

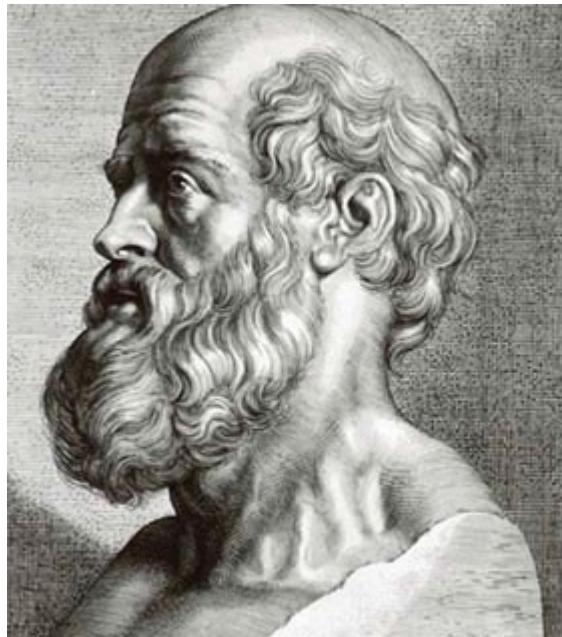
# Latin – a dead language?

History of Greek–Latin medical  
terminology

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history of medicine

# Hippocrates of Kos



- ▶ 460 – 370 B.C.
- ▶ Corpus Hippocraticum (53 books)
- ▶ Hippocratic oath

**"Invia est in medicina via  
sine lingua Latina"**

# Latin alphabet and pronunciation

# Latin alphabet

- ▶ 24 letters
- ▶ W and j are missing
- ▶ I ↔ J: maior/major; iejunum/jejunum x tincitura
- ▶ Kinetosis; kyphosis/cyphosis; cystis
- ▶ Y: syndesmosis
- ▶ Z: zygomaticus

# Pronunciation

## 1) Vowels:

### a) Short

a - glandula (cup)

e - membrum (pen)

i (y) - minimus, lympha (finger)

o - fossa (top)

u - tarsus (put)

### b) Long

a - sanus (car)

e - vena

i (y) - vita (dream)

o - novus (door)

u - purus (boom)

## 2) Diphthongs:

1) ae, oe - aequalis, lagoena - the same like long e

2) oē - eupnoe

3) eu - eutrophia

### 3) Consonants:

1) c:

a) /k/:

- ▶ + a, o, u - caput, costa, cubitus
- ▶ Before a consonant - cranium
- ▶ At the end of the word - lacc

b) /c/:

- ▶ Before e, i, ae, oe, y - cerebrum, circum, caecus, coeliakia, cystis

2) ch: chirurgia

3) j: jejunum (yes)

4) r: ruptura

5) s: /z/ – nasus, pulsus, morsus, mensis, plasma

6) di, ni: digitus, nicotinum

7) ti:

a) /ti/ – tibia

b) /ci/ – functio

c) /ti/: s, x + ti – ostium, mixtio

8) ex: /egz/ - exitus x extrauterinus

9) ngu: /ngv/ - sanguis

10) qv: /kv/ - aqua

11) ph: /f/ - phalanx

12) rh: /r/ - rhaphe

13) th: /t/ - thorax

14) su: /sv/ - suavis x superior

# Lengths of syllables

Sēpsis post vulnus pūnctum in regiōne  
abdōminālī

# Read the terms:

Cancer duodeni

Dorsum linguae

Sanguis venossus

Deviatio septi nasi ad latus sinistrum

Post injectionem intravenosam

Pulvis adspersorius

Ostium vena*e* cavae

Musculi recti, obliqui

Lobi et partes hypophysis

Oedemata membrorum inferiorum

Asthma bronchiale

# Parts of speech in Latin

- ▶ 9 parts of speech
- ▶ Inflected x uninflected parts of speech
- ▶ In medical terminology:  
Nouns, adjectives, numerals, prepositions,  
verbs

# Grammatical categories of nouns

- a) Masculines
- b) Feminines
- c) Neutrals

- a) Singular
- b) Plural

## 3) Case:

- 1) Nominative
- 2) Genitive
- 3) Dative
- 4) Accusative
- 5) Vocative
- 6) Ablative

## 4) Declension:

- 1) 1st declension
- 2) 2nd declension
- 3) 3rd declension
- 4) 4th declension
- 5) 5th declension

# Cases in medical terminology

**Nominative** = subject

(e.g. fractura tibiae, lagoena aquae destillatae)

**Genitive** = a part of st./a relation to st.

(e.g. musculus dorsi, fractura tibiae)

