#### Islamic University of Gaza Faculty of Nursing





# **Forming Plurals**

1<sup>st</sup> Semester 17-18

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Medical Terminology 1



#### **Guidelines to unusual plural forms**

	Singular (one)	<b>Plural</b> (more than one)	Singular ( one)	<b>Plural</b> (more than one)
Nouns ending in	a	ae	Vertebra	Vertebrae
	••	uc	macula	maculae
Nouns ending in	is	es	Basis	Bases
			diagnosis	diagnoses
Nouns ending in	um	a	ovum	Ova
		•••	datum	data
Nouns ending in	us i	i	Bronchus	Bronchi
		•	coccus	cocci
Nouns ending in	ix, ex	ces	index	Indices
			appendix	appendices

# **Pronouncing Medical Terms**

## **Basic Rules**

## **1. Accenting syllables**

- The last syllable is seldom accented in medical words.
- Accents are often on the first syllable.(basic, program.)
- Most two-syllable and three-syllable words are accented on the first syllable (**nexus**, **Neck-**sus) (**niacin**, **Nigh-**ah-sin).
- Every vowel or diphthong makes a separate syllable often indicates an accented last syllable.(com/plain', con/ceal)
- Medical terms, taken directly from Latin or Greek, are usually pronounced as though they were English, with each letter being pronounced
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# 2. Pronouncing Double Consonants

- In words with certain double consonants appearing at the beginning of a word, the first consonant is silent.
- If this pairing of consonants appears within a word, however, both are usually pronounced.



### 2. Pronouncing Double Consonants......Examples

<b>Double Consonant at Beginning</b>		<b>Double Consonant Within Word</b>
gn	gnosis(NOH-sis)	prognosis (prog-NOH-sis)
mn	mnemic (NEE-mich)	amnesia (am-NEE-zee-ah)
pn	pneograph (NEE-oh-graf)	apnea (ap-NEE-ah)
Ps	pseudo (SUE-doh)	apsychia (ap-SICK-ee-ah)
pt	ptosis (TOH-sis)	hemoptysis (hee-MOP-tih-sis)

## **3. Pronouncing Consonant Combinations:**

Consonant	Pronouncing
ch	<ul> <li>is often pronounced like (K) for example:</li> <li>Chlorine (KLOH-reen)</li> <li>Chromosome (KROH-moh-sohm)</li> <li>Technology (teck-NOL-oh-jee)</li> </ul>
ph	<ul> <li>has the sound of (F) for example:</li> <li>Phobia (FOH-bee-ah)</li> <li>Ophthalmology (ahf-thal-MOL-oh-jee)</li> <li>Encephalitis (en-sef-ah-LIE-tis)</li> </ul>
rh	<ul> <li>has the sound of ( <b>R</b>) for example:</li> <li>Rheumatic (roo-MAT-ick)</li> <li>Herniorhaphy (her-nee-OR-ah-free)</li> </ul>

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### 4. Pronouncing C and G

1)Before ( $\underline{\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{i}, \text{ or } \mathbf{y}}$ ), ( $\underline{\mathbf{c}}$ ) is often given the soft sound

of  $(\underline{s})$ , and  $(\underline{g})$  the soft sound of  $(\underline{j})$ . *for example*:

- Cervical (SER-vih-kal)
- Cycle (SIGH-kl)
- Geriatrics (jer-ee-AT-ricks)
- Giant (**JYE**-ant)

2) Before other letters, (<u>c</u>) and (<u>g</u>) have a harsh sound, found in such words as

- Cardiac(KAR-dee-ack)
- Cocaine (koh-KAYN)
- gauze (**g**awz)
- gonorrhea (gon-oh-REE-ah)

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#### 4. Pronouncing C and G

- 3) When (cc) is followed by (<u>e, i, or y</u>), the first (c) is pronounced as (K) and the second (c) as (S), *for example:* 
  - Coccygeal (kock- SIH-jee-al)
  - Streptococceae (strep-toh-KOCK-see-ee)
  - Occipital (ock-**SIP**-ih-tal)

#### **Pronouncing Combined Vowels**

- The combinations ( ae ) and ( oe ) are pronounced (ee) for example:
  - Fasciae (FASH-ee-ee)
  - Coelom (**SEE**-lum)

### 6. Pronouncing Word Endings

- 1) When (I) is used at the end of a word to form a plural, it has a long sound like the sound in "eye." *For example:* 
  - Cocci (KOCK-sigh)
  - Alveoli (al-**VEE**-oh-lie)
  - Nevi (NEE-via)
- 2) As the final letter or letters of a word, (e) or (es) may be pronounced as (a) separate syllable. For example:
  - Rete (**REE**-tee)
  - Nares (NAY-reez)

**Importance Of Spelling Medical Terms Correctly** 

Term	Meaning
Abduction	carrying away from
Adduction	carrying toward
Arteritis	inflammation of any artery
Arthritis	inflammation of a joint
Ileum	lower part of small intestine
Ilium	hip bone

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