

STEDMAN'S MEDICAL DICTIONARY

PRONOUNCIATION

Conventions

Phonetic spelling for pronunciation appears in parentheses immediately after the boldface entry word(s). Pronunciations follow main entries except where redundant because the phonetic spelling is the same as the spelling of the boldface entry word(s). Pronunciations are for the most part not given for subentries except non-English words and eponymic terms.

The phonetic system used is a basic one and has only a few conventions:

- Two diacritical marks are used; the macron (¯) for long vowels; and the breve (˘) for short vowels.
- Principal stressed syllables are followed by a prime ('); monosyllables do not have a stress mark.
- Other syllables are separated by hyphens.

The following pronunciation key provides examples and consonant sounds encountered in the phonetic system. No attempt has been made to accommodate the slurred sounds common in speech or regional variations in speech sounds. Note that a vowel with a breve (˘) is used for the indefinite vowel sound of the schwa (ə). Native pronunciation of foreign words is approximated as closely as possible.

Pronunciation Key

Vowels

ā	day, care, gauge
a	mat, damage
ă	about, para
ah	father
aw	fall, cause, raw
ē	be, equal, ear
ě	taken, genesis
e	term, learn
ī	Pie
ĩ	pit, sieve, build
ō	note, for, so
o	not, oncology, ought
oo	food
ow	cow, out
oy	troy, void
ū	unit, curable
ů	cut

Consonants

b	bad
ch	child
d	dog
dh	this, smooth
f	fit
g	got
h	hit

[h] This symbol appears in French words at the end of a syllable. It indicates a rounded swallowing at the end of the sound expressed in the syllable. It is most closely approximated in the English word 'zone' in which the tongue is lifted and raised to touch the back upper teeth. While conceptually difficult, this symbol was used here to aid the pronunciation of French words and names given in the text.

j	jade
k	kept
ks	tax
kw	quit
l	law
m	me
n	no
ng	ring
p	pan
r	rot
s	so, miss
sh	should
t	ten
th	thin, with
v	very
w	we
y	yes
z	zero
zh	azure, measure

In some words the initial sound is not that of the initial letter(s), or the initial letter(s) is not sounded or has a different sound, as in the following examples:

aerobe (ār'ōb)
eidetic (ī-det'ik)
gnathic (nath'ik)
knuckle (nŭk'ĕl)
oedipism (ed'i-pizm)
phthalein (thal'ē-in)
pneumonia (nu-mō'nē-ă)
psychology (si-kol'ō-jē)
ptosis (tō'sis)
xanthoma (zan-thō'ma)