

DRUG INFORMATION
ABOUT
COMMONLY USED
DRUGS

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PREFACE

The books which I have authored earlier relate to industrial pharmacy and to cosmetics formulations, manufacture and quality control. This time I thought of writing a book which will be helpful to practising pharmacists i.e. community pharmacists and hospital pharmacists. Once a practising pharmacist is enriched with information about drugs, he can pass on this information to the patients. Getting drug information, the patient will be an informed user of drugs which will improve compliance of prescription and will desist the patient from doing activities which are contraindicated while using particular drug(s). Besides the practising pharmacists, the book will be found useful by the students of pharmacy, students of D.Pharm. program in particular. The book will also be useful for medical students.

The purpose of this book is to provide educational information to health professionals. It is not intended to be complete or exhaustive on all aspects of drugs covered in this book. However, the book contains sufficient information which will be useful in day to day practice by the health professionals.

This is my and my co-editor's maiden effort on this subject. It may have some imperfections. Readers and critics are best source of improvements. I look forward to them for their comments.

I am thankful to all those who have helped me in bringing out this book, notably Sh. Atul Kumar Nasa for making some reference material available to me, Dr. Ramendra Singh,

co-editor for going through text and making suggestions, Sh. Satish Agrawal for formatting and designing this book and Rakmo Press Pvt. Ltd. for printing the book.

June 2009

P.P. Sharma

For Preview

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The book contains 8 parts. Each part is devoted to drugs used in diseases or disorders of a system e.g. GI system, cardiovascular system, respiratory system. There is a brief discussion on common disease(s)/disorders of the system and drugs used in their treatment in the introductory section of each part.

To find drug information on the drugs included in this book, see the index by generic name. Before going through individual monograph of the drug, it is advisable to go through general discussion on the class of those drugs e.g. corticosteroids, sulphonylureas, thiazide diuretics etc. If the reader is not aware of generic name of drug and remembers only the trade name, he can find out the drug from the index by trade names provided that trade name and the drug has been included in this book.

It is also advisable to first go through the abbreviations and glossary of medical terms before using this book. The book is not intended to be used for change or modification in the medication by the pharmacist or the patient. Treating physician should be consulted for this purpose.

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For Preview

ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY OF MEDICAL TERMS

Some abbreviations have been used in the book. Full forms of the abbreviations are given below. Glossary of medical terms include only those which the pharmacist is not expected to know and relate mainly to symptoms and diseases. However, there may be some medical terms which the pharmacist is expected to know but have been included for clarity.

ABBREVIATIONS USED

ACE	-	Angiotensin Converting Enzyme
ALT	-	Alanine Aminotransferase (Enzyme)
AST	-	Asparate Aminotransferase (Enzyme)
ATP	-	Adenosine-5-Triphosphate
AV	-	Atrioventricular
BUN	-	Blood Urea Nitrogen
CAI	-	Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors
cAMP	-	Cyclic Adenosine Monophosphate
CHD	-	Coronary Heart Disease
CHF	-	Congestive Heart Failure
CSF	-	Cerebro Spinal Fluid
CTZ	-	Chemoreceptor Trigger Zone
ECG	-	Electrocardiogram
ENT	-	Ear-Nose-Throat
GI	-	Gastro Intestinal
GIT	-	Gastrointestinal Tract
GU	-	Genito Urinary
HPA	-	Hypothalamic Pituitary Adrenal

HDL	-	High Density Lipoprotein
IM	-	Intra Muscular
IV	-	Intra Venous
LDL	-	Low Density Lipoprotein
MAOI	-	Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitor
MI	-	Myocardial Infarction
PT	-	Parathyroid
PTH	-	Parathyroid Hormone
SC	-	Subcutaneous
TCA	-	Tricyclic Antidepressant

GLOSSARY OF MEDICAL TERMS

A

Acromegaly - a disorder marked by progressive enlargement of peripheral parts of the body, especially the head, face, hands

Actinic keratosis - thickened area of skin as a result of excessive exposure to sunlight

Adams-stokes syndrome - a syndrome characterized by slow or absent pulse, vertigo, syncope and convulsions

Addison's disease - rare condition caused by the destruction of the outer part of the adrenal glands leading to less secretion of corticosteroid hormones

Agranulocytosis - reduction of blood granulosis (less than 500 granulocytes per mm³)

Akathisia - a condition characterized by uncontrollable motor restlessness

Akinesia - absence or loss of voluntary movement due to an extrapyramidal disorder

Albuminuria - presence of protein in urine chiefly albumin

Alopecia - absence of hair from skin areas where it normally is present e.g. baldness

