



**CBS PhysioBrid**  
Series

All Latest Medical and Physiotherapy Vocabulary  
Covered UP TO 2024-25

**CBS**

**PHYSIOTHERAPY**

**DICTIONARY**

for Students & Practitioners

### Special Features

- Fully Colored and easy to carry Physiotherapy Dictionary
- **8,000+** Medical and Physiotherapy Terms of all specialties
- **400+** Supportive Illustrations/Figures/Tables
- Common medical abbreviations included
- Covers all the important medical terminology and specialized terms related to Physiotherapy core subjects



CBS Publishers & Distributors Pvt. Ltd.

**CBS**  
**Ph**ysio **Brid**  
*Series*

**CBS**

**PHYSIOTHERAPY**  
**DICTIONARY**

for Students & Practitioners

**CBS**  
**Ph**ysio **Brid**  
*Series*



**CBS Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd**

- New Delhi • Bengaluru • Chennai • Kochi • Kolkata • Lucknow • Mumbai
- Hyderabad • Jharkhand • Nagpur • Patna • Pune • Uttarakhand



ISBN: 978-93-94525-92-4

Copyright © Publishers

First Edition: 2025

All rights are reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system without permission, in writing, from the publishers.

Published by **Satish Kumar Jain** and produced by **Varun Jain** for

**CBS Publishers and Distributors Pvt Ltd**

4819/XI Prahlad Street, 24 Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi 110 002, India.

Ph: +91-11-23289259, 23266861, 23266867 Website: www.cbspd.com

Fax: 011-23243014

e-mail: delhi@cbspd.com; cbspubs@airtelmail.in.

**Corporate Office:** 204 FIE, Industrial Area, Patparganj, Delhi 110 092

Ph: +91-11-4934 4934 Fax: 4934 4935

e-mail: feedback@cbspd.com; bhupesharora@cbspd.com

#### Branches

- **Bengaluru:** Seema House 2975, 17th Cross, K.R. Road, Banasankari 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560 070, Karnataka  
Ph: +91-80-26771678/79 Fax: +91-80-26771680 e-mail: bangalore@cbspd.com
- **Chennai:** 7, Subbaraya Street, Shenoy Nagar, Chennai-600 030, Tamil Nadu  
Ph: +91-44-26680620, 26681266 Fax: +91-44-42032115 e-mail: chennai@cbspd.com
- **Kochi:** 68/1534, 35, 36-Power House Road, Opp. KSEB, Cochin-682018, Kochi, Kerala  
Ph: +91-484-4059061-65 Fax: +91-484-4059065 e-mail: kochi@cbspd.com
- **Kolkata:** Hind Ceramics Compound, 1st Floor, 147, Nilganj Road, Belghoria, Kolkata-700056, West Bengal  
Ph: +033-2563-3055/56 e-mail: kolkata@cbspd.com
- **Lucknow:** Basement, Khushnuma Complex, 7-Meerabai Marg (Behind Jawahar Bhawan), Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh  
Ph: +0522-4000032 e-mail: tiwari.lucknow@cbspd.com
- **Mumbai:** PWD Shed, Gala No. 25/26, Ramchandra Bhatt Marg, Next to J.J. Hospital Gate No. 2, Opp. Union Bank of India, Noor Baug, Mumbai-400009, Maharashtra  
Ph: +91-22-66661880/89 Fax: +91-22-24902342 e-mail: mumbai@cbspd.com

#### Representatives

- **Hyderabad** +91-9885175004
- **Nagpur** +91-9421945513
- **Pune** +91-9623451994
- **Jharkhand** +91-9811541605
- **Patna** +91-9334159340
- **Uttarakhand** +91-9716462459

Printed at:

# Special Contribution

---



**Anju Dhir** BSc (Med), MSc (Micro), PhD (Biotech)

*Ex-Lecturer (Microbiol)*

Shivalik Institute of Nursing

Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

*Product Manager and Medical Development Editor*

CBS Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd.

Delhi



**Apurva Chatterjee** BPT, MPT (Neurology), PhD Scholar

*Content Strategist (Physiotherapy)*

Nursing Next Exam Prep Pvt Ltd.

Noida, Uttar Pradesh



**Divya Gupta** BPT, MPT (Pediatrics), MPH, PG Dip (Yoga)

*Project Manager & Editorial (Scientific) Head – Physiotherapy*

CBS Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd

Delhi

PhysioBrid  
Series

# Preface

---

**CBS Physiotherapy Dictionary for Students & Practitioners** has been specifically designed for the physiotherapy students, providing a comprehensive resource for understanding key terms and concepts related to physiotherapy. As an essential reference tool, it aims to support both the academic and practical aspects of physiotherapy education, helping students navigate the complex medical terminology they often encounter during their career.

Physiotherapy is an evolving field, combining principles from anatomy, biomechanics, neurology, and rehabilitation to improve patient outcomes. Keeping this fact in mind, the dictionary covers a wide range of terms, from basic anatomical structures to advanced therapeutic techniques and modalities, ensuring that students have access to the precise definitions needed for their coursework and clinical practice.

Understanding medical terminology is crucial for effective communication with patients, interdisciplinary teams, and other healthcare professionals. This dictionary not only defines terms but also provides contextual insights into their application in physiotherapy. Each entry has been carefully crafted to ensure clarity and accuracy, making it accessible to readers at all levels of study.

Whether you are preparing for exams, working with patients or engaging in research, this dictionary will be a valuable companion throughout your physiotherapy education and then your professional career.

# Acknowledgments

---

We extend our deepest gratitude to all those who contributed to the creation and success of **CBS Physiotherapy Dictionary for Students & Practitioners**. The culmination of their dedication, expertise, and collaborative spirit has been instrumental in bringing this comprehensive resource to reality. We acknowledge the collaborative efforts of healthcare experts, educators, and linguistic professionals who have contributed to the development of this comprehensive resource.

We would like to thank **Mr Satish Kumar Jain** (Chairman) and **Mr Varun Jain** (Managing Director), M/s CBS Publishers and Distributors Pvt Ltd for providing the platform in bringing out the book. There are no words to describe the role, efforts, inputs and initiatives undertaken by **Mr Bhupesh Aarora**, Sr. Vice President – Publishing and Marketing (Health Sciences Division) for motivation and support.

We would like to thank Ms Nitasha Arora (Assistant General Manager Publishing – Medical and Nursing), Ms Daljeet Kaur (Assistant Publishing Manager), Mr Shivendu Bhushan Pandey (Sr. Manager and Team Lead), Mr Ashutosh Pathak (Sr. Proofreader cum Team Coordinator) for their valuable guidance and supervision throughout this endeavor.

Besides, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated editorial team of CBS comprising Ms Surbhi Gupta (Editorial Team Lead), Mr Pankaj Singh, Ms Supriya Jha and Ms Ritu Maurya whose unwavering commitment to precision, thorough research, and thoughtful refinement have been integral to the creation of this Physiotherapy Dictionary.

Our special thanks are due to Ms Pooja Sharma, Mr Chaman Lal, Mr Prakash Gaur, Mr Phool Kumar, Mr Girish Pandey, Mr Chander Mani, Mr Ravinder Kumar, Ms Babita Verma and Ms Khushi for typesetting and designing the layout; Ms Tanya, Mr Rahul Negi, Mr Manoj Kumar Chaudhary, Mr Vikram Chaudhary and Mr Arun Kumar for drawing catchy figures for this dictionary. We are also thankful to the proofreaders Mr Sachin Kumar Yadav, Mr Shubham Tripathi and Mr Vijay Prajapati who have contributed to this book by proof checking.

Thank you team, your collective efforts have made it a valuable resource for students, professionals, and enthusiasts alike.

Last but not least, we extend our gratitude to our valued readers, for choosing **CBS Physiotherapy Dictionary for Students & Practitioners** as their companion in the exploration of medical vocabulary. Your trust in our publication is a testament to our shared commitment to advancing knowledge and fostering a deeper understanding of medical and health sciences.

# Guide to Abbreviations

---

Abbreviation	Meaning
adj	Adjective
ECG	Electrocardiogram
Fr	French
L	Latin
mol	Molecular Biology
pl	Plural
pres	Prescription
psy	Psychiatry
radio	Radiology
stat	Statistics

PhisioBrid  
Series

# Contents

---

<i>Special Contribution</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Preface</i>	<i>v</i>
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>Guide to Abbreviations</i>	<i>ix</i>

A .....	1–37
B .....	38–58
C .....	59–103
D .....	104–127
E .....	128–147
F .....	148–163
G .....	164–182
H .....	183–204
I .....	205–216
J .....	217–224
K .....	225–231
L .....	232–244
M .....	245–280
N .....	281–299
O .....	300–317
P .....	318–345
Q .....	346–349
R .....	350–371
S .....	372–419
T .....	420–442
U .....	443–451
V .....	452–465
W .....	466–473
X .....	474–475
Y .....	476–477
Z .....	478–481



# A

**AAA** Abdominal aortic aneurysm.

**AAI** Atlantoaxial instability.

**A band** A dark band in muscle representing overlapping of actin and myosin filaments.

**Abarognosis** Loss of ability to appreciate sense of weight.

**Abarthrosis** A moveable joint.

**Abasia** Inability to walk due to impaired coordination.

**ABC sequence** The first level of life support measures used in cardiopulmonary resuscitation consisting of airway, breathing and circulation.

**Abdomen** The cavity between the diaphragm and the pelvis, lined by a serous membrane, the peritoneum, and containing the stomach, intestines, liver, gallbladder, spleen, pancreas, kidneys, suprarenal glands, ureters and bladder. For descriptive purposes, its area can be divided into nine regions.

**Acute abdomen** Any abdominal condition urgently requiring treatment, usually surgical.

**Pendulous abdomen** A condition in which the anterior part of the abdominal wall hangs down over the pubis.

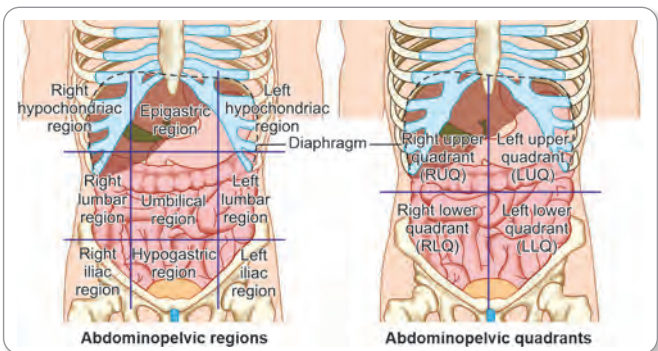
**Scaphoid (navicular) abdomen** Hollowing of the anterior wall so that it presents a concave rather than convex contour.

**Abdominal** Pertaining to the abdomen.

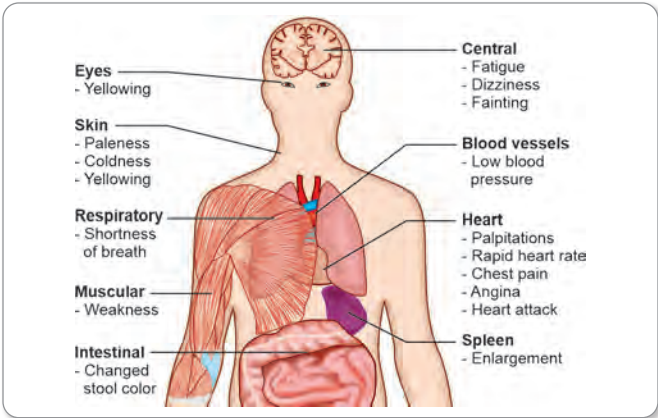
**Abdominal cavity** The cavity of the abdomen whose interior is lined by peritoneum. It contains most of the organs of the digestive system and the urinary system, and also internal reproductive system.

**Abdominal muscle** Four muscles that make up the abdominal wall such as external oblique, internal oblique, rectus abdominis and transversus abdominis.

**Abdominal quadrant** Division of the abdomen into nine regions by two horizontal lines one at the level of the ninth costal cartilage and another at the level of the highest point on the iliac crest, and two vertical lines through the center of the inguinal ligaments on either side. The quadrants so formed are right and left by hypochondrium (lateral) and epigastrium (middle); right and left lumbar (lateral) and umbilical (middle) and right and left iliac (lateral) and hypogastrium (middle).



Abdominal quadrants



### Symptoms of anemia

**Nonimmune hemolytic anemia** Shearing of red cells from mechanical trauma, *Plasmodium falciparum* infection, *Clostridium perfringens* septicemia, administration of dapsone or salazopyrin are associated with hemolysis.

**Normochromic anemia** Anemia in which the concentration of hemoglobin in the erythrocytes is within the normal range.

**Normocytic anemia** Anemia in which the erythrocytes are normal in size.

**Pernicious anemia** A variety caused by the inability of the stomach to secrete the intrinsic factor necessary for the absorption of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> from the diet.

