

Glossary of Key Terms

The Spanish terms in blue for selected key terms are references to the Spanish Glossary on this Web site.

A

- abdominal** [ăb-DŌM-ĭ-năĭ] **cavity** Body space between the abdominal walls, above the pelvis, and below the diaphragm.
- abdominocentesis** [ăb-DŌM-ĭ-nŏ-sĕn-TĒ-sĭs] Incision into the abdomen to remove fluid or relieve pressure.
- abortion** [ă-BŌR-shŭn] [**aborto**] Premature ending of a pregnancy.
- abruptio placentae** [ăb-RŪP-shĕ-ŏ plă-SĔN-tĕ] Breaking away of the placenta from the uterine wall.
- abscess** [ĂB-sĕs] [**absceso**] Localized collection of pus and other exudate, usually accompanied by swelling and redness; infection and swelling of the soft tissue of the jaw.
- absence seizure** Mild epileptic seizure consisting of brief disorientation with the environment.
- absorb** [ăb-SŌRB] To take into.
- absorption** [ăb-SŌRP-shŭn] [**absorción**] Passing of nutrients into the bloodstream.
- acetabulum** [ăs-ĕ-TĂB-yŭ-lŭm] [**acetábulo**] Cup-shaped depression in the hip bone into which the top of the femur fits.
- acetone** [ĂS-ĕ-tŏn] [**acetona**] Type of ketone normally found in urine in small quantities; found in larger quantities in diabetic urine.
- achalasia** [ăk-ă-LĂ-zhĕ-ă] [**acalasia**] Inability of a muscle, particularly the cardiac sphincter, to relax.
- achlorhydria** [ă-klŏr-HĪ-drĕ-ă] Lack of hydrochloric acid in the stomach.
- acidosis** [ăs-ĭ-DŌ-sĭs] [**acidosis**] Abnormal release of ketones in the body.
- acne** [ĂK-nĕ] [**acné**] Inflammatory eruption of the skin, occurring in or near sebaceous glands on the face, neck, shoulder, or upper back.
- acne vulgaris** [vŭl-GĂR-ĭs] [**acne vulgar**] See acne.
- acquired active immunity** Resistance to a disease acquired naturally or developed by previous exposure or vaccination.
- acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)** [ĪM-yŭ-nŏ-dĕ-FĪSH-ĕn-sĕ] Most widespread immunosuppressive disease; caused by the HIV virus.
- acquired passive immunity** Inoculation against disease or poison, using antitoxins or antibodies from or in another person or another species.
- acromegaly** [ăk-rŏ-MĒG-ă-lĕ] [**acromegalia**] Abnormally enlarged features resulting from a pituitary tumor and hypersecretion of growth hormone.
- acromion** [ă-KRŌ-mĕ-ŏn] [**acromion**] Part of the scapula that connects to the clavicle.
- actinic keratosis** [ăk-TĪN-ĭk KĔR-ă-tŏ-sĭs] Overgrowth of horny skin that forms from over-exposure to sunlight; sunburn.
- Adam's apple** [**manzana de Adán**] Thyroid cartilage, supportive structure of the larynx; larger in males than in females; protrusion in the neck caused by a fold of thyroid cartilage.
- Addison's** [ĂD-ĭ-sŏnz] **disease** Underactivity of the adrenal glands.
- adenectomy** [ă-dĕ-NEĶ-tŏ-mĕ] Removal of a gland.
- adenohypophysis** [ĂD-ĕ-nŏ-hĭ-PŌF-ĭ-sĭs] Anterior lobe of the pituitary gland.
- adenoidectomy** [ĂD-ĕ-nŏy-DEĶ-tŏ-mĕ] [**adenoidectomía**] Removal of the adenoids.
- adenoiditis** [ĂD-ĕ-nŏy-DĪ-tĭs] [**adenoiditis**] Inflammation of the adenoids.
- adenoids** [ĂD-ĕ-nŏydz] [**adenoids**] Collection of lymphoid tissue in the nasopharynx; pharyngeal tonsils.
- adipose** [ĂD-ĭ-pŏs] [**adipose**] Fatty; relating to fat.
- adrenal cortex** [ă-DRĒ-năĭ KŌR-tĕks] Outer portion of the adrenal gland; helps control metabolism, inflammations, sodium and potassium retention, and effects of stress.
- adrenal gland** [**adrenal**] One of two glands, each of which is situated on top of each kidney.
- adrenal medulla** [mĕ-DŪL-lă] Inner portion of adrenal glands; releases large quantities of hormones during stress.
- adrenalectomy** [ă-drĕ-năĭ-ĔK-tŏ-mĕ] [**adrenalectomía**] Removal of an adrenal gland.

- adrenaline** [ă-DRĚ-nă-lĭn] {adrenalina} Epinephrine; secreted by adrenal medulla.
- adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH)** [ă-DRĚ-nō-KŌR-tĭ-kō-TRŌ-pĭk] Hormone secreted by anterior pituitary; involved in the control of the adrenal cortex.
- aerotitis media** [ăr-ō-TĪ-tĭs MĚ-dē-ă] Inflammation of the middle ear caused by air pressure changes, as in air travel.
- afferent (sensory) neuron** [ĂF-ēr-ĕnt] Neuron that carries information from the sensory receptors to the central nervous system.
- afterbirth** [ĂF-tĕr-bĭrth] {secundina} Placenta and membranes that are expelled from the uterus after birth.
- agglutination** [ă-glŭ-tĭ-NĂ-shŭn] {aglutinaci3n} Clumping of cells and particles in blood.
- agglutinin** [ă-glŭ-TĪN-ō-jĕn] {aglutin3geno} Substances that cause agglutination.
- agnosia** [ăg-NŌ-zĕ-ă] {agnosia} Inability to receive and understand outside stimuli.
- agranulocyte** [ă-GRĂN-yŭ-lō-sĭt] {agranulocito} Leukocyte with nongranular cytoplasm.
- AIDS** [ădz] See acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.
- albinism** [ĂL-bĭ-nĭzm] {albinismo} Rare, congenital condition causing either partial or total lack of pigmentation.
- albumin** [ăl-BYŪ-mĭn] {alb3mina} 1. Simple protein; when leaked into urine, may indicate a kidney problem. 2. Simple protein found in plasma.
- albuminuria** [ăl-byŭ-mĭ-NU-rĕ-ă] {albuminuria} Presence of albumin in urine, usually indicative of disease.
- aldosterone** [ăl-DŌS-tĕr-ōn] {aldosterona} Hormone secreted by adrenal cortex; mineralocorticoid.
- alimentary canal** [ăl-ĭ-MĚN-tĕr-ĕ] Muscular tube from the mouth to the anus; digestive tract; gastrointestinal tract.
- allergen** [ĂL-ēr-jĕn] {alergeno} Substance to which exposure causes an allergic response.
- allergy** [ĂL-ēr-jĕ] {alergia} Production of IgE antibodies against an allergen.
- allograft** [ĂL-ō-grăft] {aloinjerto} See homograft.
- alopecia** [ăl-ō-PĚ-shĕ-ă] {alopecia} Lack of hair in spots; baldness.
- alopecia areata** [ăl-ō-PĚ-shĕ-ă ă-rĕ-Ă-tă] Loss of hair in patches.
- alpha [ĂL-fă] cells** Specialized cells that produce glucagon in the pancreas.
- alveolus (pl., alveoli)** [ăl-VĚ-ō-lŭs (ăl-VĚ-ō-lĭ)] {alv3olo} Air sac at the end of each bronchiole.
- Alzheimer's [ĂLTS-hĭ-mĕrz] disease** A type of degenerative brain disease causing thought disorders, gradual loss of muscle control, and, eventually, death.
- amenorrhea** [ă-mĕn-ō-RĚ-ă] {amenorrea} Lack of menstruation.
- amino [ă-MĚ-nō] acid [aminoácido]** Chemical compound that results from digestion of complex proteins.
- amnesia** [ăm-NĚ-zĕ-ă] {amnesia} Loss of memory.
- amniocentesis** [ĂM-nĕ-ō-sĕn-TĚ-sĭs] {amniocentesis} Removal of a sample of amniotic fluid through a needle injected in the amniotic sac.
- amnion** [ĂM-nĕ-3n] {amnios} Innermost membrane of the sac surrounding the fetus during gestation.
- amniotic [ăm-nĕ-ŌT-ĭk] [amni3tico] fluid** Fluid surrounding the fetus and held by the amnion.
- amphiarthrosis (pl., amphiarthroses)** [AM-fi-ar-THRO-sis (AM-fi-ar-THRO-ses)] {anfiartrosis} Cartilaginous joint having some movement at the union of two bones.
- amputation** [ĂM-pyŭ-TĂ-shŭn] {amputaci3n} Cutting off of a limb or part of a limb.
- amylase** [ĂM-ĭl-ăs] {amilasa} Enzyme that is part of pancreatic juice and saliva and that begins the digestion of carbohydrates.
- amyotrophic lateral sclerosis [ă-mĭ-ō-TRŌ-fĭk LĂT-ēr-ăl sklĕ-RŌ-sĭs] (ALS)** Degenerative disease of the motor neurons leading to loss of muscular control and death.
- anacusis** [ăn-ă-KŪ-sĭs] {anacusia} Loss of hearing.
- anal [Ă-năl] canal** Part of the digestive tract extending from the rectum to the anus.
- anal fistula** [Ă-năl FĪS-tyŭ-lă] Small opening in the anal canal through which waste matter can leak.
- analgesic [ăn-ăl-JĚ-zĭk] [analg3sico]** Agent that relieves or eliminates pain.
- anaphylaxis [ĂN-ă-fĭ-LĂK-sĭs] {anafilaxia o anafilaxis}** Life-threatening allergic reaction.
- anastomosis [ă-NĂS-tō-MŌ-sĭs] {anastomosis}** Surgical connection of two blood vessels to allow blood flow between them; surgical union of two hollow structures.
- androgen [ĂN-drō-jĕn] {andr3geno}** Any male hormone, such as testosterone.
- anemia [ă-NĚ-mĕ-ă] {anemia}** Condition in which red blood cells do not transport enough oxygen to the tissues.
- anesthetic [ăn-ĕs-THĚT-ĭk] {anest3sico}** 1. Agent that relieves pain by blocking nerve sensations. 2. Agent that causes loss of feeling or sensation. 3. Drug that causes temporary loss of ability to perceive sensations at a conscious level.
- aneurysm [ĂN-yŭ-rĭzm] {aneurisma}** Abnormal widening of an artery wall that bursts and releases blood; ballooning of the artery wall caused by weakness in the wall.
- angina [ĂN-jĭ-nă, ăn-JĪ-nă] {angina}** Angina pectoris.
- angina pectoris [PĚK-tŏr-ĭs, pĕk-TŌR-ĭs] {angina de pecho}** Chest pain, usually caused by a lowered oxygen or blood supply to the heart.
- angiocardiology [ăn-jĕ-ō-kăr-dĕ-ŌG-ră-fĕ]** Viewing of the heart and its major blood vessels by x-ray after injection of a contrast medium.
- angiography [ăn-jĕ-ŌG-ră-fĕ]** Viewing of the heart's major blood vessels by x-ray after injection of a contrast medium.
- angioplasty [ĂN-jĕ-ō-plăs-tĕ] {angioplastia}** Opening of a blocked blood vessel, as by balloon dilation.
- angiосcopy [ăn-jĕ-ŌS-kō-pĕ] {angioscopia}** Viewing of the interior of a blood vessel using a fiberoptic catheter inserted or threaded into the vessel.
- anisocytosis [ăn-Ī-sŏ-sĭ-TŌ-sĭs] {anisocitosis}** Condition with abnormal variation in the size of red blood cells.
- ankle [ĂNG-kl] {tobillo}** Hinged area between the lower leg bones and the bones of the foot.

- ankyloglossia** [ÄNG-kǐ-lō-GLÖS-ē-ä] {**anquiloglosia**}
Condition of the tongue being partially or completely attached to the bottom of the mouth.
- ankylosis** [ÄNG-kǐ-LÖ-sis] {**anquilosis**} Stiffening of a joint, especially as a result of disease.
- anorchism** [än-ÖR-kǐzm], **anorchia** [-kē-ä] {**anorquia**}
Congenital absence of one or both testicles.
- anorexia nervosa** [än-ō-RĚK-sē-ä nēr-VÖ-sä] Eating disorder in which the patient refuses to eat enough to sustain a minimum weight; eating disorder with extreme weight loss.
- anovulation** [än-öv-yū-LÄ-shün] Lack of ovulation.
- antacid** [änt-ÄS-íd] {**antiácido**} Drug that lessens or neutralizes acidity.
- anteflexion** [än-tē-FLĚK-shün] Bending forward, as of the uterus.
- anterior** [än-TĚR-ē-ör] At or toward the front (of the body).
- anthracosis** [än-thrā-KÖ-sis] {**antracosis**} Lung disease caused by long-term inhalation of coal dust; black lung disease.
- antibacterial** [ÄN-tē-bāk-TĚR-ē-äl] {**antibacteriano**} Agent that kills or slows the growth of bacteria.
- antibiotic** [ÄN-tē-bī-ÖT-ik] {**antibiótico**} Agent or drug that kills or slows the growth of harmful microorganisms.
- antibody** [ÄN-tē-böd-ē] {**anticuerpo**} Specialized protein that fights disease; also called immunoglobulin.
- antidiabetic** [ÄN-tē-dī-ä-BĚT-ik] {**antidiabético**} Drug that lowers blood sugar or increases insulin sensitivity.
- antidiuretic** [ÄN-tē-dī-yū-RĚT-ik] **hormone (ADH)** Posterior pituitary hormone that increases water reabsorption.
- antidote** [ÄN-tē-döt] {**antidoto**} Substance able to cancel out unwanted effects of another substance.
- antifungal** [ÄN-tē-FÜNG-äl] {**antifúngico**} Agent or drug that kills or slows the growth of fungi.
- antigen** [ÄN-tǐ-jěn] {**antígeno**} Any substance that can provoke an immune response.
- antiglobulin** [ÄN-tē-GLÖB-yū-lǐn] **test** Test for antibodies on red blood cells.
- antihistamine** [ÄN-tē-HĪS-tä-mēn] {**antihistamina**}
1. Agent that controls allergic reactions by blocking the effectiveness of histamines in the body. 2. Drug that reduces the action of histamines; used in allergy treatments.
- antitoxin** [än-tē-TÖK-sǐn] {**antitoxina**} Antibodies directed against a particular disease or poison.
- antitubercular** [än-tē-tū-BĚR-kyū-lär] Drug that stops the spread of tuberculosis.
- antiviral** [än-tē-VĪ-räl] Drug that stops or slows the spread of a virus.
- anuria** [än-YŪ-rē-ä] {**anuria**} Lack of urine formation.
- anus** [Ä-nūs] {**ano**} Place at which feces exit the body.
- aorta** [ä-ÖR-tä] {**aorta**} Largest artery of the body; artery through which blood exits the heart.
- aortic regurgitation** [rē-GŪR-jǐ-TÄ-shün] or **reflux** [RĚ-flüks] Backward flow or leakage of blood through a faulty aortic valve.
- aortic stenosis** [stē-NÖ-sis] Narrowing of the aorta.
- aortic valve** Valve between the aorta and the left ventricle.
- aortography** [ä-ör-TÖG-rä-fē] Viewing of the aorta by x-ray after injection of a contrast medium.
- apex** [Ä-pĕks] {**apex**} Topmost section of the lung.
- aphagia** [ä-FÄ-jē-ä] {**afagia**} Inability to swallow.
- aphakia** [ä-FÄ-kē-ä] {**afaquia**} Absence of a lens.
- aphasia** [ä-FÄ-zē-ä] {**afasia**} Loss of speech.
- apnea** [ÄP-nē-ä] {**apnea**} Cessation of breathing.
- apocrine** [ÄP-ō-krin] **glands** Glands that appear during and after puberty and secrete sweat, as from the armpits.
- appendage** [ä-PĚN-dij] {**apéndice**} Any body part (inside or outside) either subordinate to a larger part or having no specific central function.
- appendectomy** [äp-pĕn-DĚK-tō-mē] Removal of the appendix.
- appendicitis** [ä-pĕn-dǐ-SĪ-tis] Inflammation of the appendix.
- appendix** [ä-PĚN-diks] {**apéndice**} Wormlike appendage to the cecum.
- apraxia** [ä-PRÄK-sē-ä] {**apraxia**} Inability to properly use familiar objects.
- arachnoid** [ä-RÄK-nöyd] {**aracnoideo**} Middle layer of meninges.
- areola** [ä-RĚ-ō-lä] {**aréola**} Darkish area surrounding the nipple on a breast.
- arrhythmia** [ä-RĪTH-mē-ä] {**arritmia**} Irregularity in the rhythm of the heartbeat.
- arterial** [är-TĚR-ē-äl] **blood gases** Laboratory test that measures the levels of oxygen and carbon dioxide in arterial blood.
- arteriography** [är-tēr-ē-ÖG-rä-fē] Viewing of a specific artery by x-ray after injection of a contrast medium.
- arteriole** [är-TĚ-rē-öl] {**arteriola**} A tiny artery connecting to a capillary.
- arteriosclerosis** [är-TĚR-ē-ō-sklēr-Ö-sis] {**arteriosclerosis**} Hardening of the arteries.
- arteriotomy** [är-tēr-ē-ÖT-ō-mē] Surgical incision into an artery, especially to remove a clot.
- arteritis** [är-tēr-Ī-tis] {**arteritis**} Inflammation of an artery or arteries.
- artery** [ÄR-tēr-ē] {**arteria**} A thick-walled blood vessel that, in systemic circulation, carries oxygenated blood away from the heart.
- arthralgia** [är-THRÄL-jē-ä] {**artralgia**} Severe joint pain.
- arthritis** [är-THRĪ-tis] {**artritis**} Any of various conditions involving joint inflammation.
- arthrocentesis** [ÄR-thrō-sĕn-TĚ-sis] {**artrocentesis**} Removal of fluid from a joint with use of a puncture needle.
- arthrodesis** [är-thrō-DĚ-sis] Surgical fusion of a joint to stiffen it.
- arthrography** [är-THRÖG-rä-fē] Radiography of a joint.
- arthroplasty** [ÄR-thrō-pläs-tē] Surgical replacement or repair of a joint.
- arthroscopy** [är-THRÖS-kō-pē] Examination with an instrument that explores the interior of a joint.
- articular** [är-TĪK-yū-lär] **cartilage** Cartilage at a joint.
- articulation** [är-tik-yū-LÄ-shün] {**articulación**} Point at which two bones join together to allow movement.

- asbestosis** [äs-bēs-TŌ-sīs] {asbestosis} Lung disorder caused by long-term inhalation of asbestos (as in construction work).
- ascites** [ä-SĪ-tēs] {ascitis} Fluid buildup in the abdominal and peritoneal cavities.
- aspermia** [ā-SPĚR-mē-ä] {aspermia} Inability to produce sperm.
- aspiration** [äs-pĭ-RĀ-shŭn] {aspiración} Biopsy in which fluid is withdrawn through a needle by suction.
- asthenopia** [äs-thē-NŌ-pē-ä] {astenopía} Weakness of the ocular or ciliary muscles that causes the eyes to tire easily.
- asthma** [ÄZ-mă] {asma} Chronic condition with obstruction or narrowing of the bronchial airways.
- astigmatism** [ā-STĪG-mă-tĭzm] {astigmatismo} Distortion of sight because of lack of focus of light rays at one point on the retina.
- astrocyte, astroglia** [ÄS-trō-sīt, äs-TRŌG-lē-ä] {astrocito, astroglia} A type of neuroglia that maintains nutrient and chemical levels in neurons.
- astrocytoma** [ÄS-trō-sī-TŌ-mă] {astrocitoma} Type of glioma formed from astrocytes.
- asystole** [ā-SĪS-tō-lē] {asistolia} Cardiac arrest.
- ataxia** [ā-TĀK-sē-ä] {ataxia} Condition with uncoordinated voluntary muscular movement, usually resulting from disorders of the cerebellum or spinal cord.
- atelectasis** [ät-ē-LĚK-tā-sīs] {atelectasia} Collapse of a lung or part of a lung.
- atherectomy** [äth-ē-RĚK-tō-mē] Surgical removal of an atheroma.
- atheroma** [äth-ēr-Ō-mă] {ateroma} A fatty deposit (plaque) in the wall of an artery.
- atherosclerosis** [ÄTH-ēr-ō-sklēr-ō-sīs] {ateriosclerosis} Hardening of the arteries caused by the buildup of atheromas.
- atlas** [ÄT-läs] {atlas} First cervical vertebra.
- atresia** [ä-TRĚ-zhē-ä] {atresia} Abnormal narrowing, as of the ureters or urethra.
- atrial fibrillation** [fĭ-brĭ-LĀ-shŭn] An irregular, usually rapid, heartbeat caused by overstimulation of the AV node.
- atrioventricular** [Ä-trē-ō-vĕn-TRĪK-yū-lăr] **bundle** Bundle of fibers in the interventricular septum that transfer charges in the heart's conduction system; also called bundle of His.
- atrioventricular block** Heart block; partial or complete blockage of the electrical impulses from the atrioventricular node to the ventricles.
- atrioventricular (AV) node** Specialized part of the interatrial septum that sends a charge to the bundle of His.
- atrioventricular valve** One of two valves that control blood flow between the atria and ventricles.
- atrium** (pl., **atria**) [Ä-trē-ŭm (Ä-trē-ä)] {atrium} Either of the two upper chambers of the heart.
- atrophy** [ÄT-rō-fē] {atrofia} Wasting away of tissue, organs, and cells, usually as a result of disease or loss of blood supply.
- audiogram** [ÄW-dē-ō-grām] {audiograma} Graph that plots the acoustic frequencies being tested.
- audiologist** [äw-dē-ŌL-ō-jĭst] {audiólogo} Specialist in evaluating hearing function.
- audiometry** [äw-dē-ŌM-ē-trē] {audiometrĭa} Measurement of acoustic frequencies using an audiometer.
- auditory ossicles** [ÄW-dĭ-tōr-ē ŌS-ĭ-klz] Three specially shaped bones in the middle ear that anchor the eardrum to the tympanic cavity and that transmit vibrations to the inner ear.
- aura** [ÄW-rä] {aura} Group of symptoms that precede a seizure.
- auricle** [ÄW-rĭ-kl] {auricular} Funnel-like structure leading from the external ear to the external auditory meatus; also called pinna.
- auscultation** [äws-kŭl-TĀ-shŭn] {auscultación} Process of listening to body sounds via a stethoscope.
- autograft** [ÄW-tō-grăft] {autoinjerto} Skin graft using skin from one's own body.
- autoimmune** [äw-tō-ĭ-MYŪN] **disease** Any of a number of diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, and scleroderma, caused by an autoimmune response.
- autoimmune response** Overactivity in the immune system against oneself causing destruction of one's own healthy cells.
- autonomic** [äw-tō-NŌM-ĭk] **nervous system** Part of the peripheral nervous system that carries impulses from the central nervous system to glands, smooth muscles, cardiac muscle, and various membranes.
- axis** [ÄK-sīs] {axis} Second cervical vertebra.
- axon** [ÄK-sŏn] {axon} Part of a nerve cell that conducts nerve impulses away from the cell body.
- azoospermia** [ä-zō-ō-SPĚR-mē-ä] {azoospermia} Semen without living sperm.
- azotemia** [äz-ō-TĚ-mē-ä] {azoemia} See uremia.

B

- Babinski's** [bä-BĪN-skēs] **reflex** Reflex on the plantar surface of the foot.
- bacilli** (sing., **bacillus**) [bä-SĪL-Ī (bä-SĪL-ŭs)] {bacillo} A type of bacteria.
- bacterial endocarditis** Bacterial inflammation of the inner lining of the heart.
- bacterial meningitis** [mĕn-ĭn-JĪ-tĭs] Meningitis caused by a bacteria; pyrogenic meningitis.
- balanitis** [bäl-ä-NĪ-tĭs] {balanitis} Inflammation of the glans penis.
- balloon catheter dilation** Insertion of a balloon catheter into a blood vessel to open the passage so blood can flow freely.
- balloon valvuloplasty** [VÄL-vyū-lō-PLÄS-tē] Procedure that uses a balloon catheter to open narrowed orifices in cardiac valves.
- Bartholin's** [BÄR-thō-lĕnz] **gland** One of two glands on either side of the vagina that secrete fluid into the vagina.
- basal cell carcinoma** [BÄ-säl sĕl kăr-sĭn-Ō-mă] Slow-growing cancer of the basal cells of the epidermis, usually a result of sun damage.
- basal ganglia** [BÄ-säl GÄNG-glē-ä] Large masses of gray matter within the cerebrum.

