

A close-up photograph of a doctor's hand holding a stethoscope. The doctor is wearing a white lab coat and a blue stethoscope. The background is blurred. A blue banner with a white outline is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "Medical Terminology" in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

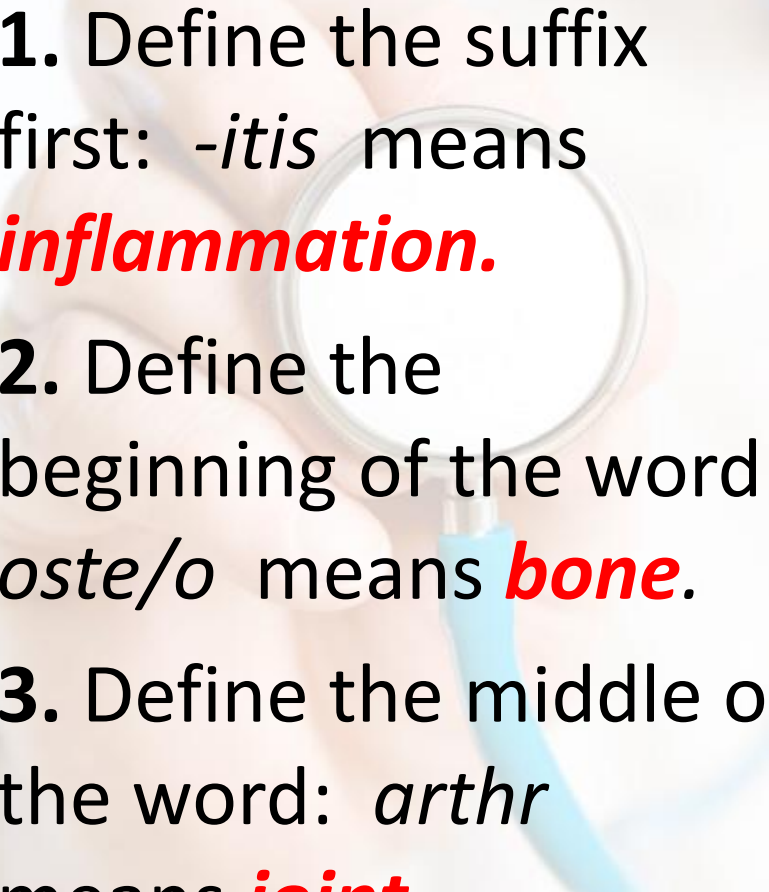
Medical Terminology

Defining Medical Words

- When defining a medical word, first define the suffix. Second, define the beginning of the word; finally, define the middle of the word. Here is an example using the term *osteoarthritis*.

Oste /o/ arthr/ itis

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- 1. Define the suffix first: *-itis* means ***inflammation***.
 - 2. Define the beginning of the word: *oste/o* means ***bone***.
 - 3. Define the middle of the word: *arthr* means ***joint***.
- Therefore, *oste/o/arthr/itis* is an inflammation of the bone and joint.

A hand holding a magnifying glass over a document. The magnifying glass is positioned over the text, highlighting the words 'suffix', 'beginning', and 'last'.

As a summary :

- The element that is defined first is the *suffix*.
- The element that is defined next is the *beginning* of the word.
- The middle or rest of the word is defined *last*.

- ***e.g.:*** Define
- *gastr/o/enter/itis* using the technique for defining medical words as described above.
inflammation of the stomach and intestine
- electrocardiogram (ECG)
recording the electrical activity of the heart
- angioma
tumor of the blood vessel
- hematemesis
vomiting of blood

Suffixes

<i>Suffix</i>	<i>meaning</i>
<i>-cele</i>	<i>Protrusion, hernia</i>
<i>-cyte</i>	<i>Cell</i>
<i>-clast</i>	<i>Break down</i>
<i>-blast</i>	<i>deposit new, build up</i>
<i>-algia, -dynia</i>	<i>Pain</i>
<i>-ectasis, -ectasia</i>	<i>Expansion or dilation</i>
<i>-ectomy</i>	<i>Surgical removal</i>
<i>-edema</i>	<i>Excessive fluid in intracellular tissues</i>

