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# MEDICAL DICTIONARY

Nervous System, Respiratory System Digestive System Reproductive System, Uninary System, 2 Special Senses, A

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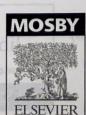
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has two or more definitely recognizable mesenchymal elements in addition to fibrous tissue.

benign migratory glossitis. See geographic tongue.

benign mucosal pemphigoid. See cicatricial pemphigoid.

benign myalgic encephalomyelitis. See postviral fatigue syndrome.

**benign neoplasm** [L, *benignare* + Gk, *neos*, new, *plasma*, formation], a localized tumor that has a fibrous capsule, limited potential for growth, a regular shape, and cells that are well differentiated. A benign neoplasm does not invade surrounding tissue or metastasize to distant sites. Some kinds of benign neoplasms are **adenoma**, fibroma, hemangioma, and lipoma. Also called benign tumor. Compare malignant neoplasm.

**benign nephrosclerosis**, a renal disorder marked by arteriolosclerotic (arteriosclerosis affecting mainly the arterioles) lesions in the kidney. It is associated with hypertension. **benign paroxysmal peritonitis.** See **familial Mediterra**-

**nean fever. benign paroxysmal positional vertigo,** recurrent vertigo and nystagmus occurring when the head is placed in certain positions. It can be debilitating and can cause difficulty in walking straight. It is usually not associated with central nervous system lesions.

OBSERVATIONS: Patients may experience the sensation of disorientation in space combined with a sensation of motion accompanied by nystagmus, nausea and/or vomiting, perspiration, pallor, increased salivation, and general malaise. Diagnosis is made by history and clinical exam in conjunction with ENG and positional testing. Audiology, ABR, CT, or MRI may be used to rule out other causes of vertigo.

INTERVENTIONS: Treatment is focused on a series of vestibular exercises, including gait training, sets of visual vestibular head and eye movements, Epley maneuvers, and Brandt-Daroff maneuvers. If exercises provoke nausea, pre-medication with antiemetics may be necessary. Surgical plugging of the posterior semicircular canal may be done in individuals with an intractable recurrent pattern of vertigo attacks that are unresponsive to exercise therapy.

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS: Nursing care focuses on demonstration and return demonstration of prescribed exercises.

benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), a histologic diagnosis associated with nonmalignant, noninflammatory enlargement of the prostate, most common among men over 50 years of age. BPH diagnosis can only be made after biopsy or resection; otherwise the diagnosis is benign prostatic enlargement. BPH is usually progressive and may lead to urethral obstruction and to interference with urine flow, urinary frequency, nocturia, dysuria, and urinary tract infections. Treatment may include medication, localized application of heat, balloon dilation, laser vaporization, and microwave hyperthermia. Surgical resection of the enlarged prostate is sometimes necessary. Compare prostatitis. See also prostatectomy.

benign prostatic hypertrophy. See benign prostatic hyperplasia.

benign pseudohypertrophic muscular dystrophy. See Becker's muscular dystrophy.

benign stupor, a state of apathy or lethargy, such as occurs in severe depression.

benign thrombocytosis. See thrombocytosis. benign tumor. See benign neoplasm. benne oil. See sesame oil.

Benner, Patricia, a nursing theorist who confirmed the lawele of skill acquisition in nursing practice in From Nov-

Practice (1984). Benner used systematic descriptions of five stages: novice, advanced beginner, competent, proficient, and expert. Thirty-one competencies emerged from an analysis of actual patient care episodes. From this work seven areas of nursing practice having a number of competencies with similar intents, functions, and meanings devel. oped. They are identified as (1) the helping role, (2) the teaching-coaching function, (3) the diagnostic and patient. monitoring function, (4) effective management of rapidly changing situations, (5) administering and monitoring therapeutic interventions and regimens, (6) monitoring and ensuring the quality of health care practices, and (7) organizational work-role competencies. Benner's work describes nursing practice in the context of what nursing actually is and does rather than from context-free theoretic descriptions. Bennet's small corpuscie. See Drysdale's corpuscie.

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**Bennett angle** [Norman G. Bennett, English dentist, 1870– 1947], the angle formed by the sagittal plane and the path of the advancing condyle during lateral mandibular movement, as viewed in the horizontal plane.

Bennett hand tool test, a test used in occupational therapy and prevocational testing to measure hand function, coordination, and speed in performance.

**Bennett's fracture** [Edward H. Bennett, Irish surgeon, 1837–1907], a fracture that runs obliquely through the base of the first metacarpal bone and into the carpometacarpal joint, detaching the greater part of the articular facet. Bennett's fracture may be associated with dorsal subluxation or with dislocation of the first metacarpal.

