

Medical Terminology

A purple and white flower with a green stem is positioned on a background of torn white paper. The flower has several purple petals and a white center. The paper is torn into several horizontal strips, creating a layered effect. The overall scene is set against a dark teal background.

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Learning Terminology



Objectives

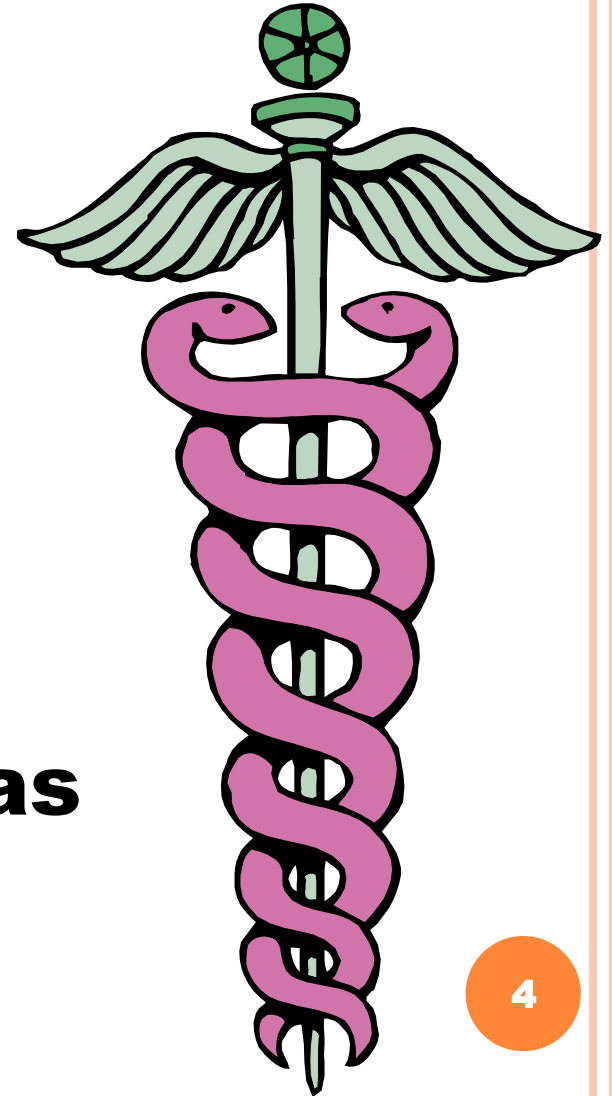


After studying this chapter, you will be able to :

- **Explain how medical terms are developed.**
- **Describe the process of pluralizing terms.**
- **Describe how to interpret pronunciation marks.**
- **List basic legal and ethical issues for health-related professionals.**
- **Describe how medical documentation is compiled.**

The Language of Medicine

- **Dates to the time when people had only spoken language and no written language**
- **Medical terminology began to gain uniformity as a result of the works of Hippocrates**



