

NEUROLOGY

STARTER PACK

High-Yield Roots with Meanings

neur

nerve

encephal

brain

cerebr

cerebrum

myel

spinal cord

crani

skull

aphas

speech

trem

shake

cephal

head

sciat

hip

narc

numbness/sleep

High-Yield Terms with Root Breakdown & Meaning

Neuropathy	neur = nerve, pathy = disease	Nerve damage causing numbness, tingling, or weakness
Encephalitis	encephal = brain, itis = inflammation	Inflammation of the brain
Myelopathy	myel = spinal cord, pathy = disease	Dysfunction of the spinal cord
Craniotomy	crani = skull, tomy = cutting	Surgical removal of a portion of the skull
Aphasia	a = without, phas = speech	Inability to express or understand language
Tremor	trem = shake	Involuntary rhythmic muscle contraction
Cephalalgia	cephal = head, algia = pain	Headache
Sciatica	sciat = hip	Pain along the sciatic nerve, usually radiating down the leg
Narcolepsy	narc = numbness/sleep, lepsy = seizure	Sleep disorder marked by uncontrollable episodes of sleep
Meningitis	mening = membrane, itis = inflammation	Inflammation of brain and spinal cord membranes

Hemiparesis	hemi = half, paresis = weakness	Weakness on one side of the body
Neurodegeneration	neur = nerve, de = down, gener = origin	Progressive loss of neuron structure or function
Hydrocephalus	hydro = water, cephal = head	Excess CSF accumulation in the brain's ventricles
Electroencephalogram	electro = electricity, encephal = brain, gram = record	Recording of brain's electrical activity
Hemiplegia	hemi = half, plegia = paralysis	Complete paralysis on one side of the body
Ataxia	a = without, tax = order	Lack of coordination of voluntary movements
Dysarthria	dys = bad, arthr = articulate	Difficulty articulating speech due to motor dysfunction
Paresthesia	par = abnormal, esthes = feeling	Tingling, burning, or prickling sensations
Hyporeflexia	hypo = under, reflex = bend back	Below-normal or absent reflexes

High-Yield Conditions

Parkinson's Disease	Neurodegenerative disease with resting tremor, bradykinesia, and rigidity due to dopamine loss
Alzheimer's Disease	Progressive neurodegenerative disorder with memory loss and cognitive decline
Multiple Sclerosis (MS)	Autoimmune demyelinating disease of the CNS with relapsing neurologic symptoms
Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA/Stroke)	Sudden loss of brain function due to impaired blood flow (ischemic or hemorrhagic)
Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)	Autoimmune attack on peripheral nerves leading to ascending weakness and paralysis
Bell's Palsy	Sudden, unilateral facial muscle weakness/paralysis due to CN VII dysfunction
Epilepsy	Chronic disorder with recurrent, unprovoked seizures
Subarachnoid Hemorrhage (SAH)	Bleeding in the subarachnoid space, often from a ruptured aneurysm
Myasthenia Gravis (MG)	Autoimmune disorder causing muscle weakness via antibodies against acetylcholine receptors
Trigeminal Neuralgia	Recurrent facial pain in the distribution of the trigeminal nerve (CN V)