



Survival Phrases S1

Explaining Symptoms in Cantonese

50

Traditional	2
Jyutping	2
English	2
Vocabulary	2
Cultural Insight	3

Traditional Chinese

感冒藥，唔該。
頭痛藥，唔該。
肚痛藥，唔該。
止痛藥，唔該。
我頭痛。
我肚痛。

Jyutping

gam2 mak6 joek6, m4 goi1.
tau4 tung3 joek6, m4 goi1.
tou5 tung3 joek6, m4 goi1.
zi2 tung3 joek6, m4 goi1.
ngo5 tau4 tung3.
ngo5 tou5 tung3.

English

Cold medicine, please.
Headache medicine, please.
Stomach ache medicine, please.
Pain killer, please.
I have a headache.
I have a stomach ache.

Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
感冒	gaam2 mou6	cold; flu
頭痛	tau4 tung3	headache
肚痛	tou5 tung3	stomach ache
止痛藥	zi2 tung3 joek6	pain killer

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

感冒未好。
你又頭痛？

gaam2 mou6 mei6 hou2.
nei5 jau6 tau4 tung3 ?

I still have the cold.
You're having a headache
again?

我好肚痛。
有冇止痛藥？

ngo5 hou2 tou5 tung3.
jau5 mou5 zi2 tung3 joek6?

I'm having a stomach ache.
Do you have any pain killer?

Cultural Insight

Quick Tip: 1

Healthcare standards in Hong Kong are on par with the West, and finding a reputable doctor is not much of a problem should you get sick. Doctors come in two flavours: those that practice traditional Chinese medicine and the western variety. Both are taken equally seriously in Hong Kong, but as a visitor the assumption will be to direct you to a western doctor. Doctors that practice western medicine almost always speak English fluently, but you may find the receptionist to be more of a challenge.

Seeing a doctor is as easy as walking off the street and making an appointment with the receptionist. Generally you will be seen within an hour or less, but take note of the opening times displayed in the window of the doctor's office. A straightforward consultation for a minor ailment might cost around \$150 to \$500, but your bill will be inclusive of medicine. In Hong Kong, it is normal for a doctor to sell you medicine. Most surgeries and hospitals will accept credit cards. Expect to pay more if you visit a swanky surgery in Central. Check the directory maintained by the Hong Kong Medical Association for further information. Help finding general practitioners, medical specialists and dentists might also be available at your consulate.