

## **Medical Trivia Numbers**

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There are around 3,000 prescription drugs available in the USA.

Rheumatoid arthritis affects 2.1 million adults in the United States.

There are 150 different types of arthritis.

You have a one in five chance of experiencing some form of rheumatic disease, such as arthritis, during your lifetime.

Some form of arthritis is experienced by 45 per cent of Australians over 70.

Arthritis and osteoporosis account for nearly a quarter of GP consultations in Australia, and 29 per cent of visits to specialists.

Three times as many women as men are diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis.

90% of all lupus patients are women.

Arthritis consumes more than 10% of Canada's total health care expenditures.

In the most recent comprehensive economic study in the United States, the cost of arthritis, including rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and osteoarthritis (OA), was \$64.8 billion in 1992.

The country with the largest number of hospitals is China, with 67,807 (1995 figures).

In China, traditional treatments including herbal remedies, acupuncture, acupressure and massage, and moxibustion (the burning of substances on the skin to remedy illness) account for around 40% of all health care.

60 percent of U.S. medical schools teach complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). 84.8% of US schools of nursing teach CAM.

Lee Redmond (USA), who hasn't cut her nails since 1979, has grown and carefully manicured them to reach a total length of 7 m 51.3 cm. The measurements of each fingernail is, on the right hand: thumb 76.4 cm, index finger 72.3 cm; middle finger 74.1 cm, ring finger 73.6 cm, little finger 71.6 cm

Tobacco smoke contains over 4,000 different chemicals. At least 43 are known carcinogens (cause cancer in humans).

Women blink twice as much as men.

If you go blind in one eye, you'll only lose about one fifth of your vision.

The average person takes 7 minutes to fall asleep.

The Statue of Liberty in New York's index finger is eight feet long.

Human hair is estimated to grow at 0.00000001 miles per hour.

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The most extreme recorded case of coin-swallowing was recorded in England in 1958, when it was reported that 424 coins and 27 pieces of wire totalling 5 lbs. 1 oz. had been extracted from the stomach of a 54-year-old man.

The chance of contracting an infection during a hospital stay in the USA is 1 in 15.

Most deaths in a hospital are between the times of 4 pm and 6 pm. This is the time when the human body is at its weakest.

In the US, the error rate for doctors prescribing the wrong medicine for their patient's ailment is 1 in 12

Two million Americans go to the doctor with heartburn every day.

The world's largest collection of preserved human brains is maintained beneath the Runwell Psychiatric Hospital in England. 8,000 brains have been collected over the past 40 years and are available for researchers to study.

One in five of the world's 2.5 million medical doctors are Russian.

In the USA, the chances your doctor is a fake are 1 in 50.

Charles Osborne of Iowa began hiccupping in 1922 and didn't stop for over 70 years.

In the UK, alcohol abuse is linked to: 65% of suicide attempts, 39% of fires, 15% of drownings and 76,000 facial injuries a year,

Every 12 years we humans have an entirely new skeleton, due to the body's continual replacement of its cells.

About one fourth of the average American's daily intake comes from sugar in one form or another.

Your heels bear 60% of your body's weight.

Every day the average heart beats 100,000 times and pumps about 2,000 gallons of blood. In a 70-year lifetime that adds up to more than 2.5 billion heart beats.

While approximately 10 per cent of HIV/AIDS infections worldwide are caused by injecting drug use, this mode of transmission accounts for 60-90 per cent of new cases in Central Asia.

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In July 2001, the FBI's Kansas City Division discovered that a pharmacist was diluting doses of Gemzar and Taxol, two chemotherapy drugs used to treat cancer patients. Tests showed that prescriptions prepared by Courtney, which should have had 100 percent of the prescribed drugs, actually had as little as 1 percent of the cancer drug.

During 2003, prescription drug expenditures rose by an average of 13.4 percent in the United States, according to data from Medco Health Solutions, Inc.

In the USA average medical-related expenses were the largest category of employee benefits, at \$6,277 per worker.

According to 1998 U.S. statistics, the per capita health cost in the United States was the highest in the World, at \$4,094 per person. Switzerland was second, at \$2,644 (35.4% less than the United States), followed by Germany at \$2,365 (42.2% less than the United States).

In 2002, a national survey of school children in Scotland found that 34% of 13 year olds said they had been offered a drug. 13% said they had used a drug.

