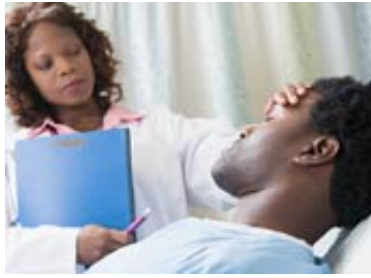


Word Etymology

The Latin root *pati* means “to suffer or endure.” Around 1200, the English adopted the French derivative, *pacience*, meaning “patience or endurance.” Around 1300, the English came to call the physically ill *paciyents* (later spelled patients).



Pa•tience *n* 1: the quality of bearing or enduring pain or trouble without complaining 2: refusing to be provoked 3: calmly tolerating delay, confusion, or inefficiency.

Patience is confidence that what you are doing is worth investing the time and energy to do well. No one enjoys suffering, but a patient person knows how to endure a tough situation with grace.

1. How is patience important in fast-paced or emergency situations?
2. How can a person demonstrate patience in the way he or she addresses problems within an organization's structure of responsibility?
3. What is the difference between active and passive waiting? How can you practice active patience?
4. How can you distinguish between *accepting* present conditions and *condoning* them?
5. Most leaders must face obstacles on at least three fronts: challenges related to the project itself, the obstacle of personal discouragement, and the obstacle of others' discouragement. In your experience, which area is most difficult to overcome?