

Chapter 18: Oncology

Building a Medical Terminology Foundation 2e – Student Companion by Kimberlee Carter; Marie Rutherford; and Connie Stevens

This book is intended as a companion to *Building a Medical Terminology Foundation 2e* (<https://ecampusontario.pressbooks.pub/medicalterminology2/>).

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Please visit the web version of *Building a Medical Terminology Foundation 2e – Student Companion* (<https://ecampusontario.pressbooks.pub/medicalterminology2studentworkbook/>) to access the complete book, interactive activities and ancillary resources.

Oncology

If you would like to review the textbook chapter content, please visit **Chapter 18: Oncology** [[New Tab](#)].

Learning Objectives

- Describe oncology and explore the physiology and activity of cancerous and non-cancerous growths
- Analyze, translate, and define medical terms and common abbreviations of oncology
- Practice the spelling and pronunciation of oncology terminology
- Identify the medical specialties associated with the oncology and explore common diseases, disorders, diagnostic tests, pharmacology, and procedures

Key Word Components

Identify meanings of key word components of oncology:

Prefixes

- ana- (up, apart)
- apo- (away from)
- dys- (abnormal; difficult)
- ecto- (outer)
- endo- (within)
- hyper- (excessive, increase)
- meta- (beyond, change)
- mutat/o- (to change)
- neo- (new)

Combining Forms

- Capsul/o- (to box)
- carcin/o- (cancer)
- miss/o- (to send back)
- mut/a- (change)
- path/o- (disease)
- nod/o- (node)
- onc/o- (tumour)
- sarc/o- (flesh)

Suffixes

- -carcinom (cancerous tumour of epithelial origin (internal or external lining of the body, i.e., skin, breast, colon))
- -genesis (condition of production, origin)
- -oma (tumour)
- -plasia (condition of formation)
- -plasm (formation)
- -sarcoma (connective tissue cancer, such as bones, tendons, cartilage, muscle, and fat)
- -stasis (standing still)

Pronouncing and Defining Commonly Abbreviated Oncology Terms

Practice pronouncing and defining these commonly abbreviated oncology terms:

- BCC- (basal cell carcinoma)
- BMT- (bone marrow transplant)
- BSE- (breast self-examination)
- Bx- (biopsy)
- CA- (cancer)
- CIS- (carcinoma in situ)
- FOBT- (fecal occult blood test)

- G - (grade)
- Mets- (metastases)
- SCC- (squamous cell carcinoma)
- TNM- (tumour-nodes-metastases)
- TSE- (testicular self-examination)

Sorting Terms

Sort the terms from the word lists above into the following categories:

- **Disease and Disorder** (terms describing any deviation from normal structure and function)
- **Diagnostic** (terms related to process of identifying a disease, condition, or injury from its signs and symptoms)
- **Therapeutic** (terms related to treatment or curing of diseases)
- **Anatomic** (terms related to body structure)

Test Your Knowledge

Test your knowledge by answering the questions below:

Oncology Reinforcement Activity (Text version)

1. A tumour _____[Blank 1].
 - a. is an injury of the nervous system.
 - b. is a function of the endocrine system.
 - c. is a medical specialty that primarily treats infections.
 - d. is an abnormal tissue mass that forms through uncontrolled cell growth and divides more than it should.
2. Some potential risk factors and causes of cancers include _____[Blank 2].

- a. a healthy lifestyle.
 - b. bacteria and viruses, diet, hormones, smoking, radiation, alcohol, environment, chemicals, and genetics.
 - c. a healthy and balanced diet.
 - d. regular exercise.
3. Cancerous growths or tumours can be diagnosed by _____[Blank 3].
- a. aggressive chemical treatments.
 - b. a biopsy to examine the lesion, growth or tumour under a microscope to determine the disease.
 - c. performing a series of radiation treatments.
 - d. administering oral antibiotics to the patient.
4. Lymphoma is _____[Blank 4].
- a. any tumour or a mass within the lymph node.
 - b. a type of cancer occurring in the endocrine system.
 - c. a type of cancer that primarily affects the blood.
 - d. a cancer that affects the bone marrow.

Check your answers:¹

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Notes

1. 1. d) is an abnormal tissue mass that forms through uncontrolled cell growth and divides more than it should, 2. b) bacteria and viruses, diet, hormones, smoking, radiation, alcohol, environment, chemicals, and genetics, 3. b) a biopsy to examine the lesion, growth or tumour under a microscope to determine the disease., 4. a) any tumour or a mass within the lymph node



Oncology Chapter 18 Worksheet

Instructions

Work through the chapter and find the meaning for the following prefixes, suffixes, and abbreviations. Add in any that are missing on the worksheet.

Prefixes and Suffixes

Prefix	Meaning	Suffix	Meaning
ana-		-genesis	
apo-		-oma	
dys-		-plasm	
ecto-		-plasia	
endo-		-sarcoma	
hyper-		-stasis	
meta-			

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
BCC	
BMT	
BSE	
Bx	
CA	
CIS	
FOBT	
G	
Mets	

SCC	
TNM	
TSE	

Words easily broken into word parts listed by combining form (root)

Review of Word Parts

Please note that sometimes words are made up of word parts but are not translated literally. Several combining forms are shown in bold below. List their meaning from chapter 18.

carcin/o

1. carcinogen

path/o

2. pathology

nod/o

3. nodule

onc/o

4. oncology

sarc/o

5. sarcoma



Vocabulary Review – All Chapters

This assignment has three (3) parts. Please submit it as a single document or submission.

1. Definitions of Terms using Word Parts

Instructions:

Select three (3) Medical Terms from chapter. Type the term, type the phonetic spelling of the term (indicate with ALL CAPITALS the part of the word that gets the emphasis), type the term broken into its word parts (marked with slashes) and then use the word appropriately in a sentence (the sentence cannot be the definition of the word and should show your understanding of the meaning).

Example:

Term: Hepatitis

Phonetically: hep-a-TIT-is

Broken into word parts: hepat/itis

Sentence with term: Sharing dirty needles can lead to a form of hepatitis.

2. Words Not Easily Broken into Word Parts

Instructions:

Select three (3) Medical Terms from chapter that are not easily broken into word parts. Type the term that will be defined. Type the phonetic spelling of the term next to the proper spelling of the term. Indicate in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, the part of the term that gets the emphasis placed on it when enunciated. Create a sentence using each term correctly in the sentence (>3 words in the sentence). Put some thought into the sentence so that they help define the term. DO NOT use the definition of the term in your sentence.

Example:

Crackles (KRAK-els) - The nurse auscultates crackles in his left lower lung field.

3. Abbreviations

Instructions:

Select three (3) abbreviations from the chapter. Type the abbreviation from the chapter. Type the term of the abbreviation. Create a sentence using the abbreviation term correctly in the sentence (>3 words in the sentence). Put some thought into the sentence so that they help define the term. DO NOT use the definition of the term in your sentence.

Example:

RA – Rheumatoid Arthritis - Gail has RA and her doctor told her that her muscle atrophy and muscle weakness is due to her inactivity during the day.



Abbreviations - Oncology

Instructions

Type the abbreviation found in the listing below. Alternatively, the words could also be written out on a plain sheet of paper. Translate the abbreviation and then define the abbreviation in your own words. In the document, be sure to number each abbreviation.

Example

AIDS acquired immunodeficiency syndrome - chronic immune system suppression caused by human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection

Abbreviation List:

1. **BCC**
2. **BMT**
3. **BSE**
4. **Bx**
5. **CA**
6. **CIS**
7. **FOBT**
8. **G**
9. **Mets**
10. **SCC**
11. **TNM**
12. **TSE**