Most major pharmaceutical companies spend two or three times as much on marketing and administration as they do on research and development, and their profits are about twice their research and development costs.

The average adult human brain weighs 1300 grams. The average newborn human brain weighs 350 grams. The average sperm whale's brain weighs 7800 grams and the average dolphin's brain weighs 1500 grams. The average cat's brain weighs 30 grams.

The human brain makes up 2% of total body weight.

The average human brain width, length and height are 140 mm, 167 mm and 93 mm.

The average number of neurons in the brain is 100 billion

78% of the brain is water and only 8% is protein.

The cerebral cortex has 240 trillion synapses.

The longest anyone has ever gone without sleeping is 264 hours.

The time until unconsciousness after loss of blood supply to the brain is 8 to 10 sec.

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The hearing range for a young adult human is 20 to 20,000 Hz. For an elderly human it is 50 to 8,000 Hz, for a cat 100 to 60,000 Hz, for a dolphin 200 to 150,000 Hz and for an elephant 1 to 20,000 Hz.

The Auditory Pain Threshold is 130 db. The threshold for hearing damage is 90 db for an extended period of time. A rocket launching pad is equivalent to 180 Db, a jet plane to 140 Db, an automobile horn to 120 Db, the subway to 80 Db and a noisy restaurant to 75 Db. A soft whisper is 30 Db.

There are 9,000 taste buds on the tongue.

A human has 12 million olfactory receptor cells in the nose. A rabbit has 100 million and a dog has 1 billion.

The average time between blinks is 2.8 seconds

The average duration of a single blink is 0.1 to 0.4 seconds

The adult human skin weighs 9 lb. (4.1 kg).

The surface area of an adult human skin is 1.8 square metres.

The length of giraffe's longest neuron is 15 feet (from toe to neck).

At an inquest held on a baby boy in London on September 16, 1921, it was reported that he had 14 fingers and 15 toes.

In the USA, the average stay in a hospital to give birth was 4.1 days in 1970. It was 2.6 days in 1993.

In the US, the average price of a day in the hospital is \$360. In Japan it is \$60.

Only 40% of people in the US are eligible for government funded hospital care. Other countries include 77% for the Netherlands, 92% for Germany, 98% for Switzerland, Spain, and Belgium, and 99% for France and Austria.

There are 18 doctors in the US called Dr. Doctor, and one called Dr. Surgeon. There is also one dermatologist named Dr. Rash, a psychiatrist called Dr. Couch and an anaesthesiologist named Dr. Gass.

Smokers in their 30s and 40s have five times as many heart attacks as non-smokers.

One in three Americans visits an emergency department each year.

The record for the most pies ever consumed in a single sitting was made by an American, Frank Giblet, on a holiday in Germany. He ate 631 meat pies, each with a diameter of approx 2'. After this he was admitted to a local hospital where he had a minor cardiac arrest.

Giraffes have a 3 feet long tongue.

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Each fibre of cotton is a single cell about 3000 times as long as it is wide.

75% of American adults do not know that antibiotics kill bacteria but not viruses.

Each square inch of human skin consists of twenty feet of blood vessels.

Almost half the bones in your body are in your hands and feet.

Nerve impulses to and from the brain travel as fast as 170 miles per hour.

There are ten human body parts that are only three letters long: Eye, Ear, Leg, Arm, Jaw, Gum, Toe, Lip, Hip and Rib.

During conscription for WW II, there were nine documented cases in the USA of men with three testicles.

60 percent of new drugs come on the market in the U.S. before the rest of the world

In the USA, three-quarters of people who see a drug on TV and ask their doctors for it are successful.

On average 98 percent of papers on research sponsored by the drugs industry reflect favourably on the drug in question.

The parts of the Federal Drugs Agency that review and approve new drugs have around 1,300 employees. The part that tracks whether new drugs are hurting people has 72 employees, including only 13 with formal training in epidemiology (the science of spotting medical disasters).

The drugs industry has an \$11 billion promotional budget

According to statistics cited by Food and Drug Administration officials, toxic reactions to marketed drugs are estimated to cost more than \$30 billion per year and be among the ten leading causes of death in the United States.

In drug development, out of every 5,000 new compounds identified during the discovery process, only five are considered safe for testing in human volunteers after preclinical evaluations. After three to six years of further clinical testing in patients, only one of these compounds is ultimately approved as a marketed drug for treatment.

