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Å. angstrom unit.

A₂. aortic second sound.

a. accommodation; ampere; anode; anterior; aqua; area; artery.

a-, an- Prefix meaning without, away from, not.

A.A., a.a. achievement age; Alcoholics Anonymous; amino acid

āā. [Gr. *ana*, of each]. Prescription sign meaning the stated amount of each of the substances is to be used in compounding the prescription.

A.A.A. American Academy of Allergists; American Association of Anatomists.

A.A.A.S. American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A.A.C.C.N. American Association of Critical Care Nursing.

A.A.F.P. American Academy of Family Practice.

A.A.G.P. American Academy of General Practice, former name of the American Academy of Family Practice.

A.A.I.N. American Association of Industrial Nurses.

A.A.M.A. American Association of Medical Assistants.

A.A.M.R.L. American Association of Medical Record Librarians.

A.A.N.A. American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

A.A.P. American Academy of Pediatrics.

A.A.P.A. American Association of Physical Assistants.

A.A.R.T. American Association for Respiratory Therapy.

Aaron's sign (ār'ōn). [Charles D. Aaron, Amer. physician, 1866-1951] Distress in region of heart or stomach upon pressure over McBurney's point, q.v., in appendicitis.

ab- [L.]. Prefix meaning from, away from, negative, absent.

abactus venter [L. *abactus*, driven away, + L. *venter*, belly]. Induced abortion, q.v.

Abadie's sign (ā-bā-dēz'). 1. [Charles A. Abadie, Fr. ophthalmologist, 1842-1932] In exophthalmic goiter, spasm of the levator palpebrae superioris. 2. [Jean Abadie, Fr. neurologist, 1873-1946] In tabes dorsalis, insensibility to pressure over the Achilles tendon.

abaissement (ā-bās'mōn) [Fr., a lowering]. 1. Depression. 2. Synonym for lenticular displacement (couching). 3. Falling.

abalienation (āb-āl-yēn-ā'shūn) [L. *abalienare*, to separate from]. Mental derangement.

abaptiston (ā'bāp-tis'tōn) [Gr. *abaptistos*, not dipped]. Trepine that cannot slip and injure

the brain.

abarognosis (āb'ār-ōg-nō'sis) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *baros*, weight, + *gnosis*, knowledge]. Loss of sense of weight. SYN: *baragnosis*.

abarthrosis (āb-ar-thrō'sis) [L. *ab*, from, + Gr. *arthron*, joint]. A movable joint or point upon which bones move freely upon each other. SYN: *diarthrosis*.

abarticular [L. " + *articularis*, joint]. At a distance from a joint.

abarticulation. 1. Dislocation of a joint. 2. *Diarthrosis*.

abasia (ā-bā'-zī-ā) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *basis*, step]. Motor incoordination in walking. Inability to walk caused by impairment of coordination.

a-, astasia. Lack of motor coordination with inability to stand or walk. SYN: *astasia-abasia*.

a., atactic. Uncertain movements in walking. SYN: *ataxic a.*

a., choreic. Abasia associated with chorea of the legs.

a., paralytic. Abasia in which the leg muscles are paralyzed.

a., paroxysmal trepidant. Abasia caused by trembling and sudden stiffening of legs on standing, making walking impossible.

a., spastic. A., paroxysmal trepidant, q.v.

a., trembling, a. trepidans. A., paroxysmal trepidant, q.v.

abasic (ā-bā'sik). Pert. to abasia. SYN: *abatic*.

abate (ā-bāt') [L. *ab*, from, + *battere*, to beat]. 1. To lessen or decrease. 2. To cease or cause to cease.

abatement (ā-bāt'mēnt). Decrease in severity of pain or symptoms.

abatic (ā-bāt'ik). Pert. to abasia. SYN: *aba-sic*.

abaxial, abaxile (āb-āk'si-al, -sil) [L. *ab*, from + *axis*]. 1. Not in line of axis of the body or a part. 2. At opposite end of the axis of a part.

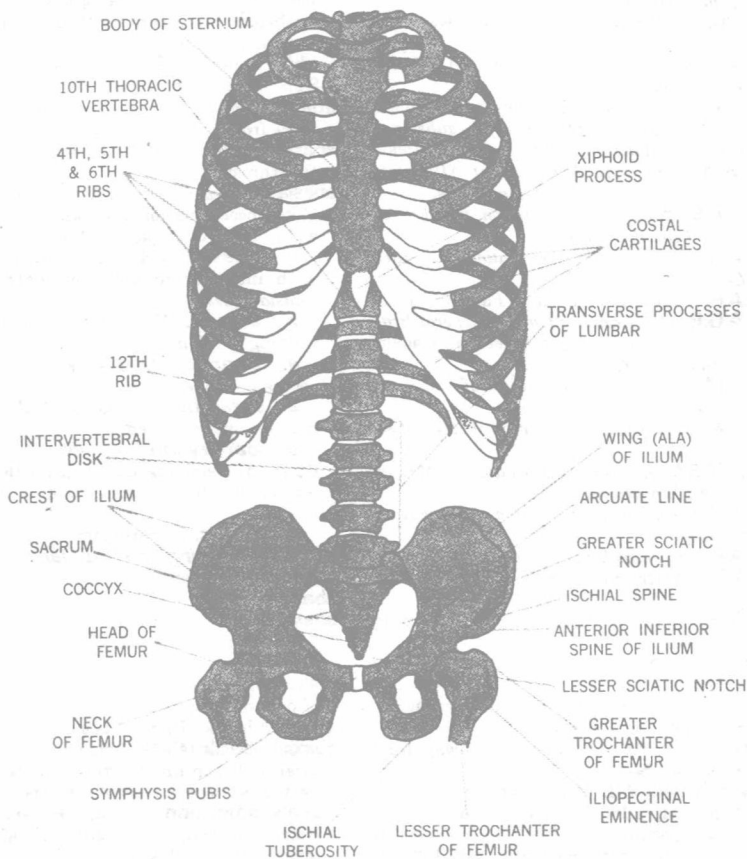
Abbe's operation (āb'bā). [Robert Abbe, Amer. surgeon, 1851-1928] Lateral anastomosis of the intestine.

Abbe-Zeiss apparatus. [Ernest Abbe, Ger. physicist, 1840-1905; Carl Zeiss, Ger. optician, 1816-1888] A device for counting blood cells in a specific quantity of blood. SYN: *Thoma-Zeiss counting cell hemocytometer*.

Abbott-Miller tube. [W. Osler Abbott, Amer. physician, 1902-1943; T. Grier Miller, Amer. physician, 1866-?] A double channel intestinal tube used to relieve intestinal distention. Commonly called Miller-Abbott tube.

Abbott's method. [Edville G. Abbott, Amer. orthopedic surgeon, 1870-1938] Treatment of

RELATIONSHIP OF BONES TO
ABDOMINAL AND PELVIC CAVITIES



scoliosis by a series of plaster jackets.

abdomen (ăb-dô'mên, ăb'dô-mên) [L., belly]. [NA] That portion of the trunk located between the chest and the pelvis; the upper portion of the abdominopelvic cavity. Contains the stomach with lower part of esophagus, small and large intestines, liver, gall-bladder, spleen, pancreas, and bladder. A serous membrane, the peritoneum, lines this cavity. SEE: *abdominal cavity*; *abdominal regions*; *muscle* for illus.

a., acute. Medical jargon used to denote

any acute abdominal condition demanding prompt surgery.

a., boat-shaped. Abdomen with hollowed anterior wall. SYN: *scaphoid a.*

a., carinate. Abdomen with hollowed anterior wall. SYN: *scaphoid a.*

a., navicular. Abdomen with hollowed anterior wall. SYN: *scaphoid a.*

a. obstipum. Congenital shortness of the rectus abdominis muscle.

a., pendulous. Condition in which the excessively relaxed anterior wall of the ab-

domen hangs down over the pubis.

a., scaphoid. Condition in which the anterior wall is hollowed, presenting a sunken appearance as in emaciation and some cerebral diseases. SYN: *boat-shaped a.*; *carinate a.*; *navicular a.*

a., surgical. A., acute, q.v.

abdominal (ăb-dôm'i-nāl). Pert. to the abdomen, its function and disorders.

abdominal cavity. The cavity within the abdomen. It is lined with a serous membrane, the peritoneum, and contains the following organs: stomach with lower portion of esophagus, small and large intestines (except sigmoid colon and rectum), liver, gallbladder, spleen, pancreas, kidney and ureter. It is continuous with the pelvic cavity, the two comprising the abdominopelvic cavity. SEE: *lymphatic drainage* for illus.

abdominal crisis. Severe pain in the abdominal area. Usually refers to the pain that occurs during sickle cell anemia crisis or that resulting from syphilis.

abdominal decompression. Technique used in obstetrics to facilitate childbirth. The abdominal area is surrounded by an airtight chamber in which pressure may be intermittently decreased below atmospheric pressure. During labor pains, the pressure is decreased and the uterus is permitted to work more efficiently because the abdominal muscles are elevated away from the uterus.

abdominal examination. AUSCULTATION: Listening to sounds produced in the abdomen. Useful in diagnosing aneurysm of abdominal aorta, fetal heart sounds and vascular sounds from placenta. Intestinal sounds may be absent in paralytic ileus, q.v.

