

Appendixes

Appendix A. —Glossary of Terms

- Angiography. —Radiography of vessels after the injections of a radiopaque material.
- Asymptomatic. —Without symptoms.
- Calvarial. —Relating to the skull cap.
- Calyx. —One of the branches or recesses of the pelvis of the kidney.
- Costovertebral angle tenderness. —Tenderness in the ribs and bodies of the thoracic vertebrae.
- Colicky pain. —Spasmodic pain in the abdomen.
- Cortical atrophy. —Wasting of tissues in the outer portion of the cerebrum.
- Diagnostic efficiency. —A general term to denote the ability of a test to diagnose correctly.
- Diagnostic accuracy. —An index of diagnostic efficiency, defined as the proportion of test results that are correct.
- Diagnostic yield. —The proportion of test results that are positive.
- Evaluative endpoint. —The measure or measures chosen to denote the effectiveness of a diagnostic procedure.
- Fluoroscope. —Use of a fluorescent screen in rendering X-ray shadows visible.
- Gonad dose. —The amount of radiation absorbed by the gonads resulting from any part of the body being exposed to X-rays.
- Hematoma. —A bruise confined to a particular organ or tissue.
- Hematuria. —Blood in the urine.
- High-yield criteria. —Signs, symptoms, or risk factors occurring in a patient which are related to high probability that a test result will be positive.
- Incidence. —The rate of occurrence of a disease or condition in a defined time period.
- Information value of a test. —The ability of a test to alter the probability of a disease, measured either subjectively or objectively.
- Intracranial. —Within the skull.
- Likelihood ratio. —The ratio of true-positive to false-positive test results.
- Metastasis. —The shifting of a disease, or its local manifestations, from one part of the body to another.
- Organic. —Relating to an organ.
- Photofluorography. —Fluoroscope; the recording on film of fluoroscopic views.
- Polyp. —A general term for any mass of tissue that projects outward from normal surface tissue.
- Prevalence. —The relative frequency of a disease or condition in a population at any point in time.
- Prospective studies. —Studies that follow patients and collect research data during the course of treatment.
- Rad. —Radiation absorbed dose, or the energy absorbed at a particular point in a substance.
- Radiogram. —A record made by means of X-rays of a radioactive substance.
- Radiography. —The making of a radiogram.
- Radiologic method. —Techniques in radiography which are at the discretion of the physician, such as number of views, positioning, choice of contrast medium, length of exposure, patient preparation, etc.
- Renovascular disease. —Disease of the blood vessels of the kidneys.
- Risk factors. —Characteristics of an individual, such as race, sex, age, other demographic variables, genetic variables, or aspects of lifestyle which predispose the person to a particular disease.
- Roentgenograph. —Examination of any part of the body for diagnostic purposes by using roentgen rays (i. e., X-rays).
- Screening. —Performance of a test in an individual with no relevant symptoms.
- Sensitivity. —The ability of a test to detect disease when it is present. Measured as the proportion of diseased individuals whose test results are positive.
- Specificity. —The ability of a test to rule out disease when it is not present. Measured as the proportion of normal individuals whose test results are negative.
- Stenosis. —A narrowing or stricture of a vessel or valve.
- Subdural hematoma. —A bruise occurring beneath the dura, or outer envelope of the brain.
- Symptomatic. —Any departure from the normal in function, appearance, or sensation experienced by the patient and indicative of disease.