



ILLNESSES

You can **have** any illness or disease:

*I'm warning you—I have a bad cold.
Have the kids had chickenpox?*

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 for patients who suffer from arthritis.

You can also:

catch	develop	come/go down with	contract	suffer
chickenpox a cold a cough flu (<i>BrE</i>)/the flu German measles measles (<i>BrE</i>)/ the measles a stomach bug	AIDS an allergy (to sth) arthritis asthma cancer cataracts diabetes a fever high blood pressure an infection pneumonia a tumour/tumor an ulcer	appendicitis bronchitis chickenpox a cold diarrhoea/diarrhea flu (<i>BrE</i>)/the flu food poisoning measles mono (<i>AmE</i>) mumps (<i>BrE</i>)/ the mumps	AIDS hepatitis HIV measles (<i>BrE</i>)/ the measles meningitis pneumonia polio tuberculosis	a breakdown a concussion a heart attack an injury a miscarriage a stroke
<i>an attack of (the) flu, nerves, shingles; an asthma attack a bout of bronchitis, coughing, the flu, pneumonia, sickness a bout with cancer, colic, depression, the flu (all <i>AmE</i>) a coughing, an epileptic fit</i>				

Is it serious?

no	yes
a bit of a cold, a cough (<i>both esp. BrE</i>) a mild asthma, depression a mild attack of sth, bout of sth, case of sth a mild heart attack, infection a slight cold, headache	a bad/heavy/nasty cold a bad/nasty/severe attack of sth, bout of sth a bad/hacking/racking cough a bad/splitting 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/ receive /undergo
medicine pills tablets (<i>esp. BrE</i>)	antibiotics drugs medication painkillers	an examination an operation surgery a transplant	acupuncture an anaesthetic/ anesthetic a blood transfusion an injection a jab (<i>esp. BrE</i>) a scan a shot (<i>esp. AmE</i>) an X-ray	chemotherapy therapy treatment