

## **Etiology**

Etiology of a disease is the study of its cause or causes. It's a medical term that helps doctors identify the root cause of an illness so they can provide the right treatment.

Etiology is categorized into following categories

1. **Intrinsic:** The cause comes from within the body, such as metabolic or endocrine disorders
2. **Extrinsic:** The cause comes from outside the body, such as exposure to chemicals or radiation
3. **Idiopathic:** The cause is unknown

### **Examples of etiologies:**

- **Scurvy:** Caused by a lack of vitamin C in the diet
- **Hemophilia:** An inherited condition that leads to excessive bleeding
- **Diabetes mellitus:** An endocrine disease that causes high blood sugar
- **Cancer:** A neoplastic disorder where body cells grow out of control
- **Allergies:** An immune system overreaction

### **Importance of etiology**

Etiology is important because it helps doctors treat the root cause of a disease, not just the symptoms. It also helps people understand the prognosis of their condition, or the likely course and possible outcomes.