

# Prefix, Root, and Suffix

| prefix, root, suffix | examples (generic names)   | drug class or drug category               |
|----------------------|--|---|
| -afil                | avanafil; sildenafil; tadalafil; vardenafil                        | phosphodiesterase (PDE) inhibitor         |
| -asone               | betamethasone; dexamethasone; diflorasone; fluticasone; mometasone | corticosteroid                            |
| -bicin               | doxorubicin; epirubicin; idarubicin; valrubicin                    | antineoplastic; cytotoxic agent           |
| -bital               | butabarbital; butalbital; phenobarbital; secobarbital              | barbiturate (sedative)                    |
| -caine               | bupivacaine; lidocaine; mepivacaine; prilocaine; proparacaine      | local anesthetic                          |
| cef-, ceph-          | cefaclor; cefdinir; cefixime; cefprozil; cephalexin                | cephalosporin antibiotic                  |
| -cillin              | amoxicillin; ampicillin; dicloxacillin; nafcillin; oxacillin       | penicillin antibiotic                     |
| cort                 | clocortolone; fludrocortisone; hydrocortisone                      | corticosteroid                            |
| -cycline             | demeclocycline; doxycycline; minocycline; tetracycline             | tetracycline antibiotic                   |
| -dazole              | albendazole; mebendazole; metronidazole; tinidazole                | anthelmintic; antibiotic; antibacterial   |
| -dipine              | amlodipine; felodipine; nifedipine; nimodipine; nisoldipine        | calcium channel blocker                   |
| -dronate             | alendronate; etidronate; ibandronate; risedronate                  | bisphosphonate; bone resorption inhibitor |
| -afil                | avanafil; sildenafil; tadalafil; vardenafil                        | phosphodiesterase (PDE) inhibitor         |
| -asone               | betamethasone; dexamethasone; diflorasone; fluticasone; mometasone | corticosteroid                            |
| -bicin               | doxorubicin; epirubicin; idarubicin; valrubicin                    | antineoplastic; cytotoxic agent           |
| -bital               | butabarbital; butalbital; phenobarbital; secobarbital              | barbiturate (sedative)                    |
| -caine               | bupivacaine; lidocaine; mepivacaine; prilocaine; proparacaine      | local anesthetic                          |
| cef-, ceph-          | cefaclor; cefdinir; cefixime; cefprozil; cephalexin                | cephalosporin antibiotic                  |
| -cillin              | amoxicillin; ampicillin; dicloxacillin; nafcillin; oxacillin       | penicillin antibiotic                     |
| cort                 | clocortolone; fludrocortisone; hydrocortisone                      | corticosteroid                            |
| -cycline             | demeclocycline; doxycycline; minocycline; tetracycline             | tetracycline antibiotic                   |

# Prefix, Root, and Suffix Cont.

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|----------------------|--|---|
| -dazole              | albendazole; mebendazole; metronidazole; tinidazole                | anthelmintic; antibiotic; antibacterial     |
| -dipine              | amlodipine; felodipine; nifedipine; nimodipine; nisoldipine        | calcium channel blocker                     |
| -dronate             | alendronate; etidronate; ibandronate; risedronate                  | bisphosphonate; bone resorption inhibitor   |
| -eprazole            | esomeprazole; omeprazole; rabeprazole                              | proton pump inhibitor (PPI)                 |
| -fenac               | bromfenac; diclofenac; nepafenac                                   | NSAID                                       |
| -floxacin            | besifloxacin; ciprofloxacin; levofloxacin; moxifloxacin; ofloxacin | quinolone antibiotic                        |
| -gliptin             | saxagliptin; sitagliptin; linagliptin                              | antidiabetic; inhibitor of the DPP-4 enzyme |
| -glitazone           | pioglitazone; rosiglitazone; troglitazone                          | antidiabetic; thiazolidinedione             |
| -iramine             | brompheniramine; chlorpheniramine; pheniramine                     | antihistamine                               |
| -lamide              | acetazolamide; brinzolamide; dorzolamide; methazolamide            | carbonic anhydrase inhibitor                |
| -mab                 | adalimumab; daclizumab; infliximab; omalizumab; trastuzumab        | monoclonal antibody                         |
| -mustine             | carmustine; estramustine; lomustine; bendamustine                  | alkylating agent (antineoplastic)           |
| -mycin               | azithromycin; clarithromycin; clindamycin; erythromycin            | antibiotic; antibacterial                   |
| -nacin               | darifenacin; solifenacin   | muscarinic antagonist (anticholinergic)     |
| -nazole              | fluconazole; ketoconazole; miconazole; terconazole; tioconazole    | antifungal                                  |
| -olol                | atenolol; metoprolol; nadolol; pindolol; propranolol; timolol      | beta blocker                                |
| -olone               | fluocinolone; fluorometholone; prednisolone; triamcinolone         | corticosteroid                              |
| -olone               | nandrolone; oxandrolone; oxymetholone                              | anabolic steroid                            |
| -onide               | budesonide; ciclesonide; desonide; fluocinonide; halcinonide       | corticosteroid                              |
| -oprazole            | dexlansoprazole; lansoprazole; pantoprazole                        | proton pump inhibitor (PPI)                 |
| parin; -parin        | dalteparin; enoxaparin; fondaparinux; heparin;                     | antithrombotic; anticoagulant               |

