

# STEDMAN'S Medical Dictionary

27th Edition

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**actinic k.**, a reaction of the cornea to ultraviolet light.

**deep punctate k.**, sharply defined opacities in an otherwise clear cornea, occurring in syphilitic iritis.

**dendriform k.**, **dendritic k.**, a form of herpetic k.

**diffuse deep k.**, SYN k. profunda.

**Dimmer k.**, SYN k. nummularis.

**disciform k.**, large disk-shaped infiltration of the central or paracentral corneal stroma. This lesion is deep and nonsuppurative and is seen in virus infections, particularly herpetic. SYN k. disciformis.

**k. discifor'mis**, SYN disciform k.

**exposure k.**, inflammation of the cornea resulting from irritation caused by inability to close the eyelids. SYN lagophthalmic k.

**fascicular k.**, a phlyctenular k. followed by the formation of a band or fascicle of blood vessels extending from the margin toward the center.

**filamentary k.**, a condition characterized by the formation of epithelial filaments of varying size and length on the corneal surface. SYN k. filamentosa.

**k. filamento'sa**, SYN filamentary k.

**geographic k.**, k. with coalescence of superficial lesions in herpes keratitis.

**herpetic k.**, inflammation of the cornea (or cornea and conjunctiva) due to herpes simplex virus. SYN herpes corneae, herpetic keratoconjunctivitis.

**interstitial k.**, an inflammation of the corneal stroma, often with neovascularization.

**lagophthalmic k.**, SYN exposure k.

**k. linea'ris mi'grans**, a deep, linear corneal opacity stretching from limbus to limbus; associated with congenital syphilis.

**marginal k.**, a corneal inflammation at the limbus.

**metaherpetic k.**, a postinfectious corneal inflammation in herpetic k. leading to epithelial erosion; not due to virus replication.

**mycotic k.**, an infection of the cornea of the eye caused by a fungus.

**nerotizing k.**, severe inflammation and destruction of corneal tissue that may be seen in response to herpes infection.

**neuroparalytic k.**, SYN neurotrophic k.

**neurotrophic k.**, inflammation of the cornea after corneal anesthesia. SYN neuroparalytic k.

**k. nummula'ris**, coin-shaped or round, discrete, grayish areas 0.5 to 1.5 mm in diameter scattered throughout the various layers of the cornea. SYN Dimmer k.

**phlyctenular k.**, an inflammation of the corneal conjunctiva with the formation of small red nodules of lymphoid tissue (phlyctenulae) near the corneoscleral limbus. SYN scrofulous k.

**pneumococcal/suppurative k.**, SYN serpiginous k.

**polymorphic superficial k.**, epithelial degeneration occurring in starvation.

**k. profun'da**, an inflammation of the posterior corneal stroma. SYN diffuse deep k.

**punctate k.**, **k. puncta'ta**, SYN keratic *precipitates*, under *precipitate*.

**sclerosing k.**, inflammation of the cornea complicating scleritis; characterized by opacification of the corneal stroma.

**scrofulous k.**, SYN phlyctenular k.

**serpiginous k.**, a severe, creeping, central, suppurative ulcer often due to pneumococci. SYN pneumococcal/suppurative k., serpent ulcer of cornea.

**k. sic'ca**, SYN *keratoconjunctivitis sicca*.

**superficial linear k.**, spontaneous, painful k. with epithelial erosion and folds in Bowman membrane.

**superficial punctate k.**, epithelial punctate k. associated with viral conjunctivitis. SYN Thygeson disease.

**trachomatous k.**, SEE pannus, corneal *pannus*.

**vascular k.**, superficial cellular infiltration of the cornea and neovascularization between Bowman membrane and the epitheli-

**xerotic k.**, SYN keratomalacia.

⊖ **kerato-**, **kerat-**. 1. The cornea. 2. Horny tissue or cells. SEE ALSO cerat-, cerato-. [G. *keras*, horn]