<i>Suffix</i>	<i>meaning</i>
<i>-emesis</i>	<i>Vomiting</i>
<i>-emia</i>	<i>Blood</i>
<i>-gen, -genic, -genesis</i>	<i>Origin, producing, development</i>
<i>-globin</i>	<i>The protein of hemoglobin</i>
<i>-gram</i>	<i>Record or writing</i>
<i>-graph</i>	<i>Device for graphic or recording</i>
<i>-logist, -iatics</i>	<i>Specialty of</i>
<i>-logy</i>	<i>Study of</i>

<i>Suffix</i>	<i>meaning</i>
<i>-itis</i>	<i>Inflammation</i>
<i>-lith</i>	<i>A stone, calculus, calcification</i>
<i>-lysis</i>	<i>dissolve or destruction</i>
<i>-malacia</i>	<i>Softening</i>
<i>-megaly</i>	<i>Enlargement</i>
<i>-meter</i>	<i>Device for measuring</i>
<i>-metry</i>	<i>Act of measuring, examining, texting</i>

Suffix

meaning

-oma

Tumor

-osis

Abnormal condition, illness

-pathy

Disease

-penia

Reduction of size or quantity

-pnea

Breath, respiration

-phobia

*A word meaning "fear",
often appearing as a suffix*

-plasty

surgical repair

<i>Suffix</i>	<i>meaning</i>
<i>-poiesis</i>	<i>Producing</i>
<i>-rrhage</i>	<i>Flowing</i>
<i>-rrhaphy</i>	<i>Suture</i>
<i>-rrhea</i>	<i>Discharge</i>
<i>-sclerosis</i>	<i>Not really a suffix, but a root meaning "hard" that sometimes combines with other roots to indicate a condition of hardness</i>
<i>-scope</i>	<i>Device for viewing</i>
<i>-sis</i>	<i>Condition</i>
<i>-tomy</i>	<i>incision</i>

- ***e.g.:***

- **oste/o:** bone **-clast** : break down

oste/o/ clast : *Osteoclasts* break down areas of old or damaged bone, while *osteoblasts* deposit new bone tissue in those areas.