**Refractory anemia** Any of a group of anemic conditions exhibiting persistent anemia despite treatment with a variety of hematinics.

**Sickle cell anemia** A hereditary hemolytic anemia seen most commonly in black people living in or originating from the Caribbean islands, Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Mediterranean. The red blood cells are sickle-shaped.

**Splenic anemia** A congenital, familial disease in which the red blood cells are fragile and easily broken down.

**Anencephaly** The congenital absence of a major portion of the brain, skull and scalp.

**Anesthesia** Loss of feeling or sensation in a part or in the whole of the body, usually induced by drugs.

**Basal anesthesia** Basal narcosis. Loss of consciousness, although supplemental drugs have to be given to ensure complete anesthesia.

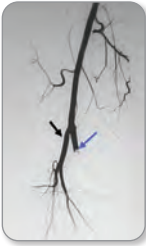
**Epidural anesthesia** Injection into the extradural space between the vertebral spines and beneath the ligamentum flavum.

**General anesthesia** Unconsciousness produced by inhalation or injection of a drug.

**Inhalation anesthesia** Drugs or gas are administered by a face mask or endotracheal tube to cause general anesthesia.

**Intravenous anesthesia** Unconsciousness is produced by the introduction of a drug into a vein.

**Local anesthesia** Local analgesia. Nerve conduction is blocked by injection



Arteriography of popliteal artery

**Arteriopathy** Any disease of arterioles.

**Arteriosclerosis** Thickening and sclerosis affecting the walls of arterioles.

**Arteriopathy** Any disease of the arteries.

**Arterioplasty** Surgical reconstruction of the wall of an artery.

**Arteriorrhaphy** Suture of an artery.

**Arteriorrhexis** Rupture of an artery.

**Arteriosclerosis** Arterial hardening.

**Arteriostenosis** Narrowing of an artery.

**Arteriotomy** Blood pressure.

**Arteriovenous** Pertaining to both artery and a vein; both arterial and venous.

**Arteriovenous malformations (AVMs)**  
A tangle of blood vessels that bypasses the capillaries and connects the arteries directly to the veins.

**Arteritis** Inflammation of an artery.

**Artery** Pl. **arteries**. A vessel carrying blood away from the heart. There are two divisions: Pulmonary and systemic. Pulmonary and umbilical arteries carry deoxygenated blood. Systemic arteries carry oxygenated blood to the different parts of the body.

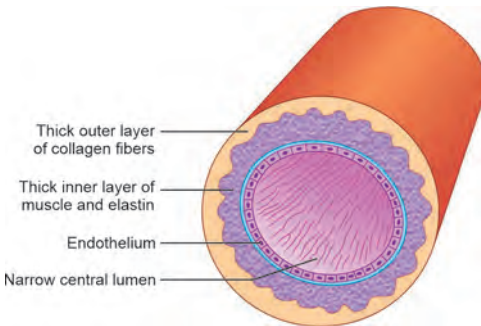
**Arthralgia** Pain in the joint.

**Arthritis** Inflammation of one or more joints. Movement in the joint is restricted, with pain and swelling.

**Osteoarthritis** A degenerative condition attacking the articular cartilage and aggravated by an impaired blood supply, previous injury or over weight, mainly affecting weight-bearing joints and causing pain.

**Rheumatoid arthritis** A chronic inflammation, usually of unknown origin. The disease is progressive and incapacitating, owing to the resulting ankylosis and deformity of the bones. Usually affects the elderly. A juvenile form is known as Still's disease.

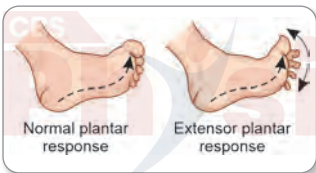
**Arthritis impact measurement scale (AIMS)** Developed to evaluate the social, psychological and physical components of health-status, mainly in rheumatic conditions.



Layers of artery

# B

**Babinski reflex** AKA plantar response. Named after JFF Babinski, French neurologist, 1857–1932. On stroking the sole of the foot, the great toe bends upwards instead of downwards (dorsal instead of plantar flexion). Presenting disease or injury to the upper motor neuron. Babies who have not walked react in the same way, but normal flexion develops later.



*Babinski reflex*

**Bacillus** Rod-shaped bacterium belonging to the family of Bacillaceae. It is aerobic, and gram-positive; pl. **bacilli**.

**Back** Dorsum; posterior region of the trunk from neck to pelvis.

**Backache** Pain in the back.

**Backboard** A stiff board placed on the stretcher or cot so that the patient's back is kept flat in spinal injuries.

**Backbone** The vertebral column.

**Back slab** The simplest and safest form of plaster splint. Instead of using encircling bandages, the plaster slabs are applied longitudinally to the limb and bandaged in place while still soft.

**Baclofen** A GABA-ergic agonist used to manage severe spasticity of cerebral or spinal origin in adult and pediatric patients.

**Bacteraemia** The presence of bacteria in the bloodstream.

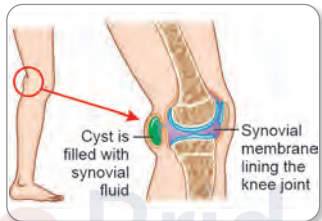
**Bacteria** Any microorganism of the class schizomycetes.

**Bacterial** Pertaining to bacteria.

**BAE** Bronchial artery embolization.

**Bainbridge's reflex** A cardiac reflex consisting of an increased pulse rate that results from stimulation of stretch receptors in the wall of left atrium, described by Francis Bainbridge, English physiologist.

**Baker's cyst** AKA popliteal cyst; synovial cyst in popliteal fossa.



*Baker's cyst*

**Balance** The ability to remain upright and to move without falling over. In physiological terms, the harmonious relationship between parts and organs of the body and their functions or between substances in the body. (see Acid-base balance)

**Acid-base balance** Mechanism of maintenance of equilibrium so as to keep pH of arterial blood at 7.4.

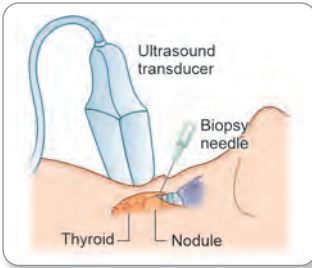
**Fluid balance** The balance between intake and output of fluids in the body.

**Metabolic balance** Intake and output of a specific nutrient. It may be negative when an excess of nutrient is excreted and positive when taken in an excess amount.

**Nitrogen balance** A state in which intake of nitrogen in protein foods is equal to loss of nitrogenous substances.

**Water balance** Fluid balance.

**Balanced diet** A diet that contains carbohydrates, proteins, fats, minerals, vitamins and water in proper proportions and in quantity that is adequate for current needs as well as for the needs



Needle biopsy



Punch biopsy

**Biopsychosocial model** A general model positing that biological, psychological (which includes thoughts, emotions, and behaviors), and social (e.g., socio-economical, socioenvironmental, and cultural) factors, all play a significant role in health and disease.

**Biostatistics** Vital statistics; application of statistical methods to analyze biologic data.

**Biosynthesis** Formation of a chemical compound by living organisms.

**Biotics** The science pertaining to life.

**Biot's breathing** An irregular respiration that can become slow or rapid, shallow or deep with irregular pauses, found in meningitis, named after Camille Biot, French physician.

**Biphasic** Consisting of two phases.

**Bipolar** With two poles.

**Bipolar affective disorder** A disorder wherein the patient exhibits both manic and depressive episodes.

**Bipolar nerve cells** Nerve cells having two processes, e.g., ganglionic cells.

**Bipolar traits** Personality traits that represent extreme opposites of expression.

**Bisection** Cutting into two equal parts.

**Bisphosphonate** A group of medicines used to treat osteopenia or osteoporosis.

**Bitemporal** Pertaining to both temples or temporal bone.

**Bitemporal hemianopia** Lesions at the level of the optic chiasma interrupting the impulses from the nasal halves of both retina thus resulting in loss of vision from the temporal side.

**Bladder calculi** Solid calculi/stones in urinary bladder.

**Blastocoele** The fluid-filled cavity of the mass of cells produced by cleavage of a fertilized ovum.

**Blastocyst** An early stage of embryo wherein there is a two-layer sphere of cells surrounding a fluid-filled cavity.

**Blastocyte** An undifferentiated cell in the blastula stage of an embryo.

**Blastogenesis** The transformation of small lymphocytes into larger, undifferentiated cells that undergo mitosis.

**Blastoma** Tumor, arising from embryonic layers.

**Blau's syndrome** The clinical triad of granulomatous recurrent uveitis, dermatitis, and symmetric arthritis is known as Blau's syndrome (BS), an uncommon autosomal dominant auto-inflammatory syndrome.

**Bleb** An irregular elevation of the epidermis; a thin-walled lucent area contiguous with pleura.

**Bleeding** Flow of blood from an injured vessel; hemorrhage.

**Bleomycin** An antitumor drug.

**Blepharitis** Inflammation of the hair follicles and glands along the border of the eyelids. The eyelids become red, tender and sore with sticky exudate.

**Blepharokeratoma** A nonspecific term for a cyst—sebaceous, epidermal or dermoid—of the eyelid.



**C** Symbol for carbon, centigrade, Celsius, cervical vertebra, (C1 to C7) kilocalorie, and complement (C1 to C9).

**Ca** Symbol for the element calcium; carcinoma.

**CABG** Coronary artery bypass graft.

**C and S** Culture and sensitivity. Isolation of potentially pathogenic bacteria, followed by antibiotic susceptibility testing.

**Cachexia** A condition of extreme debility. The patient is emaciated, the skin being loose and wrinkled from rapid wasting, but shiny and tense over bone. The eyes are sunken, the skin yellowish, and there is a gray "muddy" complexion. Mucous membranes are pale and anemia is extreme. The condition is typical of the late stages of chronic diseases.

**CAD** Coronary artery disease.

**Cadaver** A dead body, a corpse, term applied to a body used for dissection.

**Cadence** Rhythmic movements; refers to the number of steps a person takes per minute. It's a key parameter in analyzing gait.

**Caecum** The blind pouch forming the beginning of the large intestine. The vermiform appendix is attached to it.

**Caesarean section** Section delivery of a fetus by an incision through the abdominal wall and uterus. Performed for the safety of either the mother or the infant.

**Caffeine** An alkaloid present in coffee, amcolate, tea and cola drinks. It stimulates central nervous system, gastric secretion and raises free fatty acids in plasma. It acts by increasing the activity of beta-2 adrenoreceptors.

**Calamine** A pink powder containing zinc oxide used externally in various skin conditions as a soothing agent. It is protective and astringent.

**Calcaneal** Refers to the calcaneus, a large and strong bone that constitutes the back of the foot and transfers most of the body weight from the lower extremity to the ground.

**Calcaneal spur** A sharp bone projecting forward from tuberosity of the calcaneum.

**Calcaneoapophysitis** Pain and inflammation of the posterior portion of the calcaneus at the place of insertion of the Achilles tendon.

**Calcaneodynia** Pain in the heel when standing or walking.

**Calcification** Deposition of calcium salts in body tissues and making them hard.

**Arterial calcification** Deposition of calcium in the arterial walls.

**Dystrophic calcification** Process of deposition of calcium and other minerals in the cellular debris.

**Eggshell calcification** Presence of shell-like calcification in the periphery of the lymph nodes, seen in hilar lymph nodes in silicosis.

**Metastatic calcification** Calcification of soft tissue with transference of calcium from bone.

**Monckeberg's calcification** Deposition of calcium in the media of arteries.

**Rice grain calcification** Multiple, small, ovoid calcifications resembling grains of rice in the soft tissues, may be seen in cysticercosis.

**Calcitonin** A polypeptide hormone, produced by the parafollicular or C cells of the thyroid gland, which regulates blood calcium levels.

**Calcitriol** A vitamin D metabolite promoting absorption of calcium and phosphate in the intestine and their deposition in the bone tissues.

**Calcium** Lime, Ca. A metallic element (atomic number 20, atomic weight 40.078 u), a major component of limestone. Calcium phosphate forms 75%

**Card test** Integrity of interossei muscles are tested by asking the patient to hold out his hand keeping the fingers absolutely straight. A pile of stiff paper is placed into the interdigital cleft and is asked to grip the paper between the fingers. Normally the clasping fingers offer resistance. If the grip is feeble due to interosseus weakness and the paper slides out of the cleft.

**Carina** A structure with a projecting central ridge.

**Carina tracheae** A ridge at the lower end of the trachea at its bifurcation as major bronchi.

**Carinal angle** The angle formed by the right and left main bronchi at the tracheal bifurcation.

**Carlen's tube** Double-lumen endotracheal catheter used for bronchspirometry of lungs separately named after E Carlen, Scandinavian laryngologist.

