**Common medical prefixes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Term | Definition | Example |
| **ab-** | away from | Abnormal |
| **ad-** | towards | Adrenal gland |
| **ante-** | before or forward | Antepartum |
| **anti-** | against | Antibiotics |
| **brady-** | slow | Bradycardia |
| **circum-** | surrounding | Circumoral |
| **contra-** | against | Contraindication |
| **cry-** | cold | Cryotherapy |
| **di-** | double or two | Diplopia |
| **dys-** | difficult or defective | Dysfunction |
| **ecto-** | outside | Ectopic pregnancy |
| **endo-** | inside | Endoscope |
| **epi-** | on | Epidermis |
| **fore-** | before or ahead | Forebrain |
| **glyc-** | sugar | Glycemia |
| **hemi-** | one half | Hemiplegia |
| **homeo-**  | stability or same  | Homeostasis |
| **hydro-** | water | Hydrocephalus |
| **hyper-** | over or excessive  | Hyperglycaemia |
| **hypo-** | under or deficient | Hypodermic |
| **inter-** | between or among | Intercostal |
| **intra-** | within or on the side | Intravenous |
| **macro-** | large | Macrophage |
| **micro-** | small | Microorganism |
| **neo-** | new | Neonatal |
| **para-** | beside | Parathyroid |
| **peri-** | around | Pericardium |
| **post-** | after | Postoperative |
| **pre-** | before or in front of | Prenatal |
| **semi-** | half | Semicircular |
| **stom- or stomat-** | opening created | Stomatitis |
| **sub-** | under or beneath | Submucosa |
| **super-** | above or over | Supernumerary |
| **supra-** | on the upper side of | Suprarenal |
| **syn-** | with or together | Syndrome |
| **tachy-** | fast | Tachycardia |
| **therm-** | heat | Thermoregulation |
| **tox-**  | toxic or poisonous | Toxicology |
| **trans-** | across or beyond | Transdermal |
| **ultra-** | excessive | Ultrasonography |