

GREEK COMPOUND WORDS

A) Greek names for anatomical structures

<i>genitive stem (nom. sg. in brackets)</i>	<i>English translation</i>	<i>example</i>	<i>English translation</i>
aden- (aden)	gland	<i>adenoma</i>	benign epithelial tumour having a glandular origin and structure
angi- (angeion)	vessel	<i>angiographia</i>	radiographic visualization of blood vessels
arthr- (arthron)	joint	<i>arthritis</i> <i>arthrosis</i> <i>synarthrosis</i>	inflammation of the joint degenerative disease of the joint immovable articulation in which the bones are united by intervening fibrous connective tissues
cardi- (kardia)	heart	<i>endocardium</i> <i>pericardium</i>	inner wall of the heart muscle sac-like membrane that surrounds the heart
cephal- (kefale)	head	<i>diencephalon</i> <i>metencephalon</i>	interbrain posterior part of the brain
cheil- (cheilos)	lip	<i>cheilorrhaphia</i>	chirurgical suture of the lip
cheir- (cheir)	hand	<i>cheirospasmus</i>	spasm of hand muscles
chondr- (chondros)	cartilage	<i>perichondrium</i> <i>synchondrosis</i>	connective tissue membrane around the cartilage cartilaginous joint between two immovable bones
colp- (kolpos)	vagina	<i>colporrhagia</i>	vaginal bleeding
cyst- (kystis)	bladder	<i>urocystis</i> <i>cholecystis</i>	urinary bladder gall bladder
cyt- (kytos)	cell	<i>erythrocytus</i> <i>leucocytus</i>	red blood cell white blood cell
dactyl- (daktylos)	finger	<i>syndactylia</i>	congenital fusion of fingers/toes

dermat-	skin	<i>ectoderma</i> <i>entoderma</i>	the outermost of the three primary cell layers of an embryo the innermost of the three primary cell layers of an embryo
episi- (epision)	pubic region	<i>episiotomia</i>	incision of the perineum to avoid tearing during parturition
gloss-/glott- (glossa/glotta)	tongue	<i>glossoschisis</i>	bifid or cleft tongue
gon- (gony)	knee	<i>gonarthrosis</i>	degenerative disease of the knee joint
hyster- (hystera)	womb	<i>hysterectomy</i>	surgical removal of the womb
mast- (mastos)	breast	<i>mastectomy</i>	surgical removal of the breast
metr- (metra)	womb	<i>endometrium</i> <i>parametrium</i>	mucous membrane that lines the womb connective tissue and fat adjacent to the uterus
my- (mys)	muscle	<i>myoma</i>	benign tumour composed of muscle tissue
myel- (myelos)	bone marrow, spinal cord	<i>myelopathy</i>	disease of bone marrow or the spinal cord
nephr- (nefros)	kidney	<i>nephrolithiasis</i>	presence of kidney stones in the kidney
neur- (neuron)	nerve	<i>neuritis</i>	inflammation of the nerve
odont- (odus)	tooth	<i>parodontosis</i> <i>periodontium</i>	degenerative disease of the tissue adjacent to the tooth supporting structures of the teeth (including the cement, periodontal ligament, bone of the alveolar process and gums)
om- (omos)	shoulder	<i>omalgia</i>	pain in the shoulder
oophor- (ooforon)	ovary	<i>oophorectomy</i>	surgical removal of the ovary
ophthalm-	eye	<i>ophthalmia</i>	inflammation of the eye

(ofthalmos)			
oste- (osteon)	bone	<i>osteogenesis</i>	formation and development of bony tissue
ot- (us)	ear	<i>otitis</i>	inflammation of the ear
phleb- (fleps)	vein	<i>phlebotomia</i>	surgical incision into the vein
phys- (fyesthai)	growth	<i>apophysis</i> <i>diaphysis</i>	usually bony projection or protuberance, as on the vertebra
pneum-/pneumon- (pneumon)	lung	<i>pneumonia</i>	inflammation of lungs
pod- (pus)	foot	<i>podalgia</i>	pain in the foot
rhin- (rhis)	nose	<i>rhinitis</i>	inflammation of the nasal mucous membrane
salping- (salpinx)	oviduct/fallopian tube	<i>salpingorrhaphia</i>	suture of the fallopian tube
somat- (soma)	body	<i>somaticus</i>	related to the body
splanchn- (splanchnon)	internal organ	<i>splanchnopathia</i>	disease of internal organs
spondyl- (spondylos)	vertebra	<i>spondyloschisis</i>	congenital fissure of the vertebra
stomat- (stoma)	mouth	<i>stomatorrhagia</i>	bleeding from the mouth