- **thromb/o:** blood clot **-lysis** : dissolve or destruction

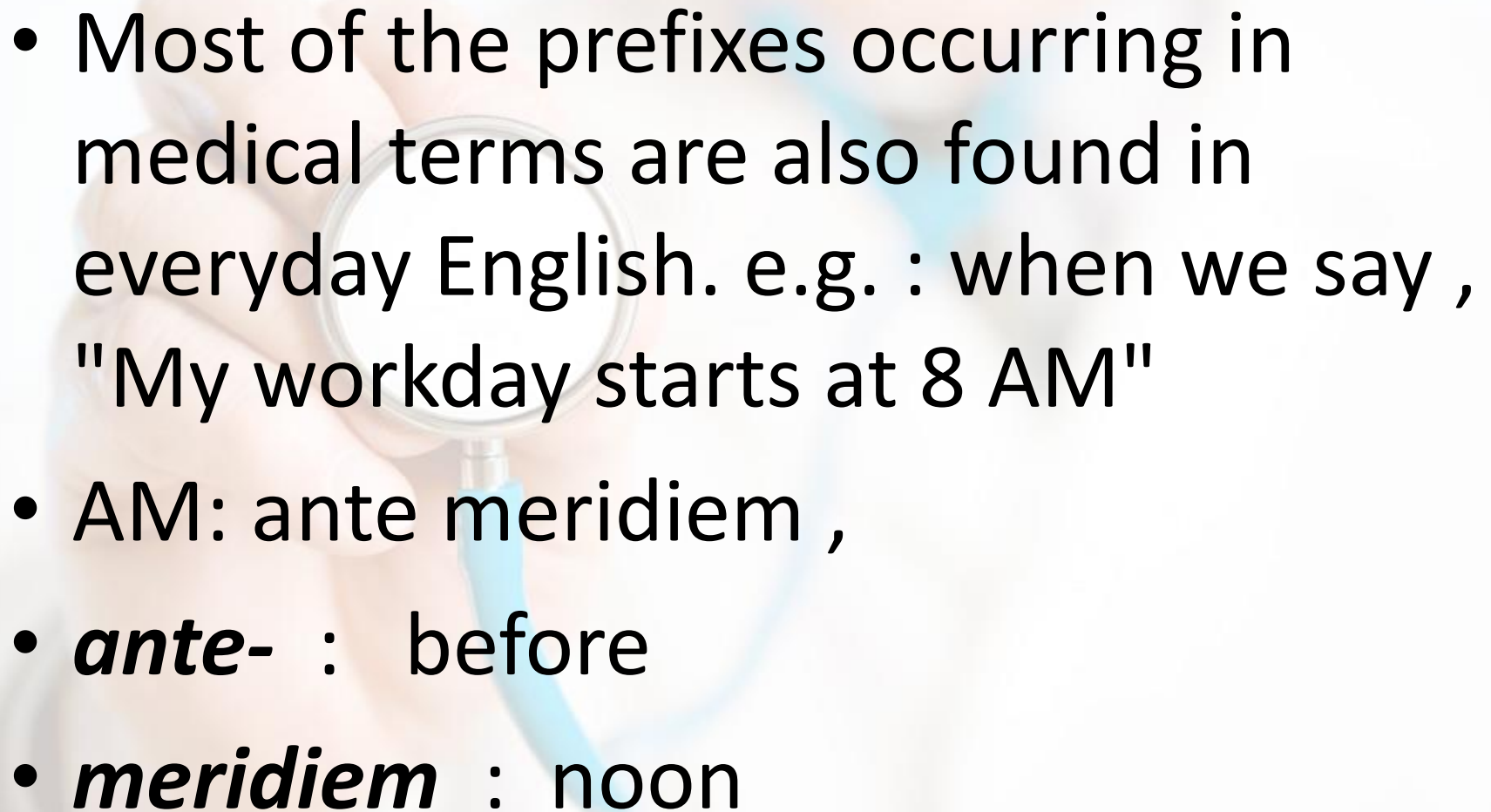
thromb/o/lysis : dissolve of blood clot.

- **Pediatrics** : the medical specialty dealing with children

- **Pediatrician** : a specialist in childhood development and disease

Prefixes

- A *prefix* is a word element located at the beginning of a word.
- Substituting one *prefix* for another *prefix* changes the meaning of the word.
- A *prefix* usually indicates a number, time, position, or negation. Many *prefixes* found in medical terminology also are found in the English language.
- A *prefix* that stands alone is followed by a hyphen(-).

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- Most of the prefixes occurring in medical terms are also found in everyday English. e.g. : when we say , "My workday starts at 8 AM"
 - AM: ante meridiem ,
 - ***ante-*** : before
 - ***meridiem*** : noon

Categories of prefixes

- Dividing prefixes into functional categories makes them easier to learn. There are 4 divisions:
- Prefixes of **time or speed**
- Prefixes of **direction**
- Prefixes of **position**
- Prefixes of **size or number**

PREFIXES OF TIME OR SPEED

<i>prefix</i>	<i>Refer to</i>
Ante-, pre-	Before
Brady-	Slow, abnormally slow rate of speed
Neo-	New
Post-	After
Tachy-	Rapid, abnormally high rate of speed

