

Alzheimer's disease

a progressive mental illness that results in communication blockage between nerve cells, disrupting brain function and corroding memory

aneurysm

the ballooning of the artery wall due to thinning and weakening

angina pectoris

chest pain that occurs when the heart has an insufficient supply of oxygenated blood

arteriosclerosis

the hardening of the arteries whereby artery walls lose their elasticity

atheroma

a thickened area of fatty and fibrous deposits on the inside surface of arteries, resulting in atherosclerosis

atherosclerosis

the build-up of fatty and/or fibrous material on the interior walls of arteries

cancer

a large group of diseases characterised by the uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells

carcinogens

cancer-causing agents such as chemicals, pollutants, radiation, cigarette smoke and alcohol

cardiovascular disease

damage to, or disease of, the heart, arteries, veins or smaller blood vessels

cholesterol

a fatty substance contained in animal cells

coronary arteries	blood vessels that supply blood to the heart muscle
coronary occlusion	a heart attack caused by sudden and complete blockage of blood and oxygen to the heart muscle, leaving the heart muscle damaged
coronary thrombosis	the formation of an obstructive clot within a coronary artery that is narrowed by atherosclerosis
dementia	a condition characterised by a significant loss of intellectual abilities such as memory capacity
determinant	a factor that can have an impact on health status, either positively or negatively

diabetes mellitus	a condition affecting the body's ability to take glucose from the bloodstream to use it for energy
disability	the lack of ability to perform everyday functions or activities
electrocardiogram	a graphical recording of the cardiac cycle produced by an electrocardiograph
environmental determinants	factors including geographical location, access to health services and technology
inequities	unfair differences in levels of health status between groups in a society

insulin

a hormone produced by the pancreas that helps glucose to enter the body cells and be used for energy

metastases

secondary or new tumours, which may develop some distance from the original malignant tumour

myocardial  
infarction

a heart attack that is usually due to the complete blockage of a coronary artery

natural increase

the difference between the number of live births and deaths over a year

neoplasm

an abnormal mass of cells that forces its way among healthy cells and interferes with their normal functioning

net overseas  
migration

the difference  
between total arrivals  
and total departures

pap smears

screening tests to detect  
cervical cancer cells by  
taking a sample of cells  
from the cervix

peripheral vascular  
disease

the result of reduced blood  
flow to the legs and feet,  
usually due to atherosclerosis  
or arteriosclerosis

schizophrenia

a condition characterised  
by psychotic symptoms and  
a reduced range of  
expressions of emotions

silent infarction

a heart attack  
without typical  
symptoms

sociocultural  
determinants

factors including  
family, peers, media,  
religion and culture

socioeconomic  
determinants

factors including  
employment, education  
and income

socioeconomic  
status

an economic and sociological  
total measure of a person's  
level of income, education,  
housing and employment

stroke

a blockage of blood  
flow to the brain

tumour

a swelling or  
enlargement caused by  
a clump of abnormal  
cells