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dictionary

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car·ci·no·ma  (kär'sə-nō mə)

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n. pl. **car·ci·no·mas** or **car·ci·no·ma·ta** (-mə-tə)

An invasive malignant tumor derived from epithelial tissue that tends to metastasize to other areas of the body.

[Latin, cancerous ulcer, from Greek *karkinōma*, from *karkinos*, cancer; see **kar-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

car'ci·no ma·toid (-nō mə-toid') *adj.*

car'ci·nom a·tous (-nōm ə-təs, -nō mə-) *adj.*

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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