

# MEDICAL PREFIXES

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Source: FLEMING, J D (1994)  
Medical language: associations and  
images, Slack, New Jersey, 295p.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 1

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- TERM: chrom/o chromat/o
- MEANING: color
- EXAMPLE: Chromatophores are pigment-bearing cells.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 2

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- TERM: chlor/o
- MEANING: green
- EXAMPLE: Increased chloride in the blood causes chloremia.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 3

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- TERM: leuc/o
- MEANING: white
- EXAMPLE: A leucitis is an inflammation of the whites of the eyes.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 4

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- TERM: leuk/o
- MEANING: white
- EXAMPLE: Whites blood cells are called leukocytes.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 5

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- TERM: glauc/o
- MEANING: grey
- EXAMPLE: Glaucoma is the greying or dimming of vision.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 6

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- TERM: xanth/o
- MEANING: yellow
- EXAMPLE: Eating too many carrots can cause a yellowing of the skin, or xanthosis.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 7

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- TERM: cyan/o
- MEANING: blue
- EXAMPLE: Cyanosis is due to a lack of oxygen

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 8

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- TERM: melan/o
- MEANING: black
- EXAMPLE: Dark colored moles, or melanoma, may be an indication of skin cancer.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 9

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- TERM: erythr/o
- MEANING: red
- EXAMPLE: the average number of erythrocytes is higher for a man than a woman.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 10

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- TERM: rube/o
- MEANING: red
- EXAMPLE: Rubella (rubéole) resembles both measles (rougeole) and scarlet fever (scarlatine) with its red rash.

## PREFIXES OF COLOR 11

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- TERM: purpur/o
- MEANING: purple
- EXAMPLE: Purpura is a discharge of blood with purple spots.