

University of Anbar
College of Dentistry



Year: First

Course: Terminology

Asst. Inst. Noor H. Aljanaby

Terminology

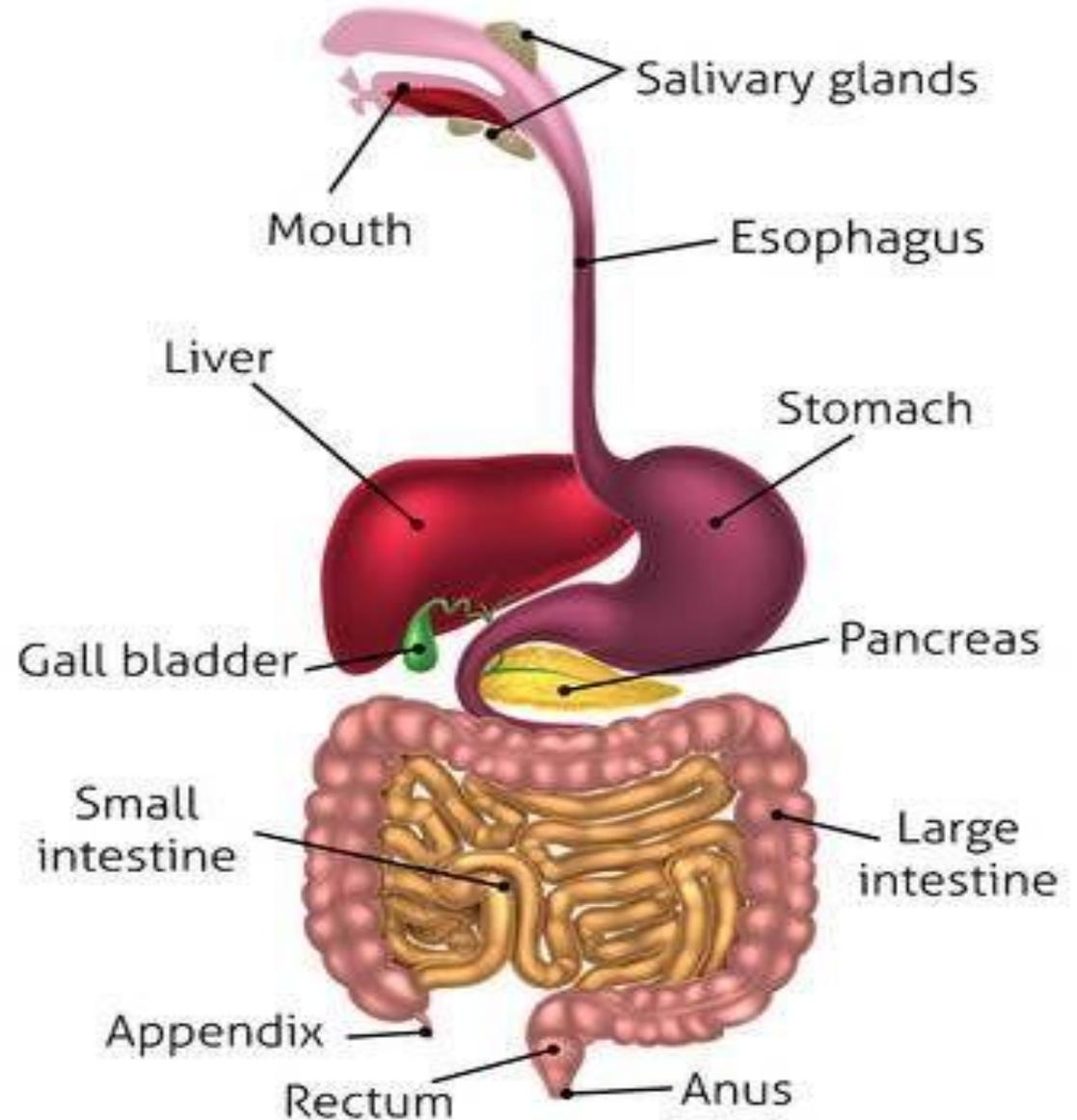
Digestive System

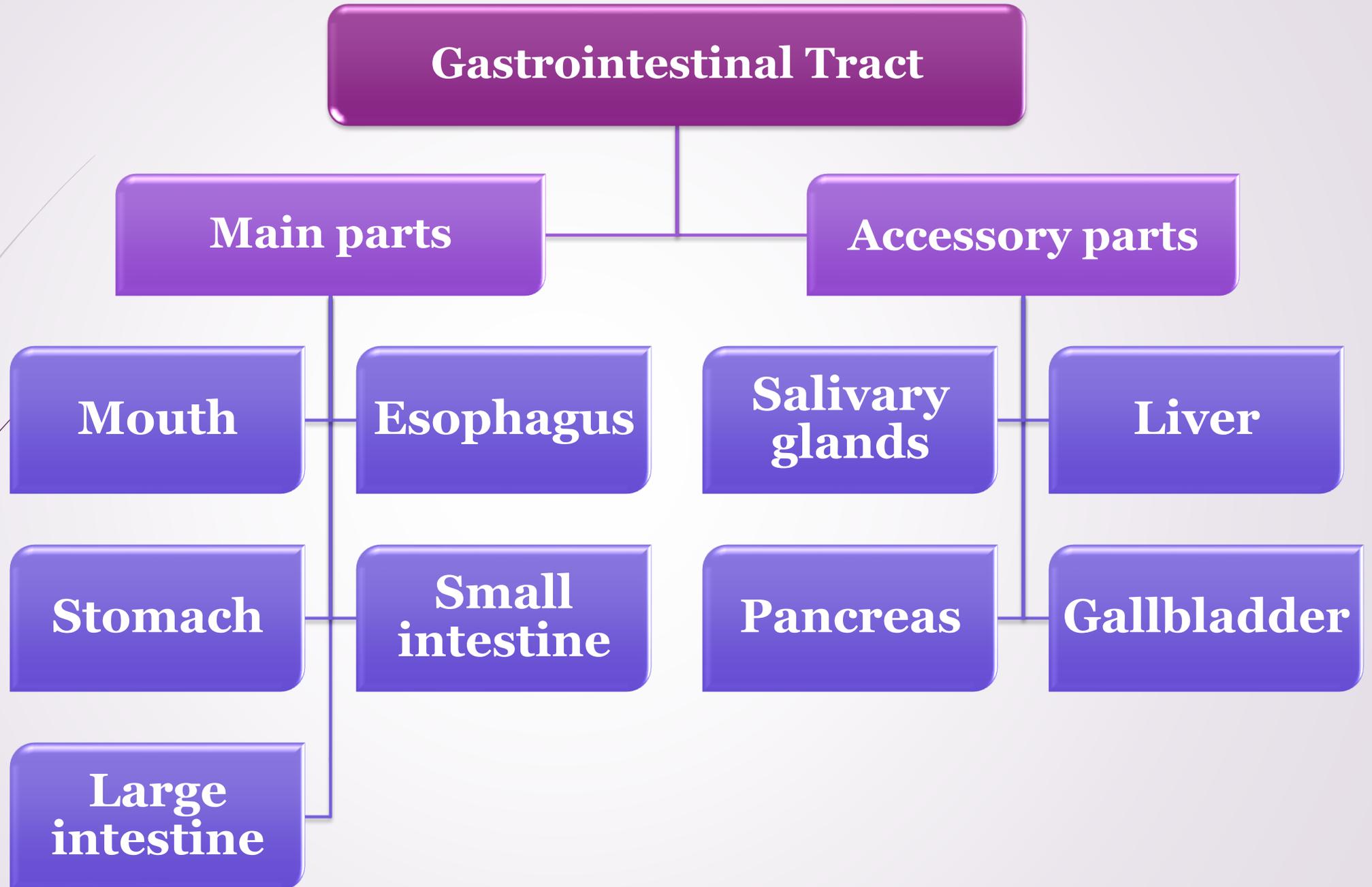
The Digestive System

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- The digestive system also called the **Gastrointestinal Tract (GIT)** or **Alimentary Tract**, contains the organs involved in the **ingestion** and **processing of food**.
- Its general description is that of a **long muscular tube** extending from **mouth** to **anus** and the **accessory organs**, which include the **salivary glands, liver, gallbladder, and pancreas**.

The Digestive System





Organs of the Digestive Tract

The digestive system begins with the throat and ends at the anus. This long tube has many parts and is connected to various accessory organs. Such parts and accessory organs are listed here.

- **Mouth:** Used to bite and chew food. Mixes food with saliva, which contains **salivary amylase**, an enzyme that begins the digestion of starch. Shapes food into small portions, which the tongue pushes into the pharynx.
- **Pharynx:** Swallows food by reflex action and moves it into the esophagus.
- **Esophagus:** Transports food from pharynx (throat) to stomach by **peristalsis**.
Contains no digestive enzymes.

Organs of the Digestive Tract

- **Stomach:** Stores food; churns to mix food with water and digestive juices. Secretes protein-digesting **hydrochloric acid** (HCl) and the enzyme **pepsin**. The gastric juices initiate the digestion of protein and fat.
- **Small intestine:** Secretes enzymes. Receives secretions from the accessory organs (pancreas, liver), which digest and neutralize food. Site of most digestion and absorption of nutrients into the circulation. Peristalsis moves undigested residue to the large intestine.
- **Large intestine:** Forms, stores, and eliminates undigested waste material.

Functions of the Gastrointestinal System:

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The main functions of the GIT system is to: break down the food, prepare it for absorption, and elimination of the waste substances.

By six major processes:

- 1. Ingestion:** process of eating
- 2. Propulsion:** swallowing and peristalsis.
- 3. Mechanical digestion:** breaking food and mixing with saliva.
- 4. Chemical digestion:** by enzymes.
- 5. Absorption:** passage into the blood-lymph
- 6. Defecation:** elimination of waste substances.

