

Proceed now to the next part of the unit: introduction to medical terminology

Introduction to medical terminology

Enabled: Statistics Tracking

In the Course Documents section of Blackboard, you will find a *List of Terms* that includes medical conditions that are likely to create a disability and the diagnostic tools and treatment interventions that are used throughout the treatment/rehabilitation process. The list is organized by body systems. For now, review the list and begin to familiarize yourself with it.

I do not expect that you will remember all of these terms, but exposure to them, even briefly, will help you recall general information as you run across these conditions throughout your practice. We will be going back and looking at some of these in more depth through our lectures and class discussions in the upcoming weeks. In order to assist you in your exploration of these terms, I have also provided a *list of prefixes and suffixes* that are commonly used in medical writing. This list can be found in the Course Documents section. Please print this out for your use.

To jump right in to this new course, I have posted a Case Study for you (Case Study 1). The case study includes discussion questions. (These are available in the next item in this unit.)

Case Study 1 and Discussion Questions should be completed by the end of the first week of class.

Case Study 1 and Discussion Questions

You will soon read an excerpt from an actual client file (for purposes of confidentiality, potentially identifying data have been altered). In this case, the rehabilitation expert was asked to determine whether there was a functional impairment of sufficient duration and severity that would cause the individual to be unable to perform past work or be unable to perform other work in the future.

Your task with this case study is to respond to the following discussion questions using lay language. You may, of course, use the references you identified in the web field trip, but be sure to present your answers to the discussion questions in ways that are descriptive and “non-jargony.”

Discussion Questions

1. How is this individual's daily functioning likely to have been effected prior to her surgery? What daily tasks would she have difficulty doing? What tasks might she have been doing as a cashier at K-Mart that would have been difficult for her prior to her surgery?
2. What is the nature of her medical condition? What body systems are involved? What would the course of these conditions be? What signs and symptoms might be expected?
3. What are the medications for? What side effects might they produce that might impact her ability to work?

4. What will the surgeries do to help her condition? Which of the conditions listed would the surgery address? What possible problems could result from the surgery? What would the prognosis be following surgery?

You will note that you can pick up a great deal of information from the medical terminology contained in the case study. Other sources that may be useful to you in preparing your responses might be the Merck Manual, your Medical dictionary, and various internet sites that you can identify through search engines. As you visit good sites on the internet, you may want to bookmark these for future reference and, also, share the web addresses on our Discussion Board as we may be using these later.

Also, post your answers to the Discussion Questions there as well.

Now, on to the actual case study:

[Case study omitted]

Grading scale:

Satisfactory = 80 or above

Grade		
95-100	Excellent	Proficient work. All responses are thorough, accurate, and demonstrate mastery of material.
90-94	Excellent	Excellent work. Responses are thorough and accurate.
85-89	Satisfactory	Very good work. Responses are thorough and mostly accurate.
80-84	Satisfactory	Good work. Responses indicate effort to address each item.
75-79	Acceptable (below satisfactory)	Acceptable work. Responses indicate effort to address each item, but answers are not thorough and/or contain several inaccuracies.
70-74	Below satisfactory	Limited work. Responses indicate minimal effort.
69 or below	Unsatisfactory	Not acceptable level of work.