- base** [bās] {**base**} Bottom section of the lung.
- basophil** [BĀ-sō-fīl] {**basófilo**} Leukocyte containing heparin and histamine.
- Bell's palsy** [PĀWL-zē] Paralysis of one side of the face; usually temporary.
- beta** [BĀ-tā] **cells** Specialized cells that produce insulin in the pancreas.
- bicuspid** [bī-KŪS-pīd] **valve** Atrioventricular valve on the left side of the heart.
- bile** [bīl] {**bilis**} Yellowish-brown to greenish fluid secreted by the liver and stored in the gallbladder; aids in fat digestion.
- bilirubin** [bīl-ī-RŪ-bin] {**bilirubina**} Substance produced in the liver; elevated levels may indicate liver disease or hepatitis when found in urine; pigment contained in bile.
- biochemistry panel** Common group of automated tests run on one blood sample.
- biopsy** [BĪ-ōp-sē] {**biopsia**} Excision of tissue for microscopic examination.
- birthmark** Lesion (especially a hemangioma) visible at or soon after birth; nevus.
- B lymphocytes** [LĪM-fō-sīts], **B cells** Lymphocyte that manufactures antibodies.
- black lung** See anthracosis.
- blackhead** {**punto negro**} See comedo.
- bladder** [BLĀD-ēr] {**vejiga**} Organ where urine collects before being excreted from the body.
- bladder cancer** Malignancy of the bladder.
- blepharitis** [blēf-ā-RĪ-tīs] {**blefaritis**} Inflammation of the eyelid.
- blepharoplasty** [BLĚF-ā-rō-plāst-ē] Surgical repair of the eyelid.
- blepharoptosis** [blēf-ā-RŌP-tō-sīs] Drooping of the eyelid.
- blindness** {**ceguera**} Loss or absence of vision.
- blood** [blūd] {**sangre**} Essential fluid made up of plasma and other elements that circulates throughout the body (arteries, veins, capillaries, and heart); delivers nutrients to and removes waste from the body's cells.
- blood chemistry** Test of plasma for presence of a particular substance such as glucose.
- blood culture** Test of a blood specimen in a culture medium to observe for particular microorganisms.
- blood indices** [IN-di-sez] Measurement of the characteristics of red blood cells.
- blood pressure** Measure of the force of blood surging against the walls of the arteries.
- blood sugar, blood glucose** Test for glucose in blood.
- blood** [blūd] **system** Body system that includes blood and all its component parts.
- blood types or groups** Classification of blood according to its antigen and antibody qualities.
- blood vessel** Any of the tubular passageways in the cardiovascular system through which blood travels.
- body** {**cuero**} Middle portion of the uterus; middle section of the stomach.
- bone** {**hueso**} Hard connective tissue that forms the skeleton of the body.
- bone grafting** Transplantation of bone from one site to another.
- bone head** Upper, rounded end of a bone.
- bone marrow biopsy** Extraction of bone marrow, by means of a needle, for observation.
- bone marrow transplant** Injection of donor bone marrow into a patient whose diseased cells have been killed through radiation and chemotherapy.
- bone phagocyte** [FĀG-ō-sīt] Bone cell that ingests dead bone and bone debris.
- bone scan** Radiographic or nuclear medicine image of a bone.
- bowel** [bōw-l] {**intestino**} Intestine.
- Bowman's capsule** Capsule surrounding a glomerulus and serving as a collection site for urine.
- bradycardia** [brād-ē-KĀR-dē-ā] {**bradicardia**} Heart rate of fewer than 60 beats per minute.
- bradypnea** [brād-īp-NĚ-ā] {**bradipnea**} Abnormally slow breathing.
- brain** [brān] {**cerebro**} Body organ responsible for controlling the body's functions and interactions with outside stimuli.
- brain contusion** [kōn-TŪ-shŭn] Bruising of the surface of the brain without penetration.
- brainstem** {**tronco encefálico**} One of the four major divisions of the brain; division that controls certain heart, lung, and visual functions.
- brand name** See trade name.
- Bright's disease** Inflammation of the glomeruli that can result in kidney failure.
- bronchial alveolar lavage** [BRŌNG-kē-āl āl-VĚ-ō-lār lā-VĀZH] Retrieval of fluid for examination through a bronchoscope.
- bronchial brushing** Retrieval of material for biopsy by insertion of a brush through a bronchoscope.
- bronchiole** [BRŌNG-kē-ōl] {**bronquiolo**} Fine subdivision of the bronchi made of smooth muscle and elastic fibers.
- bronchitis** [brōng-KĪ-tīs] {**bronquitis**} Inflammation of the bronchi.
- bronchography** [brōng-KŌG-rā-fē] {**broncografía**} Radiological picture of the trachea and bronchi.
- bronchoplasty** [BRŌNG-kō-plās-tē] Surgical repair of a bronchus.
- bronchoscope** [BRŌNG-kō-skōp] {**broncoscopio**} Device used to examine airways.
- bronchospasm** [BRŌNG-kō-spāzm] {**broncoespasmo**} Sudden contraction in the bronchi that causes coughing.
- bronchus** (*pl.*, **bronchi**) [BRŌNG-kūs (BRŌNG-kī)] {**bronquio**} One of the two airways from the trachea to the lungs.
- bruit** [brū-Ē] {**ruido**} Sound or murmur, especially an abnormal heart sound heard on auscultation, especially of the carotid artery.
- buccally** [BŪK-āl-lē] Inside the cheek.
- bulbourethral** [BŪL-bō-yū-RĚ-thrāl] **gland** See Cowper's gland.
- bulimia** [bū-LĚM-ē-ā] Eating disorder with bingeing and purging.

bullae (*pl.*, **bullae**) [BŮL-ă (BŮL-ī)] {**bullae**} Bubble-like blister on the surface of the skin.

bundle of His [hĭz, hĭs] See atrioventricular bundle.

bunion [BŮN-yŭn] {**bunio**} An inflamed bursa at the foot joint, between the big toe and the first metatarsal bone.

bunionectomy [bŭn-yŭn-ĔK-tō-mē] {**bunionectomía**} Removal of a bunion.

burn {**quemadura**} Damage to the skin caused by exposure to heat, chemicals, electricity, radiation, or other skin irritants; bubble-like blister on the surface of the skin caused by exposure to heat, chemicals, electricity, radiation, or other skin irritants.

bursa (*pl.*, **bursae**) [BŮR-să (BŮR-sē)] {**bursa**} Sac lined with a synovial membrane that fills the spaces between tendons and joints.

bursectomy [bŭr-SĔK-tō-mē] {**burssectomía**} Removal of a bursa.

bursitis [bŭr-SĪ-tĭs] {**bursitis**} Inflammation of a bursa.

bypass A structure (usually a vein graft) that creates a new passage for blood to flow from one artery to another artery or part of an artery; used to create a detour around blockages in arteries.

C

calcaneus [kăL-KĀ-nē-ŭs] {**calcáneo**} Heel bone.

calcar [KĀL-kăr] {**calcar**} Spur.

calcitonin [kăL-sĭ-TŌ-nĭn] {**calcitonía**} Hormone secreted by the thyroid gland and other endocrine glands; helps control blood calcium levels.

calcium [KĀL-sē-ŭm] {**calcio**} Mineral important in the formation of bone.

calices, calyces (*sing.*, **calix, calyx**) [KĀL-ĭ-sēz (KĀ-lĭks)] {**calices, sing., cāliz**} Cup-shaped structures in the renal pelvis for the collection of urine.

callus [KĀL-ŭs] {**callo**} Mass of hard skin that forms as a cover over broken skin on certain areas of the body, especially the feet and hands.

cancellous [KĀN-sē-lŭs] **bone** {**canceloso**} Spongy bone with a latticelike structure.

candidiasis [kăN-dĭ-DĪ-ă-sĭs] {**candidiasis**} Yeastlike fungus on the skin, caused by *Candida*; characterized by pruritus, white exudate, peeling, and easy bleeding; examples are thrush and diaper rash.

capillary [KĀP-ĭ-lăr-ē] {**capilar**} A tiny blood vessel that forms the exchange point between the arterial and venous vessels.

carbon dioxide (CO₂) {**dióxido de carbono**} Waste material transported in the venous blood.

carbuncle [KĀR-bŭng-kl] {**carbunco**} Infected area of the skin producing pus and usually accompanied by fever.

carcinoma in situ [kăr-sĭ-NŌ-mă ĭn SĪ-tŭ] Localized malignancy that has not spread; contained at a site without spreading.

cardiac arrest Sudden stopping of the heart; also called asystole.

cardiac catheterization [kăth-ĕ-tĕr-ĭ-ZĀ-shŭn] Process of passing a thin catheter through an artery or vein to the

heart to take blood samples, inject a contrast medium, or measure various pressures.

cardiac cycle Repeated contraction and relaxation of the heart as it circulates blood within itself and pumps it out to the rest of the body or the lungs.

cardiac enzyme tests/studies Blood tests for determining levels of enzymes during a myocardial infarction; serum enzyme tests.

cardiac MRI Viewing of the heart by magnetic resonance imaging.

cardiac [KĀR-dē-ăk] **muscle** Striated involuntary muscle of the heart.

cardiac scan Process of viewing the heart muscle at work by scanning the heart of a patient into whom a radioactive substance has been injected.

cardiac tamponade [tăm-pō-NĀD] Compression of the heart caused by fluid accumulation in the pericardial sac.

cardiomyopathy [KĀR-dē-ō-mĭ-ŎP-ă-thē] {**cardiomiopatía**} Disease of the heart muscle.

cardiopulmonary [KĀR-dē-ō-PŪL-mō-nĕr-ē] **bypass** Procedure used during surgery to divert blood flow to and from the heart through a heart-lung machine and back into circulation.

cardiovascular [KĀR-dē-ō-VĀS-kyŭ-lăr] Relating to or affecting the heart and blood vessels.

cardiovascular [KĀR-dē-ō-VĀS-kyŭ-lăr] **system** Body system that includes the heart and blood vessels; circulatory system.

carotid [kă-RŎT-ĭd] **artery** Artery that transports oxygenated blood to the head and neck.

carpal [KĀR-păl] **tunnel syndrome** Pain and paresthesia in the hand due to repetitive motion injury of the median nerve.

carpus, carpal [KĀR-pŭs, KĀR-păl] **bone** Wrist; wrist bone.

cartilage [KĀR-tĭ-lăj] {**cartilago**} Flexible connective tissue found in joints, fetal skeleton, and the lining of various parts of the body.

cartilaginous [kăr-tĭ-LĀJ-ĭ-nŭs] **disk** Thick, circular mass of cartilage between the vertebrae of the spinal column.

casting {**colado**} Forming of a cast in a mold; placing of fiberglass or plaster over a body part to prevent its movement.

castration [kăs-TRĀ-shŭn] {**castración**} Removal of the testicles.

casts Materials formed in urine when protein accumulates; may indicate renal disease.

CAT (computerized axial tomography) scan Scan that shows images as detailed slices of a body part or organ.

cataract [KĀT-ă-răkt] {**catarata**} Cloudiness of the lens of the eye.

catecholamines [kăt-ĕ-KŎL-ă-mēnz] {**catecolaminas**} Hormones, such as epinephrine, released in response to stress.

cauterization [kăw-tĕr-ĭ-ZĀ-shŭn] {**cauterización**} Removal or destruction of tissue using chemicals or devices, such as laser-guided equipment.

- cecum** [SĚ-kŭm] {[ciego](#)} Pouch at the top of the large intestine connected to the bottom of the ileum.
- cell** [sĕl] Smallest unit of a living structure.
- cell body** Part of a nerve cell that has branches or fibers that reach out to send or receive impulses.
- cell-mediated immunity** Resistance to disease mediated by T cells.
- central nervous system** The brain and spinal cord.
- cerebellitis** [sĕr-ĕ-bĕl-Ī-tĭs] {[cerebelitis](#)} Inflammation of the cerebellum.
- cerebellum** [sĕr-ĕ-BĚL-ŭm] One of the four major divisions of the brain; division that coordinates musculoskeletal movement.
- cerebral angiogram** X-ray of the brain's blood vessels after a dye is injected.
- cerebral cortex** [SĚR-ĕ-brāl KŌR-tĕks] Outer portion of the cerebrum.
- cerebral infarction** [SĚR-ĕ-brāl ĩn-FĀRK-shŭn] *See* cerebrovascular accident.
- cerebral palsy** [SĚR-ĕ-brāl PĀWL-zĕ] Congenital disease caused by damage to the cerebrum during gestation or birth and resulting in lack of motor coordination.
- cerebrospinal** [SĚR-ĕ-brō-spĭ-nāl] **fluid (CSF)** Watery fluid that flows throughout the brain and around the spinal cord.
- cerebrovascular** [SĚR-ĕ-brō-VĀS-kyŭ-lār] **accident (CVA)** Neurological incident caused by disruption in the normal blood supply to the brain; stroke.
- cerebrum** [SĚR-ĕ-brŭm, sĕ-RĚ-brŭm] {[cerebrum](#)} One of the four major divisions of the brain; division involved with emotions, memory, conscious thought, moral behavior, sensory interpretations, and certain bodily movement.
- ceruminous** [sĕ-RŪ-mĭn-ŭs] **glands** Glands that secrete a waxy substance on the surface of the ear.
- cervical** [SĚR-vĭ-kl] **vertebrae** Seven vertebrae of the spinal column located in the neck.
- cervicitis** [sĕr-vĭ-SĪ-tĭs] Inflammation of the cervix.
- cervix** [SĚR-vĭks] {[cervix](#)} Protective part of uterus, located at the bottom and protruding through the vaginal wall; contains glands that secrete fluid into the vagina.
- chancroids** [SHĀNG-krŏyds] Bacterial infection that can be sexually transmitted; results in sores on the penis, urethra, or anus.
- cheeks** {[carrillos](#)} Walls of the oral cavity.
- cheilitis** [kĭ-LĪ-tĭs] {[queilitis](#)} Inflammation of the lips.
- cheiloplasty** [KĪ-lŏ-plās-tĕ] Repair of the lips.
- chemistry profile** *See* blood chemistry.
- cherry angioma** [ān-jĕ-Ō-mā] A dome-shaped vascular angioma lesion that usually occurs in the elderly.
- Cheyne-Stokes respiration** [chān stŏks rĕs-pĭ-RĀ-shŭn] Irregular breathing pattern with a period of apnea followed by deep, labored breathing that becomes shallow, then apneic.
- chiropractor** [kĭ-rŏ-PRĀK-tŏr] {[quiopráctico](#)} Health care professional who works to align the spinal column so as to treat certain ailments.
- chlamydia** [klă-MĪD-ĕ-ă] {[clamidia](#)} Sexually transmitted bacterial infection affecting various parts of the male or female reproductive systems; the bacterial agent itself.
- chloasma** [klŏ-ĀZ-mă] {[cloasma](#)} Group of fairly large, pigmented facial patches, often associated with pregnancy.
- cholangiography** [kŏ-lăn-jĕ-ŌG-ră-fĕ] X-ray of the bile ducts.
- cholangitis** [kŏ-lăn-JĪ-tĭs] {[colangitis](#)} Inflammation of the bile ducts.
- cholecystectomy** [KŌ-lĕ-sĭs-TĚK-tŏ-mĕ] Removal of the gallbladder.
- cholecystitis** [KŌ-lĕ-sĭs-TĪ-tĭs] {[colecistitis](#)} Inflammation of the gallbladder.
- cholecystography** [kŏ-lĕ-sĭs-TŌG-ră-fĕ] {[colecistografía](#)} X-ray of the gallbladder.
- choledocholithotomy** [kŏ-LĚD-ŏ-kŏ-lĭ-THŌT-ŏ-mĕ] Removal of stones from the common bile duct.
- cholelithiasis** [KŌ-lĕ-lĭ-THĪ-ă-sĭs] Gallstones in the gallbladder.
- cholelithotomy** [KŌ-lĕ-lĭ-THŌT-ŏ-mĕ] Removal of gallstones.
- cholelithotripsy** [kŏ-lĕ-LĪTH-ŏ-trĭp-sĕ] Breaking up or crushing of stones in the body, especially gallstones.
- cholesteatoma** [kŏ-lĕs-tĕ-ă-TŌ-mă] Fatty cyst within the middle ear.
- cholesterol** [kŏ-LĚS-tĕr-ŏl] {[colesterol](#)} Fatty substance present in animal fats; cholesterol circulates in the bloodstream, sometimes causing arterial plaque to form.
- chondromalacia** [KŌN-drŏ-mă-LĀ-shĕ-ă] {[condromalacia](#)} Softening of cartilage.
- chorion** [KŌ-rĕ-ŏn] {[corion](#)} Outermost membrane of the sac surrounding the fetus during gestation.
- choroid** [KŌ-rŏyd] {[coroides](#)} Thin posterior membrane in the middle layer of the eye.
- chronic bronchitis** Recurring or long-lasting bouts of bronchitis.
- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease** Disease of the bronchial tubes or lungs with chronic obstruction.
- chyme** [kĭm] {[quimo](#)} Semisolid mass of partially digested food and gastric juices that passes from the stomach to the small intestine.
- cicatrix** [SĪK-ă-trĭks] {[cicatriz](#)} Growth of fibrous tissue inside a wound that forms a scar; also, general term for scar.
- cilia** [SĪL-ĕ-ă] Hairlike extensions of a cell's surface that usually provide some protection by sweeping foreign particles away.
- ciliary** [SĪL-ĕ-ăr-ĕ] **body** Thick anterior membrane in the middle layer of the eye.
- circumcision** [sĕr-kŭm-SĪZH-ŭn] {[circuncisión](#)} Removal of the foreskin.
- cirrhosis** [sĭr-RŌ-sĭs] {[cirrosis](#)} Liver disease, often caused by alcoholism.
- claudication** [klăw-dĭ-KĀ-shŭn] {[claudicación](#)} Limping caused by inadequate blood supply during activity; usually subsides during rest.
- clavicle** [KLĀV-ĭ-kl] {[clavicula](#)} Curved bone of the shoulder that joins to the scapula; collar bone.

- climacteric** [klī-MĀK-tēr-ĭk] {**climaterio**} Period of hormonal changes just prior to menopause.
- clitoris** [KLĪT-ō-rĭs] {**clĭtoris**} Primary organ of female sexual stimulation, located at the top of the labia minora.
- closed fracture** Fracture with no open skin wound.
- coagulation** [kō-āg-yū-LĀ-shŭn] {**coagulaci3n**} Changing of a liquid, especially blood, into a semi-solid.
- coarctation** [kō-ārk-TĀ-shŭn] **of the aorta** Abnormal narrowing of the aorta.
- coccyx** [K3K-sĭks] {**c3ccix**} Small bone consisting of four fused vertebrae at the end of the spinal column; tailbone.
- cochlea** [K3K-lē-ā] {**caracol**} Snail-shaped structure in the inner ear that contains the organ of Corti.
- coitus** [K3-ĭ-tŭs] {**coito**} Sexual intercourse.
- cold sore** Eruption around the mouth or lips; herpes simplex virus Type 1.
- colectomy** [kō-LĒK-tō-mē] {**colectomĭa**} Removal of the colon.
- colic** [K3L-ĭk] {**c3lico**} Gastrointestinal distress, especially of infants.
- colitis** [kō-LĪ-tĭs] {**colitis**} Inflammation of the colon.
- collagen** [K3L-lā-jĕn] {**colāgeno**} Major protein substance that is tough and flexible and that forms connective tissue in the body.
- Colles' fracture** [k3lz] Fracture of the lower end of the radius.
- colon** [K3-l3n] {**colon**} Major portion of the large intestine.
- colonoscopy** [kō-l3n-3S-k3-pē] {**colonoscopia**} Examination of the colon using an endoscope.
- colostomy** [kō-L3S-tō-mē] {**colostomĭa**} Creation of an opening from the colon into the abdominal wall.
- colposcopy** [k3l-P3S-k3-pē] Examination of the vagina with a colposcope.
- coma** [K3-mā] {**coma**} Abnormally deep sleep with little or no response to stimuli.
- comedo** (*pl.*, **comedos**, **comedones**) [K3M-ē-d3, k3-MĒ-d3 (K3M-ē-d3z, k3-mē-D3-nĕz)] Open hair follicle filled with bacteria and sebum; common in acne; blackhead.
- comminuted** [K3M-ĭ-nŭ-tĕd] **fracture** Fracture with shattered bones.
- compact bone** Hard bone with a tightly woven structure.
- complete blood count (CBC)** Most common blood test for a number of factors.
- complex fracture** Fracture with part of the bone displaced.
- complicated fracture** Fracture involving extensive soft tissue injury.
- compound fracture** Fracture with an open skin wound; open fracture.
- compression fracture** Fracture of one or more vertebrae caused by compressing of the space between the vertebrae.
- computerized (axial) tomography (CT or CAT) scan** Radiographic imaging that produces cross-sectional images.
- concussion** [k3n-KŪSH-ŭn] {**concusĭ3n**} Brain injury due to trauma.
- condom** [K3N-d3m] {**cond3n**} Contraceptive device consisting of a rubber or vinyl sheath placed over the penis or as a lining that covers the vaginal canal that blocks contact between the sperm and the female sex organs.
- condom catheter** [KĀTH-ĕ-tĕr] Disposable catheter for urinary sample collection or incontinence.
- conduction system** Part of the heart containing specialized tissue that sends charges through heart fibers, causing the heart to contract and relax at regular intervals.
- conductivity** [k3n-dŭk-TĪV-ĭ-tĕ] {**conductividad**} Ability to transmit a signal.
- condyle** [K3N-dĭl] Rounded surface at the end of a bone.
- condyloma** [k3n-dĭ-L3-mā] {**condiloma**} Growth on the external genitalia.
- cones** [k3nz] {**conos**} Specialized receptor cells in the retina that perceive color and bright light.
- congenital** [k3n-JĒN-ĭ-tāl] **heart disease** Heart disease (usually a type of malformation) that exists at birth.
- congestive** [k3n-JĒS-tĭv] **heart failure** Inability of the heart to pump enough blood out during the cardiac cycle; collection of fluid in the lungs results.
- conization** [k3n-nĭ-ZĀ-shŭn] {**conizaci3n**} Removal of a cone-shaped section of the cervix for examination.
- conjunctiva** (*pl.*, **conjunctivae**) [k3n-JŪNK-tĭ-vā (k3n-JŪNK-tĭ-vĕ)] {**conjunctiva**} Mucous membrane lining the eyelid.
- conjunctivitis** [k3n-jŭnk-tĭ-VĪ-tĭs] {**conjunctivitis**} Inflammation of the conjunctiva of the eyelid.
- connective** [k3n-NĒK-tĭv] **tissue** Fibrous substance that forms the body's supportive framework.
- constipation** [k3n-stĭ-PĀ-shŭn] {**constipaci3n**} Difficult or infrequent defecation.
- constriction** [k3n-STRĪK-shŭn] {**constricĭ3n**} Compression or narrowing caused by contraction, as of a vessel.
- contact lenses** Corrective lenses worn on the surface of the eye.
- contraception** [k3n-trā-SĒP-shŭn] {**anticoncepci3n**} Method of controlling conception by blocking access or interrupting reproductive cycles; birth control.
- contracture** [k3n-TRĀK-chŭr] Extreme resistance to the stretching of a muscle.
- contraindicated** [k3n-trā-ĭn-dĭ-KĀ-tĕd] Inadvisable to use; said especially of a drug that might cause complications when used in combination with other drugs or when used on a patient with a particular set of symptoms.
- convolutions** [k3n-v3-LŪ-shŭnz] {**circunvoluci3n**} Folds in the cerebral cortex; gyri.
- copulation** [k3p-yū-LĀ-shŭn] {**copulaci3n**} Sexual intercourse.
- cordotomy** [k3r-D3T-3-mē] {**cordotomĭa**} Removing part of the spinal cord.
- corium** [K3-rĕ-ŭm] {**corium**} See dermis.
- corn** {**callo**} Growth of hard skin, usually on the toes.
- cornea** [K3R-nĕ-ā] {**cornea**} Transparent anterior section of the eyeball that bends light in a process called refraction.
- coronal** [K3R-3-nāl] **plane** Imaginary line that divides the body into anterior and posterior positions.
- coronary angioplasty** See angioplasty.
- coronary** [K3R-3-nār-ĕ] **artery** Blood vessel that supplies oxygen-rich blood to the heart.
- coronary artery disease** Condition that reduces the flow of blood and nutrients through the arteries of the heart.

coronary bypass surgery See bypass.

corpus callosum [KÖR-pūs kā-LŌ-süm] Bridge of nerve fibers that connects the two hemispheres of the cerebrum.

cortex [KÖR-těks] {**corteza**} Outer portion of the kidney.

corticosteroids [KÖR-ti-kō-STĚR-ōydz] Steroids produced by the adrenal cortex.

cortisol [KÖR-ti-sōl] {**cortisol**} Hydrocortisone.

Cowper's [KŌW-pěrs] **gland** One of two glands below the prostate that secrete a fluid to lubricate the inside of the urethra.

crackles [KRĀK-ls] Popping sounds heard in lung collapse or other conditions; rales.

cranial [KRĀ-nē-āl] **cavity** Space in the head that contains the brain.

cranial [KRĀ-nē-āl] **nerves** Any of 12 pairs of nerves that carry impulses to and from the brain.

craniectomy [krā-nē-ĚK-tō-mē] {**craniectomía**} Removal of a part of the skull.

craniotomy [krā-nē-ŎT-ō-mē] {**craneotomía**} Incision into the skull.

cranium [KRĀ-nē-üm] {**cráneo**} Bony structure that the brain sits in.

creatine [KRĚ-ă-tēn] {**creatina**} Substance found in urine; elevated levels may indicate muscular dystrophy.

creatinine [krē-ĀT-ĭ-nēn] {**creatinina**} A component of creatine.

crest {**cresta**} Bony ridge.

Crohn's [krŏnz] **disease** Type of irritable bowel disease with no ulcers.

cross-sectional plane Imaginary line that intersects the body horizontally.

croup [krüp] {**crup**} Acute respiratory syndrome in children or infants accompanied by seal-like coughing.

crust {**costar**} Hard layer, especially one formed by dried pus, as in a scab.

cryosurgery [krī-ō-SĚR-jěr-ē] {**criocirugía**} 1. Surgery that removes tissue by freezing it with liquid nitrogen. 2. Destruction by freezing.

cryptorchism [krĭp-TŎR-kĭzm] Birth defect with the failure of one or both of the testicles to descend into the scrotal sac.

CT (computed tomography) scan CAT scan.

culdocentesis [KŪL-dō-sēn-tē-sĭs] Taking of a fluid sample from the base of the pelvic cavity to see if an ectopic pregnancy has ruptured.

culdoscopy [kŭl-DŎS-kō-pē] Examination of the pelvic cavity using an endoscope.

curettage [kyū-rě-TĀHZH] Removal of tissue from an area, such as a wound, by scraping.

