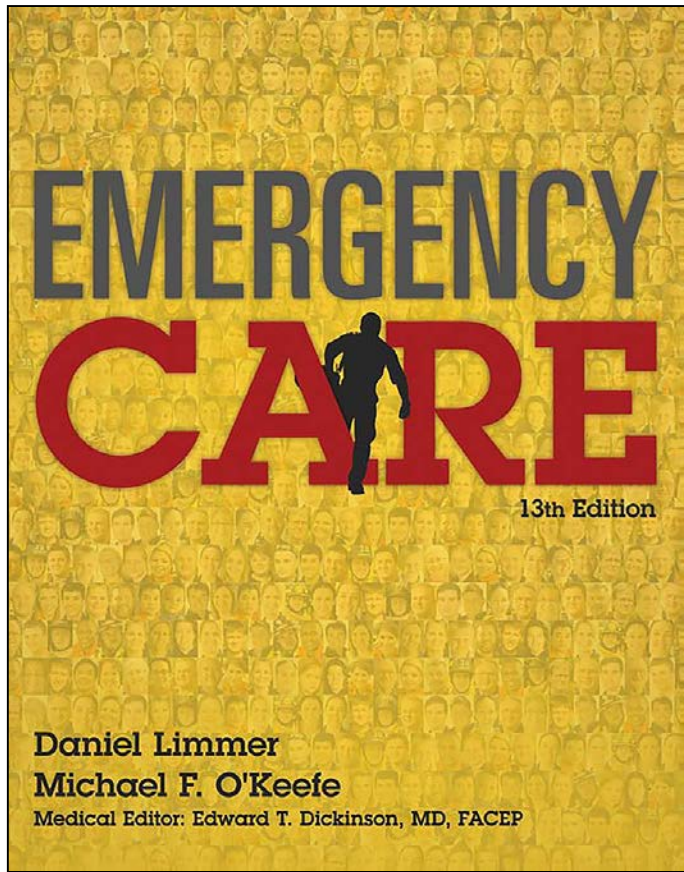


Emergency Care

THIRTEENTH EDITION



CHAPTER 5

Medical Terminology

Multimedia Directory

[Slide 13 Medical Term Components Video](#)

[Slide 14 Terms Involved With Medical Specialties Video](#)