Benoquin, trademark for a depigmenting agent (monobenzone).

**benserazide** /ben-ser'ah-zīd/, an inhibitor of the decarboxylation of peripheral levodopa to dopamine, having actions similar to those of carbidopa. When given with levodopa, benserazide produces higher brain concentrations of dopamine with lower doses of levodopa, thus lessening the side effects seen with higher doses. It is used orally in conjunction with levodopa as an antiparkinsonian agent.

bent fracture. See greenstick fracture.

**bentiromide test**, (*for pancreatic function*) bentiromide is administered orally, and its cleavage into benzoyl-tyrosyl and *p*-aminobenzoic acid is monitored as a measure of pancreatic production of chymotrypsin.

**bentonite** [Fort Benton, Montana], colloidal, hydrated aluminum silicate that, when added to water, swells to approximately 12 times its dry size. It is used as a bulk laxative and as a base for skin care preparations. Also called **miner**al soap.

**bentonite test,** a flocculation test for the presence of rheumatoid factor in patient blood samples. After sensitized bentonite particles are added to the serum, the test result is considered positive for rheumatoid arthritis if adsorption has occurred with 50% of the particles.

**bentoquatam** /ben'to-kwah'tam/, a topical skin protectant used to prevent or reduce allergic contact dermatitis from contact with poison ivy, oak, and sumac.

**Bentyl**, trademark for an anticholinergic antispasmodic (dicyclomine hydrochloride).

**benz**, abbreviation for a *benzoate carboxylate anion*. **benzalkonium chloride**, a disinfectant and fungicide prepared in an aqueous solution in various strengths.

**benzathine penicillin G.** See **penicillin G benzathine**. **benzene** /ben'zēn/, a colorless, highly flammable liquid hydrocarbon ( $C_6H_6$ ) originally derived by fractional distillation of coal tar. It is now derived by catalytic reforming during petroleum refining. The prototypical aromatic compound, it is used in the production of various organic

benzene poisoning, a toxic condition caused by ingestion of benzene, inhalation of benzene fumes, or exposure to benzene-related products such as toluene or xylene, characterized by blurred vision, nausea, headache, dizziness, and incoordination. In acute cases, respiratory failure, convulsions, or ventricular fibrillation may cause death. Chronic exposure may result in aplastic anemia (a form of leukemia). See also **nitrobenzene poisoning.** 

**benzethonium chloride** /ben'zəthō'n $\bar{e}$ -əm/, a topical antiinfective used for disinfecting the skin and for treating some infections of the eye, nose, and throat. It is also used as a preservative in some pharmaceutical preparations.

benzhexol hydrochloride. See trihexyphenidyl hydrochloride.

**benzo[a]pyrene dihydrodiol epoxide (BPDE-I)**, a carcinogenic derivative of benzo[a]pyrene associated with tobacco smoke.

**benzocaine** /ben'zəkān/, an ester-type, local anesthetic agent derived from aminobenzoic acid that is most useful when applied topically. It is used in many over-the-counter compounds for pruritus and pain. Benzocaine has a low incidence of toxicity, but sensitization to it may result from prolonged or frequent use. Topical application of benzocaine may cause methemoglobinemia in infants and small children. A minimum of 5% benzocaine is required in a compound to be effective.

benzodiazepine derivative /ben'zōdī·az'apin/, one of a group of psychotropic agents, including the tranquilizers chlordiazepoxide, diazepam, oxazepam, lorazepam, and chlorazepate, prescribed to alleviate anxiety, and the hypnotics flurazepam and triazolam, prescribed in the treatment of insomnia. Tolerance and physical dependence occur with prolonged high dosage. Withdrawal symptoms, including seizures, may follow abrupt discontinuation. Adverse reactions to the benzodiazepines include drowsiness, ataxia, and a paradoxic increase in aggression and hostility. These reactions are not common with the usual recommended dosage. benzoic acid /benzo'ik/, a keratolytic agent, usually used with salicylic acid as an ointment in the treatment of athlete's foot and ringworm of the scalp. It has little antifungal action but makes deep infections accessible to more potent preparation. Mild irritation may occur at the site of application.

benzonatate /benzo'nətāt/, a nonopiate antitussive.

