

Pathology and Disease Terms

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1. Introduction

- Pathology is the study of the causes and effects of disease.
- Its terminology names disease processes, their origins, and their consequences.

2. Describing Disease

- **Etiology:** the cause or origin of a disease.
- **Pathogenesis:** the development and progression of a disease.
- **Prognosis:** the predicted outcome or course.

3. Common Suffixes

- **-itis:** inflammation, as in arthritis.
- **-oma:** a tumour or mass, as in carcinoma.
- **-pathy:** disease, as in neuropathy.

4. Categories of Disease

- **Acute:** sudden onset and short duration.
- **Chronic:** long-lasting and often progressive.
- Diseases may be infectious, genetic, degenerative, or neoplastic.

5. Signs and Symptoms

- A sign is an objective finding observed by a clinician.
- A symptom is a subjective experience reported by the patient.

6. Summary

- Pathology terms describe how and why diseases occur.
- Recognising suffixes reveals the nature of many conditions.