

## **THE ROLE OF THE PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES IN THE LANGUAGE OF MEDICINE**

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### **Abstract**

In a language, apart from the general speech, we find different variants of speciality, also called speciality languages. One of the languages of speciality is that of Medicine, which is characterized by a large variety of terms. The language of medicine is possessed by a small number of people who use it to meet the communicative needs in their specialized department. Owing to the Latin and Greek language, the medical terminology has an international character, which is of great help in the use of scientific medical literature and makes the communication between the specialists from different countries easier. What has been a characteristic above all, is the use of the Latin root elements to create new words and terms. In other words, in the medical terminology there are not only common occurrences of borrowings of new words from the lexis of the classic Latin-Greek languages, but also borrowings of word and term formation elements from these languages- of prefixes, suffices and roots with term formation ability. During its development, the language of medicine was replenished with a large number of words from other old languages and the present European languages, including even words created artificially, which were not found in old Latin and Greek. There are three ways of forming the technical-scientific vocabulary of the language of medicine: borrowing, word formation and semantic changes. In this speech we will be focused on the word formation as one of the ways of creating the lexis of the language of medicine. Firstly, we will clarify the concepts of the root, prefixes and suffixes, as well as the way a new term in the field of medicine is created. Then, a list of the most common used Latin-Greek prefixes and suffixes in the medical terminology will be provided, which we think will be of help to a student and everybody who is interested. In order to have good knowledge of the language of medicine, it is of great importance to understand the meaning and the role of the prefixes and suffixes, as well as their ability to change the meaning of the word or the medical term.

**Keywords:** *speciality language, language of medicine root, prefix, suffix.*