



Did you Know, What's in the Name

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Nomenclature of any disease is made for understanding between/ among the members of same profession for easy communication.

Diseases generally are named according to their etiology (e.g. irritational fibroma, aspirin burns, bar odontalgia, denture stomatitis), features (e.g. microdontia, fissured tongue, xerostomia), anatomical structure(s) affected (e.g. pulpitis, gingivitis, periodontitis), pathological characteristics (e.g. osteosarcoma, Ortho keratinized odontogenic cyst), or pathogenesis (e.g. amelogenesis imperfecta).

Some diseases are eponymous, named after the person or persons who described them (e.g. Gardener syndrome, Pindborg

tumour), person who suffered from the disease (e.g. Christmas disease) or a group afflicted by it (e.g. Legionnaire's disease). Some diseases names are toponyms, named after a place (Lyme disease – Lyme, Connecticut; Brandywine type of dentinogenetic imperfecta – Brandywine, Maryland) [1].

And some disease are acronym us, named from first letter of each feature (eg. MPDS (myofascial pain dysfunction syndrome and AIDS(acquired immune deficiency syndrome) . However, there are few disease which are not named properly i.e misnomers but still in use.

So here in we give the list of few eponyms, acronyms and misnomers related to dentistry.

Eponyms

1	Addison's Ad Addison's disease	Thomas Addison's first description in a short note in an article in the London Medical Gazette entitled Anaemia [2].
2	Burkitt's lymphoma	Dennis Parsons Burkitt first described this disease in 1956 [3].
3	Cooley's anemia	Thomas Benton Cooley discovered a form of childhood anemia and called the disorder "erythroblastic anemia," but it became popularly known as cooley's aneamia [4].
4	Crouzon's Syndrome	Octave Crouzon was the first to describe a condition he called it as craniofacial dysostosis and today known as Crouzon's Syndrome [5].
5	Ehlers-Danlos syndrome	Named after two doctors, Edvard Ehlers and Henri Alexandre Danlos who identified it at the turn of the 20th century [6].
6	Down's syndrome	John Langdon Down, a British physician described the syndrome in 1866 [7].
7	Gardner's syndrome	Named for Eldon J. Gardner, a geneticist who first described it in 1951 [8].
8	Gorlin-Goltz syndrome	Robert James Gorlin identified this disease [9].
9	Hailey-Hailey disease	It was originally described by the Hailey brothers (Hugh Edward and William Howard) in 1939 [10].
10	Heck's disease	Dr. Heck Documented of this condition in Navajo Indian children in 1961 [11].
11	Hodgkin's lymphoma	Named after Thomas Hodgkin, a physician from UK who first described abnormalities in the lymph system in 1832 [12].
12	Ludwig's angina	Wilhelm Frederick Von Ludwig, a German physician first described this condition in 1836 [13].
13	Kaposi's sarcoma	Moritz Kaposi, a Hungarian physician and dermatologist originally described this condition (skin tumor) in 1872 [14].
14	Marfan syndrome	Antoine Bernard-Jean Marfan, the French pediatrician described this hereditary disease of connective tissue in 1896 [15].
15	Quincke's oedema	Heinrich Irenaeus Quincke in 1882 described this condition [16].
16	Paget's disease	Sir James Paget, described this condition in 1877.
17	Pierre Robin syndrome	Pierre Robin in 1923, published the case of an infant with the complete syndrome.
18	Sjogren syndrome	Henrik Samuel Conrad Sjogren, published the complete disease picture in 1933.
19	Turner syndrome	Henry Turner, an American endocrinologist, described it in 1938 at the Association for the Study of Internal Secretions.
20	Vincent's angina	Jean Hyacinthe Vincent, a French physician is credited with the discovery of the organisms that cause an acute infection of the oral soft tissues.

