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Cough in adults: Symptom Checker

**DocID**

No DocID – not contained in FarCry

**Title**

Cough

**Feature Title**

Cough

**List Title**

Cough

**Content is Contracted**

No

**Licensable**

No

**Searchable**

No

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**MCV Main tag**

**MCV Other tag(s)**

Content Packages > Symptom checker mobile > Adult > Chest

**MCV Related tag(s)**

**Primary Location**

Diseases and Conditions

**Tease**

Cough can signal a number of conditions. Identify possible common causes based on symptoms you’re experiencing.

**Abstract**

Find possible common causes of cough in adults. See our Symptom Checker.

**Benefit Summary**

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**FeatureID**

**Gender**

**Age**

Adult

**ENTER IN FARCRY:**

**When to get medical help** (1, 2)

Consult your doctor if your cough lasts longer than a week or is accompanied by:

Difficulty breathing

Difficulty swallowing

Thick green or yellow phlegm or sputum

Bloody phlegm or sputum

Wheezing

Stiff neck

High or persistent fever

**Self-care strategies** (1, 3)

To soothe your cough:

Drink plenty of fluids, particularly warm water, tea or clear broth

Rest

Use a humidifier or take a hot, steamy shower

Suck on hard candy or throat lozenges

Gargle with warm salt water

Avoid irritants, such as cigarette smoke or pet dander

**More Information**

Cough MY00108

Chronic cough DS00957

**END OF FARCRY TEXT**

Find possible causes of cough based on specific factors. Check one or more factors on this page that apply to your symptom.

**Cough is**

Dry

Producing phlegm or sputum

**Problem is**

New or began recently

Ongoing or recurrent

Progressive or worsening

**Triggered or worsened by**

Allergens or irritants

**Accompanied by**

Chest pain or tightness

Chills or sweating

Difficulty swallowing

Fatigue

Fever

Headache or facial pain

Hoarse voice

Loss of appetite

Muscle aches

Runny or stuffy nose

Shortness of breath

Sneezing

Sore throat

Watery or itchy eyes

Wheezing

**Possible causes**

These diseases and conditions match at least one of the factors you selected. Those with the most matches are listed first.

DS00170 Acute sinusitis (4, p. 100; 5; 16)

Cough is dry

Cough is producing phlegm or sputum

Problem is new or began recently

Accompanied by fatigue

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by sore throat

DS00021 Asthma (6)

Cough is dry

Problem is ongoing or recurrent

Triggered or worsened by allergens or irritants

Accompanied by chest pain or tightness

Accompanied by shortness of breath

Accompanied by wheezing

DS00031 Bronchitis (7; 16)

Cough is producing phlegm or sputum

Problem is new or began recently

Problem is ongoing or recurrent

Problem is progressive or worsening

Accompanied by chest pain or tightness

Accompanied by fatigue

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by shortness of breath

Accompanied by sore throat

Accompanied by wheezing

DS00232 Chronic sinusitis (8; 16)

Cough is dry

Cough is producing phlegm or sputum

Problem is ongoing or recurrent

Accompanied by fatigue

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by sore throat

DS00056 Common cold (3, 9; 16)

Cough is dry

Cough is producing phlegm or sputum

Problem is new or began recently

Accompanied by fatigue

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by sneezing

Accompanied by sore throat

Accompanied by watery or itchy eyes

DS00296 Emphysema (10)

Cough is dry

Problem is ongoing or recurrent

Accompanied by chest pain or tightness

Accompanied by fatigue

Accompanied by loss of appetite

Accompanied by shortness of breath

Accompanied by wheezing

DS00967 GERD (11)

Cough is dry

Problem is ongoing or recurrent

Accompanied by chest pain or tightness

Accompanied by difficulty swallowing

Accompanied by hoarse voice

Accompanied by sore throat

Accompanied by wheezing

DS00174 Hay fever (12)

Cough is dry

Problem is ongoing or recurrent

Triggered or worsened by allergens or irritants

Accompanied by fatigue

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by sneezing

Accompanied by sore throat

Accompanied by watery or itchy eyes

DS00081 Influenza (flu) (13)

Cough is dry

Problem is new or began recently

Accompanied by chills or sweating

Accompanied by fatigue

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

Accompanied by loss of appetite

Accompanied by muscle aches

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by sneezing

Accompanied by sore throat

DS00366 Laryngitis (14)

Cough is dry

Problem is new or began recently

Accompanied by hoarse voice

Accompanied by sore throat

DS00135 Pneumonia(4, p. 101; 15; 16)

Cough is dry

Cough is producing phlegm or sputum

Problem is new or began recently

Problem is ongoing or recurrent

Problem is progressive or worsening

Accompanied by chest pain or tightness

Accompanied by chills or sweating

Accompanied by fatigue

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

Accompanied by muscle aches

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by shortness of breath

Accompanied by sore throat

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