⊖ **ker-a-to-ac-an-tho-ma** (ker'ă-tō-ak'an-thō'mă). A rapidly growing tumor that may be umbilicated, and usually occurs on exposed areas of the skin in elderly white men, which invades the dermis but remains localized and usually resolves spontaneously if untreated; microscopically, the nodule is composed of well-differentiated squamous epithelium with a central keratin mass that opens on the skin surface. [kerato- + G. *akantha*, thorn, +-*oma*, tumor]

**ker-a-to-an-gi-o-ma** (ker'ă-tō-an-jē-ō'mă). SYN angiokeratoma.

**ker-a-to-cele** (ker'ă-tō-sēl). Hernia of Descemet membrane through a defect in the outer layers of the cornea. [kerato- + G. *kēlē*, hernia]

**ker-a-to-con-junc-ti-vi-tis** (ker'ă-tō-kon-jūngk'ti-vī'tis). Inflammation of the conjunctiva and of the cornea.

**atopic k.**, a chronic papillary inflammation, of the conjunctiva showing Trantas dots in a patient with a history of atopy.

**epidemic k.**, follicular conjunctivitis followed by subepithelial corneal infiltrates; often caused by adenovirus type 8, less commonly by other types. SYN virus k.

**flash k.**, SYN ultraviolet k.

**herpetic k.**, SYN herpetic *keratitis*.

**microsporidian k.**, a form of k. often associated with immunosuppressed persons, such as those suffering from AIDS.

**k. sic'ca**, k. associated with decreased tears. SEE ALSO Sjögren *syndrome*. SYN dry eye syndrome, keratitis sicca.

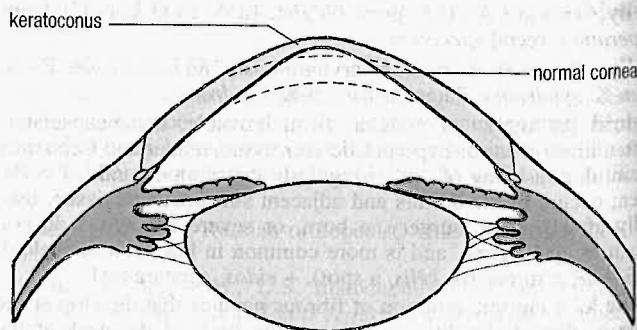
**superior limbic k.**, inflammatory edema of the superior corneoscleral limbus.

**ultraviolet k.**, acute k. resulting from exposure to intense ultraviolet irradiation. SYN actinic conjunctivitis, arc-flash conjunctivitis, flash k., ophthalmia nivalis, snow conjunctivitis, welder's conjunctivitis.

**vernal k.**, SYN vernal *conjunctivitis*.

**virus k.**, SYN epidemic k.

⊖ **ker-a-to-co-nus** (ker'ă-tō-kō'nūs). A conical protrusion of the cornea caused by thinning of the stroma; usually bilateral. SEE ALSO *Fleischer ring*, *Munson sign*. SYN conical cornea. [kerato- + G. *kōnos*, cone]



keratoconus

**circumscribed posterior k.**, congenital corneal defect characterized by a craterlike defect on the posterior corneal surface.

**ker-a-to-cri-coid** (ker'ă-tō-krī'koyd). SYN ceratocricoid.

**ker-a-to-cyst** (ker'ă-tō-sist). Odontogenic cyst derived from remnants of the dental lamina and appearing as a unilocular or multilocular radiolucency which may produce jaw expansion; epithelial lining is characterized microscopically by a uniform thickness, a corrugated superficial layer of parakeratin, and a prominent basal layer composed of palisaded columnar cells; associated with the bifid rib basal cell nevus syndrome.