PREFIXES OF DIRECTION

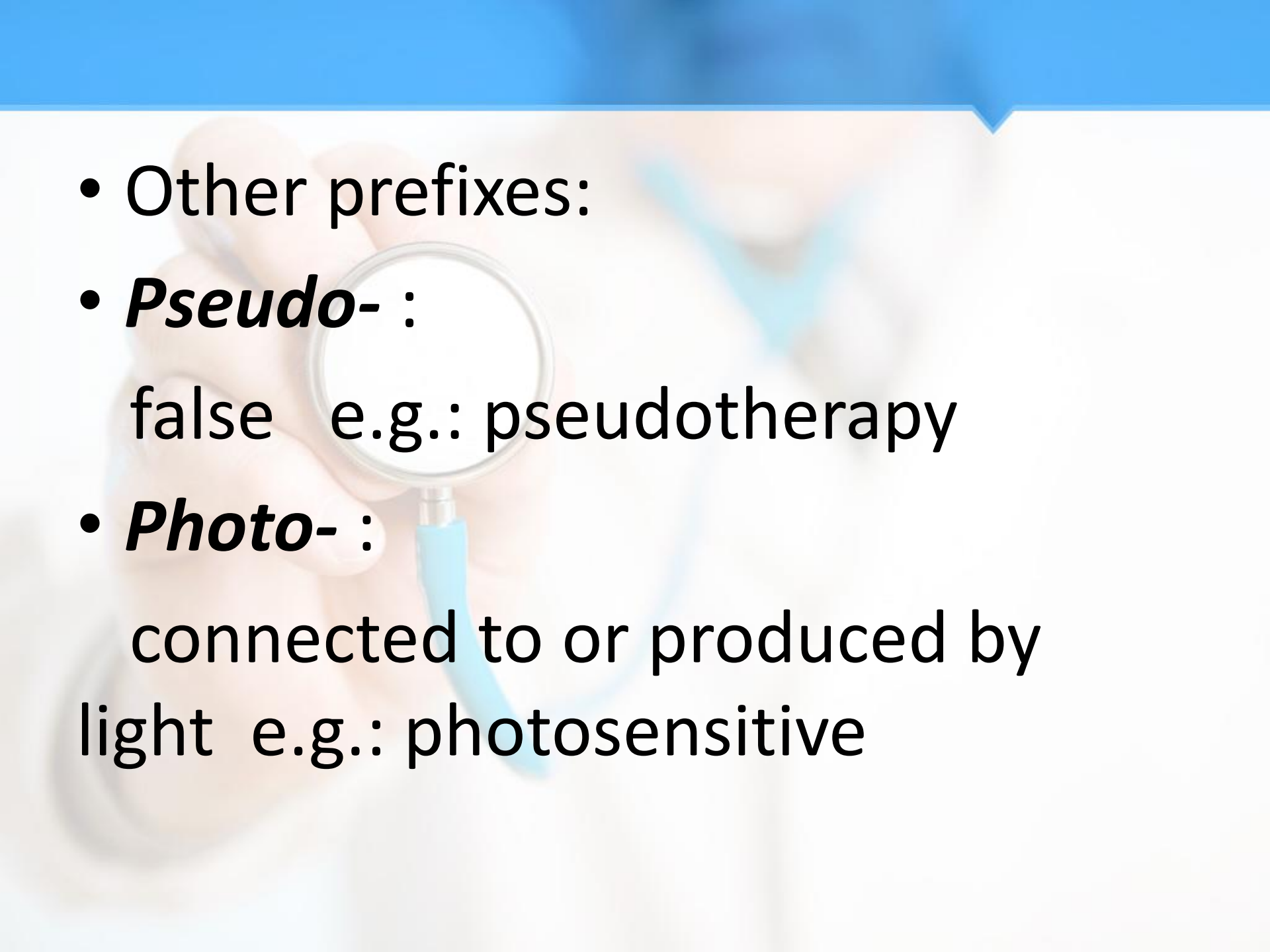
prefix	Refer to
ab-	Away from, outside of, beyond
ad-	Toward, near to
contra-, anti-	Opposite to, against
dia-, trans-	Across, through