Topics

- Medical Terminology
- The Language of Anatomy and Physiology
- Anatomic Terms

Medical Terminology

The Components of Medical Terms

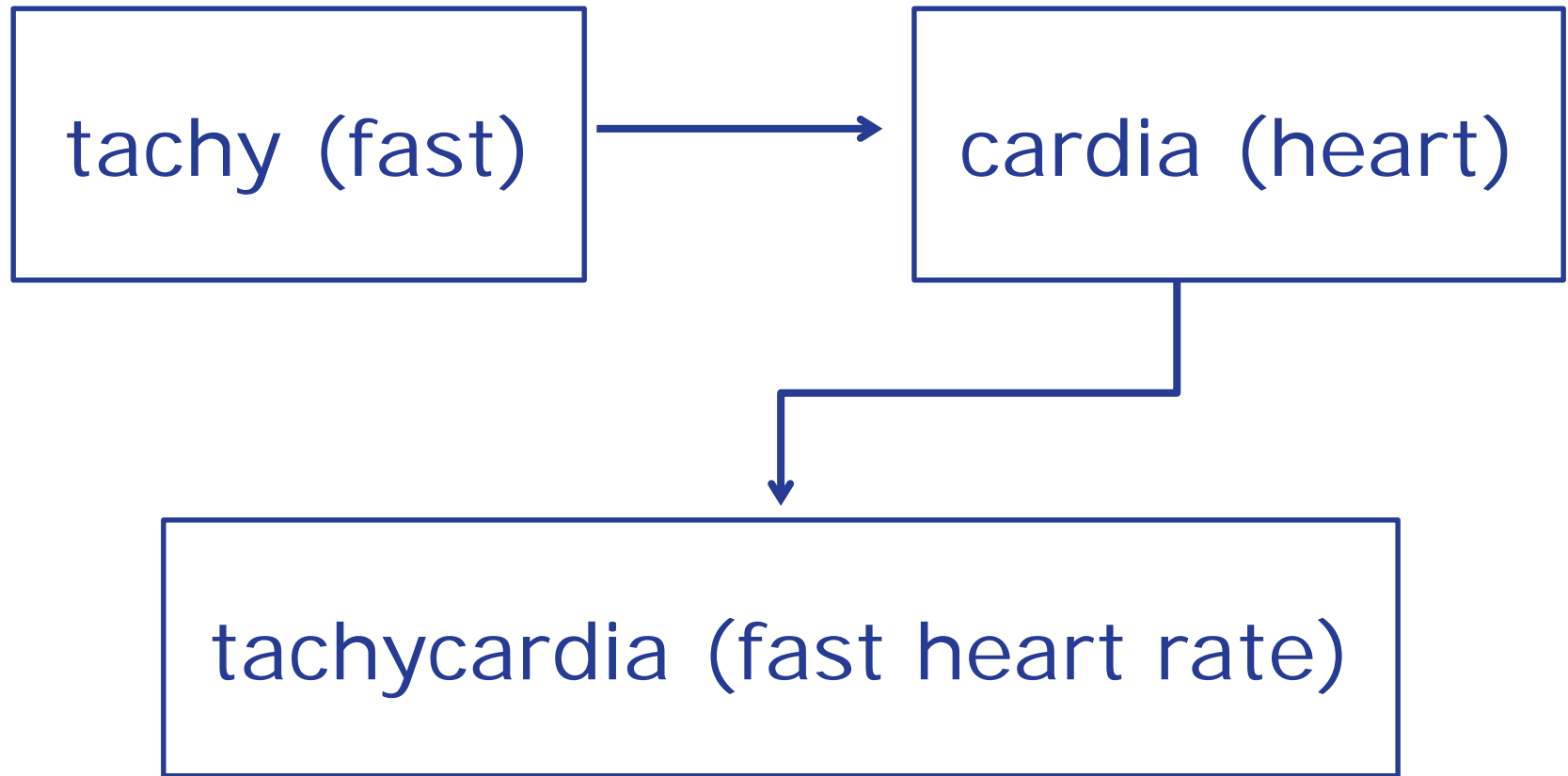
- Compounds are made up of two or more words
 - *Smallpox*

continued on next slide

The Components of Medical Terms

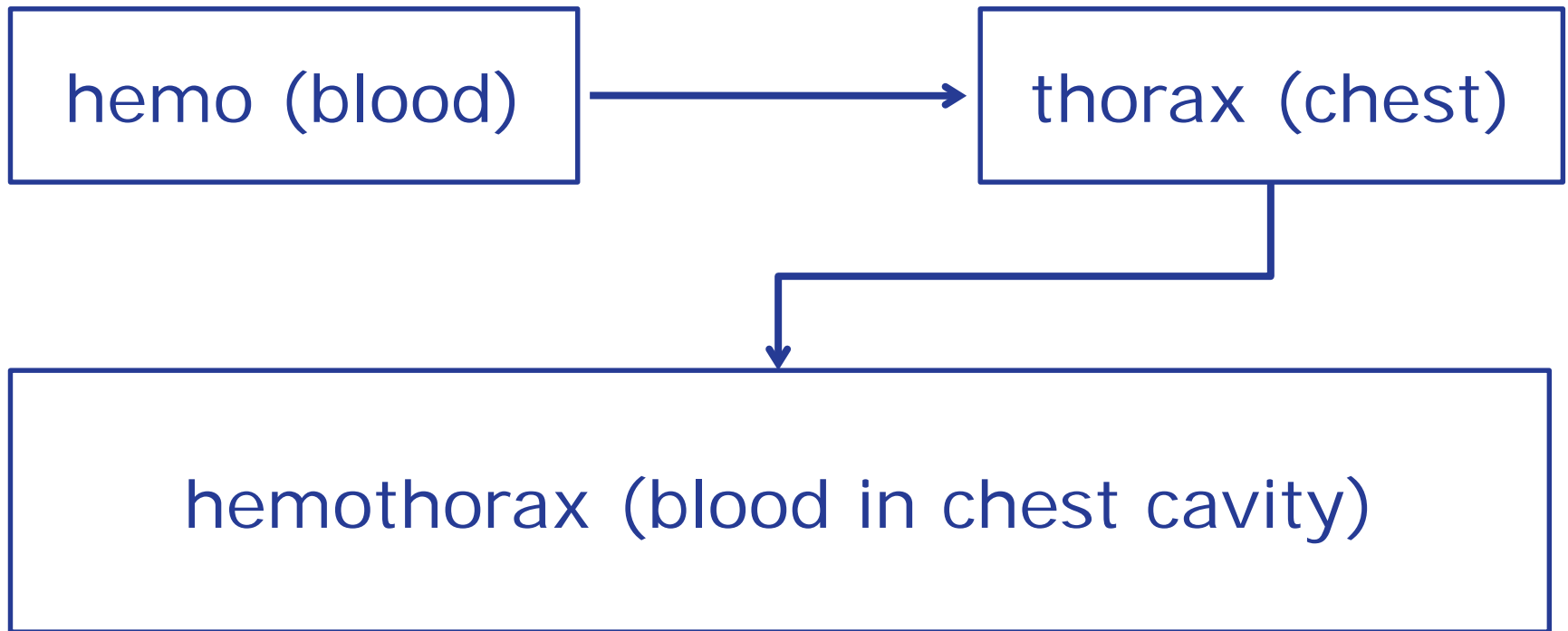
- Words made from parts
 - Roots
 - *Therm* meaning "heat"
 - Roots with combining form
 - *Therm-o* + meter = *thermometer*
 - Prefixes
 - *Dys*-pnea, *tachy*-pnea
 - Suffixes
 - Arthr-*itis*, hemophil-*iac*

