



Teen Newsletter Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
Epidemiology (noun)	Epidemiology is the study of the distribution (frequency, pattern) and determinants (causes, risk factors) of health-related states and events in specified populations, and the application of this study to the control of health problems.
Antibody/antibodies (noun)	A protein found in the blood that is produced in response to foreign substances invading the body. Antibodies protect the body from disease by binding to these organisms and destroying them.
Asthma (noun)	A disease that affects your lungs. It causes repeated episodes of wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and coughing.
Asylum (noun)	Asylum, in international law, is the protection granted by a state to a foreign citizen against their own state. The person for whom asylum is established has no legal right to demand it, and the sheltering state has no obligation to grant it.
Asymptomatic (adj)	Having no symptoms.
Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) (noun)	ADHD is one of the most common <i>neurodevelopmental</i> disorders of childhood. It is usually first diagnosed in childhood and often lasts into adulthood. Children with ADHD may have trouble paying attention, controlling impulsive behaviors, or be overly active.
Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) (noun)	Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges. There is often nothing about how people with ASD look that sets them apart from other people, but people with ASD may communicate, interact, behave, and learn in ways that are different from most other people. The learning, thinking, and problem-solving abilities of people with ASD can range from gifted to severely challenged. Some people with ASD need a lot of help in their daily lives; others need less.
Bipolar disorder (noun)	Bipolar disorder (formerly called manic-depressive illness or manic depression) is a mental disorder that causes unusual shifts in mood, energy, activity levels, concentration, and the ability to carry out day-to-day tasks.
Carrier (noun)	A person with inapparent infection who is capable of transmitting the pathogen to others.
Cervical (adj)	Relating to the cervix.
Chronic health conditions/chronic diseases (noun)	Chronic diseases are defined broadly as conditions that last 1 year or more and require ongoing medical attention or limit activities of daily living or both.
Complications (noun)	In medicine, a complication is a medical problem that occurs during a disease, or after a procedure or treatment. The complication may be caused by the disease, procedure, or treatment or may be unrelated to them.
Consent (noun)	To give assent or approval.

Coroner (noun)	A coroner is, usually, an elected public officer who is typically not required to have specific medical qualifications and whose principal duty is to inquire by an inquest into the cause of any death which there is reason to suppose is not due to natural causes.
Delinquency (noun)	A conduct that is out of accord with accepted behavior or the law.
Diabetes (noun)	Diabetes is the condition in which the body does not properly process food for use as energy. Most of the food we eat is turned into glucose, or sugar, for our bodies to use for energy. The pancreas, an organ that lies near the stomach, makes a hormone called insulin to help glucose get into the cells of our bodies. When you have diabetes, your body either doesn't make enough insulin or can't use its own insulin as well as it should. This causes sugars to build up in your blood. Diabetes can cause serious health complications including heart disease, blindness, kidney failure, and lower-extremity amputations.
Diphtheria (noun)	A serious infection caused by strains of bacteria called <i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i> that make toxin. It can lead to difficulty breathing, heart failure, paralysis, and even death.
Docent (noun)	A person who leads guided tours especially through a museum or art gallery.
Encephalopathy (noun)	Encephalopathy is a term for any diffuse disease of the brain that alters brain function or structure.
Epilepsy (noun)	A broad term used for a brain disorder that causes seizures. There are many different types of epilepsy, and many different kinds of seizures.
Genital warts (noun)	Genital warts usually appear as a small bump or group of bumps in the genital area.
Health disparity (noun)	Preventable differences in the burden of disease, injury, violence, or in opportunities to achieve optimal health experienced by socially disadvantaged racial, ethnic, and other population groups, and communities.
Health literacy (noun)	Health literacy is the degree to which individuals have the ability to find, understand, and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for themselves and others.
Hysterectomy (noun)	A surgery to remove the entire uterus, including the cervix.
Immigrant (noun)	An immigrant is someone who makes a conscious decision to leave their home and move to a foreign country with the intention of settling there.
Immunization (noun)	A process by which a person becomes protected against a disease through vaccination.
Immunosuppressive therapy (noun)	A treatment that lowers the activity of the body's immune system. This reduces its ability to fight infections and other diseases, such as cancer. Immunosuppressive therapy may be used to keep a person from rejecting a bone marrow or organ transplant. It may also be used to treat conditions in which the immune system is overactive, such as autoimmune diseases and allergies.
Infectious disease (noun)	A disease caused by the entrance into the body of pathogenic agents or microorganisms which grow and multiply there.
Intervention (noun)	Public health interventions are methods used to influence, facilitate or promote behavior change.
Ivermectin (noun)	Ivermectin is a Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved antiparasitic drug that is used to treat several neglected tropical diseases, including onchocerciasis, helminthiasis, and scabies.