Cushing's [KŪSH-ĭngs] **syndrome** Group of symptoms caused by overactivity of the adrenal glands.

cuticle [KYŪ-tĭ-kl] {**cutícula**} Thin band of epidermis that surrounds the edge of nails, except at the top.

cyanosis [sĭ-ă-NŎ-sĭs] {**cianosis**} Bluish or purplish coloration, as of the skin, caused by inadequate oxygenation of the blood.

cyst [sĭst] {**quiste**} Abnormal sac containing fluid.

cystectomy [sĭs-TĚK-tō-mē] {**cistectomía**} Surgical removal of the bladder.

cystic fibrosis [SĪS-tĭk fĭ-BRŎ-sĭs] Disease that causes chronic airway obstruction and also affects the bronchial tubes.

cystitis [sĭs-TĪ-tĭs] {**cistitis**} Inflammation of the bladder.

cystocele [SĪS-tō-sēl] {**cistocele**} Hernia of the bladder.

cystolith [SĪS-tō-lĭth] {**cistolito**} Bladder stone.

cystopexy [SĪS-tō-pĕk-sē] Surgical fixing of the bladder to the abdominal wall.

cystoplasty [SĪS-tō-plās-tē] Surgical repair of the bladder.

cystorrhaphy [sĭs-TŎR-ă-fē] {**cistorrafia**} Suturing of a damaged bladder.

cystoscope [SĪS-tō-skŏp] {**cistoscopio**} Tubular instrument for examining the interior of the bladder.

cystoscopy [sĭs-TŎS-kŏ-pē] The insertion of a cystoscope to examine the bladder with light.

cytotoxic [sĭ-tō-TŎK-sĭk] **cell** T cell that helps in destruction of infected cells throughout the body.

D

dacryoadenitis [DĀK-rē-ō-ăd-ě-NĪ-tĭs] Inflammation of the lacrimal glands.

dacryocystectomy [dăk-rē-ō-sĭs-TĚK-tō-mē] Removal of a lacrimal sac.

dacryocystitis [DĀK-rē-ō-sĭs-TĪ-tĭs] Inflammation of a tear duct.

deafness Loss or absence of hearing.

debridement [dā-brĕd-MŎN] Removal of dead tissue from a wound.

decibel [DĚS-ĭ-bĕl] {**decibel**} Measure of the intensity of sound.

decubitus (*pl.*, **decubiti**) [dĕ-KYŪ-bĭ-tŭs (dĕ-KYŪ-bĭ-tĭ)] {**decubiti**} **ulcer** Chronic ulcer on skin over bony parts that are under constant pressure; pressure sore.

deep Away from the surface (of the body).

deep vein thrombosis [thrŏm-BŎ-sĭs] Formation of a thrombus (clot) in a deep vein, such as a femoral vein.

defecation [dĕ-fĕ-KĀ-shŭn] {**defecación**} Release of feces from the anus.

degenerative arthritis Arthritis with erosion of the cartilage.

deglutition [dĕ-glŭ-TĪSH-ŭn] {**deglución**} Swallowing.

dementia [dĕ-MĚN-shĕ-ă] {**demencia**} 1. Deterioration in mental capacity, usually in the elderly. 2. Disorder, particularly in older adulthood, with multiple cognitive defects.

demyelination [dĕ-MĪ-ě-lĭ-NĀ-shŭn] {**desmielinación**} Destruction of myelin sheath, particularly in MS.

dendrite [DĚN-drĭt] {**dendrita**} A thin branching extension of a nerve cell that conducts nerve impulses toward the cell body.

densitometer [dĕn-sĭ-TŎM-ě-tĕr] Device that measures bone density using light and x-rays.

depigmentation [dĕ-pĭg-mĕn-TĀ-shŭn] Loss of color of the skin.

depolarization [dĕ-pŏ-lă-rĭ-ZĀ-shŭn] {**despolarización**} Contracting state of the myocardial tissue in the heart's conduction system.

- dermabrasion** [dĕr-mă-BRĀ-zhŭn] {**dermabrasión**} Removal of wrinkles, scars, tattoos, and other marks by scraping with brushes or emery papers.
- dermatitis** [dĕr-mă-TĪ-tis] {**dermatitis**} Inflammation of the skin.
- dermatology** [dĕr-mă-TÖL-ō-jĕ] {**dermatología**} Medical specialty that deals with diseases of the skin.
- dermis** [DĒR-mĭs] {**dermis**} Layer of skin beneath the epidermis containing blood vessels, nerves, and some glands.
- diabetes** [dĭ-ă-BĒ-tĕz] {**diabetes**} See Type I diabetes, Type II diabetes.
- diabetes insipidus** [ĭn-SĪP-ĭ-dŭs] Condition caused by hyposecretion of antidiuretic hormone.
- diabetes mellitus** [MĒL-ĭ-tŭs, mĕ-LĪ-tŭs] See Type I diabetes, Type II diabetes.
- diabetic nephropathy** [dĭ-ă-BĒT-ĭk nĕ-FRŌP-ă-thĕ] Kidney disease due to diabetes.
- diabetic neuropathy** [nŭ-RŌP-ă-thĕ] Loss of sensation in the extremities due to diabetes.
- diabetic retinopathy** [rĕt-ĭ-NŌP-ă-thĕ] Gradual loss of vision due to diabetes.
- dialysis** [dĭ-ĀL-ĭ-sĭs] {**diálisis**} Method of filtration used when kidneys fail.
- diaphoresis** [DĪ-ă-fŏ-RĒ-sĭs] {**diaforesis**} Excretion of fluid by the sweat glands; sweating.
- diaphragm** [DĪ-ă-frăġm] {**diafragma**} Muscle that divides the abdominal and thoracic cavities; membranous muscle between the abdominal and thoracic cavities that contracts and relaxes during the respiratory cycle; contraceptive device that covers the cervix and blocks sperm from entering; used in conjunction with spermicide.
- diaphysis** [dĭ-ĀF-ĭ-sĭs] {**diáfisis**} Long middle section of a long bone; shaft.
- diarrhea** [dĭ-ă-RĒ-ă] {**diarrea**} Loose, watery stool.
- diarthroses** (*sing.*, **diarthrosis**) [dĭ-ăr-THRŌ-sĕz (dĭ-ăr-THRŌ-sĭs)] Freely movable joints.
- diastole** [dĭ-ĀS-tŏ-lĕ] {**diástole**} Relaxation phase of a heartbeat.
- diencephalon** [dĭ-ĕn-SĔF-ă-lŏn] {**diencefalo**} One of the four major structures of the brain; it is the deep portion of the brain and contains the thalamus.
- digestion** [dĭ-JĔS-chŭn] {**digestión**} Conversion of food into nutrients for the body and into waste products for release from the body.
- digestive** [dĭ-JĔS-tĭv] **system** Body system that includes all organs of digestion and waste excretion, from the mouth to the anus.
- digital subtraction angiography** Use of two angiograms done with different dyes to provide a comparison between the results.
- diopter** [dĭ-ŌP-tĕr] Unit of refracting power of a lens.
- diphtheria** [dĭf-THĒR-ĕ-ă] {**difteria**} Acute infection of the throat and upper respiratory tract caused by bacteria.
- diplopia** [dĭ-PLŌ-pĕ-ă] {**diplopfía**} Double vision.
- disk** [dĭsk] {**disco**} See cartilaginous disk.
- diskography** [dĭs-KŌG-ră-fĕ] {**discografía**} Radiographic image of an intervertebral disk by injection of a contrast medium into the center of the disk.
- dislocation** {**dislocación**} Movement of a joint out of its normal position as a result of an injury or sudden, strenuous movement.
- distal** [DĪS-tăł] Away from the point of attachment to the trunk.
- diverticula** [dĭ-vĕr-TĪK-yŭ-lă] Small pouches in the intestinal walls.
- diverticulectomy** [dĭ-vĕr-tĭk-ŭ-LĔK-tŏ-mĕ] Removal of diverticula.
- diverticulitis** [DĪ-vĕr-tĭk-yŭ-LĪ-tĭs] {**diverticulitis**} Inflammation of the diverticula.
- diverticulosis** [DĪ-vĕr-tĭk-yŭ-LŌ-sĭs] {**diverticulosis**} Condition in which diverticula trap food or bacteria.
- dopamine** [DŌ-pă-mĕn] {**dopamina**} Substance in the brain or manufactured substance that helps relieve symptoms of Parkinson's disease.
- Doppler** [DŌP-lĕr] **ultrasound** Ultrasound test of blood flow in certain blood vessels.
- dorsal** [DŌR-săł] At or toward the back of the body.
- dorsal** [DŌR-săł] **cavity** Main cavity on the back side of the body containing the cranial and spinal cavities.
- dorsal vertebrae** Thoracic vertebrae.
- drug** [drŭg] {**droga**} Biological or chemical agents that can aid or alter body functions.
- druggist** [DRŪG-ĭst] {**boticario**} See pharmacist.
- ductless gland** Endocrine gland.
- ductus arteriosus** [DŪK-tŭs ār-tĕr-ĕ-Ō-sŭs] Structure in the fetal circulatory system through which blood flows to bypass the fetus's nonfunctioning lungs.
- ductus venosus** [vĕn-Ō-sŭs] Structure in the fetal circulatory system through which blood flows to bypass the fetal liver.
- duodenal** [DŪ-ŏ-DE-năł] **ulcer** Ulcer in the duodenum.
- duodenum** [dŭ-ŏ-DE-nŭm] {**duodeno**} Top part of the small intestine where chyme mixes with bile, pancreatic juices, and intestinal juice to continue the digestive process.
- dura mater** [DŪ-ră MĀ-tĕr] Outermost layer of meninges.
- duritis** [dŭ-RĪ-tĭs] Inflammation of the dura mater.
- dwarfism** [DWŌRF-ĭzm] {**enanismo**} Abnormally stunted growth caused by hyposecretion of growth hormone, congenital lack of a thyroid gland, or a genetic defect.
- dyscrasia** [dĭs-KRĀ-zĕ-ă] {**dyscrasia**} Any disease with abnormal particles in the blood.
- dysentery** [DĪS-ĕn-tĕr-ĕ] {**disentería**} Irritation of the intestinal tract with loose stools.
- dysmenorrhea** [dĭs-mĕn-ŏr-Ē-ă] {**dismenorrea**} Painful menstruation.
- dyspareunia** [dĭs-pă-RŪ-nĕ-ă] {**dispareunia**} Painful sexual intercourse due to any of various conditions, such as cysts, infection, or dryness, in the vagina.
- dyspepsia** [dĭs-PĔP-sĕ-ă] {**dispepsia**} Indigestion.
- dysphagia** [dĭs-FĀ-jĕ-ă] {**disfagia**} Difficulty in swallowing.
- dysphasia** [dĭs-FĀ-zĕ-ă] {**disfasia**} Speech difficulty.

dysphonia [dĭs-FŌ-nē-ă] [**disfonía**] Hoarseness usually caused by laryngitis.
dyspnea [dĭsp-NĒ-ă] [**disnea**] Difficult breathing.
dysrhythmia [dĭs-RĪTH-mē-ă] [**disritmia**] Abnormal heart rhythm.
dystonia [dĭs-TŌ-nē-ă] [**distonia**] Abnormal tone in tissues.
dysuria [dĭs-YŪ-rē-ă] [**disuria**] Painful urination.

E

ear [ēr] [**oreja, oído**] Organ of hearing.
eardrum [ĒR-drŭm] [**tambor de oído**] Oval, semitransparent membrane that moves in response to sound waves and produces vibrations.
ecchymosis (*pl.*, **ecchymoses**) [ĕk-ĭ-MŌ-sĭs (ĕk-ĭ-MŌ-sēz)] [**equimosis**] Purplish skin patch (bruise) caused by broken blood vessels beneath the surface.
eccrine [ĔK-rĭn] **glands** [**glándulas eccrinas**] Sweat glands that occur all over the body, except where the apocrine glands occur.
echocardiography [ĕk-ō-kār-dē-ŌG-ră-fē] [**ecocardiografía**] Use of sound waves to produce images showing the structure and motion of the heart.
eczema [ĔK-zē-mă] [**eccema**] Severe inflammatory condition of the skin, usually of unknown cause.
edema [ĕ-DE-mă] [**edema**] Retention of water in cells, tissues, and cavities, sometimes due to kidney disease.
efferent [ĔF-ēr-ĕnt] (**motor**) **neuron** Neuron that carries information to the muscles and glands from the central nervous system.
ejaculation [ĕ-jăk-yŭ-LĀ-shŭn] [**eyaculación**] Expulsion of semen outside the body.
ejection fraction Percentage of the volume of the contents of the left ventricle ejected with each contraction.
elbow [ĔL-bō] [**codó**] Joint between the upper arm and the forearm.
electrocardiography [ĕ-lĕk-trō-kār-dē-ŌG-ră-fē] Use of the electrocardiograph in diagnosis.
electrodesiccation [ĕ-LĔK-trō-dĕ-sĭ-KĀ-shŭn] Drying with electrical current.
electroencephalogram (EEG) [ĕ-LĔK-trō-ĕn-SĔF-ă-lō-grăm] [**electroencefalógráfo**] Record of the electrical impulses of the brain.
electrolyte [ĕ-LĔK-trō-lĭt] [**electrólito**] Any substance that conducts electricity and is decomposed by it.
electromyogram [ĕ-lĕk-trō-MĪ-ō-grăm] [**electromiógráfo**] A graphic image of muscular action using electrical currents.
electrophoresis [ĕ-lĕk-trō-FŌR-ē-sĭs] [**electroforesis**] Process of separating particles in a solution by passing electricity through the liquid.
elimination [ĕ-lĭm-ĭ-NĀ-shŭn] The conversion of waste material from a liquid to a semisolid and removal of that material via defecation.
embolectomy [ĕm-bō-LĔK-tō-mē] [**embolectomía**] Surgical removal of an embolus.
embolic [ĕm-BŌL-ĭk] **stroke** Sudden stroke caused by an embolus.
embolus [ĔM-bō-lŭs] [**émbolo**] Mass of foreign material blocking a vessel; clot from somewhere in the body that blocks a small blood vessel in the brain.
emesis [ĕ-MĒ-sĭs] [**emesis**] See regurgitation.
emphysema [ĕm-fă-SĔ-mă] [**enfisema**] Chronic condition of hyperinflation of the air sacs; often caused by prolonged smoking.
empyema [ĕm-pĭ-Ē-mă] [**empiema**] Pus in the pleural cavity.
emulsification [ĕ-MŪL-sĭ-fĭ-KĀ-shŭn] Breaking down of fats.
encephalitis [ĕn-sĕf-ă-LĪ-tĭs] [**encefalitis**] Inflammation of the brain.
encephalogram [ĕn-SĔF-ă-lō-grăm] [**encefalograma**] Record of the radiographic study of the ventricles of the brain.
endarterectomy [ĕnd-ăr-tēr-ĔK-tō-mē] Surgical removal of the diseased portion of the lining of an artery.
endocarditis [ĔN-dō-kār-DĪ-tĭs] [**endocarditis**] Inflammation of the endocardium, especially an inflammation caused by a bacterial (for example, staphylococci) or fungal agent.
endocardium [ĕn-dō-KĀR-dē-ŭm] [**endocardio**] Membranous lining of the chambers and valves of the heart; the innermost layer of heart tissue.
endocrine [ĔN-dō-krĭn] **gland** [**glándula endocrina**] Gland that secretes substances into the bloodstream instead of into ducts.
endocrine [ĔN-dō-krĭn] **system** Body system that includes glands which secrete hormones to regulate certain body functions.
endolymph [ĔN-dō-lĭmf] [**endolinfa**] Fluid inside the membranous labyrinth.
endometriosis [ĔN-dō-mē-trē-Ō-sĭs] [**endometriosis**] Abnormal condition in which uterine wall tissue is found in the pelvis or on the abdominal wall.
endometrium [ĔN-dō-MĒ-trē-ŭm] [**endometrio**] Inner mucous layer of the uterus.
endoscope [ĔN-dō-skōp] [**endoscopio**] Tube used to view a body cavity.
endosteum [ĕn-DŌS-tē-ŭm] [**endostio**] Lining of the medullary cavity.
endothelium [ĕn-dō-THĒ-lē-ŭm] [**endotelio**] Lining of the arteries that secretes substances into the blood.
endotracheal intubation [ĕn-dō-TRĀ-kē-ăl ĭn-tŭ-BĀ-shŭn] (**ET**) Insertion of a tube through the nose or mouth, pharynx, and larynx and into the trachea to establish an airway.
endovascular [ĕn-dō-VĀS-kyŭ-lăr] **surgery** Any of various procedures performed during cardiac catheterization, such as angiography and atherectomy.
end-stage renal disease (ESRD) The last stages of kidney failure.
enteric-coated [ĕn-TĒR-ĭk] Having a coating (as on a capsule) that prevents stomach irritation.
enteritis [ĕn-tēr-Ī-tĭs] [**enteritis**] Inflammation of the small intestine.
enucleation [ĕ-nŭ-klē-Ā-shŭn] [**enucleación**] Removal of an eyeball.
enuresis [ĕn-yŭ-RĒ-sĭs] [**enuresis**] Urinary incontinence.

- enzyme** [ĚN-zīm] {enzima} Protein that causes chemical changes in substances in the digestive tract.
- enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (EIA, ELISA)** Test used to screen blood for the presence of antibodies to different viruses or bacteria.
- eosinophil** [ē-ō-SĪN-ō-fīl] {eosinófilo} Type of granulocyte.
- eosinophilia** [Ě-ō-sin-ō-FĪL-ē-ā] {eosinofilia} Condition with an abnormal number of eosinophils in the blood.
- epicardium** [ĕp-ī-KĀR-dē-ŭm] {epicardio} Outermost layer of heart tissue.
- epidermis** [ĕp-ī-DĚRM-ŭs] {epidermis} Outer portion of the skin containing several strata.
- epididymectomy** [ĚP-ī-did-ī-MĚK-tō-mē] Removal of an epididymis.
- epididymis** [ĕp-ī-DĪD-ī-mīs] {epidídimo} Group of ducts at the top of the testis where sperm are stored.
- epididymitis** [ĕp-ī-did-ī-MĪ-tīs] {epididimitis} Inflammation of the epididymis.
- epidural** [ĕp-ī-DŪR-āl] **space** Area between the pia mater and the bones of the spinal cord.
- epigastric** [ĕp-ī-GĀS-trík] **region** Area of the body immediately above the stomach.
- epiglottis** [ĕp-ī-GLŌ-tīs] {epiglótis} Cartilaginous flap that covers the larynx during swallowing to prevent food from entering the airway; movable flap of tissue that covers the trachea.
- epiglottitis** [ĕp-ī-glŏt-Ī-tīs] {epiglottitis} Inflammation of the epiglottis.
- epilepsy** [ĚP-ī-LĚP-sē] Chronic recurrent seizure activity.
- epinephrine** [ĚP-ī-NĚF-rīn] {epinefrina} Hormone released by the adrenal medulla in response to stress; adrenaline.
- epiphora** [ĕ-PĪF-ō-rā] {epifora} Excessive tearing.
- epiphyseal** [ĕp-ī-FĪZ-ē-āl] **plate** Cartilaginous tissue that is replaced during growth years, but eventually calcifies and disappears when growth stops.
- epiphysitis** [ĕ-pīf-ī-SĪ-tīs] {epifisitis} Inflammation of the epiphysis.
- epispadias** [ĕp-ī-SPĀ-dē-ās] {epispadias} Birth defect with abnormal opening of the urethra on the top side of the penis.
- epistaxis** [ĚP-ī-STĀK-sīs] Bleeding from the nose, usually caused by trauma or a sudden rupture of the blood vessels of the nose.
- epithalamus** [ĚP-ī-THĀL-ā-mŭs] {epitálamó} One of the parts of the diencephalon; serves as a sensory relay station.
- epithelial** [ĕp-ī-THĚ-lē-āl] **tissue** Tissue that covers or lines the body or its parts.
- equilibrium** [ē-kwī-LĪB-rē-ŭm] {equilibrio} Sense of balance.
- erosion** {erosion} Wearing away of the surface of the skin, especially when caused by friction.
- eructation** [ē-rŭk-TĀ-shŭn] {eructación} Belching.
- erythrocyte** [ĕ-RĪTH-rō-sīt] {eritrocito} Mature red blood cell.
- erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)** Test for rate at which red blood cells fall through plasma.
- erythropenia** [ĕ-rĭth-rō-PĚ-nē-ā] {eritropenia} Disorder with abnormally low number of red blood cells.
- erythropoietin** [ĕ-rĭth-rō-PŌY-ĕ-tĭn] {eritropoyetina} Hormone released by the kidneys to stimulate red blood cell production.
- esophagitis** [ĕ-sŏf-ā-Ī-tīs] {esofagitis} Inflammation of the esophagus.
- esophagoplasty** [ĕ-SŌF-ā-gŏ-plās-tē] {esofagoplastia} Repair of the esophagus.
- esophagoscopy** [ĕ-sŏf-ā-GŌS-kŏ-pē] {esofagoscopia} Examination of the esophagus with an esophagoscope.
- esophagus** [ĕ-SŌF-ā-gŭs] {esófago} Part of the alimentary canal from the pharynx to the stomach.
- esotropia** [ĕs-ō-TRŌ-pē-ā] {esotropía} Deviation of one eye inward.
- essential hypertension** High blood pressure without any known cause.
- estrogen** [ĚS-trŏ-jĕn] {estrógeno} One of the primary female hormones produced by the ovaries.
- ethmoid** [ĚTH-mŏyd] **bone** Irregular bone of the face attached to the sphenoid bone.
- ethmoid sinuses** Sinuses on both sides of the nasal cavities between each eye and the sphenoid sinus.
- eupnea** [yŭp-NĚ-ā, YŪP-nē-ā] {eupnea} Normal breathing.
- eustachian** [yŭ-STĀ-shŭn, yŭ-STĀ-kē-ān] **tube** Tube that connects the middle ear to the pharynx.
- evoked potentials** [ĕ-VŌKT pŏ-TĒN-shāls] Record of the electrical wave patterns observed in an EEG.
- excitability** [ĕk-SĪ-tā-BĪL-ī-tē] {excitabilidad} Ability to respond to stimuli.
- excoriation** [ĕks-KŌ-rē-Ā-shŭn] {excoriación} Injury to the surface of the skin caused by a scratch, abrasion, or burn, usually accompanied by some oozing.
- excrete** [ĕks-KRĚT] To separate out and expel.
- exhalation** [ĕks-hā-LĀ-shŭn] {exhalación} Breathing out.
- exocrine** [ĚK-sŏ-krĭn] **gland** {exocrine} 1. Any gland that releases substances through ducts to a specific location. 2. Gland that secretes through ducts toward the outside of the body.
- exophthalmos, exophthalmus** [ĕk-sŏf-THĀL-mŏs] {exoftalmía} Abnormal protrusion of the eyeballs; abnormal protrusion of the eyes typical of Graves' disease.
- exostosis** [ĕks-ŏs-TŌ-sīs] {exostosis} Abnormal bone growth capped with cartilage.
- exotropia** [ĕk-sŏ-TRŌ-pē-ā] Deviation of one eye outward.
- expiration** [ĕks-pī-RĀ-shŭn] {expiración} Exhalation.
- external nares** [NĀR-ēz] See nostrils.
- external respiration** Exchange of air between the body and the outside environment.
- extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (ESWL)** Breaking of kidney stones by using shock waves from outside the body.
- exudate** [ĚKS-yŭ-dāt] {exudado} Any fluid excreted out of tissue, especially fluid excreted out of an injury to the skin.
- eye** [ī] {ojo} Organ of sight.
- eyebrow** [Ī-brŏw] {ceja} Clump of hair, usually about a half an inch above the eye, that helps to keep foreign particles from entering the eye.

eyelashes [Ī-lāsh-ĕz] {pestaña} Group of hairs protruding from the end of the eyelid; helps to keep foreign particles from entering the eye.
eyelid [Ī-līd] {párpado} Moveable covering over the eye.
eyestrain {vista fatigada} Asthenopia.

F

fainting See syncope.

fallopian [fă-LŌ-pē-ăn] **tube** One of the two tubes that lead from the ovaries to the uterus; uterine tube.

farsightedness {hiperopía} Hyperopia.

fascia (pl., fasciae) [FĀSH-ē-ă (FĀSH-ē-ē)] {fascia} Sheet of fibrous tissue that encloses muscles.

fasting blood sugar Test for glucose in blood following a fast of 12 hours.

fatty acid Acid derived from fat during the digestive process.

feces [FĒ-sēz] {heces} Semisolid waste that moves through the large intestine to the anus, where it is released from the body.

femoral [FĒM-ō-rāl, FĒ-mō-rāl] **artery** An artery that supplies blood to the thigh.

femur [FĒ-mūr] {fémur} Long bone of the thigh.

fever blister Eruption around the mouth or lips; herpes simplex virus Type 1.

fibrillation [fĭ-brĭ-LĀ-shŭn] {fibrilación} Random, chaotic, irregular heart rhythm.

fibrin [FĪ-brĭn] **clot** Clot-forming threads formed at the site of an injury during coagulation where platelets clump together with various other substances.

fibrinogen [fi-BRĪN-ō-jĕn] {fibrinógeno} Protein in plasma that aids in clotting.

fibroid [FĪ-brōyd] {fibroide} Benign tumor commonly found in the uterus.

fibula [FĪB-yū-lă] {peroné} Smallest long bone of the lower leg.

filtration [fĭl-TRĀ-shŭn] {filtración} Process of separating solids from a liquid by passing it through a porous substance.

fimbriae [FĪM-brē-ē] {fimbrias} Hairlike ends of the uterine tubes that sweep the ovum into the uterus.

first-degree burn Least severe burn, causes injury to the surface of the skin without blistering.

fissure [FĪSH-ūr] {fisura} 1. Deep slit in the skin. 2. Deep furrow or slit (as in bone). 3. One of many indentations of the cerebrum; sulcus.

fistula [FĪS-tyū-lă] {fistula} Abnormal opening in tissue.

flagellum [flă-JĒL-ŭm] {flagelo} Tail at the end of a sperm that helps it move.

flat bones Thin, flattened bones that cover certain areas, as of the skull.

flatulence [FLĀT-yū-lĕns] {flatulencia} Gas in the stomach or intestines.

flatus [FLĀ-tŭs] {flato} Gas in the lower intestinal tract that can be released through the anus.

flutter {aleteo} Regular but very rapid heartbeat.

