

## GLOSSARY OF MEDICAL TERMS

<u>TECHNICAL TERM</u>	<u>LAY TERMS</u>
Abdomen-----	Belly, Stomach
Acid taste -----	Sour taste
Agent -----	Drug, medication
Albumin -----	Protein found in blood
Alopecia-----	Loss of hair
Analgesic-----	Pain-relieving drug
Anemia -----	Loss of number of red blood cells
Anomalies-----	Physical defects
Antiemetic -----	Medication to prevent nausea/vomiting
Arrhythmia-----	Irregular heart beat
Arterial Catheter -----	Small tube placed in an artery
Baseline -----	Test to find what is normal
Biopsy -----	Removal and examination of tissue
Blood Drawing -----	Amount of blood to be drawn in teaspoons, tablespoons, etc. and frequency/site of the drawing
Body Fluids-----	State what body fluids; then they are extracted and give the source and amount
Capsule-----	Pill
Carcinoma -----	Cancer
Cardiovascular -----	Heart and blood vessels
Catheter -----	Small tube
Coagulation-----	Form blood clot
Convulsions-----	Seizures, epileptic fit
Debilitation -----	Weakened condition

Dehydrate	Lose water or body fluids
Deteriorate	Condition to grow worse
Diuretic	Water pill
Double-blind	Physician and patient do not know what drug is given
Duration	Length of time involved
Dysfunction	Failure
Echocardiogram	Using sound waves for examination of the heart
Edema	Swelling (fluid or water retention)
Efficacy	Effectiveness
Electrocardiogram (EKG)	Recording the heart beat
Electroencephalogram (EEG)	Recording brain waves
Enzyme	A chemical in the blood that causes chemical changes
Excrete	Discharge, pass
Extravasate	Spills
Fatigue	Feeling tired
Fetus	Unborn baby
Fibrosis	Scars
Fibrous	Hard and stringy (resembling fibers)
Fluoroscope	X-ray machine
Fungus	Form of infection
Gait	Walk
Gastrointestinal	Stomach and intestines
Graph	Chart, records
Hematoma	Blood clot
Hemorrhage	Loss of blood (heavy bleeding)
Hormone	A chemical in the body
Hypertensive	High blood pressure

Hypotensive	Low blood pressure
Immunization	Administration of a substance to prevent disease
Impaired function	Not working properly
Incision	To cut open
Induction	Start
Indwelling	Tube left in a vein
Inflammation	Swollen, red, and painful
Infusion	Slow injection into a vein
Instruments in Testing	Specify what instruments are to be used and how they are used
Intestine	Stomach (belly)
Intracatheter	Small tube in a vein
Intravenous	By vein
Irradiation	X-ray
I.V. Push	Rapid injection into a vein
Jaundice	Yellowing of the skin
Metabolism	Chemical changes which provide energy
Negligible	Small or unimportant
Optimal	The best
Oral	By mouth
Origin	Beginning cause
Osteoporosis	Softening of the bones
Palpitation	Rapid heart beat Parameter Measure
Peripheral Blood	Vein blood
Placebo	Substance containing no medication
Placenta	Afterbirth
Plasma	Fluid found in the blood

Platelet-----	Part of blood that causes clots
Prophylaxis-----	Use of drugs to prevent disease
Psychosis-----	Nervous breakdown
Randomized-----	By chance
Renal-----	Kidney
Saline-----	Salt water solution
Sarcoma-----	Tumor
Screening-----	Examination, test
Secretion-----	Release
Simultaneous-----	At the same time
Stimuli-----	Something which causes a change
Supine Position-----	Lying on the back
Supplement-----	Add
Tinnitus-----	Ringling in the ears
Toxicity-----	Side effects

***These words do not encompass all terms used in writing consent forms, but should serve as a guide in finding lay terms to replace technical terms.***