

WELCOME & HOW TO USE THIS PDF

Welcome to MedVocab

This free resource was created to help medical and healthcare learners strengthen their understanding of essential medical terminology using proven learning principles.

Medical vocabulary is best mastered through active recall rather than passive reading. These crosswords are designed to help you retrieve, reinforce, and retain key terms more effectively.

How to Use This PDF

- Complete one crossword per study session
- Attempt each puzzle without external help
- Check the answer key only after finishing
- Revisit unfamiliar terms regularly

Consistent, focused practice is more effective than long study sessions.

WHY MEDICAL CROSSWORDS WORK

Why Active Recall Matters

Reading textbooks and notes creates familiarity, but familiarity is not mastery. Long-term learning occurs when the brain is forced to retrieve information.

Active recall strengthens memory pathways and improves long-term retention.

Why Crosswords Are Effective

- They require precise recall of terminology
- They reinforce spelling and word structure
- They promote deeper cognitive engagement

MedVocab crosswords are designed to support efficient, focused learning without unnecessary distractions.

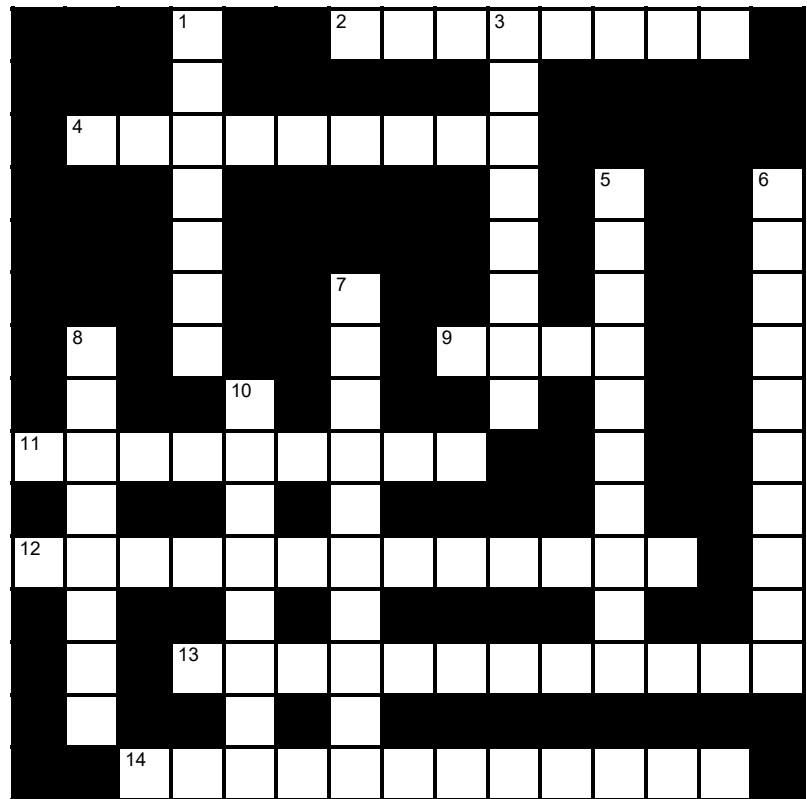
Across

- 2. Medication that increases urine production and sodium excretion
- 4. Pharmaceutical agent that reduces pain perception
- 9. Specified quantity of medication administered at one time
- 11. Process of eliminating drug metabolites from the body
- 12. Common antipyretic and pain-relieving compound
- 13. Movement of drug molecules throughout body compartments and tissues
- 14. Written authorization from licensed practitioner for medication dispensing

Down

- 1. Inert substance used as control in clinical trials
- 3. Protein structure that binds specific drug molecules
- 5. Unintended physiological response to pharmaceutical treatment
- 6. Process of drug transfer from administration site into bloodstream
- 7. Antimicrobial agent that kills or inhibits bacterial growth

- 8. Degree to which a substance causes harmful effects
- 10. Agent that reduces nervous system activity and promotes calmness