Foley catheter Indwelling catheter held in place by a balloon that inflates inside the bladder.

follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) Hormone necessary for maturation of oocytes and ovulation; hormone released by the anterior pituitary to aid in production of ova and sperm.

fontanelle [FŌN-tă-nĕl] {fontanela} Soft, membranous section on top of an infant's skull.

foramen [fō-RĀ-mĕn] {agujero} Opening or perforation through a bone.

foramen magnum [MĀG-nŭm] Opening in the occipital bone through which the spinal cord passes.

foramen ovale [ō-VĀ-lĕ] Opening in the septum of the fetal heart that closes at birth.

foreskin [FŌR-skĭn] {prepucio} Fold of skin at the top of the labia minora; flap of skin covering the glans penis; removed by circumcision in many cultures.

fossa (pl., fossae) [FŌS-ă (FŌS-ē)] {fosa} Depression, as in a bone.

fovea centralis [FŌ-vē-ă sĕn-TRĀL-ĭs] Depression in the center of the macula lutea; perceives sharpest images.

fracture [FRĀK-chŭr] {fractura} A break, especially in a bone.

frenulum [FRĒN-yū-lŭm] {frenillo} Mucous membrane that attaches the tongue to the floor of the mouth.

frontal [FRŪN-tăl] **bone** Large bone of the skull that forms the top of the head and forehead.

frontal lobe One of the four parts of each hemisphere of the cerebrum.

frontal [FRŪN-tăl] **plane** Imaginary line that divides the body into anterior and posterior positions.

frontal sinuses Sinuses above the eyes.

fulguration [fŭl-gŭ-RĀ-shŭn] {fulguración} Destruction of tissue using electric sparks or by high-frequency current.

fundus [FŪN-dŭs] {fondo} Top portion of the uterus; upper portion of the stomach.

furuncle [FYŪ-rŭng-kl] {furúnculo} Localized skin infection, usually in a hair follicle and containing pus; boil.

G

gait [gāt] {marcha} Manner of walking.

gallbladder [GĀWL-blăd-ĕr] {vesícula biliar} Organ on lower surface of liver; stores bile.

gallop {galope} Triple sound of a heartbeat, usually indicative of serious heart disease.

gallstones {cálculo biliar} Calculi in the gallbladder.

gamete [GĀM-ĕt] {gameto} Sex cell; see ovum.

gamma globulin [GĀ-mă GLŌB-yū-lĭn] 1. Globulin that arises in lymphatic tissue and functions as part of the immune system. 2. Antibodies given to prevent or lessen certain diseases.

gangliitis [găng-glĕ-Ī-tĭs] {ganglitis} Inflammation of a ganglion.

ganglion (pl., ganglia, ganglions) [GĀNG-glĕ-ŏn (-ă, -ŏns)] {ganglion} Any group of nerve cell bodies forming a mass or a cyst in the peripheral nervous system; usually forms in the wrist.

gangrene [GĀNG-grĕn] {gangrena} Death of an area of skin, usually caused by loss of blood supply to the area.

gastrectomy [gäs-TRĚK-tō-mē] {**gastrectomia**} Removal of part or all of the stomach.

gastric bypass See gastric resection.

gastric resection or gastric bypass Removal of part of the stomach and repair of the remaining part.

gastritis [gäs-TRĪ-tis] {**gastritis**} Inflammation of the stomach.

gastroenteritis [GÄS-trō-ēn-tēr-Ī-tis] {**gastroenteritis**} Inflammation of the stomach and small intestine.

gastroscopy [gäs-TRÖS-kō-pē] {**gastroscopia**} Examination of the stomach using an endoscope.

generic [jě-NÄR-ik] {**genérico**} Shortened version of a chemical name.

genital herpes See herpes simplex virus Type 2.

gestation [jěs-TÄ-shün] {**gestación**} Period of fetal development from fertilization until delivery; usually about 40 weeks.

gigantism [JĪ-gän-tizm] {**gigantismo**} Abnormally fast and large growth caused by hypersecretion of growth hormone.

gland {**glándula**} Any organized mass of tissue secreting or excreting substances.

glans penis [glänz PĒ-nis] Sensitive area at the tip of the penis.

glaucoma [gläw-KŌ-mä] {**glaucoma**} Any of various diseases caused by abnormally high eye pressure.

glioblastoma multiforme [GLĪ-ō-bläs-TŌ-mä MŪL-tĭ-förm] Most malignant type of glioma.

glioma [glĪ-Ō-mä] {**glioma**} Tumor that arises from neuroglia.

globin [GLŌ-bin] {**globina**} Protein molecule; in the blood, a part of hemoglobin.

globulin [GLŌB-yū-lin] {**globulina**} Any of a family of proteins in blood plasma.

glomerulonephritis [glō-MÄR-yū-lō-něf-RĪ-tis] Inflammation of the glomeruli of the kidneys.

glomerulus (*pl.*, **glomeruli**) [glō-MÄR-yū-lis (glō-MÄR-yū-li)] {**glomérulo**} Group of capillaries in a nephron.

glossectomy [glō-SĚK-tō-mē] Removal of the tongue.

glossitis [glō-SĪ-tis] {**glositis**} Inflammation of the tongue.

glossorrhaphy [glō-SŌR-ă-fē] Suture of the tongue.

glottis [GLŌT-ĭs] {**glotis**} Part of the larynx consisting of the vocal folds of mucous membrane and muscle.

glucagon [GLŪ-kō-jěn] {**glucagon**} Hormone released by the pancreas to increase blood sugar.

glucocorticoids [glū-kō-KŌR-tĭ-köydz] Hormones released by the adrenal cortex.

glucose [GLŪ-kōs] {**glucosa**} Form of sugar found in the blood; may indicate diabetes when found in the urine; sugar found in fruits and plants and in various parts of the body.

glucose tolerance test (GTT) Blood test for body's ability to metabolize carbohydrates; taken after a 12-hour fast, then repeated every hour for 4 to 6 hours after ingestion of a sugar solution.

glycosuria [glū-kō-SŪ-rē-ă] Glucose in the urine.

glycated hemoglobin Blood test for an average of glucose levels over the previous 2-3 months.

glycogen [GLĪ-kō-jěn] {**glucógeno**} Converted glucose stored in the liver for future use; starch that can be converted into glucose.

glycosuria [glū-kō-SŪ-rē-ă] Glucose in the urine.

goiter [GÖY-tēr] {**bocio**} Abnormal enlargement of the thyroid gland as a result of its overactivity or lack of iodine in the diet.

gonad [GŌ-näd] {**gónada**} Male or female sex organ; see ovary.

goniometer [gō-nē-ŌM-ě-tēr] {**goniómetro**} Instrument that measures angles or range of motion in a joint.

gonorrhea [gōn-ō-RĚ-ă] {**gonorrea**} Sexually transmitted inflammation of the genital membranes.

gouty arthritis, gout [GŌWT-ē, göwt] Inflammation of the joints, present in gout; usually caused by uric acid crystals.

graafian follicle [grä-FĚ-än FŌL-ĭ-kl] Follicle in the ovary that holds an oocyte during development and then releases it.

graft Any tissue or organ implanted to replace or mend damaged areas.

grand mal [mähl] **seizure** See tonic-clonic seizure.

granulocyte [GRÄN-yū-lō-sĭt] Leukocyte with granular cytoplasm.

Graves' disease [grävz] Overactivity of the thyroid gland.

gravid [GRÄV-ĭ-dä] {**grávida**} Pregnant woman.

greenstick fracture Fracture with twisting or bending of the bone but no breaking; usually occurs in children.

growth hormone (GH) Hormone released by the anterior pituitary.

gums [gŭmz] {**encia**} Dense fibrous tissue that forms a protective covering around the sockets and the part of the jawline inside the oral cavity; fleshy sockets that hold the teeth.

gynecologist [gĭ-ně-KŌL-ō-jĭst] {**ginecólogo**} Specialist who diagnoses and treats the processes and disorders of the female reproductive system.

gyrus (*pl.*, **gyri**) [JĪ-rŭs (JĪ-rĭ)] {**circunvolución**} See convolution.

H

hair follicle [FŌL-ĭ-kl] Tubelike sac in the dermis out of which the hair shaft develops.

hair root {**raiz de pelo**} Portion of the hair beneath the skin surface.

hair shaft Portion of the hair visible above the skin surface.

hairline fracture Fracture with no bone separation or fragmentation.

halitosis [hăl-ĭ-TŌ-sĭs] {**halitosis**} Foul mouth odor.

hard palate [PÄL-ät] Hard anterior portion of the palate at the roof of the mouth; hardening of the arteries.

hearing {**audición**} Ability to perceive sound.

heart [härt] {**corazón**} Muscular organ that receives blood from the veins and sends it into the arteries.

heart block See atrioventricular block.

heart transplant Implantation of the heart of a person who has just died into a person whose diseased heart cannot sustain life.

helper cell T cell that stimulates the immune response.

hematemesis [hē-mă-TĚM-ē-sĭs] {**hematemesis**} Blood in vomit.

- hematochezia** [HĚ-mă-tō-KĚ-zē-ă] Red blood in stool.
- hematocrit** [HĚ-mă-tō-křit, HĚM-ă-tō-křit] {**hematócrito**} Measure of the percentage of red blood cells in a blood sample.
- hematocytoblast** [HĚ-mă-tō-SĪ-tō-blăst] {**hematocitoblasto**} Most immature blood cell.
- hematuria** [hē-mă-TŪ-rē-ă] {**hematuria**} Blood in the urine.
- heme** [hēm] Pigment containing iron in hemoglobin.
- hemochromatosis** [HĚ-mō-krō-mă-TŌ-sīs] Hereditary condition with excessive iron buildup in the blood.
- hemodialysis** [HĚ-mō-dī-ĀL-ī-sīs] {**hemodiálisis**} Dialysis performed by passing blood through a filter outside the body and returning filtered blood to the body.
- hemoglobin** [hē-mō-GLŌ-bĭn] {**hemoglobina**} Protein in red blood cells essential to the transport of oxygen.
- hemophilia** [hē-mō-FĪL-ē-ă] {**hemofilia**} Hereditary disorder with lack of clotting factor in the blood.
- hemoptysis** [hē-MŌP-tĭ-sīs] Lung or bronchial hemorrhage resulting in the spitting of blood.
- hemorrhagic** [hēm-ō-RĀJ-ĭk] **stroke** Stroke caused by blood escaping from a damaged cerebral artery.
- hemorrhoidectomy** [HĚM-ō-rŏy-DĚK-tō-mē] {**hemorroidectomía**} Surgical removal of hemorrhoids.
- hemorrhoids** [HĚM-ō-rŏydz] {**hemorroides**} Varicose condition of veins in the anal region; swollen, twisted veins in the anus.
- hemothorax** [hē-mō-THŌ-răks] {**hemotórax**} Blood in the pleural cavity.
- heparin** [HĚP-ă-rĭn] {**heparina**} Anticoagulant present in the body; also, synthetic version administered to prevent clotting; substance in blood that prevents clotting.
- hepatic lobectomy** [hĕ-PĀT-ĭk lō-BĚK-tō-mē] Removal of one or more lobes of the liver.
- hepatitis** [hĕp-ă-TĪ-tĭs] {**hepatitis**} Inflammation or disease of the liver.
- hepatomegaly** [HĚP-ă-tō-MĚG-ă-lē] {**hepatomegalia**} Enlarged liver.
- hepatopathy** [hĕp-ă-TŌP-ă-thē] {**hepatopatía**} Liver disease.
- hernia** [HĚR-nē-ă] {**hernia**} Abnormal protrusion of tissue through muscle that contains it.
- herniated** [HĚR-nē-ă-tĕd] **disk** Protrusion of an intervertebral disk into the neural canal.
- herpes** [HĚR-pēz] {**herpes**} An inflammatory skin disease caused by viruses of the family Herpesviridae.
- herpes simplex virus Type 1** Herpes that recurs on the lips and around the area of the mouth, usually during viral illnesses or states of stress.
- herpes simplex virus Type 2** Herpes that recurs on the genitalia; can be easily transmitted from one person to another through sexual contact.
- herpes zoster** [ZŌS-tĕr] Painful herpes that affects nerve roots; shingles.
- heterograft** [HĚT-ĕr-ō-grăft] {**heterinjerto**} Skin graft using donor skin from one species to another; xenograft.
- hiatal hernia** [hĭ-Ā-tă HĚR-nē-ă] Protrusion of the stomach through an opening in the diaphragm.
- high blood pressure** {**presión arterial alta**} See hypertension.
- hilum (also hilus)** [HĪ-lŭm (HĪ-lŭs)] {**hilio**} 1. Portion of the kidney where blood vessels and nerves enter and exit. 2. Midsection of the lung where the nerves and vessels enter and exit.
- hirsutism** [HĚR-sŭ-tĭzm] {**hirsutismo**} Abnormal hair growth due to an excess of androgens.
- histamine** [HĪS-tă-mĕn] {**histamine**} Substance released by basophils and eosinophils; involved in allergic reactions.
- histiocytic** [HĪS-tē-ō-SĪT-ĭk] **lymphoma** Lymphoma with malignant cells that resemble histiocytes.
- hives** {**urticaria**} See urticaria.
- Hodgkin's lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease** Type of lymph cancer of uncertain origin that generally appears in early adulthood.
- Holter** [HŌL-tĕr] **monitor** Portable device that provides a 24-hour electrocardiogram.
- homograft** [HŌ-mō-grăft] {**homoinjerto**} Skin graft using donor skin from one person to another; allograft.
- hordeolum** [hŏr-DĚ-ō-lŭm] {**orzuelo**} Infection of a sebaceous gland of the eyelid; sty.
- hormone** [HŌR-mŏn] {**hormona**} Chemical secretion from glands such as the ovaries; substance secreted by glands and carried in the bloodstream to various parts of the body; chemical substance in the body that forms in one organ and moves to another organ or part on which the substance has an effect; manufactured version of that chemical substance.
- human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)** [Īm-yŭ-nŏ-dē-FĪSH-ĕn-sē] Virus that causes AIDS; spread by sexual contact and exchange of body fluids, and shared use of needles.
- humerus** [HYŪ-mĕr-ŭs] {**húmero**} Long bone of the arm connecting to the scapula on top and the radius and ulna at the bottom.
- humoral** [HYŪ-mŏr-ăl] **immunity** Resistance to disease provided by plasma cells and antibody production.
- Huntington's chorea** [kŏr-Ē-ă] Hereditary disorder with uncontrollable, jerking movements.
- hydrocele** [HĪ-drŏ-sēl] {**hidrocele**} Fluid-containing hernia of the testis.
- hydrocephalus** [hĭ-drŏ-SĚF-ă-lŭs] {**hidrocefalia**} Overproduction of fluid in the brain.
- hydronephrosis** [HĪ-drŏ-nĕ-FRŌ-sīs] Abnormal collection of urine in the kidneys due to a blockage.
- hymen** [HĪ-mĕn] {**himen**} Fold of mucous membranes covering the vagina of a young female; usually ruptures during first intercourse.
- hyperadrenalism** [HĪ-pĕr-ă-DRĚN-ă-lĭzm] Overactivity of the adrenal glands.
- hyperbilirubinemia** [HĪ-pĕr-BĪL-ĭ-rŭ-bĭ-NĚ-mē-ă] Excessive bilirubin in the blood.
- hypercapnia** [hĭ-pĕr-KĀP-nē-ă] Excessive buildup of carbon dioxide in lungs, usually associated with hypoventilation.
- hyperopia** [hĭ-pĕr-Ō-pē-ă] Focusing behind the retina causing vision distortion; farsightedness.

hyperparathyroidism [HĪ-pĕr-pă-ră-THĪ-rōyd-izm] {**hiperparatiroidismo**} Overactivity of the parathyroid glands.

hyperpnea [hĭ-pĕrp-NĒ-ă] Abnormally deep breathing.

hypersecretion [HĪ-pĕr-sĕ-KRĒ-shŭn] Abnormally high secretion, as from a gland.

hypersensitivity [HĪ-pĕr-sĕn-sĭ-TĪV-ĭ-tĕ] {**hipersensibilidad**} Abnormal reaction to an allergen.

hypersplenism [hĭ-pĕr-SPLĒN-izm] Overactive spleen.

hypertension [HĪ-pĕr-TĒN-shŭn] Chronic condition with blood pressure greater than 140/90.

hypertensive heart disease Heart disease caused, or worsened, by high blood pressure.

hyperthyroidism [HĪ-pĕr-THĪ-rōyd-izm] {**hipertiroidismo**} Overactivity of the thyroid gland.

hypertrophy [hĭ-PĔR-trō-fĕ] Abnormal increase as in muscle size.

hyperventilation [HĪ-pĕr-vĕn-tĭ-LĀ-shŭn] {**hiperventilación**} Abnormally fast breathing in and out, often associated with anxiety.

hypoadrenalism [HĪ-pō-ă-DRĒN-ă-lĭzm] {**hipoadrenalismo**} Underactivity of the adrenal glands.

hypochondriac [hĭ-pō-KŌN-drĕ-ăk] **regions** Left and right regions of the body just below the cartilage of the ribs and immediately above the abdomen.

hypodermis [hĭ-pō-DĔR-mĭs] {**hipodermis**} Subcutaneous skin layer; layer below the dermis.

hypoglycemia [HĪ-pō-glĭ-SĒ-mĕ-ă] {**hipoglucemia**} Abnormally low level of glucose in the blood.

hypoparathyroidism [HĪ-pō-pă-ră-THĪ-rōyd-izm] {**hipoparatiroidismo**} Underactivity of the parathyroid glands.

hypopharynx [HĪ-pō-FĀR-ĭnks] {**hipofaringe**} Laryngopharynx.

hypophysectomy [hĭ-pōf-ĭ-SĔK-tō-mĕ] Removal of the pituitary gland.

hypophysis [hĭ-PŌF-ĭ-sĭs] {**hipófisis**} Pituitary gland.

hypopnea [hĭ-PŌP-nĕ-ă] Shallow breathing.

hyposecretion [HĪ-pō-sĕ-KRĒ-shŭn] Abnormally low secretion, as from a gland.

hypospadias [HĪ-pō-SPĀ-dĕ-ăs] {**hipospadias**} Birth defect with abnormal opening of the urethra on the bottom side of the penis.

hypotension [HĪ-pō-TĒN-shŭn] {**hipotensión**} Chronic condition with blood pressure below normal.

hypothalamus [HĪ-pō-THĀL-ă-mŭs] {**hipotálamo**} One of the parts of the diencephalon; serves as a sensory relay station; gland in the nervous system that releases hormones to aid in regulating pituitary hormones.

hypothyroidism [HĪ-pō-THĪ-rōyd-izm] {**hipotiroidismo**} Underactivity of the thyroid gland.

hypotonia [HĪ-pō-TŌ-nĕ-ă] Abnormally reduced muscle tension.

hypoventilation [HĪ-pō-vĕn-tĭ-LĀ-shŭn] {**hipoventilación**} Abnormally low movement of air in and out of the lungs.

hypoxemia [hĭ-pŏk-SĒ-mĕ-ă] {**hipoxemia**} Deficient amount of oxygen in the blood.

hypoxia [hĭ-PŌK-sĕ-ă] {**hipoxia**} Deficient amount of oxygen in tissue.

hysterectomy [hĭs-tĕr-ĔK-tō-mĕ] {**histerectomía**} Removal of the uterus.

hysterosalpingography [HĪS-tĕr-ō-săl-pĭng-GŌG-ră-fĕ] {**histerosalpingografía**} X-ray of the uterus and uterine tubes after a contrast medium has been injected.

hysteroscopy [hĭs-tĕr-ŌS-kō-pĕ] {**histeroscopia**} Examination of the uterus using a hysteroscope.

I

icterus [ĪK-tĕr-ŭs] {**icterus**} Jaundice.

ileitis [ĪL-ĕ-Ī-tĭs] {**ileitis**} Inflammation of the ileum.

ileostomy [ĪL-ĕ-ŌS-tō-mĕ] {**ileostomía**} Creation of an opening into the ileum.

ileum [ĪL-ĕ-ŭm] {**ileon**} Bottom part of the small intestine that connects to the large intestine.

ileus [ĪL-ĕ-ŭs] {**íleo**} Intestinal blockage.

iliac [ĪL-ĕ-ăk] **regions** Left and right regions of the body near the upper portion of the hip bone.

ilium [ĪL-ĕ-ŭm] {**íleum**} Wide portion of the hip bone.

immunity [Ī-MYŪ-nĭ-tĕ] {**inmunidad**} Resistance to particular pathogens.

immunization [ĪM-yŭ-nĭ-ZĀ-shŭn] Vaccination.

immunoglobulin [ĪM-yŭ-nō-GLŌB-yŭ-lĭn] {**inmunoglobina**} Antibody.

immunosuppressive [ĪM-yŭ-nō-sŭ-PRĔS-ĭv] **disease** Disease that flourishes because of lowered immune response.

impacted fracture Fracture in which a fragment from one part of the fracture is driven into the tissue of another part.

impetigo [ĭm-pĕ-TĪ-gō] {**impétigo**} A type of pyoderma.

impotence [ĪM-pō-tĕns] {**impotencia**} Inability to maintain an erection for ejaculation.

incomplete fracture Fracture that does not go entirely through a bone.

incontinence [ĭn-KŌN-tĭ-nĕns] {**incontinencia**} Inability to prevent excretion of urine or feces.

incus [ĪN-kŭs] {**incus**} One of the three auditory ossicles; the anvil.

indwelling [ĪN-dwĕ-lĭng] Of a type of catheter inserted into the body.

infarct [ĪN-fărkt] {**infarto**} Area of necrosis caused by a sudden drop in the supply of arterial or venous blood.

infarction [ĭn-FĀRK-shŭn] {**infarto**} Sudden drop in the supply of arterial or venous blood, often due to an embolus or thrombus.

infectious mononucleosis [MŌN-ō-nŭ-klĕ-Ō-sĭs] Acute infectious disease caused by the Epstein-Barr virus.

inferior [ĭn-FĔR-ĕ-ŏr] Below another body structure.

inferior lobe [ĭn-FĔ-rĕ-ŏr lōb] Bottom lobe of the lung.

inferior vena cava [VĔ-nă KĀ-vă, KĀ-vă] Large vein that draws blood from the lower part of the body to the right atrium.

infertility [ĭn-fĕr-TĪL-ĭ-tĕ] {**infertilidad**} Inability to fertilize ova.

infusion [ĭn-FYŪ-zhŭn] Administration of a fluid through an intravenous tube at a slow and steady rate.

inguinal [ĪN-gwī-nāl] **regions** Left and right regions of the body near the upper portion of the hip bone.

inhalation [in-hā-LĀ-shŭn] {**inhalación**} 1. Breathing in. 2. Taking in of drugs in a fine spray of droplets.

inhibiting factor Substance in a hormone that prevents the secretion of other hormones.

insertion {**inserción**} Point at which a muscle attaches to a movable bone.

inspiration [in-spi-RĀ-shŭn] {**inspiración**} Inhalation.

insulin [ĪN-sū-lin] {**insulina**} Substance released by the pancreas to lower blood sugar.

insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM) See Type I diabetes.

integument [in-TĒG-yū-měnt] {**integumento**} Skin and all the elements that are contained within and arise from it.

integumentary [in-těg-yū-MĒN-tă-rē] **system** Body system that includes skin, hair, and nails.

intercostal muscles [in-těr-KŌS-tāl MŪS-ělz] Muscles between the ribs.

interferon [in-těr-FĒR-ŏn] Protein produced by T cells and other cells; destroys disease-causing cells with its antiviral properties.

interleukin [in-těr-LŪ-kĭn] {**interleucina**} Protein produced by T cells; helps regulate immune system.

intermittent claudication Attacks of limping, particularly in the legs, due to ischemia of the muscles.

internal respiration Exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide between the cells.

interneuron [ĪN-těr-NŪ-rŏn] {**interneurona**} Neuron that carries and processes sensory information.

intervertebral [in-těr-VĒR-tě-brāl] **disk** See cartilaginous disk.

intra-arterial [ĪN-tră-ăr-TĒ-rē-ăl] Injected directly into an artery.

intracardiac [ĪN-tră-KĀR-dē-āk] Injected directly into heart muscle.

intracardiac [in-tră-KĀR-dē-āk] **tumor** A tumor within one of the heart chambers.

intracorporeal electrohydraulic lithotripsy [ĪN-tră-kŏr-PŌ-rē-ăl ē-LĒK-trŏ-hĭ-DRŌ-lĭk LĪTH-ŏ-trĭp-sē] Use of an endoscope to break up stones.

intracutaneous [ĪN-tră-kyū-TĀ-nē-ŭs] Injected just beneath the outer layer of skin.

intra-dermal [ĪN-tră-DĒR-māl] {**intradérmico**} From within the skin, particularly from the dermis; See intracutaneous.

intra-dermal [ĪN-tră-DĒR-māl] **test** Test that injects antigen or protein between layers of skin.

intramuscular [ĪN-tră-MŪS-kyū-lăr] Injected deep into muscle tissue.

intraosseus [ĪN-tră-ŌS-ē-ŭs] Injected directly into bone.

intra-spinal [ĪN-tră-SPĪ-nāl] Injected directly into spinal spaces.

intrauterine [ĪN-tră-YŪ-těr-in] **device (IUD)** Contraceptive device consisting of a coil placed in the uterus to block implantation of a fertilized ovum.

intravascular stent Stent placed within a blood vessel to allow blood to flow freely.

intravenous (IV) [ĪN-tră-VĒ-nŭs] {**intravenoso (IV)**} Administered through a tube into a vein.

introitus [in-TRŌ-ī-tŭs] {**introito**} External opening or entrance to a hollow organ, such as a vagina.

intussusception [ĪN-tŭs-sŭ-SĒP-shŭn] Prolapse or collapse of an intestinal part into a neighboring part. One section collapses into another like a telescope.

involuntary muscle Muscle not movable at will.

iridectomy [ĭr-ĭ-DEK-tŏ-mē] {**iridectomía**} Removal of part of the iris.

iris [Ī-rĭs] {**iris**} Colored part of the eye; contains muscles that expand and contract in response to light.

iritis [ĭ-RĪ-tĭs] {**iritis**} Inflammation of the iris.

irregular bones Any of a group of bones with a special shape to fit into certain areas of the skeleton, such as the skull.

ischemia [is-KĒ-mē-ă] {**isquemia**} Localized blood insufficiency caused by an obstruction.

ischium [ĪS-kē-ŭm] {**isquiŏn**} One of three fused bones that form the pelvic girdle.

islets of Langerhans [LĀN-gěr-hănz] Specialized cells in the pancreas that release insulin and glucagon.

isthmus [ĪS-mŭs] {**istmo**} Narrow region at the bottom of the uterus opening into the cervix; narrow band of tissue connecting the two lobes of the thyroid gland.