**Carotid** Head and neck.

**Carotid artery** Pertains to the right and left common carotid arteries that supply to the head and neck.

**Carotid artery syndrome** Ipsilateral blindness and contralateral hemiplegia.

**Carotid body** A collection of cells at the bifurcation of the common carotid artery that respond to the changes in oxygen concentration in the blood and to changes in blood pressure.

**Carotid bruit** A continuous murmur audible over the neck particularly at the carotid bifurcation.

**Carotid endarterectomy** A surgical procedure to remove intra-arterial obstruction of the lower cervical portion of the internal carotid artery and restore normal blood flow.

**Carotid sinus** Slight dilatation at carotid bifurcation.

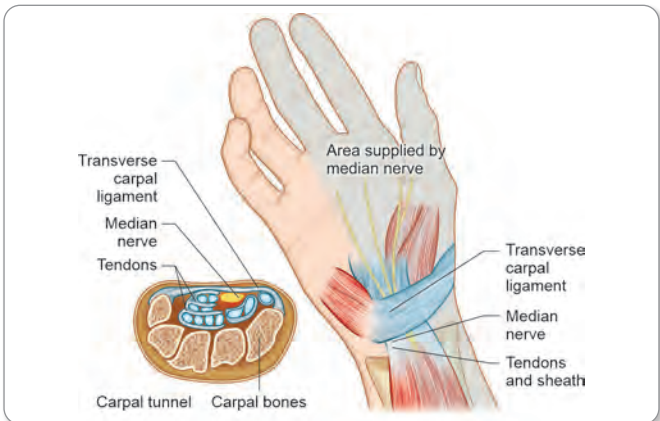
**Carotid sinus massage** Firm stroking of carotid artery at the sinus area slows SA node rhythm and may stop supra-ventricular tachycardia.

**Carpal** Pertaining to the wrist.

**Carpal bone** One of the eight bones that make up the wrist.

**Carpal boss** A bony growth on the dorsal surface of the third metacarpocarpal joint.

**Carpal tunnel** A canal in the wrist where the carpal bones form a concavity bridged by flexor retinaculum



Carpal tunnel

# D

**2,4-D** 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid.

**Dabigatran** New class of antithrombotic drug known as direct thrombin inhibitors, used to prevent clots.

**Dacarbazine** An antineoplastic agent used to treat malignant melanoma and Hodgkin's disease.

**Dacryocystitis** Inflammation of the lacrimal sac caused by obstruction of the nasolacrimal duct. It is associated with excessive tears, redness and swelling in the area of lacrimal sac. It requires hot compresses, antibiotic therapy and incision and drainage of the sac.

**Dactyl** A digit, a finger or toe.

**Dactylalgia** Pain in the fingers or toes.

**Dactylitis** Inflammation of a digit.

**Tuberculous dactylitis** Commonly involves metacarpals or phalanges and bone is enlarged as a fusiform swelling due to thickened and raised periosteum and there is destruction of original bone.

**Syphilitic dactylitis** There is infiltration of the bones of hands or foot with syphilitic granulation tissue which may undergo central necrosis.

**Dactylography** The study of fingerprints.

**Dagger sign** Ossification of the posterior longitudinal ligament with spinal cord compression due to a dense vertical ossified plaque at the posterior margin of the vertebral body and intervertebral discs, noted in cervical spine or upper thoracic spines.

**Dallas criteria** Standards for the diagnosis of myocarditis from endomyocardial biopsy. Subdivided as no myocarditis, borderline myocarditis or lymphocytic myocarditis, established by a group of cardiac pathologists in Dallas.

**Dalton's law** The partial pressure of gas in mixture equals that which it would exert if alone in same total volume.

**Danaparoid** An agent used as the sodium salt (mixture of heparan sulfate (84%), dermatan sulfate (12%) and small amounts of chondroitin sulfate (4%)), in prophylaxis of pulmonary thromboembolism and deep venous thrombosis.

**D and C** Dilatation and curettage, dilatation of the uterine cervix and scraping of the endometrium of uterus with a curette.

**D and E** Dilatation and evacuation.

**Dandy-Walker syndrome** Congenital hydrocephalus in infants characterized by cerebellar hypoplasia and obstruction to the outflow of cerebrospinal fluid through the foramina of the fourth ventricle named after Walter Dandy, US neurosurgeon and Arhus Walker, US surgeon.

**Darier's disease** A rare hereditary disorder characterized by wart-like blemishes on the body that coalesce into plaques and are found on the scalp, face, neck, trunk and axillae, named after J Darier, French dermatologist.

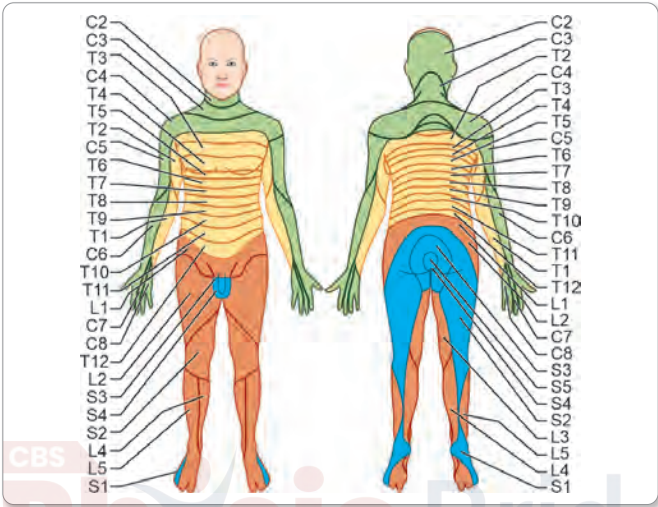
**Darwinism** The theory of evolution propounded by Charles Darwin; it states that evolution of species, results from mutation and selection of organisms that are best adapted to survive in their environment.

**DASH** Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension, a low-fat, low-cholesterol diet plan with a low sodium-content, that lowers blood pressure.

**Dash board fracture** A shear fracture with hip dislocation occurring in a person seated in front seat thrown forward.

**Das score** Provides a score between 0 and 10, a larger number indicating more active disease. When using the score to assess response to treatment, a DAS-28 reduction by 0.6 represents a moderate improvement, while a reduction >1.2 represents a major improvement. <2.6 suggests disease remission.





Dermatomes

belonging to the genera *Trichophyton*, *Epidemeryphyton* and *Microsporan*.

**Dermatomyoma** A tumor, usually multiple, due to hyperplasia of the arrectores pilorum muscles or of the muscular coat of the small arteries.

**Dermatomyositis** A collagen disease producing inflammation of the voluntary muscles with necrosis of the muscle fibres.

**Desaturation** The conversion of a saturated compound to an unsaturated one by removing hydrogen or other atoms to form a double bond.

**Descending motor pathway** Groups of myelinated nerve fibers that carry motor information from the brain or brainstem to effector's muscles, *via* the spinal cord.

**Descriptive statistics** Methods used to summarise, organise and describe observations.

**Desensitization** A therapeutic modality that attempts to reduce IgE-mediated hypersensitivity to various substance

by administering ever increasing amounts of an antigen to form blocking antibodies.

**Desiccation** Dehydration

**Desipramine** A tricyclic antidepressant, used for symptomatic relief in a variety of depressive states.

**Deslanoside** A cardiac glycoside, a type of drug that can be used in the treatment of congestive heart failure and cardiac arrhythmia.

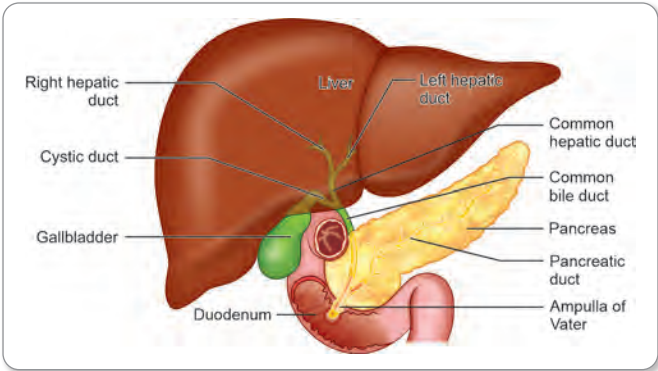
**Desloughing** Debridement

**Desmitis** Inflammation of a ligament.

**Desquamation** Abnormal shedding or an accumulation of stratum corneum in perceptible flakes.

**Desquamative interstitial pneumonia (DIP)** An interstitial pneumonia characterized by filling of alveoli with large mononuclear cells, minimal interstitial changes and no necrosis. Radiologically it gives a ground glass appearance and is treated with corticosteroids.

**Detorsion** Correction of any deformity; the removal of torsion.



### Biliary duct

**Lactiferous duct** One of the several ducts draining the lobes of the mammary gland. They open in a slight depression in the tip of the nipple.

**Lymphatic duct** One of the two main ducts conveying lymph to the blood stream. The right lymphatic duct drains lymph from the region above the diaphragm and discharges into the right subclavian vein.

**Mullerian duct** One of the bilateral ducts in the embryo that forms the uterus, vagina and fallopian tubes named after Johannes Muller, German physiologist.

**Nasolacrimal duct** A duct that conveys tears from the lacrimal sac to the nasal cavity. It opens beneath the inferior nasal cavity.

**Pancreatic duct** A duct that conveys pancreatic juice to the duodenum called Wirsung's duct, named after Johann Wirsung, German physician.

**Parotid duct** A duct carrying secretions from the parotid gland to the oral cavity. It opens opposite the second upper molar tooth also called Stensen's duct, named after Niels Stensen, Danish physician.

**Semicircular duct** One of the three (anterior, posterior and lateral) membranous tubes forming a part of the membranous labyrinth of the inner ear. They are present within the semi-circular canals.

**Sublingual duct** Any of the secretory ducts of sublingual gland also called Bartholin duct, named after Casper Bartholin Jr., Danish anatomist.

**Submandibular duct** A duct of the submandibular gland that opens on a papilla at the side of frenum of the tongue, also called Wharton's duct, named after Thomas Wharton, British anatomist.

**Thoracic duct** Lymphatic duct draining the left side of the body above the diaphragm and all of the body below the diaphragm and it opens into the left subclavian vein.

**Utriculosaccular duct** A narrow tube arising from the utricle connecting it into the saccule and open into the endolymphatic duct of the inner ear.

**Ductus** A duct or walled passageway suitable for the conveyance of air or, more often in the body, liquids.

**Ductus arteriosus** A vessel leading from the bifurcation of the pulmonary

# E

**EAC** External auditory canal.

**EAEC** Enteroaggregative *Escherichia coli*, bacteria causing a rare chronic diarrhea in infants due to which they fail to thrive.

**Eales disease** Recurrent hemorrhages into the retina and vitreous noted in males in second and third decades of life, named after Henry Eales, British ophthalmologist.

**E-antigen** Hepatitis B virus e antigen.

**Early morning stiffness** (EMS) The sense of loss of free motion or a slowed, stiff range of movement encountered upon first awakening after sleep. Seen in various types of arthritis.

**Eaton-Lambert syndrome** Myasthenic myopathic syndrome, occurs in association with small cell carcinoma of the lung. There is weakness of the pelvic and shoulder girdle muscles, loss of tendon reflexes, and improvement of weakness after exercise, named after Lee Eaton, American neurologist and Edward Lambert, American physiologist.

**Ebola disease** A hemorrhagic fever caused by an RNA virus, first recognized in Zaire on the banks of Ebola river. It presents with gastrointestinal symptoms, arthralgias, and severe diarrhea, infection spreads by direct contact.

**Ebonation** Removal of bony fragments after injury.

**Ebstein's anomaly** Tricuspid valve is dysplastic and displaced into right ventricle and right ventricle is arterIALIZED. There is tricuspid regurgitation and there is right atrium to left atrium shunt, named after Wilhelm Ebstein, German physician.

**Ebullism** Air embolism at high altitude where the ambient pressure is 47 mm Hg or less. There is acute hypoxia and evaporation of body fluids causing widespread air bubble formation in the vessels and tissues.

**Eburnation** Ivory-like appearance of weight bearing joints with erosion of cartilages, leaving polished, sclerotic bone as the new articular surface.

**ECAC** Expiratory central airway collapse.

**Ecaudate** With no tail.

**Eccentric** Pertaining to an object or activity that departs from usual course or practice; pertaining to a behaviour that is odd.

**Eccentrochondroplasia** Hereditary disorders of bone growth that occur as a result of primary lesions in growth cartilage, in eccentric position.

**Echondroma** Overgrowth of cartilage on a normally situated cartilage.

**Echymoma** A tumor-like swelling composed of extravasated blood.

**Echymosis** A bruise; an effusion of blood under the skin causing discoloration.

**Eccrine** Exocrine secretion by cells which remain intact.

**Eccrine gland** Sweat glands found in the corium of the skin. They secrete outwardly through a duct to the surface of the skin. They promote cooling by evaporation of their secretions.

