



# MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

- Verbs are words that represent action or a state of being.
- The suffixes ***-ed*** or ***-ing*** added to the word alter the tense of this verb.



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- *Past tense:*  
Vomited, Injected
  - *Present  
Participle:*  
Vomiting,  
Injecting
- 



# Suffix – Noun

- **-ism** = condition, state, of theory.
- ex: Hyperthyroidism, Darwinism, Mendelism
- **-tion** = condition
- ex: Contraction, relaxation



- **-ist** = specialist.
  - ex: Psychiatrist
- **-er** = one who
  - ex: Radiographer
- **-ity** = quality
  - ex: Sensitivity,  
conductivity



# Suffix – Adjective

- **-ous** = possessing, having, full of
  - ex: Nervous, mucous, serous
- **-able** = ability
  - ex: Injectable, inflatable
- **-ible** = ability
  - ex: Edible, reducible



# Suffix: Singular vs. Plural

## SINGULAR SUFFIXES

-on

Spermatozoon,  
Ganglion

-ma

Carcinoma, Lipoma

-sis

Crisis, Prognosis



## PLURAL SUFFIXES

-a

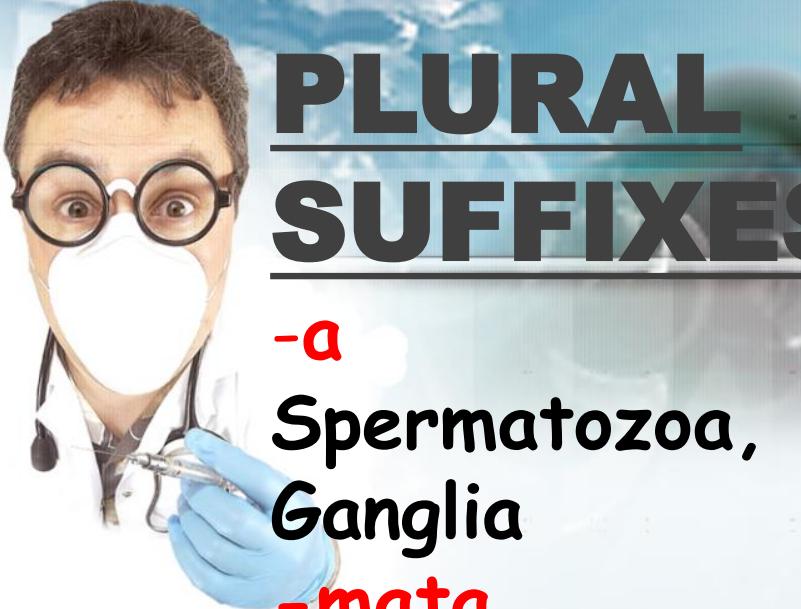
Spermatozoa,  
Ganglia

-mata

Carcinomata,  
Lipomata

-ses

Crises, Prognoses



## Singular Suffixes

- -nx
- Larynx, pharynx
- -a
- Vertebra,  
conjunctiva
- -us
- Bacillus, bronchus

## Plural Suffixes

- -ges
- Larynges, pharynges
- -ae
- Vertebrae,  
conjunctivae
- -i
- Bacilli, bronchi



# Singular Suffixes

- -um
- Bacterium, Ilium
- -is
- Testis
- -ex
- Cortex
- -ix
- Appendix
- -ax
- Thorax

# Plural Suffixes

- -a
- Bacteria, ilia
- -es
- Testes
- -ices
- Cortices
- -ices
- Appendices
- -aces
- thoraces



# Practice

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## Singular

- Sarcoma
  - Diagnosis
  - Phalanx
  - Coccus
  - Calcaneum
  - Vertex
  - Cervix
  - thorax
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## Plural

- Sarcomata
- Diagnoses
- Phalanges
- Cocci
- Calcanea
- Vertices
- Cervices
- thoraces



Write the plural form for each of the following words and state the rule that applies. The first word is completed for you.

Singular	Plural	Rule
thrombus	thrombi	Drop us and add i.
appendix	appendices	Drop ix and add ices.
diverticulum	diverticula	Drop um and add a.
ovary	ovaries	Drop y and add ies.
lumen	lumina	Drop en and add ina.
vertebra	vertebrae	Retain the a and add e.

# Prefix example

- Acr/o =  
**Extremities**
- Acr/o = extremities  
(arms and legs)
  - Acr = word root
  - o = vowel
  - Acr/o = combining form



- **Acr/o/paralysis:**
- Paralysis of extremities
- **Acr/o/cyan/osis:**
- Condition of blue extremities
- **Acr/o/dermat/itis:**
- Inflammation of the extremities skin, like red inflamed hands



- **Acr/o/megaly:**
- Enlargement of the extremities
- **Acromegalic Gigantism =**
- A specific disorder of the body with enlargement of the bones of the hands, feet, and head.



# Cyan/o = Blue, Blueness

- *Cyanosis*: (noun)
- Condition of blueness
- *Cyanotic*: (adj.)
- Pertaining to a condition of blueness
  - -tic = adjective suffix for “pertaining to”
- *Acr/o/cyanosis*:
- Blueness of the extremities
- Cyan/o/derma: Bluish discoloration of the skin





Thank you