EXERCISES

1. Match Latin names for anatomical structures with their corresponding Greek equivalents:

<i>glandula</i>	splanchna
<i>manus</i>	cheilos
<i>vagina</i>	rhis (rhin-)
<i>labium</i>	chondros
<i>digitus</i>	cheir
<i>uterus</i>	myelos
<i>medulla</i>	dactylos
<i>auris</i>	us (ot-)
<i>nasus</i>	aden
<i>viscera</i>	pus (pod-)
<i>cartilago</i>	hystera
<i>pes</i>	kolpos

2. Give Latin equivalents to the Greek terms:

mys _____

angeion _____

osteon _____

fleps _____

arthron _____

kardia _____

spondylos _____

nefros _____

gony _____

kystis _____

stoma _____

glotta _____

soma _____

mastos _____

kefale _____

derma _____

B) Greek names for body fluids and other substances

<i>genitive stem (nom. sg. in brackets)</i>	<i>English translation</i>	<i>example</i>	<i>English translation</i>
haem-/haemat-/-aem- (haima)	krev	<i>haemorrhagia</i> <i>haematoscopia</i> <i>hyperglycaemia</i>	bleeding laboratory examination of the blood excess of sugar in the blood
hydr- (hydor)	water, liquid	<i>hydrothorax</i>	excess of serous fluid in the pleural cavity
lip- (lipos)	fat	<i>lipoma</i>	benign tumour composed of fat cells
lith- (lithos)	stone	<i>cholecystolithos</i>	gallstone in the gallbladder
py- (pyon)	pus	<i>pyophtalmia</i>	inflammation of the eye with pus secretion
pyr- (pyr)	fire	<i>hyperpyrexia</i>	extremely elevated temperature
ur- (uron)	urine	<i>urologia</i>	branch of medicine dealing with the urinary system

C) Greek names for physiological/pathological states and processes

<i>genitive stem (nom. sg. in brackets)</i>	<i>English equivalent</i>	<i>example</i>	<i>English equivalent</i>
aesth- (aisthanesthai)	to feel, perceive	<i>anaesthesia</i> <i>dysaesthesia</i>	loss of pain sensation induced by drugs disagreeable, atypical sensation
-algia (algos)	pain	<i>cephalalgia</i>	headache
-lithiasis	stones	<i>nephrolithiasis</i>	presence of kidney stones in the kidney

-lysis	relaxation, decomposition	<i>spasmolysis</i>	relaxation of spasms
-odynia (odyne)	pain	<i>mastodynia</i>	pain in the breast
-pathia (pathos)	unspecified disease	<i>psychopathia</i>	any disease of the mind
-penia	lack, shortage	<i>leucocytopenia</i>	lack of white blood cells
-phobia (fobos)	fear	<i>claustrophobia</i>	abnormal fear of being in narrow or enclosed spaces
-plasia (plassein)	formation, development	<i>hyperplasia</i>	abnormal increase in cells in a tissue or organ
-plegia (plege)	paralysis, palsy	<i>gastroplegia</i>	paralysis of gastric smooth muscles
pnoe (pnein)	to breathe	<i>eupnoe</i> <i>dyspnoe</i> <i>apnoe</i>	normal breathing laboured or difficult breathing transient cessation of breathing
-ptosis	falling down	<i>metroptosis</i>	downward displacement of the uterus
-rrhagia	bleeding	<i>enterorrhagia</i>	bleeding from the intestine
-rrhoea (rhoe)	flow, discharge	<i>pyorrhoea</i> <i>otorrhoea</i>	discharge of pus inflammatory discharge from the ear
-schisis	cleft, division	<i>cheiloschisis</i>	cleft lip
-spasmus (spasmos)	spasm	<i>bronchospasmus</i>	bronchial spasm
stas- (stasis)	standing	<i>astasia</i> <i>venostasis</i>	inability to stand abnormal slowing or stoppage of the flow of blood in a vein

ton- (tonos)	tension, pressure	<i>hypertonia</i> <i>hypotonia</i>	high blood pressure low blood pressure
troph- (trefein)	to nourish	<i>eutrophia</i> <i>dystrophia</i> <i>atrophia</i>	normal/good nutrition defective/faulty nutrition decrease in the size of an organ or tissue

EXERCISES

3. Analyse the structure of the following terms. Translate the terms:

Example: *hypoglycaemia*: hypo-glyc-aem-ia = abnormally low concentration of glucose in the blood

compound word	analysis	translation
<i>cephalalgia</i>		
<i>cholecystolithiasis</i>		
<i>myodystrophia</i>		
<i>neuropathia</i>		
<i>cardiophobia</i>		
<i>palatoschisis</i>		
<i>encephalodysplasia</i>		
<i>hydrorrhoea</i>		
<i>rhinorrhagia</i>		
<i>pancreatolysis</i>		
<i>nephroptosis</i>		
<i>pyodermatitis</i>		
<i>hypopyrexia</i>		
<i>haemostasis</i>		

4. Give Greek terms to the English definitions/equivalents. Use one-word terms only:

bleeding from the stomach

_____	stomach ache
_____	spasm of the stomach
_____	downward displacement of the stomach
_____	inflammation of the stomach
_____	loss of tone in the stomach musculature
_____	unspecified disease of the stomach
_____	paralysis of the stomach

