

## Immune system - quiz

Do you know how the immune system protects the human body from diseases? Test your knowledge with our quick health quiz.

### 1. What is the immune system?

- A. A collection of special organs and nerve endings that fight infection.
- B. A series of glandular spirals throughout the body that contain microbe-killing chemicals.
- C. A collection of special cells and chemicals that fight infection.

### 2. In which part of the body are white blood cells made?

- A. Pancreas.
- B. Bone marrow.
- C. Spleen.

### 3. What are the main components of pus?

- A. Dead microbes and dead white blood cells.
- B. Dead red blood cells that have lost their haemoglobin (the protein responsible for their red colour).
- C. Blood plasma and live microbes.

### 4. Is fever an immune system response?

- A. Yes, because the immune system knows it can kill some types of microbes by raising the body temperature a few degrees.
- B. Yes, but fever indicates that the immune system is losing the fight against the infection.
- C. No, fever is caused by the heat generated when invading microbes undergo cell division.

### 5. What are suppressor cells?

- A. Cells lining the throat that help ease cold symptoms by suppressing the cough reflex.
- B. Cells that help call a halt to the immune system response.
- C. Cells that use their massive size to squash microbes, and thereby suppress their activity.

### 6. Which of the following body systems is considered to form part of the immune system?

- A. The urinary system.
- B. The circulatory system.
- C. The lymphatic system.

**7. Which other parts of the body help defend against microbes?**

- A. Skin, lungs and digestive tract.
- B. Hair, heart and reproductive system.
- C. Muscles, tendons and inner ears.

**8. What is an autoimmune disorder?**

- A. The inability of the immune system to automatically patrol the body for invading microbes, which means the person is vulnerable to colds and flu.
- B. A disorder characterised by the immune system mistakenly attacking the body's own tissues.
- C. The failure of an immunisation injection to protect against the particular disease, probably caused by the immune system 'rejecting' the vaccine.

Calculate score

Your score is:

**Score 0 to 2:**

You don't know much about the immune system at all. It might be a good idea to do some reading on the topic.

**Score 3 to 5:**

You have a general idea, but the immune system is still a bit of a mystery to you.

**Score 6 to 8:**

Congratulations, you show an impressive understanding of the immune system.

> Check the Correct answers.

**This page has been produced in consultation with, and approved by:**

Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI)

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