

Illness[ˈɪlnɪs] *n*

болезнь, заболевание, нездоровье

to be suddenly seized with illness - внезапно заболеть

he suffers from a serious illness - у него тяжёлое заболевание

to have a long illness - долго болеть

he is recovering from his illness - он поправляется

through illness - из-за болезни

illness

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

ill-ness [illness illnesses] *BrE* [ˈɪlnəs] * *NAmE* [ˈɪlnəs] * **noun****1. uncountable** the state of being physically or mentally ill

• mental illness

• I missed a lot of school through illness last year.

2. countable a type or period of illness• **minor/serious illnesses**

• childhood illnesses

• He died after a long illness.

Thesaurus:**illness** **noun****1. U**

• I missed a lot of school through illness.

sickness • **ill health** • **trouble** •**Opp: good health****due to/owing to/through** illness/sickness/ill health**chronic** illness/sickness/ill health**suffer from** illness/sickness/ill health/heart, etc. trouble**Illness or sickness? Sickness** is used especially in contexts concerning work and insurance. **Illness** is more general and has a wider range of uses.**2. C**

• She was recovering from a serious illness.

disease • **sickness** • **infection** • **condition** • **ailment** • **complaint** • **informal bug** • **virus** • **medical disorder** •a **serious/chronic** illness/disease/infection/condition/ailment/disorder**have/suffer from** a/an illness/disease/sickness/infection/condition/ailment/complaint/bug/virus/disorder**catch/contract/get/pick up** a/an illness/disease/infection/bug/virus**diagnose/treat** a/an illness/disease/infection/condition/ailment/virus/disorder**recover from** a/an illness/disease/sickness/infection/bug/virus/disorder**Illness or disease? Disease** is used to talk about more severe physical medical problems, especially those that affect the organs:

• heart/kidney/liver disease

✗ **heart/kidney/liver illness** **Illness** is used to talk about most kinds of medical problems, including **mental illness**. **Disease** is not used about a period of illness:

• He died after a long illness.

✗ **He died after a long disease.**Collocations:**Illnesses***Becoming ill***catch** a cold/an infectious disease/the flu/(*BrE*) flu/pneumonia/a virus/(*informal*) a bug**get** (*BrE*) ill/(*NAmE*) sick/a disease/AIDS/breast cancer/a cold/the flu/(*BrE*) flu/a migraine**come down with** a cold/the flu/(*BrE*) flu**contract** a deadly disease/a serious illness/HIV/AIDS**be infected with** a virus/a parasite/HIV**develop** cancer/diabetes/a rash/an ulcer/symptoms of hepatitis**have** a heart attack/a stroke**provoke/trigger/produce** an allergic reaction**block/burst/rupture** a blood vessel**damage/sever** a nerve/an artery/a tendon*Being ill***feel** (*BrE*) ill/sick/nauseous/queasy**be running** (*BrE*) a temperature/(*NAmE*) a fever**have** a head cold/diabetes/heart disease/lung cancer/a headache/(*BrE*) a high temperature/(*NAmE*) a fever**suffer from** asthma/malnutrition/frequent headaches/bouts of depression/a mental disorder**be laid up with/** (*BrE*) **be in bed with** a cold/the flu/(*BrE*) flu/a migraine**nurse** a cold/a headache/a hangover**battle/fight** cancer/depression/addiction/alcoholism*Treatments***examine** a patient

diagnose a condition/disease/disorder

be diagnosed with cancer/diabetes/schizophrenia

prescribe/be given/be on/take drugs/medicine/medication/pills/painkillers/antibiotics

treat sb for cancer/depression/shock

have/undergo an examination/an operation/surgery/a kidney transplant/therapy/chemotherapy/treatment for cancer

have/be given an injection/(BrE) a flu jab/(NAme) a flu shot/a blood transfusion/a scan/an X-ray

cure a disease/an ailment/cancer/a headache/a patient

prevent the spread of disease/further outbreaks/damage to the lungs

be vaccinated against the flu/(BrE) flu/the measles/(BrE) measles/polio/smallpox

enhance/boost/confer/build immunity to a disease

Synonyms:

disease

illness • disorder • infection • condition • ailment • bug

These are all words for a medical problem.

disease • a medical problem affecting humans, animals or plants, often caused by infection: ▪ He suffers from a rare blood disease.

illness • a medical problem, or a period of suffering from one: ▪ She died after a long illness.

disease or illness?

