Abdominal lymphatic compression
Pressure on the lymph vessels in the abdomen.

Abdominal mass
A swelling in the abdomen.

Accelerated transit time
A situation in which the length of time needed for passage is decreased.

Acid-fast
Refers to organisms, such as bacteria-causing tuberculosis and leprosy, whose bacterial walls do not stain well with common reagents because their cell makeup is slightly different than normal and requires special stains.

Active bleeding
A situation in which blood is escaping vigorously under pressure, so is unlikely to stop by itself.

Actively dividing cells
Cells that are dynamic and alive.

Acute nonspecific epididymitis
A type of epididymitis that is caused by an unidentified organism.

Adherent
Has the ability to stick to other tissue.

Adipose tissue
Fat.

Adrenogenital syndrome
A group of symptoms associated with alterations of secondary sexual characteristics due to an abnormal increase in the production of androgens by the adrenal glands.

Alcoholism
A type of drug addiction. This illness is indicated by an excess consumption of alcoholic beverages that interferes with physical or mental health and with social, family, or occupational responsibilities.

Allergen
Anything that produces an allergic reaction.

Alpha-adrenergic agonists
Drugs that decrease bladder-outlet resistance.

Amyloidosis
A disorder that is caused by an abnormal deposit of a protein called amyloid, in various tissues.

Anal cancer
Cancer of the anus.

Anal probing
Entering or exploring the anus with a slender rod or a flexible instrument with a bulbous tip.

Anal verge
The transitional zone between the innermost, hairless skin of the anal canal and the outer perianal skin.

Androgen
A hormone that causes the development of male sexual characteristics; usually refers to testosterone and androsterone.

Angio-neurotic edema
A disorder that causes a swelling in the scrotum that is due to a disease or injury of the vasomotor nerves.

Anorectal junction
The distal portion of the digestive tract, a transitional area from the anal to the rectal mucosa.

Anoscope
An endoscope or a speculum that is used to directly visualize the anal canal.

Anovulation
A lack of ovulation.

Anterior urethral injuries
Injuries located between the penile and bulbous urethra below the urogenital diaphragm.

Antiandrogen
A medication that counteracts the effect of the male hormone androgen.

Anticholinergic drugs
Drugs that weaken bladder contractility.
Antifungal cream
A topical medication that slows or stops the growth of a fungus.

Arteriosclerosis
A hardening and narrowing of the arteries.

Ascending infection
An infection that climbs up or inward from the lower or outer parts, respectively, of the genital tract—for example, from the urethra upward to the bladder, then the ureters, then the kidneys.

Ascites
An accumulation of fluid in the peritoneal cavity.

Aseptic meningitis
An inflammation of the meninges (membranes covering the brain), without infection or sepsis.

Attenuated
A weakened or diluted strain of vaccine (such as a virus) that is used to diminish potency in order to prevent causing a disease.

Audible peristaltic sounds
Sounds of the intestines contracting that can be heard.

Auscultation
Listening to sounds of organs that can be heard.

Auspitz's sign
A condition in which scaly papules reveal bleeding points when removed; associated with psoriasis.

Axilla
An armpit.

Azoospermia
A condition that is characterized by an absence of sperm in semen.

Bacteremia
The presence of bacteria in the bloodstream.

Bacterial prostatitis
An infection of the prostate gland that is caused by a bacterial infection.

Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)
An enlargement of the prostate gland. Also known as benign prostatic hypertrophy.

Bilateral
Occurs on both sides of the body.

Bilateral anorchia
The absence of both testes at birth.

Bilateral orchitis
An inflammation of both testes.

Biopsy
A process by which a piece of tissue is removed from a client for the purposes of performing a diagnostic examination.

Bladder diverticula
Small pouches, sacs, or pockets of the inner layer of the bladder.

Bladder neoplasm
Tumor of the bladder.

Bladder-outlet obstruction
A blockage between the bladder and the urethra.

Bleeding points
Spots from which blood is escaping.

Blood tests
Tests for which blood is drawn from a vein into a vial and analyzed.

Blue dot sign
A small, bluish area seen through the scrotal skin, which indicates a blood-flow insufficiency to a structure underneath it.

Boggy
Somewhat soft.

Botox
A botulinum toxin.

Bowel movements
Passages of stools; bowel elimination.

Bowel perforation
An abnormal opening in the intestine.

Bowen's disease
A precancerous skin lesion that has pinkish papules covered by a thickened layer of skin.
“Buffalo hump”
A mound of fat on the back of the neck.

Bulbocavernosus reflex
A condition in which the sphincter of the anus contracts in response to squeezing the head of the penis.

Bulbous urethra
The part of the urethra that has the form or nature of a bulb; it adjoins the membranous urethra.

Calculi
Stones.

Candida
A specific microorganism normally found in the vagina in small numbers.