Across

1. Structure connecting the brain to the spinal cord, controlling vital autonomic functions

5. Central nervous system pathway transmitting signals between brain and peripheral nerves

6. Pertaining to the heart and blood vessel system

9. Organ producing digestive enzymes and insulin

11. Chemical messengers regulating physiological processes throughout the body

12. Tubular organs responsible for nutrient absorption and waste formation

Down

2. Hydrochloric acid secretion aiding protein digestion and pathogen destruction

3. Ductless organs secreting regulatory chemicals directly into bloodstream

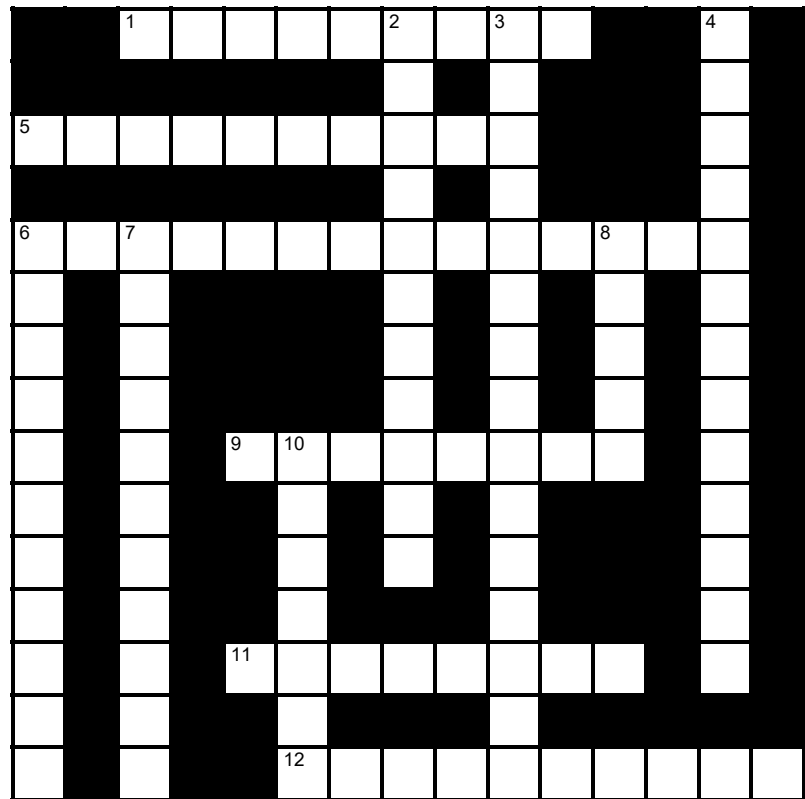
4. Hepatic processes including detoxification, protein synthesis, and bile production

6. Microscopic blood vessels facilitating gas and nutrient exchange with tissues

7. Related to breathing and gas exchange processes

8. Paired organs enabling oxygen uptake and carbon dioxide removal

10. Microscopic air sacs where pulmonary gas exchange occurs



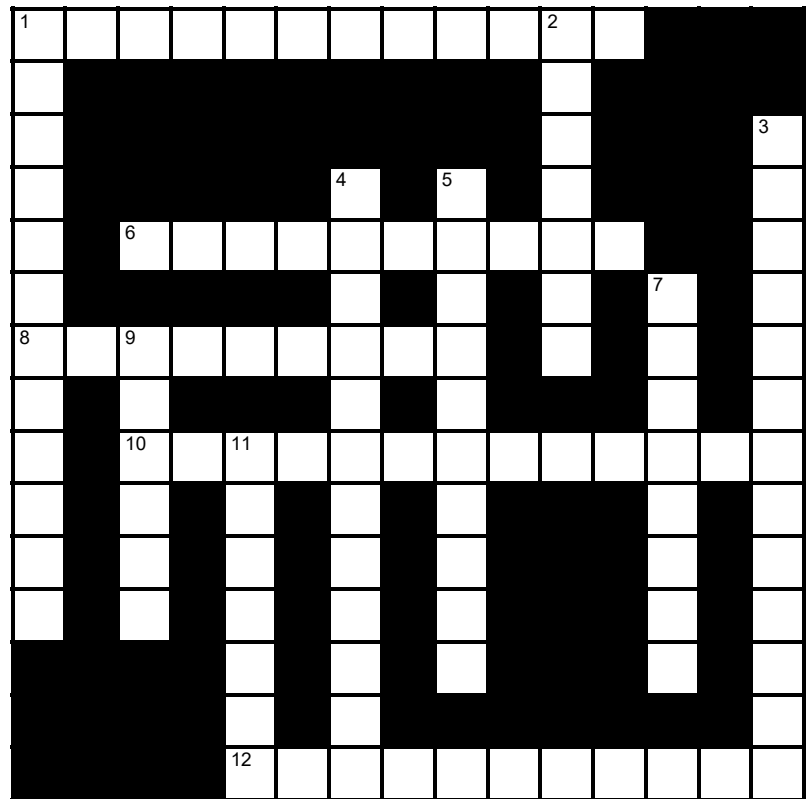
Across

- 1. Protective face covering used in medical procedures to prevent contamination
- 6. Diagnostic imaging technique using high-frequency sound waves
- 8. Device that converts liquid medication into mist for inhalation
- 10. Emergency device that delivers electric shock to restore normal heart rhythm
- 12. Acoustic medical instrument for listening to internal body sounds

Down

- 1. Curved implement used for stitching tissue during wound closure
- 2. Medical instrument with plunger mechanism for injecting or withdrawing fluids
- 3. Measurement of force exerted by circulating blood on arterial walls
- 4. Woven fabric material used for wound dressing and protection
- 5. Constricting device applied to limbs to control blood flow
- 7. Mobility aids that transfer weight from legs to upper body
- 9. Container for bedridden patients to void waste