Alveolar adeno-carcinoma - adenocarcinoma of the lung in

- which tumor cells form the structure resembling alveoli
- Alveolar hydatid disease (AHD)** – a parasitic disease caused by the larval stage of a microscopic tapeworm *echinococcus multilocularis*
- Alzheimer's disease** – common manifestation of dementia
- Amblyopia** – reduced vision without apparent eye disorder
- Amenorrhea** – absence or abnormal cessation of the menses
- Amnesia** – lack of memory
- Anaphylaxis** – allergic reaction characterized by constriction of air passage.
- Anemia** – a condition in which the number of red blood cells per mm³, the amount of hemoglobin in 100 ml & volume of packed red cells per 100 ml of blood are less than normal
- Aneurysm** – circumscribed dilation of an artery connecting directly with the lumen of an artery or cardiac chamber connecting directly with the lumen of an artery
- Angina/angina pectoris** – intense constricting pain in the chest, often radiating from the pericardium
- Angioedema** – recurrent-large circumscribed areas of subcutaneous edema of sudden onset
- Angioneurotic** – recurrent large circumscribed areas of subcutaneous edema of sudden onset
- Ankylosing spondylitis** – arthritis of spine
- Anorexia** – diminished appetite, aversion to food
- Anoxia** – deprivation of oxygen, a condition that rapidly leads to collapse or death, unless immediately reversed
- Antitussive** – cough suppressant
- Anuria/Anuresis** – the complete suppression of urinary secretion by the kidneys
- Aphthous** – relating to or characterized by aphthae (speck, flake or blister on mucus membrane)
- Aplastic anemia** – anemia due to failure of the bone marrow to produce blood cells including red and white blood cells as well as the platelets.

Apnea – temporary cessation of breathing

Apoplexy – a venerable term for stroke, a cerebrovascular accident (CVA), often associated with loss of consciousness and paralysis of various parts of the body

Arrhythmia – disturbance of the normal rhythm of the heart

Arteriosclerosis – thickening of the artery walls, sometimes used as synonym for atherosclerosis

Arthralgia – pain in one or more joints, especially one not inflammatory disease of the pilosebaceous unit (an eruption predominantly on the face)

Ascariasis – infection by round worm

Asphyxia – impaired or absent exchange of oxygen & carbon dioxide on a ventilatory basis

Ataxia – inability to coordinate muscle activity during voluntary movement

Atherosclerosis – arteriosclerosis characterized by irregularly distributed lipid deposits in the intima of large & medium sized arteries

Atopic dermatitis- pruritic, lichenified, classically in the antecubital fossa

Atrophy – wasting of tissues, organs or the entire body

Autism – a spectrum of neuro-psychiatric disorders characterized by deficits in social interaction and communication, and unusual and repetitive behaviour

Azotemia – a higher than normal blood level of urea and nitrogen containing compounds in the blood

B

Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) – a noncancerous prostate problem

Bilharziasis – a parasite infection by a trematode also known as schistosomiasis

Biliary canaliculus – one of the intercellular channels that occurs between liver cells forming the first portion of the bile system

(bile capillary)

Blastoma - a tumor thought to arise in embryonic tissue, it is commonly used as a part of the name for a tumor

Botulism - a disease caused by clostridium botulinum

Bradycardia - slowness of the heart beat

Bright's disease - inflammation of kidney

Bronchitis - inflammation of mucus membrane of the bronchial tubes

Bulimia - condition of continuous, uncontrolled eating

C

Carboxyhemoglobinemia - the presence of carboxyhemoglobin in the blood, it is formed in carbon monoxide poisoning

Carcinoma - malignant tumor arising from the skin, the glandular tissues or the mucus membranes that line the gut and lungs

Cardiomyopathy - chronic disorder of the heart muscle

Cerebellar gait - wide-based gait with lateral veering, unsteadiness, and irregularity of steps (ataxic gait)

Cerebral palsy - a generic term for various types of non-progressive motor dysfunction present at birth or beginning in early childhood

Cheilosis - an abnormal condition of the lips characterized by scaling of the surface and by formation of fissures in the corner of the mouth

Cholecystectomy - surgical removal of gall bladder

Cirrhosis - progressive disease of the liver characterized by diffuse damage to hepatic parenchymal cells, with nodular regeneration, fibrosis, associated with failure in the function of hepatic cells and interference with blood flow in the liver

Climacteric - period during the life span when an important physiological change occurs, usually referring to menopause

Colin's disease - a chronic inflammatory disease primarily involving the small and large intestine, but which can affect

other parts of digestive system

Colitis – inflammation of the colon (large intestine) with diarrhea, often bloody

Contact dermatitis – dermatitis resulting from cutaneous contact with a specific allergen or irritant

Corneal dystrophy – a condition in which one or more parts of the cornea lose their normal clarity due to a buildup of cloudy material

Corpus luteum – glandular tissue formed in the ovary after ovulation from the follicle, a group of cells associated with bringing the egg to maturity

Coryza – a cold in the head

Crohn's disease – chronic ileitis that typically involves the distal portion of the ileum, often spreads to the colon and is characterized by diarrhea, cramps, loss of appetite and weight with local abscesses and scarring

Cryptorchidism – a condition in which one or both testes fail to descend normally

Cushing's syndrome – a condition in which the body chemistry is upset by excessive production of steroid hormones from the adrenal cortex

Cyanosis – bluish discoloration of the skin or mucus membranes, usually around the mouth, due to diminished uptake of oxygen

Cystic fibrosis – fibrocystic disease of the pancreas, mucoviscidosis, viscidosis (Clarke-Hadfield Syndrome)

Cystitis – inflammation of the bladder, usually caused by bacterial infection

D

Delirium – a transient disorder characterized by waxing and waning levels of consciousness, hallucinations, anxiety, restlessness, combative behaviour, and automatic disturbances

Dementia – progressive decline in cognitive function due to damage or disease in the brain beyond normal aging

