

Glossary

The syllables in bold mark where the stress falls when pronouncing the word.

English for Nurses: administrating medications

(to) absorb	to take something in gradually
absorption	process of taking something into another substance
ac	acronym for <i>before meals</i>
acoustic meatus	medical term for the <i>auditory canal</i>
adverse drug reaction (ADR)	unintended effect of a medication when administered at the correct dose
alert	awake and aware of your surroundings
allergy	a condition that makes a person become sick or develop skin or breathing problems because they have eaten certain foods or been near certain substances
alternative medicine	a range of treatments for medical conditions that people use instead of, or with, orthodox medicine
analgesia	medical term for <i>pain relief</i> or <i>painkiller</i>
antacid	a substance used to reduce or prevent acid collecting in the body, especially in the stomach
antibiotic (AB)	medication which kills or inhibits the growth of bacterial microorganisms
anti-inflammatory	medication which reduces painful swelling in tissues and joints
anti-emetic	medication against sickness (<i>nausea</i>) and vomiting
aperient	medication which softens a hard stool so it is easier to pass
bd	acronym meaning <i>twice a day</i>
bioavailability	the proportion of a drug or other substance which enters the circulation when introduced into the body and so is able to have an active effect
blepharoplasty	cosmetic surgery to lift eyelids which are drooping
blood-brain barrier	a barrier between the brain's blood vessels (<i>capillaries</i>) and the cells and other components that make up brain tissue, providing a defence against disease-causing pathogens and toxins that may be present in our blood
blood clot	a thick mass of blood that forms in a blood vessel and may block the flow of blood in the blood vessel
bloodshot	describes inflamed or red eyes caused by burst blood vessels
bloodstream	the flow of blood around the body
blurry	describes vision which is unclear so it is difficult to see.
breast milk	milk produced by a woman's body to feed her baby
capsule (cap)	medication enclosed in a soft cover that is taken by mouth
conjunctiva	the transparent layer of mucous membrane that covers the inside of the eyelid and the front surface of the eyeball
corner of the eye	medical term <i>canthus</i> ; area where the upper and lower eyelids meet