Table 1

Acronyms:

1	AIDS	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
2	ANUG	Acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
3	CIS	Carcinoma in situ
4	CML	Chronic myelocytic leukemia
5	CREST	Calcinosis cutis, raynaud's phenomenon, E sclerodactyly, and telangiectasis
6	GVHD	Graft versus host disease
7	LEOPARD	Multiple lentigines, electrocardiographic conduction abnormalities,ocular hypertelorism, pulmonic stenosis, abnormal genitalia, retardation of growth, and sensorineural deafness
8	MEN	Multiple endocrine neoplasia
9	MPDS	Myofacial pain dysfunction syndrome.

Table 2

Misnomer [23]

	Disease	Literal meaning	In use
1	Iatrogenic	Derived from Greek words, iatros-'physician', healer + gennao -' I produce' so "to produce a physician".	It is a condition produced by a physician.
2	Ankyloglossia	'Ankylos' in Greek means 'bent' or 'crooked', using 'ankylos' as prefix implies 'crooked' or 'bent' tongue.	It refers to fusion (partial or total) of ventral surface of the tongue to floor of the mouth.
3	Squamous cell carcinoma	The term implies that the tumor is primarily composed of squamous cells.	It has been called so because it is derived from stratified squamous epithelium.
4	Dens in dente	Tooth within a tooth	Its invagination of one hard tissue into the tooth.
5	Dilaceration	Latin (di, -'apart' or -'through' + lacerare,- 'to tear') to tear apart. This would mean , tooth torn apart.	Bent or angulated tooth.
6	Pyogenic granuloma	Literally means 'pus producing granuloma'. However, it is neither pyogenic nor a granuloma.	It is reactive or inflammatory lesion.
7	Epidermoid carcinoma	Derived from Greek word epi, - 'upon' + derma - 'skin, hide,leather', meaning upon the skin'. Thus,it is not be appropriate for oral carcinoma.	Another name for squamous cell carcinoma.
8	Melanoma	Meaning of benign tumor.	Actually highly malignant.
9	Pleomorphic adenoma(mixed tumour)	Pleomorphism of cells or tumour of both epithelial mesenchymal origin.	Because of metaplastic change many tissue types are present and only epithelial in origin.
10	Odontoma	Derived from Greek - 'odous' - tooth + 'oma' - tumor which literally means a dental tumor	These odontomes are considered to be a group of non-neoplastic developmental anomalies or malformations.
11	Candidiasis	The suffix - 'iasis' has been applied to infections of helminthic and protozoal group of organisms.	Represents Candida infection.
12	Actinomycosis	The Greek origin , 'aktis'- ray,'mykes' - fungus which suggests that it is a fungal disease.	It is a bacterial infection caused by filamentous, gram-positive anaerobic bacteria.
14	Ameloblastoma	Tumor of ameloblasts.	Any layer of enamel organ.
15	Hemangioma	It Is derived from the Greek words , 'haema' - blood , 'angeio' - vessel and the suffix - 'oma' - tumor.	It is considered to be a hamartoma with anomalous proliferation of endothelial-lined vascular channels. It is not a true neoplasm.
16	Fibroma	It derived its origin from Latin 'fibra -fiber' + Greek 'oma -tumor' meaning tumor of fibrous connective tissue.	It is a reactive hyperplasia of fibrous connective tissue.
17	Intraepithelial carcinoma	Carcinoma by definition means invading into the underlying connective tissue.	It is defined as the dysplastic epithelial cells that extend from the basal layers to the surface of mucosa with intact basement membrane.

18	Mycosis fungoides	The name implies it to be a fungal infection	It is considered to be cutaneous T-cell lymphoma.
19	Leukoedema	The name is derived from combination of Greek words, 'leukos' – white and 'oedema' – a swelling or tumor.	Clinically the lesion presents as whitish wrinkling of mucosa or folds rather than a swelling.
20	Granular cell myoblastoma	The name suggests it to be of muscular origin	It has been established that the tumour is not of muscle origin. Regarding its origin some support the tumor's derivation from neuronal tissue, histiocytes, fibroblast, or Schwann cells .

Table 3:

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