**Eccyesis** Ectopic pregnancy.

**ECF** Extracellular fluid.

**ECG** Electrocardiogram.

**Echocardiogram** The ultrasonic record of the movement of the heart produced by echocardiography.

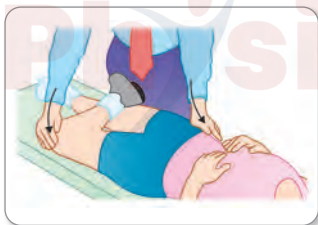
**Echocardiography** A method to examine the movements of the heart by the use of ultrasound.

**Echoencephalogram** Recording of the ultrasonic echoes of the brain, useful in determining the cause of shift in midline structures of the brain.

**Echographia** A form of agraphia in which one cannot write spontaneously but can write from dictation or copy.

# F

- f** Symbol for respiratory frequency; aperture/focal length of lens.
- F** Fahrenheit; chemical symbol for fluorine; frequency; French gauge (of size of catheters, etc.) circumference in mm.
- Fabella** Fibrocartilaginous or bony growth in the lateral head of the gastrocnemius muscle.
- Faber test** AKA figure of 4 or four test is commonly utilized as a provocation test to detect hip, lumbar spine, or sacroiliac joint pathology.



Faber test

- Facet** A small smooth surface of a bone for articulation.
- Facetectomy** A surgical procedure on the spine to remove one or both facet joints of a vertebra.
- Facial** Relating to the face.
  - Facial angle** Degree of protrusion of the lower face.
  - Facial artery** Branch of external carotid artery which divides into four cervical and five facial branches.
  - Facial bones** Face has 14 bones, two each of maxilla, nasal, palatine and inferior nasal concha; zygoma and lacrimal, and one each of mandible and vomer bones.
  - Facial diplegia** Bilateral paralysis of various muscles of the face.

**Facial hemiplegia** Paralysis of muscles of one side of the face.

**Facial hemispasm** Bouts of facial contraction on one side.

**Facial paralysis** Paralysis affecting muscles of the face.

**Facial spasm** An involuntary contraction of the facial muscles on one side of the face.

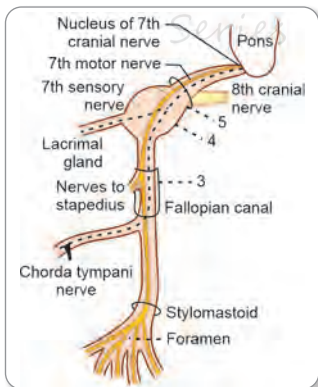
**Facial tic** Repetitive spasmodic and involuntary contraction of groups of facial muscles.

**Facial vein** One of a pair of superficial veins draining deoxygenated blood from the superficial face.

**Facet joint** The joints connecting each of vertebrae.

**Facet rhizotomy** A minimally invasive surgical procedure that uses an electric current to destroy damaged nerve fibres that carry pain signals to the brain.

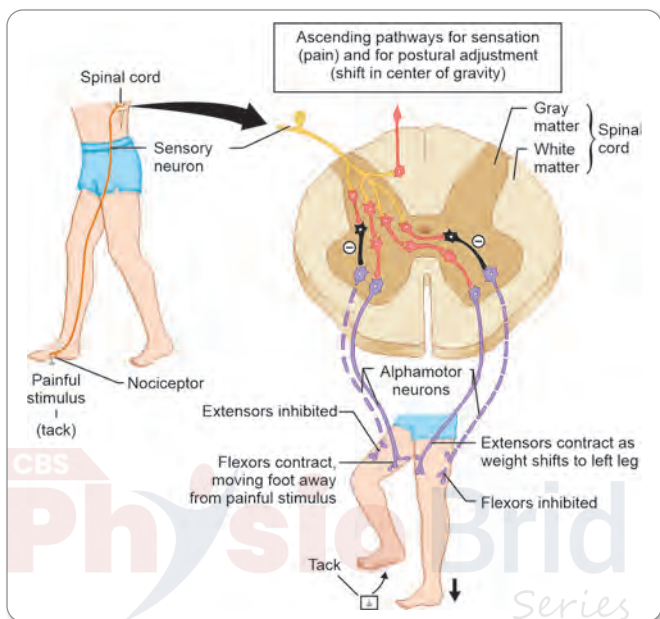
**Facial nerve** The seventh cranial nerve, which supplies the salivary glands and superficial facial muscles.



Facial nerve

**Facultative anaerobe** The organism which uses oxygen when present but can survive in its absence too.

**Fecal occult blood test (FOBT)** A diagnostic test to assess for hidden blood in the stool, not visible to the naked eye.



### Flexion reflex

**Dental fluorosis** Excess fluoride combines with calcium to form calcium fluorapatite making the teeth to become hypoplastic and later brown discoloration.

**Skeletal fluorosis** Excess deposition of fluoride in the bones causes hyperostosis and irregular new bone formation along the attachment of ligaments, muscles, joint capsules and interosseous ligaments. There can be compressive radiculomyelopathy. The bones give a structureless marble white appearance.

**Flush** Blush, sudden redness of the skin, irrigation of a cavity with water.

**Hot flush** Flush accompanied with a sensation of heat, noted during menopause or neuroses.

**Malar flush** A bright flush over the malar region and cheek seen in febrile diseases and mitral stenosis.

**Flutter** Tremulousness; rapid abnormal but rhythmic contractions.

**Atrial flutter** Rapid atrial contraction due to intra-atrial reentry; ECG a regular undulating baseline (flutter or F waves) resulting in a saw-tooth appearance. They appear at a regular rate of 250–350 beats per min.

**Diaphragmatic flutter** Rapid contraction of the diaphragm.

**Flutter fibrillation** Flutter waves exhibiting some irregularity.

**Ventricular flutter** Ventricular contractions of the heart at 250 per minute.

**FMRI** Functional magnetic resonance imaging. A technique to map the functioning of human brain that is dependent on regional blood perfusion, blood volume and blood oxygenation that accompany the neuronal activity.

# G

**GABA** Gamma-aminobutyric acid, a major inhibiting neurotransmitter widely distributed in brain.

**Gabapentin** An anticonvulsant medication primarily used to treat partial seizures and neuropathic pain.

**G-actin** A globular protein found in many cells.

**GAD** Generalized anxiety disorder.

**Gaenslen's test:** The Gaenslen test is one of five provocative tests that can be used to detect abnormalities of the musculoskeletal system and primary chronic inflammation of the lumbar vertebrae and sacroiliac joint.

**Gag reflex** Elevation of the soft palate and retching which occurs on touching the posterior wall of the pharynx; a pharyngeal reflex used to test the integrity of the glossopharyngeal and vagus nerves.

**Gait** Manner of walking.

**Ataxic gait** The foot is raised high, descends suddenly, and the whole sole strikes the ground. Staggering, unsteady gait.

**Cerebellar gait** A staggering walk indicative of cerebellar disease.

**Dancing gait** Jerky involuntary movements which exaggerate during walking and the limbs are thrown apart as in chorea.

**Double step gait** Gait in which alternate steps are of a different length or at a different rate.

**Equine gait** High stepping gait of peroneal nerve palsy.

**Festinating gait** In Parkinsonism, the patient's head and body are bent forward. The hips and knees are slightly flexed. The patient walks with quick

short shuffling steps giving an impression of trying to catch up with the center of gravity.

**Four-point gait** A method adopted when using sticks or crutches, which allows maximum stability.

**Hemiplegic gait** The paralyzed limb abducts and makes a circle to come to front to touch the ground.

**High steppage gait** In polyneuropathy, poliomyelitis and peroneal muscular dystrophy the patient raises the foot to overcome the foot drop and is brought down and the toes touch the ground first.

**Scissor gait** Gait in which legs cross while walking.

**Slapping gait** High stepping ataxic gait due to loss of proprioception as in tabes dorsalis.

**Spastic gait** Stiff, shuffling walk, the legs being kept together.

**Stamping gait** The patient in posterior column lesions walks by placing the feet wide apart. The feet are raised high and brought down suddenly with the heel slamming the floor.

**Stuttering gait** A walking disorder characterized by hesitancy that resembles stuttering; seen in some hysterical or schizophrenic patients as well as in patients with neurologic damage.

**Trendelenberg gait** An abnormal gait resulting from a defective hip abductor mechanism.

**Waddling gait** Walk resembling that of a duck as in muscular dystrophy.

**Gait cycle** One complete stride cycle which begins with a heel strike of one foot and continues till the next heel strike of the same foot to prepare for the next step.

**Galant reflex** On stroking the back along the spinal column, the hips move toward the stimulated side, in neonates. It disappears by about 4 weeks of age. Absence of reflex may indicate spinal cord lesion.

# H

**Habenula** A whiplike structure; a peduncle attached to the pineal body of the brain; a narrow band-like structure; a dorsomedial thalamic prominence where olfactory, visceral, and somatic afferent pathways are integrated.

**Habituation** An adaptive response characterized by a decreased reactivity to a repeated stimulus.

**HABP** Hospital-acquired bacterial pneumonia.

**Haemarthrosis** An effusion of blood into a joint.

**Haemodialysis** The removal of waste material from the blood of a patient with acute or chronic renal failure by means of a dialyser or artificial kidney. The apparatus is coupled with an artery and dialysis is achieved by the blood and rinsing fluid (dialysate) passing through a semipermeable membrane. Blood is returned through a vein.

**Haemophilia** A condition characterized by impaired coagulability of the blood, and a strong tendency to bleed. Over 80% of all patients with haemophilia have haemophilia A (classic haemophilia), which is characterized by a deficiency of clotting factor VIII. Haemophilia B (Christmas disease), which affects about 15% of all haemophiliac patients, results from a deficiency of factor IX. Inherited as an X-linked recessive trait, it is transmitted by females only, to their male offsprings.

In order to avoid the debilitating and crippling effects of haemophilia, treatment must raise the level of the deficient clotting factor and maintain it in order to stop local bleeding. The patient must learn to avoid trauma and to obtain prompt treatment for bleeding episodes. Before surgery or dental treatment the patient must be given an infusion of the appropriate clotting factor.

**Haemophilus** A small, nonmotile gram-negative bacterium that requires the growth factor (X or V or both),

provided by blood. *H. aegyptius* is the causative agent of conjunctivitis. *H. ducreyi* is the causative agent of chancroid. *H. influenzae* is the causative agent of respiratory infections and meningitis. *H. vaginalis* bacterium causes vaginitis.

**Haemophilus influenza** A species once thought to be the cause of epidemic influenza; it produces a highly fatal form of meningitis, especially in infants.

**Haemopoiesis** The formation of red blood cells, which normally takes place in the bone marrow and continues throughout life.

**Extramedullary haemopoiesis** The formation of blood cells other than in the bone marrow, e.g., in the liver or spleen.

**Haemoptysis** The coughing up of blood from the lungs or bronchi. Being aerated, it is bright-red and frothy.

**Haemorrhage** An escape of blood from a ruptured blood vessel, externally or internally. Arterial haemorrhage involves bright-red blood which escapes in rhythmic spurts, corresponding to the beats of the heart. Venous haemorrhage involves dark-red blood which escapes in an even flow. Haemorrhage may also be: primary, at the time of operation or injury; reactionary or recurrent, occurring later when the blood pressure rises and a ligature slips or a vessel opens up; secondary, as a rule about 10 days after injury, and usually due to sepsis. Special types are as follows:

**Antepartum haemorrhage** Which occurs before labor starts. [see Placenta (Praevia)]

**IAP** Indian Association of Physiotherapists; inhibitor of apoptosis protein.

**Iatrogenic** Physician-produced  
**Iatrogenic disease** Any disease or disorder that has resulted in a patient from effects of treatment by a physician or a surgeon.

**I band** An isotropic band of striated muscle fibre that appears dark in polarised light but light when stained.

**IBS** Irritable bowel syndrome.

**Ibuprofen** A low-risk nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

**IC** Inspiratory capacity; irritable colon.

**ICD-10** International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision.

**Ice therapy** A therapy using low temperature, has been used regularly as an immediate treatment to induce analgesia following acute soft-tissue injuries.

**Ichthyosis** Hypertrophy of horny layer characterized by thick, dry, scaly skin resembling fish skin. adj. **ichthyotic**.

**ICP** Intracranial pressure.

**Ictal** Pertaining to a sudden attack such as an epileptic seizure.

**Icteric** Affected with jaundice; jaundiced.

**Icterohepatitis** Inflammation of the liver with marked jaundice.

**Icterus** Jaundice.

**Ictus** A seizure, stroke sudden attack or a fit noted at birth.

**ICU** Intensive Care Unit.

**Ideational apraxia** The inability to execute a sequence of movements in an orderly fashion.

**Idiopathic** Self-originated; applied to a condition the cause of which is not known.

**Idiosyncrasy** A habit or quality peculiar to any person; an abnormal susceptibility to some drug or protein peculiar to a person.

