# CONCEPT: NERVOUS SYSTEM: WORD BUILDING

# **Structures of Nervous System**

◆ Combining forms describing structures of the nervous system.

Combining Form	Definition	Memory Tool
cephal/o		En/cephal/o inside head.
pont/o	pons	Pons
dur/o	dura matter,	Durable hard hat.
	membrane	
lamin/o	plate	lamination

<b>Combining Form</b>	Definition	Memory Tool
poli/o	matter	Pale gray.
gli/o	, glial cells	Gleeful gluey cell.
gangli/o	, swelling	Gang of knots.
astr/o		astr/o/nomy  A
radic/o radicul/o	nerve	Radish root.

### **EXAMPLE**

Provide terms for the following definitions.

1) Immature glial cells of developing CNS:	
2) Space above the hard membrane:	

#### PRACTICE

Excess accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid within the brain.

- a) Hydrodurosis
- b) Hypohydroencephalitis
- c) Hypopoliohydro
- d) Hydrocephalus

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# **Functions and Pathology**

◆ Combining forms describing functions and pathology of the nervous system.

Combining Form	Definition	Memory Tool
esthesi/o	sensation, feeling	an/esthesi/a
alges/o	of pain	an/alges/ic
olfact/o		Smelly ol-factory.
son/o ech/o		son/ar
hal/o		in/hal/er
somn/o	sleep	in/somn/ia

Combining Form	Definition	Memory Tool
ambul/o		Walking hospital.
clon/o	rapid contracting and relaxing	Twitchy Clown.
topic/o	area	Topic/al cream.
isch/o	to hold back,	Scheduled time block.
thromb/o		Tied down thromb/us.
embol/o		Escaped embol/us.

#### **EXAMPLE**

A condition of increased sensitivity to stimuli, such as touch or pain, is called:

Term

#### **PRACTICE**

A person with this condition may walk around and perform activities while asleep.

- a) Somnambulism
- b) Ambulation
- c) Insomnia
- d) Hypersomnia

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### PRACTICE

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### PRACTICE

64-year-old patient presents to the ER with reduced blood flow to a portion of the heart, causing chest pain and tissue damage. Which of the following terms best describes the condition?

- a) Embolism
- b) Ischemia
- c) Ambulismd) Thrombosis