

LATIN AND GREEK PREFIXES

<i>Latin prefix</i>	<i>Greek equivalent</i>	<i>meaning</i>	<i>examples</i>
a-, ab-, (abs-)	apo-	away from	m. abductor/apophysis
ad- (ac-, af-, a-)	para-/par-	to, toward; at, near to	m. adductor/glandula parotis
ante-	pro-	in front of, before	antebrachium/prostata
circum-	peri-	around	circummaxillaris/pericardium
contra-	anti-/ant-	against	contraindicatio/(remedia) antiallergica
cum- (con-, com-, col-, cor-)	syn-/sym-	together	congenitus/symphysis
de- (des-)	cata-	from up to down	descendens/catarrhus ¹
de- (des-)	∅	removal/loss	desinfectio/deformatio
dis- (dif-, di-)	dia-/di- ana-	division, apart	dislocatio/diagnosis/anatomia ²
e-, ex- (ef-)	ec-	away from, outside	extractio/ectopia
extra-	ecto-, exo-	outside, external	extrauterinus/exocrinus
in- (im-) dis- (dif-, di-)	a-/an-	negation	immaturus/dissimilis/anaemia
in- (im-, il-, ir-)	en-/em-	in, into	injectio/encephalon ³
infra-	hypo-/hyp-	under, below	infraclavicularis/hypoglossus
inter-	dia-/di-	between	intercostalis/diaphragma
intra-	endo-	inside	intravenosus/endocardium
∅	dys-	malfunction, disorder	dyspepsia
∅	eu-	good, normal	eupnoe
ob- (oc-, op-)	meta-/met-	opposite to, behind	occiput/metatarsus
per-	hyper-	increased	peraciditas/hyperthrophia
per- trans-	dia-	through	perforans/transversus/diameter
post-	meta-/met-	after, behind	postoperativus/metastasis ⁴
prae- prō-	pro-	before, in front of	praemolaris/processus/prognosis
re-	ana-	again, back	reoperatio/anamnesis ⁵
sub- (suc-, suf-, sup-, sus-)	hypo-/hyp-	1. below, under 2. decreased	1. subcutaneus/hypoglossus 2. subluxatio/hypotonia
super-	epi- (ep-)	at, on, over	superficies/epidermis
supra-	hyper-	above	suprarenalis/hyperfunctio

¹ From the Greek verb *katarrheó* "flow down"; according to ancient medical concepts some illnesses are caused by phlegm flowing down to some organs in the body.

² Literally "cutting into pieces".

³ Literally "what is inside the head".

⁴ From Greek *metastázis* "wandering, relocating on different places".

⁵ Literally "recalling something".