**Idioventricular** Relating to the cardiac ventricle alone when dissociated from the atrium.

**IF** Immunofluorescence.

**IHD** Ischemic heart disease.

**Iliac** Pertaining to the ilium.

**Iliac artery** Either of the two large arteries that carry blood to the pelvic region and lower limbs; common iliac artery. It has an outer branch—external iliac artery that becomes femoral artery and an internal iliac artery conducting blood to gluteal region.

**Iliac crest** Upper free margin of the ilium.

**Iliac fossa** One of the concavities of the iliac bones of the pelvis.

**Iliac region** Inguinal region on either side of the hypogastrium.

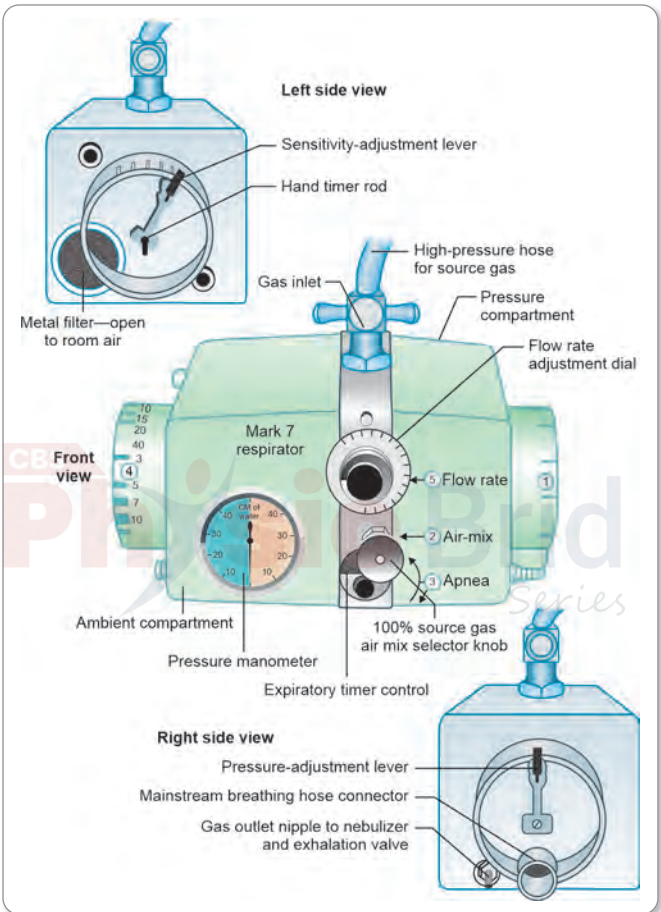
**Iliac spine** One of the four spines of the ilium such as anterior and posterior inferior spines.

**Iliocostalis** A dorsal muscle situated deep to the fleshy section of serratus posterior inferior muscle. Iliocostalis lumborum is the lower (lumbar) portion of that muscle.

**Iliizarov technique** A technique devised by a Russian surgeon Ilizarov for the treatment of non-union or malunion deformity, chronic osteomyelitis or limb length discrepancy. It consists of external rings and thin wires. The wire is passed through the bones on both sides of fracture which after tensioning are fixed to the ring fixator. Bone lengthening can be achieved by cortecotomy.

**Ileostomy** An artificial opening (stoma) created from the ileum and brought to the surface of the abdomen for the purpose of evacuation. Ileostomy is an inevitable part of proctocolectomy. An ileostomy maybe temporary or permanent.





#### Intermittent positive pressure breathing

**Isometric** Having equal dimensions. Exercises involving the contraction and relaxation of muscles without producing movement; used to maintain muscle tone after a fracture.

**Isotonic contraction** Tension remains the same, whilst the muscle's length changes.

**Isotonic solution** A solution of the same osmotic pressure as the fluid with which it is compared. Normal saline (0.9% solution of salt in water) is isotonic with blood plasma.

**ITU** Intensive Therapy Unit.

**IV** Intravenous.

# J

**Jaboulay operation** Amputation of the thigh and removal of hip bone, named after a French surgeon, Mathieu Jaboulay.

**JACCOL** A mnemonic for Jaundice, suggestion of Anemia (pale color of skin or conjunctiva), Cyanosis (blue coloration of lips or extremities), Clubbing of fingernails, Oedema of ankles, Lymph nodes of neck, armpits, groins.

**Jaccoud's arthritis** Recurrent episodes of rheumatic fever with joint abnormalities especially metacarpo-phalangeal joints, named after French physician, Sigismond Jaccoud.

**Jack-knife** Pocket knife

**Jack-knife position** Lying on the back with shoulders elevated, legs fixed on thighs and the thighs at right angles to the trunk.

**Jack-knife spasms** Infantile epilepsy making the body bent sharply at waist.

**Jacksonian epilepsy** Named after John Hughlings Jackson, British neurologist characterized by unilateral clonic movements that begin in one group of muscles and spread gradually to adjacent group reflecting the march of the epileptic activity (e.g., mouth, thumb, great toe) through the motor cortex. The attacks may vary in duration from a few seconds to several hours.

**Jackson's law** The nerve functions that have developed at the end are the earliest to go in a paralysis, framed by John Hughlings Jackson; Jackson's rule.

**Jackson's membrane** A thin sheet of peritoneum passing in front of ascending colon to the lateral part of posterior abdominal wall, named after Jabez Jackson, U.S. surgeon.

**Jackson's safety triangle sign** A triangular space bound below by the lower end of the thyroid cartilage with sides by sternomastoid muscles and apex in the suprasternal notch. Chevalier Jackson, an American laryngologist, described that the trachea may be safely incised in this region.

**Jacobaeus operation** Removal of pleural adhesions by thoracoscopy and cauterization, formulated by a Swedish surgeon, Hans Jacobaeus.

**Jacobson's nerve** Tympanic nerve, named after a Danish anatomist, Ludwig Jacobson.

**Jail bars sign** An X-ray of the chest demonstrating dense osteosclerosis of the ribs in the form of horizontal bands simulating the bars of a prison window. It may be encountered in osteopetrosis, sickle cell anemia and myeloid metaplasia.

**Jaipur foot** A cheap light weight water resistant below knee prosthetic device, devised by PK Sethi, Jaipur, Rajasthan, that is functional and cosmetically acceptable. The person can walk, climb and squat without any difficulty.



Jaipur foot

**Jakob-Creutzfeldt disease** A rare encephalopathy with partial degeneration of the pyramidal and extra pyramidal systems that leads to dementia, named after two German psychiatrists, Alfons Jakob and Hans Creutzfeldt.

# K

**Kallmann's syndrome** A condition characterized by absence of the sense of smell due to agenesis of the olfactory bulbs and by secondary hypogonadism; named after Franz Kallmann, American psychiatrist.

**Kanavel's sign** Point of maximal tenderness in suppurative tenosynovitis, described by Allen B Kanavel, US surgeon.

**K antigen** Antigens present on the surface of gram-negative bacteria such as *Klebsiella* species and *Escherichia coli*.

**Kaposi's sarcoma** (KS) M K Kaposi, Austrian dermatologist, 1837–1902. A multifocal, metastasizing, malignant reticulosis with angiosarcoma-like features, involving chiefly the skin. Rarely seen in the developed world until the outbreak of AIDS for which Kaposi's sarcoma is a major feature.

**Kartagener's syndrome** An immotile cilia syndrome, described by Swiss physician, Manes Kartagener, presenting with dextrocardia, bronchiectasis, sinusitis and sterility.

**Karvonen's formula** The Karvonen's formula factors in resting pulse (resting HR) to compute target pulse (THR), utilizing a scope of 50–85% force.

**Karyolysis** The dissolution of the nucleus of a cell, adj. **karyolytic**.

**Karyorrhexis** Rupture of the cell nucleus resulting in disintegration and extrusion of chromatin. adj. **karyorrhectic**.

**Karyotyping** Chromosome analysis.

**Kasabach-Merritt syndrome** A rapidly enlarging hemangioma and thrombocytopenia noted during early infancy, described by Haig Karabakh, US pediatrician and Merritt, US physician.

**Kawasaki disease** Mucocutaneous lymph node syndrome of undetermined etiology affecting children under age 5 years. It presents with high fever, rash, conjunctivitis and cervical lymph node enlargement. It was first described by Japanese pediatrician, Tomisaku Kawasaki. There is a high incidence of

coronary artery aneurysms, occlusions and myocardial infarction. Treatment includes aspirin in large doses and supportive care.

**Kayser-Fleischer ring** A gray-green to red-gold pigmented ring at the outer margin of cornea, described by German ophthalmologists Bernhard Kayser and Bruno Fleischer. It is seen in Wilson's disease and pseudo-sclerosis.

**Kegel exercises** Specific exercises to strengthen the pelvic-vaginal muscles to control stress incontinence in women, and to strengthen the pelvic floor, and are named after Arnold Kegel, a gynecologist who devised them first.

**Kehr's sign** Patient with hemoperitoneum when lies flat on the back with foot of bed raised, the liquid blood gravitates toward the under-surface of the diaphragm causing referred pain in one or other shoulder, described by Hans Kehr, Berlin surgeon.

**Keith's node** Sinoatrial node of the heart, named after Sir Arthur Keith, British anatomist.

**Keith-Wagener-Barker classification** A classification of degree of hypertension and arteriosclerosis based on retinal changes; constriction of retinal arterioles (grade I); constriction and sclerosis of retinal arterioles (grade II); cotton-wool exudates and hemorrhages in the background of grade II hypertensive retinopathy (grade III), and papilloedema (grade IV), named after Norman Keith, Canadian-US physician, Henry Wagener, US Physician and N W Barker, US Physician.

# L

**L1-5** First to fifth lumbar nerves; first to fifth lumbar vertebra.

**Labeling index** Labeling index is the proportion of DNA-producing cells in a tissue sample.

**Labeling theory** In sociology, provides a distinctive sociological approach that focuses on the role of social labeling in the development of crime and deviance.

**Labia** Lips, fold of skin at the opening of the mouth or vagina.

**Labia majora** The two folds of skin and adipose tissue lying on either side of the vaginal opening that form the lateral borders of the vulva.

**Labia minora** The two thin folds that lie inside the vagina and between labia majora and hymen.

**Labial** Pertaining to the lips.

**Labiaplasty** Surgical procedure in which labia minora are cut down to achieve reduction in size or better symmetry.

**Labile** Unstable; unsteady.

**Labile affect psy** Rapid and abrupt change in emotional feeling, tone, unrelated to external stimuli.

**Labile hypertension** Wide swings in blood pressure as an accentuation of normal variability.

**Labor** The physiological process of expulsion of the products of conception from the uterus *via* the cervix and vagina to the outside world.

**Labrum** Lip like structure.

**Labrum acetabulare** Triangular rim of fibrocartilage, base of which is fixed to acetabular margin, deepening its cavity.

**Labrum glenoidale** A triangular rim of fibrocartilage, the base of which is fixed to circumference of glenoid cavity of scapula.

**Labyrinth** Any group of interconnecting membranous cavities, cells or canals separated from the bony labyrinth by the perilymph both of which lie within the petrous portion of the temporal bone; internal ear comprises the semicircular canals, vestibule and cochlea.

**Labyrinthine righting reflexes** A reflex which when taken out of its normal upright position, corrects the orientation of the body, initiated by the vestibular system. It detects that the body is not erect and leads the head to move back into position as the rest of the body follows.

**Labyrinthitis** Inflammation of the labyrinth, causing vertigo.

**Lacaziosis** A rare, chronic subcutaneous infection of the skin, marked by the formation of keloidal, ulcerated or verrucous lesions that contain the etiological agent, *Lacazia loboi*. AKA Jorge Lobo's disease.

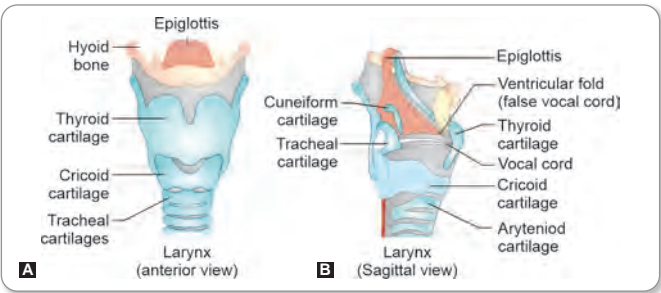
**Lacerate** To tear into irregular segments.