Hippocratic Oath

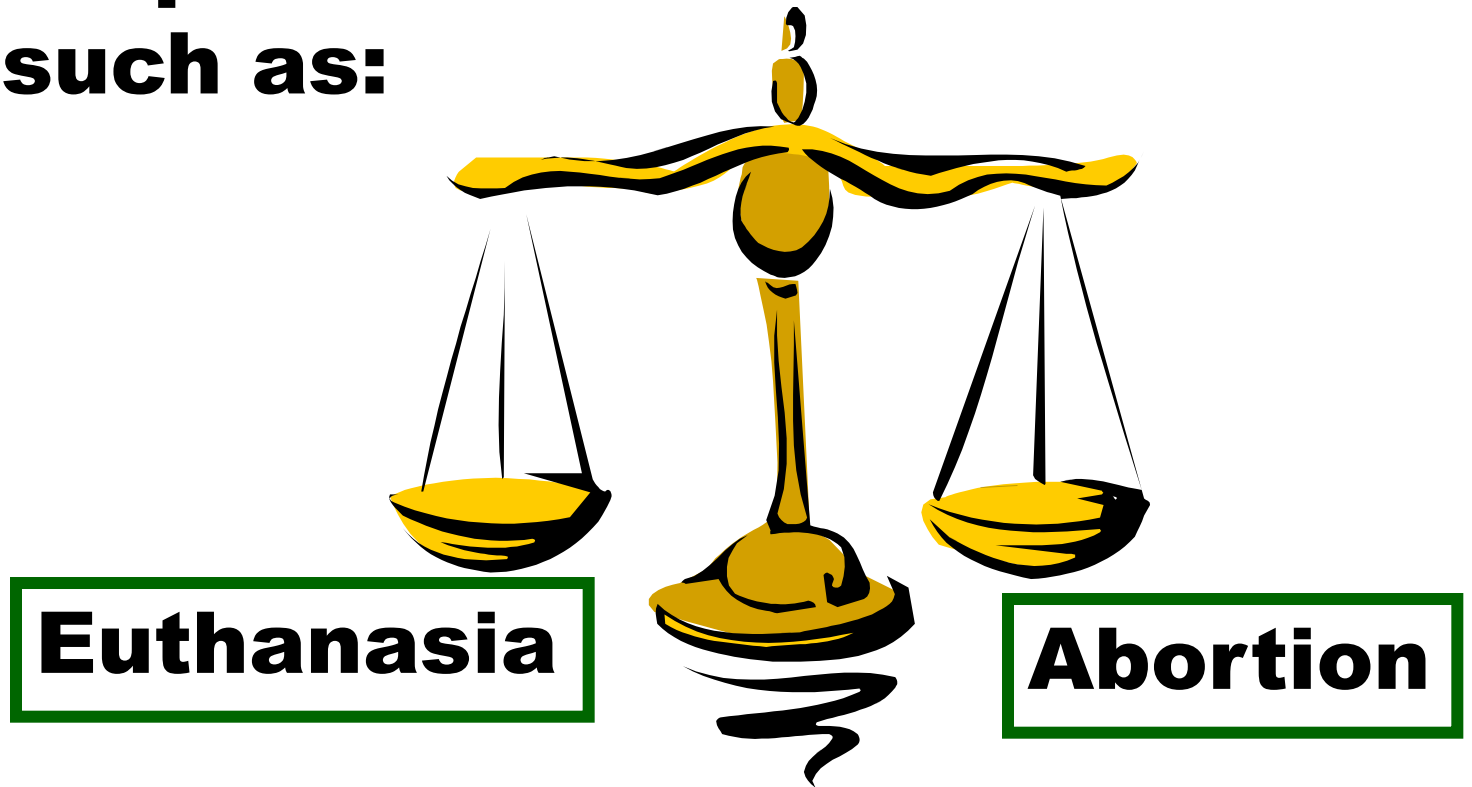
Forms the basic ethical standards of modern medicine with regards to:

- **Abstaining from voluntary acts of mischief & corruption**
- **Keeping confidences**
- **Doing no harm**



Hippocratic Oath

- **Some aspects are still debated today such as:**



Derivation of Medical Terminology

- The study of the origin of words is called **etymology**.
- Many medical terms used today are based on **Ancient Greek and Latin**.
- Word building became and remains the primary way to describe new medical discoveries.

Derivation of Medical Terminology

Word knowledge was primarily passed on through only verbal communication which resulted in words being pronounced very differently.

The word *heart* is derived from Old English *heorte* which comes from a word related to Greek *kardia* which means heart.

