# CHAPTER 3

# Terminology for Healthcare Professionals

#### Lesson Purpose

To give the student a clear understanding of language fundamentals, anatomical terms and related definitions, along with common diagnostic and procedural terms.

#### Lesson Objective

Upon completion the student will:

- · Learn basic chiropractic and medical language fundamentals
- Learn the body planes, anatomical positions, and movements
- Learn common diagnostic and procedural terms

"It's like learning a language; you can't speak a language fluently until you find out who you are in that language, and that has as much to do with your body as it does with vocabulary and grammar."

-Fred Frith

#### **CHAPTER 3:**

#### **Terminology for Healthcare Professionals**

Review pages 23-52 of the textbook for this section of the workbook

## **DEFINE YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

- Q: Why learn terminology?
- A: To communicate not only with the doctors and staff in your office, but with other healthcare professionals as well.

This chapter is designed to help you understand and utilize common terminology used between doctors and staff. Most medical terminology comes from the root languages of Greek and Latin, and many of these terms you may already be familiar with. For those words you are not familiar with, utilize word sounds and basic phonetic concepts to assist you in finding and learning unfamiliar terms.

## **STUDY TIPS**

#### For Example:

tachycardia = tachy + cardia tachy: swift, cardia: heart

• This is used to describe when a person's heart is beating faster than normal

*Bursitis* = *burs* + *itis* 

Burs: sac or pouch, itis: inflammation

• This term is used when talking about inflammation or swelling in a sac or pouch that holds fluid. Commonly used when referring to inflammation around the ball and socket joints of the shoulder or hip.