**odontogenic k.** (ke-ră'tō-sist), a cyst of dental lamina origin with

**pal-i-ki-ne-sia, pal-i-ci-ne-sia** (pal-i-ki-nē'zē-ā, -si-nē'zē-ā). Involuntary repetition of movements. [G. *palin*, again, + *kinēsis*, movement]

**pal-i-nal** (pal'i-nāl). Moving backward. [G. *palin*, backward]

**pal-in-drome** (pal'in-drōm). In molecular biology, a self-complementary nucleic acid sequence; a sequence identical to its complementary strand, if both are "read" in the same 5' to 3' direction, or inverted repeating sequences running in opposite directions (e.g., 5'-AGT-TGA-3') on either side of an axis of symmetry; p.'s occur at sites of important reactions (e.g., binding sites, sites cleaved by restriction enzymes); imperfect p.'s exist, as do interrupted p.'s that allow the formation of loops. [G. *palindromos*, a running back]

**pal-in-dro-mia** (pal-in-drō'mē-ā). A relapse or recurrence of a disease. [G. *palindromos*, a running back, + *-ia*, condition]

**pal-in-drom-ic** (pal-in-drom'ik). Recurring.

**pal-i-sade** (pal'i-sād). In pathology, a row of elongated nuclei parallel to each other. [Fr. *palissade*, fr. L. *palus*, a pale, stake]

**pal-la-di-um (Pd)** (pāl-lā'dē-ūm). A metallic element resembling platinum, atomic no. 46, atomic wt. 106.42. [fr. the asteroid, Pallas; G. *Pallas*, goddess of wisdom]

**pal-an-es-the-sia** (pal'an-es-thē'zē-ā). Absence of pallesthesia. SYN apallesthesia. [G. *pallō*, to quiver, + *anaisthēsia*, insensibility]

**pal-es-the-sia** (pal'es-thē'zē-ā). The appreciation of vibration, a form of pressure sense; most acute when a vibrating tuning fork is applied over a bony prominence. SYN bone sensibility, pallesthetic sensibility, vibratory sensibility. [G. *pallō*, to quiver, + *aisthēsis*, sensation]

**pal-es-thet-ic** (pal-es-thet'ik). Pertaining to pallesthesia.

**pal-li-al** (pal'ē-āl). Relating to the pallium.

**pal-li-ate** (pal'ē-āt). To reduce the severity of; to relieve slightly. SYN mitigate. [L. *palliatus* (adj.), dressed in a *pallium*, cloaked]

**pal-li-a-tive** (pal'ē-ā-tiv). Reducing the severity of; denoting the alleviation of symptoms without curing the underlying disease.

**pal-li-dal** (pal'i-dāl). Relating to the pallidum.

**pal-li-dec-to-my** (pal'i-dek'tō-mē). Excision or destruction of the globus pallidus, usually by stereotaxy; a prefix may indicate the method used, e.g., chemopallidectomy (destruction by a chemical agent), cryopallidectomy (destruction by cold). [pallidum + G. *ektomē*, excision]

**pal-li-do-a-myg-da-lot-o-my** (pal'i-dō-ā-mig'dā-lot'ō-mē). Production of lesions in the globus pallidus and amygdaloid nuclei. [pallidum + amygdala (1) + G. *tomē*, a cutting]

**pal-li-do-an-sot-o-my** (pal'i-dō-an-sot'ō-mē). Production of lesions in the globus pallidus and ansa lenticularis.

**pal-li-dot-o-my** (pal-i-dot'ō-mē). A destructive operation on the globus pallidus, done to relieve involuntary movements or muscular rigidity. [pallidum + G. *tomē*, incision]

**pal-li-dum** (pal'i-dūm) [TA]. SYN *globus pallidus*. [L. *pallidus*, pale]

**dorsal p.** [TA], those parts of the globus pallidus located generally dorsal to the plane of the anterior commissure; along with the dorsal striatum, functions in motor activities with cognitive origins; also form part of the dorsal basal ganglia. SYN p. dorsale [TA].

**p. dorsale** [TA], SYN dorsal p.

**ventral p.** [TA], those parts of the globus pallidus located ventral to the anterior commissure; includes portions of the substantia innominata; along with the ventral striatum believed to function in motor activities with strong motivational or emotional constructs. SYN p. ventrale [TA].

