**Learning Activity**: Medical Terminology with Quiz

**Module:** Communication in Health Care

**Competencies:** 5. Explain the components of accurate and appropriate documentation and reporting including common medical abbreviations.

**Recommended Resources:**

**Potential Uses:** Written Paper, Group Work, Discussion, Online

**Activity:** Introduction to Medical Terminology with Matching Quiz

**Introduction to Medical Terminology Study Worksheet**

**Common Prefixes**

*a-, an-, in*-: Absence of or without

*Ambi*-: Both

*Bi*-: Two

*Di*-: Double or twice

*Ab*-: Away from

*Ad*-: Toward

*Anti*- Against

*Auto*-: Self

*Brady*-: Slow

*Con*-: Together

*Contra*-: Opposite or against

*Circum*-: Around

*Dia*-: Across or through

*Dys*-: Difficult or painful

*Epi*-: Upon or above

*Eu*-: Good or normal

*Ex-, Exo-, Extra*-: Outside or external

*Hemi*-: Half

*Hyper*-: Excessive or above

*Hypo*-: Beneath or below

*Inter*-: Between

*Iso*-: Equal or same

*Macro*-: Large

*Micro*-: Small

*Mono*-: Single or one

*Multi*-: Many

*Neo*-: New

*Post*-: After

*Poly*-: Much

*Pre*-: Before

*Oligo*-: Deficiency

*Quad*-: Four

*Retro*-: Behind or back

*Semi*-: Half

*Tachy*-: Fast or rapid

*Tox*-: Poison or toxin

*Tri*-: Three

**Suffixes that have same meaning:**

-ac, -al, -ar, -ary, al, -ial, -ic, -ical, -ory, -ous, -tic, -tous

Pertaining to

**Common Suffixes**

-*algesia, -algesic, -algia*: Pain

-*centesis*: Surgical puncture

-*cidal, -cide*: Destroy or kill

-*dipsia*: Thirst

-*dynia*: Pain

-*ectasis*: Dilation

-*ectomy*: Surgical removal

-*emia*: Condition of the blood

-*emesis*: Vomit or vomiting

-*iatrist, -ician,-ist*: Specialist

-*gen, -genesis, -genic*: Create

-*graphy*: Process of recording

-*ia, -ism*: Condition

-*it is*: Inflammation

-*kinesis*: Movement

-*logist, -ologist*: Specialist in the study of

-*logy, -ology:* Study of

-*lysis*: Destruction

-*malacia*: Softening

-*metry*: Measurement

-*necrosis*: Tissue death

-*opia, -opsia, opsis, -opsy*: View of or vision

-*osis*: Abnormal condition

-*paresis*: Partial paralysis

-*pexy*: Surgical fixation

-*phagia*: Eating or swallowing

-*phasia*: Speech

-*phobia*: Fear

-*plasty*: Surgical repair

-*plegia*: Paralysis

-*plegic*: Pertaining to paralysis

-*pnea*: Breathing

-*ptosis*: Drooping

-*rrhage, -rrhagia*: Bursting forth

-*rrhaphy*: Suture or suturing

-*rrhea*: Flow or discharge

-*rrhexis*: Rupture

-*sclerosis*: Hardening

-*scope*: Viewing instrument

-*scopy*: Visual examination

-*stenosis*: Narrowing

-*therapy*: Treatment

-*tomy*: Incision or cut into

-*tripsy*: Crushing

**Common Anatomical Directions**

*Abduction*:Movement away the body

*Adduction*:Movement toward the body

*Anterior or anter/o*: Toward or near the front

*Distal or dist/o*: Further away from the point of origin

*Dorsal or dors/o*: Back or posterior

*Inferior or infer/o*: Beneath or closer to the feet

*Lateral or later/o*: Toward the side; away from the midline

*Medial or medi/o*: Toward the middle or midline

*Posterior or poster/o*: Toward the back

*Prone:* ying on stomach with face looking down

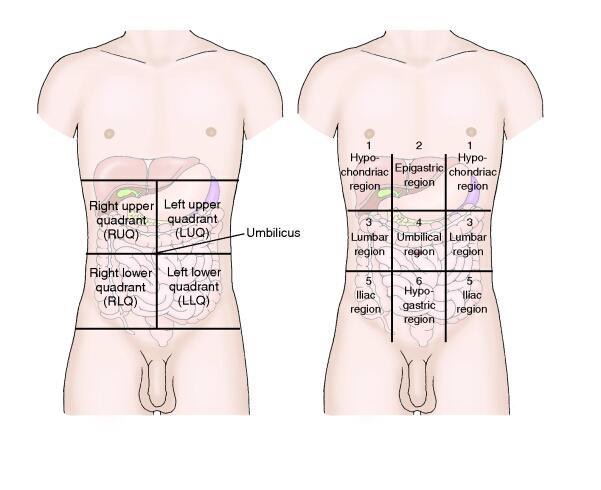
*Proximal or proxim/o*: Closer to the point of origin

*Superior or super/o*: Above or near the head

*Supine*: Lying on back with face looking up

*Ventral or ventr/o*: Front or anterior

