

OB/GYN Language Workshop

Before we begin this OB/GYN FOMS unit, we will take some time to review common OB/GYN terminology. The following is meant to be a review of word-building terms and abbreviations that you have already been exposed to in the Medical Word Building module and Abbreviations unit of the Mastering Medical Terminology module.

COMMON OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY ROOT WORDS AND COMBINING FORMS

Root Word & Combining Form	Meaning	Example
amni/o	amnion	amniocentesis/amniotic
cervic/o	cervix, neck	endocervicitis
chori/o (chorion/o)	chorion	choriogenesis/chorionic
colp/o	vagina	colporrhaphy/colposcopy
culd/o	cul-de-sac	culdocentesis
episi/o	vulva	episiotomy
galact/o	milk	galactorrhea
gynec/o	woman, female	gynecogenic
hyster/o	uterus, womb	hysterectomy/hysteroscopy
lact/o	milk	lactogenesis/lactation
mamm/o	breast	mammary/mammoplasty
mast/o	breast	mastitis/mastectomy
men/o	menses, menstruation	amenorrhea/dysmenorrhea oligomenorrhea/menorrhagia
metr/o (metri/o)	uterus	metrorrhagia menometrorrhagia
my/o	muscle	myometrium
myom/o	muscle tumor	myomectomy
nat/i	birth	perinatal
obstetr/o	midwife	obstetric
oo/o	egg	oogenesis
oophor/o	ovary	bilateral oophorectomy
ov/o	egg	ovum
ovari/o	ovary	ovarian
ovul/o	egg	anovulatory
perine/o	perineum	perineorrhaphy
phor/o	to bear	oophoritis
salping/o	fallopian tubes	salpingectomy
uter/o	uterus	uterine prolapse
vagin/o	vagina	vaginal orifice/vaginitis
vulv/o	vulva	vulvovaginitis

COMMON OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY PREFIXES

Prefix	Meaning	Example
ante-	before, forward	antenatal/ anteversion
dys-	painful	dyspareunia
endo-	within	endometritis
in-	in	involution
intra-	within	intrauterine device
multi-	many	multipara / multigravida
nulli-	no, not, none	nulligravida/ nullipara
primi-	first	primiparous
retro-	backward	retroflexion

COMMON OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY SUFFIXES

Suffix	Meaning	Example
-arche	beginning	menarche
-cyesis	pregnancy	pseudocyesis
-gravida	pregnancy	primigravida
-parous	to bear, bring forth	primiparous
-rrhea	discharge	leukorrhoea
-salpinx	uterine tube	pyosalpinx
-tocia	labor, birth	dystocia/ oxytocia
-version	act of turning	cephalic version

COMMON OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Expansion
A/AB	abortion
AC	abdominal circumference
AFP	alpha-fetoprotein
AI	artificial insemination
BPD	biparietal diameter
BSE	breast self-examination
BSO	bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
CIN	cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
CIS	carcinoma in situ
CMG	cystometrogram
CPD	cephalopelvic disproportion
CS or C-section	cesarean section
CVS	chorionic villus sampling
D&C	dilatation or dilation and curettage

DES	Diethylstilbestrol
DUB	dysfunctional uterine bleeding
ECC	endocervical curettage
EDC	estimated date of confinement
EFW	estimated fetal weight
EMB	endometrial biopsy
EGA	estimated gestational age
ERT	estrogen replacement therapy
FHR	fetal heart rate
FHT	fetal heart tone
FL	femur length
FSH	follicle-stimulating hormone
FTND	full-term normal delivery
G	gravida
GC	Gonorrhea culture
GYN	gynecology
HC	head circumference
hCG	human chorionic gonadotropin
HPV	human papilloma virus
HSG	hysterosalpingography
HSV	herpes simplex virus
IUD	intrauterine device
IUGR	intrauterine growth rate / intrauterine growth retardation
IVF	in vitro fertilization
LAVH	laparoscopic-assisted vaginal hysterectomy
LEEP	loop electrocautery excision procedure
LGA	large for gestational age
LH	luteinizing hormone
LMP	last menstrual period
LSO	left salpingo-oophorectomy
MSAFP	maternal serum alpha fetoprotein
NSVD	normal spontaneous vaginal delivery
OCPs	oral contraceptive pills
P	para
PAP/Pap	Papanicolaou smear
PID	pelvic inflammatory disease
PMP	previous menstrual period
PMS	premenstrual syndrome
ROM	rupture of membranes

RSO	right salpingo-oophorectomy
SAB	spontaneous abortion
SGA	small for gestational age
SIDS	sudden infant death syndrome
SROM	spontaneous rupture of membranes
SSVD	sterile, spontaneous vaginal delivery
STD	sexually transmitted disease
TAB	therapeutic abortion
TAH	total abdominal hysterectomy
TAH-BSO, TAHBSO	total abdominal hysterectomy with bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
TBLC	term birth, living child
TSS	toxic shock syndrome
TVH	total vaginal hysterectomy
VBAC	vaginal birth after cesarean section

