

**Culture Advantage**

**Anatomy and Medical Terminology for Interpreters**

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### REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM TERMINOLOGY

Abortion	A procedure to end a pregnancy.	Abruptio placenta	Separation of the placenta (the organ that nourishes the fetus) from the uterus
Medical abortion	The use of certain medications to end a pregnancy.	APGAR	A quick test performed at 1 and 5 minutes after birth based on a total score of 1 to 10, with 10 suggesting the healthiest infant.
Surgical abortion	A procedure that ends a pregnancy by removing the fetus and placenta from the mother's womb (uterus).	Baby blues	Mild depression that follows childbirth. Postpartum depression.
Miscarriage	Spontaneous loss of a fetus before the 20th week of pregnancy.	CPD	Cephalopelvic disproportion. The head of the baby is too large for the mother's pelvis.
IUFD, stillbirth	Pregnancy losses after the 20th week. Intrauterine fetal death	Cesarean or c-section	Birth of a baby through an incision made in the mother's abdomen and uterus.
D & C	A procedure to scrape and collect the tissue (endometrium) from inside the uterus.	Episiotomy	An incision made in the perineum to prevent tearing during delivery.
Ectopic pregnancy	Pregnancy that occurs outside the uterus.	Epidural	Epidural block used to numb the lower part of the body during delivery.
STD	Sexually transmitted diseases	Version	Manually repositioning a breech presentation
IUD	Device placed inside the woman's uterus to prevent pregnancy	Forceps	Special instruments to guide the baby's head out of the birth canal during delivery.
Contraception	Birth control	Meconium	Infant's first stool
Pelvic inflammatory	Infection of the female uterus, fallopian tubes,	Oxytocin	Hormone that causes uterine contraction

disease (PID)	and/or ovaries.		
Impotence	The inability of a male to produce or maintain an erection.	Lanugo	Fine hair on the baby's body
Colostrum	Early breastmilk, rich in nutrients and antibodies.	NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
False labor	Braxton Hicks contraction	Placenta previa	the placenta partially or completely covers the cervix
Neonatologist	Specialist in newborns	RhoGam	An injection given to a mother with Rh Negative blood carrying an Rh Positive baby.
Engorgement	When breasts of nursing mother become overly full of milk.	Trimester	Any of the three 3-month periods into which pregnancy is divided.
Effacement	The thinning of the cervix in preparation for delivery.	Menopause	Cessation of menstruation. Menarche – onset of menstruation
Contractions	The strong, rhythmic tightening of the uterus during labor.	Preeclampsia	High blood pressure during pregnancy
Preterm	Born before 37 weeks of pregnancy.	Ultrasound	Creates an image of the baby in the uterus using sound waves.
Puerperium or Postpartum	Period after delivery	Vacuum Extraction	The use of a special instrument applied to the baby's head to help guide it out of the birth canal during delivery
Lactation	Secretion of milk from the mammary gland	Fetal heart monitoring	To measure the baby's heartbeat (fetal heart tones or FHT) during pregnancy and labor.

### ANATOMY-RELATED TERMINOLOGY

Amniotic fluid	The fluid surrounding the fetus.	Uterus (womb)	Hollow muscular organ located in the female pelvis in which a baby grows.
Amniotic sac	The sac of fluid	Prostate	Gland surrounding the