Carcinoma in situ
A very early stage of cancer that is confined locally to its site of origin; it has not yet penetrated deeper tissues.

CAT scans
Images of body structures that are created by a computer that takes the data from multiple X-ray images and turns them into pictures on a screen. CAT (computerized axial tomography) scans can reveal some soft-tissue and other structures that cannot be seen in conventional X-rays. Also known as CT scan.

CEA scans
Screening for carcinoembryonic antigen.

Celiac disease
A common disease in which the lining of the small intestine is damaged.

Chancres
Small, solid, well-defined, elevated skin lesions that occur at the point of entry of an infection; they usually indicate primary syphilis.

Chemical epididymitis
A type of epididymitis that is associated with noninfective causes.

Chemotherapy
A cancer treatment that uses drugs.

Chlamydia
A sexually transmitted infection (STI) transmitted during anal, oral, or vaginal sex.

Chronic epididymitis
A type of epididymitis that progresses slowly and is of long duration.

Chronic ulcerative colitis
An inflammation of the large intestine and rectum that is characterized by bloody diarrhea and is of long duration.

Cirrhosis
A progressive disease of the liver that is characterized by diffuse damage to liver cells, nodular regeneration, fibrosis, and disturbance of normal liver structure and function; it is often associated with alcoholism.

Clinically significant
Indicates the significance of the difference between outcomes in a clinical situation; a service provider makes this determination with respect to the client.

Coliform bacteria
A specific type of microorganism.

Colostomy
A surgical procedure that creates an opening on the abdomen for the drainage of stool from the large intestine.

Combination type
A testicular cancer having more than one histologic, or tissue, type.

Communicating hernia
An opening or passage that connects two body structures.

Compresses
Pads of gauze or other material for applying local pressure.

Congenital
Physical or mental anomalies, diseases, malformations, or traits that exist at birth.

Congenital failure
A failure that exists at birth.
Congenital urethral valves
Abnormal folds of membranous tissue of the inner layer of the urethra that exist at birth and interfere with the flow of urine through the urethral canal.

Congestive heart failure
A disorder in which the heart loses its ability to pump blood efficiently.

Crepitant
Relating to or characterized by a crackling, bubbling sound or vibration, similar to the sound produced by rubbing hair between the fingers; indicates both air entering fluid in tissues and air or gas in tissues.

Crohn's disease
A chronic autoimmune disease that can affect any part of the gastrointestinal tract but most commonly occurs in the ileum (the area where the small and large intestine meet).

Crural fold
A space between the thigh and the lower abdomen.

Cryotherapy
A process by which tissues are frozen in order to destroy them.

“Cushing's syndrome” body habitus
The body features (e.g., “buffalo hump,” moon face) that result from an excess of cortisol, a hormone produced by the adrenal glands.

Cyst
A fluid-filled sac.

Cystic fibrosis
A congenital metabolic disorder in which secretions from glands are normally adhesive, causing both a sticky-mucus obstruction of passageways in, for example, the lungs, intestines, and pancreas and an increase in the salt content of sweat.

Cystitis
An inflammation of the bladder.

Cystocele
Protrusion of the urinary bladder into the vagina.

Cystoscopy
A procedure that enables the inside of the bladder and urethra to be viewed in great detail using a specialized endoscope (a tube with a small camera used to perform tests and surgeries) called a cystoscope.

Debilitated
Greatly weakened from disease.

 Decompensation of the bladder
A condition in which the bladder is not able to adjust to an increased resistance to urine flow.

Delayed puberty
An unusually late development of secondary sexual characteristics and capability for sexual reproduction.

Dentate line
The irregular, tooth-shaped area between the rectum and the anus.

Depo-Provera
A trademark for medroxyprogesterone acetate; a progestin-only injectable contraceptive method.

Dermatome
The area of skin supplied with nerve fibers from a single spinal nerve root.

Detorsion
Reverse the torsion of or twist manually.

Diagnostics
The science and practice of making a diagnosis and finding the type and cause of a disease.

Diethylstilbestrol (DES)
A synthetic estrogen used as a substitute for the natural estrogenic hormones.

Digital rectal examination (DRE)
Palpation of the rectum and adjoining structures using the examiner's finger.

Dilation
A condition in which an orifice or tubular structure is stretched beyond normal dimensions. Another term for dilatation.
Direct hernias
Hernias that directly separate the abdominal muscles.

Direct inhibition
Straightforward, uninterrupted restraint or reduction.

Distal
Farthest from the point of reference, attachment, or origin.

Diverticulitis
An inflammation of an abnormal pouch in the intestinal wall, which is usually found in the large intestine.

Dorsal
Upper.

Draining sinus tract
A channel or passageway through which pus is discharged.

Dyspnea
Breathing difficulty.

Dysuria
Pain during urination.

E. coli urinary tract infection
An inflammation of the urinary bladder or urethra that is caused by E. coli bacteria.

Ectopic testicle
A condition in which a testicle descends to the wrong area.