J

jaundice [JĀWN-dĭs] {**ictericia**} Excessive bilirubin in the blood causing yellowing of the skin.

jejunum [jĕ-JŪ-nŭm] {**yejuno**} Middle section of the small intestine.

joint [jŏynt] {**empalme**} Place of joining between two or more bones.

K

Kaposi's sarcoma [KĀ-pŏ-sēz sār-KŌ-mă] Skin cancer associated with AIDS.

keloid [KĒ-lŏyd] {**queloides**} Thick scarring of the skin that forms after an injury or surgery.

keratin [KĒR-ă-tĭn] {**queratina**} Hard, horny protein that forms nails and hair.

keratitis [kĕr-ă-TĪ-tĭs] {**queratitis**} Inflammation of the cornea.

keratoplasty [KĒR-ă-tŏ-plăs-tē] {**queratoplastia**} Corneal transplant.

keratosis [kĕr-ă-TŌ-sĭs] {**queratosis**} Lesion on the epidermis containing keratin.

ketoacidosis [KĒ-tŏ-ă-sĭ-DŌ-sĭs] {**cetoacidosis**} Condition of high acid levels caused by the abnormal release of ketones in the body.

ketone [KĒ-tŏn] {**cetona**} Substance that results from the breakdown of fat; indicates diabetes or starvation when present in the urine.

ketonuria [kĕ-tŏ-NŪ-rē-ă] {**cetonuria**} Increased urinary excretion of ketones, usually indicative of diabetes or starvation.

ketosis [kĕ-TŌ-sĭs] {**cetosis**} Condition caused by the abnormal release of ketones in the body.

kidney [KĪD-nē] {riñón} Organ that forms urine and reabsorbs essential substances back into the bloodstream.

kidney failure Loss of kidney function.

kidney, ureter, bladder (KUB) X-ray of three parts of the urinary system.

kyphosis [kī-FŌ-sīs] {cifosis} Abnormal posterior spine curvature.

L

labia majora [LĀ-bē-ă mă-JŌR-ă] Two folds of skin that form the borders of the vulva.

labia minora [mī-NŌR-ă] Two folds of skin between the labia majora.

labyrinthitis [LĀB-ĭ-rĭn-THĪ-tĭs] {laberintitis} Inflammation of the labyrinth.

lacrimal [LĀK-rĭ-măl] **bone** Thin, flat bone of the face.

lacrimal [LĀK-rĭ-măl] **glands** Glands that secrete liquid to moisten the eyes and produce tears.

lacrimation [lāk-rĭ-MĀ-shŭn] {lagrimeo} Secretion of tears, usually excessively.

lactiferous [lāk-TĪF-ēr-ŭs] {lactifero} Producing milk.

lamina (*pl.*, *laminae*) [LĀM-ĭ-nă (LĀM-ĭ-nē)] {lámina} Thin, flat part of either side of the arch of a vertebra.

laparoscopy [lāp-ă-RŌS-kō-pē] {laparoscopia} Use of a lighted tubular instrument inserted through a woman's navel to perform a tubal ligation or to examine the fallopian tubes.

large intestine Passageway in the intestinal tract for waste received from the small intestine to be excreted through the anus; also, the place where water reabsorption takes place.

laryngectomy [LĀR-ĭn-JĚK-tō-mē] Removal of the larynx.

laryngitis [lār-ĭn-JĪ-tĭs] {laringitis} Inflammation of the larynx.

laryngocentesis [lā-rĭng-gō-sĕn-TĒ-sĭs] Surgical puncture of the larynx.

laryngopharynx [lā-RĪNG-gō-fār-ĭnks] Part of the pharynx below and behind the larynx.

laryngoplasty [lā-RĪNG-gō-plās-tē] {laringoplastia} Repair of the larynx.

laryngoscopy [LĀR-ĭng-GŌS-kō-pē] {laringoscopia} Visual examination of the mouth and larynx using an endoscope.

laryngospasm [lā-RĪNG-gō-spāsm] Sudden contraction of the larynx, which may cause coughing and may restrict breathing.

laryngostomy [LĀR-ĭng-GŌS-tō-mē] {laringostomía} Creation of an artificial opening in the larynx.

laryngotracheotomy [lā-RĪNG-gō-trā-kē-ŌT-ō-mē] Incision into the larynx and trachea.

larynx [LĀR-ĭngks] {laringe} Organ of voice production in the respiratory tract, between the pharynx and the trachea; voice box.

lateral [LĀT-ēr-ăl] To the side.

lateral plane Imaginary line that divides the body perpendicularly to the medial plane.

left atrium Upper left heart chamber.

left lower quadrant Quadrant on the lower left anterior side of the patient's body.

left upper quadrant Quadrant on the upper left anterior side of the patient's body.

left ventricle Lower left heart chamber.

leiomyoma [LĪ-ō-mī-Ō-mă] Benign tumor of smooth muscle.

leiomyosarcoma [LĪ-ō-MĪ-ō-sār-KŌ-mă] Malignant tumor of smooth muscle.

lens [lĕnz] {lens, lente} Colorless, flexible transparent body behind the iris.

lesion [LĒ-zhŭn] {lesión} Wound, damage, or injury to the skin.

leukemia [lū-KĒ-mē-ă] General term for a number of disorders with excessive white blood cells in the bloodstream and bone marrow.

leukocyte [LŪ-kō-sĭt] Mature white blood cell.

leukoderma [lū-kō-DĚR-mă] {leucoderma} Absence of pigment in the skin or in an area of the skin.

leukoplakia [lū-kō-PLĀ-kē-ă] {leucoplaquia} White patch of mucous membrane on the tongue or cheek.

leukorrhea [lū-kō-RE-ă] {leucorrea} Abnormal vaginal discharge; usually whitish.

ligament [LĪG-ă-mĕnt] {ligamento} Sheet of fibrous tissue connecting and supporting bones; attaches bone to bone.

lingual tonsils [LĪNG-gwăl TŌN-sĭls] Two mounds of lymph tissue at the back of the tongue.

lipase [LĪP-ās] {lipasa} Enzyme contained in pancreatic juice.

lipid [LĪP-ĭd] **profile** Laboratory test that provides the levels of lipids, triglycerides, and other substances in the blood.

lips {labio} Two muscular folds formed around the outside boundary of the mouth.

lithotomy [ĭ-THŌT-ō-mē] Surgical removal of bladder stones.

liver [LĪV-ēr] {hígado} Organ important in digestive and metabolic functions; secretes bile.

liver biopsy Removal of a small amount of liver tissue to examine for disease.

lobectomy [lō-BĚK-tō-mē] {lobectomía} 1. Removal of one of the lobes of a lung. 2. Removal of a portion of the brain to treat certain disorders.

lobotomy [lō-BŌT-ō-mē] {lobotomía} Incision into the frontal lobe of the brain.

long bone Any bone of the extremities with a shaft.

lordosis [lōr-DŌ-sĭs] {lordosis} Abnormal anterior spine curvature resulting in a sway back.

Lou Gehrig's disease See amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

low blood pressure {presión arterial baja} See hypotension.

lumbar [LŪM-bār] (**spinal**) **puncture** Withdrawal of cerebrospinal fluid from between two lumbar vertebrae.

lumbar [LŪM-bār] **regions** Left and right regions of the body near the abdomen.

lumbar [LŪM-bār] **vertebrae** Five vertebrae of the lower back.

lumen [LŪ-mĕn] {lumen} Channel inside an artery through which blood flows.

lumpectomy [lŭm-PĚK-tō-mē] {nodulectomía} Surgical removal of a localized breast tumor.

lung [lŭng] {pulmón} One of two organs of respiration (left lung and right lung) in the thoracic cavity where oxygenation of blood takes place.

- lunula** (*pl.*, *lunulae*) [LŪ-nū-lä (LŪ-nū-lē)] {**lúnula**} Half-moon shaped area at the base of the nail plate.
- luteinizing** [LŪ-tē-in-ĪZ-ing] **hormone (LH)** Hormone essential to ovulation; hormone released to aid in maturation of ova and ovulation.
- lymph** [lĭmf] {**linfa**} Fluid that contains white blood cells and other substances and flows in the lymphatic vessels.
- lymphadenectomy** [lĭm-fă-dō-NĚK-tō-mē] {**linfadenectomía**} Removal of a lymph node.
- lymphadenopathy** [lĭm-făd-ě-NŎP-ă-thē] {**linfadenopatía**} Swollen lymph nodes.
- lymphadenotomy** [lĭm-fă-dě-NŎ-tō-mē] Incision into a lymph node.
- lymphatic** [lĭm-FĀT-ĭk] **and immune** [ĭ-MYŪN] **system** Body system that includes the lymph, glands of the lymphatic system, lymphatic vessels, and the specific and nonspecific defenses of the immune system.
- lymph node** Specialized organ that produces lymphocytes and filters harmful substances from the tissues and assists in the immune response.
- lymph node dissection** Removal of a cancerous node for microscopic examination.
- lymphocyte** [LĭM-fō-sĭt] {**linfocito**} Type of agranulocyte; white blood cells made in the bone marrow that are crucial to the body's defense against disease and infection.
- lymphocytic** [lĭm-fō-SĪT-ĭk] **lymphoma** Lymphoma with malignant cells that resemble large lymphocytes.
- lymphoma** [lĭm-FŎ-mă] {**linfoma**} Cancer of the lymph nodes.
- M**
- macrocytosis** [MĀK-rō-sĭ-TŎ-sĭs] {**macrocitosis**} Disorder with abnormally large red blood cells.
- macrophage** [MĀK-rō-făj] {**macrófago**} Special cell that devours foreign substances.
- macula** [MĀK-yū-lă] {**macúla**} Inner ear structure containing hairlike sensors that move to maintain equilibrium.
- macula lutea** [lū-TĒ-ă] Small, yellowish area located in the center of the retina, which has a depression called the fovea centralis.
- macular** [MĀK-yū-lăr] **degeneration** Gradual loss of vision caused by degeneration of tissue in the macula.
- macule** [MĀK-yŭl] Small, flat, noticeably colored spot on the skin.
- magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)** Imaging produced by tracking the magnetic properties in the nuclei of various cells.
- malignant melanoma** [mĕl-ă-NŎ-mă] Virulent skin cancer originating in the melanocytes, usually caused by overexposure to the sun.
- malleolus** (*pl.*, *malleoli*) [mă-LĒ-ō-lŭs (mă-LĒ-ō-lĭ)] Rounded protrusion of the tibia or fibula on either side of the ankle.
- malleus** [MĀL-ē-ŭs] {**malleus**} One of the three auditory ossicles; the hammer.
- mammary** [MĀM-ă-rē] **glands** Glandular tissue that forms the breasts, which respond to cycles of menstruation and birth.
- mammography** [mă-MŎG-ră-fē] {**mamografía**} X-ray imaging of the breast as a cancer screening method.
- mammoplasty** [MĀM-ō-plăs-tē] {**mamoplastia**} Plastic surgery to reconstruct the breast, particularly after a mastectomy.
- mandible** [MĀN-dĭ-bl] {**mandíbula**} U-shaped bone of the lower jaw.
- mandibular** [măn-DĪB-yū-lăr] **bone** Mandible.
- Mantoux** [măn-TŪ] **test** Test for tuberculosis in which a small dose of tuberculin is injected intradermally with a syringe.
- marrow** [MĀR-ō] {**médula**} Connective tissue filling the medullary cavity, often rich in nutrients.
- mastectomy** [măs-TĚK-tō-mē] {**mastectomía**} Removal of a breast.
- mastication** [măs-tĭ-KĀ-shŭn] {**masticación**} Chewing.
- mastitis** [măs-TĪ-tĭs] {**mastitis**} Inflammation of the breast.
- mastoid** [MĀS-tŏyd] **process** Protrusion of the temporal bone that sits behind the ear.
- mastoiditis** [măs-tŏy-DĪ-tĭs] Inflammation of the mastoid process.
- mastopexy** [MĀS-tō-pĕk-sē] Surgical procedure to attach sagging breasts in a more normal position.
- maxillary** [MĀK-sĭ-lăr-ē] **bone** Bone of the upper jaw.
- maxillary sinus** Sinus on either side of the nasal cavity below the eyes.
- meatotomy** [mē-ă-TŎT-ō-mē] Surgical enlargement of the meatus.
- meatus** [mē-Ă-tŭs] {**meato**} External opening of a canal, such as the urethra.
- medial** [MĒ-dē-ăl] At or near the middle (of the body).
- medial plane** Imaginary line that divides the body into equal left and right halves.
- mediastinoscopy** [MĒ-dē-ăs-tĭ-NŎS-kō-pē] Visual examination of the mediastinum and all the organs within it using an endoscope.
- mediastinum** [MĒ-dē-ăs-TĪ-nŭm] {**mediastino**} Median portion of the thoracic cavity; septum between two areas of an organ or cavity.
- medication, medicine** [mĕd-ĭ-KĀ-shŭn, MĔD-ĭ-sĭn] {**medicación, medicina**} Drug that serves a therapeutic purpose.
- medulla** [mĕ-DŪL-ă] {**médula**} Soft, central portion of the kidney.
- medulla oblongata** [mĕ-DŪL-ă ōb-lŏng-GĀ-tă] Part of the brain stem that regulates heart and lung functions, swallowing, vomiting, coughing, and sneezing.
- medullary** [MĔD-ŭ-lăr-ē] **cavity** Soft center cavity in bone that often holds marrow.
- megakaryocyte** [mĕg-ă-KĀR-ē-ō-sĭt] {**megacariocito**} Large cell in red bone marrow that forms platelets.
- melanin** [MĔL-ă-nĭn] {**melanina**} Pigment produced by melanocytes that determines skin, hair, and eye color.
- melanocyte** [MĔL-ă-nō-sĭt] {**melanocito**} Cell in the epidermis that produces melanin.
- melanocyte-stimulating** [mĕ-LĀN-ō-sĭt, MĔL-ă-nō-sĭt] **hormone (MSH)** Hormone released by the pituitary gland.

melatonin [mĕl-ă-TŌN-ĭn] Hormone released by the pineal gland; affects sexual function and sleep patterns.

melena [mĕ-LĒ-nă] {**melena**} Old blood in the stool.

membranous labyrinth One of the two tubes that make up the semicircular canals.

menarche [mĕ-NĀR-kĕ] {**menarca**} First menstruation.

Meniere's [mĕn-YĔRZ] disease Elevated pressure within the cochlea.

meninges (*sing.*, **meninx**) [mĕ-NĪN-jĕz (MĔ-nĭnks)] {**meninges**} Three layers of membranes that cover and protect the brain and spinal cord.

meningioma [mĕ-NĪN-jĕ-Ō-mă] {**meningioma**} Tumor that arises from the meninges.

meningitis [mĕn-ĭn-JĪ-tĭs] {**meningitis**} Inflammation of the meninges.

meningocele [mĕ-NĪNG-ŏ-sĕl] {**meningocele**} In spina bifida cystica, protrusion of the spinal meninges above the surface of the skin.

meningomyelocele [mĕ-nĭn-jŏ-MĪ-ĕ-lŏ-sĕl] {**meningomielocele**} In spina bifida cystica, protrusion of the meninges and spinal cord above the surface of the skin.

menometrorrhagia [MĔN-ŏ-mĕ-trŏ-RĀ-jĕ-ă] Irregular or excessive bleeding between or during menstruation.

menopause [MĔN-ŏ-păwz] {**menopausia**} Time when menstruation ceases; usually between ages 45 and 55.

menorrhagia [mĕn-ŏ-RĀ-jĕ-ă] {**menorrhagia**} Excessive menstrual bleeding.

menstruation [mĕn-strŭ-Ā-shŭn] {**menstruación**} Cyclical release of uterine lining through the vagina; usually every 28 days.

mental retardation Condition with below average intellectual functioning.

mesentery [MĔS-ĕn-tĕr-ĕ, MĔZ-ĕn-tĕr-ĕ] {**mesenterio**} Membranous tissue that attaches small and large intestines to the muscular wall at the dorsal part of the abdomen.

mesothelioma [MĔZ-ŏ-thĕ-lĕ-Ō-mă] {**mesotelioma**} Rare cancer of the lungs associated with asbestosis.

metabolism [mĕ-TĀB-ŏ-lĭzm] The chemical changes in cells that provide energy or vital processes and activities and through which new material is assimilated.

metabolize [mĕ-TĀB-ŏ-lĭz] To change chemically or physically so as to make useful.

metacarpal [MĔT-ă-KĀR-păl] {**metacarpiano**} One of five bones of the hand between the wrist and the fingers.

metaphysis [mĕ-TĀF-ĭ-sĭs] {**metáfisis**} Section of a long bone between the epiphysis and diaphysis.

metastasis [mĕ-TĀS-tă-sĭs] {**metastasis**} Spread of malignant cells to other parts of the body; spread of a cancer from a localized area.

metatarsal [MĔT-ă-tăr-săl] **bones** Bones of the foot between the instep (arch) and the toes.

metrorrhagia [mĕ-trŏ-RĀ-jĕ-ă] {**metrorrhagia**} Uterine bleeding between menstrual periods.

microcytosis [MĪK-rŏ-sĭ-TŌ-sĭs] {**microcitosis**} Disorder with abnormally small red blood cells.

microglia [mĭ-KRŌG-lĕ-ă] {**microglia**} A type of neuroglia that removes debris.

microphage [MĪK-rŏ-făj] {**micrófago**} Small phagocytic cell that devours foreign substances.

midbrain {**cerebro medio**} Part of the brainstem involved with visual reflexes.

middle lobe Middle section of the right lung.

midsagittal [mĭd-SĀJ-ĭ-tăl] **plane** See medial plane.

mineralocorticoid [MĪN-ĕr-ăl-ŏ-KŌR-tĭ-kŏyd] Steroid secreted by adrenal cortex.

miscarriage [mĭs-KĀR-ĭj] {**aborto espontáneo**} Spontaneous, premature ending of a pregnancy.

mitral [MĪ-trăl] **insufficiency or reflux** Backward flow of blood due to a damaged mitral valve.

mitral stenosis Abnormal narrowing at the opening of the mitral valve.

mitral [MĪ-trăl] **valve** See bicuspid valve.

mitral valve prolapse Backward flow of blood into the left atrium due to protrusion of one or both mitral cusps into the left atrium during contractions.

monocyte [MŌN-ŏ-sĭt] {**monocito**} Type of agranulocyte.

mons pubis [mŏnz pyŭ-BĪS] Mound of soft tissue in the external genitalia covered by pubic hair after puberty.

mouth {**boca**} Cavity in the face in which food and water are ingested.

multiple-gated acquisition (MUGA) angiography Radioactive scan showing heart function.

multiple myeloma [mĭ-ĕ-LŌ-mă] Malignant tumor of the bone marrow.

multiple sclerosis [MŪL-tĭ-pŭl sklĕ-RO-sĭs] (**MS**) Degenerative disease with loss of myelin, resulting in muscle weakness, extreme fatigue, and some paralysis.

murmur {**soplo**} Soft heart humming sound heard between normal beats.

muscle [MŪS-ĕl] {**músculo**} Contractile tissue that plays a major role in body movement.

muscle [MŪS-ĕl] **tissue** Tissue that is able to contract and relax.

muscular dystrophy [MŪS-kyŭ-lăr DĪS-trŏ-fĕ] {**distrofia muscular**} Progressive degenerative disorder affecting the musculoskeletal system and, later, other organs.

musculoskeletal [MŪS-kyŭ-lŏ-SKĔL-ĕ-tăl] **system** {**musculoquelético**} Body system that includes muscles, bones, and cartilage.

myalgia [mĭ-ĀL-jĕ-ă] {**mialgia**} Muscle pain.

myasthenia gravis [mĭ-ăs-THĔ-nĕ-ă GRĀV-ĭs] Disease involving overproduction of antibodies that block certain neurotransmitters; causes muscle weakness.

myelin sheath [MĪ-ĕ-lĭn sheth] Fatty tissue that covers axons.

myelitis [mĭ-ĕ-LĪ-tĭs] Inflammation of the spinal cord.

myeloblast [MĪ-ĕ-lŏ-blăst] {**mieloblasto**} Immature granulocytes.

myelogram [MĪ-ĕ-lŏ-grăm] {**mielograma**} X-ray of the spinal cord after a contrast medium has been injected.

myelography [MĪ-ĕ-LŌG-ră-fĕ] {**mielografía**} Radiographic imaging of the spinal cord.

myeloma [mī-ě-LŌ-mǎ] {**mieloma**} Bone marrow tumor.
myocardial infarction Sudden drop in the supply of blood to an area of the heart muscle, usually due to a blockage in a coronary artery.
myocarditis [MĪ-ō-kār-DĪ-tĭs] {**miocarditis**} Inflammation of the myocardium.
myocardium [mī-ō-KĀR-dē-ŭm] {**miocardio**} Muscular layer of heart tissue between the epicardium and the endocardium.
myodynia [MĪ-ō-dĭn-ē-ǎ] {**miodinia**} Muscle pain.
myoma [mī-Ō-mǎ] {**mioma**} Benign muscle tumor.
myomectomy [mī-ō-MĚK-tō-mē] {**miomectomía**} Removal of fibroids from the uterus.
myometrium [MĪ-ō-MĚ-trē-ŭm] {**miometrio**} Middle layer of muscle tissue of the uterus.
myopia [mī-Ō-pē-ǎ] {**miopía**} Focusing in front of the retina causing vision distortion; nearsightedness.
myoplasty [MĪ-ō-plás-tē] Surgical repair of muscle tissue.
myositis [mī-ō-SĪ-tĭs] {**miositis**} Inflammation of a muscle.
myringitis [mĭr-ĭn-JĪ-tĭs] {**myringitis**} Inflammation of the eardrum.
myringotomy [mĭr-ĭng-GŎT-ō-mē] Insertion of a small tube to help drain fluid from the ears (particularly of children).
myxedema [mĭk-sě-DĚ-mǎ] {**mixedema**} Advanced adult hypothyroidism.

N

nail {**uña**} Thin layer of keratin that covers the distal portion of fingers and toes.
narcolepsy [NĀR-kō-lěp-sē] {**narcolepsia**} Nervous system disorder that causes uncontrollable, sudden lapses into deep sleep.
nasal bones Bones that form the bridge of the nose.
nasal cavity 1. Cavity on either side of the nasal septum. 2. Opening in the external nose where air enters the body.
nasal septum [SĚP-tŭm] Cartilaginous division of the external nose.
nasopharyngoscopy [NĀ-zō-fǎ-rĭng-GŎS-kō-pē] Examination of the nasal passages and the pharynx using an endoscope.
nasopharynx [NĀ-zō-FĀR-ĭngks] {**nasofaringe**} Portion of the throat above the soft palate.
natural immunity Inherent resistance to disease found in a species, race, family group, or certain individuals.
nausea [NĀW-zhē-ǎ] {**náusea**} Sick feeling in the stomach.
nearsightedness {**miopía**} Myopia.
necrosis [ně-KRŌ-sĭs] {**necrosis**} Death of tissue or an organ or part due to irreversible damage; usually a result of oxygen deprivation.
neoplasm [NĚ-ō-plázŋ] {**neoplasma**} Abnormal tissue growth; tumor; new growth.
nephrectomy [ně-FRĚK-tō-mē] {**nefrectomía**} Removal of a kidney.
nephritis [ně-FRĪ-tĭs] {**nefritis**} Inflammation of the kidneys.
nephroblastoma [NĚF-rō-blás-TŌ-mǎ] {**nefroblastoma**} See Wilms' tumor.

nephrolithotomy [NĚF-rō-lĭ-THŎT-ō-mē] Surgical removal of a kidney stone.
nephrolysis [ně-FRŎL-ĭ-sĭs] Removal of kidney adhesions.
nephroma [ně-FRŌ-mǎ] Any renal tumor.
nephron [NĚF-rŏn] Functional unit of a kidney.
nephropexy [NĚF-rō-pěk-sē] Surgical fixing of a kidney to the abdominal wall.
nephrorrhaphy [něf-RŎR-ǎ-fē] Suturing of a damaged kidney.
nephrosis [ně-FRŌ-sĭs] Disorder caused by loss of protein in the urine.
nephrostomy [ně-FRŎS-tō-mē] Establishment of an opening from the renal pelvis to the outside of the body.
nerve [něrv] {**nervio**} Bundle of neurons that bear electrical messages to the organs and muscles of the body.
nerve cell Basic cell of the nervous system having three parts: cell body, dendrite, and axon; neuron.
nerve conduction velocity Timing of the conductivity of an electrical shock administered to peripheral nerves.
nerve impulse Released energy that is received or transmitted by tissue or organs and that usually provokes a response.
nervous [NĚR-vŭs] **system** Body system that includes the brain, spinal cord, and nerves and controls most body functions by sending and receiving messages.
nervous tissue Specialized tissue that forms nerve cells and is capable of transmitting messages.
neural [NŪR-ǎl] **canal** Space through which the spinal cord passes.
neurilemma [nŭr-ĭ-LĚM-ǎ] {**neurilema**} Membranous covering that protects the myelin sheath.
neuritis [nŭ-RĪ-tĭs] {**neuritis**} Inflammation of the nerves.
neuroglia [nŭ-RŎG-lē-ǎ], **neuroglial** [nŭ-RŎG-lē-ǎ] **cell** Cell of the nervous system that does not transmit impulses.
neurohypophysis [NŪR-ō-hĭ-PŎF-ĭ-sĭs] Posterior lobe of pituitary gland.
neuron [NŪR-ŏn] {**neurona**} Basic cell of the nervous system having three parts; nerve cell.
neuroplasty [NŪR-ō-PLÁS-tē] Surgical repair of a nerve.
neuroretina [nŭr-ō-RĚT-ĭ-nǎ] Thick layer of nervous tissue in the retina.
neuorrhaphy [nŭr-ŎR-ǎ-fē] Suturing of a severed nerve.
neurosurgeon [nŭr-ō-SĚR-jŭn] {**neurocirujano**} Medical specialist who performs surgery on the brain and spinal cord.
neurotomy [nŭ-RŎT-ō-mē] Dissection of a nerve.
neurotransmitters [NŪR-ō-trǎns-MĪT-ěrz] {**neurotramisor**} Various substances located in tiny sacs at the end of the axon.
neutrophil [NŪ-trō-fĭl] {**neutrófilo**} Type of leukocyte; granulocyte.
nevus (*pl.*, *nevi*) [NĚ-vŭs (NĚ-vĭ)] {**nevo**} Birthmark.
nipple [NĪP-l] {**pezón**} Projection at the apex of the breast through which milk flows during lactation.
nocturia [nŏk-TŪ-rē-ǎ] {**nocturia**} Nighttime urination.
nodule [NŎD-yŭl] {**nódulo**} Small knob of tissue.
non-Hodgkin's lymphoma Cancer of the lymph nodes with some cells resembling healthy cells and spreading in a diffuse pattern.

noninsulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM) See Type II diabetes.

nonsteroidal [nɔ̃n-STĚR-ɔ̃y-dāl] **anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)** {*agentes de antiinflamatorios no esteroideos, AINE*} Agent or drug that reduces inflammation without the use of steroids.

norepinephrine [NÖR-ěp-ĩ-NĚF-rĩn] {*norepinefrina*} Hormone secreted by adrenal medulla.

nose [nɔ̃z] {*nariz*} External structure supported by nasal bones and containing nasal cavity.

nosebleed {*epistaxis*} See epistaxis.

nostrils [NÖS-trĩls] {*naris*} External openings at the base of the nose; also called external nares.

nucleus pulposus [NŮ-klē-ūs pŭl-PŌ-sŭs] Fibrous mass in the center portion of the intervertebral disk.

nyctalopia [nĩk-tā-LŌ-pē-ā] {*nictalopía*} Night blindness.

nystagmus [nĩs-STĀG-mŭs] {*nistagmo*} Excessive involuntary eyeball movement.

