Foundations of Medical Terminology

Event Category: Health Science

Eligible Divisions: Middle School	**Round One:** 35 Q test (60 minutes)	**Digital Upload:** NO
Solo Event: 1 competitor		

New for 2026-2027

Editorial changes have been made.

Event Summary

Foundations of Medical Terminology provides **Middle School Division** HOSA members with the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills regarding prefixes, suffixes, roots, anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, and occupations related to the health field. This competitive event consists of a 35-item multiple-choice test with 10 tiebreaker questions and aims to inspire members to learn about terms common to health professions and health specialties.

General Event Information

General Rules	Competitors must be familiar with and adhere to the General Rules and Regulations.
Dress Code	Proper business attire or official HOSA uniform. Bonus points will be awarded for proper dress.
Competitors Must Provide	• Photo ID • Two #2 lead pencils (not mechanical) with an eraser • Neon colored foam earplugs, NOT earbuds, for noise control (Rd1-optional) HOSA Conference Staff will provide equipment and supplies listed in Appendix I.
Official References	The references below are used in the development of the test questions. • Ehrlich, Ann. *Medical Terminology for Health Professions.* Cengage Learning. Latest Edition. • Stanhope, Linda and Turnbull, Kimberly. *Introduction to Medical Terminology.* Goodheart-Wilcox Publisher. Latest Edition. • *Dean Vaughn's Medical Terminology by Body Systems.* Peterson's Publishing, Latest Release (Online version).

ROUND ONE- Test

Test Instructions	All competitors will be given a test and answer sheet. The written test will consist of 35 multiple–choice questions in a maximum of 60 minutes. See test instructions here. Ten fill-in-the-blank tiebreaker questions will be administered with the original test. Tiebreakers should be completed on the answer sheet.
Time Remaining Announcements	There will be NO verbal announcements for time remaining during ILC testing. All ILC testing will be completed in the Testing Center, and competitors are responsible for monitoring their own time.
Test Plan	The test plan for the Foundations of Medical Terminology Test is: • Roots, prefixes, suffixes, and combining forms - 45% • Overview of Body - 5% • Skeletal - 5%

The expectation is that competitors read and are aware of all the content within these guidelines and associated links. Successful competitors will study all links for the detailed information.

	• Muscular - 5% • Respiratory - 5% • Digestive - 5% • Cardiovascular & Lymphatic - 5% • Nervous/Special Senses - 5% • Endocrine - 5% • Reproductive - 5% • Integumentary - 5% • Urinary - 5%
Sample Test Questions	1. Which of the following combining forms refers to hair? (Ehrlich pp 443) **A. trich/o-** B. mit/o- C. kerat/o- D. ichthy/o- 2. Which term denotes a wall or a side of an organ or body cavity? (Vaughn pp 146) A. Superficial B. Deep **C. Parietal** D. Visceral 3. Which term refers to excessive potassium in the blood? (Stanhope pp 502) A. Hypercalcemia **B. Hyperkalemia** C. Hypernatremia D. Hyperchloremia

Final Scoring

In the event of a tie, successive sets of five (5) will be judged until a winner is determined. Correct spelling is required for an item to be considered correct in the tiebreaker.

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