- 11. Hinged grasping instrument used in surgical and medical procedures



Across

7. The proportion of deaths in a population over a specific period

9. Systems and practices for managing waste and maintaining hygiene

10. A disease outbreak occurring across multiple countries or continents

11. Describing diseases transmitted from animals to humans

12. Showing no clinical signs of infection or disease

Down

1. Capable of being transmitted from one individual to another

2. Isolation period for individuals potentially exposed to infectious agents

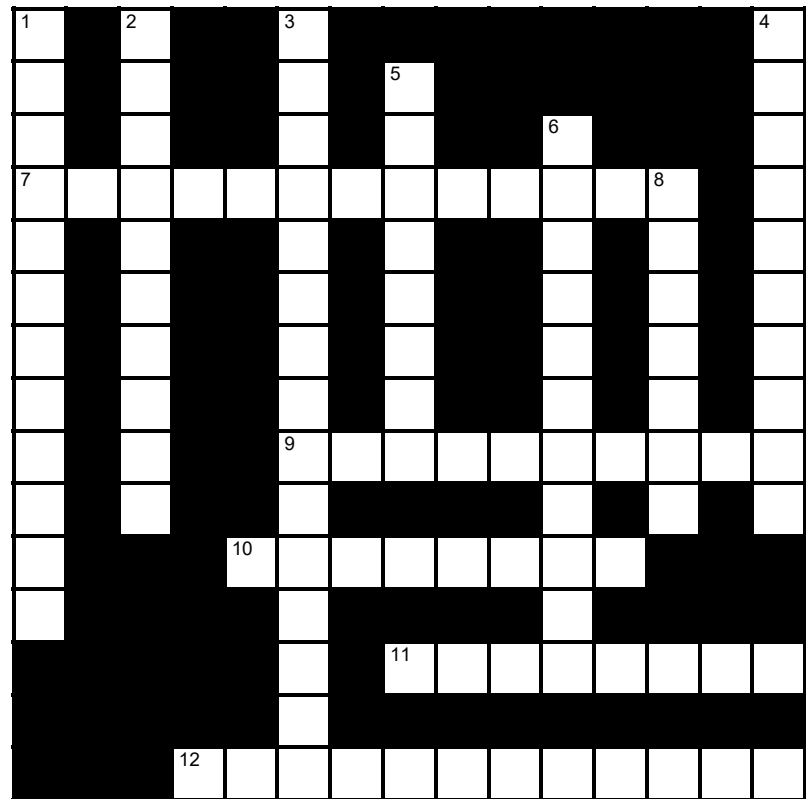
3. Inequitable differences in disease burden or healthcare access between populations

4. Transmitted through contaminated water supplies

5. A microorganism capable of causing disease

6. Administration of antigenic material to stimulate immune response

8. Constantly present within a specific geographic area or population



Across

2. Federal incentive program promoting adoption of electronic health records with specific clinical quality objectives

5. Healthcare information exchange specifications for clinical and administrative data interoperability

6. Technology framework enabling machines to understand and process linked data relationships

8. Remote delivery of healthcare services using telecommunications technology

9. Complete DNA sequence information used for molecular diagnosis and personalized treatment

Down

1. Modern healthcare interoperability standard using RESTful web services for data exchange

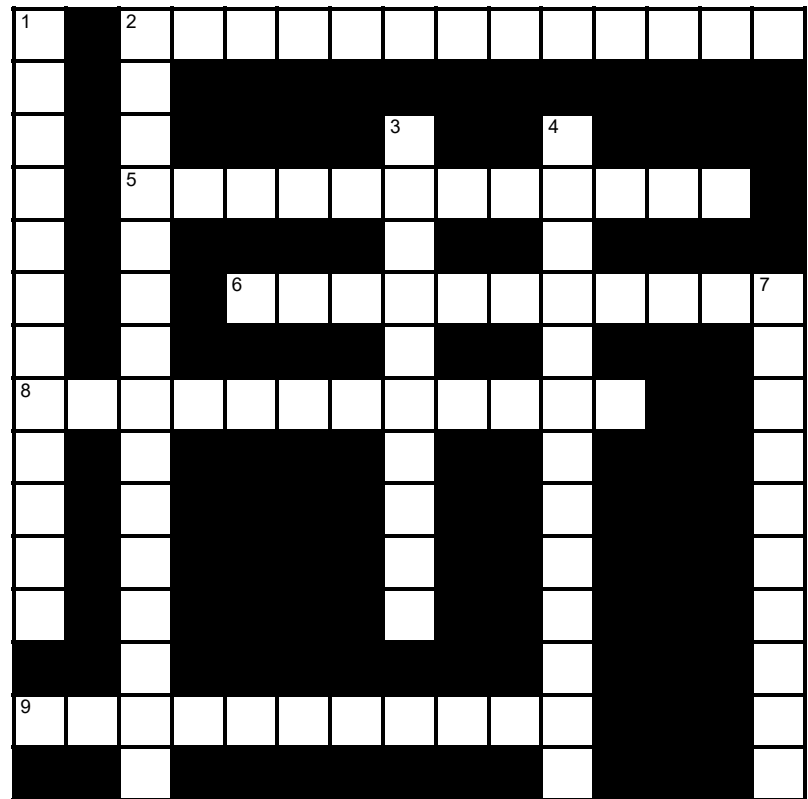
2. Computational methods enabling systems to improve performance through pattern recognition without explicit programming