INSPECTION: Visual examination of the abdomen is most satisfactorily performed while patient is on his back with thighs slightly flexed. In the healthy individual, the abdomen is of an oval form, marked by elevations and depressions corresponding to abdominal muscles, umbilicus, and in some degree by form of adjacent viscera. Is larger relative to size of chest in children than in adults; more rotund and broader inferiorly in females than in males.

Alterations in shape resulting from disease are enlargement (which may be general and symmetrical as in ascites or partial and irregular from tumors, hypertrophy of organs as the liver and spleen, or distention of portions of intestines by gas as the colon in typhoid fever) and retraction (as in extreme emaciation and in several forms of cerebral disease, esp. noticeable in tubercular meningitis of children).

The respiratory movements of abdominal

walls bear a certain relation to movements of the thorax and are often increased when the latter are arrested and vice versa; thus abdominal movements are increased in pleurisy, pneumonia, pericarditis, etc. but decreased or wholly suspended when disease causes abdominal pain or in peritonitis.

The superficial abdominal veins are also at times visibly enlarged, indicating an obstruction to the flow of blood, either in the portal system as in cirrhosis or in the inferior vena cava.

PALPATION: May be performed with tips of fingers, whole hand, or both hands; pressure may be slight or forcible, continuous or intermittent. To obtain greatest amount of information, patient should be placed in supine position with head slightly raised and thighs flexed. The head is supported in order to relax the abdominal wall. Sometimes necessary to place in standing position or leaning forward.

Palpation is of assistance in detecting size, consistency, and position of viscera, existence of tumors and swellings, and whether the tumors change position with respiration or are movable. Also ascertain whether tenderness exists in any portion of the abdominal cavity, if pain is increased or relieved by firm pressure, and if pain is accentuated by sudden release of firm pressure (i.e. rebound tenderness).

Impulse, if one exists, is systolic and expansive, although when situated high there also may be a slight diastolic movement. A thrill is rarely perceptible. Surface of tumor is usually rounded and smooth but may be nodular. Effusion of blood into surrounding tissues may produce lobulations.

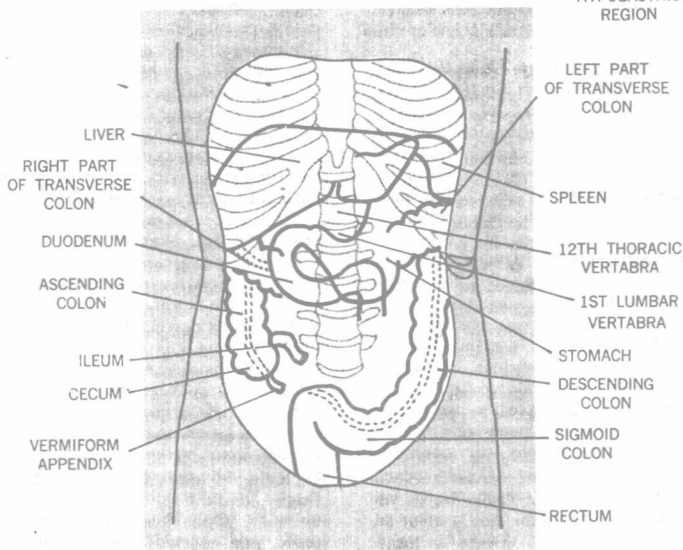
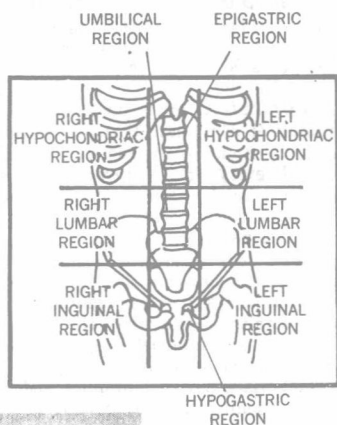
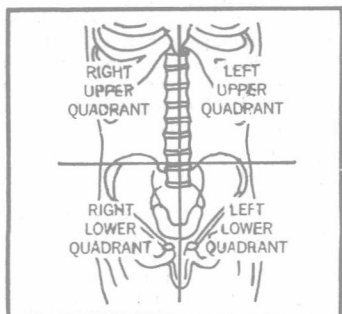
PERCUSSION: Patient should be placed in same position as for palpation, and percussion should be for most part mediate. In exploring abdomen by means of percussion, finger should first be placed immediately below the xiphoid cartilage, pressed firmly down, and carried along the median line toward the pubes, striking it all the way, now forcibly, now gently. The different tones of stomach, colon, and small intestines will be distinctly heard. Percussion should then be made laterally, alternately to one side, then the other, till whole surface is percussed. Abdominal aneurysm gives dullness or flatness over it unless a distended intestine lies above it.

abdominal gestation. Abdominal pregnancy.

Extrauterine pregnancy in belly cavity.

abdominalgia (ăb-dôm-in-ăl'jī-ă) (L. *abdomen*, belly, + Gr. *algos*, pain). Pain in the abdomen.

abdominal inguinal ring. The internal open-



ABDOMINAL REGIONS AND ORGANS

ing of the inguinal canal, bounded inferiorly by the inguinal ligament, medially by the inferior epigastric vessels, and above and laterally by the lower free border of the transversus abdominis muscle. SYN: *deep inguinal ring*; *interior abdominal ring*. SEE: *inguinal canal*; *inguinal ring*.

abdominal quadrants. Four parts or divisions of the abdomen determined by drawing a ver-

tical and a horizontal line through the umbilicus. The quadrants and their contents are:

Right upper quadrant (RUQ): right lobe of liver, gallbladder, part of transverse colon, part of pylorus, hepatic flexure, right kidney, and duodenum; *Right lower q. (RLQ):* cecum, ascending colon, small intestine, appendix, bladder if distended, right ureter, right

spermatic duct in male, right ovary and right tube, and uterus if enlarged in female; *Left upper q. (LUQ)*: left lobe of liver, stomach, transverse colon, splenic flexure, pancreas, left kidney, and spleen; *Left lower q. (LLQ)*: small intestine, left ureter, sigmoid flexure, descending colon, bladder if distended, left spermatic duct in male, left ovary and left tube, and uterus if enlarged in female.

abdominal reflexes. Contraction of the muscles of the abdominal wall upon stimulation of the overlying skin. Absence of these reflexes indicates damage to the pyramidal tract.

abdominal regions. The abdomen and its external surface are divided into nine regions by four imaginary planes; two horizontal, one at the level of the ninth costal cartilage (or the lowest point of the costal arch), and the other at the level of the highest point of the iliac crest; two vertical, through the centers of the inguinal ligaments (or through the nipples or through the centers of the clavicles) or curved and coinciding with the lateral borders of the two abdominal rectus muscles.

abdominal rings. The apertures in the abdominal wall. *External*: an interval in aponeurosis of external oblique muscle, just above and to outer side of crest of the pubic bone. *Triangular*: about an inch from base to apex and half an inch transversely; provides passage for spermatic cord in the male and round ligament in the female. *Internal or deep*: situated in the transversalis fascia, midway between the anterior superior spine of ilium and symphysis pubis, half an inch above Poupert's ligament; oval form, larger in the male. Surrounds spermatic cord in the male and round ligament in the female.

abdominal section. Abdominal incision for any operation on abdominal organs. SEE: *laparotomy*.

abdomino- (ăb-dôm'î-nô). Combining form rel. to the abdomen.

abdominoanterior (ăb-dôm'î-nô-ăn-tê'ri-or). Position of fetus in uterus with belly facing anteroabdominal wall of mother.

abdominocardiac reflex (ăb-dôm'î-nô-kâr-dê-ăk). A change in heart rate, usually a slowing, resulting from mechanical stimulation of abdominal viscera.

abdominocentesis (ăb-dôm'î-nô-sên-tê'sis) [L. *abdomen*, belly, + Gr. *kentêsis*, puncture]. Puncture of the abdomen with an instrument for withdrawal of fluid from the abdominal cavity. SYN: *paracentesis abdominis*.

abdominocystic [' + Gr. *kystis*, bladder]. Pert. to abdomen and bladder.

abdominogenital (ăb-dôm'î-nô-jên'î-tal).

