

14 Illness

A Types of illness



rash



lungs



breast

MORE MINOR

hay fever: an illness affecting the eyes, nose and throat, caused by breathing in **pollen**

a rash: an area of red spots **commonly** caused by an illness or an allergy

MORE SERIOUS

an allergy: a condition that makes you ill when you eat, touch or breathe certain things that don't normally make people ill, e.g. eating nuts. Allergies can be minor or very serious. **allergic (to sth) adj**

asthma: a condition that gives people breathing difficulties

diabetes: a disease caused by an **inability** to control the level of sugar in the blood

POTENTIALLY FATAL

cancer: e.g. lung cancer, breast cancer: a very serious illness in which a **lump** grows in the body

a heart attack: a sudden, serious illness when the heart stops working correctly

GLOSSARY

minor not very big, serious or important

pollen the powder produced by some plants

commonly usually; very often; by most people

inability the fact of not being able to do sth

potentially that may possibly happen or become sth

potential adj

fatal causing or ending in death: **a fatal accident**

lump a swelling under the skin which can be small or large

1 Is the pronunciation of the underlined letters the same or different? Write **S** or **D**. Use the to help you.

1 heart breast 3 diabetes fever 5 diabetes minor 7 allergy allergic
2 allergy rash 4 allergy lung 6 hay fatal 8 potential asthma

2 Complete the sentences.

- I'm to prawns. I get a on my face if I eat just one.
- Drugs are a used treatment for many illnesses.
- It's clear that smoking increases your risk of lung , which is fatal.
- A friend of mine has a very serious If he eats peanuts, he has a bad reaction.
- I get a bit of hay every summer, but it's only a problem. I don't worry about it.
- If you are seriously overweight, it is a problem: you are more at risk from and, of course, heart
- One of my friends died in a road accident.
- The to control the level of sugar in the blood is very serious.

3 Combine words from the box to make sentences about the illnesses and their causes and symptoms.

hay fever diabetes asthma breast cancer rash
breathing difficulties allergy sugar pollen lump



TEST YOURSELF

B Medicine labels

These tablets must be dissolved in water.

For short-term use only.

**DO NOT EXCEED
THE STATED DOSE.**

Please read the **enclosed** leaflet before taking these tablets.

Possible side effects may include stomach disorders.

Discard any remaining solution 60 days after opening the bottle.

If symptoms **persist**, consult your doctor.

Do not use after the **expiry date**.

SPOTLIGHT *exceed* and *excess*

1 do more of sth than is stated in an order or a law:

Don't exceed the stated dose.

You shouldn't exceed the speed limit.

GLOSSARY

dissolve (in sth) (of a solid) combine with a liquid and become part of it

short-term lasting only a short period: *a short-term solution* OPP long-term: a long-term contract

dose (ALSO dosage) the amount of a medicine that you take at any one time

enclosed included inside sth else, usually inside a letter or a packet

leaflet one or several pages of printed free information about sth

side effect an extra and usually bad effect that a drug has on you

disorder illness to a part of the body

discard get rid of sth you no longer want or need (especially of sth unpleasant) continue to exist *persistent adj*

persist continue to exist *persistent adj*

consult ask sb for some information or advice

consultation n the date after which sth should not be used

expiry date *expire v*

4 True or false? Write T or F. Correct any false sentences.

- 1 Drugs can have **side effects**.
- 2 If something is **enclosed**, you can't open it.
- 3 You can read a **leaflet**.
- 4 A **disorder** means a machine isn't working.
- 5 If something **persists**, it stops.
- 6 '**In excess of** 50' is more than 50.
- 7 You can **dissolve** sugar in hot water.
- 8 If you **consult** someone, you disagree with them.

5 Add a word to complete an instruction or a common phrase.

- 1 Don't exceed the stated
- 2 a long- solution
- 3 the expiry
- 4 in of 20 people
- 5 common side
- 6 Read the leaflet.

6 Use one word to complete the sentences on the right with the same meaning as those on the left.

- 1 It's all there in the information they provide.
- 2 He's got something wrong with his stomach.
- 3 The information is included with this letter.
- 4 One teaspoon is the amount you should take.
- 5 See a doctor if the symptoms don't go away.
- 6 Don't use after the end of July.

It's all there in the
He's got a stomach
The information is
One teaspoon is the
See a doctor if the symptoms
Don't use after the expiry

7 Complete the sentences.

- 1 You can buy aspirin, which in water; that avoids taking tablets.
- 2 I've had a cough for weeks now; the doctor thinks I should a specialist.
- 3 I ought to the contents of this bottle: it's been open for months.
- 4 The doctor gave me sleeping tablets, but it's only a solution.
- 5 This is a powerful drug so I mustn't the stated dose.
- 6 I've already had a with one doctor, but he wasn't very helpful.

