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| rabies | An acute enzootic usually fatal virus disease occurring chiefly in dogs and wolves but transmissible to many mammals, some birds, and man; hydrophobia. It affects the central nervous system and follows a variable course. |
| refrigerant (used as) | Produces bodily cooling effect, which relieves fever, restlessness, thirst (ex. vegetable or fruit acids, dil. mineral acids, ammonium acetate soln.) |
| relaxant | Reduces tension or strain of tissue, organ, system, etc. (also used specifically for laxative). |
| renal conditions | Of or pertaining to the kidneys; in the region of the kidneys. |
| resolutive | A resolvent or discutient. |
| resolvent | Causes solution of tissue or exudate, thus allaying inflammation, dispersing abnormal (morbid) swelling, etc.; cf. alterative. |
| restorative (in fainting) | Renews strength and vigor (ex. tonics, aromatic ammonia spirits). |
| rheumatism | Any of numerous morbid states characterized by stiffness of the joints or muscles, pain on motion, etc.; also, specif., rheumatic fever and rheumatoid arthritis. |
| ringworm | Any of several contagious diseases of the skin of man and domestic animals, caused by fungi, esp. of the genera trichophyton and epidermophyton, and characterized by ring-shaped discolored patches covered with vesicles and scales, and by various disorders of the hair. |
| roundworm | A nematode worm, as distinguished from a flatworm or tapeworm. |
| rubefacient | Causes reddening of skin (due to dilation of blood vessels) (ex. camphor, turpentine, analgesic balm, I ₂ , capsicum, mustard) when applied locally. |