# Illnesses

You can **have** any illness or disease:
*I'm warning you ?I've got a bad cold.*
*Have the kids had chickenpox yet?*

**Get** can be used with diseases or illnesses that you often have:
*He gets really bad hay fever every summer.*

**Suffer from** is used in more formal contexts and with more serious diseases:
*This medicine is often recommended by doctors for their patients who suffer from arthritis.*

You can also:



*a heavy cold*

| catch | come/go down with | contract | develop | suffer |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| chickenpox | appendicitis | Aids | an allergy (to sth) | a breakdown |
| a cold | bronchitis | cancer | arthritis | a heart attack |
| a cough | chickenpox | conjunctivitis | Aids | a stroke |
| flu | diarrhoea | hepatitis | cancer | |
| German measles | flu | HIV | cataracts | |
| glandular fever | food poisoning | meningitis | epilepsy | |
| measles | measles | pneumonia | heart/liver trouble | |
| mumps | mumps | | high blood pressure | |
| a stomach bug | | | an infection | |
| whooping cough | | | pneumonia | |
| | | | rheumatism | |
| *an* **attack of** *flu, nerves, shingles/ an asthma* **attack**<br>*a* **bout of** *bronchitis, coughing, flu, pneumonia, sickness*<br>*a coughing, an epileptic* **fit** | | | | |

## Is it serious?

| no | yes |
|---|---|
| **a bit of** a cold, a cough, an infection | a **bad**/**heavy**/**nasty** cold |
| **mild** depression | a **bad**/**nasty**/**severe** attack/bout of sth |
| a **mild** attack/bout of sth | a **bad**/**racking** cough |
| a **mild** heart attack, infection | a **bad**/**splitting** headache |
| a **slight** cold, headache | a **massive**/**serious** heart attack, stroke |

## What's the treatment?

| take | be given/be on/take | have/undergo | have/be given | have/be given/undergo |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| medicine<br>pills<br>tablets | antibiotics<br>drugs<br>medication<br>painkillers | an operation<br>surgery<br>a transplant | acupuncture<br>an anaesthetic<br>a blood transfusion<br>an injection<br>a scan<br>an X-ray | hypnosis<br>therapy<br>treatment |

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