Defence against disease

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Biology · SL · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
pathogen /ˈpæθədʒn/	A virus that causes flu is a **pathogen**.
antigen /ˈæntɪdʒen/	White blood cells recognise the **antigen** on the surface of a virus.
antibody /ˈæntɪbɒdi/	An **antibody** sticks to a matching antigen on a germ.
memory cell /ˈmeməri sel/	A **memory cell** remembers a germ, so the body reacts faster next time.
vaccination /ˌvæksɪˈneɪʃn/	**Vaccination** protects children from measles.
herd immunity /hɜːd ɪˈmjuːnɪti/	When most people are vaccinated, **herd immunity** protects the rest.

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