Choana	Gr. choane = a funnel. Applied to the posterior naris.	Cripto	Gr. kryptos = occult. Ex.: criptogenetics: unknown origin.
Cholangitis	Gr. chole = bile, angeion = vessel, and -itis = inflammation.	Crus	L. crista = leg.
Chondral	Gr. chondros = cartilage. Ex.: chondritis; chondroplasty.	Cutaneous	L. cutaneus = relating to the skin; from cutis = skin.
Chondrio	Gr. khondrion = granules.	Cyano	Gr. kyanos = blue. Ex.: cyanosis.
Chorda	L. chorda = a string or cord. Gr. chorde = intestine.	Cyst	Gr. kystis = cyst; bladder.
Choroid	Gr. chorion = skin and eidos = resemblance.	Cyto	Gr. kytos = cell. The same of L. vas. Ex.: leucocyte Gr. leukos = white + kytos.
Chrome	Gr. khroma = color. Ex.: chromosome. Chrono Gr. krhonos = time. Ex.: chronic: continuing for a long time.	D	
Chyme	Gr. chymos = juice. Ex.: parenchyma; mesenchyme.	Decidua	L. decidus = falling off.
Cide -	L. caedere = kill. Ex.: germicide.	Deferens	L. de = away, and ferre = to carry.
Ciliary	L. ciliaris = pertaining to eyelashes; from cilia = eyelashes	Demo	Gr. demos = people. Ex.: epidemia; demographic.
Circulation	L. circulare = to make a circle.	Dendro	Gr. dendron = tree. Ex.: dendrytis.
Cirro	Gr. kirrhos = yellow. Ex.: cirrhosis	Deonto	Gr. deontos = duty; obligation. Ex.: deodontology.
Clavicle	L. clavícula = diminutive of clavis = a key.	Depressor	L. de = down + premere = to press and the suffix -or = the agent.
Cleido	Gr. kleis, kleidos = clavicles	Dermo, dermat	Gr. derma = skin.
Clino -	Gr. kline, klinos = bed. Ex.: clinics.	Di -	Gr. di = two. Ex.: digastric: di + gaster = belly.
Collagen	Gr. kolla = glue and gennao = to produce	Dis	L. de = against. Ex.: disinfection.
Commissure	L. commissura; from con (com-) = together and mittere = to put.	Dia	Gr. dia = to cross; through. Ex.: diapidesis; 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. diploos = 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
- Ec 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. ektome = 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.: synergy: 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, aetio Gr. aitos = cause. Ex.: etiology
- Etno - Gr. ethnos = race. Ex.: ethnology
- Eversion L. evertere = to turn outward; from ex (e-) = out, and vertere = to turn.
- Ex, exo Gr. ex = outside; external. Ex.: exophtalmia
- 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
- Fago, fagia 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.
- Fovea - L. fovea = a pit. Frontal L. frons = forehead. Fundus L. fundus = bottom.
- ## G
- Ganglion 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.
- Glico - Gr. glykus = sweet. Ex.: glicosys. Glosso Gr. glossa = tongue. Ex.: glossectomy; glossodynia.

Gnatho	Gr. gnathos = mandible. Ex.: gnathology.	Incisor	L. incidere = to cut into; from in = in + caedere = to cut.
Gnose	Gr. gnosis = knowledge. Ex.: diagnosis.	Incus -	L. incus, incudis = anvil.
Graphy	Gr. graphein = write; register. Ex.: radiography.	Innominate	L. innominatus = unnamed; from in = not + nomen = name.
Gubernaculum	L. gubernaculum = helm or little governor; from gubernare = to control and the diminutive suffix -culum.	Insertion	L. in = in + serere = to put.
Gyrus	Gr. gyros = a circle.	Inter -	L. inter = between.
H		Intestine	L. intestinum = intestine. The noun intestinum came from the adjective intestinus = inner or inward.
Haemo, haemato, emia	Gr. haima = blood. Ex.: haematology; haematia.	Inversion	L. invertere = to turn about or inside out.
Halo -	Gr. halos = salt.	Ipsilateral	L. ipse = self or same and latus = side.
Hamarto	Gr. hamartia = defect. Ex.: hamartoma.	Iris	Gr. iris = rainbow.
Hamulus	L. hamulus, a diminutive of hamus = a hook.	Ischium	Gr. ischion = hip.
