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SIXTH EDITION

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glands secrete a lubricating substance. Compare **Cowper's gland**. See also **Bartholin's gland**.

vestibular nerve [L, *vestibulum*, courtyard, *nervus*], a branch of the eighth cranial nerve associated with the sense of equilibrium. It arises in the vestibular ganglion (Scarpa's ganglion) of the ear.

vestibular neuronitis, a sudden, severe attack of vertigo without symptoms of deafness or tinnitus. It usually affects young or middle-aged adults, is temporary, and follows an upper respiratory infection.

vestibular surface, the surface of a tooth that is directed outward toward the vestibule of the mouth, including the buccal and labial surfaces, and opposite the lingual (or oral) surface.

vestibular toxicity, toxic effects (commonly of drugs) on the vestibule of the ear, resulting in dizziness, vertigo, and loss of balance.

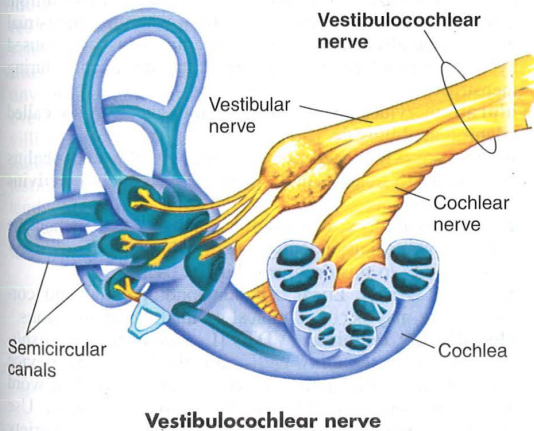
vestibular window. See **oval window**.

vestibule /ves'tibyōl/ [L, *vestibulum*, courtyard], a space or a cavity that serves as the entrance to a passageway, such as the vestibule of the vagina or the vestibule of the ear.

vestibule of the ear, the central part of the inner ear, within the osseous labyrinth, involved with the sensation of position and movement.

vestibule of the mouth, the portion of the oral cavity bounded on one side by the teeth and gingivae, or the residual alveolar ridges, and on the other side by the lips (labial vestibule) and cheeks (buccal vestibule).

vestibulocochlear nerve, either of a pair of cranial nerves composed of fibers from the cochlear nerve and the vestibular nerve in the inner ear, conveying impulses of both the sense of hearing and the sense of balance. Also called **acoustic nerve**, **eighth cranial nerve**.



vestibuloocular reflex /vestib'yōlō-ok'yōlər/, a normal reflex in which eye position compensates for movement of the head. It is induced by excitation of the vestibular apparatus.

vestibuloplasty /vestib'yōlōplas'tē/ [L, *vestibulum*, courtyard; Gk, *plassein*, to shape], plastic surgery of the oral vestibule, particularly modification of the gingival tissues. Also called **sulcoplasty**, **vestibular extension**.

vestige /ves'tij/ [L, *vestigium*, trace], an imperfectly developed, relatively useless organ or other structure of the body

that had a vital function at an earlier stage of life or in a more primitive form of life. The vermiform appendix is a vestigial organ. —**vestigial**, *adj.*

veterinarian /vet'əriner'ē-ən/ [L, *veterinarius*, beast of burden], a health professional who specializes in the causes and treatment of diseases and disorders of domestic and wild animals.

veterinary medicine /vet'əriner'ē/, the field of medicine concerned with the health and diseases of animals other than humans.

VF, 1. abbreviation for **ventricular fibrillation**. 2. abbreviation for **visual field**. 3. abbreviation for **vocal fremitus**.

VH, abbreviation for **viral hepatitis**.

VI, abbreviation for **variable interval**. See **variable interval (VI) reinforcement**.

via /vī'ə, vē'ā/ [L, a way], any passage or course, such as the esophagus or trachea.

viability /vī'əbil'itē/ [L, *vita*, life], the ability to continue living.

viable /vī'əbəl/ [Fr, likely to live], capable of developing, growing, and otherwise sustaining life, such as a normal human fetus at 24 weeks of gestation. —**viability**, *n.*

viable infant, an infant who at birth weighs at least 500 g or is 24 weeks or more of gestational age.

vial /vī'əl/, a glass container with a metal-enclosed rubber seal.



Vials (Potter and Perry, 2001)

Vibramycin, trademark for a tetracycline antibiotic (doxycycline hyclate).

Vibramycin Monohydrate, trademark for a tetracycline antibiotic (doxycycline monohydrate).

vibrating. See **cupping** and **vibrating**.

vibration /vībrə'shən/ [L, *vibrare*, to vibrate], a type of massage administered by quickly tapping with the fingertips or alternating the fingers in a rhythmic manner or by a mechanical device. See also **massage**.

vibratory /vī'bratōr'ē/ [L, *vibrare*, to vibrate], causing vibrations or a state of vibration.