Dermatitis – general term for inflammation of skin

Dermatitis herpetiformis – a chronic disease of the skin characterized by severe itching, extensive eruption of vesicles (blisters) and papules which occur in groups

Diabetes mellitus – a metabolic disease in which carbohydrate utilization is reduced and that of lipid and protein enhanced and is caused by an absolute or relative deficiency of insulin

Diplopia – double vision, usually due to lack of coordination of the movement of the eyes

Dizziness – another term for vertigo

Ductus arteriosus – a key arterial shunt (ductus) in fetal life, before birth, blood pumped from the heart through pulmonary artery through the lungs is shunted into the aorta

Dyskinesia – difficulty or distortion in performing voluntary movements, as in tic, cholera, spasm or myoclonus

Dyslexia – a specific reading disability due to a defect the brain's processing of graphic symbols

Dyslipidemia – a disorder of lipoprotein metabolism including lipoprotein overproduction or deficiency

Dyspepsia – another term for indigestion

Dysphagia – difficulty in swallowing

Dysphonia – defective use of the voice

Dysplasia – abnormal tissue development

Dyspnea – shortness of breath, a subjective difficulty or distress in breathing

Dyssomnia – primary disorder of the amount, quality or timing of sleep and wakefulness (insomnia)

Dystonia – a state of disorder tonacity of tissues (as of muscles)

Dysuria – painful or difficult urination, in women dysuria may also reflect inflammation of vagina (vaginitis) or vulva (vulvitis)

E

Echopraxia – involuntary imitation of the movement of another person, it is a feature of schizophrenia, Tourette syndrome and some other neurological disease

Eclampsia – convulsions occurring during pregnancy following pre-eclampsia

Eczema – generic term for inflammatory conditions of the skin, particularly with vesiculation in the acute stage

Edema – presence of abnormally large amounts of fluid in the intercellular tissue spaces of the body

Elephantiasis – a condition of local enlargement and deformity, most often of leg, though the scrotum, vulva or breast may also be affected

Embolism – blockage of blood vessel by an obstruction called an embolus (usually a blood clot, fat particle or air bubble)

Emphysema – a condition of lung characterized by increase beyond the normal in the size of the air spaces distal to the terminal bronchiole, with destructive changes in their walls and reduction in their number

Enanthesis – a rash inside the body (e.g. spots in measles)

Encephalitis – inflammation of the brain, nearly always due to viral infection but it may also occur in other infections

Endocarditis – infective endocarditis is defined as an infection of the endocardial surface of the heart, which may include one or more heart valves, the mural endocardium or a septal defect

Endometritis – inflammation of endometrium

Eosinophilia – an abnormally high number of eosinophils in the blood

Epilepsy – when nerve cells in the brain fire electrical impulses at a rate of upto four times higher than normal, this causes a sort of electrical storm in the brain, known as seizure. A pattern of repeated seizures is referred to as epilepsy

Epiphysis – growth at or near the end of a bone

Epistaxis – medical term for nose-bleed

Erectile dysfunction – a problem of males characterized by the consistent inability to sustain an erection sufficient for sexual intercourse or inability to achieve ejaculation or both

Erythema multiforme – considered a hypersensitivity syndrome, it presents with characteristic target or iris-shaped papules and vesicobullous plaques

Erythema nodosum – a panniculitis marked by the sudden formation of painful nodes on the exterior surfaces of the lower extremities, with lesions that are self-limiting but tend to recur

Erythroblastosis fetalis – hemolytic disease of new born

Erythrocyanosis – reddish discoloration and swelling of limbs in response to cold

Erythropoiesis – formation of red blood cells

Esophagitis – inflammation of esophagus

Euphoria – elevated mood

Exotropia – divergent gaze

F

Fibrillation – rapid and disordered beating of section of heart muscle

Fibroid – benign growth developing in the wall of the uterus

Fibroma – a mass composed of fibrous tissue or connective tissue, also called a fibroid

Fibrositis – inflammation and overgrowth of fibrous tissue mainly of the muscle sheath

Fibrous dysplasia – excessive growth of blood fibrous tissue that replaces bone tissue

Flatulence – excessive gas in the intestinal tract

Flatus – gas in the intestinal tract or passed through anus

Focal seizure – partial seizure

G

Gait – a manner of walking

Galactorrhea – spontaneous flow of milk from the nipple at any time other than during nursing

Gastric atrophy – a condition in which gastric muscles shrink and become weak

Gastritis – inflammation of the stomach

Gigantism – excessive height mostly due to overproduction of growth hormone during childhood causing abnormal growth

Glaucoma – a disease of the eye characterized by increased intraocular pressure, excavation and atrophy of optic nerve, produces defects in the field of vision

Glomerulonephritis – group of kidney disorders characterized by damage to the glomeruli, cluster of capillaries through which waste products are filtered

Glossitis – inflammation of tongue

Goitre – enlargement of thyroid gland

Gonorrhoea – a contagious catarrhal inflammation of the genital mucus membrane, transmitted chiefly by sexual intercourse

Gout – condition characterized by abnormally elevated levels of uric acid in the blood, recurring attacks of joint inflammation (arthritis), deposits of hard lumps of uric acid in and around joints and decreased kidney function

Granulocyte – a mature granular leukocyte

Granulocytopenia – a marked decrease in the number of granulocytes

Granuloma – granuloma is one of a number of forms of localised nodular inflammation found in the tissues

