

## Nursing Terminology 2015 (Speedy Study Guide)

Speedy Study Guides		NURSING TERMINOLOGY 2015	
ADVERSE EVENT		an unwanted side effect of a medication.	
ABSORPTION		the passage of nutrients, drugs, or water from the intestines into the bloodstream.	
ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)		a syndrome characterized by suppression of the immune system, rendering the body susceptible to various diseases, the late, symptomatic stage of HIV disease.	
ACTIVE INFECTION		an infection in which a disease-causing microorganism is actively replicating and infecting new cells.	
ACUPUNCTURE		a traditional Chinese healing technique in which finger pressure is applied to specific points on the body to treat disease and alleviate symptoms.	
ACUTE		rapid-onset, short-term initial stage of a disease. Contrast with chronic.	
ACUTE HEPATITIS		the initial stage of viral hepatitis following infection. In HCV, acute hepatitis refers to the first six months of infection.	
ADDITIVE EFFECT		the combined effect of several drugs that is the sum of the effects that would be produced by each of the drugs in the absence of the others.	
ADJUNCT THERAPY		therapy given in addition to a primary treatment.	
ALBUMIN		a blood protein produced by the liver that plays a role in maintaining normal blood volume. A low albumin level is associated with liver cirrhosis. A normal level is 3.2 to 5.5g.	
ALLERGY		an abnormal immune response to an antigen (allergen) that does not normally cause an adverse reaction (e.g., animal dander, pollen).	
ANTIHISTAMINE		a drug that blocks the action of histamine, a chemical messenger in the body. Antihistamines are used to prevent or alleviate allergic reactions and to reduce stomach acid production.	
B-CELL		a type of immune system white blood cell. B-cells mature into plasma cells that produce antibodies.	
BENIGN		a small, non-lethal mass, especially a non-cancerous tumor. Contrast with malignant.	
BILE		fluid produced by the liver that aids in the digestion of fats and the absorption of lipids.	
BIOPSY		a procedure in which a sample of cells or tissue is taken for laboratory examination. Liver biopsies are used to monitor liver disease progression in people with HCV.	
BLOOD TRANSFUSION		the infusion of blood or blood components into an individual for the treatment of a medical condition. Transfusions may be homologous (from a donor) or autologous (previously stored blood from the recipient).	
BONE MARROW		the soft, spongy, marrow inside certain long bones where blood cells are produced.	
BRAIN FOG		mind-mental confusion, memory loss, and/or lack of concentration and alertness. May be a symptom of toxic chemical build-up due to impaired liver function. See hepatic encephalopathy.	
BREAKTHROUGH		the return of detectable viral load or high-ALT levels in a patient who had previously achieved a gene-virological or biochemical treatment response.	
CADAVER		the body of a dead person.	
CANCER		a malignant neoplasm or tumor characterized by abnormal cell proliferation. Types include carcinoma (which affects epithelial cells), sarcoma (which affects soft tissues), lymphoma and leukemia (which affect lymphoid tissue), and glioma (which affects brain tissue).	
CAPILLARIES		tiny blood vessels that deliver oxygen and nutrients to and remove waste products from cells.	
CARBOHYDRATE		an organic molecule composed mainly of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen atoms. Carbohydrates contribute to major class of nutrients, and are present in foods such as bread and pasta.	
CARCINOGEN		an agent that promotes the development of cancer.	
CARDIAC		having to do with the heart.	
CARDIOVASCULAR		having to do with the circulatory system (the heart and blood vessels).	

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

(Mrs. Winifred Fritsch)

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