**Laceration** A torn, jagged wound.

**Lachman's test** (Modified anterior draw test) A test to determine the integrity of the anterior cruciate ligament of the knee. The examiner standing on the side to be examined grasps the tibia at the level of tibial tuberosity while stabilizing the femur with the other hand. The patient is asked to relax the leg while the examiner is holding the knee fixed at 30°, pulls forward on the knee. The test is considered positive when there is an excess motion.

**LACI** Lacunar cerebral infarct.

**Lacrimal apparatus** A system of glands and ducts that produces tears and drains away from the inner corners of the eyes to the back of nose.



A. Anterior view of larynx; B. Sagittal view of larynx

and lined with ciliated mucous membrane; voice box containing vocal cords.

**Lasegue sign/test** Used to assess the sciatic compromise due to lumbosacral nerve root irritation.

**Laser** Light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation. An apparatus producing an extremely concentrated beam of light that can be used to cut metals. Used in the treatment of neoplasms, detached retina, diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration, and some skin conditions.

**Latency** A period of inactivity between the time of stimulus and the movement of response.

**Lateral** Situated at the side; therefore, away from the center.

**Lateral epicondylitis** AKA tennis elbow, a condition in which there is overuse of muscles and tendons connecting the forearm to the elbow joint, leading to inflammation.

**Lateral longitudinal arch of foot** The flatter of the two longitudinal arches and lies on the ground in the standing position.

**Lateral release surgery** It is a minimally invasive surgery that is performed *via* small incisions around the knee to realign the kneecap.

**Latex agglutination test** The latex agglutination test is a laboratory test used to detect specific antibodies or antigens

in bodily fluids such as blood, urine, saliva, or cerebrospinal fluid.

**Lathyrism** A spastic paraplegia developed from consumption of kesari dal, *Lathyrus sativus*. The disease affects men more frequently and more severely. It passes through non-stick (mild), one-stick (moderate), two-stick (severe) and crawler (very severe) stages. There is spasticity, a 'scissor type' of gait and weakness.

**Latissimus** A broad or large structure such as a muscle.

**Latroductus** Described as spasm of facial muscles, edematous eyelids, and lachrimation.

**LATS** Long-acting thyroid stimulator.

**Laughing disease** Pseudobulbar palsy; a neurological condition that causes sudden, uncontrollable, and inappropriate laughing or crying.

**Laurence-Moon-Biedl syndrome** A hereditary disorder characterized by girdle-type obesity, hypogonadism, retinitis pigmentosa, polydactyly, mental retardation and skull defects, described by English ophthalmologist, John Laurence, American ophthalmologist Robert Moon and Czechoslovakian physician, Arthur Biedl.

**Lavage** The washing out of a hollow cavity.

**Bronchoalveolar lavage** A procedure that is sometimes done during a bronchoscopy. It is also called bronchoalveolar washing.



**Machinery murmur** A harsh, rasping continuous murmur of patent ductus arteriosus heard in the left second intercostal space near the sternum. The murmur begins shortly after the first sound reaches a maximum at the end of systole and wanes in late diastole. It is accompanied by a thrill or buzz.

**Macrencephaly** Abnormally large size of the brain.

**Macroadenoma** A pituitary adenoma over 10 mm in diameter, large enough to be easily visualized by usual radiologic techniques; most are null-cell adenomas and are detected because they exert pressure on surrounding structures.

**Macroblast** An abnormally large immature erythrocyte; a large young erythroblast with megaloblastic features.

**Macrocyte** Abnormally large erythrocyte with increased hemoglobin and decreased life span seen in hemolytic anemia, massive bleeding, hyperthyroidism and erythroblastosis fetalis.

**Macrocytic** Pertaining to cells larger than normal; in megaloblastic anemia, impaired erythropoiesis occurs due to the presence of large red blood cells in the blood, often a result of folic acid or vitamin B<sub>12</sub> deficiency.

**Macronutrients** Nutritional substances such as carbohydrates, proteins, and fats required in large amount.

**Macrophage** Cells of reticuloendothelial system possessing the ability to phagocytose bacteria and other foreign particles. They are monocytes comprising 3–5% of circulating leukocytes, tissue-bound macrophages located in the alveoli (dust cells), central nervous system (microglial cell), liver (Kupffer cells, lymph nodes), peritoneum and skin (Langerhans cells) and histiocytes found in connective tissues.

**Macula** A small spot; a colored area.

**Macula densa** A specialized region in the distal renal tubule where specialized cells converge; the macula densa is part of the juxtaglomerular apparatus.

**Macula lutea** A yellowish area of the retina centered on the fovea centralis.

**Macula retinae** A small area in the center of the retina where light is sharply focused to produce detailed color vision needed for tasks such as reading and driving. When a full-thickness defect develops in the macula, the condition is referred to as a macular hole.

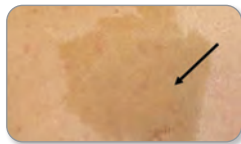
**Macula flava** Located at the anterior and posterior ends of the bilateral vocal folds. Vocal fold ligaments run between the anterior and posterior maculae flavae. The maculae flavae seem to control the synthesis of fibrous components in the vocal ligament.

**Macula sacculi** Lies in a nearly vertical position. Its function is to detect vertical linear acceleration. It is a 2 mm by 3 mm patch of hair cells. Each hair cell of the macula contains 40–70 stereocilia and one true cilium, called a kinocilium.

**Macula utriculi** Present in a horizontal position and detects horizontal acceleration. The macula of utricle allows a person to perceive changes in longitudinal acceleration (in horizontal directions only).

**Macular** Relating to or having macules.

**Macule** Circumscribed area of variable size on the skin with an alteration in color and without any elevation, seen in leukoderma, moles, purpura, erythema, or leprosy.



Macule



**Nabothian cyst** A cyst formed in a nabothian gland of uterine cervix. It appears pearly white and firm and has no adverse effects.

**Nabothian gland** One of many small, mucus-secreting glands of uterine cervix, named after Martin Naboth, German physician.

**NACO** National AIDS Control Organization.

**NAD** No appreciable disease; nothing abnormal detected.

**Naegle's rule** Estimation of the day of onset of labor by counting back 90 days from the day of beginning of last menstrual period and adding seven days to that date, rule formulated by Franz Naegle, German obstetrician.

**Naevus** Mole, birthmark, a circumscribed area of hyperpigmentation angioma of skin. pl. **naevi**.

**NAG** N-Acetyl- $\beta$ -d-Glucosaminidase.

**Nagler's reaction** A biochemical test called Nagler's reaction is used to determine whether microbes, such as *Clostridium perfringens*, release phospholipases, also known as lecithinases.

**NAI** Nonaccidental injury.

**Nail** An epidermal plate with keratin covering the sensitive tips of the fingers and toes; a slender metallic rod used in operation to fasten pieces of broken bone. pl. **nails**.

**Nail blanch test** Also called the capillary nail refill test, is performed on the nail beds as an indicator of tissue perfusion (the amount of blood flow to tissue) and dehydration.

**Nail-patella syndrome** An autosomal dominant disease involving structures of mesodermal and ectodermal origin and presenting with defective nails of thumb and great toe, flexion contraction of multiple joints, defective or absent patellae, lordosis, renal abnormalities, exostosis of ileum and pigmentary anomalies of iris, cataract, microcornea and ptosis; hereditary osteo-onychodysplasia.

**Nail pits** Tiny dents in fingernails or toenails, can be a sign of psoriasis, eczema, or joint inflammation.

**Smith-Petersen nail** A three-fanged nail to fix the fractures of the neck of the femur devised by Marius Smith Petersen, US orthopedic surgeon.

**Terry's nails** Apparent leukonychia in which the white discoloration affects the entire nail except for 1–2 mm at the distal margin; it is frequently seen in cirrhosis, congestive heart failure, and certain other conditions.

**Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase** An enzyme found in the membrane of all animal cells. It performs several functions in cell physiology. The Na<sup>+</sup> K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase pump maintains the gradient of a higher concentration of sodium extracellularly and a higher level of potassium intracellularly. The sustained concentration gradient is crucial for physiological processes in many organs and has an ongoing role in stabilizing the resting membrane potential of the cell, regulating the cell volume, and cell signal transduction.

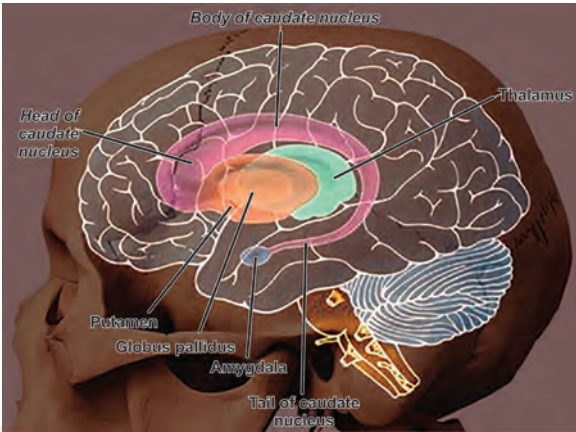
**Narcoanalysis** Encouraging the patients to talk about their experiences following induction of light anesthesia by IV barbiturate.

**Narchohypnosis** Hypnotic suggestions made while the patient is under the influence of a narcotic drug.

**Narcolepsy** A condition in which there is an uncontrollable desire for sleep.

**Narcosis** Depression of neuronal excitability causing stupor or sleep.

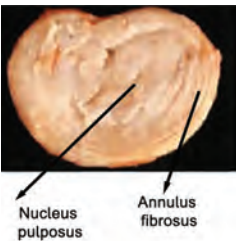
**Basal narcosis** Preliminary unconsciousness induced in a patient by administration of an opioid drug prior



### Caudate nucleus

The globus in turn is divided into lateral and medial segments by the internal medullary lamina; the medial segment may be subdivided into lateral and medial parts by the accessory medullary lamina. AKA lenticular n.

**Nucleus pulposus** A semifluid mass of fine white and elastic fibers that form the central portion of an intervertebral disk; it has been regarded as the persistent remains of the embryonic notochord.



Intervertebral disk showing nucleus pulposus and annulus fibrosus

**Nucleus ruber** (Red nucleus) A distinctive oval nucleus (pink in fresh specimens because of an iron-containing pigment in many of the cells) centrally placed in the upper mesencephalic reticular formation; it receives fibers from the cerebellar nuclei and cerebral cortex and projects fibers to the cerebellum, brainstem, and spinal cord.

**Null hypothesis** The hypothesis that the observed difference between two groups of patients studied is accidental.

**Number needed to treat** (NNT) A measure of clinical significance in medicine and pharmacology used to communicate the effectiveness of a healthcare intervention. It refers to the average number of patients who need to be treated with a specific intervention to prevent one additional bad outcome. It is used in pharmacology to make decisions between treatment options based upon the number of subjects receiving the medication before one subject has a positive outcome.



# Q

**Q-angle** Obtuse angle formed by patellar tendon and patellar ligament.



Q-angle

**QD** *Pres (L)* Quaque die, once a day.

**Q fever** Query or Queensland fever. An acute zoonotic rickettsial infection caused by *Coxiella burnetii*. It follows an occupational contact work with live-stock and presents with influenza-like picture which may progress to pneumonia. It responds to tetracycline or doxycycline.

**QID** *Pres (L)* Quater in die, four times a day.

**QOD** Every other day.

**Q (Perfusion)** Symbol for blood volume, rate of blood flow, perfusion, electric quantity.

**QRS axis** The mean frontal plane vector of QRS complex which normally lies between  $0^\circ$  and  $90^\circ$ . It can be estimated roughly by seeing which limb lead has the biggest R wave in electrocardiogram.

**QRS complex** A group of waves depicted on an electrocardiogram; also called the QRS wave. It actually consists of three distinct waves created by the passage of the cardiac electrical impulse through the ventricles and occurs at the beginning of each contraction of the ventricles. In normal electrocardiogram R wave is typically the most prominent wave among the Q, R, and S waves in the QRS complex; the Q and S waves may be extremely weak and are sometimes absent.

**QRS interval** Time taken for ventricular depolarization and it is measured from the beginning of the Q wave to the end of S wave in the electrocardiogram having its upper limit 0.1 second.

**QRST complex** The Q, R, S and T waves of an electrocardiogram. The T wave following the QRS complex, reflects ventricular repolarization.

**QRST interval** The electrocardiographic period of ventricular electrical activity.

**Qs/Qt** Shunt fraction, venous admixture, wasted perfusion, perfusion of poorly ventilated alveoli.

**QS wave** QRS complex in the electrocardiogram without any positive R wave and the whole complex is a wave.

**QT interval** Duration of ventricular systole is measured in the electrocardiogram from the beginning of the Q wave to the end of T wave and it varies with the heartbeat. It represents repolarization of the heart.