Gynecomastia – excessive development of male breasts

H

Hallucinations – perception of something that does not exist. It may be visual but may arise from other senses

Hay fever – allergic reaction to pollen, causing sneezing with

inflammation of nasal membranes and conjunctive of the eyes

Hematoma - accumulation of blood in tissues causing a solid swelling

Hematopoiesis - production of all types of blood cells

Hematuria - blood in urine

Hemiplegia - paralysis of one side of the body

Hemoglobinuria - the presence of free hemoglobin in the urine

Hemolysis - destruction of red blood cells

Hemophilia - disease in which normal blood clotting is impaired

Hemorrhoids - distended blood vessels (varicose veins) in the area of anus, popularly known as piles

Hepatomegaly - an enlarged liver

Hernia - a general term referring to protrusion of a tissue through the wall of the cavity in which it is normally contained

Hirsutism - excessive growth of hair of masculine type and distribution in women

Hodgkin's disease - rare form of cancer mainly affecting the lymph nodes and spleen

Hydrocele - accumulation of clear fluid in a sac, usually in the testes

Hyperplasia - a condition in which there is an increase in the number of normal cells in a tissue or organ

Hyperthermia - overheating of the body

Hypochondriasis/Hypochondriasm - a psychiatric disorder

Hypogonadism - a condition in which decreased production of gonadal hormones leads to below normal function of the gonads and to retardation of sexual growth and development

Hypoplasia - underdevelopment or incomplete development of a tissue or organ

Hypopnea - breathing that is shallower or slower than normal (under-breathing), hypopnea is distinct from apnea in which there is no breathing

Hypothyroidism - deficiency of thyroid hormone that is normally produced by thyroid gland

Hypoxemia - abnormally low levels of oxygen in the blood

Hypoxia - shortage of oxygen in the tissues

I

Ichthyosis - dry, rectangular scales on the skin, like fish scales

Idiopathic - term used to describe a condition that arises spontaneously with no known cause

Ileitis - inflammation of the ileum

Impetigo - a bacterial skin infection caused by staphylococcus or more rarely by streptococcus bacteria

Incontinence - inability to control excretion (e.g. urinary incontinence means inability to keep urine in the bladder)

Infantile myxedema - infantile hypothyroidism

Infarction - the formation of an infarct, an area of tissue death due to local lack of oxygen

Infertility - diminished ability or the inability to conceive and have offspring

Inotropic - affecting the force of muscle contraction

Insomnia - perception or complaint of inadequate or poor quality of sleep

Interstitial cystitis (IC) - disease that involves inflammation or irritation of the bladder wall

Intraductal papilloma - a benign, wart like growth that occurs in breast ducts

Inverse psoriasis - also called flexural psoriasis is a form of psoriasis found in the arm pits, groin, under the breast and in other flexion creases (skin folds) such as those around the genitals)

Irritable bowel syndrome - condition characterized by episodes of lower abdominal pain with constipation or diarrhea

Ischemia - reduction of blood supply to any part of the body

J

Jaundice – yellow staining of the skin and sclerae (the whites of the eyes) by abnormally high blood levels of the bile pigment, bilirubin

Joint hypermobility syndrome – a common benign childhood condition involving hyper-mobile joints, symptoms include pain in knees, fingers, limbs and elbows

Juvenile diabetes – diabetes type 1 (an autoimmune disease that occurs when T cells attack and decimate the beta cells in the pancreas, as such, pancreas produce no or too little insulin to metabolise glucose)

Juxta – a prefix meaning near, nearby or close (e.g. a juxtaarticular fracture means a break near a joint)

K

Kalemia – presence of potassium in the blood

Keratitis – inflammation of the cornea (transparent structure in the front of eye)

Keratoconjunctivitis – inflammation of the eye involving both the cornea and the conjuction

Keratolytic – pertaining to the keratolysis, the softening and shedding of the horny outer layer of the skin

Keratosis – a localised horny over growth of the upper layer of skin such as a callus or wart

Ketoacidosis – a feature of uncontrolled diabetes mellitus characterized by a combination of ketosis and acidosis

Ketonuria – a condition in which abnormally high amounts of kenone bodies are present in the urine

Ketosis – accumulation of substances known as ketone bodies in the blood

Knee bursitis – a bursa is a fluid-filled sac that functions as a gliding surface to reduce friction between moving tissues of the body. There are three bursae of the knee when there is inflammation in bursa, it is called bursitis

Krabbe disease – a progressive degenerative disorder of the nervous system due to mutation in the galactosylceramidase (GALC) gene, leading to the accumulation of galactocerebroside and destruction of myelin

Kyphosis – outward curvature of the spine, causing a humped back

L

Laryngeal stenosis – narrowing or constricting of larynx

Laryngitis – inflammation of the larynx, causing soreness of the throat and a dry cough, and hoarseness

Leukemia/leucemia – abnormal growth & development of blood cells (cancer of blood cells). Strictly speaking leukemia should refer only to cancer of white blood cells (leukocytes), but in practice, it can apply to any cellular element in the blood or bonemarrow, as in red cell leukemia (erythro leukemia)

Leukopenia – lower than the normal amount of white blood cells

Libido – sexual drive

Lichenification – thick leathery skin, usually result of constant scratching and rubbing

