

Articles: With Illnesses and Body Parts

With Names of Illnesses

the + illness	a / an + illness	(the) + plural illness	Ø + illness
the flu the plague	a cold a hernia a headache a heart attack an ulcer a stroke an earache a fever a sore throat / neck etc. a <i>head</i> injury / a <i>spinal cord</i> injury etc.	(the) mumps (the) measles (the) hiccups (the) chicken pox <i>“the” is optional</i>	diabetes rabies herpes AIDS pneumonia malaria arthritis cancer diarrhea tuberculosis <i>liver</i> disease/ <i>heart</i> disease etc.

With Body Parts

the + singular or plural parts	(the) + fluids or large areas <i>“the” is optional</i>
the brain the ears the liver the kidneys	(the) blood (the) mucous (the) skin (the) lips

Fill in the blanks with A/AN, THE or Ø.

It's important to take care of yourself to avoid getting sick, especially in the winter. Even a healthy person can get _____ flu or _____ cold. _____ flu can affect _____ stomach, _____ throat, and even _____ ears. If a person has one of these illnesses, they may suffer from _____ earache or _____ fever. These problems are usually not serious, but older people can sometimes develop _____ pneumonia. This illness affects _____ lungs and makes breathing difficult. Some serious illnesses are more common in certain countries than in others. For instance _____ malaria usually occurs in tropical countries. It is caused by mosquitoes that infect _____ blood. Some types of _____ cancer and _____ heart disease occur more frequently in wealthy countries where people eat a lot of fatty, processed foods. Doctors recommend regular exercise to keep _____ heart healthy and _____ muscles strong.