Roots Pertaining to the Digestive System

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Roots for the Mouth			
Root	Meaning	Example	Definition of example
bucc/o	cheek	buccoverision [<i>buk-ko-VER-zhun</i>]	turning toward the cheek
dent/o, dent/i	tooth, teeth	edentulous [<i>e-DEN-tu-lus</i>]	without teeth
odont/o	tooth, teeth	periodontics [<i>per-e-o-DON-tiks</i>]	dental specialty that deals with the study and treatment of the tissues around the teeth
gingiv/o	gum (gingiva)	gingivectomy [<i>jin-jih-VEK-to-me</i>]	excision of gum tissue
gloss/o	tongue	glossoplegia [<i>glos-o-PLE-je-ah</i>]	paralysis (-plegia) of the tongue
lingu/o	tongue	orolingual [<i>or-o-LING-gwal</i>]	pertaining to the mouth and tongue

Roots Pertaining to the Digestive System

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Roots for the Mouth (Continued)

Root	Meaning	Example	Definition of example
gnath/o	jaw	prognathous [<i>PROG-nah-thus</i>]	having a projecting jaw
labi/o	lip	labium [<i>LA-be-um</i>]	lip or lip-like structure
or/o	mouth	circumoral [<i>sir-kum-OR-al</i>]	around the mouth
stoma, stomat/o	mouth	xerostomia [<i>ze-ro-STO-me-ah</i>]	dryness (xero-) of the mouth
palat/o	palate	palatine [<i>PAL-ah-tine</i>]	pertaining to the palate (also palatal)
sial/o	saliva, salivary gland, salivary duct	sialogram [<i>si-AL-o-gram</i>]	radiograph of the salivary glands and ducts
uvul/o	uvula	uvulotome [<i>U-vu-lo-tome</i>]	instrument (-tome) for incising the uvula

Roots Pertaining to the Digestive System

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Roots for the Digestive Tract (Except the Mouth)			
Root	Meaning	Example	Definition of example
esophag/o	esophagus	esophageal* [e-sof-ah-JE-al]	pertaining to the esophagus
gastr/o	stomach	gastroparesis [gas-tro-pah-RE-sis]	partial paralysis (paresis) of the stomach
pylor/o	pylorus	pyloroplasty [pi-LOR-o-plas-te]	plastic repair of the pylorus
enter/o	intestine	dysentery [DIS-en-ter-e]	infectious disease of the intestine
duoden/o	duodenum	duodenostomy [du-o-deh-NOS-to-me]	surgical creation of an opening into the duodenum
jejun/o	jejunum	jejunectomy [jeh-ju-NEK-to-me]	excision of the jejunum
* Note addition of e before -al .			

Roots Pertaining to the Digestive System

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Roots for the Digestive Tract (Except the Mouth) (Continued)

Root	Meaning	Example	Definition of example
ile/o	ileum	ileitis [il-e-I-tis]	inflammation of the ileum
cec/o	cecum	cecoptosis [se-kop-TO-sis]	downward displacement of the cecum
col/o, colon/o	colon	coloclysis [ko-lo-KLI-sis]	irrigation (-clysis) of the colon
sigmoid/o	sigmoid colon	sigmoidoscope [sig-MOY-do-skope]	an endoscope for examining the sigmoid colon
rect/o	rectum	rectocele [REK-to-sele]	hernia of the rectum
proct/o	rectum	proctopexy [PROK-to-pek-se]	surgical fixation of the rectum
an/o	anus	perianal [per-e-A-nal]	around the anus

Roots Pertaining to the Digestive System

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Roots for the Accessory Organs			
Root	Meaning	Example	Definition of example
hepat/o	liver	hepatocyte [HEP-ah-to-site]	a liver cell
bili	bile	biliary [BIL-e-ar-e]	pertaining to the bile or bile ducts
chol/e, chol/o	bile, gall	cholestasis [ko-le-STA-sis]	stoppage of bile flow
cholecyst/o	gallbladder	cholecystogram [ko-le-SIS-to-gram]	radiograph of the gallbladder
cholangi/o	bile duct	cholangioma [ko-lan-je-O-mah]	cancer of the bile ducts
choledoch/o	common bile duct	choledochal [KO-le-dok-al]	pertaining to the common bile duct
pancreat/o	pancreas	pancreatotropic [pan-kre-at-o-TROP-ik]	acting on the pancreas

Disorders affecting GIT

- **Dysphagia:** a condition of difficulty in swallowing
- **Esophagitis:** is inflammation of esophagus
- **GERD** (gastroesophageal reflux disease): a condition in which the stomach content leak upward from the stomach to the esophagus.
- **Gastritis:** inflammation of the gastric mucosa (lining of the stomach).
- **Gastric ulcer:** it is erosion of the gastric mucosa.
- **Appendicitis:** acute inflammatory diseases that affect the appendix.
- **Peritonitis:** it is inflammation of the peritoneum.
- **Enteritis:** inflammation of the intestine.
- **Anorexia:** it means loss of appetite due to psychological causes.
- **Hyperemesis:** means excessive vomiting.

Disorders affecting GIT

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Some diseases or conditions may affect **more than one part** of the digestive system. For example:

- **Gastroenteritis:** inflammation of the stomach and intestine.
- **Gastroduodenitis:** inflammation of the stomach and duodenum.
- **Gastrohepatitis:** inflammation of the stomach and liver.