

Medical English Vocabulary

Here are some essential vocabulary words for nurses and medical professionals working in an English-speaking context. You may use this for your review.

Word <i>part of speech</i>	Meaning	Example sentence
abnormal <i>adj</i>	Not normal for the human body	This amount of weight loss is abnormal for women your age.
ache <i>noun/verb</i>	A pain that won't go away	I can't sleep because my knees ache at night.
acute <i>adj</i>	Quick to become severe/bad	We knew the baby was coming soon because the woman's labour pains were acute .
allergy <i>noun</i> allergic <i>adj</i>	A body's abnormal reaction to certain foods or environmental substances (ex: causes a rash)	My son is extremely allergic to peanuts.
ambulance <i>noun</i>	Emergency vehicle that rushes people to a hospital	I called the ambulance when Josh stopped breathing.
amnesia <i>noun</i>	A condition that causes people to lose their memory	I can't remember the accident because I had an amnesia .
amputation <i>noun</i> amputate <i>verb</i>	Permanent removal of a limb	We had to amputate his elbow because the infection spreads so fast.
anaemia <i>noun</i> anaemic <i>adj</i>	Occurs when the body doesn't have enough red blood cells	She has low energy because She's anaemic .
antibiotics <i>noun</i>	Medication that kills bacteria and cures infections	His throat infection went away after he started the antibiotics .
anti-depressant <i>noun</i>	Medication that helps relieve anxiety and sadness	The anti-depressants helped her get on with life after Lucy died.
appointment <i>noun</i>	A scheduled meeting with a medical professional	I've made you an appointment with a specialist in two week's time.
arthritis <i>noun</i>	A disease that causes the joints to become swollen and crippled	My grandfather can't write anymore because the arthritis in her hands is so bad.
asthma (attack) <i>noun</i>	A condition that causes a blockage of the airway and makes it difficult for a person to breathe	I carry an inhaler everywhere because I have asthma .
bacteria	A disease-causing organism	To prevent the spread of bacteria it is important that