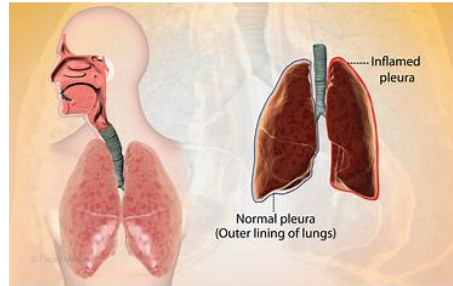


## PLEURISY.

This disease is an inflammation of the membrane that lines the cavity of the chest and lungs.

Symptoms.—A slight chill, followed by a sharp, cutting pain in one or both sides. The pain is usually seated a little below the nipple. The pain is greatly aggravated by the inhalation of air in breathing, as the lungs expand and stretch the inflamed membrane. It is also increased by coughing, by lying on the affected side, and by pressure. There is a short, harsh cough, the skin is hot and dry, the cheeks are flushed, and the pulse is hard and quick, and the patient is anxious and restless.



**Treatment.**— Time should not be lost before commencing the treatment, as this disease is very apt to terminate in dropsy (*edema/swelling*) of the chest, or in the formation of pus. As soon as possible after ascertaining the nature of the

difficulty, give the patient as hot a sitz and foot-bath as he can well bear for fifteen minutes. Then apply a fomentation, as hot as can be borne, over the region of the pain for from thirty to sixty minutes. The heat should be renewed every five minutes. At the end of every fifteen minutes during the time, cold compresses should be applied for five minutes at a time. Another plan is to give the hot sitz and foot-bath, then apply ice water to the affected part in front, and the hot fomentation to the shoulders and spine. The fever should be treated as putrid fever, if the patient is very gross, or as nervous fever, if very weak without much grossness. If the dropsical accumulation within the chest continues after the inflammation is apparently removed, treat with sweating baths, as directed for general treatment of dropsy.

Night Sweats, may set in during this disease, or any other inflammatory or febrile (feverish) disease. All that is required is to sponge the patient frequently with tepid or cool water, give him plenty of pure air, and keep him quiet and free from anxiety. Cool dripping-sheets before retiring are among the best appliances.