Lightheadedness – a feeling you are going to faint (unsteadiness, vertigo)

Lupus in pregnancy (systemic lupus erythematosus) – high risk situation in pregnancy, presence of phospholipid antibodies such as cardiolipin antibodies or lupus anticoagulant in the blood of the mother and marked risk of miscarriage

Lymphadenopathy – abnormally enlarged lymph nodes, commonly called “swollen glands”

Lymphagitis – red streaking and lymph node swelling in the area of injury especially on the extremities

Lymphocyte – type of white blood cell with a large nucleus,

produced in the bone marrow

Lymphocytosis - too many lymphocytes, a finding that may be marker for infection or disease

Lymphoma - any malignant tumor of the lymph nodes

M

Macro - prefix meaning large or long

Macrocephaly - an abnormally large head

Macroglobulinemia - a condition in which blood contains high levels of large proteins and is too thick to flow through blood vessels

Macrophage - type of white-blood cells or leucocyte, Macrophage specialize in the removal of bacteria and other microorganisms or of cell debris after injury

Macular - pertaining to the macula, macula is small spot in the retina

Malignant - (i) tending to be severe and progressively worse, as in malignant hypertension

(ii) in regard to a tumor, having the properties of malignancy that can invade and destroy nearby tissue and that may spread to the other parts of the body

Mastalgia - pain in the breast or mammary gland

Mastitis - inflammation of one or more mammary glands within the breast, usually in a lactating woman

Mastocytosis - a condition characterized by inflammation of mast cells in the tissues of the body

Mastoid - rounded protrusion of bone just behind the ear

Melanoma - most dangerous form of skin cancer

Menarche - the beginning of menstrual function especially the first menstrual period of an individual

Meniere's disease - a disorder of the membranous labyrinth of the inner ear that is marked by recurrent attacks of dizziness, tinnitus and hearing loss

Meningitis - inflammation of the meninges (membranes)

surrounding the brain caused by bacterial or viral infection

Menorrhagia – abnormally heavy periods in women

Methemoglobin – a transformation product of oxyhemoglobin because of oxidation of normal ferrous to ferric

Microglia – small neurological cells, possibly of mesodermal origin which may become phagocytic in areas of neural damage or inflammation

Micturition – another term for urination

Muscular dystrophy – any of a group of inherited chronic muscle disorders marked by weakening and wasting of muscle

Myalgia – pain in muscle or pain in multiple muscles

Myalgic encephalomyelitis – full name for the debilitating condition popularly known as ME

Myasthenia gravis – an uncommon condition characterized by loss of muscle power, especially in the face and neck

Mydriasis – an excessive dilation of the pupil due to disease or drugs

Myeloma – a tumor of antibody producing cells

Myeloma/multiple myeloma – malignant disease of the bone marrow usually occurring in older people

Myocardial infarction – heart attack

Myopathy – any disease of muscle, whether inherited or acquired

Myopia – poor night vision

Myxoedema – thyroid deficiency disease developing in adult life, most commonly in middle aged women

Myxoma – a benign tumor composed of primitive connective tissue

N

Narcissism – pathological narcissism is a pattern of traits and behaviors which signify obsession with one's self to the exclusion of all others and the egoistic and ruthless pursuit of one's gratification, dominance and ambition

Narcolepsy – rare neurological disorder characterized by an abnormal tendency to fall asleep

Necrosis – death or decay of tissue in a particular part of the body, usually due to bacterial poisoning or loss of local blood supply

Neoplasia – the process of abnormal and uncontrolled growth which results in tumor

Neoplasm – a tumor (an abnormal growth of tissue)

Nephritis – general term used to describe inflammation of kidney

Nephroblastoma (Wilms tumor) – a cancer of kidney and one of the most important malignancies in the childhood

Neuralgia – sharp or burning pain originating in a nerve and spreading over its area of distribution

Neuritis – peripheral nerve inflammation caused by injury, poisoning, or disease, and accompanied by sensory and motor changes in the area of the affected nerve

Neuroblastoma – malignant tumor arising from embryonic nerve cells

Neurofibromatosis – rare genetic disorder characterized by coffee coloured spots or multiple soft skin swellings all over the body

Neuroleptic – a term referring to effects of antipsychotic drugs on a patient, especially on his/her cognition and behavior

Neuroma – a tumor that arises in nerve cells

Neurosis – a chronic disorder featuring irritability of the nervous system and characterized by anxiety and/or extreme behaviour dedicated to avoid anxiety situations

Neutropenia – less amount of neutrophils than normal

Neutrophilia – more than the normal numbers of neutrophils

Neutrophils – a type of white blood cells filled with naturally staining granules, tiny sacs of enzymes that help in cell to kill and digest microorganisms

Nocturnal amblyopia – night blindness

Nocturnal enuresis – bed wetting at night

Normoxia – normal levels of oxygen

Nyctalopia/nyctanopia – impaired vision in dim light, night blindness

O

Obsessive-compulsive personality disorder (OCPD) – persons of OCPD are perfectionists and rigidly orderly or organised. They are workaholics

Odynophagia – pain on swallowing food and fluids, a symptom often due to disease of the esophagus

Oligemia – deficiency in the amount of blood in the body or any organ or tissue

Oligomenorrhea – a reduction in the number of menstrual period and/or amount of menstrual flow