Word Component Example



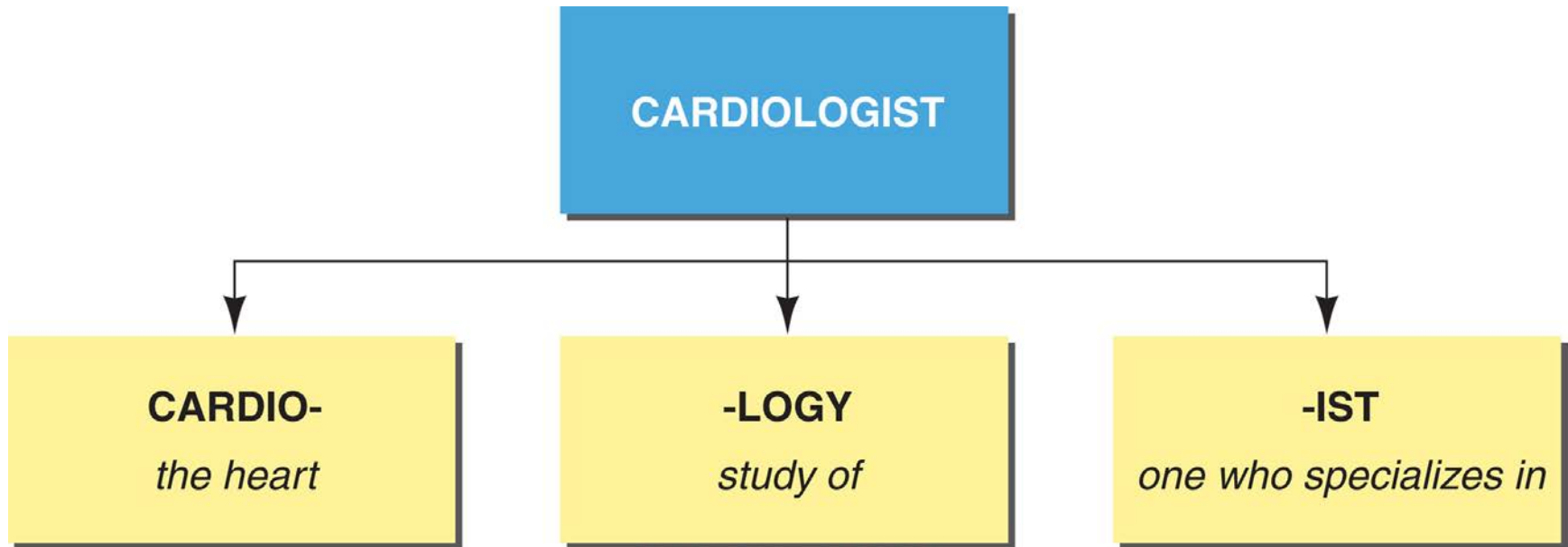
continued on next slide

Word Component Example



continued on next slide

Word Component Example



Cardiologist: An example of root and suffixes.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

