1.1 Introduction to medical terminology

STARTER Medical terminology

What do you think medical terminology means? Write your answer in the space below. Try to include any medical terms that you might know.

Language used by medical professionals to communicate easily and quickly

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Discussion: When is medical terminology used?

In small groups, discuss when you might need to use medical terminology. Make notes below.

Between doctors

Between doctor and patient

Emergencies

Activity 1 The importance of medical terminology

Get into small groups. Write a 100-word speech about the importance of medical terminology. Once completed, choose a speaker to deliver the speech to the class.

Medical treatment is athe language used by medical professionals. This language is the same for all medical professionals who speak English. It helps to communicate and helps to understand clearly. It's describe the condition of a patient and identify the treatment that a patient needs. It saves time in a medical emergency.

Activity 2 Using medical terminology

Write a sentence about why understanding medical terminology is useful.

1. If you are talking to your doctor:

It'll help me to understand the doctor

2. If you want to study a healthcare related course at university:

It'll be useful to already know the medical treatment

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1.2 Medical root words, prefixes, suffixes and combining vowels

STARTER **What does it mean?**

What do each of the following mean?

Prefix:

Letters or word that is added at the begging of a word

Root word:

The basic part of a word.

Suffix:

Letters or word that's added to the end of a word to change it's meaning.

Combining vowel:

Used between hard saying words.

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Activity 3 **Root word meanings**

In the spaces, write what each of the root words refers to.

arthr	Refers to the joints
heam	Refers to the blood
lipid	Refers to the fats
osteo	Refers to the bones
cardio	Refers to the heart

Activity 4 Practise the root words

Your teacher will pronounce each of the root words and their meanings from the textbook. As a group, repeat each one after your teacher.
If you find it difficult to say any of the words, write them in the following space so that you can practise later.

Arther (joint)	pulmon (lungs)
gastr (stomach)	chem (chemical)
phleb (vein)	lipid (fat)
carcin (cancer)	thromb (clot)
cardi (heart)	derm (skin)
head (blood)	osteob (bones)

Activity 5 Prefixes

Answer the questions about prefixes.

1. In which part of a word would you find a prefix?

In the beginning.

2. Does every medical word have a prefix?

No

3. Can a prefix change the meaning of a word?

Yes

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1.2 Medical root words, prefixes, suffixes and combining vowels

Activity 6 Word meanings

Look at the words below. The first one has no prefix, but the second one does have a prefix.
Write what each of the words means to see how a prefix can change the meaning of a word.

happy:

Happy is the root word.

unhappy:

un is a prefix and It added to happy so it means not happy

Activity 7 Medical prefixes

In the spaces, write what medical prefix is being described.

Prefix meaning	Prefix	Prefix meaning	Prefix
without, or lack of	a- or an-	too high	hyper-
away from, or off	ab-	too low	hypo-
against	anti-	between	inter-
before	ante-	within	intra-
slow	brady-	muscle	myo-
above or upper	epi-	fast	tachy-

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Activity 8 Medical suffixes

When used in medical terminology, what are the two things that a suffix added to a word usually refers to?

A condition / A procedure / A disease

Activity 9 Select the suffix

In each of the words, highlight or underline which part is the suffix.

neuropathy

arthritis

carcinogenic

biology

osteoporosis

hyperthyroidism

leukaemia

Notes:

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1.2 Medical root words, prefixes, suffixes and combining vowels

Activity 10 Combining vowels

What does a combining vowel do? Write your answer below.

It makes medical words easier to say

Activity 11 Missing combining vowels

Each of the words below is missing a combining vowel. Write the word out again with the combining vowel added in the correct place.

1. haemglobin	hemoglobin
2. carcingenic	carcinogenic
3. immuntherapy	immunotherapy
4. gastrenteritis	gastroenteritis
5. acidsis	acidosis
6. raditherapy	radiotherapy

Once you finish, your teacher will check that you have the correct spelling for each word.
Now practise saying each of the words in order. First, try saying the word without the combining vowel, then say the word with the combining vowel added. Which one is easier to pronounce?

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1.2 Medical root words, prefixes, suffixes and combining vowels

away from normal

Word	Meaning
Abnormal	A condition where the thyroid is overactive
Hypoglycaemia	Study of the body
Biology	Condition of the bones
Osteoporosis	Upper layer of the skin
Epidermis	Skin
Anaemia	Fast heart rate
Tachycardia	Heart rate
Hyperglycaemia	Too little suger in the blood
Dermatology	Is the branch of medicine dealing with the skin
Bradycardia	Slow heartbeat

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Activity 13

Medical specialities quiz

Keyword

-ologist

a suffix used at the end of a root word that refers to people who are concerned with a particular science or subject

Split into teams. Below is a list of doctors who specialise in different areas of medicine. Based on the medical terminology that you have been learning, can you tell what their speciality is?
Write your answers below. The team who gets the most is the winner.

