

Word Families

noun	absorption	As part of their research, scientists look at the absorption of a drug into the bloodstream.
verb	absorb	The body absorbs some drugs very quickly.
adjective	absorbent	Cotton makes a good cleaning material because it is so absorbent.

noun	desire	The desire to help others attracts many people to medical professions.
verb	desire	Patients desire drugs that will treat their conditions effectively.
adjective	desirable	The most desirable type of drug is one that is effective and has no side effects.
adverb	desirably	The drug in the investigation had desirably few side effects.

noun	investigation	The investigation of a potential new drug costs a great deal of money and takes a long time.
noun	investigator	The investigator submitted a report about the crime.
verb	investigate	Researchers may investigate several possible uses of a new drug.
adjective	investigative	An investigative report showed the drug to be ineffective in fighting the disease.

noun	theory	The scientists set up the study to test the theory.
verb	theorize	Scientists theorize that a substance will have a certain medical effect, and then they set up a research study.
adjective	theoretical	Ideas are theoretical before they are tested.
adverb	theoretically	It was a good idea theoretically, so they decided to test it.

noun	toxin	Some substances can release toxins into the blood.
noun	toxicity	Potential drug toxicity is a part of every study.
adjective	toxic	Part of drug research involves testing for toxic effects.
adverb	toxically	If one drug reacts toxically with another, you cannot take them together.

Word Family Practice

Choose the correct word family member from the list below to complete each blank.

A good deal of time, effort, and money is required to thoroughly **1**..... a new drug before it can be put on the market. Scientists develop a **2**..... about the ability of a certain substance to combat a specific disease or medical condition. Then they have to test their idea. After manufacturing the drug in the laboratory, they test it first on animals and then on people. They monitor the **3**..... of the drug by the body, and they look for any **4**..... that may be produced as the drug moves through the body. Then they test the drug's ability to combat the disease. If they get the outcome that they **5**..... and the drug cures the disease or alleviates the condition, then it's time to work on marketing the product.

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| 1. investigation | investigator | investigate |
| 2. theory | theorize | theoretical |
| 3. absorption | absorb | absorbent |
| 4. toxins | toxic | toxically |
| 5. desires | desire | desirably |