

## 英文

### What is medicine

“Medicine” is defined as: a material or mixture using for preventing, relieving or eliminating the syndrome or human disease, which may also recover or enhance human body’s normal physical function, or to assist doctor’s diagnosis.

It is said that “medicine is poison!” if you cannot use medicine properly. No matter its Chinese medicine or western medicine, once the medicine is being taken into human body, you can’t tell the difference. It can “cure” and “kill”. Without pharmacist’s instruction, it works one way or the other.

### Classifications of medicine

1. By appearance: injections, oral medicine, external use, medical instruments.
2. By categories: Prescription drugs, instruction drugs, and over-the counter drugs.

Prescription drugs: doctor’s prescriptions required, and dispensed by professional pharmacist. The pharmacist dispenses the medicine under doctor’s prescriptions, and advises patient for the usage.

Instruction drugs: doctor’s prescriptions not required, can be purchased at community pharmacy and take it under the instructions of pharmacist and the package inserts.

Over-the-counter (OTC) drugs: OTC class B can be purchased at supermarket or drug store, while OCT class A&B can be purchased at community pharmacy. Patient can purchase freely and use it according to the instructions of package inserts.

## 中文對照說明

### 藥是什麼

凡能預防、減輕或消除人體疾病症狀之發作，以恢復正常生理機能或增強體內機能，或用以協助疾病之診斷的物質或混合物稱為藥物。

藥不分中藥、西藥，不正當的使用就是毒。藥被吃到肚子裏面，無法分辨是中藥還是西藥，所以『藥可以治病，亦可以致病』，是一體的兩面，必須要有藥師調劑或指示才可使用。

### 藥品分類

1. 依藥物之外型：分為注射劑、口服藥、外用藥、醫療器材。
2. 我國藥品之分級：藥品分【成藥】、【指示藥】、【處方藥】三級。

處方藥：需持有醫師處方箋，請專業藥師調劑給藥；藥師依照醫師處方的藥品給藥，並指導用藥方法。

指示藥：不需醫師處方箋，可於社區藥局內購買；由藥師指導依藥品說明書指示的方法使用。

成藥：可於一般超市或藥房購買到乙類成藥，或於社區藥局購買到甲、乙類成藥；民眾可自由選購並依藥品說明書上指示的方法使用。