Pulmonologist

A physician who specializes in the respiratory system.

Neurologist

A specializes in the nervous system.

Haematologist

A specializes in conditions of the blood and immune system.

Dermatologist

A specializes in conditions involving the skin, hair and nails

Cardiologist

A specializes in condition of the heart and blood vessels

Gastroenterologist

A specializes in condition of the digestive system.

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1.3 Medical record reports

STARTER Parts of a medical record report

Fill in the information that is usually included on a medical record report.

1.	Personal information
2.	Medical history
3.	Medical complaint
4.	Physical examination results
5.	Test results and diagnosis
6.	Treatment plan and process report

Activity 14 Personal information

In the spaces, write what part of personal information is being described on the right.

Medical record report	
Date of birth	Maryam Al Balushi
Gender	12 October, 1994
	Female
Ethnicity	UAE, Muslim, Arabic and English
Contact information	Villa 6, Palm Jumeirah, Dubai 056 50000000, mbalushi@gmail

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Activity 15 Taking personal information

Work in pairs. Ask your partner questions about their personal information to fill into the medical record report below.

Medical record report	
Name:	Afraa Khamis
Date of birth (DOB):	21/1/2004
Gender:	Female
Ethnicity:	UAE, Muslim, Arabic and English

Activity 16 Medical history

In the spaces, write why it is important to record a patient's medical history on a medical report.

It is important to ask about other medical conditions they have because:	It can help diagnose their current medical issue.
It is important to ask if they are taking any medication because:	Some medications should not be taken with others.
It is important to ask if they have any allergies because:	The patient could be allergic to certain medications

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1.3 Medical record reports

Activity 17 Sign or symptom?

Write a sentence to describe a **sign** of an illness and one which describes a **symptom** of an illness.

Sign:	Evidence of an illness that can be seen by others, such as a skin rash or a cough.
Symptom:	A feeling or physical change experienced by a patient, such as pain.

Activity 18 Medical complaints

Which of these do you think are signs and symptoms of a medical complaint? Circle all that apply.

skin rash	vomiting	difficulty breathing
pain	cough	eye colour
hair colour	tiredness	fever

Activity 19 Physical examination

Write three things that will be checked during a patient's physical examination.

Height and weight
Blood pressure
Temperature

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Activity 2.0

Medical terms in a medical record report

Below is some medical terminology that could be used in a medical report to describe a patient's condition. Answer the questions in the spaces provided.

Vital statistics	Blood pressure reading 105/60, (hypotension) Pulse rate 50bpm, (bradycardic)

Does the patient have high or low blood pressure?

Low blood pressure

Do they have a high or low pulse rate?

Low pulse rate

Body systems	The patient has normal joints in the arms and hands. The patient has abnormal joints in the knees.

In which area of the patient's body are the joints not normal?

In the knees

Test results	The results show that the patient has arthritis and hypotension

What are these two conditions?

Painful inflammation and stiffness of the joints.

Low blood pressure

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1.3 Medical record reports

Activity 21 What do the medical terms mean?

What do the highlighted medical terms mean? Write your answers below.

Test results	The physical examination results show that the patient is overweight. They have mild hypertension and mild tachycardia. The X-ray results show no abnormalities in the chest area. The blood test results show that the patient has hyperglycaemia.

Hypertension:

High blood pressure

Hyperglycaemia:

High levels of sugar

Activity 22 Fill in a medical record report

Practise filling in a medical record report using the information below.

Fatima Ibrahim was born in the UAE on the 20 March 1960. She has lived in the UAE all her life. She has been feeling unwell for two days.

Fatima says she has high blood pressure. She takes medication for high blood pressure. She has no allergies.

She feels weak and tired and has pain in her chest.

Fatima is 160cm tall and weighs 75kg. She has a high blood pressure reading of 160/90, and her pulse rate is higher than normal at 95bpm. Her breathing rate is 16 breaths per minute and her body temperature is 37 degrees. No other tests have been carried out.

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Medical record report	
Name:	Fatima Ibrahim
Date of birth (DOB):	20 March 1960
Gender:	Female
Ethnicity:	UAE, Arabic
Medical conditions:	High blood pressure
Medications:	Medications for high blood pressure
Allergies:	No allergies
Medical complaint: (signs and symptoms)	Week and tired, pain in her chest
Physical examination: (vital statistics)	Height: 160cm Weight: 75kg Blood pressure: 160/90 Pulse: 95bpm Respiration: 16 breath each minute Temperature: 37 degrees

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