**Accusative** – with some prepositions

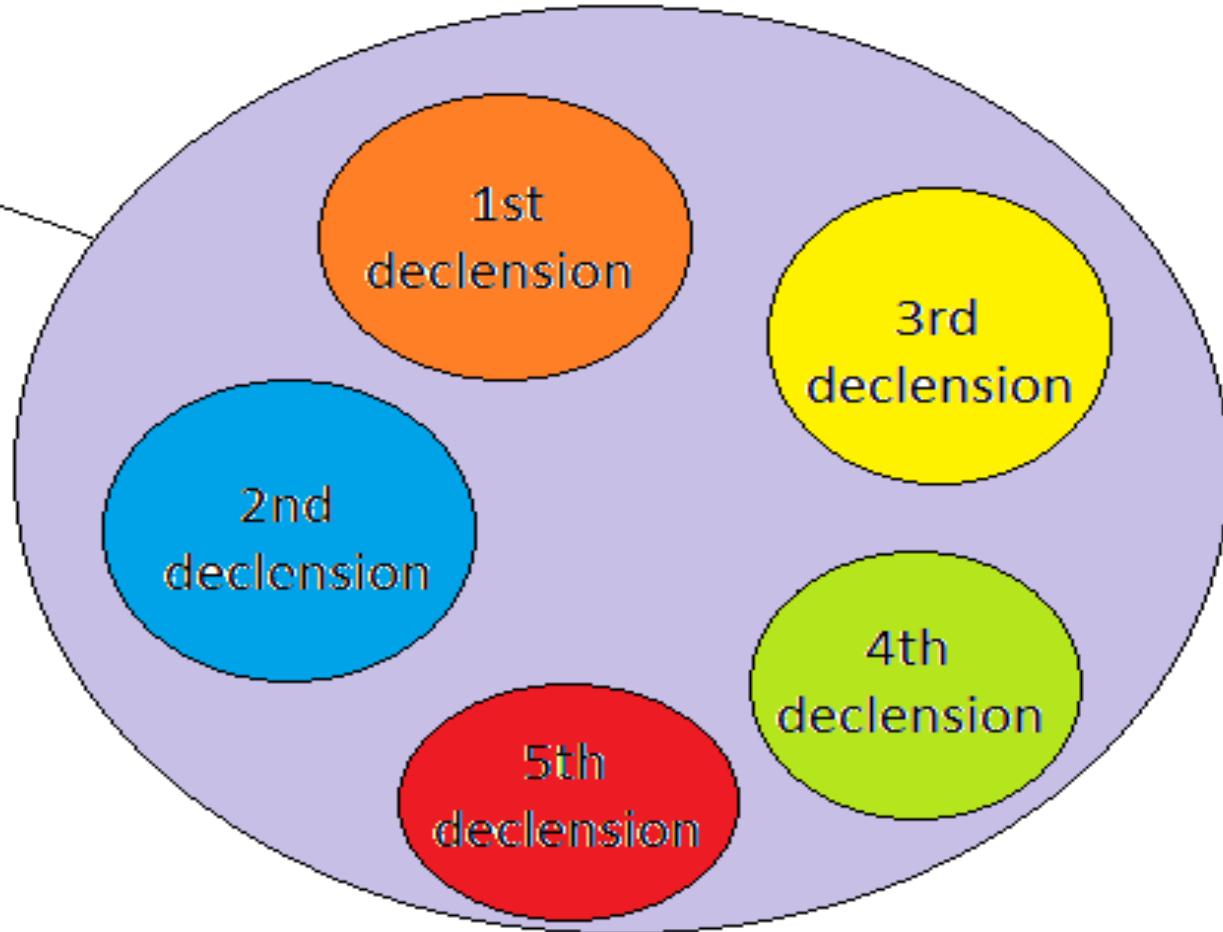
(e.g. **post** operationem)

**Ablative** – with some prepositions

(e.g. **sine** complicationibus)

# Declensions – nouns

NOUNS



# Declensions – nouns

1st declension: **ā-stems** (*venārum*)

2nd declension: **ō-stems** (*nervōrum*)

3rd declension:

- a) **Consonant stems** (*dolorum*)
- b) **i-stems**: *pelvium*

4th declension: **u-stems** (*ductuum*)

5th declension: **ē-stems** (*faciērum*)

## DECLENSIONS => EXAMPLES

Nom. sg. + gen. sg. + gender

1st declension

example  
vena, ae, f.

example  
diabetes, ae, m.

example  
systole, es, f.

**5** declensions of nouns

x

**3** declensions of adjectives

x

**4** conjugations of verbs