**p. ventrale** [TA], SYN ventral p.

**pal-li-um** (pal'ē-ūm) [TA]. SYN cerebral cortex. [L. cloak]

**pal-lor** (pal'ōr). Paleness, as of the skin. [L.]

**cachectic p.**, SYN achromasia (1).

**liver p.**, exaggerated erythema of the thenar and hypothenar eminences.

**pal-ma**, pl. **pal-mae** (pawl'mā, pawl'mē) [TA]. SYN palm, palm. [L.]

**p. ma'nus**, palm of the hand. SEE palm.

**pal-mar** (pawl'mār) [TA]. Referring to the palm of the hand; volar. SYN palmaris [TA]. [L. *palmaris*, fr. *palma*]

**pal-mar-is** (pawl-mār'is) [TA]. SYN palmar, palmar. [L.]

**pal-mel-lin** (pal'mel-in). A red coloring matter formed by an alga, *Palmella cruenta*.

**Palmer**, Walter L., U.S. physician, \*1896. SEE P. acid test for peptic ulcer.

**palm-ic** (pal'mik). Beating; throbbing; relating to a palmus.

**pal-mi-tal-de-hyde** (pal-mi-tal'dē-hīd). Hexadecanal; the 16-carbon aldehyde analog of palmitic acid; a constituent of plasmalogens.

**pal-mi-tate** (pal'mi-tāt). A salt of palmitic acid.

**pal-mit-ic ac-id** (pal-mit'ik). A common saturated fatty acid occurring in palm oil and olive oil as well as many other fats and waxes; the end product of mammalian fatty acid synthase. SYN hexadecanoic acid.

**pal-mi-tin** (pal'mi-tin). The triglyceride of palmitic acid occurring in palm oil. SYN tripalmitin.

**pal-mit-o-le-ic ac-id** (pal'mi-tō-lē'ik). 9-Hexadecenoic acid; a monounsaturated 16-carbon acid; one of the common constituents of the triacylglycerols of human adipose tissue. SYN zoomaric acid.

**pal-mi-tyl al-co-hol** (pal'mi-til). SYN *cetyl alcohol*.

**pal-mod-ic** (pal-mod'ik). Relating to palmus (1).

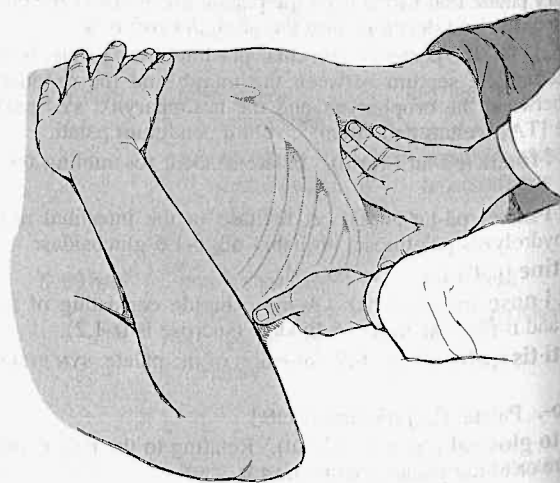
**pal-mos-co-py** (pal-mos'kō-pē). Examination of the cardiac pulsation. [G. *palmos*, pulsation, + *skopeō*, to examine]

**pal-mus**, pl. **pal-mi** (pal'mūs, -mī). 1. SYN *facial tic*. 2. Rhythmic fibrillary contractions in a muscle. SEE ALSO *jumping disease*. 3. The heart beat. [G. *palmos*, pulsation, quivering]