Disease is used to talk about more severe physical medical problems, especially those that affect the organs. **Illness** is used to talk about both more severe and more minor medical problems, and those that affect mental health: heart/kidney/liver illness ◇ mental disease. **Disease** is not used about a period of illness: she died after a long disease

disorder • (rather formal) an illness that causes a part of the body to stop functioning correctly: ▪ a rare disorder of the liver.

A **disorder** is generally not infectious. **Disorder** is used most frequently with words relating to mental problems, for example **psychiatric**, **personality**, **mental** and **eating**. When it is used to talk about physical problems, it is most often used with **blood**, **bowel** and **kidney**, and these are commonly **serious**, **severe** or **rare**.

infection • an illness that is caused by bacteria or a virus and that affects one part of the body: ▪ a throat infection

condition • a medical problem that you have for a long time because it is not possible to cure it: ▪ a heart condition

ailment • (rather formal) an illness that is not very serious: ▪ childhood ailments

bug • (informal) an infectious illness that is usually fairly mild: ▪ a nasty flu bug

to **have/suffer from** a(n) disease/illness/disorder/infection/condition/ailment/bug

to **catch/contract/get/pick up** a(n) disease/illness/infection/bug

Synonyms:

illness

sickness • ill health • trouble

These are all words for the state of being physically or mentally ill.

illness • the state of being physically or mentally ill.

sickness • illness; bad health: ▪ I recommend you get insurance against sickness and unemployment.

illness or sickness?

Sickness is used especially in contexts concerning work and insurance. It is commonly found with words such as **pay**, **leave**, **absence** and **insurance**. **Illness** has a wider range of uses and is found in more general contexts.

ill health • (rather formal) the state of being physically ill or having lots of health problems: ▪ She resigned because of ill health.

Ill health often lasts a long period of time.

trouble • illness or pain: ▪ heart trouble.

When **trouble** is used with this meaning, it is necessary to say which part of the body is affected.

chronic illness/sickness/ill health

to **suffer from** illness/sickness/ill health/heart, etc. trouble

Example Bank:

- As his illness progressed, Neil began to have difficulty speaking.
- Badly fed children suffer a lot of minor illnesses.
- Both illnesses require treatment.
- Claire is optimistic she can beat her illness.
- Clinical depression is a treatable illness.
- Diabetes is a common illness.
- He became blind after contracting a rare illness.
- He contracted a serious illness and died a month later.
- He suffered from a debilitating illness which made everyday life a struggle.
- He's just returned to work after illness.
- Her childhood was plagued by illness.
- Kerry died of a sudden illness.
- Mental illness afflicts one in four people.
- She bore her final illness with great courage.
- She feigned illness so that she wouldn't have to go to school.
- She nursed her father through his final illness.
- She survived a life-threatening illness.
- Some illnesses occur more frequently following puberty.
- Sometimes it's hard to tell whether illnesses result from bacteria or viruses.

- Suddenly, illness hit the household.
- TB is a major cause of preventable illness and death.
- The drug is used to treat a wide range of illnesses.
- The illness struck while he was touring.
- The immune system enables the body to fight off illness.
- The mystery illness affected hundreds of people in the city.
- The only thing that could cure her illness was a special herb.
- They had failed to find the cause of his mystery illness.
- We assess the applicant's history of family illness.
- a drug that may be helpful in preventing illnesses such as cancer
- a high rate of illness among the workers
- an acute episode of mental illness
- earnings lost due to illness
- episodes of illness in children
- illnesses caused by poverty
- people who never seem to catch the illnesses their friends get
- people who suffer from mental illness
- people with serious psychological illnesses
- the first case of illness from the Ebola virus
- the illnesses associated with HIV infection
- the most common stress-related illnesses
- the pain and distress caused by your illness
- the sudden onset of illness in a parent
- those who experience mental illness
- ways to help arthritis sufferers manage their illness
- Have you suffered from any serious illnesses in the past six months?
- She suffered from mental illness throughout her life.
- They've just published an encyclopedia of childhood illnesses.