Oligospermia – fewer sperms than normal

Oliguria – clinical manifestation of the urinary system consisting of a decrease in the amount of urine secreted

Onchocerciasis – river blindness, a disease caused by parasitic worm (*onchoceria volvulus*)

Onycholysis – loosening of the nail from the nail bed

Ophthalmia neonatum – a form of conjunctivitis mostly contracted during delivery by an infant whose mother is infected with gonorrhoea

Orthopnea – inability to breathe easily unless one is sitting up straight or standing erect

Ossification – the process of creating bone, that is transforming cartilage (or fibrous tissue) into bone

Osteitis – inflammation of bone

Osteomalacia – softening of bones, a condition caused by lack of vitamin D in adults

Osteomyelitis – infection of bone, with spread of pus along the marrow cavity

Osteonecrosis – bone death resulting from poor blood supply

to an area of bone

Osteopenia – mild thinning of bone mass

Osteoporosis – disease in which the bone substance becomes porous and brittle

Osteosarcoma – malignant tumor, most often seen in children and adolescents

Otalgia – ear pain

Otitis – inflammation of the ear

P

Paget's disease – chronic disease of the later years, characterized by thickening and structural disorganization of bone

Palpitation – condition where a person becomes aware of his/her own heart beat

Palsy – paralysis, generally partial, whereby a local area is incapable of involuntary movement, e.g. Bell's palsy

Papilloma – benign growth on the skin or mucus membrane (e.g. wart)

Papule – a small solid rounded bump rising from the skin that is usually less than 1 centimeter in diameter

Parakeratosis – retention of the nuclei in the cells of stratum corneum of the epidermis, observed in many scaling dermatoses such as psoriasis and subacute or chronic dermatitis

Paralytic ileus – obstruction of the bowel due to paralysis of the bowel wall, usually as a result of generalized peritonitis or shock. It is also termed as adynamic ileus

Paranoia – mental disorder marked by delusion of grandeur or persecution

Paranoid personality disorder – the paranoid firmly believes that world is malevolent, hostile, ominous, and unpredictable. He disturbs others and suspects them of harboring ulterior motives and sadistic or self-interested wickedness

Paraplegia – paralysis of lower limbs involving loss of both movements and sensation

Parasomnia – abnormality of conduct or unusual physiological reactions during sleep or transition between sleep and waking (e.g. night terrors)

Paresthesia – an abnormal sensation of the skin such as numbness, pricking, burning, or creeping on the skin that has no objective cause

Paroxia – eating disorder, having unnatural appetite or lack thereof

Paroxysm – in medicine, paroxysm is a violent attack, it may be due to sudden occurrence of symptoms or such exacerbation of pre-existing symptoms

Pemphigus – any of several autoimmune diseases characterized by the formation of successive eruptions of large blisters on apparently normal skin and mucus membranes, often in association with sensations of itching or burning

Pernicious anemia – a type of anemia caused by deficiency of vitamin B₁₂

Petit mal – a type of epilepsy in which there is a momentary loss of awareness

Peyronie's disease – the formation of fibrous plaques in one or both corpora of cavernosa of the penis resulting in distortion or deflection of the erect organ

Phlebitis – inflammation of the wall of a vein

Plasminogen – a precursor of plasmin

Pneumonitis – inflammation of lungs

Pollinosis – hay fever in response to pollen

Polycythemia – too many red blood cells

Polyneuritis – any disorder producing inflammation of the peripheral nerves

Polyp/polypus – small stalked benign tumor, usually found on the mucus membrane of nose or bowels

Polyuria – excessive passage of urine

Porphyria – group of rare genetic disorders caused by an enzyme defect, it affects the GIT causing abdominal distress, the nervous system causing psychotic disorder, epilepsy or weakness, the circulatory system causing high blood pressure, and skin causing extreme sensitivity to light

Postpartum – in the period, just after delivery

Postprandial – after meal time

Pre-eclampsia – toxemia of pregnancy (potentially serious condition developing in the third trimester and marked by high blood pressure and fluid retention)

Prenatal – occurring or existing before birth

Presbyopia – vision defect, an increasing inability with advancing age to focus on near objects

Proptosis – forward projection or displacement especially of the eye-ball

Prostatitis – inflammation of the prostate gland, the adrenal gland, the latter is usually termed as chromaffinoma or pheochromocytoma

Proteinuria – presence of protein in the urine

Prothrombin – a substance in the plasma from which thrombin is derived during blood clotting

Pruritis – itching usually caused by irritation of the skin

Pseudomembranous colitis – severe inflammation of the inner lining of the colon

Psittacosis – infections acute or chronic disease contracted by human beings from birds

Psoriasis – chronic, recurring skin disease characterized by raised, red, scaly patches, on the scalp, elbows, knees and elsewhere

Psychosis – generic term for any of the so-called insanities, the most common terms being the schizophrenias

Psychosomatic – relating to both the mind and the body or to the mind-body relationship

Ptosis – downward displacement

Pulmonary embolism – embolism of pulmonary arteries, most frequently by detached fragments of thrombus from a leg or pelvic vein

Purpura – condition marked by purplish patches on the skin or mucus membranes due to localised spontaneous bleeding