**pal-pa-ble** (pal'pā-bl). 1. Perceptible to touch; capable of being palpated. 2. Evident; plain. [see palpation]

**pal-pate** (pal'pāt). To examine by feeling and pressing with the palms of the hands and the fingers.

**pal-pa-tion** (pal-pā'shūn). 1. Examination with the hands, feeling for organs, masses, or infiltration of a part of the body, feeling the heart or pulse beat, vibrations in the chest, etc. 2. Touching, feeling, or perceiving by the sense of touch. [L. *palpatio*, fr. *palpo*, pp. *-atus*, to touch, stroke]



palpation of liver

- neuromuscular r.**, an agent, e.g., curare or succinylcholine, that produces relaxation of striated muscle by interruption of transmission of nervous impulses at the myoneural junction.
- nondepolarizing r.**, an agent, e.g., tubocurarine, that paralyzes skeletal muscle without depolarization of the motor endplate, as in phase II block.
- smooth muscle r.**, an agent, such as an antispasmodic, bronchodilator, or vasodilator, that reduces the tension or tone of smooth (involuntary) muscle.
- re-lax-a-tion** (rē-lak-sā'shūn). **1.** Loosening, lengthening, or lessening of tension in a muscle. **2.** In nuclear magnetic resonance, *r.* is the decay in magnetization of protons after the direction of the surrounding magnetic field is changed; the different rates of *r.* for individual nuclei and tissues are used to provide contrast in imaging. [L. *relaxatio* (see relax)]
- cardioesophageal r.**, *r.* of the lower esophageal sphincter, which can allow reflux of acidic gastric contents into the lower esophagus, producing esophagitis.
- isometric r.**, decrease in tension of a muscle while the length remains constant because of fixation of the ends.
- isovolumetric r.**, SYN isovolumic *r.*
- isovolumic r.**, that part of the cardiac cycle between the time of aortic valve closure and mitral opening, during which the ventricular muscle decreases its tension without lengthening so that ventricular volume remains unaltered; the heart is never precisely isovolumetric (vs. isovolumic) except during long diastoles with a mid-diastolic period of diastasis. SYN isovolumetric *r.*
- longitudinal r.**, in nuclear magnetic resonance, the return of the magnetic dipoles of the hydrogen nuclei (magnetization vector) to equilibrium parallel to the magnetic field, after they have been flipped 90°; varies in rate in different tissues, taking up to 15 s for water. SEE TI. SYN spin-lattice *r.*, spin-spin *r.*
- spin-lattice r.**, SYN longitudinal *r.*
- spin-spin r.**, SYN longitudinal *r.*
- transverse r.**, in nuclear magnetic resonance, the decay of the nuclear magnetization vector at right angles to the magnetic field after the 90° pulse is turned off; the signal is called free induction decay. SEE T2; Cf. longitudinal *r.*
- re-lax-in** (rē-lak'sin). A polypeptide hormone secreted by the corpora lutea of mammalian species during pregnancy. Facilitates the birth process by causing a softening and lengthening of the pubic symphysis and cervix; it also inhibits contraction of the uterus and may play a role in timing of parturition. SYN cervilaxin, ovarian hormone, relaxin. [relax + -in]
- re-learning** (rē-lern'ing). The process of regaining a skill or ability that has been partially or entirely lost; savings involved in *r.*, as compared with original learning, give an index of the degree of retention.
- re-leas-in.** SYN relaxin.
- re-li-a-bil-i-ty** (rē-lī-ā-bil'i-tē). The degree of stability exhibited when a measurement is repeated under identical conditions. SEE correlation coefficient, reliability coefficient. [M.E. *relien*, fr. O.Fr. *relier*, fr. L. *religo*, to bind]
- equivalent form r.**, in psychology, the consistency of measurement based on the correlation between scores on two similar forms of the same test taken by the same individual. SEE ALSO reliability coefficient.
- interjudge r.**, in psychology, the consistency of measurement obtained when different judges or examiners independently administer the same test to the same individual. SYN interrater *r.*