Pluralizing Terms

Rules

- Add **s** to words ending in any vowel or consonant except **s, x, z, or y** (ex. **joint-joints**)

- Add **es** to words ending in **s, x, or z** (ex. **reflex - reflexes**)

Pluralizing Terms

Rules Cont'd

- Remove x and add `ces to Latin words ending in x (ex. **appendix - appendices**)
- Remove the `y and add `ies to words ending in `y preceded by a consonant (ex. **mastectomy - mastectomies**)

Pluralizing Terms

Rules Cont'd

- When an ending `y is preceded by a vowel, the usual plural suffix is `s (ex. **boy - boys**)
- Add `e to Latin terms ending in a (ex. **lamina - laminae**)

Pluralizing Terms

Rules Cont'd

- Remove `us and add `i to Latin words ending in us (ex. **bacillus- bacilli**)
- Change `sis to `ses in Greek words ending in sis (ex. **psychosis - psychoses**)

Pluralizing Terms

Rules Cont'd

- Remove `on from and add `a to Greek words ending in `on (ex. **crit^{er}ion** - **crit^{er}ia**)
- Remove `um from and add `a to Latin words ending in um (ex. **divertic^{ul}um** - **divertic^{ul}a**)

Pluralizing Rules

Latin

Singular Plural

•fossa fossae

•datum data

•radix radices

Greek

Singular Plural

•neurosis neuroses

•ganglion ganglia

•calyx calyces



Spelling and Pronunciation of Medical Terms

Misspellings and mispronunciations in a medical setting can result in life threatening situations



“The patient was to have a *cholectomy* **NOT a *colectomy*!!”**

Spelling and Pronunciation of Medical Terms

Pronouncing a word out loud each time you see the pronunciation will help familiarize you with the sound of the word.



reflex
RE-fleks

anemia
a-NE-me-a

typhoid
TI-foyd

Long and short vowels are a guide to help you pronounce words.

Legal and Ethical Issues

The American Hospital Association's *Patient's Bill of Rights* gives guidelines which provide a clear, ethical standard for patient's rights.

- **Right to refuse care**
- **Right to considerate and respectful care.**

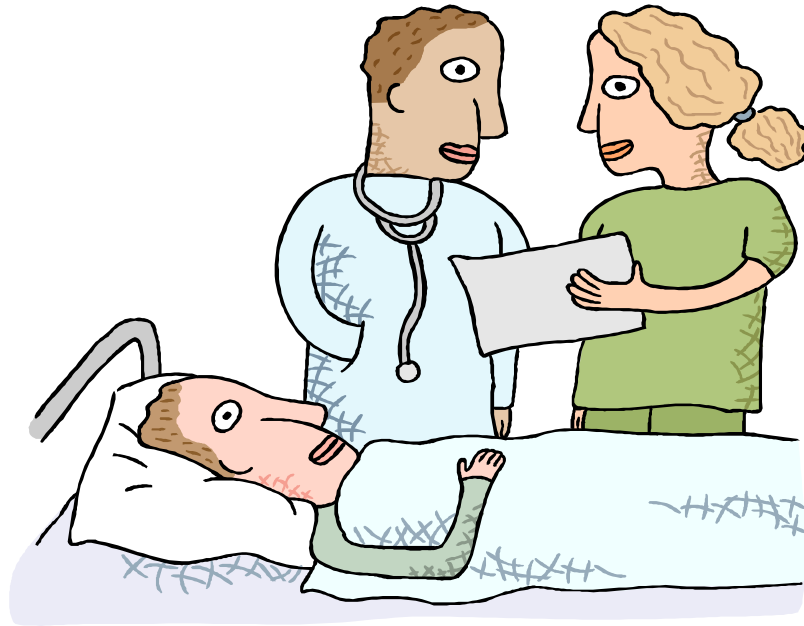


- **Right to privacy**

- **Right to be informed**

Using Medical Terminology

Medical Terminology is instrumental in both verbal and written communication.