O

obesity [ɔ̃-BĚS-ĩ-tē] {*obesidad*} Abnormal accumulation of fat in the body.

obstetrician [ɔ̃b-stě-TRĩSH-ŭn] {*obstetra*} Physician who specializes in pregnancy and childbirth care.

occipital [ɔ̃k-SĩP-ĩ-tāl] **bone** Bone that forms the lower back portion of the skull.

occipital lobe [ɔ̃k-SĩP-ĩ-tāl lɔ̃b] One of the four parts of each hemisphere of the cerebrum.

occlusion [ɔ̃-KLŮ-zhŭn] {*oclusión*} Blocking of a blood vessel; the closing of a blood vessel.

olecranon [ɔ̃-LĚK-rā-nɔ̃n] {*olécranon*} Curved end of the ulna to which tendons of the arm muscles attach; bony prominence of the elbow.

olfactory [ɔ̃l-FĀK-tō-rē] **organs** Organs at the top of the nasal cavity containing olfactory receptors.

oligodendroglia [ŎL-ĩ-gō-dĕn-DRŎG-lē-ā] {*oligodendroglia*} A type of neuroglia that produces myelin and helps to support neurons.

oligodendroglioma [ŎL-ĩ-gō-DĚN-drō-glē-Ō-mā] {*oligodendroglioma*} Type of glioma formed from oligodendroglia.

oligomenorrhea [ŎL-ĩ-gō-mĕn-ō-RĚ-ā] {*oligomenorrea*} Scanty menstrual period.

oligo-ovulation [ŎL-ĩ-gō-ŎV-yŭ-LĀ-shŭn] Irregular ovulation.

oligospermia [ɔ̃l-ĩ-gō-SPĚR-mē-ā] {*oligospermia*} Scanty production of sperm.

oliguria [ɔ̃l-ĩ-GŮ-rē-ā] {*oliguria*} Scanty urine production.

onychchia, onychitis [ɔ̃-NĩK-ē-ā, ɔ̃n-ĩ-Kĩ-tĩs] {*oniquia*} Inflammation of the nail.

onychopathy [ɔ̃n-ĩ-KŎP-ā-thē] {*onicopatía*} Disease of the nail.

oocyte [Ŏ-ō-sĩt] {*oocito*} Immature ovum produced in the gonads.

oophorectomy [ɔ̃-ɔ̃f-ōr-ĚK-tō-mē] {*ooforectomía*} Removal of an ovary.

open fracture Fracture with an open skin wound; compound fracture.

ophthalmologist [ɔ̃f-thāl-MŎL-ō-jĩst] {*oftalmólogo*} Medical specialist who diagnoses and treats eye disorders.

ophthalmoscopy [ɔ̃f-thāl-MŎS-kō-pē] {*oftalmoscopia*} Visual examination of the interior of the eye.

opportunistic [ɔ̃p-pōr-tŭ-NĩS-tĩk] **infection** Infection that takes hold because of lowered immune response.

optic nerve Nerve that transmits nerve impulses from the eye to the brain.

optician [ɔ̃p-TĩSH-ŭn] Technician who makes and fits corrective lenses.

optometrist [ɔ̃p-TŎM-ě-trĩst] {*optometrista*} Nonmedical specialist who examines the eyes and prescribes lenses.

oral administration Swallowing of pills or liquids via the mouth.

orchidectomy [ɔ̃r-kĩ-DĚK-tō-mē] {*orquidectomía*} Removal of a testicle.

orchiectomy [ɔ̃r-kē-ĚK-tō-mē] {*orquitectomía*} Removal of a testicle.

organ [ŎR-gān] Group of specialized tissue that performs a specific function.

organ of Corti [KŎR-tĩ] Structure on the basilar membrane with hairlike receptors that receive and transmit sound waves.

origin {*origen*} Point at which muscles attach to stationary bone.

oropharynx [ŎR-ō-FĀR-ĩngks] {*orofaringe*} Back portion of the mouth, a division of the pharynx.

orthopedist [ɔ̃r-thō-PĚ-dĩst] {*ortopedista*}, **orthopedic** [ɔ̃r-thō-PĚ-dĩk] **surgeon** Physician who examines, diagnoses, and treats disorders of the musculoskeletal system.

orthopnea [ɔ̃r-thōp-NĚ-ā, ɔ̃r-THŎP-nē-ā] {*ortopnea*} Difficulty in breathing, especially while lying down.

orthosis, orthotic [ɔ̃r-THŎ-sĩs, ɔ̃r-THŎT-ĩk] {*ortosis, ortótica*} External appliance used to immobilize or assist the movement of the spine or limbs.

osseous [ŎS-sē-ŭs] **tissue** Connective tissue into which calcium salts are deposited.

osseus [ŎS-sē-ŭs] **labyrinth** One of the two tubes that make up the semicircular canals.

ossification [ŎS-ĩ-fĩ-KĀ-shŭn] {*osificación*} Hardening into bone.

ostealgia [ɔ̃s-tē-ĀL-jē-ā] {*ostealgia*} Bone pain.

osteoarthritis [ŎS-tē-ō-ār-THRĩ-tĩs] {*osteoartritis*} Arthritis with loss of cartilage.

osteoblast [ŎS-tē-ō-blāst] {*osteoblasto*} Cell that forms bone.

osteoclast [ŎS-tē-ō-klāst] {*osteoclasto*} Large cell that reabsorbs and removes osseous tissue.

osteoclast [ŎS-tē-ō-klāst] {*osteoclasto*} Large cell that reabsorbs and removes osseous tissue.

osteocyte [ŎS-tē-ō-sĩt] {*osteocito*} Bone cell.

osteodynia [ɔ̃s-tē-ō-DĩN-ē-ā] {*osteodinía*} Bone pain.

osteoma [ɔ̃s-tē-Ŏ-mā] {*osteoma*} Benign tumor, usually on the skull or mandible.

osteomyelitis [ŎS-tē-ō-mĩ-ě-Lĩ-tĩs] {*osteomielitis*} Inflammation of the bone marrow and surrounding bone.

- osteopath** [ŎS-tē-ō-pāth] {osteópata} Physician who combines manipulative treatment with conventional therapeutic measures.
- osteoplasty** [ŎS-tē-ō-plās-tē] {osteoplastia} Surgical replacement or repair of bone.
- osteoporosis** [ŎS-tē-ō-pō-RŎ-sis] {osteoporosis} Degenerative thinning of bone.
- osteosarcoma** [ŎS-tē-ō-sār-KŎ-mā] {osteosarcoma} Malignant tumor of bone.
- osteotomy** [ŏs-tē-ŎT-ō-mē] {osteotomía} Cutting of bone.
- otalgia** [ō-TĀL-jē-ā] {otalgia} Pain in the ear.
- otitis externa** [ō-TĪ-tis ěks-TĚR-nā] {otitis externa} Fungal infection of the external ear canal.
- otitis media** [MĚ-dē-ā] {otitis media} Inflammation of the middle ear.
- otoliths** [Ŏ-tō-liths] {otolito} Small calcifications in the inner ear that help to maintain balance.
- otologist** [ō-TŎL-ō-jist] {otólogo} Medical specialist in ear disorders.
- otoplasty** [Ŏ-tō-plās-tē] {otoplastia} Surgical repair of the outer ear.
- otorhinolaryngologist** [ō-tō-RĪ-nō-lār-rin-GŎL-ō-jist] Medical doctor who diagnoses and treats disorders of the ear, nose, and throat.
- otorrhagia** [ō-tō-RĀ-jē-ā] {otorragia} Bleeding from the ear.
- otorrhea** [ō-tō-RĚ-ā] {otorrea} Purulent discharge from the ear.
- otosclerosis** [ō-tō-skľē-RŎ-sis] {otosclerosis} Hardening of bones of the ear.
- otoscopy** [ō-TŎS-kō-pē] {otoscopia} Inspection of the ear using an otoscope.
- ovary** [Ŏ-vā-rē] {ovario} One of two glands that produce ova; one of two female reproductive glands that secrete hormones in the endocrine system.
- over-the-counter (OTC)** Available for sale without a doctor's prescription.
- ovulation** [ŎV-yū-LĀ-shŭn] {ovulación} Release of an ovum (or rarely, more than one ovum) as part of a monthly cycle that leads to fertilization or menstruation.
- ovum** (pl., ova) [Ŏ-vŭm (Ŏ-vā)] {óvulo} Mature female sex cell produced by the ovaries, which then travels to the uterus. If fertilized, it implants in the uterus; if not, it is released during menstruation to the outside of the body.
- oxytocin** [ŏk-sī-TŎ-sin] {oxitocina} Hormone given to induce labor; hormone released by the posterior pituitary gland to aid in uterine contractions and lactation.
- P**
- pacemaker** {marcapaso} Term for the sinoatrial (SA) node; also, an artificial device that regulates heart rhythm.
- palatine** [PĀL-ā-tin] **bone** Bone that helps form the hard palate and nasal cavity; located behind the maxillary bones.
- palatine tonsils** [PĀL-ā-tin TŎN-silz] Lymphatic tissue that works as part of the immune system; mounds of lymphatic tissue on either side of the pharynx.
- palpitations** [pāl-pī-TĀ-shŭnz] {palpitaciones} Uncomfortable pulsations of the heart felt as a thumping in the chest.
- palsy** [PĀWL-zē] {parálisis} Partial or complete paralysis.
- pancreas** [PĀN-krē-ās] {páncreas} Digestive organ that secretes digestive fluids; endocrine gland that regulates blood sugar; gland of both the endocrine system (blood sugar control) and the digestive system (as an exocrine gland).
- pancreatectomy** [PĀN-krē-ā-TĚK-tō-mē] {pancreatectomía} Removal of the pancreas.
- pancreatitis** [PĀN-krē-ā-TĪ-tis] {pancreatitis} Inflammation of the pancreas.
- pancytopenia** [PĀN-sī-tō-PĚ-nē-ā] {pancitopenia} Condition with a low number of blood components.
- Papanicolaou (Pap)** [pā-pā-NĚ-kō-lŭ] **smear** Gathering of cells from the cervix and vagina to observe for abnormalities.
- papilla** (pl., papillae) [pā-PĪL-ā (pā-PĪL-ē)] {papilas} Tiny projection on the superior surface of the tongue that contains taste buds.
- papillary** [PĀP-i-lār-ē] **layer** Thin sublayer of the dermis containing small papillae (nipple-like masses).
- papule** [PĀP-yŭl] {pápula} Small, solid elevation on the skin.
- para** [PĀ-rā] Woman who has given birth to one or more viable infants.
- paracentesis** [PĀR-ā-sĕn-TĚ-sis] Incision into the abdominal cavity to remove fluid or relieve pressure.
- paracusis** [PĀR-ā-KŪ-sis] {paracusia} Impaired hearing.
- paranasal sinuses** [pār-ā-NĀ-sāl SĪ-nŭs-ĕz] Area of the nasal cavity where external air is warmed by blood in the mucous membrane lining.
- parasympathetic** [pār-ā-sim-pā-THĚT-ik] **nervous system** Part of the autonomic nervous system that operates when the body is in a normal state.
- parathormone** [pār-ā-THŎR-mŏn] (**PTH**) {parathormona} Parathyroid hormone.
- parathyroid** [pār-ā-THĪ-rŏyd] **gland** {paratiroide} One of four glands located adjacent to the thyroid gland on its dorsal surface that help maintain levels of blood calcium.
- parathyroid hormone (PTH)** Hormone released by parathyroid glands to help raise blood calcium levels.
- parathyroidectomy** [PĀ-rā-thī-rŏy-DĚK-tō-mē] Removal of one or more of the parathyroid glands.
- parenteral** [pā-RĚN-tēr-āl] **administration** Administration of a drug by injection.
- paresthesia** [pār-ĕs-THĚ-zhē-ā] Abnormal sensation, such as tingling.
- parietal** [pā-RĪ-ĕ-tāl] **bone** Flat, curved bone on either side of the upper part of the skull.
- parietal lobe** [pā-RĪ-ĕ-tāl lŏb] One of the four parts of each hemisphere of the cerebrum.
- parietal pleura** [pā-RĪ-ĕ-tāl PLŪR-ā] Outer layer of the pleura.
- Parkinson's** [PĀR-kin-sŏnz] **disease** Degeneration of nerves in the brain caused by lack of sufficient dopamine.
- paronychia** [pār-ō-NĪK-ē-ā] {paroniquia} Inflammation, with pus, of the fold surrounding the nail plate.

- parotitis, parotiditis** [pär-ō-TĪ-tis, pä-röt-ĭ-DĪ-tis] Inflammation of the parotid gland.
- paroxysmal** [pär-ök-SĪZ-mäl] **{paroxístico}** Sudden, as a spasm or convulsion.
- partial thromboplastin time (PTT)** Test for ability of blood to coagulate.
- parturition** [pär-tür-ĪSH-ün] **{parturición}** Birth.
- patch** **{placa}** Small area of skin differing in color from the surrounding area; plaque.
- patch test** Test for allergic sensitivity in which a small dose of antigen is applied to the skin on a small piece of gauze.
- patella** [pä-TĒL-ă] **{rótula}** Large, sesamoid bone that forms the kneecap.
- patent ductus arteriosus** [PÄ-tént DŮK-tüs är-tēr-ē-Ō-sis] A condition at birth in which the ductus arteriosus, a small duct between the aorta and the pulmonary artery, remains abnormally open.
- pathogen** [PÄTH-ō-jĕn] **{patógeno}** Disease-causing agent.
- pathological fracture** Fracture occurring at the site of already damaged bone.
- peak flow meter** Device for measuring breathing capacity.
- pediculosis** [pĕ-DĪK-yū-lō-sis] **{pediculosis}** Lice infestation.
- pelvic** [PĒL-vĭk] **cavity** Body space below the abdominal cavity that includes the reproductive organs; cup-shaped cavity formed by the large bones of the pelvic girdle; contains female reproductive organs, sigmoid colon, bladder, and rectum.
- pelvic girdle** Hip bones.
- pelvimetry** [pĕl-VĪM-ĕ-trĕ] Measurement of the pelvis during pregnancy.
- pelvis** [PĒL-vis] **{pelvis}** Cup-shaped ring of bone and ligaments at the base of the trunk.
- penis** [PĒ-nĭs] **{pene}** Male reproductive part that covers the urethra on the outside of the body.
- pepsin** [PĒP-sĭn] **{pepsina}** Digestive enzyme of gastric juice.
- peptic ulcer** Sore on the mucous membrane of the digestive system; stomach ulcer or gastric ulcer.
- percussion** [pĕr-KŪSH-ün] **{percusión}** Tapping on the surface of the body to see if lungs are clear.
- percutaneous transluminal** [pĕr-kyū-TĀ-nĕ-üs trāns-LŪ-mĭn-ăl] **coronary angioplasty** See balloon catheter dilation.
- perfusion deficit** Lack of flow through a blood vessel, usually caused by an occlusion.
- pericarditis** [PĒR-ĭ-kār-DĪ-tĭs] **{pericarditis}** Inflammation of the pericardium.
- pericardium** [pĕr-ĭ-KĀR-dĕ-üm] **{pericardio}** Protective covering of the heart.
- perilymph** [PĒR-ĭ-lĭmf] Liquid secreted by the walls of the osseus labyrinth.
- perimenopause** [pĕr-ĭ-MĒN-ō-pāws] Three- to five-year period of decreasing estrogen levels prior to menopause.
- perimetrium** [pĕr-ĭ-MĒ-trĕ-üm] **{perimetrio}** Outer layer of the uterus.
- perineum** [PĒR-ĭ-NĒ-üm] **{perineo}** Space between the labia majora and the anus; area between the penis and the anus.
- periosteum** [pĕr-ē-ŌS-tĕ-üm] **{periostio}** Fibrous membrane covering the surface of bone.
- peripheral vascular disease** Vascular disease in the lower extremities, usually due to blockages in the arteries of the groin or legs.
- peristalsis** [pĕr-ĭ-STĀL-sĭs] **{peristaltismo}** Coordinated, rhythmic contractions of smooth muscle that force food through the digestive tract.
- peritoneal** [PĒR-ĭ-tō-NĒ-ăl] **dialysis** Type of dialysis in which liquid that extracts substances from blood is inserted into the peritoneal cavity and emptied outside the body.
- peritoneoscopy** [PĒR-ĭ-tō-nĕ-ŌS-kō-pĕ] **{peritoneoscopia}** Examination of the abdominal cavity using a peritoneoscope.
- peritonitis** [PĒR-ĭ-tō-NĪ-tĭs] **{peritonitis}** Inflammation of the peritoneum.
- pertussis** [pĕr-TŪS-ĭs] **{pertussis}** Severe infection of the pharynx, larynx, and trachea caused by bacteria; whooping cough.
- PET (positron emission tomography) scan** [PŌZ-ĭ-trŏn ē-MĪ-shŭn tō-MŌG-ră-fĕ] **{TEP}** Imaging of the brain using radioactive isotopes and tomography; a series of images that shows the distribution of substances through tissue.
- petechia** (*pl.*, **petechiae**) [pĕ-TĒ-kĕ-ă, pĕ-TĒK-ĕ-ă (pĕ-TĒ-kĕ-ĕ, pĕ-TĒK-ĕ-ĕ)] **{petequia}** A tiny hemorrhage beneath the surface of the skin; minute hemorrhages in the skin.
- petit mal** [PĒ-tĕ măhl] **seizure** See absence seizure.
- Peyronie's** [pä-RŌN-ĕz] **disease** Abnormal curvature of the penis caused by hardening in the interior of the penis.
- pH** Measurement of the acidity or alkalinity of a solution such as urine.
- phacoemulsification** [FĀ-kō-ĕ-mŭls-ĭ-fĭ-KĀ-shŭn] Use of ultrasound to break up and remove cataracts.
- phagocytosis** [FĀG-ō-sĭ-TŌ-sĭs] **{fagocitosis}** Ingestion of foreign substances by specialized cells.
- phalanges** (*sing.*, **phalanx**) [fă-LĀN-jĕz (FĀ-lăngks)] **{falange}** Long bones of the fingers and toes.
- phantom limb, phantom pain** Pain felt in a paralyzed or amputated limb.
- pharmacist** [FĀR-mă-sĭst] Person licensed to dispense medications.
- pharmacodynamics** [FĀR-mă-kō-dĭ-NĀM-ĭks] Study of how drugs affect the body.
- pharmacokinetics** [FĀR-mă-kō-kĭ-NĒT-ĭks] Study of how the body absorbs, metabolizes, and excretes drugs.
- pharmacology** [făr-mă-KŌL-ō-jĕ] **{farmacología}** Science that studies, develops, and tests new drugs.
- pharyngeal tonsils** [fă-RĪN-jĕ-ăl TŌN-sĭlz] Adenoids.
- pharyngitis** [făr-ĭn-JĪ-tĭs] **{faringitis}** Inflammation of the pharynx.
- pharynx** [FĀR-ĭngks] **{faringe}** Passageway at back of mouth for air and food; throat; tube through which food passes to the esophagus.
- phenylketones** [FĒN-ĭl-KĒ-tŏns] Substances that, if accumulated in the urine of infants, indicate phenylketonuria (PKU), a disease treated by diet.
- phimosis** [fĭ-MŌ-sĭs] **{fimosis}** Abnormal narrowing of the opening of the foreskin.
- phlebitis** [flĕ-BĪ-tĭs] **{flebitis}** Inflammation of a vein.

- phlebography** [flě-BÖG-ră-fě] {flebografía} Viewing of a vein by x-ray after injection of a contrast medium.
- phlebotomy** [flě-BÖT-ō-mě] {flebotomía} Drawing blood from a vein via a small incision; See venipuncture.
- phosphorus** [FÖS-för-üş] {fósforo} Mineral important to the formation of bone.
- photophobia** [fō-tō-FÖ-bē-ă] {fotofobia} Extreme sensitivity to light.
- physical therapy** Movement therapy to restore use of damaged areas of the body.
- pia mater** [PĪ-ă, PĒ-ă MĀ-tēr, MĀH-tēr] {piamadre} Innermost layer of meninges.
- pilonidal** [pĭ-lō-NĪ-dăl] **cyst** Cyst containing hair, usually found at the lower end of the spinal column.
- pineal** [PĪN-ē-ăl] **gland** Gland located above pituitary gland; secretes melatonin.
- pinkeye** Conjunctivitis.
- pinna** [PĪN-ă] Auricle.
- pituitary** [pĭ-TŪ-ĭ-tār-ē] **gland** Major endocrine gland; secretes hormones essential to metabolic functions.
- placenta** [plă-SĔN-tă] {placenta} Nutrient-rich organ that develops in the uterus during pregnancy; supplies nutrients to the fetus.
- placenta previa** [plă-SĔN-tă PRĒ-vē-ă] Placement of the placenta so it blocks the birth canal.
- plantar** [PLĀN-tār] **wart** Wart on the sole of the foot.
- plaque** [plăk] {placa} Microorganisms that grow on the crowns along the roots of teeth causing decay of teeth and breakdown of gums; see patch; buildup of solid material, such as a fatty deposit, on the lining of an artery.
- plasma** [PLĀZ-mă] Liquid portion of unclotted blood.
- plasma** [PLĀZ-mă] {plasma} **cell** Specialized lymphocyte that produces immunoglobulins.
- plasmapheresis** [PLĀZ-mă-fō-RĒ-sĭs] {plasmaféresis} Process of removing blood from a person, centrifuging it, and returning only red blood cells to that person.
- plastic surgery** Repair or reconstruction (as of the skin) by means of surgery.
- platelet** [PLĀT-lět] {plaqueta} Thrombocyte; part of a megakaryocyte that initiates clotting.
- platelet count (PLT)** Measurement of number of platelets in a blood sample.
- pleura** (*pl.*, **pleurae**) [PLŪR-ă (PLŪR-ē)] {pleura} Double layer of membrane making up the outside of the lungs.
- pleural cavity** [PLŪR-ăl KĀV-ĭ-tē] Space between the two pleura.
- pleural effusion** [PLŪR-ăl ě-FYŪ-zhŭn] Escape of fluid into the pleural cavity.
- pleuritis, pleurisy** [plū-RĪ-tĭs, PLŪR-ĭ-sē] {pleuritis} Inflammation of the pleura.
- pleurocentesis** [PLŪR-ō-sĕn-TĒ-sĭs] Surgical puncture of pleural space.
- pleuropexy** [PLŪR-ō-PĔK-sē] Fixing in place of the pleura surgically, usually in case of injury or deterioration.
- pneumobronchotomy** [NŪ-mō-brōng-KÖT-ō-mē] Incision of the lung and bronchus.
- pneumoconiosis** [NŪ-mō-kō-nē-Ō-sĭs] {neumoconiosis} Lung condition caused by inhaling dust.
- pneumonectomy** [NŪ-mō-NĔK-tō-mē] {neumonectomía} Removal of a lung.
- pneumonia** [nū-MŌ-nē-ă] {neumonía} Acute infection of the alveoli.
- pneumonitis** [nū-mō-NĪ-tĭs] {neumonitis} Inflammation of the lung.
- pneumothorax** [nū-mō-THŌR-ăks] {neumotórax} Accumulation of air or gas in the pleural cavity.
- podagra** [pō-DĀG-ră] {podagra} Pain in the big toe, often associated with gout.
- podiatrist** [pō-DĪ-ă-trĭst] {podiatra} Medical specialist who examines, diagnoses, and treats disorders of the foot.
- poikilocytosis** [PŌY-kĭ-lō-sĭ-TŌ-sĭs] {poiquilocitosis} Disorder with irregularly shaped red blood cells.
- polarization** [pō-lăr-ĭ-ZĀ-shŭn] {polarización} Resting state of the myocardial tissue in the conduction system of the heart.
- polycystic** [pōl-ē-SĪS-tĭk] **kidney disease** Condition with many cysts on and within the kidneys.
- polycythemia** [PŌL-ē-sĭ-THĒ-mē-ă] {policetemia} Disorder with an abnormal increase in red blood cells and hemoglobin.
- polydipsia** [pōl-ē-DĪP-sē-ă] {polydipsa} Excessive thirst.
- polyp** [PŌL-ĭp] {pólipo} Bulging mass of tissue that projects outward from the skin surface.
- polypectomy** [pōl-ĭ-PĔK-tō-mē] {polipectomía} Removal of polyps.
- polyposis** [PŌL-ĭ-PŌ-sĭs] {poliposis} Condition with polyps, as in the intestines.
- polysomnography (PSG)** [PŌL-ē-sŏm-NŌG-ră-fē] Recording of electrical and movement patterns during sleep.
- polyuria** [pōl-ē-YŪ-rē-ă] {poliuria} Excessive urination; excessive amount of water in the urine.
- pons** [pŏnz] {pons} Part of the brainstem that controls certain respiratory functions.
- popliteal** [pŏp-LĪT-ē-ăl] **artery** An artery that supplies blood to the cells of the area behind the knee.
- pore** {poro} Opening or hole, particularly in the skin.
- positron emission tomography** [tō-MŌG-ră-fē] (**PET**) **scan** Type of nuclear image that measures movement of areas of the heart.
- posterior** At or toward the back side (of the body).
- postprandial** [pŏst-PRĀN-dē-ăl] **blood sugar** Test for glucose in blood, usually about two hours after a meal.
- PPD** Purified protein derivative of tuberculin.
- preeclampsia** [prē-ě-KLĀMP-sē-ă] Toxic infection during pregnancy.
- premature atrial contractions (PACs)** Atrial contractions that occur before the normal impulse; can be the cause of palpitations.
- premature ventricular contractions (PVCs)** Ventricular contractions that occur before the normal impulse; can be the cause of palpitations.
- presbycusis** [prěz-bē-ă-KŪ-sĭs] {presbiacusia} Age-related hearing loss.