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|                          | tinzaparin   | (blood thinner)                                 |
| -phylline                | aminophylline; dyphylline; oxtriphylline; theophylline                         | xanthine derivative (bronchodilator)            |
| -pramine                 | clomipramine; desipramine; imipramine; trimipramine                            | tricyclic antidepressant (TCA)                  |
| pred; pred-              | loteprednol; prednicarbate; prednisolone; prednisone                           | corticosteroid                                  |
| -pril                    | benazepril; captopril; enalapril; lisinopril; moexipril; ramipril              | ACE inhibitor                                   |
| -profen                  | fenoprofen; flurbiprofen; ibuprofen; ketoprofen                                | NSAID   |
| -ridone                  | iloperidone; paliperidone; risperidone   | atypical antipsychotic                          |
| -sartan                  | candesartan; irbesartan; losartan; olmesartan; valsartan                       | angiotensin II receptor antagonist; ARB         |
| -semide                  | furosemide; torsemide  | loop diuretic (water pill)                      |
| -setron                  | alosetron; dolasetron; granisetron; ondansetron; palonosetron                  | serotonin 5-HT <sub>3</sub> receptor antagonist |
| -setron                  | dolasetron; granisetron; ondansetron; palonosetron                             | antiemetic and antinauseant                     |
| -statin                  | atorvastatin; lovastatin; pitavastatin; pravastatin; rosuvastatin; simvastatin | HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor; statins            |
| sulfa-                   | sulfacetamide; sulfadiazine; sulfamethoxazole; sulfasalazine                   | antibiotic; anti- infective; anti-inflammatory  |
| -tadine                  | alcaftadine; cyproheptadine; desloratadine; loratadine; olopatadine            | antihistamine                                   |
| -tadine                  | amantadine; rimantadine  | antiviral; anti- influenza-A                    |
| -terol                   | albuterol; arformoterol; formoterol; levalbuterol; salmeterol                  | beta agonist; bronchodilator                    |
| -thiazide                | chlorothiazide; hydrochlorothiazide; methyclothiazide                          | thiazide diuretic (water pill)                  |
| -tinib                   | crizotinib; dasatinib; erlotinib; gefitinib; imatinib                          | antineoplastic (kinase inhibitor)               |
| -rel                     | desogestrel; etonogestrel; levonorgestrel; norgestrel                          | female hormone (progestin)                      |
| tretin-; tretin; -tretin | acitretin; alitretinoin; isotretinoin; tretinoin                               | retinoid; dermatologic agent; form of vitamin A |
| -triptan                 | almotriptan; eletriptan; rizatriptan; sumatriptan; zolmitriptan                | antimigraine; selective 5-HT receptor agonist   |

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| -tyline              | amitriptyline; nortriptyline; protriptyline                        | tricyclic antidepressant (TCA)  |
| vir; -vir            | abacavir; efavirenz; enfuvirtide; nevirapine; ritonavir; tenofovir | antiviral; anti-HIV             |
| vir; -vir            | adefovir; entecavir; ribavirin (along with interferon)             | antiviral; anti- hepatitis      |
| -vir                 | acyclovir; famciclovir; penciclovir; valacyclovir                  | antiviral; anti- herpes         |
| -vir                 | cidofovir; ganciclovir; valganciclovir                             | antiviral; anti- CMV            |
| -vir                 | oseltamivir; zanamivir   | antiviral; anti-flu             |
| -vudine              | lamivudine; stavudine; telbivudine; zidovudine                     | antiviral; nucleoside analogues |
| -zepam               | clonazepam; diazepam; flurazepam; lorazepam; temazepam             | benzodiazepine                  |
| -zodone              | nefazodone, trazodone, vilazodone                                  | antidepressant                  |
| -zolam               | alprazolam; estazolam; midazolam; triazolam                        | benzodiazepine                  |
| -zosin               | alfuzosin; doxazosin; prazosin; terazosin                          | alpha blocker                   |