**Four Quadrants and Nine Regions of Abdomen**



Reference: Eagle, S. (2011). *Medical terminology in a flash!: A multiple learning style approach.* (second ed.). Philadelphia, PA: FA Davis

Matching Quiz

1. The word *quadriplegic* means how many extremities are paralyzed?

a. one

b. two

c. three

d. four

2. The word dysphasia means difficulty doing what?

a. eating or swallowing

b. speaking

c. destroying

d. remembering

3. The patient has had a rhinoplasty. This is what done to the nose?

a. surgical repair

b. surgical removal of parts

c. cutting into

d. suturing

4. Which of the following prefixes is matched with the correct definition?

a. *ab-:* against

b. *dys*-: around

c. *tachy*-: slow

d. *mono*-: one

5. Arteriorstenosis means what has happened to the artery?

a. prolapse, drooping

b. softening

c. narrowing

d. rupture

6. Which of the following suffixes is matched with the correct definition?

a. -*necrosis*: new

b. -*paresis*: partial paralysis

c. -*centesis*: surgical fixation

d. -*pnea*: pain

7. All of the following prefixes mean without, not, or absence except:

a. an-

b. a-

c. uni-

d. in-

8. When oliguria is used to describe urine it means what?

a. too much urine

b. foul smelling urine

c. discolored urine

d. deficient amount of urine

9. Septicemia means bacterial infection where?

a. in the urine

b. in the blood

c. in the wound

d. in the bones

10. The patient is complaining of dyspnea which means when the patient breaths what is happening?

a. painful

b. normal

c. rapid

d. congested

11. The patient’s belly button is located in which of the regions of the abdomen?

a. right iliac region

b. left hypochondriac region

c. left lumbar region

d. umbilical region

12. The health care worker wants to document that the patient is lying on his back with his face looking up toward the ceiling. What medical word would be used?

a. prone

b. anterior

c. supine

d. inferior

13. The health care worker has been instructed to do range of motion exercises that move the patient’s leg away from the body. The medical word for this would be?

a. proximal

b. abduction

c. distal

d. adduction

14. The patient has hypotension. This is what type of blood pressure reading?

a. below normal

b. above normal

c. difficult to hear

d. very loud to hear

15. One of the symptoms associated with diabetes is polydipsia. This is much of what?

a. hunger

b. thirst

c. urination

d. pain

16. The medical term for blueness is cyan-. When the word is cyanosis what does this mean?

a. inflammation causing blueness

b. the creation of blueness

c. abnormal condition of blueness

d. treatment of blueness

17. The prefix tri- means:

a. one

b. two

c. three

d. four

18. Nephrologist means what?

a. the study of the kidneys

b. the measurement of the kidneys

c. decreased function of the kidneys

d. specialist in the study of the kidneys

19. Both of the patient’s legs are closest to which of the nine anatomical regions of the abdomen?

a. right and left hypochondriac regions

b. epigastric region

c. right and left iliac regions

d. right and left lumbar regions

20. sophagogastroduodenoscopy is doing what with the esophagus, stomach and duodenum?

a. visual examination

b. surgical repair

c. cutting into

d. removing parts of

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