Edema
A condition that is characterized by excess swelling in connective tissue.

Edematous
Has edema.

Ejaculation
Contractions of the ejaculatory duct in the prostate gland that cause semen to be ejected through the urethra and penis.

Electrocautery
A high-frequency electrical current.

Electro-ejaculation
Stimulation of ejaculation using an electric current.

Emesis
Vomiting; upset stomach.

Encephalitis
An inflammation of the brain.

Endocrine disorder
A disorder that is associated with hormone levels.

Endometriosis
A disorder that is characterized by pain during menstruation and can cause infertility.

Endoscopy
A process by which tissues are viewed using an endoscope, which consists of a camera mounted on a flexible tube. Small instruments can be used to take samples of suspicious tissues through the endoscope.

Engorged
Filled with fluid, such as blood.

Enterococci
A specific type of microorganism.

Epidermoid cysts
Cysts found just under the skin containing skin secretions that look like cheese. Another term for sebaceous cysts.

Epididymitis
An inflammation of the epididymis.

Epididymo-orchitis
An inflammation and swelling of the epididymis and testicle, usually caused by an infection.

Erectile dysfunction
Another term for impotence.

Eroded
Denuded of skin.

Erythema
Redness.

Erythematous papules
Red, solid, well-defined elevations of the skin.
Esophageal varices
Varicose veins in the esophagus.

Etiologic management
An approach in which diagnosis is based on the results of laboratory tests.

Etiologic organisms
Microorganisms that cause a disease.

Eunuch-like
Like a boy or man whose sexual characteristics have not been influenced by male hormones and who lacks testes or external genitals.

Excised
Removed by cutting out.

Excoriations
Scratch marks.

Excrescences
Outgrowths from a body surface.

Exertional weakness
A lack of energy caused by iron-deficiency anemia.

Exteriorization
To transpose an internal organ to the external surface of the body. In psychiatry, to turn one’s interest outward.

Facial adiposity
Excessive fat deposited in the face. Another term for moon face.

Familial polyposis
A disease in which some families have a higher chance than others of developing polyps.

Febrile
Can cause or is associated with fever.

Female factor
A substance promoting or functioning in a particular process for females.

Femoral pulses
Pulses of the femoral artery located in the upper third of the inner thigh.

Fertile
Able to reproduce.

Fertilization capacity
An ability to fertilize.

Filarial agents
An infection by the filaria parasite, a worm whose larvae invade lymphoid tissue, causing obstruction, inflammation, swelling, and pain.

Fissure
A tear.

Flexible endoscopy
Visual inspection of interior structures of the body using a nonrigid fiberoptic instrument.

Focally indurate
Small, discrete areas of hardening.

Follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH)
A hormone that affects the germinal epithelium and the Sertoli cells in the seminiferous tubules in the testicle.

Folliculitis
An infection of the hair follicles.

Foreskin
The prepuce or skin that covers the head of the penis.

Frank peritonitis
Obvious signs of an inflammation of the peritoneum.

Fulguration
A destruction of tissue that is caused by electrocautery.

Furuncle
An infection of a hair follicle. Another term for boil.

Galactorrhea
A persistent discharge of milk or a white fluid from the breast.

Gangrene
A particular type of necrosis that is caused by an obstruction or a decrease in the blood supply.
Gastritis
An inflammation of the stomach lining.

Gastrointestinal problems
Illnesses related to the stomach, intestines, and adjacent anatomical structures.

Genital ducts
Genital structures, such as the epididymis and vas deferens.

Genitourinary tract
The genitals and urinary structures.

Germ cell tumors
A type of cancer that arises from the transformation of primordial cells (cells showing the earliest structure of an embryo).

Glans
The head of the penis.

Glans penis
The foreskin of the penis.

Gluteal cleft
The space or parting between the buttocks.

Glycosuria
The presence of abnormal amounts of sugar in urine.

GnRH release
The release of gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH).

Gonadal dysgenesis
A birth defect that is caused by the absence of an X chromosome in some or all cells of a female, which inhibits sexual development and usually causes infertility. Another term for Turner syndrome.

Gonococci
A specific type of microorganism.

Gonorrhea
A sexually transmitted infection (STI) transmitted during anal, oral, or vaginal sex.

Gram-negative bacteria
Bacteria that react to a Gram stain.

Gram-negative enteric bacteria
Intestinal bacteria that react to a Gram stain.

Gram stain
A diagnostic reagent that is used for a simple laboratory test that identifies bacteria; this is usually the first test performed in microbiology because it is simple, inexpensive, and relatively reliable.

Granulomatous orchitis
A granulated inflammation of the testicle.

Gynecomastia
A benign glandular enlargement of the breast.

Hansen’s disease
An infectious disease that is characterized by disfiguring skin lesions, peripheral nerve damage, and progressive debilitation. Another term for leprosy.