Purulent – pertaining to pus, containing or composed of pus

Pustule – it is a small collection of pus in the top layer of the skin

Pyelitis – inflammation of the renal pelvis, the central part of the kidney where urine accumulates before discharge

Pylephlebitis – inflammation of the portal vein, most commonly from a perforated appendix

Pyloric-stenosis – narrowing of the stomach outlet that prevents the onward movement of food

Pyrexia – another term for fever

Q

QT interval – it represents the time for both ventricular depolarisation and repolarization to occur

Quadripareisis – weakness of all four limbs

Quadriplegia – paralysis of all four limbs

R

Raynaud's disease – chronic condition in which the blood supply to the extremities is reduced by periodic spasm of the blood vessels on exposure to cold

Rebound effect – the characteristic of a drug to produce reverse effects when the effect of drug has passed or the patient no longer responds to it

Recalcitrant – stubborn e.g. a recalcitrant case of pneumonia

Refractory anemia – anemia unresponsive to treatment

Regurgitation – backward flowing

Respiratory distress syndrome (RDS) – formerly known as hyaline membrane disease, a syndrome of respiratory

difficulty in newborn infants caused by a deficiency of a molecule called surfactant

Reticulocyte - a young red blood cell with a network of precipitated basophilic substance representing residual polyribosome

Reticuloendothelial system (RES) - a collection of putative macrophages, as well as cells lining the sinusoids of the spleen, lymph nodes, and bone marrow and the fibroblastic reticular cells of hematopoietic tissues, all of these latter cells are only weakly phagocytic and are not true macrophages

Retinoblastoma - rare cancer of retina seen in small children

Reuptake - reabsorption of a secreted substance by the cell that originally produced and secreted it

Reye's syndrome - this syndrome is believed to be caused by the ingestion of medicines, such as aspirin, that affects all the organs of the body, but affects the liver and the brain most lethally

Rheumatic fever - acute or chronic illness characterized by fever and painful swelling of joints

Rheumatoid arthritis - inflammation of joint, a chronic progressive disease leading to disability and disfigurement

Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF) - an acute fibrile disease, initially recognized in the Rocky Mountain states, caused by rickettsia rickettsii transmitted by hard shelled ticks

S

Sarcoma - malignant tumor arising from the fat, muscles, bones, cartilage or blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissue

Scarlet fever - acute infectious disease, especially in children, caused by streptococcus pyogenes

Schistosomiasis - another term for bilharzia

Schizophrenia - mental disorder, a psychosis of unknown origin which can lead to profound changes in personality,

behaviour, and perception, including delusions & hallucinations

Sciatica – persistent pain in the back and down the outside of one leg along the sciatic nerve and its branches

Sclerosis – any abnormal hardening of body tissue, especially the nervous system or wall of the arteries

Scrofula – tuberculosis of the lymph glands, especially of the neck marked by enlargement, abscess formation and scarring

Sensorium – the parts of the brain concerned with reception and interpretation of sensory stimuli, broadly the entire sensory apparatus

Serum sickness – an immune complex disease appearing some days (usually 1-2 weeks) after injection of a foreign serum or serum protein with local and systemic reactions such as urticaria, fever, general lymphadenopathy, edema, arthritis and occasionally albuminuria or severe nephritis

Servile dementia – dementia associated with old age, often caused by Alzheimer's disease

SGOT – serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase, an enzyme that is normally present in liver and heart cells

SGPT – serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase, an enzyme that is normally present in liver and heart cells

Shortness of breath – difficulty in breathing

Sickle cell anemia – a genetic blood disease due to presence of an abnormal form of hemoglobin, hemoglobins

Sinusitis – painful inflammation of one of the sinuses, or air spaces, that surround the nasal passages

Somnolence – sleepiness, the state of feeling drowsy

Soporific – something such as a drug that causes or includes profound sleep

Spasm – a brief, automatic jerking movement

Splinter hemorrhages – splinter hemorrhages along the distal aspect of the nail plate, that are due to emboli from subacute bacterial endocarditis

Spondylosis – degenerative changes in the spine due to ageing or secondary to injury or other disease

Stasis dermatitis – a skin irritation on lower legs

Status epilepticus – condition that may occur in epilepsy where the patient suffers repeated seizures without recovering consciousness

Stenosis – narrowing of a body vessel, duct, or opening usually due to disease

Stevens – Johnson syndrome – it is a severe, rarely fatal variety of erythema multiforme

Stokes-Adams attack – sudden loss of consciousness due to disturbance of heart rhythm related to heart block

Stroke – sudden death of some brain cells due to lack of oxygen when the blood flow to brain is impaired by blockage or rupture of an artery to the brain, it is also called cerebrovascular accident (CVA)

Strongyloidiasis – infestation with or disease caused by nematodes of the genus strongyloids

Supine – with the back or dorsal surface downward

Syncope – temporary loss of consciousness as in fainting

Syndrome – a set of signs and symptoms that tend to occur together and which reflect the presence of a particular disease or an increased chance of developing a particular disease

Synovitis – inflammation of synovial membrane, the lining of the joint

T

Tachycardia – increase in heart rate, it may be due to exertion, excitement, arrhythmia or fever

Tachyphylaxis – rapid appearance of progressive decrease in response following repetitive administration of a pharmacologically or physiologically active substance