illness

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

ill **ness** **S3 W3** /'ɪlnəs, 'ɪlnɪs/ *BrE* " *AmE* " **noun** [uncountable and countable]

a disease of the body or mind, or the condition of being ill:

- " She had all the normal childhood illnesses.
- " Her mother was recovering from a serious illness.
- " I've never missed a day's work through illness.
- " ways to improve your health and reduce the risk of illness

⇒ †disease

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COLLOCATIONS

■ verbs

- **have an illness** When did you first find out that you had the illness?
- **suffer from an illness** She suffers from a rare illness.
- **get/develop an illness** She developed the illness when she was in her 50s.
- **contract an illness** *formal* (=get an illness by catching it from another person) He contracted the illness while he was working abroad.
- **recover from an illness** It took several months for him to recover from his illness.
- **be diagnosed with an illness** (=be found by doctors to have an illness) Her husband had just been diagnosed with a terminal illness.
- **cause/lead to illness** Inadequate hygiene can lead to illness.
- **prevent illness** Vaccines have been successful in preventing illness.

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + illness

- **serious/severe** His illness is more severe than the doctors first thought.
- **minor** (=not serious) He suffered a succession of minor illnesses.
- **fatal** (=causing death quite quickly) She developed a fatal illness.
- **life-threatening** (=likely to cause death) Doctors say that his illness isn't life-threatening.
- **terminal** (=causing death eventually, and not possible to cure) At that point the illness was thought to be terminal.
- **incurable** (=not possible to cure) The film tells the sad story of a young boy with an incurable illness.
- **acute** (=becoming serious very quickly) A lot of illnesses can be either acute or chronic.
- **chronic** (=that lasts a long time, and cannot be cured) Diabetes is an example of a chronic illness.
- **a long/short illness** She nursed him through his long illness. | Arthur died following a short illness.
- **a debilitating illness** (=that makes you very weak) His last years were ruined by a debilitating illness.
- **a childhood illness** Measles is a common childhood illness.
- **a mental/psychiatric illness** We provide specialist care for young people with mental illnesses.

■ phrases

- **the symptoms of an illness** Symptoms of the illness include vomiting and severe headaches.
- **a period of illness** He returned to work after a period of illness.

■ COMMON ERRORS

- ▶ Do not say '**a heavy illness**'. Say **a serious illness** or **a severe illness**.

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THESAURUS

- **illness** something wrong with your health which makes you feel ill: Her husband was in hospital for six months with a serious illness.
- **disease** a particular illness, especially one that spreads to other people easily or that affects one part of your body: childhood diseases such as measles and chickenpox | heart disease
- **infection** an illness that is caused by ↑**bacteria** or a ↑**virus**: His cough got worse and worse and became a chest infection.
- **condition** a health problem that affects you permanently or for a long time: a medical condition such as asthma | a heart condition
- **problem** [usually after a noun] something that is wrong with a particular part of your body or your health in general: a serious back problem | health problems
- **trouble** [singular, only after a noun] illness or pain that affects a particular part of your body: I've had a bit of stomach trouble.
- **disorder** *formal* an illness that prevents a particular organ of your body from working properly, or affects the way you behave: a liver disorder | a blood disorder | Anorexia nervosa is an eating disorder.

■ an illness that is not very serious

- **bug** *informal* an illness that spreads to other people very easily but that is not very serious: There's a bug going round at school and a lot of the children are absent. | a flu bug
- **complaint** *medical* an illness that affects a particular part of your body, especially one that is not very serious – used by doctors: a minor skin complaint | Deakin suffers from a back complaint called arachnoiditis.
- **ailment** /'eɪlment/ *formal* an illness that affects a particular part of your body, especially one that is not serious: People often go to their doctor about relatively minor ailments. | The ointment is used to treat ailments such as small wounds and insect bites.

■ the general state of being ill

- **illness** the general state of being ill: Stress is emerging today as a major cause of illness.
- **sickness** the state of being ill, especially when it stops you working: absence from work due to sickness
- **ill health** *formal* the state of being ill, usually for a long period of time: Research shows that there is a link between air pollution and ill health.

illness

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