Hemachromatosis
An iron-metabolism disorder that is characterized by both an excessive absorption of ingested iron and a deposit of iron compounds in tissues, such as the skin, liver, pancreas, and heart.

Hematemesis
Vomiting of gross blood or bloody material, which indicates bleeding from the upper gastrointestinal (GI) tract.

Hematochezia
A condition in which bright red blood is passed in the stool. Another term for melena.

Hematogenous spread
A method by which an infection travels through the bloodstream.

Hematoma
A mass of usually clotted blood that forms in a tissue, organ, or body cavity and is caused by a broken blood vessel.

Hematospermia
A condition in which semen contains blood or red blood cells (RBCs).

Hematuria
A condition in which urine contains blood or red blood cells (RBCs).
Hemiscrotum
Half or one side of the scrotum.

Hemodynamically significant
Causing a change in the stability of the heart and vascular systems.

Hemorrhagic
Bleeding.

Hepatitis B
A viral infection transmitted through contact with infected blood or other body fluids. Hepatitis B can be transmitted during anal, oral, or vaginal sex.

Hepatitis C
A viral infection transmitted through contact with infected blood or other body fluids. The most common route of transmission of hepatitis C is injection drug use.

Herniorrhaphy
A hernia repair.

Herpes simplex
A sexually transmitted infection (STI) that is transmitted through direct contact with the painful ulcers (sores) it causes, but can also be transmitted after the sores have healed or before an outbreak has occurred. It can be transmitted from the mouth to the genitals or from the genitals to the mouth during oral sex.

Higher-level assessment
An assessment that is done at a specialized referral site and involves more elaborate and refined tests than those done at a health care facility.

Hirsutism
Excessive growth of dark, coarse body hair in women and children.

Histologic
Of or pertaining to tissue.

Hormone therapy
Treatment with chemical transmitter substances produced by body cells and transported in the bloodstream to other cells to achieve a specific regulatory effect, or treatment with synthetic substances that have similar effects.

Human papillomavirus (HPV)
A group of more than 70 types of viruses that can cause warts or papillomas. Although some types of HPV cause common warts on the hands and feet, genital HPVs are sexually transmitted and can cause warts in the genital and anal areas of both men and women.

Hyperglycemia
An excess amount of sugar in the blood.

Hypergonadotropic hypogonadism
An excess of gonadotropin secretion by the pituitary gland.

Hypermobile
Moves beyond the normal range with little effort.

Hyperpigmentation
An excess of pigmentation or dark color in a tissue, such as skin.

Hyperprolactinemia
An excess of prolactin in the blood.

Hypogonadism
A deficiency in testosterone secretion by the testes.

Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism
A deficiency in gonadotropin secretion by the pituitary gland. Another term for Kallman’s syndrome.

Hypothalamic-pituitary axis
A dynamic functional link between the hypothalamus and the pituitary that controls hormone levels and function.

Hypothyroidism
A deficiency in thyroid gland activity; the underproduction of thyroxine or the condition resulting from its underproduction.

Idiopathic infertility
Cases of infertility whose causes are unknown.

Idiopathic lymphedema
A condition in which an obstruction of lymphatics causes a swelling of tissue and an accumulation of large amounts of lymph in the affected area; its causes are unknown.
Immotile cilia syndrome
A syndrome that is caused when hair-like cilia do not function properly and do not effectively help move secretions and eliminate trapped microorganisms.

Immunotherapy
Passive immunization of an individual by administration of preformed antibodies; also, use of treatments to potentiate an immune reaction or infusion of specially treated white blood cells or bone marrow.

Impaired spermatogenesis
Disordered sperm production (division and differentiation).

Impotence
An inability to achieve an erection.

Incarcerated hernia
A hernia that is trapped in the inguinal ring.

Incontinence
An inability to prevent the discharge of body secretions, especially urine and feces.

Incubation period
The time from infection to the first appearance of signs and symptoms.

Induration
Hardening of a tissue or part, usually from inflammation or infiltration with cancer.

Infarction
A sudden insufficiency in blood supply that produces an area of tissue death.

Inferior vena cava
A blood vessel.

Infertile
Unable to reproduce.

Infiltrate
To penetrate the interstices of a tissue or substance; also, material deposited by infiltration.

Inguinal area
The groin.

Inguinal canal
A passage in the lower abdominal wall. In men, this canal allows passage of the spermatic cord to the scrotum. The canal is an area of weakness in the anterior abdominal wall and is, as a result, a frequent site of fistula.

Inguinal defect
An absence, dysfunction, imperfection, malformation, or weakness of the lower part of the abdominal wall at the groin.

Inguinal lymphadenopathy
Any disorder that affects one or more lymph nodes in the inguinal region or groin.

Inguinal region
Groin.

Inguinal ring
The entrance of the inguinal canal.

