American Sign Language: Medical Terms

Sick



To sign "sick," hold modified five hands (with the middle finger bent at the large knuckle) a few inches from the forehead and stomach. Then bring both hands inward to contact the body.

Medicine



Touch your right hand middle finger to your left hand palm. Then pivot the right hand side to side a couple times.

Allergy/Allergic



Touch your nose and then sign "OPPOSITE." Do most of the movement with your dominant hand. The non-dominant hand doesn't move much.

Pain/Hurt



The sign for "hurt" is made by extending the index fingers of both hands. Bring the fingers toward each other, possibly with a twisting movement each twisting opposite the other, twice using a jabbing movement.

Note: Both versions of the sign for "HURT / PAIN" can be done on or near the part of the body that is feeling pain. For example if you have a toothache, you can indicate that in one sign by doing the sign "hurt" near the side of your jaw. If you have a headache, you can indicate it by signing "hurt" near your forehead.

Vomit



One or both five hands move away from open mouth.