D) Greek names for quality and quantity features

<i>genitive stem (nom. sg. in brackets)</i>	<i>English translation</i>	<i>example</i>	<i>English translation</i>
brady- (bradys)	slow	<i>bradypnoe</i>	abnormally slow breathing
crypt- (kryptos)	hidden	<i>cryptogenes</i>	of unknown or obscure origin
di- (dis)	twice	<i>diplegia</i>	paralysis of the identical part on both sides of the body
erythr- (erythros)	red	<i>erythroderma</i>	abnormal redness of the skin
-genes	having the origin in something	<i>haematogenes</i>	produced by, derived from, or originating in the blood
hemi-	half	<i>hemiplegia</i>	paralysis affecting only one side of the body
is- (isos)	same	<i>isogenes</i>	having the same origin
leuc- (leukos)	white	<i>leucoderma</i>	white patches on the skin due to absence of pigment

macr- (makros)	big, long	<i>macroscopia</i>	examination with the naked eye
malac- (malakos)	soft, tender	<i>osteomalacia</i>	softening of bones
megal- (megas)	large	<i>megalocardia</i>	abnormal enlargement of the heart
melan- (melas)	black	<i>melanoma</i>	malignant, usually skin tumour composed of melanocytes
micr- (mikros)	small	<i>microscopia</i>	investigation by use of a microscope
mon- (monos)	one	<i>monoplegia</i>	paralysis of a single limb
necr- (nekros)	dead	<i>necrosis</i>	death of living tissue
neo- (neos)	new	<i>neoplasma</i>	abnormal growth of new tissue such as a tumour
olig- (oligos)	rare, not numerous	<i>oliguria</i>	diminished urine production
pan- (pas)	whole, all	<i>panplegia</i>	paralysis of the whole body
poly- (polys)	numerous	<i>polyarthritis</i>	inflammation of several joints
pseud- (pseudes)	false	<i>pseudoanaemia</i>	false anaemia
scler- (skleros)	hard	<i>sclerosis</i>	hardening or thickening of organs, tissues and vessels
tachy- (tachys)	rapid	<i>tachypnoe</i>	abnormally rapid breathing
therm- (thermos)	warm	<i>hypothermia</i>	abnormally low body temperature
tetra- (tettares)	four	<i>tetraplegia</i>	paralysis of all four limbs
tri- (treis)	three	<i>triceps</i>	having three heads

EXERCISES

5. Match the words in the left column with their opposites in the right column:

brady	melanos
leukos	malakos
oligos	pan
megalos	tachy
skleros	poly
hemi-	mikros

6. Form terms from the given words with the corresponding meaning. Do not change the order of the words:

- erythros + kytos + lysis* _____ breaking down of red blood cells
- isos + hydor + haima* _____ normal amount of liquids in vessels
- oligos + daktylos* _____ presence of fewer than five digits on a hand or foot
- pseudo + tumor* _____ abnormality that resembles a tumour
- poly + neuron + pathos* _____ disease of several nerves

E) Greek names for medical interventions and examinations

<i>genitive stem (nom. sg. in brackets)</i>	<i>English translation</i>	<i>example</i>	<i>English translation</i>
-ectomia	excision, removal	<i>cholecystectomy</i>	surgical excision of the gallbladder
-graphia	recording, image	<i>hysterography</i>	graphic recording of the strength of uterine contractions in labour
-metria	measurement	<i>pupillometry</i>	measurement of the diameter or width of the pupil of the eye

-plastica	plastic operation	<i>otoplastica</i>	plastic surgery of the ear
-scopia	examination	<i>ophthalmosopia</i>	examination of the eye by means of the ophthalmoscope
-stomia	opening	<i>tracheostomia</i>	creation of an opening into the trachea through the neck
-therapia	therapy	<i>chemotherapia</i>	use of chemical agents in the treatment of a disease
-tomia	incision, cutting	<i>tympanotomia</i>	incision of the tympanic membrane

EXERCISE

7. Use expressions in the table to form compound words with the corresponding meaning.

<i>tomia</i>	<i>ectomia</i>	<i>stomia</i>
<i>graphia</i>	<i>plastica</i>	<i>therapia</i>
<i>stomosis</i>	<i>scopia</i>	<i>metria</i>

- a) _____: measurement of dimensions of the head
- b) _____: treatment of a disease by means of ionizing radiation
- c) _____: surgical formation of an opening through the abdominal wall into the stomach
- d) _____: surgical excision of the gallbladder
- e) _____: endoscopic examination of the colon
- f) _____: surgical repair of a defect of the lip
- ch) _____: surgical incision of the appendix
- g) *Electro-*_____: recording of electrical impulses produced by the brain activity (EEG)
- h) _____: surgical connection of two parts of the intestine