Inhibited sexual desire (ISD)
A persistent loss of desire that disrupts an individual’s sexual relationship(s).

Interdigital web spaces
Spaces between the fingers.

Interstitial cystitis
A bladder condition that is caused by chronic inflammation.

Intra-abdominal tumor
A tumor inside the abdomen.

Intrapelvic
Inside the pelvis.

Intrauterine device (IUD)
A long-acting contraceptive method that is usually made of plastic or of plastic and copper.

Intrauterine insemination
To deposit seminal fluid directly into the uterus.

Ischemia
A lack of circulation to a tissue.

Jaundice
A yellowing of the skin, the whites of the eyes, and the mucous membranes that is usually caused by a liver disorder.
Kallman’s syndrome
A deficiency in gonadotropin secretion by the pituitary gland. Another term for hypogonadotropic hypogonadism.

Ketones
Chemical compounds. When excess amounts of ketones are found in urine, caused by lipid/fat breakdown, they signify an impaired metabolism. This is significant in clients with diabetes because it indicates an insulin deficiency and a decreased availability of glucose to body tissues.

Klinefelter’s syndrome
A chromosome abnormality that affects only men and causes hypogonadism.

Leiomyomata
Uterine fibroids.

Leprosy
An infectious disease that is characterized by disfiguring skin lesions, peripheral nerve damage, and progressive debilitation. Another term for Hansen’s disease.

Lethargy
A loss of energy.

Leukocyte esterase
An enzyme that indicates the activity of white blood cells (WBCs).

Leukocytes
Another term for white blood cells (WBCs).

Levator ani
A muscle that forms part of the pelvic floor.

Lichen planus
A type of skin disease.

Lipoma
A fat-tissue growth.

Lithotomy position
A position a client assumes during a genital examination in which he lies on his back with his knees up and apart.

Live
Not killed (such as a virus).

Luteinizing hormone (LH)
A hormone that affects the Leydig cells, causing them to provide the primary intratesticular source of testosterone.

Lymphatics
Small vessels that carry lymph fluid throughout the body.

Lymph nodes
Circular masses of lymph tissue that are surrounded by a capsule of connective tissue.

Macules
Discolored spots on the skin that are not elevated above the surrounding surface.

Male factor
A substance promoting or functioning in a particular process for males.

Male orgasmic disorder
A problem related to orgasm in men.

Male-pattern baldness
A pattern of hair loss in men that is caused by their genetic makeup and hormones; this type of baldness usually starts with a receding hairline.

Malignant cells
Cancer cells.

Manual detorsion
Reduction.

Manual reduction
A procedure in which an examiner uses his or her hands to replace tissue back to its normal position.

Melena
Blood in the stool. Another term for hematochezia.

Meletemesis
“Coffee-grounds” vomiting.

Menometrorrhagia
Excessive uterine bleeding during and between menstrual periods.

Metastasize
To grow or spread.
Metastatic disease
Cancer that has spread beyond its original location.

Metastatic potential
The likelihood that cancer cells will travel, settle, and metastasize to other parts of the body.

Moon face
Excessive fat deposited in the face. Another term for facial adiposity.

Morbidity
Ill health; diseased state.

Morphology
The shape of an organism or any of its parts.

Motility
The ability to move or to change place or form.

Mumps parotitis
An acute, contagious, viral disease that causes a painful enlargement of the salivary or parotid glands.

Myocardial infarction
A heart attack.

Necrosis
The death of a cell, tissue, or organ, resulting from irreversible damage.

Needle biopsy
A biopsy in which the specimen is taken using a needle to minimize trauma.

Nephrotic syndrome
An abnormal condition that is characterized by a deficiency of albumin in the blood and its excretion in the urine.

Neurogenic bladder
A bladder whose nerve impulses are not normal.

Neurological symptoms
Complaints related to the nervous system.

Nitrites
Compounds formed from nitrous acid. When present in urine, they indicate a bacterial infection; the bacteria convert the nitrate compounds in the diet to nitrites.

Nocturia
Increased urination at night.

Nodular
Marked with or resembling small, circular swellings or nodes that can be detected by touch.

Nodular sperm granuloma
A process by which sperm seep through the blocked end of the vas deferens and form a tiny swelling or nodule.

Nonacute intrascrotal swelling
A swelling located inside the scrotum that progresses gradually.

Nonbacterial prostatitis
An inflammation of the prostate gland that is not caused by a bacterial infection.

Obliterate
To blot out, especially by filling a natural space or lumen through fibrosis or inflammation.

Obstructive uropathy
A blockage of the flow of urine, causing it to back up and injure one or both kidneys.

Obvious blood
Easily visible, and usually a copious amount of, blood.

Occult blood
Tiny amounts of blood that are hidden or invisible to the naked eye.

Occult blood testing
Testing for tiny amounts of blood that are hidden or invisible to the naked eye.

Oligospermia
A condition that is characterized by fewer sperm than normal in semen.

