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DORLAND'S

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ILLUSTRATED

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**MEDICAL**

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**DICTIONARY**

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## Theory *Continued*

**wave t.** the theory that light, heat, and electricity are transmitted through space in the form of waves.  
**Weismann's t.** see *weismannism*.  
**Woods-Fildes t.** the theory that the antibacterial activity of at least some drugs (especially the sulfonamides) is a consequence of a

competitive inhibition of essential metabolic reactions of the microorganism.  
**Young-Helmholtz t.** the doctrine that color vision depends on three sets of retinal fibers, corresponding to the colors red, green, and violet.

**theo-ther-a-py** (thē'ō-ther'ā-pe) [Gr. *theos* god + *therapy*] the treatment of disease by prayer and religious exercises.

**theque** (tek) [Fr. a "box or small chest"] junctional nest.

**Thera-Cys** (ther'ā-sis) trademark for a preparation of live BCG (bacille Calmette-Guérin) for intravesical use.

**ther-a-peu-sis** (ther'ā-pu'sis) therapeutics.

**ther-a-peu-tic** (ther'ā-pu'tik) [Gr. *therapeutikos* inclined to serve] 1. pertaining to therapeutics or to therapy. 2. curative.

**ther-a-peu-tics** (ther'ā-pu'tiks) 1. the branch of medical science concerned with the treatment of disease. 2. therapy.

**Ther-a-pho-si-dae** (ther'ā-fo'si-de) a family of very large hairy spiders (suborder Orthognatha) found in temperate and tropical areas. *Scorpelma communis* is the only species whose venom has a harmful effect on humans, but some are capable of inflicting painful bites.

The members of this family are sometimes improperly called tarantulas. See also *bird spider*.

**ther-a-pist** (ther'ā-pist) [Gr. *therapeutēs* one who attends to the sick] a person skilled in the treatment of disease; often combined with a term indicating the specific type of disorder treated (as *speech t.*) or a particular type of treatment rendered (as *physical t.*).

**physical t.** a person skilled in the techniques of physical therapy and qualified to administer treatments prescribed by a physician and under his supervision; called also *physiotherapist*.

**respiratory t.** a person who has graduated from an approved respiratory therapist program or is registered by the National Board for Respiratory Care and is qualified to provide respiratory care under the supervision of a physician.

**speech t.** a person specially trained to assist patients in overcoming speech and language disorders. Cf. *speech pathologist*.

**ther-a-py** (ther'ā-pe) [Gr. *therapeia* service done to the sick] the treatment of disease; called also *therapeutics*.

## Therapy

See also under *treatment*.

**ablation t.** the destruction of small areas of myocardial tissue, usually by application of electrical or chemical energy, in the treatment of some tachyarrhythmias. See also *electrical* and *chemical ablation*, under *ablation*.

**adjuvant t.** the use of chemotherapy or radiotherapy in addition to surgical resection in the treatment of cancer.

**aerosol t.** inhalation therapy using an aerosol.

**androgen ablation t., androgēn deprivation t.** androgen deprivation.

**anticoagulant t.** the use of anticoagulants such as heparin, warfarin, or dicumarol to discourage thrombosis.

**antiplatelet t.** the use of platelet inhibitors such as aspirin, dipyridamole, sulfapyrazone, or ticlopidine hydrochloride to inhibit platelet adhesion or aggregation and so prevent thrombosis, alter the course of atherosclerosis, or prolong vascular graft patency.

**art t.** the use of art media and images, the creative process, and patient response to the products created for the treatment of psychiatric and psychologic conditions, often as an adjunct to psychotherapy, and for rehabilitation.

**autolymphocyte t.** autopheresis.

**autoserum t.** treatment of disease by the injection of the patient's own blood serum.

**aversion t., aversive t.** a form of behavior therapy using aversive conditioning, pairing undesirable behavior or symptoms with unpleasant stimulation in order to reduce or eliminate the behavior or symptoms. The term is sometimes used synonymously with *aversive conditioning*.

**beam t.** external beam radiotherapy.

**behavior t.** a therapeutic approach in which the focus is on the patient's observable behavior, rather than on conflicts and unconscious processes presumed to underlie his maladaptive behavior. This is accomplished through systematic manipulation of the environmental and behavioral variables related to the specific behavior to be modified; operant conditioning, systematic desensitization, token economy, aversive control, flooding, and implosion are examples of techniques that may be used in behavior therapy. Called also *behavior modification* and *conditioning t.*

**behavioral marital t. (BMT)** a form of marital therapy using principles and techniques from behavior therapy; it attempts to alleviate marital distress by increasing positive, pleasant interactions between the members of a couple.

**bile acid t., bile acid replacement t.** administration of bile acids for treatment of hyperliposis.

**biological t.** treatment of disease by injection of substances that produce a biological reaction in the organism, such as sera, antitoxins, vaccines, and nonspecific proteins.

**buffer t.** intravenous injection of buffer substances, such as sodium bicarbonate, with the object of lowering the hydrogen ion concentration.

**cardiac resynchronization t.** cardiac pacing in which a lead is used to deliver current directly to the left ventricle, in addition to those used to deliver current to the right atrium and ventricle, so that the ventricles can be induced to pump in synchrony. Called also *bilateral pacing*.

**Chaoul t.** x-ray therapy with a short source-to-tissue distance and low voltage; see also *Chaoul tube*, under *tube*.

**chelation t.** the use of a chelating agent to remove toxic metals from the body, used in the treatment of heavy metal poisoning. In complementary medicine, also used for the treatment of atherosclerosis and other disorders.

**client-centered t.** a form of psychotherapy in which the emphasis is on the patient's self-discovery, interpretation, conflict resolution, and reorganization of values and life approach, which are enabled by the warm, nondirective, unconditionally accepting support of the therapist, who reflects and clarifies the patient's discoveries.

**cognitive t., cognitive behavior t.** a directive form of psychotherapy based on the theory that emotional problems result from distorted attitudes and ways of thinking that can be corrected. Using techniques drawn in part from behavior therapy, the therapist actively seeks to guide the patient in altering or revising negative or erroneous perceptions and attitudes.

**collapse t.** a treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis, formerly widely used, in which the diseased lung was collapsed in order to immobilize it and allow it to rest. Common methods were oleothorax, plombage, pneumonolysis, artificial pneumothorax, and thoracoplasty. Pneumonolysis and thoracoplasty are still sometimes done to collapse a lung and allow access during thoracic surgery.

**color t.** the therapeutic use of light of specific colors. It encompasses a number of methods used in complementary medicine, including the direction of light of specific colors at the chakras associated with the