Helix	Gr. helix = a coil or screw. Ex.: helicotrema: helix + trema = a hole.	Ism	Gr. -ismos = suffix meaning disease, system; attribute. Ex.: cherubism; tropism.
Hepato	Gr. hepar, hepatos = liver. Ex.: hepatology.	Itis	Gr. -itis = inflammation; disease. Ex.: pulpitis.
Hernia	L. hernia = a rupture.	In vitro	See vitreous. In vivo See vitreous J
Hetero -	Gr. heteros = other; different. Ex.: heterotopic.	Jejunum	L. jejunos = fasting or empty.
Hilum, hilus	L. hilum = a small thing.	Joint	L. jungere = to join.
Histo -	Gr. histos = tissue. Ex.: histology.	Jugular	L. jugulum = throat. K
Homeo	Gr. homoios = similar, like, uniform. Ex.: homeopathy.	Kyphosis	Gr. kyphos = bent + -osis = condition.
Hydro	Gr. hydor = water. Ex.: hydrocephaly.	L	
Hygro	Gr. hydr os = humid; damp. Ex.: hygroscopic	Labia -	L. labium = lip.
Hyper	Gr. hyper = excessive. Ex.: hyperdontia; hyperactivity.	Labyrinth	Gr. labyrinthos = a maze. Ex.: labyrinthitis.
Hypo	Gr. hypo = less. Ex.: hypodontia.	Lacrimal	L. lacrimal = a tear.
Hypno	Gr. hypnos = sleep. Ex.: hypnotic.	Lacto -	L. lactis = milk. Ex.: lactobacillus.
I		Lalia	Gr. lalein = speak. Ex.: dyslalia.
Ia	Gr. suffix -ia = disease. Ex.: neuralgia.	Laparo -	Gr. laparon = flank; side. Ex.: lapa-roscopy.
Iatro	Gr. iatros = physician; medicine doctor. Ex.: iatrogenic.	Lateral	L. latus = side.
Ictero	Gr. ikteros = yellow. Ex.: icteric.	Lema	Gr. lemma = sheath. Ex.: neurilemma
Idio -	Gr. idios = own; proper. Ex.: idiopathic.	Lemniscus	Gr. lemniskos = a band.
		Lenticular	L. lens = a lentil, and a diminutive suffix.
		Leuco -	Gr. leukos = white. Ex.: leucocyte.
		Levator	L. levator = anything that raises; from levare = to lift.
		Levo -	L. loevus = left.

Ligament	L. ligamentum = ligament; from ligare = to bind.		after or beyond and tarsos = instep.
Linea	L. lien = spleen. Related to the Greek term splen = spleen.	Metro, metria	Gr. metra = uterus.
Lingula	L. lingula, diminutive of lingua = tongue.	Micro -	Gr. mikros = small. Ex.: microscopy.
Lymph	L. lynpha = water. Ex.: lymphatic.	Miso -	Gr. misos = hate.
Lipo -	Gr. lipos = fat. Ex.: fatty.	Mito	Gr. mitos = thread; wire. Ex.: mitosis; mitochondria.
Lith	Gr. lithos = stone. Ex.: sialolith; phlebolith.	Mnesis	Gr. mnesis = memory. Ex.: amnesia
Logy, logia	Gr. logos = word; treatise. Ex.: stomatology; pathology; logosophy.	Molar	L. mola = a millstone.
Longus	L. longus = long.	Mono -	Gr. monos = unique; one. Ex.: monostotic.
Lyo -	Gr. leios = smooth.	Morph	Gr. morphe = form. Ex.: amorphus.
Lysis	Gr. lysis = solução; decomposition. Ex.: autolysis.	Motor -	L. motor = producing movement.
M		Muscle -	L. musculus = diminutive of mus = a mouse.
Macro	Gr. makron = big; large. Ex.: macroscopy.	Mythos	Gr. mythos = myth. Ex.: mythomania
Malacia	Gr. malakia = softening. Ex.: chondromalacia.	Myelo	Gr. myelos = marrow. Ex.: myelocytic
Mania	Gr. mania = madness. Ex.: kleptomania.	Myo	Gr. mys, myos = muscle. Ex.: myalgia
Mandible	L. mandibula = jaw; from mandere = to chew	Myco -	Gr. mykes = fungus, mushroom. Ex.: mycosis
Masseter	Gr. maseter = chewer.	Mylohyoid	Gr. myle = a mill and hyoid.