3. Analytical process extracting useful patterns from large datasets using statistical and computational

techniques

4. Secure online platform providing individuals access to personal health information and communication tools

7. Distributed ledger technology ensuring transparent, immutable record-keeping through cryptographic validation



Across

1. Disease transmitted from animals to humans

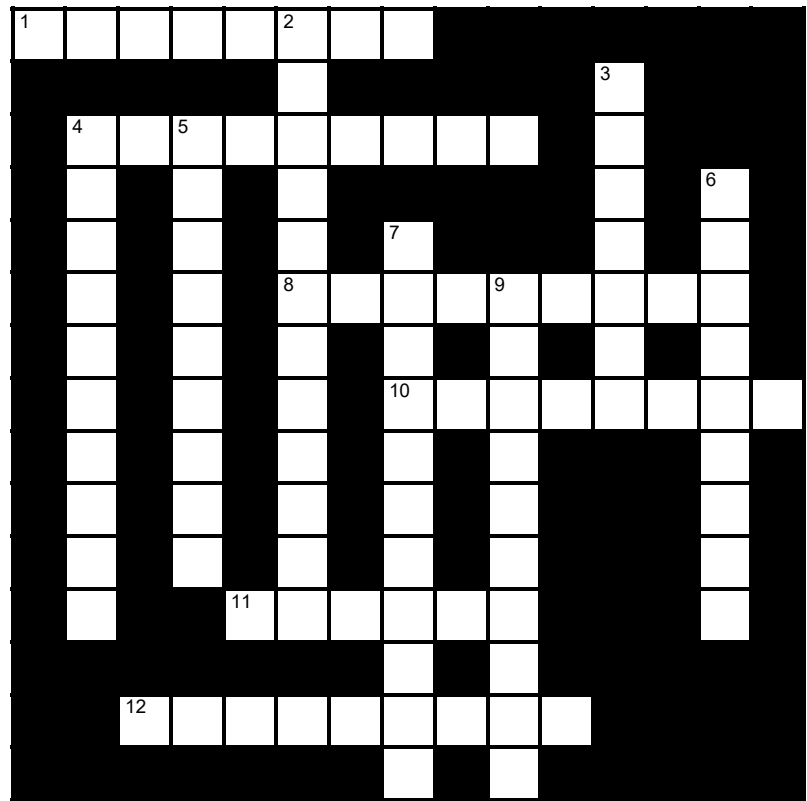
4. Natural habitat where an infectious agent normally lives and multiplies