Pert. to the abdomen and genital organs.

abdominohysterectomy [' + Gr. *hystera*, uterus, + *ektomê*, excision]. Removal of uterus through abdominal incision.

abdominohysterotomy (ăb-dôm'î-nô-his-têr-ôt'ô-mê) [' + " + *tomê*, a cutting]. Incision of the uterus through a surgical opening in the abdomen.

abdominoposterior (ăb-dôm'î-nô-pôs-têr'ê-ôr). Position of fetus in uterus with abdomen toward mother's back.

abdominoscrotal [' + *scrotum*, bag]. Pert. to the abdomen and scrotum.

abdominoscrotal muscle. Cremaster muscle.

abdominothoracic (ăb-dôm'î-nô-thô-ră'sik) [' + Gr. *thôrax*, breastplate]. Pert. to the abdomen and thorax.

abdominotheracic arch. The costal arch, a line dividing the thorax from the abdomen.

abdominouterotomy (ăb-dôm'î-nô-û-têr-ôt'ô-mê) [' + *uterus*, womb, + Gr. *tomê*, incision]. Abdominohysterotomy.

abdominovaginal (ăb-dôm'î-nô-văj'î-năl) [' + *vagina*, sheath]. Pert. to the abdomen and vagina.

abdominovesical (ăb-dôm'î-nô-vês'î-kl) [' + *vesica*, bladder]. Pert. to the abdomen and the urinary bladder.

abdominovesical pouch. Peritoneal fold which includes urachal folds.

abducens (ăb-dû'sênz) [L. drawing away from]. Pert. to drawing away from the median line of the body.

a. labiorum. Muscle which elevates angle of mouth. SYN: *caninus muscle*; *levator anguli oris muscle*. SEE: *Muscles in Appendix*.

abducens muscle. Rectus lateralis muscle of eye, which moves the eyeball outward. SEE: *Muscles in Appendix*.

abducens nerve. 6th cranial nerve, which innervates rectus lateralis muscle of eye. SEE: *cranial nerves*.

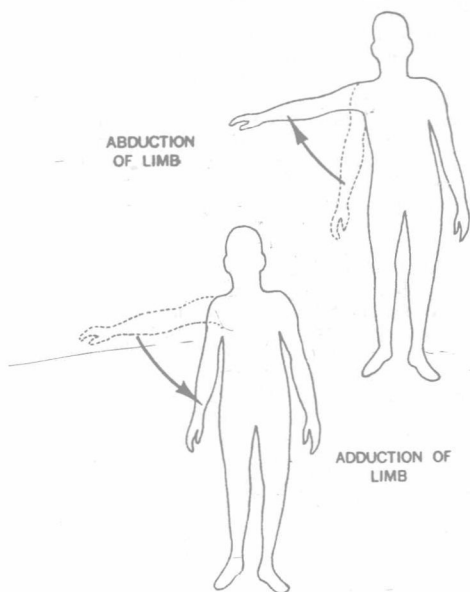
abducent (ăb-dû-sên) [L. *abducens*, drawing away]. 1. Abducting, leading away from. 2. Abducens.

abducent nerve. Abducens nerve, q.v.

abduct (ăb-dûkt') [L. *abductus*, led away]. To draw away from the median plane of the body or one of its parts.

abduction (ăb-dûk'shûn). 1. The lateral movement of the limbs away from the median plane of the body, or the lateral bending of the head or trunk. 2. The movement of the digits away from the axial line of a limb. 3. Outward rotation of the eyes.

abductor (ăb-dûk'tôr). A muscle, which upon contraction, draws a part away from median plane of body or axial line of an extremity.



Opposite of adductor. SEE: *Muscles* in Appendix.

Abel's bacillus. [Rudolf Abel, Ger. bacteriologist, 1868-1942]. *Klebsiella ozaenae*; found in ozena, q.v.

abenteric (ăb-ĕn-tĕr'ik) [L. *ab*, from, + Gr. *enteron*, intestine]. Rel. to or involving organs located outside the intestines. SYN: *apenteric*.

abepithymia (ăb-ĕp-i-thī'mī-ă) [" + Gr. *epithymia*, desire]. Paralysis of the celiac (solar) plexus.

Abernethy's fascia (ăb-ĕr-nĕ'thē). [John Abernethy, Br. surgeon, 1764-1831] A layer of areolar tissue separating the external iliac artery from the iliac fascia over the psoas muscle.

Abernethy's sarcoma. A circumscribed, usually malignant, fatty tumor occurring principally on the trunk.

aberrant (ăb-ĕr-ănt) [L. *ab*, from, + *errare*, to wander]. Deviating from normal.

aberrant pyramidal tract. Several groups of fibers from the midbrain to the cranial nerve motor nuclei and separating from the main fibers of the cortex.

aberratio (ăb-ĕr-ă'shī-ō). [L.]. Aberration.

a. lactis. Secretion of milk from a site other than the breast.

a. testis. Location of a testis in a position away from the path of normal descent.

aberration (ăb-ĕr-ă'shūn) [L. *ab*, from, + *errare*, to wander]. 1. Deviation from a normal course. 2. Mental unsoundness, but not insanity. 3. Imperfect refraction.

a., chromatic. Unequal refraction of different wave lengths of light through a lens, producing a colored image.

a., chromosomal. Variations in chromosomes as to number (aneuploidy, polyploidy) or those involving alterations in chromosomal material (translocation, deletion, duplication).

a., diopteris. A., spherical, q.v.

a., distantal. Blurring of a distant object.

a., lateral. Deviation of a ray from the focus measured on a line perpendicular to the axis.

a., longitudinal. Deviation of a ray from the focus measured along the axis.

a., mental. Any deviation from normal mental functions.

a., spherical. Aberration or distortion of an image due to rays entering the peripheral portion of a spherical mirror or lense being refracted differently from those closer to the center. Thus the peripheral rays are focused on the optical axis at a different point than the central rays.

aberrrometer (ăb-ĕr-ôm-ĕ-tēr) [L. *ab*, from, + *errare*, to wander, + Gr. *metron*, measure]. An instrument for measuring errors in delicate observations or instruments.

abetalipoproteinemia (ă-bă'tă-lip'ō-prō'tē-in-ĕ-mī-ă) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *β + lipos*, fat, + *prōtos*, first + *haima*, blood]. A rare inherited disease characterized by absence of plasma β-lipoproteins. There is failure of normal lipid absorption, marked neuromuscular abnormalities, decreased cholesterol, malnutrition, steatorrhea, mental retardation, and retinal degeneration. About 80% of the red blood cells are acanthocytes. Disease usually begins prior to 1 year and death may occur at an early age. There is no specific treatment. SYN: *acanthocytosis*; *Bassen-Kornzweig syndrome*.

abevacuation (ăb-ĕ-văk'ū-ă'shūn) [" + *evacuare*, to empty]. 1. Abnormal evacuation, either excessive or deficient. 2. Metastases.

abeyance (ă-bă-ăns) [O. Fr.]. A temporary suspension of activity, sensation, or pain.

abient (ăb-ĕ-ĕnt). Tending to move away from a stimulus. Opposite of adient.

abiogenesis (ăb-i-ō-jĕn'ĕ-sis) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *bios*, life, + *genesis*, production]. Spontaneous generation of life; theoretical production of living from nonliving matter.

abiogenetic, abiogenous (ăb-i-ō-jĕ-nĕ't'ik, ăb-i-ōj'i-nūs). Pert to spontaneous gen-

eration.

abiologic, abiological (ā-bī-ō-lōj'ik, -al). Not related to biology or the science of life.