- Acronym
 - Abbreviation made up of initials that can be pronounced as a word
 - CPAP (*SEE-pap*)
 - Continuous positive airway pressure

continued on next slide

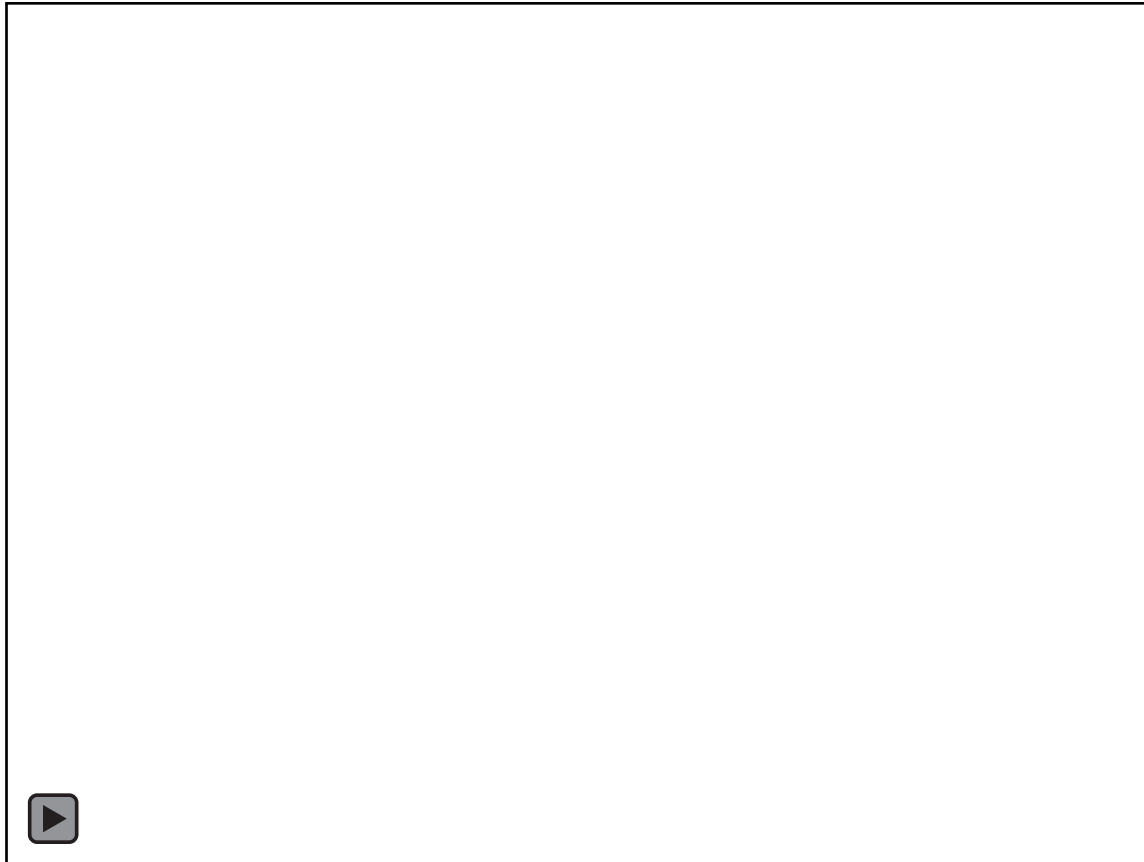
Abbreviations and Acronyms

- Abbreviation
 - Letters or symbols used in place of words or phrases
 - DNR
 - Do Not Resuscitate

When and When Not to Use Medical Terms

- Do not use when speaking to patients or family members.
- Occasionally complex terms used in messages can cause confusion even among trained health care professionals.
- If there is potential for ambiguity, do not be reluctant to return to simple terms.

Medical Term Components Video



Click on the screenshot to view a video on the topic medical term components.

[Back to Directory](#)

Terms Involved with Medical Specialties Video



Click on the screenshot to view a video on the topic of terms involved with medical specialties.