The United States accounts for 46 percent of the world's pharmaceutical market.

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The top 10 pharmaceutical companies by 2004 sales were: Pfizer (revenues \$50.90 billion, R and D budget \$7.52 billion), GlaxoSmithKline (\$32.70 billion/ \$5.19 B), Sanofi-Aventis (\$27.10 B/ \$9.31 B), Johnson & Johnson (\$24.60 B/ \$5.20 B), Merck (\$23.90 B/ \$4.01 B), Novartis (\$22.70 B/ \$3.48 B), AstraZeneca (\$21.60 B/ \$3.80 B), Hoffman-LaRoche (\$17.70 B/ \$5.09 B), Bristol-Myers Squibb (\$15.50 B/ \$2.50 B), Wyeth (\$14.20 B/ \$2.46 B)

A typical drug patent lasts for 20 years. However, it often takes as long as 12 years to approve a drug for patient use.

Currently, there are approximately 100,000 pharmaceutical sales reps in the United States. Drug companies spend \$5 billion annually sending representatives to physician offices.

Discovering and bringing one new drug to the public typically costs a pharmaceutical or biotechnology company nearly \$900 million and takes an average of 10 to 12 years.

In 2003, 2,500,000,000 paracetamol tablets were sold over the counter in the UK.

Paracetamol poisoning accounted for 51% of the liver disease in the US in 2003. Approx half of the cases were accidental. 12-15 Paracetamol tablets can kill an adult.

Hepatitis is 4000 times more infectious than HIV

Around the world, about 1600 people are infected with HIV-AIDS every day.

In the UK there was 100 times more research money spent on AIDS than on Prostate cancer in 2004, but 100 times more men died from Prostate cancer than from AIDS.

On average in the USA, a murder is committed every 20 minutes. Every 15 minutes someone commits suicide, every 3 minutes someone has a heart attack and every minute someone attempts suicide.

The mosquito is the most dangerous animal in the world. 3000 people die each day from Malaria. World wide, 515 million people are infected.

15% of the UK NHS budget is spent on treating sufferers from diabetes and its related complications.

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Even properly performed, CPR delivers less than 30% of the hearts normal flow of oxygenated blood to the brain.

Fewer than 5% of the 700 a day cardiac arrest sufferers in the US survive to hospital discharge. If a victim of cardiac arrest is given good CPR, gets shocked by a defibrillator within 4 minutes, and drugs/heart surgery as appropriate within 60 minutes, the chance of survival goes up to better than 60%.

Last year in the UK, 2500 people died in traffic accidents. 3000 died from hypothermia and cold related problems, mostly in their own home.

Traces of cocaine were found on 99% of UK bank notes in a survey in London in 2000.

The number of drug deaths in the USA in a typical year is as follows: Tobacco kills about 390,000, alcohol kills about 80,000, passive smoking kills about 50,000, cocaine kills about 2,200, heroin kills about 2,000, aspirin kills about 2,000 and marijuana kills 0.

All illegal drugs combined kill about 4,500 people per year, or about one percent of the number killed by alcohol and tobacco. Tobacco kills more people each year than all of the people killed by all of the illegal drugs in the last century.

Bayer was advertising cough medicine containing heroin in 1898.

PNEUMONOUltramicROscopicSilicoVolcanOKoniosis (45 letters; a lung disease caused by breathing in certain particles) is the longest word in any English-language dictionary.

### Numbers trivia questions

How old is/ was..... (when.....)?

How deep is.....?

How far is/ does ..... (from .....to.....)?

How heavy (is).....?

How long is/ was .....

How long does/ did (it take).....?

How much (money) does/ did.....cost?

How much (money) was .....

How much (long)er is.....than .....

How much does.....weigh?

How many types of .....

How many.... are there.....?

How many..... were.....?

How many ..... do .....

How many people are.....?

How many people have.....?

How many people.....?

How many times (higher/ greater/ more.....) is..... than.....?

How many minutes (are there).....?

How many litres (of.....).....?

How many hours (do).....?

How many tons does.....weigh?

When was..... ?

When did.....?

On what date was/ did.....?

In which year was/ did.....?

At what age did.....?

What percentage of..... is/ are.....?

What is the weight of.....?

What is the population of.....?

What is the life expectancy of.....?

What is the probability of.....?

What is the (average) price of.....?

*Make at least one question for each sentence above by filling the gaps*