abiosis (āb-i-ō'sis) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *bios*, life]. Absence of life.

abiotic (āb-i-ōt'ik). Incompatible with life; not viable.

abiotrophy (āb-i-ōt'rō-fē). Premature loss of vitality or degeneration of tissues and cells with consequent loss of endurance and resistance.

abirritant (āb-ir'i-tānt) [L. *ab*, from, + *irritare*, to irritate]. Relieving irritation; soothing.

abirritation (āb'ir-ri-ta'shun). 1. Asthenia, or atony. 2. Decreased response to stimuli.

ablactation (āb-lāk-tā'shun) [L. *ab*, from, + *lac*, milk]. Free of, or cessation of, milk secretion; weaning.

ablastemic (āb-blās-tēm'ik) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *blastos*, germ, seed]. Not germinal.

ablate (āb-lāt') [L. *ablatus*, taken away]. To remove, esp. by excision.

ablatio (āb-lā'shī-ō) [L. carrying away]. Ablation, removal, detachment.

a. placenta. Premature detachment of a normally situated placenta; apoplexy of placenta; abruptio placenta, q.v. SEE: *placenta*.

a. retinae. Detachment of retina. SEE: *retina*.

ablation (āb-lā'shun) [L. *ab*, from, + *latus*, carried]. Removal of a part, as by cutting.

ablepharia (āb-lē-fā'ri-ā) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *blepharon*, eyelid]. Congenital reduction in size or absence of the eyelids.

ablepharon (ā-blēf'ā-rōn). Ablepharia.

ablepharous (ā-blēf'ā-rūs). Without eyelids.

ablephary (ā-blēf'ā-rē). Ablepharia.

ablepsia (ā-blēp'sī-ā) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *blepein*, to see]. Lack of or loss of sight. Blindness.

abluent (āb-lū-ēnt) [L. *ab*, from, + *luens*, washing]. An agent possessing cleansing qualities, as a detergent.

ablution (āb-lū'shun). A cleansing or washing.

ablutomania (ā-blū'tō-mā'ni-ā) [L. *ablutio*, a washing, + Gr. *mania*, frenzy]. Compulsion to wash or clean.

abnerval [' + *nervus*, nerve]. Away from a nerve, esp. with reference to the passage of an electric current through a muscle away from point where nerve enters the muscle. Opposite of adnerval.

abneural (āb-nū'rāl) [' + Gr. *neuron*, nerve]. 1. Ventral. Remote from neural or dorsal aspect.

2. Abnerval.

abnormal (āb-nōr'māl) [' + *norma*, rule]. Deviating from normal.

abnormality (āb'nōr-māl'i-tē). Deviation from normal.

abnormity (āb-nōr'mī-tē). 1. Deformity; ab-

normality. 2. A monstrosity.

abocclusion (āb'ō-kloo'zhūn). Dentition in which the teeth of the mandible and the maxilla are not in contact.

aborad (āb-ō'rād) [' + *oris*, mouth]. Away from the mouth.

aboral (āb-ō'rāl). Opposite to, or away from, the mouth.

abort (ā-bōrt') [L. *abortare*, to miscarry]. 1. To expell an embryo or fetus prior to viability. 2. To arrest progress of disease. 3. To arrest growth or development. 4. To discontinue an effort or project before its completion.

abortient (ā-bōr'shēnt) [L. *abortio*, abortion]. 1. Producing abortion. 2. Abortifacient.

abortifacient (ā-bōr-ti-fā'shēnt) [' + *facere*, to make]. Anything used to cause or induce an abortion.

abortion (ā-bōr'shūn) [L. *abortio*]. 1. The arrest of any physical action or disease. 2. The termination of pregnancy before the stage of viability, i.e., sometime between the twentieth and twenty-eighth week of gestation. SEE: *miscarriage*.

ETIOL: Among most common causes are faulty development of embryo, abnormalities of the placenta, endocrine disturbances, acute infectious diseases, severe trauma or shock.

SYM: Abdominal cramps and bleeding from vagina, sometimes with clots and bits of tissue.

NURSING PROCEDURE: Send for doctor. Keep patient supine, warm and quiet. Care as for uterine hemorrhage. Save discharges for doctor's inspection. Watch for shock and symptoms of sepsis.

a., accidental. Abortion which occurs spontaneously.

a., ampullar. Tubal abortion occurring from the ampulla of the oviduct.

a., artificial. Abortion induced or performed purposely, as by a surgeon.

a., cervical. Abortion in which the ovum is retained in the cervical canal.

a., complete. Abortion in which the complete product of conception has been expelled.

a., criminal. Illegal abortion.

a., habitual. Three or more consecutive, spontaneous abortions.

a., imminent. Impending abortion characterized by bleeding and colicky pains that increase. Cervix usually effaced and patulous.

a., incomplete. Abortion in which part of the product of conception has been retained in the uterus.

a., induced. Abortion brought on intentionally. Abortions may be induced by use of

drugs, use of suction for removal of the product of conception, or by injection of sterile hypertonic solutions into the amniotic cavity. SEE: *curettage*.

a., inevitable. Abortion which cannot be halted.

a., infected. Abortion accompanied by infection of retained material with resultant febrile reaction.

a., missed. Abortion in which the fetus has died prior to the twentieth completed week of gestation but the products of conception are retained in the uterus for eight weeks or longer.

a., septic. Abortion in which there is an infection of the product of conception and the endometrial lining of uterus.

a., spontaneous. Abortion occurring without apparent cause.

a., therapeutic. Abortion performed when the mental or physical health of the mother is endangered by continuation of the pregnancy.

a., threatened. The appearance of signs and symptoms of possible loss of embryo. Vaginal bleeding with or without intermittent pain is usually the first sign. If embryo is still alive and attachment to uterus has not been interrupted, pregnancy may continue. Absolute bed rest essential with avoidance of coitus, douches, and strong cathartics.

a., tubal. 1. A spontaneous abortion in which the fetus has been expelled through the distal end of a uterine tube. 2. The escape of the product of conception into the peritoneal cavity by way of the uterine tube.

abortionist (ā-bōr'shūn-ist). One who performs abortion.

abortive (ā-bōr'tiv) [L. *abortivus*]. 1. Preventing the completion of. 2. Abortifacient; that which prevents the normal continuation of pregnancy. 3. Rudimentary.

abortion (ā-bōr'tūs) [L.]. An aborted fetus.

aboulia (ā-boō'li-ā) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *boulē*, will]. Abulia, q.v.

abrachia (ā-brā'ki-ā) [+ *brachiōn*, arm]. Congenital absence of arms.

abrachiocephalia (ā-brā'ki-ō-sē-fā'li-ā) [+ *kephalē*, head]. Congenital absence of arms and head.

abrachiocephalus (ā-brā'ki-ō-sēf-ā-lūs). A fetal anomaly without head or arms.

abrachius (ā-brā'ki-ūs) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *brachiōn*, arm]. An individual with congenital absence of arms.

abradant (ā-brād'ent). An abrasive.

abrade (ā-brād') [L. *ab*, from, + *radere*, to scrape]. 1. To chafe. 2. To roughen or remove by friction.

abrasion (ā-brā'zhūn) [+ *radere*, to scrape]. 1.

A scraping away of a portion of skin or of a mucous membrane as a result of injury or by mechanical means, as in dermabrasion for cosmetic purposes. 2. The wearing away of the substance of a tooth. Normally occurs from mastication; may be accomplished by mechanical or chemical means. SEE: *avulsion*; *bruise*.

abrasive. 1. Producing abrasion. 2. That which abrades.

abreaction (āb'rē-āk'shūn) [+ *rē*, again, + *actus*, acting]. In psychoanalysis, release of, or discharge of, emotional tension by consciously recalling or acting out a painful experience which had been either forgotten or repressed. Abreaction may allow this painful or consciously intolerable experience to become bearable because of the insight gained during the process. The method used to bring about abreaction is termed catharsis, q.v.

abrosia (ā-brō'zi-ā) [Gr.]. 1. Fasting; abstaining from food. 2. A wasting away.

abruptio (ā-brūp'shī-ō) [L. *abruptus*]. A tearing away from.

a. placenta. Premature detachment of normally situated placenta; ablatio placenta. SEE: *placenta*.

ETIOL: Unknown. May be associated with toxemia, hypofibrinogenemia, and disseminated intravascular coagulation.