Migrant (noun)	A migrant is someone who is moving from place to place (within their country or across borders), usually for economic reasons such as seasonal work.
Morbidity (noun)	Morbidity has been defined as any departure, subjective or objective, from a state of physiological or psychological well-being. In practice, morbidity encompasses disease, injury, and disability.
Mortality (noun)	A mortality rate is a measure of the frequency of occurrence of death in a defined population during a specified interval.
Nematodes (roundworms) (noun)	Nematode, also called roundworm, any worm of the phylum Nematoda. Nematodes are among the most abundant animals on Earth. They occur as parasites in animals and plants or as free-living forms in soil, fresh water, marine environments, and even such unusual places as vinegar, beer malts, and water-filled cracks deep within Earth's crust.
Observational study (noun)	In an observational study, the epidemiologist simply observes the exposure and disease status of each study participant.
Parasite (noun)	A parasite is an organism that lives on or in a host organism and gets its food from or at the expense of its host.
Postpartum (adj/noun)	Occurring in or being the period following childbirth.
Quarantine (noun/verb)	Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. Quarantine helps protect the public by preventing exposure to people who have or may have a contagious disease.
Refugee (noun)	A refugee is someone who has been forced to flee their home because of war, violence, or persecution, often without warning.
Risk factor (noun)	Something that increases the chance of developing a disease.
<i>Salmonella</i> Typhi (noun)	<i>Salmonella</i> Typhi are bacteria that often cause a potentially severe and occasionally life-threatening bacteremic illness. Fever and gastrointestinal symptoms are common.
Schizophrenia (noun)	A serious mental illness that affects how a person thinks, feels, and behaves. People with schizophrenia may seem like they have lost touch with reality. If left untreated, the symptoms of schizophrenia can be persistent and disabling.
Serotype(s) (noun)	Serotypes are groups within a single species of microorganisms, such as bacteria or viruses, which share distinctive surface structures.
Serpentine stone (noun)	Serpentine is the name of a large group of minerals that form green, patterned, and usually slippery rocks and stones.
Sexual orientation (noun)	Sexual orientation refers to a person's sexual and emotional attraction to another person and the behavior and/or social affiliation that may result from this attraction.
<i>Strongyloids</i> (noun)	A parasitic disease caused by nematodes, or roundworms, in the genus <i>Strongyloides</i> . The parasites enter the body through exposed skin, such as bare feet. <i>Strongyloides</i> is most common in tropical or subtropical climates.
Surveillance (noun)	Public health surveillance is the ongoing, systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of health-related data essential to planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice.

Tetanus (noun)	An infection caused by bacteria called <i>Clostridium tetani</i> . When the bacteria invade the body, they produce a toxin that causes painful muscle contractions.
Tourette syndrome (TS) (noun)	Tourette Syndrome (TS) is a condition of the <i>nervous system</i> . TS causes people to have “tics”. Tics are sudden twitches, movements, or sounds that people do repeatedly. People who have tics cannot stop their body from doing these things. For example, a person might keep blinking over and over again. Or, a person might make a grunting sound unwillingly.
Typhoid fever (noun)	A life-threatening illnesses caused by <i>Salmonella Typhi</i> . It is characterized by sustained and high fevers (103-104 degrees).
Victimization (noun)	The act of making someone into a victim by harming or killing them; the act or fact of blaming others for the hardships one encounters in life.
Vignette (noun)	A brief incident or scene.
Virology (noun)	The study of viruses and viral diseases.
Volunteerism (noun)	The act or practice of doing volunteer work.
Vulva (noun)	The external parts of the female genital organs.