presbyopia [prěz-bě-Ō-pě-ǎ] {presbiopía} Age-related diminished ability to focus or accommodate.

prescription [prě-SKRĪP-shŭn] {prescripción} Order given by a doctor for medication dosage, route, and timing of administration.

pressure sore See decubitus ulcer.

priapism [PRĪ-ǎ-pĭzm] {priapismo} Persistent, painful erection of the penis.

process [PRŌ-sěs, PRŌS-ěs] Bony outgrowth or projection.

proctitis [prŏk-TĪ-tĭs] {proctitis} Inflammation of the rectum and anus.

proctoplasty [PRŌK-tŏ-plās-tē] Repair of the rectum and anus.

proctoscopy [prŏk-TŌS-kŏ-pē] {proctoscopia} Examination of the rectum and anus using a proctoscope.

progesterone [prŏ-JĚS-těr-ŏn] {progesterona} One of the primary female hormones.

prone Lying on the stomach with the face down.

proprietary [prŏ-PRĪ-ě-tǎr-ē] **name** See trade name.

prostate [PRŌS-tāt] {próstata} **gland** Gland surrounding the urethra that emits a fluid to help the sperm move and contracts its muscular tissue during ejaculation to help the sperm exit the body.

prostatectomy [prŏs-tǎ-TĚK-tŏ-mē] {prostatectomía} Removal of the prostate.

prostate-specific antigen [ǎN-tĭ-jěn] (**PSA**) **test** Blood test for prostate cancer.

prostatitis [prŏs-tǎ-TĪ-tĭs] {prostatitis} Inflammation of the prostate.

prosthetic [prŏs-THĚT-ĭk] **device** Artificial device used as a substitute for a missing or diseased body part.

proteinuria [prŏ-tē-NŪ-rē-ǎ] Abnormal presence of protein in the urine.

prothrombin [prŏ-THRŌM-bĭn] {protrombina} Type of plasma protein that aids in clotting.

prothrombin time (PT) Test for ability of blood to coagulate.

proximal [PRŌK-sĭ-mǎl] At or near the point of attachment to the trunk.

pruritus [prŭ-RĪ-tĭs] {prurito} Itching.

pseudophakia [sŭ-dŏ-FĀ-kē-ǎ] {seudofaquia} Eye with an implanted lens after cataract surgery.

psoriasis [sŏ-RĪ-ǎ-sĭs] {psoriasis} Chronic skin condition accompanied by scaly lesions with extreme pruritus.

puberty [PYŪ-běr-tē] {pubertad} Pre-teen or early teen period when secondary sex characteristics develop and menstruation begins.

pubes [PYŪ-bĭs] {pubis} Anteroinferior portion of the hip bone.

pubic symphysis [PYŪ-bĭk SĪM-fǎ-sĭs] Joint between the two pubic bones.

pulmonary abscess [PŪL-mŏ-nǎr-ē ǎB-sĭs] Large collection of pus in the lungs.

pulmonary [PŪL-mŏ-nǎr-ē] **artery** {arteria pulmonar} One of two arteries that carry blood that is low in oxygen from the heart to the lungs.

pulmonary artery stenosis Narrowing of the pulmonary artery, preventing the lungs from receiving enough blood from the heart to oxygenate.

pulmonary edema [PŪL-mŏ-nǎr-ē ě-DĚ-mǎ] Fluid in the air sacs and bronchioles usually caused by failure of the heart to pump enough blood to and from lungs.

pulmonary function tests Tests that measure the mechanics of breathing.

pulmonary valve Valve that controls the blood flow between the right ventricle and the pulmonary arteries.

pulmonary vein One of four veins that bring oxygenated blood from the lungs to the left atrium.

pulse [pŭls] {pulso} Rhythmic expansion and contraction of a blood vessel, usually an artery.

pupil [PYŪ-pĭl] {pupila} Black circular center of the eye; opens and closes when muscles in the iris expand and contract in response to light.

purpura [PŪR-pŭ-rǎ] {pŭrpura} Skin condition with extensive hemorrhages underneath the skin covering a wide area.

pustule [PŪS-tŭl] {pústula} Small elevation on the skin containing pus.

pyelitis [pĭ-ě-LĪ-tĭs] {pielitis} Inflammation of the renal pelvis.

pyeloplasty [PĪ-ě-lŏ-PLĀS-tē] Surgical repair of the renal pelvis.

pyelotomy [pĭ-ě-LŌT-ŏ-mē] Incision into the renal pelvis.

pylorus [pĭ-LŌR-ŭs] {pĭloro} Narrowed bottom part of the stomach.

pyoderma [pĭ-ŏ-DĚR-mǎ] {pioderma} Any inflammation of the skin that produces pus.

pyrogenic [pĭ-rŏ-JĚN-ĭk] **meningitis** Meningitis caused by bacteria; can be fatal; bacterial meningitis.

pyuria [pĭ-YŪ-rē-ǎ] {piuria} Pus in the urine.

R

radiculitis [rǎ-dĭk-yŭ-LĪ-tĭs] {radiculitis} Inflammation of the spinal nerve roots.

radioactive immunoassay (RIA) Test for measuring hormone levels in plasma; taken after radioactive solution is ingested.

radioactive iodine uptake Test for how quickly the thyroid gland pulls in ingested iodine.

radius [RĀ-dē-ŭs] Shorter bone of the forearm.

rales [rǎhlz] {rales} See crackles.

Raynaud's phenomenon [rǎ-NŌZ] Spasm in the arteries of the fingers causing numbness or pain.

receptor [rē-SĚP-tŏr] {receptor} Tissue or organ that receives nerve impulses; part of a target cell with properties compatible with a particular substance (hormone).

rectum [RĚK-tŭm] {recto} Bottom portion of large intestine; connected to anal canal.

red blood cell One of the solid parts of blood formed from stem cells and having hemoglobin within; erythrocyte.

red blood cell count Measurement of red blood cells in a cubic millimeter of blood.

red blood cell morphology Observation of shape of red blood cells.

reduction {reducción} Return of a part to its normal position.

reflex [RĚ-flĕks] {reflejo} Involuntary muscular contraction in response to a stimulus.

reflux [RĚ-flŭks] {reflujo} See regurgitation.

- refraction** [rē-FRĀK-shŭn] {**refracción**} Process of bending light rays.
- regurgitation** [rē-GŪR-jĭ-TĀ-shŭn] {**regurgitación**} Backward flow from the normal direction.
- releasing factor** Substance in a hormone that allows secretion of other hormones.
- renal pelvis** Collecting area for urine in the center of the kidney.
- renin** [RĒ-nĭn] {**renina**} Enzyme produced in the kidneys to regulate the filtration rate of blood by increasing blood pressure as necessary.
- renogram** [RĒ-nō-grām] {**renograma**} Radioactive imaging of kidney function after introduction of a substance that is filtered through the kidney while it is observed.
- repolarization** [rē-pō-lăr-ĭ-ZĀ-shŭn] {**repolarización**} Recharging state; transition from contraction to resting that occurs in the conduction system of the heart.
- reproductive** [RĒ-prō-DŪK-tĭv] **system** Either the male or female body system that controls reproduction.
- resectoscope** [rē-SĔK-tō-skōp] {**resectoscopio**} Type of endoscope for removal of lesions.
- respiratory** [RĔS-pĭ-rā-tōr-ē, rē-SPĪR-ă-tōr-ē] **system** Body system that includes the lungs and airways and performs breathing; body's system for breathing.
- respiratory** [RĔS-pĭ-rā-tōr-ē, rē-SPĪR-ă-tōr-ē] **tract** Passageways through which air moves into and out of the lungs.
- reticular** [rē-TĪK-ŭ-lăr] **layer** Bottom sublayer of the dermis containing reticula (network of structures with connective tissue between).
- retina** [RĔT-ĭ-nă] {**retina**} Oval, light-sensitive membrane in the interior layer of the eye; decodes light waves and transmits information to the brain.
- retinitis** [rĕt-ĭ-NĪ-tĭs] {**retinitis**} Inflammation of the retina.
- retinitis pigmentosa** [pĭg-mĕn-TŌ-să] Progressive, inherited disease with a pigmented spot on the retina and poor night vision.
- retroflexion** [rĕ-trō-FLĔK-shŭn] {**retroflexión**} Bending backward of the uterus.
- retrograde pyelogram** [RĔT-rō-grād PĪ-ĕl-ō-grām] (**RP**) X-ray of the bladder and ureters after a contrast medium is injected into the bladder.
- retroperitoneal** [RĔ-trō-PĔR-ĭ-tō-nē-ăl] {**retroperitoneal**} Posterior to the peritoneum.
- retroversion** [rē-trō-VĔR-shŭn] {**retroversión**} Backward turn of the uterus.
- retrovirus** [rē-trō-VĪ-rŭs] {**retrovirus**} Type of virus that spreads by using DNA in the body to help it replicate its RNA.
- Rh factor** Type of antigen in blood that can cause a transfusion reaction.
- rhabdomyoma** [RĀB-dō-mĭ-Ō-mă] {**rabdomioma**} Benign tumor in striated muscle.
- rhabdomyosarcoma** [RĀB-dō-mĭ-ō-săr-KŌ-mă] {**rabdomiosarcoma**} Malignant tumor in striated muscle.
- rheumatic heart disease** Heart valve and/or muscle damage caused by an untreated streptococcal infection.
- rheumatoid** [RŪ-mă-tōyd] **arthritis** Autoimmune disorder affecting connective tissue.
- rheumatoid factor test** Test used to detect rheumatoid arthritis.
- rheumatologist** [rŭ-mă-TŌL-ō-jĭst] {**reumatólogo**} Physician who examines, diagnoses, and treats disorders of the joints and musculoskeletal system.
- rhinitis** [rĭ-NĪ-tĭs] {**rinitis**} Nasal inflammation.
- rhinoplasty** [RĪ-nō-plăs-tĕ] {**rinoplastia**} Surgical repair of the nose.
- rhinorrhea** [rĭ-nō-RĒ-ă] {**rinorrea**} Nasal discharge.
- Rh-negative** Lacking Rh factor on surface of blood cells.
- rhonchi** [RŌNG-kĭ] {**ronquidos**} See wheezes.
- Rh-positive** Having Rh factor on surface of blood cells.
- rib** {**costilla**} One of twenty-four bones that form the chest wall.
- rickets** [RĪK-ĕts] {**raquitismo**} Disease of the skeletal system, usually caused by vitamin D deficiency.
- right atrium** Upper right chamber of the heart.
- right lower quadrant** Quadrant on the lower right anterior side of the patient's body.
- right upper quadrant** Quadrant on the upper right anterior side of the patient's body.
- right ventricle** Lower right chamber of the heart.
- rigidity** {**rigidez**} Stiffness.
- rigor** [RĪG-ōr] {**rigor**} Stiffening.
- ringworm** {**tiña**} Fungal infection; tinea.
- risk factor** Any of various factors considered to increase the probability that a disease will occur; for example, high blood pressure and smoking are considered risk factors for heart disease.
- rods** [rōdz] {**bastoncillos**} Specialized receptor cells in the retina that perceive black to white shades.
- rosacea** [rō-ZĀ-shĕ-ă] {**rosácea**} Vascular disease that causes blotchy, red patches on the skin, particularly on the nose and cheeks.
- roseola** [rō-ZĔ-ō-lă] Skin eruption of small, rosy patches, usually caused by a virus.
- rub** {**roce**} Frictional sound heard between heartbeats, usually indicating a pericardial murmur.
- rubella** [rŭ-BĔL-ă] {**rubéola**} Disease that causes a viral skin rash; German measles.
- rubeola** [rŭ-BĔ-ō-lă] {**rubéola**} Disease that causes a viral skin rash; measles.
- rugae** [RŪ-gĕ] {**rugae**} Folds in stomach lining.

S

- sacrum** [SĀ-krŭm] {**sacro**} Next-to-last spinal vertebra made up of five fused bones; vertebra that forms part of the pelvis.
- sagittal** [SĀJ-ĭ-tăl] **plane** Imaginary line that divides the body into right and left portions.
- saliva** [să-LĪ-vă] {**saliva**} Fluid secreted by salivary glands; contains amylase.
- salivary** [SĀL-ĭ-văr-ē] **glands** Glands in the mouth that secrete fluids that aid in breaking down food.
- salpingectomy** [săl-pĭn-JĔK-tō-mĕ] {**salpingectomía**} Removal of a fallopian tube.
- salpingitis** [săl-pĭn-JĪ-tĭs] {**salpingitis**} Inflammation of the fallopian tubes.

- salpingotomy** [sāl-pīng-GÖT-ō-mē] Incision into the fallopian tubes.
- saphenous** [sā-FĒ-nūs] **vein** Any of a group of veins that transport deoxygenated blood from the legs.
- sarcoidosis** [sär-kōy-DŌ-sīs] {**sarcoidosis**} Inflammatory condition with lesions on the lymph nodes and other organs.
- scabies** [SKĀ-bēz] {**sarna**} Skin eruption caused by a mite burrowing into the skin.
- scale** {**escala, costra**} Small plate of hard skin that falls off.
- scapula** [SKĀP-yū-lā] {**escápula**} Large flat bone that forms the shoulder blade.
- Schick** [shĭk] **test** Test for diphtheria.
- sciatica** [sī-ĀT-ī-kā] {**ciática**} 1. Pain in the lower back, usually radiating down the leg, from a herniated disk or other injury or condition. 2. Inflammation of the sciatic nerve.
- sclera** (*pl.*, **sclerae**) [SKLĒR-ă (SKLĒR-ē)] {**esclerótica**} Thick, tough membrane in the outer eye layer; supports eyeball structure.
- scleritis** [sklē-RĪ-tĭs] {**escleritis**} Inflammation of the sclera.
- scleroderma** [sklē-ō-DĒR-mā] {**esclerodermia**} Thickening of the skin caused by an increase in collagen formation.
- scoliosis** [skō-lē-Ō-sīs] {**escolis**} Abnormal lateral curvature of the spinal column.
- scotoma** [skō-TŌ-mā] {**escotoma**} Blind spot in vision.
- scratch test** Test for allergic sensitivity in which a small amount of antigen is scratched onto the surface of the skin.
- scrotum** [SKRŌ-tŭm] {**escroto**} Sac outside the body containing the testicles.
- sebaceous** [sē-BĀ-shŭs] **cyst** Cyst containing yellow sebum.
- sebaceous** [sē-BĀ-shŭs] **glands** Glands in the dermis that open to hair follicles and secrete sebum.
- seborrhea** [sēb-ō-RĒ-ă] {**seborrea**} Overproduction of sebum by the sebaceous glands.
- sebum** [SĒ-bŭm] {**sebo**} Oily substance, usually secreted into the hair follicle.
- secondary hypertension** Hypertension having a known cause, such as kidney disease.
- second-degree burn** Moderately severe burn that affects the epidermis and dermis; usually involves blistering.
- sedimentation rate (SR)** See erythrocyte sedimentation rate.
- sella turcica** [SĒL-ă TŪR-sĭ-kā] {**silla turcica**} Bony depression in the sphenoid bone where the pituitary gland is located.
- semen** [SĒ-mĕn] {**semen**} Thick, whitish fluid containing spermatozoa and secretions from the seminal vesicles, Cowper's glands, and prostate; ejaculated from the penis.
- semen analysis** Observation of semen for viability of sperm.
- semicircular canals** Structures in the inner ear important to equilibrium.
- semilunar** [sēm-ē-LŪ-nār] **valve** One of the two valves that prevent the backflow of blood flowing out of the heart into the aorta and the pulmonary artery.
- seminoma** [sēm-ī-NŌ-mā] Malignant tumor of the testicle.
- sensory receptors** Specialized tissue containing cells that can receive stimuli.
- sensory** [SĒN-sō-rē] **system** Body system that includes the eyes and ears and those parts of other systems involved in the reactions of the five senses; organs or tissue that perceive and receive stimuli from outside or within the body.
- septal defect** Congenital abnormality consisting of an opening in the septum between the atria or ventricles.
- septoplasty** [SĒP-tō-plās-tē] {**septoplastia**} Surgical repair of the nasal septum.
- septostomy** [sĕp-TŌS-tō-mē] {**septostomía**} Creation of an opening in the nasal septum.
- septum** (*pl.*, **septa**) [SĒP-tŭm (SĒP-tă)] {**tabique**} 1. Partition between the left and right chambers of the heart. 2. Cartilaginous division, as in the nose or mediastinum.
- serum** [SĒR-ŭm] {**suero**} The liquid left after blood has clotted.
- serum calcium** Test for calcium in the blood.
- serum creatine phosphokinase** [KRĒ-ă-tĕn fōs-fō-KĪ-nās] Enzyme active in muscle contraction; usually phosphokinase is elevated after a myocardial infarction and in the presence of other degenerative muscle diseases.
- serum enzyme tests** Laboratory tests performed to detect enzymes present during or after a myocardial infarction; cardiac enzyme studies.
- serum phosphorus** [FŌS-fōr-ŭs] Test for phosphorus in the blood.
- sesamoid** [SĒS-ă-mōyd] **bone** Bone formed in a tendon over a joint.
- shin** [shĭn] {**espinilla**} Anterior ridge of the tibia.
- shingles** [SHĪN-glz] {**culebrilla**} Viral disease affecting the peripheral nerves and caused by herpes zoster.
- short bones** Square-shaped bones with approximately equal dimensions on all sides.
- sialoadenitis** [SĪ-ă-lō-ăd-ē-NĪ-tĭs] Inflammation of the salivary glands.
- sight** {**vista**} Ability to see.
- sigmoid** [SĪG-mōyd] **colon** S-shaped part of large intestine connecting at the bottom to the rectum.
- sigmoidoscopy** [SĪG-mōy-DŌS-kō-pē] {**sigmoidoscopia**} Examination of the sigmoid colon using a sigmoidoscope.
- silicosis** [sĭl-ī-KŌ-sīs] Lung condition caused by silica dust from grinding rocks or glass or other materials used in manufacturing.
- simple fracture** Fracture with no open skin wound.
- singultus** [sĭng-GŪL-tŭs] {**singulto**} Hiccuping.
- sinoatrial** [sī-nō-Ā-trē-ăl] (**SA**) **node** Region of the right atrium containing specialized tissue that sends electrical impulses to the heart muscle, causing it to contract.
- sinus** [SĪ-nŭs] {**seno**} 1. Hollow cavity, especially either of two cavities on the sides of the nose. 2. Space between the lactiferous ducts and the nipple.
- sinusitis** [sī-nŭ-SĪ-tĭs] {**sinusitis**} Inflammation of the sinuses.
- sinusotomy** [sĭn-ŭ-SŌT-ō-mē] {**sinusotomía**} Incision of a sinus.
- sinus rhythm** Normal heart rhythm.
- skeleton** [SKĒL-ĕ-tŏn] {**esqueleto**} Bony framework of the body.

- skin graft** Placement of fresh skin over a damaged area.
- SMA (sequential multiple analyzer)** Original blood chemistry machine; now a synonym for blood chemistry.
- small intestine** Twenty-foot long tube that continues the process of digestion started in the stomach; place where most absorption takes place.
- smell** {olfacción, oler} Ability to perceive odors.
- smooth muscle** Fibrous muscle of internal organs that acts involuntarily.
- soft palate** [PÁL-ăt] Soft posterior part of the palate in the mouth; flexible muscular sheet that separates the nasopharynx from the rest of the pharynx.
- somatic** [sō-MĀT-ĭk] **nervous system** Part of the peripheral nervous system that receives and processes sensory input from various parts of the body.
- somatotrophic** [SŌ-mă-tō-TRŌF-ĭk] **hormone (STH)** Hormone secreted by anterior pituitary gland; important in growth and development.
- somnambulism** [sŏm-NĀM-byū-lĭzm] {sonambulismo} Sleepwalking.
- somnolence** [SŌM-nŏ-lĕns] {somnolencia} Extreme sleepiness caused by a neurological disorder.
- sonography** [sŏ-NŌG-ră-fĕ] {sonografía} Production of images based on the echoes of sound waves against structures.
- spasm** [spăzm] {espasmo} Sudden, involuntary muscle contraction.
- spastic** [SPĀS-tĭk] Tending to have spasms.
- specific gravity** Measurement of the concentration of wastes, minerals, and solids in urine.
- SPECT (single photon emission computed tomography)**
brain scan Brain image produced by the use of radioactive isotopes.
- sperm** [spĕrm] {esperma} Male sex cell that contains chromosomes.
- spermatogenesis** [SPĚR-mă-tŏ-JĚN-ĕ-sĭs] Production of sperm.
- spermatozoon** (pl., spermatozoa) [SPĚR-mă-tŏ-ZŌ-ŏn (SPĚR-mă-tŏ-ZŌ-ă)] {spermatozoo} See sperm.
- spermicide** [SPĚR-mĭ-sĭd] {espermicida} Contraceptive chemical that destroys sperm; usually in cream or jelly form.
- sphenoid** [SFĚ-nŏyd] **bone** Bone that forms the base of the skull.
- sphenoid sinus** Sinus above and behind the nose.
- sphygmomanometer** [SFĪG-mŏ-mă-NŌM-ĕ-tĕr] {esfigmomanómetro} Device for measuring blood pressure.
- spina bifida** [SPĪ-nă BĪF-ĭ-dă] {espina bífida} Congenital defect with deformity of the spinal column.
- spinal** [SPĪ-năl] **cavity** Body space that contains the spinal cord.
- spinal column** Column of vertebrae at the posterior of the body, from the neck to the coccyx.
- spinal cord** Ropelike tissue that sits inside the vertebral column and from which spinal nerves extend.
- spinal curvature** Abnormal curvature of the spine.
- spinal nerves** Any of 31 pairs of nerves that carry messages to and from the spinal cord and the torso and extremities.
- spinous** [SPĪ-nūs] **process** Protrusion from the center of the vertebral arch.
- spirometer** [spi-RŌM-ĕ-tĕr] {espirómetro} Testing machine that measures the lungs' volume and capacity.
- spleen** [splĕn] {bazo} Organ of lymph system that filters, stores, and removes blood, and activates lymphocytes.
- splenectomy** [splĕ-NEĖK-tŏ-mĕ] {esplenectomía} Removal of the spleen.
- splenomegaly** [splĕn-ŏ-MĚG-ă-lĕ] Enlarged spleen.
- splinting** {ferulización} Applying a splint to immobilize a body part.
- spondylosyndesis** [SPŌN-dĭ-lŏ-sĭn-DE-sĭs] {espondilosindesis} Fusion of two or more spinal vertebrae.
- sponge** {esponja} Polyurethane contraceptive device filled with spermicide and placed in vagina near cervix.
- spongy bone** Bone with an open latticework filled with connective tissue or marrow.
- sprain** [sprān] Injury to a joint without dislocation or fracture.
- spur** [spŭr] Bony projection growing out of a bone; calcar.
- sputum** [SPŪ-tŭm] **sample or culture** Culture of material that is expectorated (or brought back up as mucus).
- squamous cell carcinoma** [SKWĀ-mŭs sĕl kăr-sĭn-NŌ-mă] Cancer of the squamous epithelium.
- squamous epithelium** [SKWĀ-mŭs ĕp-ĭ-THE-lĕ-ŭm] Flat, scaly layer of cells that makes up the epidermis.
- stapedectomy** [stă-pĕ-DEĖK-tŏ-mĕ] Removal of the stapes to cure otosclerosis.
- stapes** (pl., stapes, stapedes) [STĀ-pĕz (STĀ-pĕ-dĕz)] {estribo} One of the three auditory ossicles; the stirrup.
- steatorrhea** [STĚ-ă-tŏ-RĚ-ă] {esteatorrea} Fat in the blood.
- stem cell** Immature cell formed in bone marrow that becomes differentiated into either a red or a white blood cell.
- stenosis** [stĕ-NŌ-sĭs] {estenosis} Narrowing, particularly of blood vessels or of the cardiac valves.
- stent** [stĕnt] Surgically implanted device used to hold something (as a blood vessel) open.
- stereotaxy** [STĚR-ĕ-ŏ-TĀK-sĕ], **stereotactic** [STĚR-ĕ-ŏ-TĀK-tĭk] **surgery** Destruction of deep-seated brain structures using three-dimensional coordinates to locate the structures.
- sternum** [STĚR-nŭm] {esternón} Long, flat bone that forms the midline of the anterior of the thorax.
- stimulus** (pl., stimuli) [STĪM-yŭ-lŭs (STĪM-yŭ-lĭ)] {estimulo} Anything that arouses a response.
- stomach** [STŌM-ăk] {estómago} Large sac between the esophagus and small intestine; place where food is broken down.
- stool** [stŭl] {heces} Feces.
- strabismus** [stră-BĪZ-mŭs] {estrabismo} Eye misalignment.
- strain** [strān] {distender} Injury to a muscle as a result of improper use or overuse.
- stratum** (pl., strata) [STRĀT-ŭm (STRĀ-tă)] {estrato} Layer of tissue, especially a layer of the skin.
- stratum corneum** [KŌR-nĕ-ŭm] Top sublayer of the epidermis.
- stratum germinativum** [jĕr-mĭ-NĀT-ĭ-vŭm] Bottom sublayer of the epidermis.

stress test Test that measures heart rate, blood pressure, and other body functions while the patient is exercising on a treadmill.

striated [stri-ĀT-əd] **muscle** Muscle with a ribbed appearance that is controlled at will.

stridor [STRĪ-dōr] {**estridor**} High-pitched crowing sound heard in certain respiratory conditions.

stroke [strōk] {**accidente cerebrovascular**} See cerebrovascular accident (CVA).

sty, stye [stī] {**orzuelo**} Hordeolum.

styloid [STĪ-lōyd] **process** Peg-shaped protrusion from a bone.

subcutaneous [süb-kyū-TĀ-nē-ūs] Injected into the fatty layer of tissue beneath the outer layer of skin.

subcutaneous [süb-kyū-TĀ-nē-ūs] **layer** Bottom layer of the skin containing fatty tissue.

subdural [süb-DÜR-äl] **space** Area between the dura mater and the pia mater across which the arachnoid runs.

sublingually [süb-LĪNG-gwǎ-lē] Under the tongue.

subluxation [süb-lük-SĀ-shŭn] {**subluxación**} Partial dislocation, as between joint surfaces.

sulcus (*pl.*, **sulci**) [SÜL-küs (SÜL-sī)] {**surco**} Groove or furrow in the surface of bone; see fissure.

superior [sū-PĒR-ē-ōr] Above another body structure.

superior lobe Topmost lobe of each lung.

superior vena cava Large vein that transports blood collected from the upper part of the body to the heart.

supine [sū-PĪN] Lying on the spine facing upward.

suppository [sū-PŌZ-ī-tōr-ē] {**supositorio**} Drug mixed with a semi-solid melting substance meant for administration by insertion into the vagina, rectum, or urethra.

suppressor [sū-PRĒS-ōr] **cell** T cell that suppresses B cells and other immune cells.

suprarenal [SŪ-prā-RĒ-nāl] **gland** Adrenal gland.

suture [SŪ-chūr] {**sutura**} Joining of two bone parts with a fibrous membrane.

sweat glands Coiled glands of the skin that secrete perspiration to regulate body temperature and excrete waste products.

sweat test Test for cystic fibrosis that measures the amount of salt in sweat.

sympathetic [sīm-pǎ-THĒT-ĭk] **nervous system** Part of the autonomic nervous system that operates when the body is under stress.

sympathomimetic [SĪM-pǎ-thō-mĭ-MĒT-ĭk] {**simpatomimético**} Mimicking functions of the sympathetic nervous system.

symphysis [SĪM-fĭ-sĭs] {**sinfisis**} Type of cartilaginous joint uniting two bones.

synapse [SĪN-āps] {**sinapsis**} Space over which nerve impulses jump from one neuron to another.

synarthrosis [SĪN-ār-THRŌ-sĭs] {**sinartrosis**} Fibrous joint with no movement.

syncope [SĪN-kō-pē] {**sfncope**} Loss of consciousness due to a sudden lack of oxygen in the brain.

syndrome of inappropriate ADH (SIADH) Excessive secretion of antidiuretic hormone.

synovectomy [šin-ō-VĒK-tō-mē] {**sinovectomía**} Removal of part or all of a joint's synovial membrane.

synovial [sĭ-NŌ-vē-äl] **fluid** Fluid that serves to lubricate joints.

synovial joint A joint that moves.

synovial membrane Connective tissue lining the cavity of joints and producing the synovial fluid.

syphilis [SĪF-ī-lĭs] {**sfilis**} Sexually transmitted infection.

syringe [sĭ-RĪNj] {**jeringa**} Instrument used for injection or withdrawal of fluids.

system [SĪS-tēm] Any group of organs and ancillary parts that work together to perform a major body function.

ystole [SĪS-tō-lē] {**systole**} Contraction phase of the heartbeat.