Opportunistic
Caused by microorganisms that usually do not cause disease but take the “opportunity” to do so under certain conditions, such as when the body’s immune system is suppressed by chemotherapy, HIV infection, or steroids.
Orchidometer
A simple device that is used to assess testicular size.

Orchidopexy
A treatment of an undescended testicle by freeing it surgically and implanting or fixing it in the scrotum.

Orchiectomy
The excision of one or both testes.

Ovoid
Egg-shaped.

Ovulation
A discharge of a mature egg from an ovary.

Palpable vibrations
Vibrations that can be detected through touch.

Papules
Small, solid, and raised skin lesions.

Partner management
Partner notification, counseling, and treatment.

Pathologic fractures
Breaks in the continuity of bone due to a weakening of the bone structure by a pathologic process, such as cancer or infection.

Pathologic phimosis
A disorder that occurs when the foreskin cannot be retracted after puberty or when the foreskin could previously be retracted. A type of phimosis that is caused by disease or may itself cause disease or dysfunction.

Pedal pulses
Pulses of the dorsalis pedal artery located in the top of the foot, in front of the ankle.

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID)
An infection of the internal reproductive organs in women, involving inflammation, irritation, and swelling of the uterus, fallopian tubes, ovaries, and surrounding pelvic tissues.

Penectomy
The excision of a penis.

Penile deviation
The movement of the penis to the right or left of the midline; this is more apparent when a penis is erect.

Penile skin edema
An accumulation of excessive amounts of fluid in the skin of the penis.

Peptic ulcer
An open sore or raw area in the lining of the stomach or the upper part of the small intestine.

Percussion
A method of “tapping” body parts during a physical examination with fingers, hands, or small instruments, to check the size, consistency, borders, and presence or absence of fluid in body organs.

Performance anxiety
A man’s anxiety about his ability to “perform” sexually.

Perianal tissue
The tissue around the anus.

Perineum
The pelvic floor, associated muscles, and other structures occupying the pelvic outlet.

Peripheral androgen action
Effect of male hormones on tissues outside the genitalia.

Peristalsis
A progressive wave of contraction of a tubular structure, such as the gastrointestinal tract, consisting in a narrowing and shortening of part of the tube, which then relaxes while a distal portion of the tube narrows and shortens, forcing the contents of the tube further along.

Peritoneal irritation
A condition in which the inner lining of the abdominal cavity is abnormally excitable or reacts excessively to slight stimulation.

Peritonitis
An inflammation of the peritoneum.

Periurethral abscesses
Tiny, pus-filled sacs that are located around the urethra.
Phenols
Poisonous organic products derived from distillation of coal tar or synthetically, used as antimicrobials; also called carbolic acid.

Phimotic foreskin
The foreskin that forms a “noose” at the junction of the glans and shaft of the penis.

Phimotic ring
The tightest part of the “noose” that a phimotic foreskin forms at the junction of the glans and shaft of the penis.

Phimotic foreskin
The foreskin that forms a “noose” at the junction of the glans and shaft of the penis.

Phimotic ring
The tightest part of the “noose” that a phimotic foreskin forms at the junction of the glans and shaft of the penis.

Phlebitis
An inflammation of a vein.

Physiologic phimosis
A disorder that occurs when the foreskin cannot be retracted after puberty or when the foreskin could previously be retracted. A “normal” type of phimosis that is not caused by disease.

Pitting
A condition in which the skin and underlying fluid-laden tissues indent or dimple when pressure is applied.

Pituitary gonadotropin secretion
Secretion by the pituitary hormones that has a stimulating effect on the gonads.

Plaque
A patch or small, differentiated area on a body surface, either external or internal.

Podophyllin
A solution in a compound benzocaine tincture.

Point of inevitability
The time beyond which ejaculation cannot be stopped.

Polyps
A growth that projects (usually on a stalk) from the lining of an organ.

Postcoital test
A test for infertility carried out on the female partner after intercourse.

Posterio-medial
Behind and toward the midline of the body.

Posterior midline position
The back, center part of a structure.

Posterior urethral injuries
Injuries located between the bladder and the prostate gland.

Posturination dribble
A condition in which urine continues to fall in drops after a man has finished urinating.

Precocious puberty
Unusually early development of secondary sexual characteristics and capability for sexual reproduction.

Premature ejaculation
Male orgasm prior to or immediately after penetration.

Primary testicular failure
A defect in the testes, not in a secondary control mechanism, such as the pituitary gland or hypothalamus.

Proctoscopy
An internal examination of the rectum, distal sigmoid colon, and large bowel using a type of small camera (flexible sigmoidoscope).

Progressive pain
Pain that worsens over the course of a condition; when related to menstruation, pain that worsens over the course of the menstrual cycle.

Prostatectomy
The excision of obstructive prostatic tissue.