8. Separation of infected individuals to prevent disease transmission

10. Sudden increase in disease cases above expected levels in a specific area

11. Organism that transmits pathogens between hosts

12. Incidence of disease or ill health within a population



Down

2. Systematic collection and analysis of health data for disease monitoring

3. Individual harboring pathogen without symptoms who can transmit infection

4. Characteristic or exposure that increases probability of disease occurrence

5. Systematic testing of asymptomatic populations for early disease detection

6. Transmission of disease through direct or indirect contact

7. Longitudinal research following groups with different exposures over time

9. Proportion of exposed individuals who develop disease during specific period

Across

1. Individual receiving medical care from a distance using telecommunications technology

5. Use of information and communication technologies in medicine and public health

9. Provision of nursing services through telecommunications systems

Down

1. Assessment and prioritization of patient symptoms from a distance

2. Secure online platform providing individuals access to their medical records

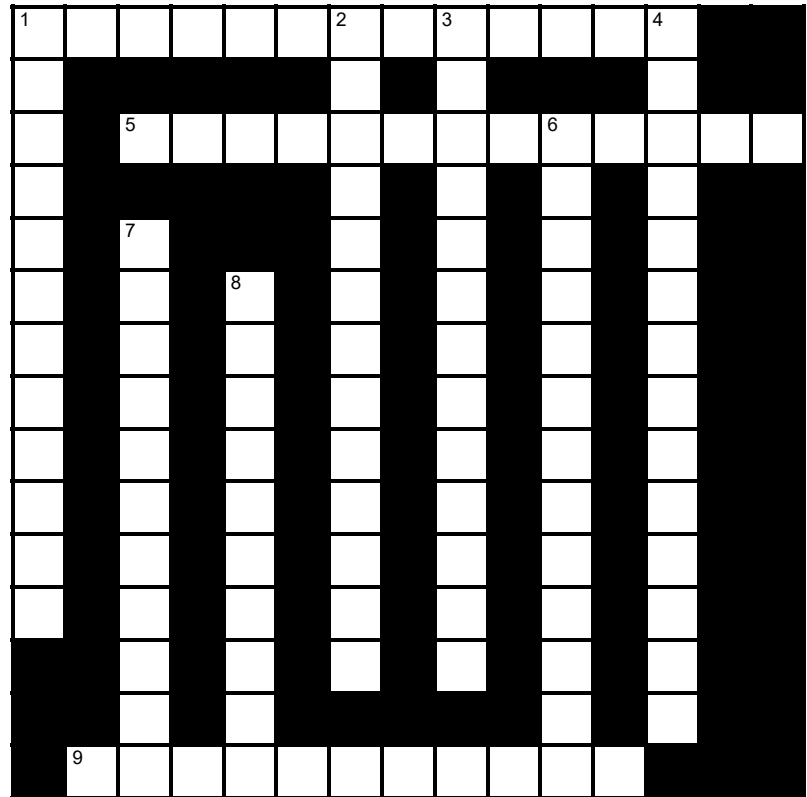
3. Transmission of radiological images for interpretation at a different location

4. Delivery of psychiatric assessment and treatment via telecommunications

6. Electronic generation and transmission of medication orders

7. Healthcare services delivered through digital communication platforms

8. Emergency neurological assessment and treatment guidance provided remotely for cerebrovascular accidents



Across

5. Longest bone in the human body, extending from hip to knee

6. Individual bones comprising the spinal column

9. Flat bone in the center of the chest connecting to ribs

11. Larger of two lower leg bones, bearing most body weight

13. Metabolic bone disease characterized by decreased bone density

16. Vertebral structure protecting the spinal cord

17. Inflammatory condition affecting joints and connective tissue

Down

1. Sesamoid bone located anterior to the knee joint

2. Upper arm bone articulating with scapula and radius-ulna

3. Dense fibrous connective tissue joining bones at joints

4. Thin filament protein involved in muscle contraction

7. Bony thoracic structure protecting heart and lungs

8. Soft tissue within bones producing blood cells

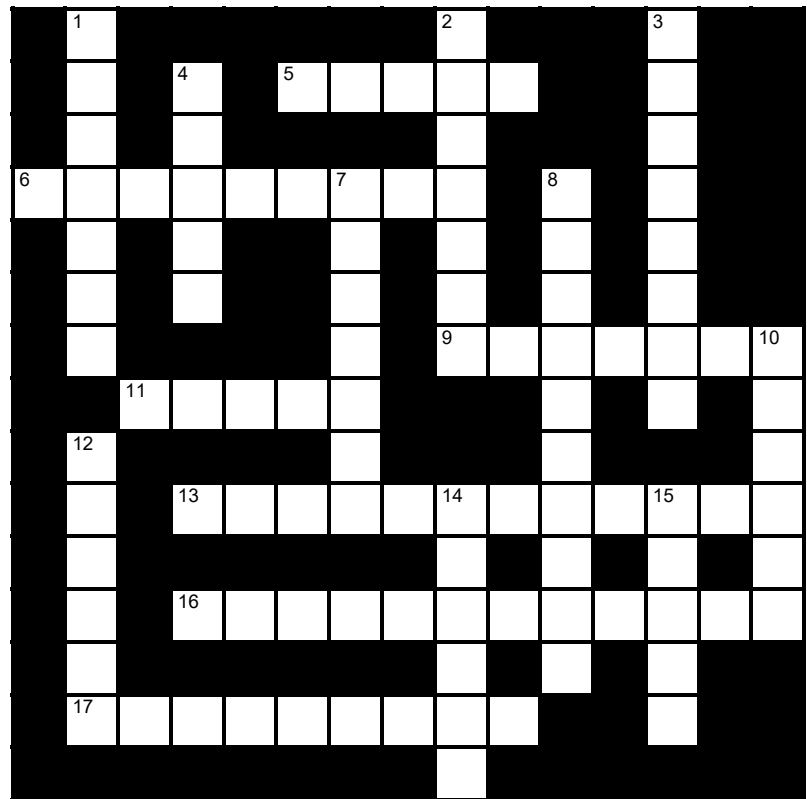
10. Thick filament protein that interacts

