

## Glossary

**Acute cerebral haemorrhage** – Bleeding from a blood vessel in the brain.

**Acute coronary syndromes (ACS)** – Severe heart conditions.

**Albumin** – A protein in the blood.

**Aliskiren** – Rennin inhibitor used in the treatment of hypertension.

**Anaemia** – Reduction in the quantity of oxygen-carrying pigment, haemoglobin, in the blood.

**Biostatistics** – Statistical information and techniques used with reference to health studies and social problems.

**Biotechnology** – Development of techniques for the application of biological processes to the production of materials used in medicine and industry.

**Body mass index (BMI)** – Weight of a person (in kilograms) divided by the square of the height of that person (in metres): used as an indicator of whether the individual is over or underweight.

**Cardiovascular disease** – Conditions of the circulatory system, particularly the heart, brain and kidneys.

**Cerebrovascular disease** – A disorder of the blood vessels of the brain, usually stroke.

**Chondroitin** – Important constituent of cartilage, bone and other connective tissues.

**Chronic disease** – Disease of a long duration.

**Diamicron MR** – Glucose lowering treatment for people with diabetes.

**Dyslipidemia** – Abnormal concentrations of lipids in the blood.

**Ectopic** – Occurrence of something in an unnatural location.

**Electronic decision support (EDS)** – Electronic tool designed to provide consistent advice and standardised treatment based on evidence.

**Epidemiology** – Study of the distribution and determinants of disease in populations.

**Erythropoietin** – Hormone secreted by cells in the kidney in response to a reduction in the amount of oxygen reaching the tissues.

**Intracranial aneurysm** – Abnormal swelling in the wall of an artery within the skull.

**Glucosamine** – Dietary supplement thought to relieve joint pain caused by arthritis.

**Glucose** – Simple sugar containing six carbon atoms; an important source of energy.

**Haemorrhage** – Bleeding.

**Homocysteine** – An amino acid that is recognised as a risk factor for vascular disease.

**Hypertension** – High blood pressure.

**Intranasal** – Within the nose.

**Ischaemia** – Inadequate flow of blood to a part of the body, caused by constriction or blockage of the blood vessels supplying it.

**Lipids** – Fats.

**Microfinance** – Provision of financial services to the poor.

**Neglected diseases** – Infectious diseases that thrive in impoverished settings.

**Neurological** – Disorders that affect the central nervous system.

**Normoglycaemia** – Normal blood glucose concentration.

**Obstructive pulmonary disease** – Lung disease, in which the lungs are damaged, making it hard to breathe.

**Obstructive sleep apnea** – Condition in which airflow from the nose and mouth to the lungs is restricted during sleep.

**Perindopril** – Drug used in treating raised blood pressure and heart failure.

**Preterax** – Blood pressure lowering drug.

**Prophylaxis** – Any means taken to prevent disease, such as immunisation.

**Ramipril** – Drug used in treating raised blood pressure and heart failure.

**Randomised controlled trial** – Random allocation of different interventions or treatments to subjects in a study, to ensure that known and unknown confounding factors are evenly distributed between treatment groups.

**Renal replacement therapy** – Life-supporting treatments for renal failure.

**Resuscitation fluids** – Fluids used in the treatment of patients with low blood pressure.

**Saline** – Solution containing 0.9% sodium chloride used to replace fluid by intravenous infusion.

**Sleeping sickness** – Disease of tropical Africa caused by the presence of parasitic protozoans in the blood.

**Telmisartan** – Drug useful in treating hypertension.

**Vascular** – Relating to or supplied with blood vessels.