

cough or hemoptysis signals pulmonary involvement. As the disease progresses, there may be frequent hemorrhage, weakness, and emaciation. Diagnostic measures include serial assays to determine whether the HCG level in the blood is elevated and histologic examination of specimens obtained by curettage. Hysterectomy is indicated in most cases, but surgery does not eliminate the possibility of a recurrence. Chemotherapy is effective in curing a large percentage of patients with trophoblastic tumors. Also called **trophoblastic disease**. See also **choriocarcinoma**, **hydatid mole**.

trophotropic /trof'ətrɒp'ik/ [Gk, *trophe* + *trepein*, to turn], pertaining to a combination of parasympathetic nervous system activity, somatic muscle relaxation, and cortical beta rhythm synchronization, such as in a resting or sleep state.

trophotropism /trof'ətrɒp'izəm/, movement toward or away from nutrient sources.

trophozoite /trof'əzō'īt/ [Gk, *trophe* + *zoon*, animal], an immature ameboid protozoan. Diseases in which trophozoites may be isolated by bacteriologic studies include amebic dysentery, malaria, and trichomonas vaginitis. When fully developed, a trophozoite may be identified as a schizont.

-troph, **-trophia**, combining form meaning a 'condition of nutrition or growth': *cytotrophy*, *embryotrophy*, *lipotrophy*.

-tropia, **-tropic**, **-tropeal**, **-tropic**, **1.** suffix meaning a 'turn or deviation from normal': *anotropic*, *hemitropic*, *steerotropic*. **2.** combining form meaning a 'tendency to have an influence on, or be influenced by': *corticotropic*, *pancreatropic*, *radiotropic*.

tropical acne /trof'ikəl/, a form of acne that is caused or aggravated by high temperature and humidity. It is characterized by large nodules or pustules on the neck, back, upper arms, and buttocks.

tropical medicine [Gk, *tropikos*, of the solstice; L, *medicina*], the branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly occurring in tropic and subtropic regions of the world, generally between 30 degrees north and south of the equator.

tropical sore. See **oriental sore**.

tropical spastic paraparesis. See **chronic progressive myelopathy**.

tropical sprue, a malabsorption syndrome of unknown cause that is endemic in the tropics and subtropics. It is characterized by abnormalities in the mucosa of the small intestine, resulting in protein malnutrition and multiple nutritional deficiencies, often complicated by severe infection. Symptoms include diarrhea, anorexia, and weight loss. Megaloblastic anemia may result from folic acid and vitamin B₁₂ deficiency. Treatment includes administration of antibiotics, particularly tetracycline, folic acid, iron, calcium, and vitamins A, D, K, and B complex, as well as a balanced diet high in protein and normal in fat content. See also **nontropic sprue**.

tropical typhus. See **scrub typhus**.

-tropin, suffix meaning 'stimulating effect of a hormone or other substance on a target organ or system': *somatotropin*.

-tropism. See **-tropy**.

-tropo. See **-trop**.

tropocollagen /trof'əkɒl'əjən/ [Gk, *trepein*, to turn, *kolla*, glue, *genein*, to produce], fundamental units of collagen fibrils obtained by prolonged extraction of insoluble collagen with dilute acid.

tropomyosin /trof'əmi'əsin/ [Gk, *trepein* + *mys*, muscle], a protein component of sarcomere filaments, which, together with troponin, regulates interactions of actin and myosin in muscle contractions.

troponin /trɒ'pɒnɪn/ [Gk, *trepein*, to turn], a protein in the striated cell ultrastructure that modulates the interaction between actin and myosin molecules. It is believed to be part of the calcium-binding complex of the thin myofilaments. See also **tropomyosin**.

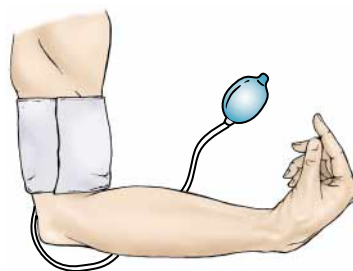
troponins test, a blood test that measures levels of cardiac troponins, which are considered a promising biochemical marker for cardiac disease. This test assists in evaluating patients with suspected acute coronary ischemic syndrome. It is particularly useful in differentiating cardiac from noncardiac chest pain, evaluating patients with unstable angina, detecting reperfusion associated with coronary recanalization, estimating myocardial infarction size, and detecting perioperative myocardial infarction.

-tropic. See **-tropia**.

-tropy, **-tropism**, combining form meaning 'influenced by or having an affinity for' something specified: *allotropy*, *ergotropy*, *syntropy*.

trough /trɒf/ [AS, *trog*], a groove or channel, such as the gingival trough around the neck of a tooth.

Trousseau's sign /trɒsəz'/ [Armand Trousseau, French physician, 1801–1867; L, *signum*, mark], **1.** a test for latent tetany in which carpal spasm is induced by inflating a sphygmomanometer cuff on the upper arm to a pressure exceeding systolic blood pressure for 3 minutes. A positive test may be seen in hypocalcemia and hypomagnesemia. **2.** a reddened streak, the result of drawing a finger across the skin. It is seen with a variety of nervous system disorders.



Trousseau's sign (Monahan and Neighbors, 1998)

Trousseau's syndrome [Armand Trousseau], superficial migratory thrombophlebitis associated with visceral cancer.

Trp, abbreviation for **tryptophan**.

true ankylosis. See **ankylosis**.

true birth rate [ME, *treue*, faith, *burthe* + L, *reri*, to calculate], the ratio of total births to the total female population of childbearing age, between 15 and 45 years of age. Compare **birth rate**, **crude birth rate**, **refined birth rate**.

true chondroma. See **enchondroma**.

true conjugate, a radiographic measurement of the distance from the upper margin of the symphysis pubis to the sacral promontory. It is usually 1.5 to 2 cm less than the diagonal conjugate. See also **conjugate**.

true diverticle. See **diverticle**.

true diverticulum [ME, *treue*, faith; L, *diverticulare*, to turn aside], diverticulum that includes all the same tissue layers as the organ from which it originates.

true dwarf. See **primordial dwarf**.

true glottis. See **glottis**.