PATH: Extravasation of blood between placenta and uterine wall, occasionally between muscle fibers of the uterus.

SYM: Hemorrhage, concealed or evident, or a combination of both. Pain, constant at point of separation of placenta due to blood extruding between muscle fibers. Uterine contraction constant; occasionally tetanic in nature. Increased fetal movements and changes in heart rate until fetal asphyxia and death. Albumin in urine. Anemia.

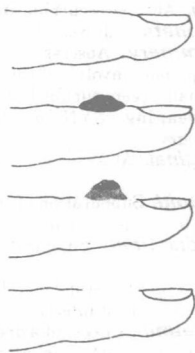
TREATMENT: In mild cases, rest in bed. In severe cases, shock must first be combated. A soft and partially dilated cervix is an indication for immediate artificial rupture of membranes followed by natural or artificial induction of labor. If the fetus is alive, and if the mother's cervix is firm and not dilated, a cesarean section is the treatment of choice. If the uterus fails to contract after cesarean section, a rapid hysterectomy usually is necessary.

abscess (āb'sēs) [L. *abscessus*, a going away]. A localized collection of pus in any part of the body. The result of disintegration or displacement of tissue. SEE: *inflammation*; *pus*; *suppuration*.

a., acute. Abscess with local symptoms of inflammation, with fluctuation, and pointing, i.e. about to rupture; also pressure and

constitutional symptoms. Inflammation becomes intensified with increased heat, redness, swelling, and edema. Pain becomes throbbing and greater, with impaired loss of function of the part. An elevation appears with fluctuation and softening as it reaches the surface, becoming necrotic and yellow, giving way with evacuation of pus. Pressure symptoms, according to size and depth. In floor of mouth or neck, swelling may cause dyspnea and dysphagia. Constitutional symptoms vary from slight temperature (fever may be absent in a well walled-off abscess) to high temperature with chills and sweats if associated with pyemia and septicemia. Any or all general symptoms may be absent in deep-seated abscesses except eventual loss of weight and strength.

The abscess may be terminated by pointing, evacuation, and discharge of pus or it may become inspissated, encapsulated, and at times absorbed. SYN: *a.*, *warm*.



PROGRESSION OF ABSCESS

***a.*, alveolar.** Abscess about root of a tooth in alveolar cavity. Usually the result of necrosis and infection of dental pulp following dental caries.

***a.*, amebic, of liver.** Abscess occurring in the liver developing as a complication of amebic dysentery. Caused by *Entamoeba histolytica*.

***a.*, anorectal.** Abscess in the tissue near the rectum. SYN: *a.*, *ischioanal*; *a.*, *perirectal*.

***a.*, apical.** Abscess at the apex of lung or at extremity of root of a tooth.

***a.*, appendiceal, appendicular.** Pus formation around an inflamed vermiform appendix.

***a.*, arthriluent.** A wandering abscess, *q.v.*, having origin in a diseased joint.

***a.*, atheromatous.** Softening in the wall of a blood vessel as the result of atherosclerosis.

***a.*, axillary.** Abscess or multiple abscesses in axilla.

***a.*, bartholin.** Abscess of Bartholin's gland.

***a.*, bicameral.** Abscess with two pockets.

***a.*, bile duct.** Abscess of the bile duct. SYN: *a.*, *cholangitic*

***a.*, bilharziasis.** Abscess in an intestinal wall caused by *Schistosoma*.

***a.*, blind.** Abscess with no external opening such as a dental granuloma.

***a.*, bone.** *A.*, Brodie's, *q.v.*

***a.*, brain.** Intracranial abscess; one involving the brain or its membranes. It is seldom primary but usually occurs secondary to infections of middle ear, nasal sinuses, face, or skull, or from contamination from penetrating wounds or skull fractures. It may also have a metastatic origin arising from septic foci in the lungs (bronchiectasis, empyema, lung abscess), in bone (osteomyelitis), or in the heart (endocarditis). Infection of nervous tissue by the invading organism results in necrosis and liquefaction and edema of surrounding tissues.

Brain abscesses may be acute, subacute, or chronic. Their clinical manifestations depend on part of brain involved, size, virulence of infecting organisms, and other factors. SYN: *a.*, *cerebral*; *a.*, *intracranial*.

SYM: Severe and persistent headache usually localized over infected area; fever, vomiting, vertigo, malaise, sometimes irritability and other mental symptoms.

TREATMENT: Chemotherapy; surgical intervention may be required.

***a.*, breast.** *A.*, mammary, *q.v.*

***a.*, Brodie's.** Suppuration of articular end of a bone, esp. the tibia. SYN: *a.*, *bone*.

***a.*, bursal.** One in a bursa.

***a.*, canalicular.** Abscess of breast discharging into the milk ducts.

***a.*, caseous.** One in which the pus has a cheesy appearance.

***a.*, cerebral.** *A.*, brain, *q.v.* SYN: *a.*, *intracranial*.

***a.*, cheesy.** Caseous abscess.

***a.*, cholangitic.** Abscess of the bile duct.

***a.*, chronic.** Abscess with pus but without signs of inflammation; usually of slow development. Formed by liquefaction of tuberculous tissue. May occur anywhere on the body but more frequently in the spine, hips, genitourinary tract, and lymph glands. Symptoms may be very mild. Pain when

present is caused by pressure upon surrounding parts. Tenderness often absent. Chronic septic intoxication with afternoon fever may occur. Amyloid disease may develop if the abscess persists for a prolonged period. SYN: *a., cold*

a., circumscribed. Abscess limited or confined by surrounding tissue.

a., circumtonsillar. Abscess around the tonsil. SYN: *a., peritonsillar; quinsy.*

a., cold. *A., chronic, q.v.*

a., collar-button. Two cavities, one larger than the other, containing pus and connected by a narrow channel. SYN: *a., shirt-stud.*

a., deep. Abscess arising from below the deep fascia.

a., dental. Abscess beside a tooth, usually near the root.

a., dentoalveolar. Abscess in the alveolar process surrounding the root of a tooth.

a., diffuse. A collection of pus not circumscribed by a well-defined capsule.

a., dry. Abscess that disappears without pointing or breaking.

a., embolic. Abscess due to a septic embolus.

a., emphysematous. Abscess containing air or gas. SYN: *tympanitic a.*

a., endamebic; a., entamebic. *A., amebic, q.v.*

a., epidural. *A., extradural, q.v.*

a., epiploic. Abscess in the omentum.

a., extradural. Abscess on the dura mater.

a., fecal. Abscess containing feces.

a., filarial. Abscess caused by filaria, *q.v.*

a., follicular. Abscess forming in a follicle.

a., frontal. Abscess in the frontal lobe of the brain.

a., fungal. Abscess caused by a fungus.

a., gangrenous. Abscess attended with gangrene of surrounding parts.

a., gas. A tympanitic abscess; one containing gas due to presence of gas-forming organisms such as *Clostridium perfringens*.

a., gingival. Abscess of the gum.

a., glandular. Abscess around a lymph node.

a., gravitation. Abscess in which the pus migrates, sinking to a lower part of the body.

a., helminthic. Abscess due to the presence of a parasitic worm.

a., hematic. Abscess due to an extravasated blood clot.

a., hemorrhagic. Abscess containing blood.

a., hepatic. Abscess of the liver, esp. an amebic abscess.

a., hot. *A., acute, q.v.*

a., hypostatic. *A., wandering, q.v.*

a., idiopathic. Abscess due to unknown causes.

a., iliac. Abscess in the iliac region.

a., intracranial. *A., brain, q.v.* SYN: *a., cerebral.*

a., intradural. Abscess within the layers of the dura mater.

a., intramammary. *A., mammary, q.v.* SYN: *a., breast.*

a., intramastoid. A mastoid process abscess of the temporal bone.

a., ischiorectal. Abscess in the ischio-rectal fossa.

a., kidney. Abscess or multiple abscesses of renal cortex. SYN: *a., renal.*

a., lacrimal. Suppuration of a lacrimal gland.

a., lacunar. Abscess in the urethral lacunae.

a., lateral; a., lateral alveolar. Abscess in periodontal tissue.

a., lumbar. Abscess in the lumbar region.

a., lung. Abscess occurring in the lung.

a., lymphatic. Abscess of a lymph node.

a., mammary. Abscess in the female breast, esp. one involving the glandular tissue. Usually seen during lactation or at time of weaning. SYN: *a., breast; a., intramammary*

a., marginal. Abscess near the orifice of the anus.

a., mastoid. Suppuration of the mastoid portion of the temporal bone.

a., mediastinal. Suppuration in the mediastinum.

a., metastatic. Secondary abscess at a distance from focus of infection.

a., migrating. Abscess at a distance from focus of disease with pus along fascial sheaths of muscles. SYN: *a., wandering.*

a., milary. Small embolic abscess discharging numerous small collections of pus.

a., milk. Mammary abscess during lactation.

a., mother. Primary abscess giving rise to other abscesses.

a., multiple. Group of abscesses accompanying pyemia.

a., nocardial. Abscess caused by *Nocardia*.

a., orbital. Suppuration in the orbit.

a., ossifluent. Abscess dependent on degeneration of bone tissue.

a., palatal. Abscess in an upper lateral incisor, erupting toward the palate.

a., palmar. Purulent effusion into the tissues of the palm of the hand.

a., parafrenal. Abscess on the side of the

frenulum of the penis. Usually involves Tyson's gland.

a., parametric; a., parametric.