**QT syndrome** A combination of prolonged QT interval and *torsades de pointes*.

**Quadrangular** Having four angles.

**Quadrangular lobe** A region forming the superior portion of each cerebellar hemisphere.

**Quadrangular membrane** The upper portion of the elastic membrane of the larynx.

**Quadrantanopia** Anopia in one fourth of the visual field, bounded by a vertical and a horizontal radius. AKA tetartanopia and quadrant hemianopia.

# R

**RA** Rheumatoid arthritis; right atrium.

**R<sub>A</sub>, R<sub>AW</sub>** Airway resistance.

**RAAS** Renin angiotensinogen-angiotensin system.

**Rabeprazole** Proton pump inhibitor (PPI), works by reducing the amount of acid in the stomach which helps in relief of acid related indigestion and heartburn.

**Rabies** Hydrophobia, a highly fatal infection caused by a bullet-shaped neurotropic rhabdovirus transmitted by the bite of carnivorous animals. The incubation period, during which the virus is spreading centripetally along axons to the brain varies from 4 to 8 weeks or longer. Postexposure prophylaxis is by administration of human diploid cell strain vaccine; 1 mL given intramuscularly on days 0, 3, 7, 14, and 28.

**Rachitic** Rickety; pertaining to rickets.

**Rachitic dwarf** A person whose retarded growth is caused by rickets.

**Rachitic rosary** Bulbous widening of the costochondral junction due to softened epiphysis, seen in vitamin D-deficient rickets, childhood hypophosphatemia and in adenosine deaminase deficiency.

**Rachitis** Rickets; an inflammatory condition of vertebral column.

**Racquet finger nail** Distal phalanx of thumb resulting in a shorter and wider than normal nail with a loss of its curvature, may be seen in tertiary hypoparathyroidism.

**Radial** Lateral aspect of the upper limb; relating to the radius.

**Radial artery** An artery in the forearm, beginning at the bifurcation of the

brachial artery giving branches to the forearm, wrist and hand.

**Radial bursa** Tendon sheath of flexor pollicis in palm and thumb.

**Radial immunodiffusion** A method for quantifying serum proteins, complement proteins and immunoglobulins.

**Radial nerve** The largest branch of the brachial plexus. The nerve supplies the skin of the arm and forearm and, in the arm triceps, brachialis, brachioradialis, extensor carpi longus with brevis and anconeus and in the forearm the extensor group of muscles including supinator.

**Radial nerve palsy** Weakness of extension of wrist and fingers due to paralysis of wrist and finger extensors and supinator. The condition is often precipitated by sleeping in abnormal posture.

**Radial pulse** The pulse of the radial artery felt at the wrist over the radius.

**Radial reflex** Reflex elicited by tapping over the distal radius with the response being flexion of the forearm.

**Radial tear** A tear extend from the short axis of a meniscus perpendicularly to the tibial plateau and will also extend in a radial orientation from the central intercondylar region.

**Radiate ligament** A ligament that co-connects the head of a rib with a vertebra and an associated intervertebral disk.

**Radical dissection** The surgical excision of tissue in an extensive area surrounding the operative site. It is undertaken in malignancy to decrease the chance of recurrence.

**Radical mastectomy** Excision of entire breast, axillary lymph nodes, pectoral muscles and all fat, fascia and adjacent tissues in cancer of the breast.

**Radicular cyst** A cyst attached to the apex of the root of a tooth with dead pulp.

**Radiculitis** Inflammation of a spinal nerve root present within the dura, accompanied by pain and hyperesthesia.

**Table: Adrenergic receptors**

Receptor type	Tissue distribution	Mechanism of action	Physiological effects	Agonist	Antagonist
$\alpha_1$	Vascular smooth muscles, Visceral smooth muscles	Gq-protein coupled activates Phospholipase C, IP3+DAG	Smooth muscle contractions, Gluconeogenesis, Vasoconstriction	Norepinephrine, Phenylephrine, Methotamine	Doxazosin, Phentolamine, Prazosin
$\alpha_2$	Presynaptic terminals, Pancreas, Platelets, Ciliary epithelium, Salivary glands	Gi-protein coupled inhibits Adenyl cyclase	Inhibits release of Neurotransmitter	Clonidine, Monoxidine	Yohimbine, Idazoxan, Tolazoline
$\beta_1$	Heart, Kidney, some presynaptic terminals	Gs-protein coupled activates Adenyl cyclase +PKA	Increase heart rate and Renin secretion	Isoproterenol, Norepinephrine, Dobutamine	Propranolol, Metoprolol, Atenolol
$\beta_2$	Visceral smooth muscles, Bronchioles, Liver, Skeletal muscles	Gs-protein coupled activates Adenyl cyclase +PKA, Ca-channels	Vasodilation, Bronchodilation, inhibits insulin secretion	Isoproterenol, Salbutamol, salmeterol, albuterol, Formoterol, Terbutaline, Levalbuterol	Propranolol, ICI-118, 551, Nadolol, Butoxamine
$\beta_3$	Adipose Tissue	Gs-protein coupled activates Adenyl cyclase +PKA	Increase lipolysis	Iso-proterenol, Amibegron, Solabegron	SR59230A

producing forces opposite to those generated by contraction of the agonist.

**Reciprocal lengthening** A physiological phenomenon in which one muscle (agonist) contracts to generate necessary movement, while opposing muscle (antagonist) simultaneously relaxes and lengthens.

**Reconstructive surgery** Surgical procedure attempting to restore a tissue close to its original structure.

**Recovery room** An area adjacent to the operation theater in which surgical patients are taken care while still under effects of anesthesia before being returned to the ward.

**Recreational drug** Any substance with pharmacologic effects that is taken voluntarily for personal pleasure.

**Rectal** Relating to the rectum.

**Rectal abscess** An abscess in the perianal region.

**Rectal bleeding** Bleeding from rectum from injury, polyp, carcinoma, ulcerative colitis or prolapse.

**Rectal carcinoma** A primary adenocarcinoma which gives a rapidly growing bulky mass and presents with bleeding rectum, sense of incomplete defecation and altered bowel habit.

**Rectal prolapse** A descent of the bowel through the anal opening. It is incomplete

# S

- S1** First heart sound.
- S2** Second heart sound.
- S3** Third heart sound; ventricular gallop.
- S4** Fourth heart sound; atrial gallop.
- Sa** Arterial saturation.
- SA** Sinoatrial; sinoauricular.
- SAB** Subarachnoid block.
- Saber shin** Malformed thickened, anteriorly-bowed tibial cortex caused by chronic periostitis seen in congenital or advanced acquired syphilis.



*Saber shin*

- Sabot heart** A heart with boot-like, radiologic silhouette, noted in tetralogy of Fallot.
- Sabrazé's test** Ability to hold breath for 25 seconds as a respiratory function, named after J Sabrazé, French physician. It gives rough index of cardiopulmonary reserve.
- Sac** A pouch; a bag-like organ or structure.
  - Abdominal sac** The part of the embryonic celom that develops into the abdominal cavity.
  - Alveolar sac** Air sacs from which alveoli arise. Alveoli are the terminal, blind-ending structures. They are connected with the respiratory bronchiole through alveolar ducts. Alveoli have a continuous layer of epithelial cells. The elastic and reticular framework, small arterioles and a meshwork of capillaries surround the alveoli. Gas exchange occurs mostly in the blind-ended alveolar ducts and alveoli.
  - Chorionic sac** Fluid-filled space within the chorion, which is the outermost membrane surrounding the developing embryo during fetal development.
  - Conjunctival sac** The potential space lined by conjunctiva between the eyelids and the anterior surface of the eyeball.
  - Dental sac** The mesenchymal tissue surrounding a developing tooth.
  - Endolymphatic sac** It is a balloon-shaped structure in the inner ear filled with fluid. This fluid surrounds and protects the inner ear structures responsible for hearing and balance.
  - Heart sac** Pericardium.
  - Hernial sac** A sac-like protrusion of peritoneum containing a herniated structure.
  - Lacrimal sac** Dilated upper end of the nasolacrimal duct situated in the groove of the lacrimal bone.
  - Lesser peritoneal sac** Omental bursa.
  - Yolk sac** The extra embryonic membrane that connects with the midgut.
- Saccharide** One of a series of carbohydrates such as monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides and polysaccharides.
- Sacral** Pertaining to the sacrum; relating to or in the region of sacrum.
  - Sacral bone** Sacrum.
  - Sacral flexure** Rectal curve in front of the sacrum.
  - Sacral index** Sacral breadth multiplied by 100 and divided by sacral length.
  - Sacral vertebra** One of the fused vertebrae forming the sacrum.
- Sacralgia** Pain in the sacrum.
- Sacralization** Fusion of the fifth lumbar vertebra with the sacrum.

# T

**T2DM** Type 2 diabetes mellitus, usually occurs due to insulin resistance.

**TA** Truncus arteriosus.

**Tabes** Any chronic condition leading to wasting of the body.

**Tabes dorsalis** Syphilis of the spinal cord and its appendages. There is degeneration of sensory neurons and wasting of dorsal columns and optic atrophy characterized by lightning pains, ataxia, and visual failure.

**Tabes mesenterica** Intestinal tuberculosis, calcified mesenteric lymph nodes.

**Tabetic** Pertaining to tabes.

**Tabetic crisis** Paroxysms of pain or other acute manifestations in tabes dorsalis.

**Tabetic foot** Twisted foot.

**Tabetic gait** A high steppage gait associated with tabes.

**Tabular bone** A flat bone.

**Tachyarrhythmia** Irregularity of the heart combined with tachycardia.

**Tachycardia** Increased heart rate. It occurs during and immediately after exercise, in febrile conditions, thyrotoxicosis, anemia, anxiety, nervousness, congestive heart failure, after hemorrhage, paroxysmal tachycardia, atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter. Tachycardia acts to increase the amount of oxygen delivered to the cells of the body by increasing the heart rate.

**Atrial tachycardia** Rapid heart rate arising from an atrial focus with <200 beats/min.

**Bidirectional ventricular tachycardia** A rare form of ventricular tachycardia with right bundle branch block and alternating polarity of QRS in the frontal axis.

**Nodal tachycardia** Tachycardia occurring because of an increase in rhythmicity of the AV node over the SA node.

**Paroxysmal atrial tachycardia (PAT)** Episodes of atrial tachycardia beginning and ending suddenly.

**Paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia** Rapid ectopic atrial beats originating proximal to bifurcation of bundle or in an accessory pathway. It is sudden in origin and transient in nature.

**Sinus tachycardia** Tachycardia originating in the sinus node. It is normal during exercise or anxiety and occurs abnormally, associated with shock, hypotension, hypoxia, congestive heart failure, fever, and various high output states.

**Supraventricular tachycardia (SVT)** A regular tachycardia with a rate between 140 and 220 due to reentry within the AV node.

**Ventricular tachycardia** A rapid succession of beats arising from a ventricular focus at a rate >100 beats/min.

**Tachydysrhythmia** An abnormal rhythm with a ventricular rate >100 beats/min.

**Tachyphylaxis** Rapid immunization against the effects of toxic doses of a substance; repeated administration of some drugs results in a marked decrease in effectiveness.

**Tachypnea** Increased respiratory rate. Normal rate of respiration is 16–20/min at rest in a normal adult. The rate is increased in pneumonia, pleurisy, hypoxic conditions, cardiac failure, during excitement, exertion and fever.

**TACI** Total anterior circulation infarct.

**Tactile** Pertaining to the sense of touch.

**Tactile acuity training** The ability to discriminate between two sites of stimulus is the standard definition of tactile acuity or sensitivity. Certain bodily areas are more sensitive than others to tactile stimuli.

# U

**U&E** Urea and electrolytes are chemical tests done as a part of renal function test.

**Ulcer** A circumscribed depressed lesion on the skin or mucous membrane of any internal organ following sloughing of necrotic inflammation.

**Anastomotic ulcer** Ulcer at the anastomotic site as in gastrojejunostomy.

**Annular ulcer** Ring-like ulcer.

**Aphthous ulcer** Painful ulcer affecting oral mucous membrane with necrosis of subepithelial blood vessels.

**Barrett's ulcer** Peptic ulcer of the esophagus in heterotropic gastric mucosa.

**Buruli ulcer** Necrotizing ulcer of skin and subcutaneous tissue of the extremities from *M. ulcerans*, named after Buruli in Uganda.

**Carcinomatous ulcer** Hard and indurated ulcer with everted raised edges.

**Curling's ulcer** An ulcer of the duodenum following severe burns.

**Decubitus ulcer** An ulceration caused by prolonged pressure in a patient who is bedridden for a prolonged period of time, pressure sore.



Endoscopic appearance of ulcer: Decubitus ulcer

**Dendritic ulcer** Ulcer of the cornea branching in different directions as in herpes simplex infection.

**Dental ulcer** Ulcer on the oral mucosa from trauma inflicted by the teeth.

**Girdle ulcer** A tuberculous ulcer spreading along the wall of the intestine in an encircling manner.

**Gravitational ulcer** Occurrence of ulcer over the medial or lateral malleolus from varicosity of long or short saphenous vein respectively.