Tachypnea – abnormally fast breathing

Taeniasis – infection with any of the tapeworm of the genus

taenia

Tardive dyskinesia - a neurological syndrome characterized by repetition, involuntary, purposeless movements caused by the long term use of certain drugs called neuroleptics used for psychiatric, gastrointestinal and neurological disorders such as Parkinson's disease

Tendinitis - inflammation of a tendon

Teratogenic - able to disturb growth and development of an embryo or fetus

Terminal ileitis (Crohn's disease) - chronic inflammatory disease of the intestine involving only the end of the small intestinal (terminal ileum)

Thalassemia - not just one disease, but rather a complex series of genetic disorders all of which involve underproduction of hemoglobin

Thrombocythemia - abnormally high number of platelets in the blood, also called, thrombocytosis

Thrombocytopenia - a low platelet count

Thromboembolism - formation of blood clot in a blood vessel that breaks loose and is carried in the blood stream to plug another vessel

Thrombophilia - tendency to form blood clots

Thrombosis - condition in which a blood clot forms in a vein or artery causing loss of circulation to the area served by the vessel

Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura - a syndrome with microangiopathic hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, and markedly elevated serum LDH

Thrombus - another term for blood clot

Thyroiditis - inflammation of the thyroid gland

Tinnitus - constant buzzing or ringing in the ears

Tonsillitis - inflammation of tonsils

Tourette's syndrome - rare neurological condition characterized by multiple tics and vocal phenomena such as grunting,

snarling, and obscene speech

Toxemia - a condition in pregnancy also known as pre-eclampsia, characterized by abrupt hypertension, albuminuria and edema of hands, feet and face.

Toxocariasis - human infestation with larvae of round worms, sometimes present in dogs and cats

Toxoplasmosis - disease transmitted to humans by animals, often in pigeon or cat excrement or in undercooked meat.

Transient ischemic attack (TIA) - mini stroke, a sudden loss of function in one region of the brain

Trichinosis - disease caused by larvae of the nematode worm, trichinella spiralis

Trigeminal neuralgia - momentary severe pain in one side of the face

U

Ubiquitous - present everywhere

Ulcerative colitis - a relatively common disorder that causes inflammation of the large intestine

Uremia - presence of excessive amounts of urea in the blood, which may a sign of kidney disease or failure

Urethritis - inflammation of urethra

Urticaria (Nettle rash or hives) - irritant skin condition characterized by itching, burning, stinging and spontaneous appearance of raised patches of skin

Uterine fibroids - benign tumor of the uterus

V

Vaginitis - inflammation of the vagina

Varicosis (Varicose veins) - condition when veins become swollen & twisted

Vasculitis - a general term for a group of disease that feature inflammation of the blood vessels

Vasovagal syncope - temporary loss of consciousness in a

particular kind of situation due to a vasovagal reaction

Verrucous xanthoma - a papilloma of the oral mucosa and the skin in which squamous epithelium covers connective tissue papillae filled with large tinny histiocytes

Vertigo - is a feeling that you are dizzily turning around or that things are dizzily turning about you

Vesical - refers to urinary bladder

Vesicle, seminal (seminal vesicle) - a structure in the male that is located behind the bladder and above the prostate gland

Vesicles - in dermatology, vesicles are small blisters, most often on the skin, vesicles can also crop up on the mucus membranes

Vesiculitis - Inflammation of a vesicle, and particularly of the seminal vesicles behind the male bladder

Viscera - the internal organs of the body especially those within the chest

Visual acuity - sharpness of vision

Vitiligo - a condition in which the skin turns white due to the loss of melanocytes

Vulvitis - inflammation of the external genital organs of the female (vulva)

W

Wheezing - a whistling noise in the chest during breathing

Wilson's disease - exfoliative dermatitis, also disorder characterized by cirrhosis, degeneration in the basal ganglia of the brain and deposition of green pigment in the periphery of cornea (hepatolenticular degeneration/ disease)

Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome - an immune deficiency disease involving both T&B lymphocytes. In addition platelets are also affected. It is characterized by an increased tendency to bleed, recurrent bacterial viral and fungal infections and eczema of the skin

X

Xanthoma - yellowish firm nodules indicating underlying disease such as diabetes, disorder of fats, and other conditions

Xanthosis - yellowing of the skin without yellowing of the eyes

Xeroderma - abnormally dry skin

Xeroderma pigmentation - an eruption of exposed skin occurring in childhood and characterized by photosensitivity with severe sunburn in infancy and the development of numerous pigmented spots resembling freckles, larger atrophic lesions eventually resulting in glossy white thinning of the skin surrounded by telangiectases, and multiple solar keratosis which undergo malignant change at an early age

Xerophthalmia - drying and thickening of the cornea and conjunctivitis of the eye

Xerosis - abnormal dryness of the skin

Y

Yawning - involving opening of the mouth with respiration, breathing first inward than outward

Yeast vaginitis - infection of the vagina by a fungus known as candida

Z

Zellweger syndrome - a genetic disorder also called cerebrohepatorenal syndrome characterized by the reduction or absence of peroxisomes in the cells of the liver, kidney and brain

Zollinger-Ellison syndrome - a rare disorder caused by a tumor called gastrinoma, most often occurring in the pancreas

Zymogen - another term for proenzyme

For Preview