Abscess between the folds of the broad ligaments of the uterus.

a., paranephric; a., paranephritic.

Abscess in the tissues around the kidney.

a., parapancreatic. Abscess in the tissues adjacent to the pancreas.

a., parietal. Periodontal abscess arising in the periodontal tissue other than the orifice through which the vascular supply enters the dental pulp.

a., pelvic. Abscess of the pelvic peritoneum, esp. Douglas' pouch.

a., pelvirectal. Deep rectal abscess.

a., periapical. Periodontal abscess at the root apex of a tooth.

a., pericemental. Alveolar abscess not involving the apex of a tooth.

a., pericoronal. Abscess around the crown of an unerupted molar tooth.

a., periodental. Abscess of periodontal tissue.

a., perinephric. Abscess in tissue about the kidney. SYN: *a., perirenal*

a., periodontal. Abscess arising in the periodontal tissue (structures of support for teeth).

a., peripleuritic. Abscess in the tissue surrounding the parietal pleura.

a., periproctical. Abscess in the areolar tissue about the anus. SYN: *a., perirectal*.

a., perirectal. A., periproctical. q.v.

a., perirenal. Abscess in the tissue surrounding the kidney. SYN: *perinephric a.*

a., peritoneal. Abscess within the peritoneal cavity usually following peritonitis.

a., peritonsillar. Abscess of the tissue around the tonsil capsule. SYN: *a., circumtonsillar*; *quinsy*.

a., periurethral. Abscess in tissue surrounding the urethra.

a., perivesical. Abscess in tissue around the urinary bladder.

a., phlegmonous. An acute abscess in the connective tissue.

a., pneumococcic. Abscess due to infection with pneumococci.

a., postcecal. Abscess situated behind the cecum. SYN: *a., retrocecal*.

a., postmammary. A., retromammary, q.v.

a., prelacrimal. Abscess of the lacrimal bone producing a swelling at inner canthus.

a., premammary. Subcutaneous or subareolar abscess of the mammary gland.

a., primary. Abscess originating at point of infection.

a., prostatic. Abscess within the prostate gland.

a., protozoal. Abscess caused by a protozoan.

a., psoas. Abscess with pus descending in sheath of psoas muscle due to vertebral disease, usually tuberculous in origin.

a., pulmonary. Abscess of the lungs. Nontuberculous suppuration of lung tissue with one or more localized areas of necrosis resulting in pulmonary cavitation.

a., pulp. 1. A cavity discharging pus formed in the pulp of a tooth. 2. An abscess of the tissues of the pulp of a finger.

a., pyemic. A metastatic abscess, usually multiple, due to pyogenic organisms.

a., rectal. Abscess in the rectum.

a., renal. Abscess or multiple abscesses of the renal cortex. SYN: *a., kidney*

a., residual. Abscess occurring from old inflammatory products at the site of an earlier abscess.

a., retrocecal. Abscess situated behind the cecum. SYN: *a., postcecal*.

a., retromammary. Abscess between the mammary gland and the chest wall.

a., retroperitoneal. Abscess located between the peritoneum and the posterior abdominal wall.

a., retropharyngeal. Abscess of the lymph nodes in the walls of the pharynx. It sometimes simulates diphtheritic pharyngitis.

a., retrovesical. Abscess behind the bladder.

a., root. Abscess of the root of a tooth. SYN: *a., apical*.

a., sacrococcygeal. Abscess over the sacrum and coccyx.

a., satellite. Secondary abscess arising from and located near the primary abscess.

a., scrofulous. Abscess due to tuberculous degeneration of bone or lymph nodes.

a., secondary. A., embolic, q.v.

a., septicemic. Abscess resulting from septicemia.

a.'s, shirt-stud. Two cavities, one larger than the other, containing pus and connected by a narrow channel. SYN: *a., collar-button*.

a., spermatic. Abscess of the seminiferous tubules.

a., spinal. Abscess due to necrosis of a vertebra.

a., splenic. Abscess of the spleen.

a., stercoral; a., stercoralaceous. Abscess containing feces. SYN: *a., fecal*.

a., stitch. Abscess formed about a stitch or suture.

a., streptococcal. Abscess caused by streptococci.

a., subaponeurotic. Abscess beneath an aponeurosis or fascia.

a., subarachnoid. Abscess of the mid-layer of the covering of the brain and spinal cord.

a., subareolar. Abscess underneath the areola of the mammary gland, sometimes draining through the nipple.

a., subdiaphragmatic. Abscess beneath the diaphragm. SYN: *a., subphrenic.*

a., subdural. Abscess beneath the dura of brain or spinal cord.

a., subepidermal. Abscess beneath the epidermis.

a., subfascial. Abscess beneath a fascia.

a., submammary. Abscess beneath the mammary gland.

a., subpectoral. Abscess beneath the pectoral muscles.

a., subperiosteal. Bone abscess below the periosteum.

a., subperitoneal. Abscess between the parietal peritoneum and the abdominal wall.

a., subphrenic. Abscess beneath the diaphragm. SYN: *a., subdiaphragmatic.*

a., subscapular. Abscess between the serratus anterior and the posterior thoracic wall.

a., subungual. Abscess beneath the distal portion of a fingernail. May follow injuries with pins, needles, or splinters.

a., sudoriparous. Abscess of a sweat gland.

a., superficial. Abscess occurring above the deep fascia.

a., suprahepatic. Abscess in the suspensory ligament between the liver and the diaphragm.

a., sympathetic. Abscess arising some distance from the primary cause.

a., syphilitic. Abscess occurring in the tertiary stage of syphilis.

a., thecal. Abscess in a tendon sheath.

a., thymus. Abscess of the thymus.

a., tonsillar. Acute suppurative tonsillitis.

a., tooth. A., alveolar, q.v.

a., traumatic. Abscess caused by injury.

a., tropical. Amebic abscess of the liver.

a., tuberculous. A., chronic, q.v.

a., tympanitic. Abscess that contains air or gas.

a., tympanocervical. Abscess arising in the tympanum and extending to the neck.

a., tympanomastoid. A combined abscess of the tympanum and mastoid.

a., urethral. Abscess of the urethra.

a., urinary. Abscess caused by escape of urine into the tissues.

a., urinous. Abscess which contains pus

and urine.

a., verminous. Abscess which is caused by or contains insect larvae or other animal parasites.

a., wandering. Abscess at a distance from focus of disease with pus along fascial sheaths of muscles. SYN: *a., migrating.*

a., warm. A., acute, q.v.

a., worm. Abscess caused by or containing worms.

abscission (ăb-sî'zhŭn) [L. *abscindere*, to cut off]. Removal by excision.

absence (ăb-sénz). Brief temporary loss of consciousness, as may occur in petit mal epilepsy, q.v. SYN: *absentia epileptica.*

abs. feb. L. *absente febre*, in the absence of fever.