[Back to Directory](#)

The Language of Anatomy and Physiology

Anatomy and Physiology

- Anatomy
 - Study of body structure
- Physiology
 - Study of body function

Anatomic Terms

Directional Terms

- Anatomic position
 - Facing forward
 - Hands at sides
 - Palms facing forward
- Divide body into planes
- Midline
 - Medial is closer to the midline.
 - Lateral is farther from the midline.

continued on next slide

Directional Terms

- Bilateral
 - "Both sides"
- Unilateral
 - One side
- Mid-axillary line

continued on next slide

Directional Terms

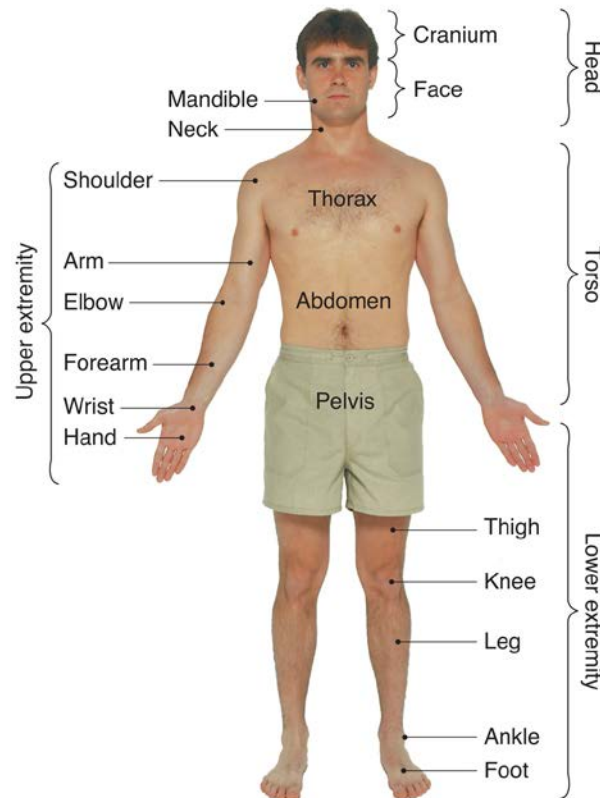
- Anterior (ventral)
 - Front
- Posterior (dorsal)
 - Back
- Superior
 - Vertical, above
- Inferior
 - Vertical, below

continued on next slide

Directional Terms

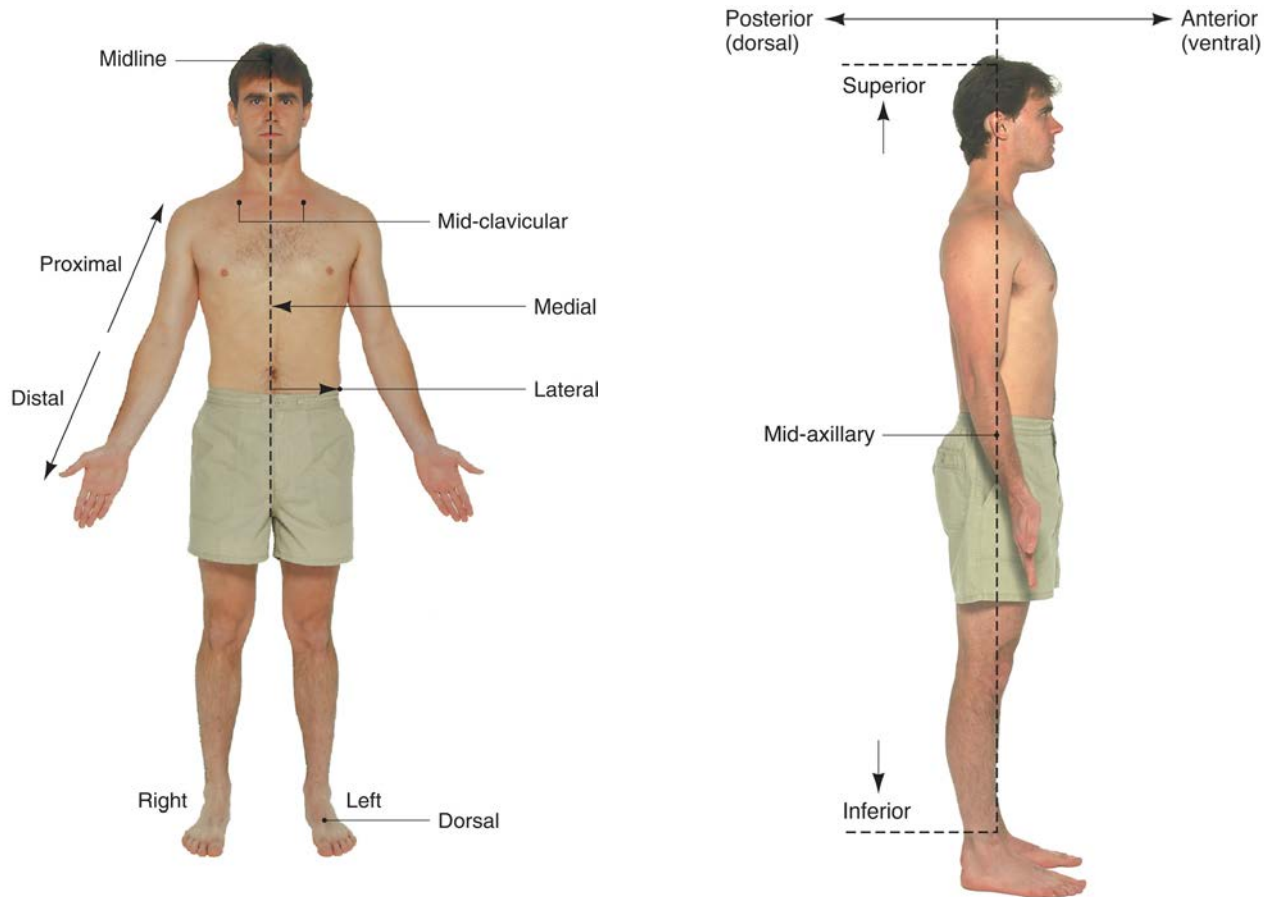
- Proximal
 - Closer to torso
- Distal
 - Farther from torso
- Palmar
 - Refers to the palm of the hand
- Plantar
 - Refers to the sole of the foot