INDICATION: It is prescribed to suppress the cough reflex.
CONTRAINDICATION: Known hypersensitivity to this drug

■ ADVERSE EFFECTS: Hypersensitivity reactions, such as

bronchospasm, laryngospasm, and cardiovascular collapse, may occur and may be serious. Vertigo, sedation, headache, and constipation may sometimes occur.

benzoyl peroxide /benzō'il/, an antibacterial, keratolytic drying agent.

■ INDICATION: It is prescribed in the treatment of acne.

• CONTRAINDICATIONS: Known hypersensitivity to this drug prohibits its use. It is not used in the eye, on inflamed skin, or on mucous membranes.

■ ADVERSE EFFECTS: Among the more serious adverse reactions are excessive drying and allergic contact sensitization. benzquinamide /benzkwin'amīd/, an antiemetic.

INDICATIONS: It is prescribed in the treatment of postoperative nausea and vomiting.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Known hypersensitivity to this drug prohibits its use. It is not usually administered to children or to pregnant women.

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the most serious adverse reac-

rhythmia. Drowsiness, chills, and shivering are commonly noted.

**benzthiazide** /benzthī'azid/, a diuretic and antihypertensive.

■ INDICATIONS: It is prescribed in the treatment of hypertension and edema.

• CONTRAINDICATIONS: Anuria or known hypersensitivity to this drug, to other thiazide medication, or to sulfonamide derivatives prohibits its use.

ADVERSE EFFECTS: Among the more serious adverse effects are hypokalemia, hyperglycemia, hyperuricemia, and hyper-sensitivity reactions.

**benztropine mesylate** /benztrō'pēn/, an anticholinergic and antihistaminic agent.

■ INDICATIONS: It may be prescribed as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of drug-induced extrapyramidal symptoms and all forms of parkinsonism.

• CONTRAINDICATIONS: Known sensitivity to this drug prohibits its use, and it is not administered to children less than 3 years of age.

■ ADVERSE EFFECTS: Among the most serious adverse reactions are blurred vision, xerostomia, nausea and vomiting, constipation, depression, and skin rash.

**benzyl alcohol** /ben'zil/, a clear, colorless, oily liquid, derived from certain balsams, used as a topical anesthetic and as a bacteriostatic agent in solutions for injection. Also called **phenyl carbinol**, **phenyl methanol**.

**benzyl benzoate** /benzō'āt/, a clear, oily liquid with a pleasant, pervasive aroma. It is used as an agent to destroy lice and scabies, as a solvent, and as a flavor for gum.

benzyl carbinol. See phenylethyl alcohol.

**bepridil** /bep'r-dil/, a calcium channel blocking agent used orally as the hydrochloride salt in treatment of chronic angina pectoris.

**beractant** /ber-ak'tant/, a substance obtained from bovine lungs, containing mostly phospholipids. It mimics the action of human pulmonary surfactant and is used in prevention and treatment of respiratory distress syndrome of the newborn. Administered by endotracheal intubation.

Berdon's syndrome, megacystis-microcolon-intestinal hypoperistalsis.

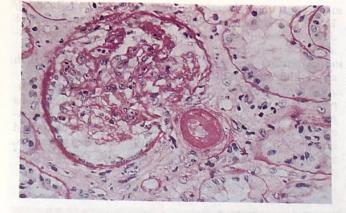
**bereavement** /bərēv'mənt/ [ME, *bereven*, to rob], a form of grief with anxiety symptoms that is a common reaction to the loss of a loved one. It may be accompanied by insomnia, hyperactivity, and other effects. Although bereavement does not necessarily lead to depressive illness, it may be a triggering factor in a person who is otherwise vulnerable to depression. See also grief, mourning.

**Berger's disease** [Jean Berger, twentieth century French nephrologist], a kidney disorder characterized by recurrent episodes of macroscopic hematuria, proteinuria, and a granular deposition of immunoglobulin A (IgA) from the glomerular mesangium. The condition may or may not progress to renal failure over a period of many years. A spontaneous remission occurs in some cases. The onset of disease is usually in childhood or early adulthood, and males are affected twice as often as females. Treatment is similar to that of other renal diseases. Also called **mesangial IgA nephropathy** /mesan'jē-əl/.

Berger's paresthesia [Oskar Berger, nineteenth century German neurologist; Gk, *para*, near, *aisthesia*, sensation], a condition of tingling, prickliness, or weakness and a loss of feeling in the legs without evidence of organic disease. The condition affects young people.

Berger wave. See alpha wave.

Bergonié-Tribondeau law /ber'gônē'tribôdō'/ [Jean A.



