## MEDICAL PREFIXES, SUFFIXES, AND COMBINING FORMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a-</td>
<td>not, without, less</td>
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<tr>
<td>ab-</td>
<td>from, away from, off</td>
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<td>from, away from, off</td>
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<td>increase, adherence, motion toward, very</td>
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<td>toward, in the direction of, -ward</td>
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-philia 1 attraction, 2 chemical affinity
phil- 1 attraction, 2 chemical affinity
phlic- vein
phlic- vein
-phobia fear
pho- sound, speech
phono- sound, speech
phor- carrying, bearing
phoro- carrying, bearing
phos- light
phot- light
phren- 1 diaphragm, 2 mind, 3 phrenic
phreni- 1 diaphragm, 2 mind, 3 phrenic
-phrenia of mind
phrenico- 1 diaphragm, 2 mind, 3 phrenic
phreno- 1 diaphragm, 2 mind, 3 phrenic
-phyllaxis protection
phyll- leaf
phyllo- leaf
physi- 1 physical, 2 natural
physio- 1 physical, 2 natural
physio- swelling, inflation, 2 air, gas
physi- plants
physio- plants
pico- one trillionth (10^-12)
plan- flat
plan- flat
plane- flat
-plasia formation
plasma- plasma
plasmat- plasma
plasmat- plasma
plasmo- plasma
platy- wide, flat
-plegia paralysis
pleco- more
plesio- near, similar
pleur- rib, side, pleura
pleura- rib, side, pleura
pleuro- rib, side, pleura
plur- several, more
-pnea breath, respiration
pneoco- breath, respiration
pneum- 1 air, 2 lung, 3 breathing
pneuma- 1 air, 2 lung, 3 breathing
pneumat- 1 air, 2 lung, 3 breathing
pneumat- 1 air, 2 lung, 3 breathing
pneumato- 1 air, 2 lung, 3 breathing
pod- foot, foot-shaped
-pod foot, foot-shaped
podo- foot, foot-shaped
-poiesis production
poikilo- irregular, variable
polio- gray
poly- 1 multiplicity, 2 polymer
post- after, behind, posterior
pre- anterior, before
presby- old
pro- 1 before, forward, 2 precursor
proct- anus, rectum
procto- anus, rectum
proto- first
proto- first
pseudo- false
pseudo- false
psych- mind
psych- mind
psych- mind
-p toesis sagging, falling
pyel- (renal) pelvis
pyelo- (renal) pelvis
pykn- dense, compact
pykn- dense, compact
pyo- suppuration, pus
pyroto- fever
pyro- fire, heat, fever
quadri- four
quadri- four
rachi- spinal column
rachio- spinal column
radio- 1 radiation, x-ray, 2 radius
re- again, backward
rect- rectum, straight
rect- rectum, straight
ren- kidney
reno- kidney
retro- backward, behind
rhin- nose
rhino- nose
-trhagia discharge
-trhaphy surgical suturing
-trheo- flow
-rhexis rupture
salpingo- tube
salpingo- tube
sarco- flesh, muscle
schisto- split, cleft
schiz- split, cleft, division
schizio- split, cleft, division
scler- hardness (induration), sclerosis, ocular sclera
scler- hardness (induration), sclerosis, ocular sclera
scolio- crooked
-scope instrument for viewing
-scopy viewing
scot- shadow, darkness
sco- shadow, darkness
semi- one-half, partly
sept- 1 seven, 2 septum, 3 sepsis, infection
septi- seven
septo- 1 seven, 2 septum, 3 sepsis, infection
sial- saliva, salivary gland
sialo- saliva, salivary gland
 sider- iron
sidero- iron
sigidoid- 1 S-shaped, 2 sigmoid colon
sigidoido- 1 S-shaped, 2 sigmoid colon
sin- sinus
sino- sinus
sinu- sinus
sito- food, grain
somat- body, bodily
somato- body, bodily
somatoco- body, bodily
 somno- sleep
son- 1 sound, 2 ultrasound
sono- 1 sound, 2 ultrasound
spasmno- spasm
spermato- semen, spermatooza
spermo- semen, spermatooza
sperma- semen, spermatooza
sphygmno- pulse
spir- breathing
spiro- breathing
splanchn- viscer
splanchni- viscer
splanchno- viscer
splen- spleen
spleno- spleen
staphyl- grape, bunch of grapes, staphylococci
staphylo- grape, bunch of grapes, staphylococci
-stasis stopping
-stat arresting change or movement
steno- narrowness, constriction
stereo- solid
stheno- strength, force, power
 stom- mouth
stomato- mouth
stomato- mouth
sub- beneath, less than normal, inferior
super- in excess, above, superior, in the upper part
supra- above
sy- together
syl- together
sym- together
syn- together
sys- together
tachy- rapid
tel- distant
tele- distant
ten- tendon
tendin- tendon
ten- tendon
tenont- tendon
tenonto- tendon
tera- one quadrillion (10^15)
tetra- four
thel- nipple
thelio- nipple
thermo- heat
thermo- heat
thorac- chest, thorax
thoracico- chest, thorax
thoraco- chest, thorax
thromb- blood clot
thrombo- blood clot
thy- thyroid gland
tyro- the thyroid gland
toco- childbirth
tome- 1 cutting instrument, 2 segment, section
tomy- cutting operation
tono- tone, tension, pressure
topo- place, topical
topo- place, topical
tox- toxin, poison
toxi- toxin, poison
toxico- toxin, poison
toxico- toxin, poison
tracheo- trachea
trans- across, through, beyond
tri- three
trich- hair
trichia- hair
-trichia hair
tricho- hair
tris- three
-trophic food, nutrition
tropho- food, nutrition
trophy- food, nutrition
trophy- food, nutrition
-tropia turning
-tropic turning toward, affinity
ultra- beyond
uni- one, single
ur- uric acid
-uria urine, urination
urico- uric acid
urico- uric acid
uro- 1 urine, 2 urinary tract
vas- duct, blood vessel
vasculo- blood vessel
vaso- duct, blood vessel
vesico- urinary bladder, vesicle
vesico- urinary bladder, vesicle
xanth- yellow, yellowish
xantho- yellow, yellowish
zero- dry
zo- 1 animal, 2 life
zoo- 1 animal, 2 life
zym- fermentation, enzymes
zymo- fermentation, enzymes