Directions: Eliminate the jargon in the following sentences. Refer to §11.5, Jargon of the AMA Manual of Style.

1. The baseline exam took place in a mobile unit equipped with ophthalmologic devices.
   ANSWER: The baseline examination took place in a mobile unit equipped with ophthalmologic devices.
   Editor's Note: Examination, not exam, is the preferred form (§11.5, Jargon).

2. The patient had abnormal Pap smear results.
   ANSWER: The patient had abnormal Papanicolaou test results.
   Editor's Note: Although Pap smear is commonly used in conversation, Papanicolaou test is the preferred form (§11.5, Jargon).

3. Human T-lymphotropic virus 1–associated myelopathy can occur in individuals predisposed to pneumonia and urinary infections.
   ANSWER: Human T-lymphotropic virus 1–associated myelopathy can occur in individuals predisposed to pneumonia and urinary tract infections.
   Editor's Note: Urinary tract infection, not urinary infection, is the preferred form (§11.5, Jargon). The following terms are also correct: genitourinary tract infection and infection of the urinary tract.

4. Ten days after discharge from the hospital, the patient came to the emergency room with a distended abdomen.
   ANSWER: Ten days after discharge from the hospital, the patient came to the emergency department with a distended abdomen.
   Editor's Note: Emergency department, not emergency room, is the preferred form (§11.5, Jargon).
5. Although most of our patients displayed symptomatology, only 3 patients had disease.

ANSWER: Although most of our patients displayed symptoms, only 3 patients had disease.

Editor's Note: This suffix, derived from the Greek *logos*, meaning “word,” “idea,” or “thought,” denotes *science of* or *study of*: Many terms with this suffix, like *morphology, histology, etiology*, and *symptomatology*, are general and abstract nouns and should not be used to describe individual and particular items. *Pathology* is an exception and can be used (§11.1, Correct and Preferred Usage of Common Words and Phrases). The word *symptomatology* should be edited to *symptoms* and the author queried (§11.5, Jargon).

6. Our study findings suggest that although the overall number of glaucoma surgeries is increasing, payments have been decreasing.

ANSWER: Our study findings suggest that although the overall number of surgical procedures for glaucoma is increasing, payments have been decreasing.

Editor's Note: *Surgical procedures or operations, not surgeries*, is the preferred form (§11.5, Jargon).

7. Laboratory findings were within the normal range.

ANSWER: Laboratory findings were within the reference range.

Editor's Note: *Reference range, not normal range*, is the preferred form (§11.5, Jargon).

8. During the patient’s stay, she experienced increasing changes in her mental status and was transferred to the psychiatric floor for observation.

ANSWER: During the patient’s stay, she experienced increasing changes in her mental status and was transferred to the psychiatric department for observation.

Editor's Note: *Psychiatric department, service, unit, or ward, not psychiatric floor*, is the preferred form (§11.5, Jargon).

9. A 78-year-old woman with a congenital heart and a history of high blood pressure and heart attack was admitted to the hospital and prepped for surgery.

ANSWER: A 78-year-old woman with congenital heart disease and a history of high blood pressure and myocardial infarction was admitted to the hospital and prepared for surgery.

Editor's Note: A heart is not congenital; the preferred form is *congenital heart disease* or *congenital cardiac anomaly*. *Myocardial infarction, not heart attack*, is the preferred form. Patients are *prepared, not prepped, for surgery* (§11.5, Jargon).
10. The patient’s blood sugar level was 37 mg/dL and her protein level was 25.0 g/dL.

**ANSWER:** The patient’s blood glucose level was 37 mg/dL and her protein level was 25.0 g/dL

**Editor’s Note:** *Blood glucose, not blood sugar,* is the preferred form ([§11.5, Jargon](#)).

11. The patient had an elevated white blood cell count and 4+ albuminuria.

**ANSWER:** The patient had an elevated white blood cell count and proteinuria (4+).

**Editor’s Note:** *Proteinuria (4+), not 4+ albuminuria,* is the preferred form ([§11.5, Jargon](#)).

12. After reviewing the patient’s test results, the physician prescribed a diabetic diet.

**ANSWER:** After reviewing the patient’s test results, the physician prescribed a diet for patients with diabetes.

**Editor’s Note:** Terms such as *diabetic diet* and *cardiac diet* should be rephrased to *diet for patients with diabetes* and *diet for patients with cardiac disease* ([§11.5, Jargon](#)).

13. After consultation with the chiropractor, the patient sought care with the orthopod.

**ANSWER:** After consultation with the chiropractor, the patient sought care with the orthopedic surgeon.

**Editor’s Note:** Avoid trivializing or dehumanizing disciplines or specialties; for example, use *orthopedic surgeon,* not *orthopod,* and *osteopathic physician,* not *osteopath* ([§11.5, Jargon](#)).

14. The 21 animals assigned to the long-term survival group were examined and sacrificed 90 days after cauterization.

**ANSWER:** The 21 animals assigned to the long-term survival group were examined and killed 90 days after cauterization.

**Editor’s Note:** Avoid euphemisms. *Sacrificed* should be changed to *killed* or *humanely killed* (query author); *expired, passed away,* and *succumbed* should be changed to *died* ([§11.5, Jargon](#)).

15. Of the 32 patients who failed treatment, all underwent successful salvage therapy.

**ANSWER:** Of the 32 patients in whom treatment failed, all underwent successful salvage therapy.

**Editor’s Note:** Patients do not fail, treatments fail ([§11.5, Jargon](#)).