Prostate-specific antigen (PSA)
An antigen used as an indicator of prostatic disease, especially prostate cancer.

Prostatic abscess
A pus-filled sac in the prostate gland.

Prostatic cysts
Cysts within the prostate gland.

Prostatic tuberculosis
Tuberculosis of the prostate gland.
Prostatitis
An inflammation of the prostate gland.

Protein-calorie malnutrition
A disease in which there is inadequate nutrition from proteins and carbohydrates.

Proximal
Closest to the point of reference, attachment, or origin.

Proximal vasal end
The end of the vas that is closer to the body.

Pruritis
A condition that is characterized by itchiness.

Purulent urethral discharge
Passage of pus from the urethra.

Pustules
Small, pus-filled sacs on the skin.

Pyelonephritis
An inflammation of the pelvis part of the kidney.

Radiation therapy
A cancer treatment that uses radiation.

Reagent
A chemical used for laboratory tests.

Recto-sigmoid diverticulitis
Diverticula in the rectum and sigmoid colon.

Rectosigmoidoscopy
Examination of the internal surfaces of the rectum and sigmoid colon using a fiberoptic instrument.

Reduction of the bowel
Putting the bowel back to its normal position.

Referred pain
Pain in a part other than that in which the cause of the pain is situated.

Reflux
Regurgitation or flowing back of fluid.

Refractory period
A period during which muscles relax and the body begins to return to its pre-excitement state.

Renal failure
An inability of the kidneys to maintain normal function.

Renal tubules
Structures that are located in the kidneys, high in the urinary tract.

Renal vein
A blood vessel that is located in the kidneys.

Reproductive tract infections (RTIs)
A broad group of infections that includes sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Residual urine
Urine that is left behind in the bladder after urination.

Respiratory problems
Difficulty breathing.

Retarded ejaculation
Ejaculation that is unduly delayed.

Retractile
Capable of being drawn back. Another term for retractable.

Retrograde ejaculation
A type of ejaculation that is directed backward into the urinary bladder rather than outward through the penis.

Rigid endoscopy
Examination of the inside structure of the body passages or organs using an inflexible fiberoptic instrument.

Sarcoidosis
A disease whose cause is unknown in which inflammation occurs in the lymph nodes, lungs, liver, eyes, skin, and/or other tissues.

Satellite pustules
Small pustules surrounding the main lesion.

Schistosomiasis
A disease caused by parasites of the genus Schistosoma. Also called bilharzia.

Sclerae
The firm, fibrous outer layer of the eyeball.
**Scleroderma**
A thickening of the skin caused by hardening and swelling or fibrous tissue.

**Self-instrumentation**
A process by which a client tries to insert a catheter or some other instrument into his urethra.

**Semen analysis**
A method of measuring, describing, or evaluating semen.

**Semen parameters**
Ways to measure, describe, or evaluate semen quality; these parameters include concentration, volume, and motility.

**Sepsis**
The presence of disease that causes microorganisms or their toxins in blood or other body tissues; the condition associated with such a presence.

**Serum gonadotropins**
Presence of the hormones that stimulate gonads in the serum.

**Sexual activity**
Sexual behaviors and practices.

**Sexual desire**
A strong wanting for sexual stimulation (either by oneself or with another person) or sexual intimacy that may cause one to seek sexual satisfaction.

**Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)**
Infections that are primarily passed from person to person by sexual contact and are part of a broader group of infections known as reproductive tract infections (RTIs). Another term for sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

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**Sexual response cycle**
The pattern of response to sexual stimulation. This cycle consists of five main phases: desire (also called libido), excitement (also called arousal), plateau, orgasm, and resolution. Each time an individual has a sexual experience, some or all of the phases may be reached. However, it is not necessary to complete the cycle for sexual fulfillment.

**Sigmoid colon**
The section of the colon between the descending colon and the rectum.

**Smallpox**
A viral disease that is characterized by a skin rash and a high death rate.

**Smegma**
A discharge from the penis and foreskin.

**Spasms**
A loss of muscle control.

**Special risk**
A higher-than-usual chance of having the disease.

**Special tests**
Additional, more complicated tests that may need to be performed, depending on the presentation of an individual client, in order to make a more specific, reliable diagnosis.

**Specific antimicrobial therapy**
A treatment that is expected to be effective against a particular microorganism.

**Spermatic cord**
A firm column of tissue that encloses the vas deferens.

**Spermatocele**
A cystic dilation of a duct in the head of the epididymis.

**Spermatocelectomy**
The excision of a spermatocele.

**Spermatoocytes**
Cells that arise from spermatogonia and eventually become sperm cells.

**Spermatogonia**
Primary germ cells.

**Sperm density**
Concentration of sperm.
**Sphincter**  
A circular muscle that constricts a passage or closes a natural orifice—e.g., the anus or urethra.

