

STEDMAN'S Medical Dictionary

27th Edition

Illustrated in Color



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the impulses transmitted over the auditory nerve fibers corresponds to the frequency of the sound vibrations, and is the sole basis for pitch discrimination; a t. no longer tenable. SEE ALSO traveling wave t.

thermodynamic t. of narcosis, that the interposition of narcotic molecules in nonaqueous cellular phase causes changes that interfere with facilitation of ionic exchange.

traveling wave t., generally held t. that a wave travels from the base to the apex of the basilar membrane of the cochlea in response to acoustic stimulation, and that the site of maximal displacement of the basilar membrane depends on the frequency of the stimulating tone with higher frequencies causing maximal displacement near the base and lower frequencies causing maximal displacement near the apex.

van't Hoff t., that substances in dilute solution obey the gas laws. Cf. van't Hoff law.

Warburg t., that the development of cancer is due to irreversible damage to the respiratory mechanism of cells, leading to the selective multiplication of cells with increased glycolytic metabolism, both aerobic and anaerobic.

Wollaston t., a t. that the semidecussation of the optic nerves at the chiasm is proved by the homonymous hemianopia seen in brain lesions.

Young-Helmholtz t. of color vision, a t. that there are three color-perceiving elements in the retina: red, green, and blue. Perception of other colors arises from the combined stimulation of these elements; deficiency or absence of any one of these elements results in inability to perceive that color and a misperception of any other color of which it forms a part. SYN Helmholtz t. of color vision.

the-o-ther-a-py (thē-ō-thār'ā-pē). Treatment of disease by prayer or religious exercises. [G. *theos*, god, + *therapeia*, therapy]

thèque (tek). A nest or aggregation of nevocytes in the epidermis. [Fr. a small box]

ther-a-peu-sis (thār-ā-pē'sis). 1. SYN therapeutics. 2. SYN therapy.

ther-a-peu-tic (thār-ā-pē'tik). Relating to therapeutics or to the treatment, remediating, or curing of a disorder or disease. [G. *therapeutikos*]

ther-a-peu-tics (ther-ā-pē'tiks). The practical branch of medicine concerned with the treatment of disease or disorder. SYN therapeutics (1), therapia (2). [G. *therapeutikē*, medical practice]

ray t., obsolete term for radiotherapy.

suggestive t., treatment of disease or disorder by means of suggestion.

ther-a-peu-tist (thār-ā-pē'tist). An older term to denote one skilled in therapeutics.

the-ra-pia (thār-ā-pē'ā). 1. SYN therapy. 2. SYN therapeutics. [L. fr. G. *therapeia*, therapy]

t. mag'na sterilizans, Ehrlich concept that an infectious disease, especially one of protozoal origin, can be cured by one large dose of a suitable remedy, large enough to sterilize all the tissues and to destroy the microorganism contained therein.

ther-a-pist (thār-ā-pist). One professionally trained and/or skilled in the practice of a particular type of therapy.

THERAPY

ther-a-py (ther-ā-pē). 1. The treatment of disease or disorder by any method. SEE ALSO therapeutics. 2. In psychiatry, and clinical psychology, a short term for psychotherapy. SEE ALSO psychotherapy, psychiatry, psychology, psychoanalysis. SYN therapeutics (2), therapia (1). [G. *therapeia*, medical treatment]

alkali t., SEE alkalitherapy.

analytic t., short term for psychoanalytic t.

anticoagulant t., the use of anticoagulant drugs to reduce or prevent intravascular or intracardiac clotting.

antisense t., use of antisense DNA for the inhibition of transcription or translation of a specific gene or gene product for therapeutic purposes.

autoserum t., t. with serum obtained from the patient's own blood.

aversion t., a form of behavior t. that pairs an unpleasant stimulus with undesirable behavior(s) so that the patient learns to avoid the latter. SEE ALSO aversive training.

behavior t., an offshoot of psychotherapy involving the use of procedures and techniques associated with research in the fields of conditioning and learning for the treatment of a variety of psychologic conditions; distinguished from psychotherapy because specific symptoms (e.g., phobia, enuresis, high blood pressure) are selected as the target for change, planned interventions or remedial steps to extinguish or modify these symptoms are then employed, and the progress of changes is continuously and quantitatively monitored. SEE systematic desensitization. SYN conditioning t.

client-centered t., a system of nondirective psychotherapy based on the assumption that the client (patient) both has the internal resources to improve and is in the best position to resolve his or her own personality dysfunction, provided that the therapist can establish a permissive, accepting, and genuine atmosphere in which the client feels free to discuss problems and to obtain insight into them in order to achieve self-actualization.

cognitive t., any of a variety of techniques in psychotherapy that utilizes guided self-discovery, imaging, self-instruction, symbolic modeling, and related forms of explicitly elicited cognitions as the principal mode of treatment.

collapse t., the surgical treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis whereby the diseased lung is placed, totally or partially, temporarily or permanently, in a nonfunctional respiratory state of retraction and immobilization. Now rarely performed.

conditioning t., SYN behavior t.

conjoint t., a type of t. in which a therapist sees the two spouses, or parent and child, or other partners together in joint sessions.

convulsive t., SYN electroshock t.

cytoreductive t., t. with the intention of reducing the number of cells in a lesion, usually a malignancy.

depot t., injection of a drug together with a substance that slows the release and prolongs the action of the drug.

diathermic t., treatment of various lesions by diathermy.

directly observed t., visual monitoring by a health care worker of ingestion of medications, to ensure compliance in difficult or long-term regimens, such as in oral treatment for tuberculosis; a contentious aspect of some WHO programs.

electroconvulsive t. (ECT), SYN electroshock t.

electroshock t. (ECT), a form of treatment of mental disorders in which convulsions are produced by the passage of an electric current through the brain. SYN convulsive t., electroconvulsive t.

electrotherapeutic sleep t., treatment by inducing sleep by means of nonconvulsive electric stimulation of the brain.

estrogen replacement t., administration of sex hormones to women after menopause or oophorectomy. SYN hormone replacement t.

Administration of estrogen after natural or surgical menopause reverses atrophic vaginitis, relieves vasomotor instability ("hot flashes"), lowers LDL cholesterol, raises HDL cholesterol, reduces the risk of osteoporosis and colorectal cancer, and may retard onset and progression of parkinsonism, Alzheimer dementia, and type 2 diabetes mellitus. Observational studies have found lower rates of coronary artery disease (CAD) in postmenopausal women taking estrogen, but clinical trials have not confirmed this effect. A large randomized study of postmenopausal women with established CAD showed no difference between women taking estrogen-progestogen and controls in the incidence of fatal and nonfatal myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, stroke, and in total mortality. In limited stud-