PREFIXES OF POSITION

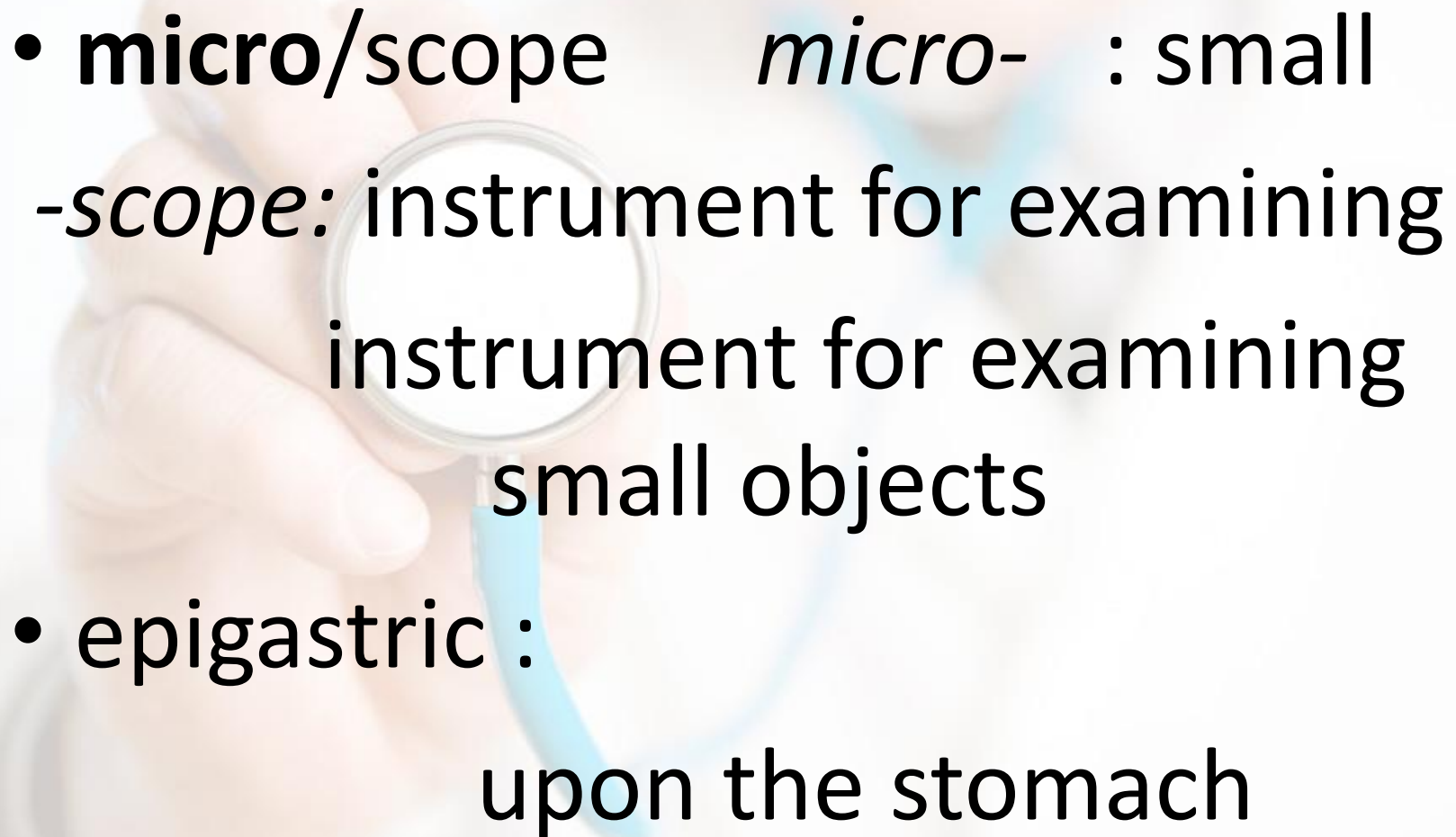
<i>prefix</i>	<i>Refer to</i>
Ex-, ec-, ecto-,	outside
en-	inside
endo-, Intra-	In, within
epi-	Upon, subsequent to
Extra-	Outside of, in addition to
Hyper-	Above, beyond normal
Hypo-	Below, below normal
Infra-	Below
Inter-	Between