Malignant hypertension: kidney disease (Kumar, Abbas, and Fausto, 2005/Courtesy Dr. H. Rennke, Brigham and Women's Hospital)

the administration of large quantities of dantrolene sodium, administration of 100% oxygen, immediate cooling, cessation of surgery, and correction of acidosis and hyperkalemia. Patients susceptible to malignant hyperthermia must be informed of the condition and susceptible relatives screened. The family is referred to the Malignant Hyperthermia Registry (MHAUS).

malignant hyperthermia precautions, a nursing intervention from the Nursing Interventions Classification (NIC) defined as prevention or reduction of hypermetabolic response to pharmacologic agents used during surgery. See also Nursing Interventions Classification.

malignant malnutrition. See kwashiorkor. malignant melanoma. See melanoma.

malignant mesenchymoma, a sarcoma that contains mesenchymal elements.

malignant mole. See melanoma.

malignant neoplasm, a tumor that tends to grow, invade, and metastasize. The tumor usually has an irregular shape and is composed of poorly differentiated cells. If untreated, it may result in death.

malignant neuroma. See neurosarcoma. malignant pustule. See anthrax.

malignant transformation, the changes that a normal cell undergoes as it becomes a cancerous cell. See also carcinogenesis.

malignant tumor, a neoplasm that characteristically invades surrounding tissue, metastasizes to distant sites, and contains anaplastic cells. A malignant tumor may cause death if treatment does not intervene.

**malingering** /məling'gəring/ [Fr, *malingre*, puny, weak], a willful and deliberate feigning of the symptoms of a disease or injury to gain some consciously desired end. —malinger, v., malingerer, n.

**malleable** /mal'ē·əbəl/ [L, *malleare*, to beat], able to be pressed, hammered, or otherwise forced into a shape without breaking.

### mallei. See malleus.

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malleolar fold, one of two folds, the anterior and posterior, on the surface of the tympanic membrane. See also pars flaccida.

**malleolus** /məlē'ələs/ pl. **malleoli** [L, little hammer], a rounded bony process, such as the protuberance on each side of the ankle.

malleolus fibulae. See external malleolus.

mallet deformity [ME, maillet, maul], a loss of the ability

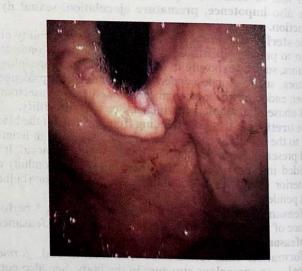
to extend the distal joint of a finger or toe. It may be caused by severe damage, such as rupture of the terminal tendon. See also hammer finger, hammer toe. mallet finger. See hammer finger.

mallet fracture, a fracture in which the dorsal base of a distal phalanx of the hand or foot is torn away. The fracture disrupts the associated extensor apparatus and causes dropped flexion of the distal segment. malleus /mal'ē·əs/ pl. mallei [L, hammer], one of the three

ossicles in the middle ear, resembling a hammer with a head, neck, and three processes. It is connected to the tympanic membrane and transmits sound vibrations to the incus, which communicates with the stapes. Compare incus, stapes. See also middle ear.

Mallory body /mal'ərē/ [Frank B. Mallory, American pathologist, 1862–1941; AS, *bodig*, body], an eosinophilic cytoplasmic inclusion, alcoholic hyalin, found in the liver cells. It is typically, but not always, associated with acute alcoholic liver injury. See also cirrhosis.

Mallory-Weiss syndrome [G. Kenneth Mallory, American pathologist, b. 1926; Soma Weiss, American physician, 1899-1942], a condition characterized by massive bleeding after a tear in the mucous membrane at the junction of the esophagus and the stomach. The laceration is usually caused by protracted vomiting, most commonly in alcoholics or in people whose pylorus is obstructed. The esophageal tear is located by esophagoscopy or arteriography. Surgery is usually necessary to stop the bleeding. After repair the prognosis is excellent.



Mallory-Weiss syndrome (Goldman et al, 2008)

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malnutrition /mal'nootrish'an/ [L, malus, bad, nutrire, to nourish], any disorder of nutrition. It may result from an unbalanced, insufficient, or excessive diet or from impaired absorption, assimilation, or use of foods. Compare deficiency disease.

malocclusion /mal'əkloo'zhən/ [L, malus + occludere, to shut up], abnormal contact between the teeth of the upper jaw and those of the lower jaw. See also Angle's Classification of Malocclusion (modified), occlusion.

malonic acid  $(CH_2(COOH)_2)$  /məlō'nik/, a white, crystalline, highly toxic substance used as an intermediate compound in the production of barbiturates; a dicarboxylic acid.

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