T

tachycardia [TĀK-ĭ-KĀR-dē-ă] {**taquicardia**} Heart rate greater than 100 beats per minute.

tachypnea [tāk-ĭp-NE-ă] {**taquipnea**} Abnormally fast breathing.

target cell Cell with receptors that are compatible with specific hormones.

tarsus, tarsal [TĀR-sŭs, TĀR-säl] **bones** Seven bones of the instep (arch of the foot).

taste Ability to perceive the qualities of ingested matter.

taste buds Organs that sense the taste of food.

taste cells Specialized receptor cells within the taste buds.

Tay-Sachs [TĀ-säks] **disease** Hereditary disease that causes deterioration in the central nervous system and, eventually, death.

T cells Specialized cells that develop in the thymus and are responsible for cellular immunity, and assist with humoral immunity.

tears [tērz] {**lágrimas**} Moisture secreted from the lacrimal glands.

telangiectasia [tēl-ĀN-jē-ĕk-TĀ-zhē-ă] A permanent dilation of the small blood vessels.

temporal [TĒM-pō-räl] **bone** Large bone forming the base and sides of the skull.

temporal lobe [TĒM-pō-räl lōb] One of the four parts of each hemisphere of the cerebrum.

temporomandibular [TĒM-pō-rō-män-DĪB-yū-lär] **joint (TMJ)** Joint of the lower jaw between the temporal bone and the mandible.

tendinitis, tendonitis [tēn-dĭn-ĪT-ĭs] {**tendonitis**} Inflammation of a tendon.

tendon [TĒN-dōn] {**tendon**} Fibrous band that connects muscle to bone or other structures.

tenotomy [tē-NŌT-ō-mē] {**tenotomía**} Surgical cutting of a tendon.

terminal end fibers Group of fibers at the end of an axon that passes the impulses leaving the neuron to the next neuron.

testicle [TĒS-tĭ-kl] {**testículo**} See testis.

testis (*pl.*, **testes**) [TĒS-tĭs (TĒS-tēz)], **testicle** [TES-ti-kl] {**testículo**} Male organ that produces sperm and is contained in the scrotum; one of two male organs that secrete hormones in the endocrine system.

- testosterone** [tēs-TŌS-tě-rŏn] {[testosterona](#)} Primary male hormone.
- tetany** [TĚT-ă-nē] {[tetania](#)} Painfully long muscle contraction. Muscle paralysis, usually due to decreased levels of ionized calcium in the blood.
- tetralogy of Fallot** [fă-LŌ] Set of four congenital heart abnormalities appearing together that cause deoxygenated blood to enter the systemic circulation: ventricular septal-defect, pulmonary stenosis, incorrect position of the aorta, and right ventricular hypertrophy.
- thalamus** [THĀL-ă-mŭs] {[tálamo](#)} One of the four parts of the diencephalon; serves as a sensory relay station.
- thalassemia** [thăl-ă-SĚ-mē-ă] {[talasemia](#)} Hereditary disorder characterized by inability to produce sufficient hemoglobin.
- third-degree burn** Most severe type of burn; involves complete destruction of an area of skin.
- thoracic** [thŏ-RĀS-ĭk] **cavity** Body space above the abdominal cavity that contains the heart, lungs, and major blood vessels.
- thoracic** [thŏ-RĀS-ĭk] **surgeon** Surgeon who specializes in surgery of the thorax.
- thoracic** [thŏ-RĀS-ĭk] **vertebrae** Twelve vertebrae of the chest area.
- thoracocentesis** [THŌR-ă-kŏ-sĕn-TĚ-sĭs] {[toracocentesis](#)} Surgical puncture of the chest cavity.
- thoracostomy** [thŏr-ă-KŌS-tŏ-mē] {[toracostomía](#)} Establishment of an opening in the chest cavity.
- thoracotomy** [thŏr-ă-KŌT-ŏ-mē] {[toracotomía](#)} Incision into the chest cavity.
- thorax** [THŌ-răks] {[tŏrax](#)} Part of the trunk between the neck and the abdomen; chest; chest cavity.
- throat** [thrŏwt] {[garganta](#)} See pharynx.
- throat culture** Test for streptococcal or other infections in which a swab taken on the surface of the throat is placed in a culture to see if certain bacteria grow.
- thrombectomy** [thrŏm-BĚK-tŏ-mē] {[trombectomia](#)} Surgical removal of a thrombus.
- thrombin** [THRŌMB-ĭn] {[trombina](#)} Enzyme that helps in clot formation.
- thrombocyte** [THRŌM-bŏ-sĭt] {[trombocito](#)} Platelet; cell fragment that produces thrombin.
- thrombocytopenia** [THRŌM-bŏ-sĭ-tŏ-PĚ-nē-ă] Bleeding condition with insufficient production of platelets.
- thrombophlebitis** [THRŌM-bŏ-flĕ-BĪ-tĭs] {[tromboflebitis](#)} Inflammation of a vein with a thrombus.
- thromboplastin** [thrŏm-bŏ-PLĀS-tĭn] Protein that aids in forming a fibrin clot.
- thrombosis** [thrŏm-BŌ-sĭs] {[trombosis](#)} Presence of a thrombus in a blood vessel.
- thrombotic** [thrŏm-BŌT-ĭk] **occlusion** Narrowing caused by a thrombus.
- thrombotic** [thrŏm-BŌT-ĭk] **stroke** Stroke caused by a thrombus.
- thrombus** [THRŌM-bŭs] {[trombo](#)} Blood clot; stationary blood clot in the cardiovascular system, usually formed from matter found in the blood.
- thymectomy** [thĭ-MĚK-tŏ-mē] {[timectomía](#)} Removal of the thymus gland.
- thymoma** [thĭ-MŌ-mă] {[timoma](#)} Tumor of the thymus gland.
- thymosin** [THĭ-mŏ-sĭn] {[timosina](#)} Hormone secreted by the thymus gland that aids in distribution of thymocytes and lymphocytes.
- thymus** [THĭ-mŭs] **gland** Soft gland with two lobes that is involved in immune responses; located in mediastinum; gland that is part of the immune system as well as part of the endocrine system; aids in the maturation of T and B cells.
- thyroid** [THĭ-rŏyd] **gland** Gland with two lobes located on either side of the trachea; helps control blood calcium levels and metabolic functions.
- thyroid cartilage** See Adam's apple.
- thyroid function test or study** Test for levels of TSH, T₃, and T₄ in blood plasma to determine thyroid function.
- thyroid scan** Imaging test for thyroid abnormalities.
- thyroidectomy** [thĭ-rŏy-DĚK-tŏ-mē] {[tiroidectomía](#)} Removal of the thyroid.
- thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH)** Hormone secreted by anterior pituitary gland; stimulates release of thyroid hormones.
- thyrotoxicosis** [THĭ-rŏ-tŏk-sĭ-KŌ-sĭs] Overactivity of the thyroid gland.
- thyroxine** [thĭ-RŌK-sĕn, -sĭn] (T₄) Compound found in or manufactured for thyroid gland; helps regulate metabolism.
- tibia** [TĪB-ē-ă] {[tibia](#)} Larger of the two lower leg bones.
- tic** {[tic](#)} Twitching movement that accompanies some neurological disorders.
- tine** [tĭn] **test**, **TB tine** Screening test for tuberculosis in which a small dose of tuberculin is injected into a series of sites within a small space with a tine (instrument that punctures the surface of the skin).
- tinea** [TĪN-ē-ă] {[tiña](#)} Fungal infection; ringworm.
- Tinel's** [tĭ-NĚLZ] **sign** "Pins and needles" sensation felt when an injured nerve site is tapped.
- tinnitus** [tĭ-NĪ-tŭs, TĪ-nĭ-tŭs] {[tinnitus](#)} Constant ringing or buzzing in the ear.
- tissue** [TĪSH-ŭ] Any group of cells that work together to perform a single function.
- T lymphocytes** See T cells.
- tongue** [tŭng] {[lengua](#)} Fleshy part of the mouth that moves food during mastication.
- tonic-clonic seizure** Severe epileptic seizure accompanied by convulsions, twitching, and loss of consciousness.
- tonometry** [tŏ-NŌM-ĕ-trē] {[tonometría](#)} Measurement of tension or pressure within the eye.
- tonsillectomy** [TŌN-sĭ-LĚK-tŏ-mē] {[tonsilectomía](#)} Removal of the tonsils.
- tonsillitis** [TŌN-sĭ-LĪ-tĭs] {[tonsillitis](#)} Inflammation of the tonsils.
- topically** [TŌP-ĭ-căl-lē] On the surface of the skin.
- touch** {[tacto](#)} Ability to perceive sensation on the skin.
- Tourette** [tŭ-RĚT] **syndrome** Neurological disorder that causes uncontrollable speech sounds and tics.

toxicology [tɔk-sī-KÖL-ō-jē] {**toxicología**} Study of harmful effects of drugs.

trachea [TRĀ-kē-ă] {**tráquea**} Airway from the larynx into the bronchi; windpipe.

tracheitis [trā-kē-Ī-tis] Inflammation of the trachea.

tracheoplasty [TRĀ-kē-ō-PLĀS-tē] {**traqueoplastia**} Repair of the trachea.

tracheostomy [TRĀ-kē-ŌS-tō-mē] {**traqueostomía**} Creation of an artificial opening in the trachea.

tracheotomy [trā-kē-ŌT-ō-mē] {**traqueotomía**} Incision into the trachea.

traction [TRĀK-shŭn] {**tracción**} Dragging or pulling or straightening of something, as a limb, by attachment of elastic or other devices.

trade name Name copyrighted by the manufacturer for a particular version of a drug.

transcranial sonogram [trāns-KRĀ-nē-ăl SÖN-ō-grām] Brain images produced by the use of sound waves.

transfusion [trāns-FYŪ-zhŭn] {**transfusión**} Injection of donor blood into a person needing blood.

transient ischemic [is-KĒ-mĭk] **attack** Short neurological incident usually not resulting in permanent injury, but usually signaling that a larger stroke may occur.

transverse plane Imaginary line that intersects the body horizontally.

transverse process Protrusion on either side of the vertebral arch.

trephination, trepanation [trĕf-ĭ-NĀ-shŭn, trĕp-ă-NĀ-shŭn] Circular incision into the skull.

trichiasis [trĭ-KĪ-ă-sĭs] Abnormal growth of eyelashes in a direction that causes them to rub on the eye.

tricuspid [trĭ-KŪS-pĭd] **valve** Atrioventricular valve on the right side of the heart.

tricuspid stenosis Abnormal narrowing of the opening of the tricuspid valve.

triglyceride [trĭ-GLĪS-ĕr-ĭd] {**triglicérido**} Fatty substance; lipid.

triiodothyronine [trĭ-Ī-ō-dō-THĪ-rō-nĕn] (T₃) Thyroid hormone that stimulates growth.

trochanter [trō-KĀN-tēr] {**trocánter**} Bony protrusion at the upper end of the femur.

true ribs Seven upper ribs of the chest that attach to the sternum.

tubercle [TŪ-bĕr-kl] {**tubérculo**} Slight bony elevation to which a ligament or muscle may be attached.

tuberculosis [tū-bĕr-kyū-LŌ-sĭs] {**tuberculosis**} Acute infectious disease caused by bacteria called bacilli.

tuberosity [TŪ-bĕr-ŌS-ĭ-tē] {**tuberosidad**} Large elevation in the surface of a bone.

tumor [TŪ-mōr] {**tumor**} Any mass of tissue; swelling; growth made up of cells that reproduce abnormally.

tympanic [tĭm-PĀN-ĭk] **membrane** Eardrum.

tympanitis [tĭm-pă-NĪ-tis] Inflammation of the eardrum.

tympanoplasty [TĪM-pă-nō-plās-tē] Repair of an eardrum.

U

ulcer [ŪL-sĕr] {**úlceras**} Open lesion, usually with superficial loss of tissue.

ulcerative colitis [kō-LĪ-tĭs] Inflammation of the colon with ulcers.

ulna [ŪL-nă] {**ulna**} Larger bone of the forearm.

umbilical [ŭm-BĪL-ĭ-kăl] **cord** Cord that connects the placenta in the mother's uterus to the navel of the fetus during gestation for nourishment of the fetus.

umbilical [ŭm-BĪL-ĭ-kăl] **region** Area of the body surrounding the umbilicus.

upper respiratory infection Infection of all or part of upper portion of respiratory tract.

urea [yū-RĒ-ă] {**urea**} Waste product of nitrogen metabolism excreted in normal adult urine.

uremia [yū-RĒ-mĕ-ă] {**uremia**} Excess of urea and other wastes in the blood.

ureter [yū-RĒ-tĕr] {**uréter**} One of two tubes that conducts urine from the kidney to the bladder.

ureterectomy [yū-rĕ-tĕr-ĒK-tō-mē] Surgical removal of all or some of a ureter.

ureteroplasty [yū-RĒ-tĕr-ō-plās-tē] Surgical repair of a ureter.

ureterorrhaphy [yū-rĕ-tĕr-ŌR-ă-fĕ] Suturing of a ureter.

urethra [yū-RĒ-thră] {**uretra**} Tube through which urine is transported from the bladder to the exterior of the body.

urethrogram [yū-RĒ-thrō-grām] X-ray of the urethra and prostate.

urethropexy [yū-RĒ-thrō-pĕx-ĕ] Surgical fixing of the urethra.

urethroplasty [yū-RĒ-thrō-plās-tē] Surgical repair of the urethra.

urethrorrhaphy [yū-rĕ-THRŌR-ă-fĕ] Suturing of the urethra.

urethrostomy [yū-rĕ-THRŌS-tō-mē] Establishment of an opening between the urethra and the exterior of the body.

urethrotomy [yū-rĕ-THRŌT-ō-mē] Surgical incision of a narrowing in the urethra.

uric [YŪR-ĭk] **acid** Nitrogenous waste excreted in the urine.

uric [YŪR-ĭk] **acid test** Test for acid content in urine; elevated levels may indicate gout.

urinalysis [yū-rĭ-NĀL-ĭ-sĭs] {**análisis de orina**} Examination of the properties of urine.

urinary [YŪR-ĭ-nār-ĕ] **bladder** See bladder.

urinary [YŪR-ĭ-nār-ĕ] **system** Body system that includes the kidneys, ureters, bladder, and urethra and helps maintain homeostasis by removing fluid and dissolved waste; body system that forms and excretes urine and helps in the reabsorption of essential substances.

urinary tract infection (UTI) Infection of the urinary tract.

urine [YŪR-ĭn] {**orina**} Fluid excreted by the urinary system.

urine sugar Test for diabetes; determined by presence of ketones or sugar in urine.

urology [yū-RŌL-ō-jē] {**urología**} Medical specialty that diagnoses and treats the urinary system and the male reproductive system.

urostomy [yū-RŌS-tō-mē] Establishment of an opening in the abdomen to the exterior of the body for the release of urine.

urticaria [ŪR-tĭ-KĀR-ĕ-ă] {**urticaria**} Group of reddish wheals, usually accompanied by pruritus and often caused by an allergy.

uterine [YŪ-tĕr-ĭn] **tube** One of two tubes through which ova travel from an ovary to the uterus.

uterus [YŮ-tě-r-ūs] {**útero**} Female reproductive organ; site of implantation after fertilization or release of the lining during menstruation.
uvea [YŮ-vē-ǎ] {**úvea**} Region of the eye containing the iris, choroid membrane, and ciliary bodies.
uvula [YŮ-vyŭ-lǎ] {**uvula**} Cone-shaped projection hanging down from soft palate.

V

vaccination [VĀK-sĭ-NĀ-shŭn] {**vacunación**} Injection of an antigen from a different organism to cause active immunity.
vaccine [VĀK-sēn] {**vacuna**} Antigen developed from a different organism that causes active immunity in the recipient.
vagina [vǎ-JĪ-nǎ] {**vagina**} Genital canal leading from the uterus to the vulva.
vaginitis [vǎj-ĭ-NĪ-tis] {**vaginitis**} Inflammation of the vagina.
vagotomy [vǎ-GŎT-ō-mē] Surgical cutting off of the vagus nerve.
valve [vǎlv] {**válvula**} Any of various structures that slow or prevent fluid from flowing backward or forward.
valve replacement Surgical replacement of a coronary valve.
valvotomy [vǎl-VŎT-ō-mē] Incision into a cardiac valve to remove an obstruction.
valvulitis [vǎl-vyŭ-LĪ-tis] {**valvulitis**} Inflammation of a heart valve.
valvuloplasty [VĀL-vyŭ-lō-PLĀS-tē] {**valvuloplastia**} Surgical reconstruction of a cardiac valve.
varicella [vǎr-ĭ-SĚL-ǎ] {**varicela**} Contagious skin disease, usually occurring during childhood, and often accompanied by the formation of pustules; chicken pox.
varicocele [VĀR-ĭ-kō-sēl] {**varicocele**} Enlargement of veins of the spermatic cord.
varicose [VĀR-ĭ-kōs] **vein** Dilated, enlarged, or twisted vein, usually on the leg.
vas deferens [vās DÉF-ēr-ěns] Narrow tube through which sperm leave the epididymis and travel to the seminal vesicles and into the urethra.
vascular [VĀS-kyŭ-lǎr] **lesion** Lesion in a blood vessel that shows through the skin.
vasectomy [vā-SĚK-tō-mě] {**vasectomía**} Removal of part of the vas deferens to prevent conception.
vasopressin [vā-sō-PRĚS-ĭn] Hormone secreted by pituitary gland; raises blood pressure.
vasovasostomy [VĀ-sō-vǎ-SŎS-tō-mē] {**vasovasostomía**} Reversal of a vasectomy.
vegetation [věj-ě-TĀ-shŭn] {**vegetación**} Clot on a heart valve or opening, usually caused by infection.
vein [vān] {**vena**} Any of various blood vessels carrying deoxygenated blood toward the heart, except the pulmonary vein.
venipuncture [VĚN-ĭ-pŭnk-chŭr, VĚ-nĭ-pŭnk-chŭr] {**venipuntura**} Small puncture into a vein, usually to draw blood or inject a solution; insertion of a needle into a vein, usually for the purpose of extracting a blood sample.

venography [vē-NŎG-rǎ-fē] {**venografía**} Viewing of a vein by x-ray after injection of a contrast medium.
ventral [VĚN-trǎl] At or toward the front (of the body).
ventral [VĚN-trǎl] **cavity** Major cavity in the front of the body containing the thoracic, abdominal, and pelvic cavities.
ventral thalamus One of the four parts of the diencephalon; serves as a sensory relay station.
ventricle [VĚN-trĭ-kl] {**ventrículo**} 1. Either of the two lower chambers of the heart. 2. Cavity in the brain for cerebrospinal fluid.
ventriculogram [vĕn-TRĪK-yŭ-lō-grǎm] X-ray of a ventricle taken after injection of a contrast medium.
venule [VĚN-yŭl, VĚ-nŭl] {**vécula**} A tiny vein connecting to a capillary.
verruca (*pl.*, **verrucae**) [vĕ-RŪ-kǎ (vĕ-RŪ-kĕ)] Flesh-colored growth, sometimes caused by a virus; wart.
vertebra (*pl.*, **vertebrae**) [VĚR-tĕ-brǎ (VĚR-tĕ-brĕ)] {**vertebra**, *pl.*, **vertebras**} One of the bony segments of the spinal column.
vertebral body Main portion of the vertebra, separate from the arches of the vertebra.
vertebral column Spinal column.
vertigo [VĚR-tĭ-gō, vĕr-TĪ-gō] {**vértigo**} Dizziness.
vesicle [VĚS-ĭ-kl] {**vesicular**} Small, raised sac on the skin containing fluid.
vestibule [VĚS-tĭ-bŭl] {**vestíbulo**} Bony chamber between the semicircular canal and the cochlea.
vial [VĪ-ǎl] {**vial**} A small receptacle for holding liquid or pill medications.
villus (*pl.*, **villi**) [VĪL-ŭs (VĪL-ĭ)] {**vellosidad**} Tiny, fingerlike projection on the lining of the small intestine with capillaries through which digested nutrients are absorbed into the bloodstream and lymphatic system.
viral meningitis Meningitis caused by a virus and not as severe as pyrogenic meningitis.
virilism [VĪR-ĭ-lĭzm] {**virilismo**} Condition with excessive androgen production, often resulting in the appearance of mature male characteristics in young.
visceral [VĪS-ēr-ǎl] **muscle** Smooth muscle.
visceral pleura [VĪS-ēr-ǎl PLŪR-ǎ] Inner layer of the pleura.
vitamin [VĪT-ǎ-mĭn] {**vitamina**} Organic substance found in food.
vitamin D Vitamin important to the formation of bone.
vitiligo [vĭt-ĭ-LĪ-gō] {**vitiligo**} Condition in which white patches appear on otherwise normally pigmented skin.
vocal cords Strips of epithelial tissue that vibrate and play a major role in the production of sound.
voice box See larynx.
voiding (urinating) cystourethrogram [sĭs-tō-yŭ-RĚ-thrō-grǎm] (**VCU**, **VCUG**) X-ray image made after introduction of a contrast medium and while urination is taking place.
voluntary muscle Striated muscle.
volvulus [VŎL-vyŭ-lŭs] {**vólculo**} Intestinal blockage caused by the intestine twisting on itself.

vomer [VŌ-měř] {**vómer**} Flat bone forming the nasal septum.

vulva [VŮL-vă] {**vulva**} External female genitalia.

W

wart [wōrt] {**varruga**} See verruca.

Western blot Test primarily used to check for antibodies to HIV in serum.

wheal [hwēl] {**roncha**} Itchy patch of raised skin.

wheezes [HWĚZ-ěz] {**sibilancias**} Whistling sounds heard on inspiration in certain breathing disorders, especially asthma.

white blood cell One of the solid parts of blood from stem cells that plays a role in defense against disease; leukocyte.

whitehead [WHĪT-hěd] {**punto blanco**} Closed comedo that does not contain the dark bacteria present in blackheads.

whooping cough [HOŎP-ĭng kăwf] See pertussis.

Wilms' tumor Malignant kidney tumor found primarily in young children; nephroblastoma.

windpipe See trachea.

X

xenograft [ZĚN-ō-grăft] {**xenoinjerto**} See heterograft.

Z

zygomatic [ZĪ-gō-MĀT-ĭk] **bone** Bone that forms the cheek.