with thin filaments during contraction

12. Lateral bone of the lower leg, smaller than its medial counterpart

14. Bony structure formed by ilium, ischium, and pubis

15. Bony framework of the head protecting the brain



Across

1. Inflammation of the liver caused by viral infection or toxic substances

4. Acute inflammation of lung tissue typically caused by bacterial or viral infection

6. Chronic elevation of arterial blood pressure above normal limits

8. Abnormal heart rhythm resulting from irregular electrical impulses

10. Inflammation of the paranasal sinus mucosa often following upper respiratory infection

11. Inflammation of the protective membranes covering the brain and spinal cord

12. Progressive optic neuropathy characterized by increased intraocular pressure

13. Deficiency in red blood cell count or hemoglobin concentration

Down

1. Endocrine disorder characterized by insufficient thyroid hormone production

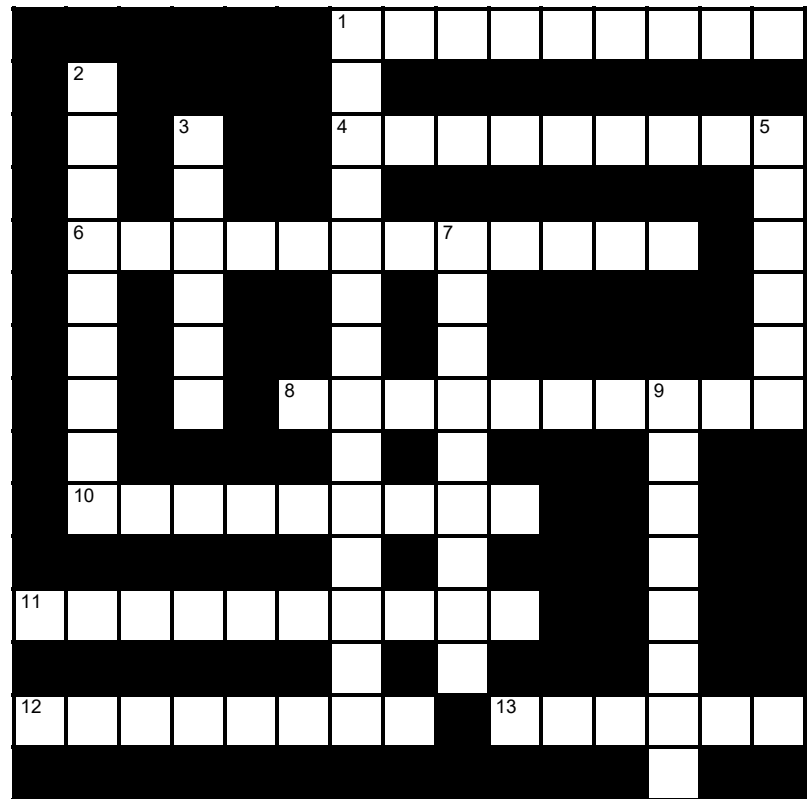
2. Inflammatory or degenerative joint disease causing pain and stiffness

3. Systemic inflammatory response to severe infection with potential organ dysfunction

5. Chronic respiratory condition characterized by reversible airway obstruction and bronchospasm

7. Inflammatory kidney disease affecting the renal parenchyma

9. Malignant neoplasm arising from melanocytes in skin or mucous membranes



Across

1. Bony structure that encases and protects the brain

6. Paired respiratory organ responsible for gas exchange

7. Smallest blood vessel connecting arterioles and venules

9. Muscular pump that circulates blood through the body

10. Contractile tissue enabling movement and force generation

11. Individual bone segment of the spinal column

16. Blood vessel carrying deoxygenated blood toward the heart

17. Largest organ forming the body's external protective barrier

18. Central organ of the nervous system controlling bodily functions

19. Tubular organ where digestion and nutrient absorption occur

20. Muscular tube connecting pharynx to stomach

Down

1. Lymphoid organ filtering blood and storing red blood cells

2. Fibrous connective tissue linking bone to bone

3. Larger medial bone of the lower leg

4. Bony structure supporting the trunk and protecting pelvic organs

5. Flexible connective tissue cushioning joints and supporting structures

8. Blood vessel carrying oxygenated blood away from the heart

12. Bony thoracic structure protecting vital organs

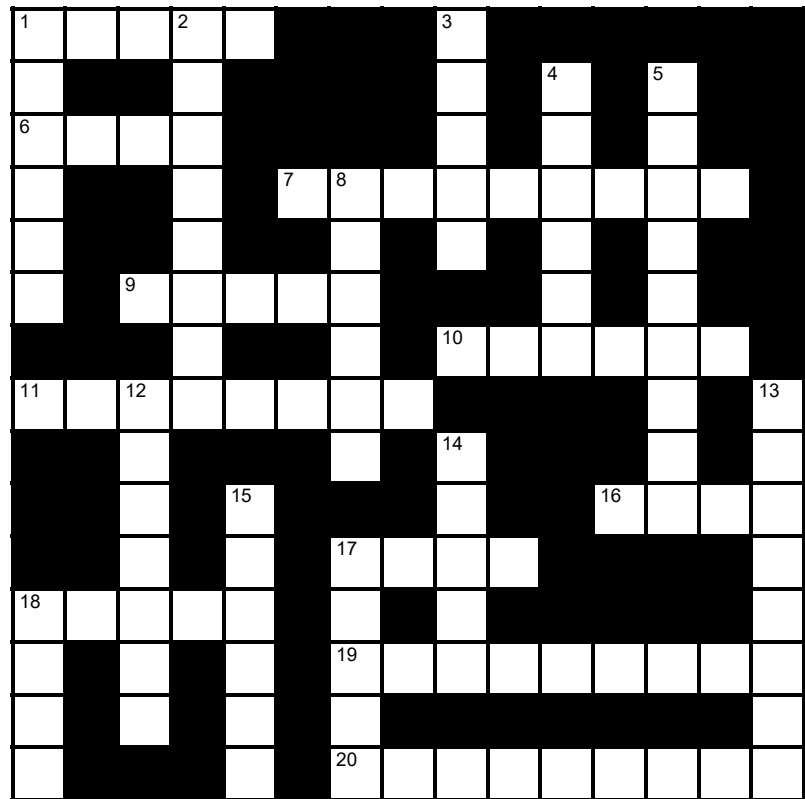
13. Glandular organ producing digestive enzymes and insulin