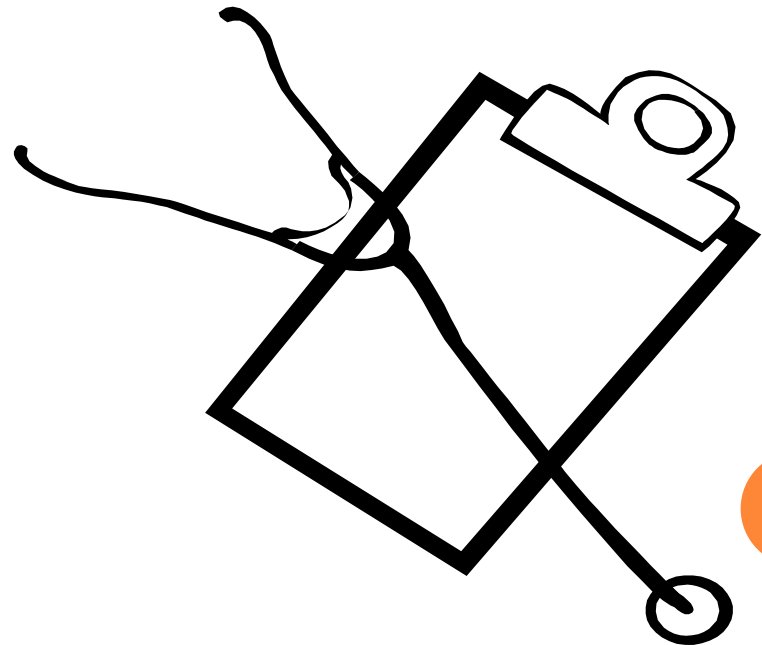
Documentation of health care services must be complete for both ethical and legal reasons.

Using Medical Terminology

Medical Records

Formats for medical records depend on:

- **State law**
- **Institution's responsibilities**
- **Configuration of its computer systems**
- **Coding and billing practices**



Using Medical Terminology

Medical Records

Name: James Westread Telephone: 666-7777

Date of Birth: 3/29/XX Age: 8

SOAP Format

- **S- subjective**
- **O- objective**
- **A- assessment**
- **P- plan**

3/18/XX PROBLEM 1: Tonsillitis

Chief complaint: "sore throat x2days"

S: Sore throat, fever, difficulty swallowing

O: Temperature 101°. Pharyngitis with exudative tonsils.

A: Tonsillitis

P: 1. Throat culture

2. 1.2 units Bactrim suspension, 5cc, 4 t.i.d.

3. Recheck in 10 days.

3/28/XX PROBLEM 1

S: Recheck. Feels better.

O: Temperature normal.

A: Problem 1 resolved.

P: Saline gargle if necessary.

Walk-in Medical
64 Oak Street
Wellington, NY 00001
(444) 555-7777

Physician: Margaret Lao, M.D.

Patient No. 89808CQ

Using Medical Terminology

Medical Records

Chronological Format

- Interactions are listed in chronological order.
- Earliest date is at the top of the patient record

Patient Name <u>Angela O'Toole</u> Age <u>57</u> Current Diagnosis <u>angina</u>	
Date/Time	
10/10/01	<i>Patient presents with increased chest pain, particularly after meals. Sent to lab</i>
	<i>for echocardiogram; BP 143/84. Leonard Glasser, M.D.</i>
10/14/01	<i>Phone consultation with patient -- echocardiogram shows status quo. Suspect</i>
	<i>acid reflux, tell patient to add Tagamet to medications. Leonard Glasser, M.D.</i>
10/21/01	<i>Patient call -- experiencing relief. Continue present medication and Tagamet.</i>
	<i>Leonard Glasser, M.D.</i>

Apply Your Knowledge

Which of the following statements is correct regarding the derivation of medical terms?

A. The change in medical terms has been drastic over the years.

B. The change in medical terms has not been drastic over the years.

Answer B.

Apply Your Knowledge

Make each of the following terms plural.

staphylococcus



staphylococci

vasectomy



vasectomies

paraplegic



paraplegics

appendix



appendices

Apply Your Knowledge

Case Study

After obtaining the ordered laboratory specimens from a patient, Jamie (a laboratory technician) prepares to leave the patient's room when a visitor asks "Does she really need to take all those medications the nurse left in here?" How should Jamie handle this question and why?

Answer: Remembering patient's rights to confidentiality and the scope of his training as a laboratory technician, Jamie should request that the visitor speak with the nurse and or physician.