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refractory /re·frac·to·ry/ (re·frak'tor-e)

1. resistant to treatment.
2. not responding to a stimulus.

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re·frac·to·ry (rē·frak'tōr-ē)

adj.

1. Resistant to treatment, as a disease.
2. Unresponsive to stimuli, as a muscle or nerve fiber.

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refractory

[rɪfrak'terē]

Etymology: L, *refringere*

- 1 pertaining to a disorder that is resistant to treatment.
- 2 property of conductive tissue to return to original related state in preparation for a second stimulus.

Mosby's Medical Dictionary, 8th edition. © 2009, Elsevier.

refractory [re·frak'tah-re]

1. not readily yielding to treatment.
2. not responding to a stimulus.

Miller-Keane Encyclopedia and Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health, Seventh Edition. © 2003 by Saunders, an imprint of Elsevier, Inc. All rights reserved.

refractory (rēfrak'tōr-ē),

adj pertaining to the ability to withstand the high temperatures used in certain dental laboratory procedures. See also [cast, refractory](#).

Mosby's Dental Dictionary, 2nd edition. © 2008 Elsevier, Inc. All rights reserved.

refractory

not readily yielding to treatment.

refractory period

the period of depolarization and repolarization of the cell membrane after excitation; during the first portion (absolute refractory period), the nerve or muscle fiber cannot respond to a second stimulus, whereas during the relative refractory period, it can respond only to a strong stimulus.

myocardial refractory state

the myocardium is refractory to stimulation during the action potential period, excitability returning in the repolarization phase; initially there is a period of supernormality.

Saunders Comprehensive Veterinary Dictionary, 3 ed. © 2007 Elsevier, Inc. All rights reserved

refractory

adjective Intolerable, resistant to therapy, intractable, unresponsive, stubborn

McGraw-Hill Concise Dictionary of Modern Medicine. © 2002 by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

re·frac·to·ry (rē·frak'tōr-ē),

1. Resistant to treatment, as of a disease. Synonym(s): intractable (1) , [obstinate](#) (2)
2. Synonym(s): [obstinate](#) (1)

[L. *refractorius*, fr. *refringo*, pp. *-fractus*, to break in pieces]

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[L. *refractorius*, fr. *refringo*, pp. *-fractus*, to break in pieces]

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refractory intractable; resistant to treatment

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