Absidia (ăb-sîd'î-ă). Genus of pathogenic fungi of the order Phycomycetes and the family Mucoraceae. SEE: *phycomycosis.*

absinthe, absinth (ăb'sinth) [L. *absinthium*, wormwood]. A liquor containing oil of wormwood, anise, and other herbs. It is highly toxic, adversely affecting the nervous system.

absinthism (ăb'sîn-thî'zm). Deterioration of the nerve centers following excessive use of absinthe.

absolute alcohol. Ethyl alcohol with not more than 1% of water. SYN: *anhydrous a.*

absolute scale. Temperature scale in which zero is at the point of absolute zero, q.v. SYN: *Kelvin scale.*

absolute temperature. Temperature measured on the absolute scale, q.v.

absolute zero. The lowest possible temperature, -273.15°C or -459.67°F ; equal to zero on the absolute scale.

absorb [L. *absorbere*, to suck in]. To take in, suck up, or imbibe. SEE: *absorption; adsorption.*

absorbefacient (ăb-sôr'bê-fă'shênt) [f + *facere*, to make]. Causing or that which causes absorption.

absorbent (ăb-sôr'bênt). 1. A substance which absorbs. 2. Having the power to absorb.

absorptiometer (ăb-sôrp'shî-ôm'ê-têr) [L. *absorptio*, absorption, + Gr. *metron*, measure]. 1. Instrument for measuring thickness of a layer of liquid, drawn by capillary attraction, between glass plates. 2. Instrument for measuring the absorption of gas by a liquid.

absorption (ăb-sôrp'shŭn) [L. *absorptio*, to suck in]. 1. The taking up of liquids by solids, or of gases by solids or liquids. 2. The taking up of light or of its rays by black or colored rays. 3. The taking up by the body of radiant heat, causing a rise in body temperature. 4. The passage of a substance through some surface of the body into body fluids and tissues,

as the passage of ether through the respiratory epithelium of lungs into the blood during anesthesia, or passage of oil of wintergreen through the skin, the result of several processes: diffusion, q.v., filtration, q.v., osmosis, q.v.

RS: chondrolysis; imbibition; osmosis; resorption.

a., colon. Water (important in the conservation of body fluids) and products of bacterial action are normally absorbed esp. in the ascending colon. Some nutrients and drugs are absorbed by the lower bowel. Cellulose is not digested but passes from the body as residue.

a., cutaneous. Absorption through the skin.

a., disjunctive. Separation of a slough by absorption of a layer of adjacent healthy tissue.

a., external. Absorption of material by the skin and mucous membrane.

a., mouth. Some substances, but no food nutrients, can be absorbed from the mouth; some drugs, esp. alkaloids, can be absorbed through the oral mucosa.

a., pathologic. Absorption into the blood or lymph of substances normally excreted or of a product of disease processes, e.g., pus.

a., protein. In the digestive process proteins are hydrolyzed to their constituent amino acids in the walls of the intestines. They are transported via the portal vein to the liver and then into the general circulation and to the tissues. Each tissue synthesizes its own form of protein from the amino acids received from the blood.

a., small intestine. The most important absorption of products of digestion occurs in the small intestines, esp. the ileum. Products of digestion absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract pass into either blood or lymph. The mesenteric veins unite to form the portal vein and carry such blood to the liver; the mesenteric lymphatics are called lacteals because during absorption of a fatty meal the lymph which they contain looks milky and is called chyle. The lacteals empty into the cisterna chyli and are joined by lymphatics from other parts of the body; the mixed lymph travels, via the thoracic duct, to the subclavian vein where it empties into the blood stream.

a., stomach. Absorption of water, alcohol, and some salts through the gastric mucosa.

absorption lines. Dark lines of solar spectrum. SYN: *Fraunhofer's lines*, q.v.

absorption spectrum. Spectrum of absorption lines produced when light passes

through and is partially absorbed by a substance.

absorptive (ăb-sôrp'tiv). Absorbent.

abstinence (ăb-'stî-nens) [L. *abstinere*, to abstain]. Going without voluntarily, esp. refraining from indulgence in food, alcoholic beverages, or sexual intercourse.

abstinence syndrome. Partial collapse resulting from withdrawal of alcohol, stimulants, and some opiates. SYN: *withdrawal syndrome*.

abstract (ăb'străkt, ăb-străkt') [L. *abstrahere*, to draw away]. 1. A preparation containing the soluble principles of a drug concentrated and mixed with lactose. 2. A summary or abridgment of an article, book, address, etc.

abstraction (ăb-străk'shŭn). 1. Removal or separation of a constituent from a mixture or compound. 2. Absorption of the mind; inattention or absent-mindedness.

abterminal (ăb-tēr'mî-nāl) [L. *ab*, from, + *terminus*, end]. Away from an end and toward the center, said of electric currents in muscles.

abulia (ă-bŭ'li-ă) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *boulē*, will]. 1. Absence of or inability to exercise will power or initiative. 2. Syndrome of slow reaction, lack of spontaneity, and brief spoken responses. May be part of the clinical picture that accompanies infarction of a cerebellar vessel. SEE: *hypobulia*.

abuse (ă-bŭs') [L. *abŭsus*, using up]. Misuse; excessive or improper use.

a., child. Emotional, physical or sexual injury to a child. May be due to positive action or omission on the part of those responsible for the care of the child.

a., drug. Misuse of drugs, esp. narcotics or psychoactive drugs.

a., spouse. Emotional, physical or sexual mistreatment of one's spouse.

abutment (ăb-bŭt'mĕnt) [Fr. *abouter*, to place end to end]. The tooth to which a partial denture is anchored.

A.C. adrenal cortex; air conduction; alternating current; anodal closure; antiphlogistic corticoid; atriocarotid; auriculocarotid; axiocervical.

a.c. L. *ante cibum*, before meals.

Ac. Chem. symb. for actinium.

acacia (ă-kă'shî-a). USP. Gum arabic. A dried, gummy exudation from the tree *Acacia senegal*. Used as a suspending agent or vehicle in pharmaceutical or other industrial products.

acalculia (ă-kăl-kŭ'li-ă) [Gr. *a-*, not, + L. *calcularē*, to reckon]. Inability to solve mathematical problems.

acampsia (ă-kămp'sî-ă) [" + *kamptein*, to bend]. Inflexibility of a limb; rigidity,

ankylosis.

acantha [Gr. *akantha*, thorn]. 1. The spine. 2. A vertebral spinous process.

acanthesthesia (ă-kăn'thēs-thē'zī ā) [" + *dis-thesia*, sensation]. A sensation as of a pinprick; a form of paresthesia, q.v.

Acanthia lectularia (ă-kăn-thī-ā lēk-tū-lā'ri-ā). The bedbug. SYN: *Cimex lectularis*.

acanthion [Gr. *acanthion*, a thorn]. Tip of anterior nasal spine.

acantho-. Combining form meaning thorn, spine.

Acanthocephala (ă-kăn'thō-sef-ā-lā) [" + *kephale*, head]. A class of wormlike entozoa related to the Platyhelminthes, including a few species parasitic in man.

acanthocephaliasis (ă-kăn'thō-sef-ā-lī-ās-is). Infestation with *Acanthocephala*.

acanthocyte (ă-kăn'thō-sit') [Gr. *akantha*, thorn]. An abnormal erythrocyte, which in wet preparations has protoplasmic projections so that the cell appears to be covered with thorns. SEE: *abetalipoproteinemia*.

acanthoid (ă-kăn'thoid) [" + *eidos*, form]. Thorny; spiny; of a spinous nature.

acanthokeratoderma (ă-kăn'thō-kēr-ă-tō-dēr-mī-ă) [" + *keras*, horn, + *derma*, skin]. Hypertrophy of the horny portion of the skin of the palms of hands and soles of feet, and thickening of the nails.

acantholysis (ă-kăn'thōl'i-sis) [" + *lysis*, solution]. Any disease of the skin accompanied by degeneration of the cohesive elements of the cells of the outer or horny layer of the skin.

a., bullosa. A skin condition of large bullae produced by irritation or trauma. SYN: *epidermolysis bullosa*, q.v.

acanthoma (ăk'ăn-thō'mă) [" + *oma*, tumor]. Benign tumor of the skin. Previously used to denote cancer of skin.

a. adenoides cysticum. A cystic tumor, often familial, occurring on chest, face and in axillary regions. Tumors contain tissues resembling sweat glands and hair follicles. SYN: *epithelioma adenoides cysticum*.

acanthopelvis (ă-kăn'thō-pēl'vīs) [" + *pelyx*, pelvis]. A prominent and sharp pubic spine on a rachitic pelvis.

acanthosis (ăk'ăn-thō'sis) [" + *osis*, condition]. Increased thickness of prickle cell layer of skin.

a. nigricans. Rare chronic inflammatory disease of skin in adults sometimes associated with cancer of some internal organ. Characterized by symmetrically distributed hard and soft papillary growths accompanied by hyperpigmentation and hyperkeratosis. SYN: *keratosis nigricans*.

acanthotic (ăk'ăn-thō'tik). Pert. to acanthosis.

acapnia (ah-kap'nē-ah) [Gr. *akapnos*, smokeless]. The presence of less than normal amount of carbon dioxide in blood and tissues, e.g., after voluntary overbreathing. SEE: *hyperventilation*.