Mastication	L. masticare = to chew.	Myxo	Gr. myxa = mucus. Ex.: myxoma. N
Mastoid	Gr. mastos = breast or nipple.	Navicular	L. navis = boat and the diminutive suffix -cula..
Maxilla -	L. maxilla = jaw bone.	Nares -	L. naris = nostril.
Meatus -	L. meatus = a channel or way.	Necro	Gr. nekros = dead. Ex.: necrosis.
Mediastinum	L. mediastinum = medial, intermediate.	Neo	Gr. neos = new. Ex. neoplasia.
Medulla	L. medulla = marrow.	Node -	L. nodus = a knot. Ex. lymphnode
Mega, megal, megalia	Gr. megas, megalos: big, large; giant.	Nomia	Gr. nomos = law.
Melano	Gr. melas = black. Ex.: melanoma; melanocyte.	Noso -	Gr. nosos = disease. Ex.: nosology.
Meninges	Gr. meninx = membrane; plural, meninges. Ex.: meningitis.	O	
Meno	Gr. men = month. Ex.: menopause.	Ocro	Gr. okros = yellow; pale.
Mesentery	Gr. mesos = middle and enteron = intestine.	Oculo -	L. oculus = eye.
Meso	Gr. mesos = middle.	Odonto	Gr. odous, odontos = tooth. Ex.: odontology.
Meta	Gr. meta = after. Ex.: metacarpus; Gr. meta = after or beyond and karpos = wrist. metatarsus: Gr. meta =	Odyno	Gr. odyno = pain.
		Oid	Gr. eidos = resemblance. Ex.: mastoid.
		Olfactory	L. olfacere = to smell.

Oligo	Gr. oligos = few. Ex.: oligofrenic.	Parotid	Gr. para = beside and ous (ot) = ear.
Oma	Gr. oma = tumor. Ex.: ameloblasto-ma; odontoma; carcinoma.	Partheno	Gr. parthenos = virgin. Ex.: parthenogenesis.
Onco -	Gr. onkos = tumor. Ex.: oncology.	Patho, pathy	Gr. pathos = disease. Ex.: pathology; enteropathy.
Onico	Gr. onux, onyxos = nail. Ex.: onicophagy	Patella -	L. patella = little plate.
Onto	Gr. on, ontos = beeing; person. Ex.: ontology	Pedicle	L. pes (pedis) = foot, and the diminutive suffix -culus.
Ophtalm	Gr. ophtalmos = eye. Ex.: ophtalmology; ophthalmia.	Pedo, paedo	Gr. paidos = child. Ex.: pedodontics; paediatrics.
Oral -	L. os = mouth; genitive, oris.	Pelvis	L. pelvis = basin.
Orbicular	L. orbicularis = circular or disc-shaped; from orbis = circle or orb.	Penia -	Gr. penia = poverty; diminution. Ex.: leucopenia.
Orexii	Gr. orexis = desire. Ex.: anorexy.	Per -	L. per = through; across. Ex.: percutaneous.
Orbit -	L. orbis = a ring or circle.	Peri	Gr. peri = around. Ex.: periodontal
Orchid	Gr. orchis = testicle. Ex.: orchitis.	Pes -	L. pes = foot.
Orifice	L. orificium = an opening.	Petrosal	L. petrosus = stony. Adjective form of petrous.
Origin -	L. origo = starting point.	Pharynx	Gr. pharynx = throat.
Ortho	Gr. orthos = right, straight. Ex.: orthodontics; orthopedic.	Phrenic	Gr. phren = (1) diaphragm, and (2) brain.
Ostium -	L. ostium = door or opening.	Pia	L. pius = kindly or tender. Pia is the feminine of pius
Osmia	Gr. osme = smell. Ex.: anosmia.	Pinna	L. pinna = a wing.
Osteo	Gr. osteon = bone. Ex.: osteology; osteoblast.	Piriform	L. pirum = a pear and forma = form.
Oto -	Gr. ous, otos = hear. Ex.: otology.	Pisiform	L. pisum = a pea and forma = form.
Otomy -	Gr. suffix tome = a currting. Ex.: osteotomy	Pituitary	L. pituita = mucous secretion.
P		Plasia	Gr. plasis = formation. Ex.: dysplasia.
Palate -	L. palatum = palate.	Plasty	Gr. plastiai = reparation. Ex.: ameloplasty; genioplasty.