14. Anatomical junction where two or more bones meet

15. Fibrous tissue connecting muscle to bone

17. Vertebral column providing structural support and protecting spinal cord

18. Rigid connective tissue forming the skeletal framework



BONUS: MEDICAL PREFIXES & SUFFIXES CHEAT SHEET

Understanding medical terminology becomes significantly easier when you recognize common word components. Many complex medical terms are constructed from prefixes and suffixes that modify meaning in a consistent way.

This cheat sheet highlights essential prefixes and suffixes that appear frequently across medical disciplines.

Medical Prefixes

- **Hyper-** – excessive, above normal
Example: Hypertension (abnormally high blood pressure)
- **Hypo-** – deficient, below normal
Example: Hypoglycemia (low blood glucose level)
- **Intra-** – within
Example: Intravenous (within a vein)
- **Sub-** – below, under
Example: Subcutaneous (under the skin)
- **Peri-** – around, surrounding
Example: Pericardium (the membrane surrounding the heart)

Medical Suffixes

- **-itis** – inflammation
Example: Arthritis (inflammation of a joint)
- **-ectomy** – surgical removal
Example: Appendectomy (removal of the appendix)
- **-ology** – study of
Example: Cardiology (study of the heart)
- **-emia** – blood condition
Example: Anemia (reduced red blood cells or hemoglobin)
- **-pathy** – disease or disorder
Example: Neuropathy (disease of the nerves)

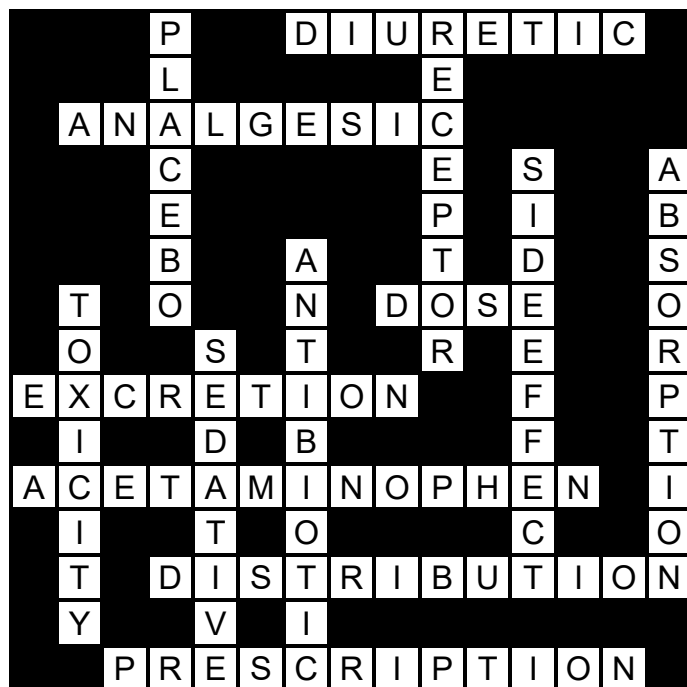
Why This Matters

Recognizing prefixes and suffixes allows you to:

- Decode unfamiliar medical terms
- Improve comprehension without memorization
- Read clinical material more efficiently

Mastering word components is one of the most effective ways to strengthen long-term medical vocabulary.

