

## REAL VOCABULARY AT PHARMACY / DRUGSTORE VOCABULARY

**Active Ingredient:** the chemically active part of a drug  
Ibuprofen is the active ingredient in some pain relievers.

**Admixture:** Two or more drugs blended or mixed together to create a desired substance or solution.

**Absorption Rate:** The amount of time it takes after a drug is administered for it to enter the bloodstream.

**Acute:** Usually refers to a condition that has a fast onset time, severe effect, and short course of duration.

**Adverse Reaction:** When the body has an undesired or negative response to a medication or drug-drug interaction.

**Allergic Reaction:** A response from the immune system to a substance which a patient has an allergy to.

**Allergy:** When the body is highly sensitive to (an otherwise harmless) substance.

**Ampule:** A (small) sealed glass vial that is to be 'broken' open and normally contains injection solution.

**Analgesic:** Often referred to as "pain relievers", Analgesics are drug used to reduce or suppress pain. (ex. Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Oxycodone, etc.)

**Antipyretic:** Drugs used to prevent or reduce fever (abnormally high body temperature).

**Bronchodilator:** A drug that widens passages in the lungs to ease breathing.

**Contraindications:** something which makes a particular course of treatment unadvisable.

**Dehydration** - When the body loses water and electrolytes essential for bodily function.

**Diuretic:** Drugs that increase the body's urine discharge flow, thereby decreasing overall fluid accumulation.

**Expectorant:** Drugs that work in the respiratory system to clear out mucus and phlegm.

**Lozenges:** Known better as a cough drop; picked up the name Lozenge because of its (sometimes) diamond shape. It's designed to dissolve in the mouth to sooth and lubricate the throat.

**Orally:** done, taken or administered through the mouth

**Psychotropic:** Refers to drugs that have a psychological effect and result in altering a patient's mind, mood or behavior.

**Generic Drug:** a drug that has the same active-ingredient formula as a brand-name drug that usually costs less.

**Brand-name Drug:** a drug sold by a drug company under a specific name or trademark that is protected by a patent and is typically more expensive than the generic version

**Compounding:** the creation of a particular pharmaceutical product to fit the unique needs of the patient.

**Compounding Pharmacy:** pharmacies that take medications and reformulate them to meet specific patient needs.

**Topical:** local, applied externally to a specific part of the body

**Transdermal:** When a drug is administered through the skin, usually with a patch or ointment.

**Vasodilator:** Refers to drugs that widen blood vessels, allowing for blood to flow more freely through arteries. And, that lowers blood pressure and allows your heart to not work so hard.