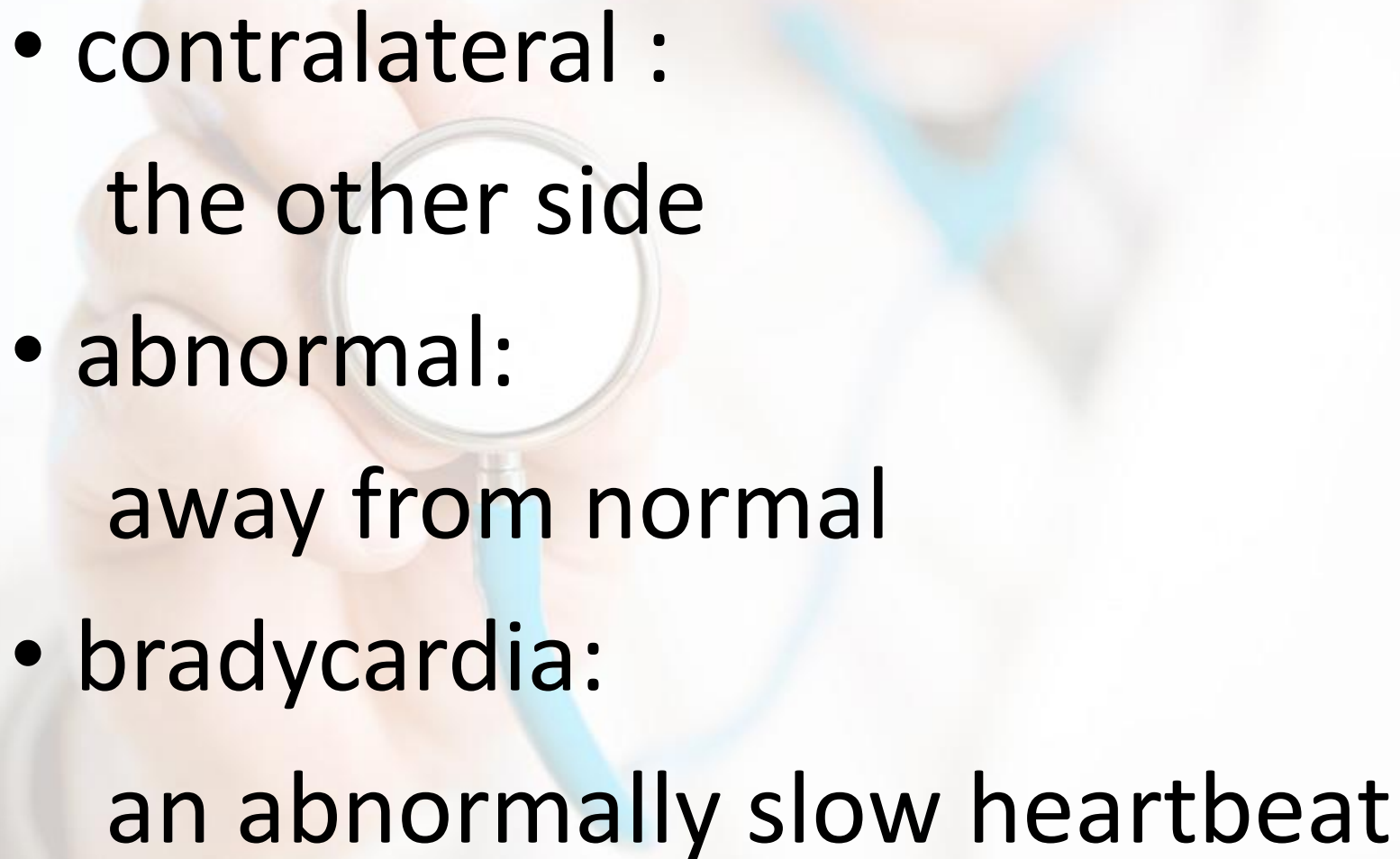
PREFIXES OF SIZE OR NUMBER

<i>prefix</i>	<i>Refer to</i>
bi-	two
macro-	big
micro-	small
mono-	one
Multi-	many
quadri-	Four
Tri-	Three
Uni-	one

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- Other prefixes:
 - ***Pseudo-*** :
false e.g.: pseudotherapy
 - ***Photo-*** :
connected to or produced by
light e.g.: photosensitive

- e.g.:
- **dia/rrhea** **dia-**: through **-rrhea**:
discharge
- *Diarrhea is a condition of abnormally frequent discharge of fluid fecal matter from the bowel.*
- **macro/cyte** **macro-** : large **-cyte**:
cell

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- **micro/scope** *micro-* : small
-scope: instrument for examining
instrument for examining
small objects
 - **epigastric** :
upon the stomach

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- **contralateral :**
the other side
 - **abnormal:**
away from normal
 - **bradycardia:**
an abnormally slow heartbeat



Thank you