ANSWER KEY



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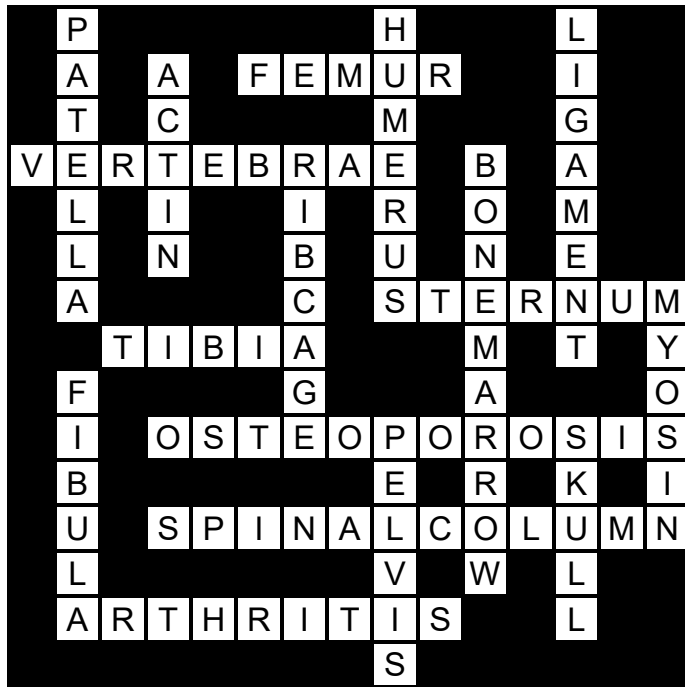
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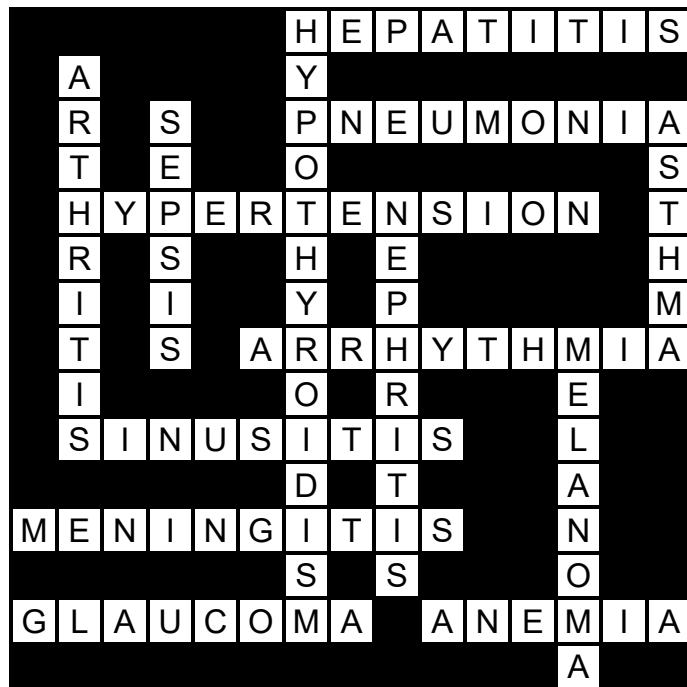
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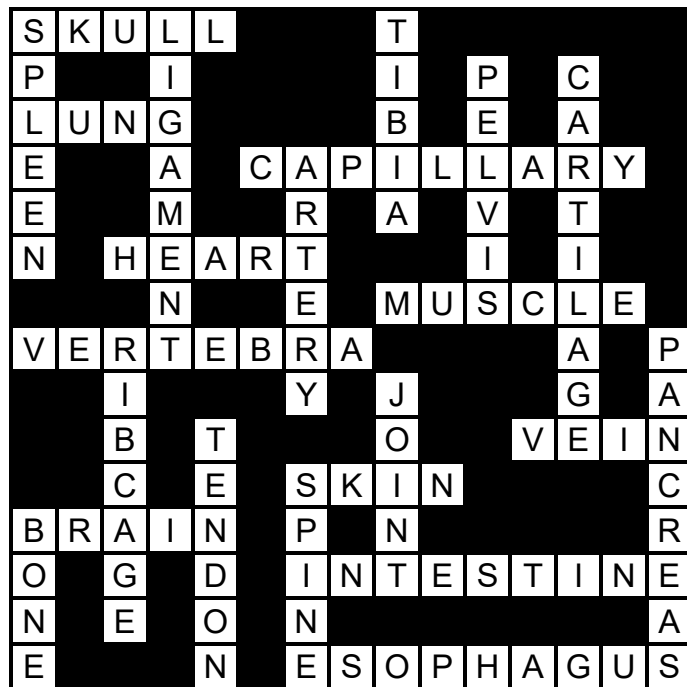
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CONTINUE YOUR MEDICAL LEARNING

What's Next?

If you found these crosswords helpful, you may benefit from deeper, topic-focused practice.

The **MedVocab Crossword Series** offers:

- Larger puzzle collections
- Specialty-specific vocabulary
- Progressive difficulty levels

These resources are designed for learners who want structured, efficient vocabulary mastery.

Next Step

Explore the full MedVocab series at:

medvocab.com/books

ABOUT MEDVOCAB

About MedVocab

MedVocab creates educational resources designed to improve medical vocabulary retention through active recall and focused practice.

Our materials are developed for:

- Medical students
- Nursing and allied health students
- Healthcare professionals

We believe effective learning should be clear, structured, and evidence-informed.

Visit us at:

www.medvocab.com