OCCUPATIONAL ENGLISH TEST - MEDICAL TERMS FOR COLOURS

leuco - white
leucocyte - white blood cell
leukaemia - condition caused by an excess of white blood cells in the bone marrow.
leukorrhea - whitish vaginal discharge indicating a vaginal infection.

alba - white
candida albicans - yeast infection of the skin, mouth, or vagina.
linea alba - white line on the abdominal wall between the rectus muscles
substantia alba - white matter in the brain and spinal cord
lochia alba - whitish discharge after childbirth bleeding finishes

melano - black
melanoma - black-coloured tumour of the skin which is often malignant
melancholy - deep sadness or black mood
melaena - abnormal, tarry black bowel movement
melanoameloblastoma - benign blue-black tumour in the inside of the upper jaw of infants

nigra - black
substantia nigra - the layer of grey matter which separates the midbrain from the crus cerebri.
Dermatosis papulosa nigra - small, benign lesions on the face, usually on the faces of dark-skinned people
Linea nigra - dark vertical line that can appear on the abdomen during pregnancy

lividus - black and blue
livid - describes the black and blue colouring of a bruise

palido - pale
globus pallidus - pale-coloured structure in the basal ganglia of the brain

acholic - pale because of a lack of bile

lucid - almost clear or transparent. Can be used to talk about psychological state as well
pellucid - completely clear and transparent.

glauco - grey or silver
glaucoma - eye disease caused by an increase in intraocular pressure which results in the lens of the eye becoming opaque

polio - grey matter in the brain or spinal cord
poliomyelitis - acute infectious viral disease causing paralysis often in children
poliosis - decrease or absence of melanin in the hair, eyebrows or eyelashes causing grey hair
polioclastic - something which destroys the grey matter of the nervous system.

grisea - grey

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substantia grisea - grey nervous tissue composed of nerve cell bodies and unmyelinated nerve fibres

erythro - red
erythrocyte - red blood cell
erythropoiesis - the process of producing red blood cells
erythromelalgia - condition which causes excessive dilation of the blood vessels of the extremities making them feel hot and painful
erythema - redness of the skin

rubra - red
rubral tremor - irregular tremor caused by a lesion in the red nucleus of the midbrain
lochia rubra - blood-stained discharge soon after childbirth

roseus - pink
rosacea - form of acne in which the skin around each pustule is a rosy red colour

aureus - gold
Staphylococcus aureus - gram-positive bacteria which is part of normal skin flora and is golden coloured under a microscope
Aureomycin - a yellow crystalline antibiotic used to treat bacterial infections

luteus - yellow
corpus luteum - yellow mass in the ovary, formed when a follicle matures and discharges its egg cell
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xantho - yellow
xanthoastrocytoma - rare form of astrocytoma associated with seizures or fits
xanthochroid - describes having a light complexion and light hair.

cirrh - orange-yellow
cirrhosis - chronic degenerative disease in which normal liver cells are damaged and are then replaced by scar tissue.

chloro - green
chlorosis - former name of hypochromic anemia, a type of anaemia where red blood cells are paler than normal causing a green tinge to the skin.

porphyro - purple
porphyria - group of inherited disorders characterised by secretion of purple substances in the urine called porphyrins

cyano - blue
cyanosis - bluish discolouration of the skin resulting from decreased amounts of oxygen in the blood.

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