Directional Terms



Body regions and anatomic position.

Directional Terms

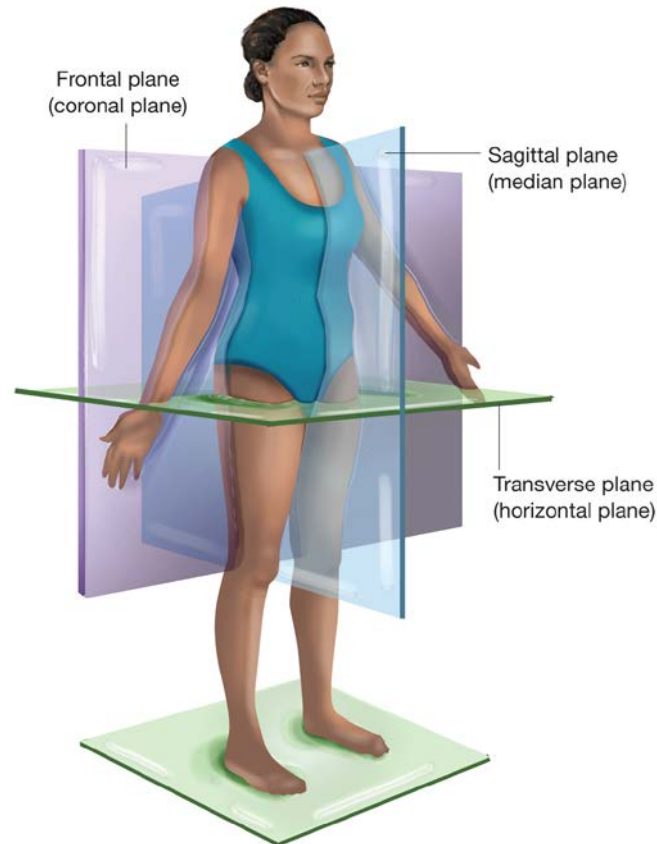


Directional terms.

Directional Terms

- Mid-clavicular line
 - Divides chest into regions
 - Since there are two clavicles, there are two mid-clavicular lines.