**Hunner's ulcer** Chronic interstitial cystitis with ulcers involving all layers of the bladder.

**Kissing ulcer** Ulcers developing on directly opposing surfaces of the stomach in lesser curvature.

**Peptic ulcer** A group of ulcerating lesions affecting the upper gastrointestinal tract.

**Plantar ulcer** A deep neurotrophic ulcer on the sole of the foot as in diabetes mellitus, leprosy.

**Serpiginous ulcer** A creeping ulcer that heals in one part and extends to another.

**Stress ulcer** Peptic ulcer developing from stress such as burns, surgery, prolonged corticosteroid therapy, acute infections or cerebral trauma.

**Tropical ulcer** Lesion of cutaneous leishmaniasis; chronic painful phagedenic ulcer occurring in lower extremities in malnourished children in tropics.

**Varicose ulcer** Ulcer in the leg associated with varicose veins.

**Venous ulcer** Ulcer on ankle due to venous insufficiency.

**Ulcerative** Causing ulceration.

**Ulcerative colitis** A nonspecific inflammation of large bowel especially rectum characterized by diarrhea with blood and mucus. It occurs in young and middle aged adults of either sex. It runs a chronic course with remissions and relapses. Corticosteroids and sulphasalazine are used in treatment.

**Ulcerative jejunoileitis** Complication of celiac disease which responds poorly

# V

**V<sub>1</sub>-V<sub>6</sub>** Unipolar ECG chest leads placed on a horizontal line from V<sub>1</sub> at the right edge of the sternum at fifth intercostal space to V<sub>6</sub> at left mid-axillary line.

**VABP** Ventilator-associated bacterial pneumonia; pneumonia that occurs 48 hours or more after admission and did not appear to be incubating at the time of admission.

**Vacuolation** The formation of vacuoles.

**Bone marrow vacuolation** A hallmark feature of a new adult-onset inflammatory syndrome called VEXAS (vacuoles, E1 enzyme, X-linked, autoinflammatory, somatic).

**Vacuole** Small cavity formed within the protoplasm of a cell.

**Contractile vacuole** A subcellular structure (organelle) involved in osmoregulation. It is found predominantly in protists and in unicellular algae. It was previously known as pulsatile or pulsating vacuole.

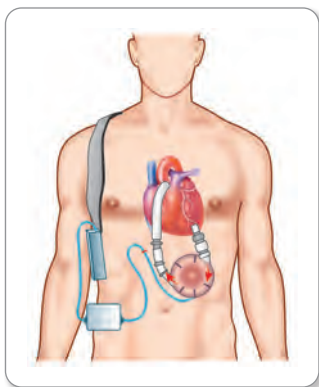
**Food vacuole** AKA digestive vacuole a membrane-enclosed sac, which has a digestive function, presented in unicellular protozoans such as ameba, plasmodium, etc.

**Vacuum** A space devoid of air.

**Vacuum phenomenon** A linear or oval radiolucency corresponding to gas in the inter-vertebral space, seen in degenerative disk disease.

**Vacuum sign** A normal radiologic finding noted when traction is applied to a joint causing coalescence of gas within a joint. It disappears in effusion.

**VAD** A ventricular assist device (VAD) is an electromechanical device for assisting cardiac circulation, pumps blood from ventricles to other parts of body.



Ventricular assist device

**Vaginal** Pertaining to the vagina; resembling a sheath.

**Vaginal adenosis** Hyperplasia of mucous glands in vagina due to high estrogen therapy during pregnancy.

**Vaginal hydrocele** Hydrocele limited to tunica vaginalis in male.

**Vaginal ring** A flexible silicone ring that is inserted into the vagina to give support to the uterus following its prolapse.

**Vaginismus** An involuntary spasm and tightening of the opening of the vagina and perineal muscles preventing intercourse.

**Vaginitis** Inflammation of the vagina and it can be caused by infection, allergic reaction or estrogen deficiency.

**Vaginosis** A vaginal infection noted in women of reproductive age, without leukocyte infiltration.

**Bacterial vaginosis** Infection from *Gardnerella vaginalis*, an anaerobe causing smell and white discharge.

**Vagomimetic** Having an effect which resembles that produced by vagal stimulation.

**Vagotomy** Interruption of the impulses transmitted by vagus nerve by its surgical division.

# W

**Wada test** A test to determine cerebral dominance; can help a physician evaluate how important each side of the brain is with respect to language and memory functions by injecting barbiturate into the carotid artery in left handed individual, before undergoing surgery near language area, devised by Juhn Wada, Japanese-born Canadian neurosurgeon.

**Waddling** To walk with short steps, swaying from side to side and hip elevation like a duck noted in osteomalacia, pseudohypertrophic muscular dystrophy, bilateral dislocation of hip and advanced pregnancy.

**Wadia-Swami syndrome** Rapidly progressive spinocerebellar degeneration associated with abnormal eye movements and progressive mental deterioration, described by N H Wadia and R K Swami.

**Wagner-Jauregg treatment** Treatment of dementia paralytica by infecting the patient with malaria, described by Julius Wagner von Jauregg, Austrian neuro-psychiatrist.

**Wagner-Meissner corpuscle** A small, special pressure sensitive sensory endorgan attached to a single nerve fiber, named after Rudolph Wagner, German physiologist and Georg Meissner, German anatomist. Occasionally a component of certain types of tumors, such as melanocytic nevus and neurofibroma.

**WAGR syndrome** Acronym for Wilm's tumor, aniridia, genitourinary anomalies and mental retardation syndrome.

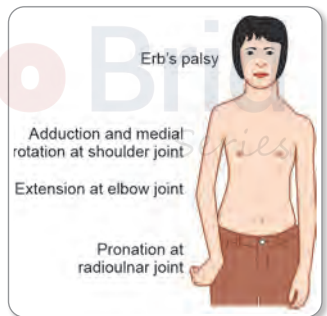
**Wagstaffe's fracture** Fracture with separation of the internal malleolus of the

ankle, named after William Wagstaffe, a British surgeon.



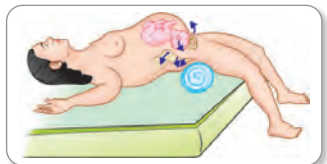
Wagstaffe's fracture

**Waiter's tip deformity** Classical sign of Erb's palsy. The loss of strength in the hand extensor muscles, arm flexors, and shoulder lateral rotators is the cause of this.



Waiter's tip deformity

**Walcher's position** Assumption of dorsal recumbent posture with hips at the edge of the bed and legs hanging down, described by Gustav Adolf Walcher, a German gynecologist.



Walcher's position



# Y

**Y cartilage** Most elastic cartilage consisting of elastic fibers in a flexible fibrous matrix. It is yellow and found in the external ear, auditory tube, epiglottis and the larynx.

**Y cell** Ganglion cell of retina found in its periphery.

**Y chromosome** The male sex chromosome, being present in half the male gametes and none in the female. It carries few major genes.

**Yellow atrophy** Shrinkage of liver often seen in last months of pregnancy, having grave prognosis.

**Yellow fever** An acute, often fatal infection seen in Africa and South America between latitudes of 15° north and 15° south of the equator, transmitted by mosquito, *Aedes aegypti* and characterized by high fever, vomiting, jaundice and bleeding.

**Yellow flag** Psychological risk factors of long-term disability and work loss; leads to long-term distress, disability and potential drug misuse.

**Yellow marrow** Material in the central hollow of the shaft of bones.

**Yellow nail syndrome** A clinical complex characterized by thickened yellow nail plate in association with chronic lymphedema of hands, feet, ankles and face. It may be associated with pleural effusions, chronic pulmonary infections and bronchiectasis.



*Yellow nail syndrome*

**Yellow spot** A small circular yellow area on the retina opposite the pupil which is the point of clearest vision; yellow nodule on anterior end of vocal cords.

**Yellow vision** Xanthopsia, a color vision deficiency in which objects appear yellow in color due to yellowing of optical media of eye.

**Yergason's test** Used to test biceps tendon pathology.

- If the pain is reproduced in the bicipital groove-test is positive and a biceps or a SLAP lesion is suspected
- If a “clicking” sensation familiar to the patient is produced—damage to the transverse humeral ligament should be suspected.

## Yellow flag examples

*(psychosocial factors shown to be indicative of long-term chronicity and disability)*

A negative attitude that back pain is harmful or potentially severely disabling

Fear avoidance behavior and reduced activity levels

An expectation that passive, rather than active, treatment will be beneficial

A tendency to depression, low morale, and social withdrawal

Social or financial problems

Compensation issues

# Z

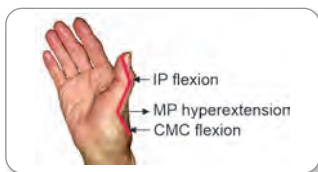
**Zahn infarct** A subcapsular, wedge-shaped lesion in the liver characterized by sinusoidal dilatation from obstructed intrahepatic portal veins, named after Friedrich Zahn, a German-born Swiss Pathologist.

**Zaufal's sign** Saddle nose, named after Prague rhinologist, Emanuel Zaufal.

**Z-axis** The axis along which values of Z are measured and at which both X and Y are equal to zero.

**Z-band** A thin, dark band passing through transversely across the striated muscle fiber.

**Z-deformity** Radial deviation at the wrist with ulnar deviation of the digits in rheumatoid arthritis; hitch hiker's thumb. Often there is palmar subluxation of the proximal phalanges.



*Z-deformity of thumb*

**Abbreviations:** CMC, carpometacarpal; IP, interphalangeal; MP, metacarpophalangeal

**Zebra body myopathy** A congenital, nonprogressive myopathy with presence of striped and rod-shaped bodies in muscle fibers, visible on electron microscopy.

**Zeiosis** A form of lymphocyte mediated cytotoxicity demonstrating nuclear disintegration and mitochondrial swelling.

**Zellweger syndrome** Cerebrohepato-renal syndrome, described by Hans Zellweger, US pediatrician. A rare congenital condition, marked by the cells of an individual having fewer or no functioning peroxisomes.

**Zenker's degeneration** Degeneration of skeletal muscles especially in typhoid, described by Friedrich Zenker, German pathologist; zenkerism.

**Zenker's diverticulum** Outpouching of the muscle between throat and esophagus known as cricopharyngeus in its upper or lower third, named after, German pathologist, Friedrich Zenker. It causes bad breath, regurgitation of saliva and food particles consumed several days earlier. The diagnosis is made with a barium swallow and treatment is surgical.



*Zenker's diverticulum*

**Zero-end expiratory pressure (ZEEP)** Pressure that has returned to atmospheric level at the end of exhalation.

**Ziehen-Oppenheim disease** Dystonic muscular deformity, described by German neurologists, Georg Ziehen and Herman Oppenheim.

**CBS**

# PHYSIOTHERAPY DICTIONARY

for Students &amp; Practitioners

## About the Physiotherapy Dictionary

The CBS Physiotherapy Dictionary features over 8,000 entries encompassing all medical and major specialties of physiotherapy, including Exercise Therapy, Electrotherapy, Biomechanics, Orthopedics, Musculoskeletal, Respiratory and many more. The dictionary is enriched with clinical illustrations and images to enhance comprehension and ease of learning. Its small and convenient size makes it easy to carry and useful resource for Physiotherapy and healthcare professionals.

### 8 Distinguishing Features of Physiotherapy Dictionary

FEATURES	PHYSIOTHERAPY DICTIONARY	OTHERS
COVERAGE	8000+ Key Medical and Physiotherapy terms covered	Lesser number of Key terms
CONTEXT	Designed as per the Indian Context	NA
TABLES	10+ Important tables covering crucial facts	NA
FIGURES/ ILLUSTRATIONS	400+ Supportive illustrations including images and figures are integrated with the text	Lesser number of illustrations
UP-TO-DATE	Updated up to 2024–25; all latest Physiotherapy related medical vocabulary covered as per the recent advancement in the medical field	Not updated
CONCISE	The meaning of each and every term is presented in concise and simple language for better understanding	Inadequate and incomprehensive
COMPACT AND PORTABLE	A handy and easy to carry compendium	NA
CONTENT	Content has been reviewed by subject-experts	Missing out in other books

**CBS Publishers & Distributors Pvt. Ltd.**

4819/XI, Prahlad Street, 24 Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi 110 002, India

E-mail: [feedback@cbspd.com](mailto:feedback@cbspd.com), Website: [www.cbspd.com](http://www.cbspd.com)

New Delhi | Bengaluru | Chennai | Kochi | Kolkata | Lucknow | Mumbai

Hyderabad | Jharkhand | Nagpur | Patna | Pune | Uttarakhand

ISBN: 978-93-94525-92-4



9 789394 525924