- interrater r.**, SYN interjudge *r.*
- test-retest r.**, in psychology, the consistency of measurement based on the correlation between test and retest scores for the same individual. SEE ALSO coefficient, reliability.
- re-lief** (rē-lēf'). **1.** Removal of pain or distress, physical or mental. **2.** In dentistry, reduction or elimination of pressure from a specific area under a denture base. SEE ALSO relief area, relief chamber. [see relieve]
- re-line** (rē'līn'). In dentistry, to resurface the tissue side of a denture with new base material to make it fit more accurately. SEE ALSO rebase.
- REM 1.** Acronym for rapid eye movements, under movement. **2.** Acronym for reticular erythematous mucinosis. SEE REM syndrome.
- rem** Abbreviation for roentgen-equivalent-man.
- Remak**, Robert, Polish-German anatomist and histologist, 1815–1865. SEE R. nuclear division, fibers, under fiber, ganglia, under ganglion, plexus.
- Remak**, Ernst J., German neurologist, 1848–1911. SEE R. reflex, sign.
- re-me-di-a-ble** (rē-mē'dē-ā-bl). Curable. [L. *remediabilis*, fr. *remedio*, to cure]
- re-me-di-al** (rē-mē'dē-āl). Curative or acting as a remedy.
- rem-e-dy** (rem'ē-dē). An agent that cures disease or alleviates its symptoms. [L. *remedium*, fr. *re-*, again, + *medeor*, cure]
- re-min-er-al-i-za-tion** (rē'min'er-āl-i-zā'shūn). **1.** The return to the body or a local area of necessary mineral constituents lost through disease or dietary deficiencies; commonly used in referring to the content of calcium salts in bone. **2.** In dentistry, a process enhanced by the presence of fluoride whereby partially decalcified enamel, dentin, and cementum become recalcified by mineral replacement.
- rem-i-nis-cence** (rem-i-nis'sens). In the psychology of learning, an improvement in recall, over that shown on the last trial, of incompletely learned material after an interval without practice. [L. *reminiscentiae*, from *reminiscor*, to remember]
- re-mis-sion** (rē-mish'ūn). **1.** Abatement or lessening in severity of the symptoms of a disease. **2.** The period during which such abatement occurs. [L. *remissio*, fr. *re-mitto*, pp. *-missus*, to send back, slacken, relax]
- spontaneous r.**, disappearance of symptoms without formal treatment.
- re-mit** (rē-mit'). To become less severe for a time without absolutely ceasing. [see remission]
- re-mit-tence** (rē-mit'ens). A temporary amelioration, without actual cessation, of symptoms.
- re-mit-tent** (rē-mit'ent). Characterized by temporary periods of abatement of the symptoms of a disease.
- rem-nant** (rem'nant). Something remaining, a residue or vestige. [O. Fr., fr. *remaindre*, to remain, fr. L. *remaneo*]
- re-mod-el-ing** (rē-mod'el-ing). **1.** A cyclic process by which bone maintains a dynamic steady state through sequential resorption and formation of a small amount of bone at the same site; unlike the process of modeling, the size and shape of remodeled bone remain unchanged. **2.** Any process of reshaping or reorganizing.
- heart chamber r.**, an architectural change in any cardiac chamber (usually one or both ventricles) due to a pathologic or normal (neonatal) stimulus.
- ren**, gen. **re-nis**, pl. **re-nes** (ren, rē'nis, rē'nēz). SYN kidney. [L.]
- re-nal** (rē'nāl). SYN nephric.
- re-nat-ur-a-tion** (rē-nā-tū-rā'shūn). The conversion of a denatured and inactive macromolecule back to its natured and bioactive configuration.
- ren-cu-lus** (ren'koo-lūs). **1.** SYN cortical lobules of kidney, under lobule. **2.** SYN reniculus (2).
- Rendu**, Henri J.L.M., French physician, 1844–1902. SEE R.-Osler-Weber syndrome.
- △ **reni-**. SEE reno-.
- ren-i-cap-sule** (ren'i-kap'sool). The capsule of the kidney. [reni- + L. *capsula*, capsule]
- ren-i-car-di-ac** (ren'i-kar'dē-ak). SYN cardiorenal. [reni- + G. *kardia*, heart]
- re-nic-u-lus**, pl. **re-nic-u-li** (rē-nik'ū-lūs, -lī). **1.** SYN cortical lobules of kidney, under lobule. **2.** A lobe of the human fetal kidney and that of some lower animals in which fibrous septa

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