**Spinal reflex arc**  
The pathway or circuit that connects a sensory nerve to the spinal cord, then to a motor nerve that supplies a muscle. When the sensory nerve is stimulated, the impulse travels to the spinal cord, then through the motor nerve to the muscle, causing the muscle to contract.

**Squamous cell carcinoma of the penis**  
A malignant, fast-growing cancer that affects the penis.

**Stenosis**  
A narrowing or constriction of a body passage or opening, such as a blood vessel, the urethra, or the vagina.

**Stone**  
A calculus.

**Strangulated**  
Has a compromised blood supply.

**Stricture**  
A narrowing that may be caused by scar tissue.

**Subinguinal**  
Below the inguinal ligament.

**Sulcus**  
A groove.

**Superficial**  
Near the surface of the skin.

**Superior scrotal region**  
The upper part of the scrotal area.

**Sympathomimetic drugs**  
Drugs that increase bladder-outlet resistance (the obstruction between the bladder and the urethra).

**Syncope**  
Fainting, or a sudden, temporary loss of consciousness.

**Syndromic management**  
An approach in which diagnosis is based on the identification of syndromes, which are combinations of the symptoms the client reports and the signs the health care provider observes. The recommended treatments are effective for all the diseases that could cause the identified syndrome.

**Syphilis**  
A sexually transmitted infection (STI) transmitted during anal, oral, or vaginal sex.

**Systemic involvement**  
A generalized, widespread involvement of the body.

**Systemic signs**  
Signs that pertain to or affect the body as a whole.

**Testicular atrophy**  
A decrease in the size, or wasting, of a normally developed testicle that is caused by either the death or reabsorption of cells or diminished cell division or volume.

**Testicular failure**  
The inability of one or both testes to produce sperm or male hormones.

**Testicular rupture**  
A break or tear of a testicle.

**Testosterone**  
A type of male hormone.

**Testosterone synthesis**  
Creation of the compound hormone testosterone by union of the elements that compose it.

**Thenar eminence**  
The muscle at the base of the thumb.

**Thermal trauma**  
A type of trauma caused by too much heat.

**Thrombosed hemorrhoid**  
A blood clot in a hemorrhoid that causes an obstruction at its site of origin.

**Thrombosis**  
A clot.

**Transilluminate**  
To examine by passing light through tissues, such as the scrotum or a body cavity.
Transrectal ultrasound (TRUS)
Ultrasonic imaging through the rectum.

Transurethral ultrasound
Ultrasonic imaging through the urethra.

Trichomonas
A specific microorganism.

Trichomonas infection
An infection that is caused by the *trichomonas* microorganism.

Tuberculosis
A contagious bacterial disease.

Tuberculous epididymitis
A type of epididymitis that is caused by *tuberculosis*.

Tuberculous orchitis
Inflammation of the testes by infection with *tuberculosis*.

Tunica vaginalis
An internal covering of the testicle.

Ulcerative colitis
An inflammation of the large intestine and rectum that is characterized by bloody diarrhea.

Ulcers
Sores.

Undescended testes
A condition in which there are no testes in the scrotum.

Upper pole
Upper end or part.

Ureaplasma
A specific microorganism.

Uremia
Abnormally high levels of urea in the blood.

Urethral genital warts
Warts that are present in the urethra.

Urethral meatus
The opening of the urethra.

Urethral polyps
Small growths protruding from the mucous membrane of the urethra.

Urethral smear
A specimen of discharge from the urethra that is smeared onto a glass slide or some other specimen holder for processing.

Urethral stricture
Scar tissue that causes narrowing of the urethra.

Urethritis
An inflammation of the urethra.

Urinalysis
An examination of urine.

Urinary diversion
A pathway (e.g., a tube that passes through the abdominal wall directly into the bladder) that temporarily leads urine away from an obstruction.

Urinary extravasation
A discharge or escape of urine from the urethra or bladder into surrounding tissues.

Urinary retention
An inability to urinate.

Urogenital diaphragm
Part of the structure that supports the urogenital system and genitalia.

Valsalva maneuver
During the genital examination, a client bears down as if he was lifting a heavy object.

Varicose
Dilated.

Vasoactive substances
Substances that can produce an erection when injected into the corpora cavernosa.

Vasoconstrict
To get smaller or narrower.

Venous compression
Squeezing of the veins by pressure.
Venous return
The flow of blood from the tissues back through the veins toward the heart.

Ventilatory support
Assistance with respiration or breathing.

Ventral
Lower.

Vesicles
Blisters or small sacs in the skin that contain fluid.

Vesicular border
The edge of a vesicle.

Viability
An ability to live or survive.

White blood cells (WBCs)
Another term for leukocytes.

Wood’s light
Ultraviolet radiation from a mercury vapor source that is transmitted through a nickel oxide filter.

X-rays
Forms of electromagnetic radiation that are emitted by a machine as individual particles (photons) that pass through the body and are detected by a sensitive film.