SYM: Depressed respiration, giddiness, paresthesia, cramps, occasionally convulsions.

acapnial (ă-căp'nī-ăl). Showing or pert. to acapnia.

acarbia (ă-kar'bī-ā). Diminution of bicarbonate in the blood.

acardia (ă-kar'dī-ā) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *kardia*, heart]. Congenital absence of the heart.

cardiac (ă-kar'dī-āk). Having no heart.

acardiacus (ă-kar'dī-ākūs). A parasitic twin without a heart, therefore utilizing the circulation of its twin. SYN: *acardius*.

acardiophobia (ă-kar'dī-ō-trō'fī-ă) [" + *trophe*, nutrition]. Atrophy of the heart.

acardius. *Acardiacus*, q.v.

acarasis (ăk'ă-rī-ās-is) [L. *acarus*, mite, + Gr. *-iasis*, condition]. Any disease caused by a mite or acarid. SYN: *acarinoses*.

acaricide (ă-kār'ī-sid) [" + *caedere*, to kill]. 1. An agent that destroys acarids. 2. Destroying a member of the order Acarina.

acarid, acaridan (ăk'ă-rīd, ă-kār'ī-dăn) [L. *acarus*, mite]. A tick or mite; member of the order Acarina.

acaridiasis (ă-kār'ī-dī-ās-is) [" + Gr. *-iasis*, condition]. Disease caused by a mite. SYN: *acarasis*.

Acarina (ăk'ă-rī-nā). An order of the class Arachnida which includes a large number of species of minute animals known as mites or ticks. Most are ectoparasites, infestation causing local dermatitis with pruritus and sometimes systemic reactions. They also are vectors of a number of diseases. SEE: *Ixodidae*; *Sarcoptidae*; *scabies*; *tick*.

acarinoses (ă-kār'ī-nō'sis) [L. *acarus*, mite, + Gr. *-osis*, condition]. Disease caused by a mite. SYN: *acarasis*.

acarodermatitis (ăk'ă-rō-dēr-mă-tī'tis) [" + Gr. *derma*, skin, + *itis*, inflammation]. Inflammation of skin caused by a mite.

acaroid (ăk'ă-royd) [" + *eidos*, resemblance]. A mite, or resembling one.

acarophobia (ă-kar-ō-fō'bī-ă) [" + *phobos*, fear]. Delusion that the skin is infested with mites or worms.

Acarus (ăk'ăr-ūs) [L., mite]. A genus of mites.

acarus [L.]. Any mite or tick.

acaryote (ă-kār'ī-ōt) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *karyon*, nucleus]. Without a nucleus.

acatalasemia (ă'kăt-ăh-lă-sē'mē-ăh). Acatalasia, q.v.

acatalasia (ă'kăt-ăh-lă'zē-ăh). A rare inherited disease in which there is an absence of

the enzyme catalase. The disease is usually seen in orientals but may be found in Germans, Swiss and Israelis. The gingival and oral tissues are particularly susceptible to bacterial invasion with subsequent gangrenous changes and alveolar bone destruction. SYN: *acatalasemia*.

acataleptic (ă-kăt'ă-fă'tĭk). 1. Deficient mentally. 2. Uncertain or doubtful.

acatamathesia (ă-kăt'ă-mă-thē'zĭ-ă) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *katamathesis*, understanding]. 1. Loss of ability to understand spoken words. 2. Inability to comprehend as a result of a brain lesion.

acataphasia (ă-kăt'ă-fă'zĭ-ă) [*'* + *kataphasis*, affirmation]. Inability to coherently express thoughts verbally. This condition is due to a cerebral lesion.

acatastasia (ă-kăt-ăs-tă'zĭ-ă) [Gr. *akatastasis*, disorder]. Irregularity; deviation from normal.

acathexis (ă'kă-thĕks'is). In psychoanalysis, lack of emotion toward a thing or idea which is unconsciously important to the individual.

acathisia (ă'kă-thĭz'ĭ-ă) [Gr. *a-*, not, + *kathisis*, sitting]. Inability to sit down because the thought of doing so causes severe anxiety. Patient has a feeling of restlessness and an urgent need of movement and complains of a feeling of muscular quivering. This symptom may appear as a complication of therapy with antipsychotic tranquilizers such as phenothiazines or reserpine. Also spelled akathisia or akatizia.

acaudal, caudate (ă-kô'dăl, -dăt) [*'* + L. *cauda*, tail]. Having no tail.

ACC. anodal closure contraction.

acc. accommodation.

acceleration (ăk-sĕl'ĕr-ă'shŭn) [L. *accelerans*, hastening]. 1. Increase in the rapidity of motion or function, as pulse or respiration. 2. Numerical expression of the rate of change in velocity for a given unit of time.

a., angular. Rate of change in velocity per unit of time during a change in direction.

a., central. Centripetal acceleration, q.v.

a., centripetal. Rate of change in velocity per unit of time while on a circular or curved course.

a., linear. Rate of change in velocity per unit of time while on a straight course.

a., negative. Decrease in the rate of change in velocity per unit of time.

a., positive. Increase in the rate of change in velocity per unit of time.

accelerator (ăk-sĕl'ĕr-ă'tôr). Anything that increases action or function. In chemistry, a catalyst.

a., urinae. Obsolete term for bulbospongiosus muscle. SEE: *Muscles in Appendix*.

accelerator nerves. Sympathetic nerves which contain fibers whose impulses increase rate and force of heartbeat. Postganglionic fibers arise principally in cervical and thoracic ganglia.

accentuation (ăk-sĕn'chŭ-ă'shŭn) [L. *accentus*, accent]. Emphasis.

acceptor (ăk-sĕp'tôr) [L. *accipere*, to accept]. A compound which unites with a substance freed by another compound, called a donor, q.v.

a., hydrogen. A substance which combines with hydrogen and is reduced when a substrate is oxidized by an enzyme.

a., oxygen. A substance which combines with oxygen and is oxidized when a substrate is reduced by an enzyme.

accessorius (ăk'sĕs-ô'ri-ŭs) [L., supplementary]. Accessory, supplementary, as certain muscles, glands, nerves.

accessory (ăk-sĕs'ô-rĕ). Auxiliary; assisting. Term applied to a lesser structure which resembles in structure and function a similar organ, as the accessory pancreatic duct (of Santorini) or accessory suprarenal glands. An organ or structure which assists other organs in performing their functions as accessory reproductive organs.

a. nerve. Motor nerve made up of a cranial and a spinal part which supplies the trapezius and sternomastoid muscles and pharynx. Accessory portion joins the vagus, to which it supplies its motor and some of its cardioinhibitory fibers. SYN: *11th cranial nerve*; *spinal accessory nerve*.

a. sign. A nonpathognomonic sign.

accident (ăk'sĭ-dĕnt) [L. *accidens*, happening].

1. An unexpected event. 2. An unforeseen occurrence of an unfortunate nature; a mishap. 3. An unexpected complicating event in the course of a disease, or following surgery.

a., cerebrovascular. A sudden, unexpected interference in brain function resulting from a vascular disturbance such as cerebral hemorrhage, occlusion of a vessel by a thrombus or embolus, vasospasm, or vasodilation. ABBR: CVA. SYN: *apoplexy*.

a., serum. An allergic reaction following the therapeutic introduction of a foreign serum into a hypersensitive individual. SEE: *anaphylaxis*.

accidental (ăk'sĭ-dĕn'tăl). Occurring suddenly, unexpectedly, inadvertently; under unforeseen circumstances.

accident-prone. Said of persons having an unusually high rate of accidents.

accipiter (ăk-sĭp'ĭ-tĕr) [L., a hawk]. A nose bandage with clawlike ends that spread over the face.

ACCI. anodal closure clonus.