Paleo	Gr. palaios = old, antique. Ex.: paleontology.	Plasm	Gr. plasma = contents. Ex.: plasmatic.
Pan	Gr. pan, pantos = all. Ex.: pansinusitis; pantography.	Platysma -	Gr. platysma = a plate.
Panniculus	L. diminutive of pannus = cloth or covering.	Plegy	Gr. plege = attack.
Papilla -	L. papilla = nipple.	Pleo	Gr. pleos = abundant; copious. Ex.: pleomorphism.
Paqui	Gr. pachys = thick. Ex.: paquimeter	Pleura	Gr. pleura = the side of the body or the ribs. Ex.: pleuritis.
Parasympathetic	Gr. para = beside and sympathetic. A term coined as a name for the autonomic nervous system.	Pluri -	L. plus, pluris = varied; multiple.
Parenchyma	Gr. para = beside and enchyma = infusion or juice.	Pneumo	Gr. pneumon = lung.
Parietal -	L. paries = a wall.	Poli -	Gr. polys = much. Ex.: politraumatism.
		Polio	Gr. polios = grey, ash. Ex.: poliomyelitis.
		Post -	L. post = after. Ex.: post operative.
		Pons	L. pons = a bridge.

Postero-	L. posterus = behind.	Rhino -	Gr. rhinos = nose. Ex.: rhinoplasty.
Pre -	L. prae = before. Ex.: pre operative.	Risorius	L. risor = one who laughs. Ex.: risorius muscle.
Primo -	L. primus = first. Ex.: herpetic primo-infection.	Rhizo	Gr. rhiza = root. Ex.: rhizotomy.
Pro	Gr. pro = before. Ex.: prognathism.	S	
Proto	Gr. protos = first. Ex.: protozoary. Proximal L. proximus = next to.	Sagittal -	L. sagitta = arrow.
Pseudo	Gr. pseudos = false. Ex.: pseudocyst.	Sapro -	Gr. sapos = rotten. Ex.: saprophyte
Psycho	Gr. psyche = soul, mind. Ex.: psychology.	Sarco	Gr. sarkos = meat, pulp. Ex.: sarcoma.
Ptosis	Gr. ptosis = fall. Ex.: blepharoptosis.	Scapula -	L. scapula = shoulder blade.
Ptyalo -	Gr. ptyalon = saliva.	Scopy	Gr. skopeo = to see, to observe. Ex.: microscopy; endoscopy; arthroscopy.
Pupil -	L. pupilla, diminutive of pupa = a doll or little girl.	Sclera	Gr. skleros = hard. Ex.: sclerotic. Sella turcica L. sella = saddle, and turcica = Turkish.
Pyelo -	Gr. pyelos = cavity. Ex.: pyelonephritis.	Semio -	Gr. semeion = signal. Ex.: semiology; semiotechinic.
Pyon	Gr. pyon = suppuration, pus. Ex.: pyogenic	Sepsis, septic	Gr. sepsis = infection; septikos = rotten. Ex.: antiseptic.
Pyriform	L. pirum = a pear and forma = shape or form.	Serosa	L. sersus = membrane giving off serum.
Q		Sesamoid	Gr. sesame = an herb.
Quadratus	L. quadratus = a square in shape.	Sialo -	Gr. sialon = saliva. Ex.: sialography. Sidero Gr. sideros = iron. Ex.: sideropenia. Sigmoid Gr. sigma = the Greek letter S.
R		Sinus	L. sinus = a bay or anything hollowed out. Ex.: sinusitis
Rabdo	Gr. rhabdos = groove. Ex.: rhabdomyosarcoma.	Skeleton	Gr. skeletos = dried up.
Radico	Gr. radix, radicis = root. Ex.: radicular	Skin -	AS. scinn = skin.
Radius-	L. radius = spoke of a wheel.	Skull -	AS. skulle = a bowl.
Raphy	Gr. raphe = suture. Ex.: neuroraphy.	Socket	OE. socket = spearhead; from OF. soc = ploughshare.
Raqui	Gr. rhakis = spine. Ex.: raquianesthesia.	Soma	Gr. soma = the body. Ex.: somatic
Rectum, rectus	L. rectus = straight.	Sphenoid -	Gr. sphen = wedge.
Renal	L. ren = kidney.	Sphincter	Gr. sphinkter = a band; from sphingein = to bind.
Rhagy -	Gr. rhag, rhegnymi = irruption. Ex.: haemorrhagy	Spine -	L. spina = a thorn.
