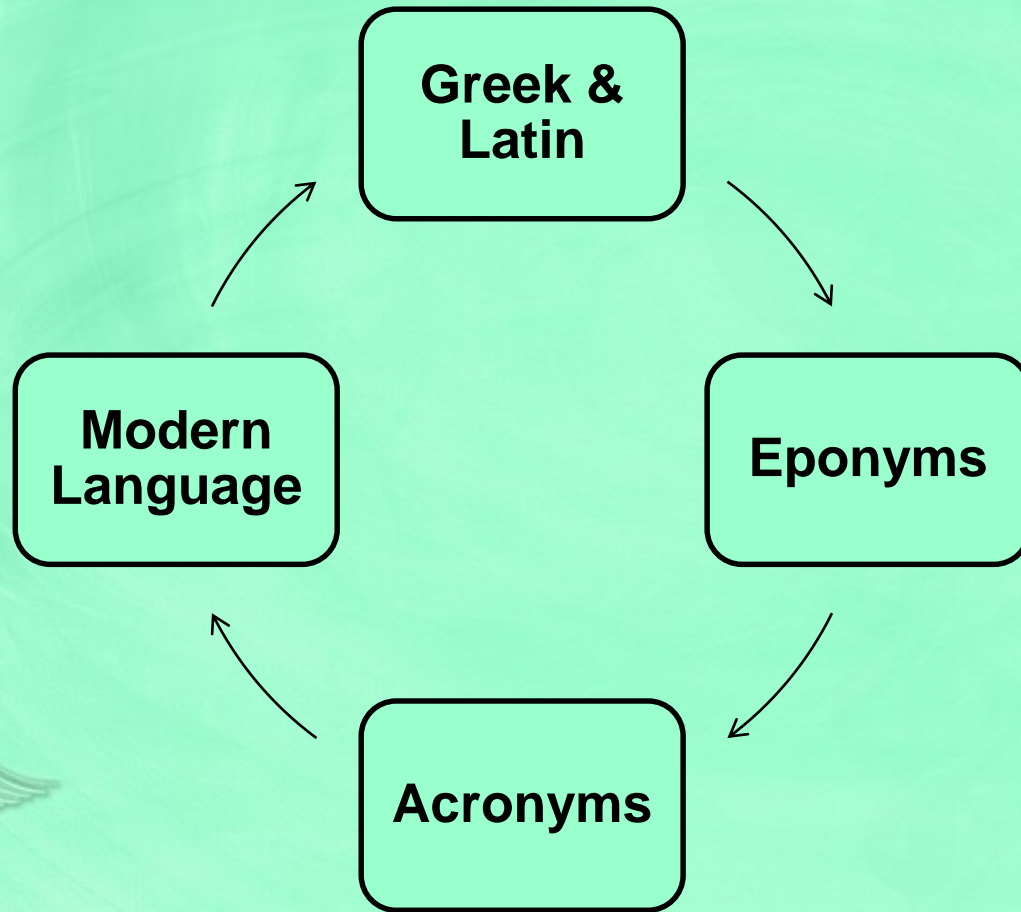


**Module 1**

# **INTRODUCTION TO MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY**



# Origins of Medical Language



# Categories of Medical Terminology



**Terms Made From  
Word Parts** can be  
translated literally

**Terms Not Built  
from Word Parts**  
cannot be easily  
translated





# Word Parts!

## **Word Root**

the core meaning  
of the term

## **Suffix**

Added to end;  
procedures,  
conditions, or  
disease

## **Prefix**

Attached to  
beginning;  
time, position,  
direction,  
number, negation

## **Combining Vowels**

Usually "o";  
eases  
pronunciation



# Combining Forms

**Word Root**  
+

**Combining  
Vowel**

=  
**Combining  
Form**



# Prefixes

**intra-**

• within or inside

**sub-**

• below, under





# Combining Forms



arthr/o

- joint, i.e. arthritis



cardi/o

- heart
- cardiac, adjective



esophag/o

- esophagus
- esophageal, adjective



# Combining Forms



hepat/o

- liver, i.e. hepatitis
- hepatic, adjective



neur/o

- nerve, i.e. neuropathy
- neural, adjective



oste/o

- bone, i.e. osteoporosis





# Combining Forms



patell/o

- kneecap, i.e. patella
- patellar, adjective



pulmon/o

- lung, i.e. pulmonary



ven/o

- vein, i.e. intravenous
- venous, adjective



# Suffixes – “pertaining to”

-ac

-al

-ar

-ary

-eal

-ic

-otic

-ous



# Suffixes



## -ectomy

- surgical removal
- excision
- i.e. tonsillectomy



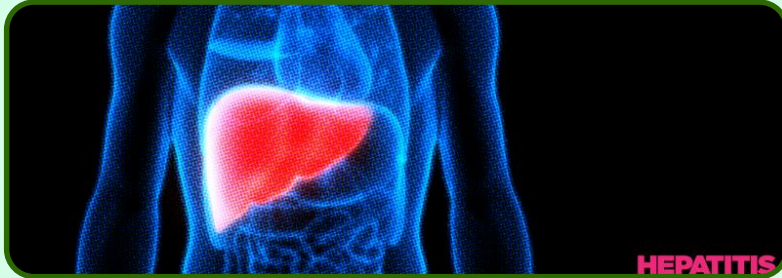
## -megaly

- enlargement
- i.e. cardiomegaly



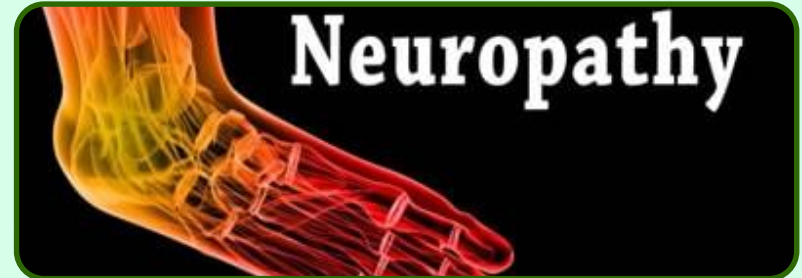


# Suffixes



**-itis**

- inflammation
- i.e. hepatitis



**-pathy**

- disease
- i.e. neuropathy