Directional Terms



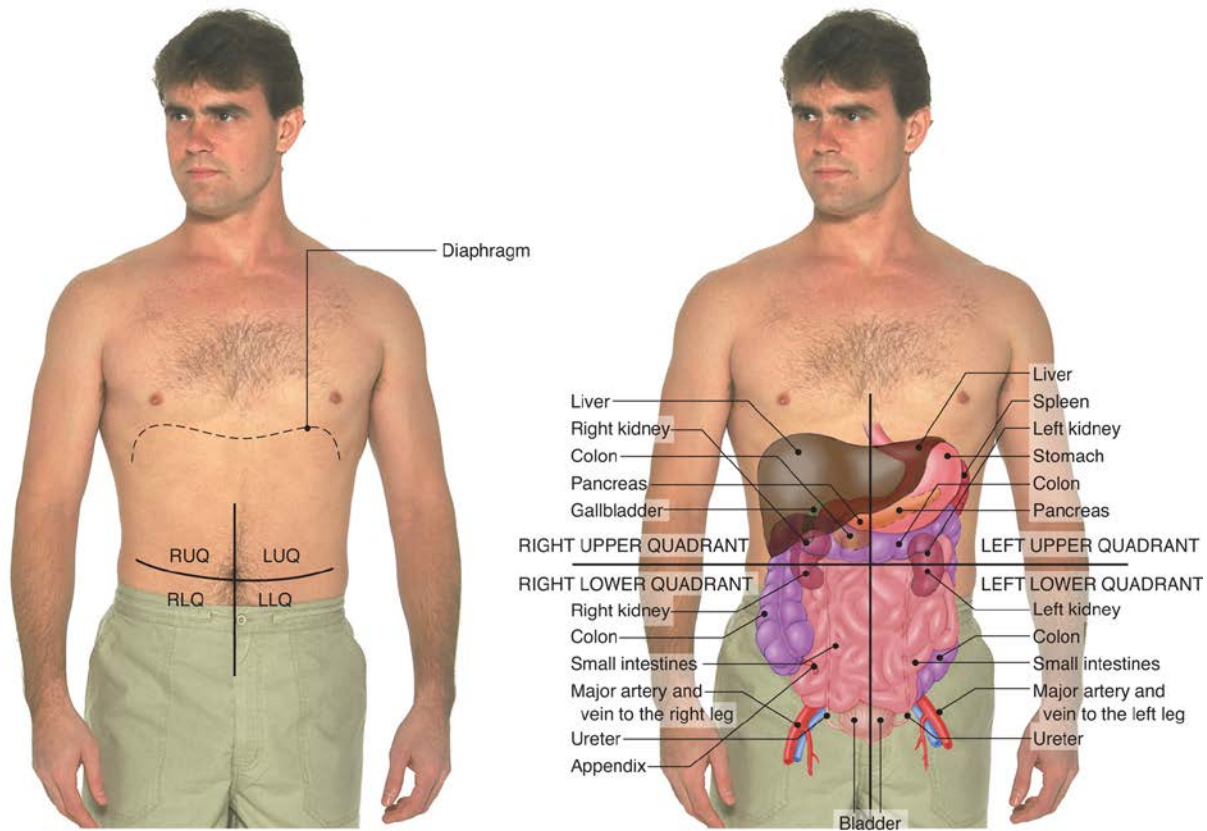
The planes of the body.

Directional Terms

- Abdominal quadrants
 - Horizontal and vertical lines through navel
 - Right upper quadrant (RUQ)
 - Left upper quadrant (LUQ)
 - Right lower quadrant (RLQ)
 - Left lower quadrant (LLQ)

continued on next slide

Directional Terms



Abdominal quadrants.

Positional Terms

- Supine
 - Patient lying on back
- Prone
 - Patient lying on front
- Recovery
 - Patient lying on side
 - Preferred for any unconscious nontrauma patient

Positional Terms



Anatomic positions: Supine

Positional Terms



Anatomic positions: Prone

Positional Terms



Anatomic positions: Lateral recumbent (recovery)

Positional Terms



Semi-Fowler position.

Positional Terms

- Fowler
 - Patient seated straight up
 - Semi-Fowler
 - Leaning back in a semi-sitting position

Chapter Review

Chapter Review

- Medicine has a language of its own. As an EMT, you will frequently communicate with medical professionals who speak this language.
- Medical terms generally consist of a root with a prefix and/or suffix.

continued on next slide

Remember

- Medical terminology is the language of health care. Roots, prefixes, and suffixes can lend clues to the meaning of many terms.
- Understanding anatomy and physiology is like reviewing the owner's manual for the body.
- Anatomical terminology brings precision and accuracy to descriptions.

Questions to Consider

- Is my use of medical terms accurate and descriptive?
- Can I identify critical organs and structures that reside in an area where a patient has a complaint or traumatic injury?

Critical Thinking

- You respond to a teenage boy who has taken a hard fall from his dirt bike. He has a deep gash on the outside of his left arm halfway between shoulder and elbow and another on the inside of his right arm just above the wrist. His left leg is bent at a funny angle about halfway between hip and knee.

continued on next slide

Critical Thinking

- When you cut away his pants leg, you see a bone sticking out of a wound on the front side. How will you describe your patient's injuries over the radio to the hospital staff?