Rhea -	Gr. rhea = flux. Ex.: rhyrorhea.	Squamous	Gr. squama = fish-scale.
Retina -	L. rete = a net.	Stapes	L. stapes = stirrup.
Retro	L. retro = backward. Ex.: retroversion; retromolar; retrospective.	Stenosis	Gr. stenos = narrow, -osis = condition.
Rhomboid	Gr. rhombus = a lozenge, and eidos = resemblance.	Stoma -	Gr. stoma = mouth. Ex.: stomatology; stomatitis; tracheostomy.

Stomach	Gr. stomachos; originally derived from stoma = mouth.	Trigone	Gr. trigonon, from tri = three, and gonia = angle.
Styloid	Gr. stylos = pillar.	Tropho	Gr. trophe = nutrition. Ex.: atrophy.
Sub -	L. sub = down. Ex.: submandibular.	Tropo -	Gr. tropos = attraction. Ex.: phototropism.
Sulcus	L. sulcus = groove or furrow.	Tubercle	L. tuber = a knot or collection, and culum = a diminutive suffix.
Supra	L. supra = above. Ex.: suprahyoid muscles.	Tuberosity	L. tuber = knob or localized collection, and -osity = condition.
Suture -	L. sutura = a sewing or seam.	Tunica -	L. tunica = shirt or covering.
Sympathetic	Gr. syn = with; together and pathos = suffering.	Tympanum	Gr. tympanon = a drum.
Symphysis	Gr. symphysis = a growing together; from syn = with, and physis = growth.		
Synapse	Gr. syn = together, and haptin = to touch.	U	
Systole	Gr. syn = together, stellein = to draw, to contract.	Ule	Gr. oule = scar. Ex.: ulectomy.
		Ulo	Gr. oulon = gums. Ex.: ulorragy.
T		Ultra -	L. ultra = beyond. Ex.: ultrasound.
Tachy	Gr. tachys = swift or fast.	Uncus -	L. uncus = a hook.
Thanato	Gr. thanatos = death. Ex.: thanatology	Uvula	L. uva = a grape and the diminutive suffix -ula.
Tele	Gr. tele = far. Ex.: teleradiography.		
Tele	Gr. telos = end. Ex.: teleology	V	
Temporal	L. temporalis = pertaining to the temples.	Valgus -	L. valgus = turn outside.
Tendon -	L. tendo = a tendon; from tendere = to stretch.	Varo -	L. varus, varum = turn inside.
Tensor	L. tensor = stretcher or puller.	Vagus	L. vagus = wandering.
Terato	Gr. teras, teratos = monster. Ex.: teratoma; teratology.	Vertebra	L. vertebra = a joint of the spine; from vertere = to turn
Tetra -	Gr. tetra = four. Ex.: tetraplegy.	Viscera -	L. viscera, plural of viscus = an internal organ
Therapy	Gr. therapeta = treatment. Ex.: therapeutics.	Vitreous	L. vitreus = glassy.
Thermo	Gr. therme = heat. Ex.: thermometer.	Vomer-	L. vomer = ploughshare. X
Thyroid	Gr. thyreos = a shield	Xantho	Gr. xanthos = yellow. Ex.: xanthoma.
Tomo, tomy	Gr. tome = cut. Ex.: tomography.	Xeno	Gr. xenos = stranger. Ex.: xenophobia.
Tonsil	L. tonsilla = tonsil. Ex.: tonsilectomy.	Xero	Gr. xeros = dry. Ex.: xerostomy.
Topo -	Gr. topos = place. Ex.: ectopic.	Xiphoid	Gr. xiphos = sword. Xylo Gr. xylon = wood.
Toxi -	Gr. toxikon = poison.		
Trachea	Gr. tracheia = rough.	Z	
Tragus	Gr. tragos = a male goat.	Zyme	Gr. zyme = ferment. Ex.: enzymology.
Trans -	L. trans = through. Ex.: transplant.	Zonula -	L. zona = a girdle, belt, or zone, and the diminutive suffix -ula.
Tresia	Gr. = tresis = hole. Ex.: atresia.	Zoo -	Gr. zoon = animal. Ex.: zoology; zoonosis.
Trico	Gr. thrix, trikos = hair. Ex.: hypotricosis.	Zygoma	Gr. zygoma = bolt or bar; related to zygon = a yoke.

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