	surrounding the fetus. Bag of waters.			urethra, secretes semen.
BPH	Benign prostatic hyperplasia, enlarged prostate		Ovaries	Ovaries secrete both estrogen and progesterone. Produce the eggs that travel through the fallopian tubes
Endometriosis	The endometrium (lining) of the uterus grows in other areas of the body.		Cervix	The neck, or opening of the uterus
Endometrium	Lining of the uterus		Semen	Fluid that contains sperm.
Epididymis	A long, coiled duct on the testes where sperm are stored.		Scrotum	Pouch-like sac of skin that contains the testicles (testes).
Gynecology	Medical practice dealing with female reproductive system.		Obstetrics	Medical specialty dealing with pregnancy and childbirth.
Fallopian tubes (salping)	Allows passage of the egg from the ovary to the uterus.		Tubal Ligation	The fallopian tubes are cut and tied or "pinched shut" to prevent pregnancy.
Perineum	The area between the anus and the scrotum in males and the area between the anus and the vagina in females.		Testicles (testes):	Make testosterone and sperm
Placenta	Tissue that provides nourishment to and takes away waste from the fetus.		Prostate-specific antigen (PSA)	Blood test to screen for prostate cancer
Pubic bone or pubis	Lower front of the hip bone.		Vas deferens	Tube that transports sperm to the urethra
Transurethral needle ablation (TUNA)	Prostate tissue is removed by using High-frequency sound waves		Simple prostatectomy	Surgery to remove all or part of the prostate gland through a surgical incision in your lower abdomen
Transabdominal Total Hysterectomy (TAH)	Surgical removal of the uterus through the abdomen		Bilateral Salpingo-oophorectomy (BSO)	Surgical removal of both fallopian tubes and ovaries.

## PREFIX, ROOT WORDS, SUFFIX

Terminology	Prefix/Root Word	Root Word/Suffix	Meaning
Amniocentesis	Amnio – amniotic fluid	Centesis – to aspirate	Removal of a sample of the amniotic fluid for testing.
Endometriosis	Endo –inside Metra -womb	Osis -condition	A condition where the lining of the uterus (endometrium) grows outside the uterine cavity.
Epididymitis	epididym	itis - inflammation	Inflammation of the epididymis.
Hematuria	Heme -blood	Uria-urine	Blood in the urine
Herniorrhaphy	Hernia –pouching or bulging	Rraphy – to suture	surgical correction of inguinal hernia
Hysterectomy	Hyster – womb, uterus	Ectomy -removal	Surgical removal of the uterus
Menorrhagia	Men, meno - menstruation	Rrhagia, rrhage – excessive flow	Prolonged and excessive menstruation
Orchiditis	Orchi, orchid - testes	'itis' inflammation	Inflammation of the testes
Orchiectomy, orchidectomy	Orchi, orchid - testes	Ectomy - removal	Surgical removal of the testes
Oophorectomy	Oo –egg Oophor –bearing egg (ovary)	Ectomy - removal	Removal of the ovary
Laser prostatectomy	Prostat- prostate	Ectomy -removal	Removal of prostate tissue by laser
Salpingitis	Salping –fallopian tube	'itis' inflammation	Inflammation of the fallopian tube
Salpingectomy	Salping –fallopian tube	Ectomy -removal	Surgical removal of the fallopian tube
Salpingo-oophorectomy	Salping –fallopian tube Oophor (ovary)	Ectomy -removal	Surgical removal of the fallopian tube and ovary.
Prostatitis	Prosta - prostate	'itis' inflammation	Inflammation of the prostate
Vasectomy	Vas - vessel	Ectomy -removal	The vas deferens is cut and the cut ends are sealed to prevent the transportation of sperm

### EXPLAIN THE FOLLOWING TERMS

Amniocentesis		Vasectomy	
APGAR		Amniocentesis	
BPH		Neonatologist	
D&C		Orchidectomy	
Ectopic pregnancy		Oophorectomy	
Hysterectomy		Abruptio placenta	
Meconium		Hematuria	
Prostatitis		Colostrum	
PSA		Miscarriage	
RhoGam		Episiotomy	
TAH		Tubal Ligation	
TURP		Salpingo- oophorectomy	

### RESOURCES

CDC Pregnancy Gateway <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/pregnancy_gateway/index.html">http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/pregnancy_gateway/index.html</a>
Medical Dictionary <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/mplusdictionary.html">http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/mplusdictionary.html</a>
Medical Encyclopedia <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/encyclopedia.html">http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/encyclopedia.html</a>
Medline Plus Word Parts <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/appendixa.html">http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/appendixa.html</a>
National Cancer Institute <a href="http://www.cancer.gov/dictionary/">http://www.cancer.gov/dictionary/</a>
National Institute of Child Health and Development <a href="http://www.nichd.nih.gov/">http://www.nichd.nih.gov/</a>
Women's Health <a href="http://www.womenshealth.gov/">http://www.womenshealth.gov/</a>