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Forty-one alphabetically arranged articles report on the year's major developments in health and medicine, from "Aging" and "AIDS" to "Veterinary Medicine" and "Weight Control." In addition, six Close-Up articles focus on noteworthy developments:

Few Answers for Chronic Fatigue Sufferers [Allergies and Immunology]	238
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Two articles spotlight people who contribute to health care.

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The World Book Health & Medical Annual takes a wide-ranging, in-depth look at an important area of medicine today.

Prescription Drugs and Human Health by Ricki Lewis	368
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A cumulative index of topics covered in the 1992, 1991, and 1990 issues of *The World Book Health & Medical Annual*.

Cross-Reference Tabs

A tear-out page of cross-reference tabs for insertion in *The World Book Encyclopedia* appears before page 1.



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Special Reports

Fifteen articles present in-depth information about topics of current importance in health and medicine.

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| The Specter of AIDS | 12 |
| by Richard Trubo | |
| AIDS has claimed thousands of lives during its brief history. As the number continues to soar, scientists search for ways to battle the disease. | |
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| Measles on the Rise | 28 |
| by Rebecca Voelker | |
| Although a vaccine had almost eliminated measles in the United States by 1983, the disease is again on the rise. Here's a look at who is at risk—and why. | |
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| New Options for Treating Gallstones | 40 |
| by Thomas Maugh II | |
| New treatments can relieve the painful symptoms of gallstones without the discomfort and lengthy recuperation time of traditional surgery. | |
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| Healthy Skepticism | 54 |
| by Patricia Thomas | |
| Confused by the news media's seemingly contradictory reports about the findings of medical studies? Here are some tips on how to read between the lines and become a critical consumer of medical news. | |
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| Combating Prostate Cancer | 68 |
| by William H. Allen | |
| Prostate cancer kills about 32,000 men each year in the United States. With early detection, many of those lives could be saved. | |
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| Pneumonia Still Can Be a Killer | 82 |
| by Beverly Merz | |
| Most people no longer think of pneumonia as a life-threatening illness. But the ailment still ranks as the sixth leading cause of death in the United States. | |
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| Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies | 96 |
| by Cristine Russell | |
| By taking care of their own health and seeking prenatal care, women today have far greater opportunities than ever before to have a healthy baby. | |
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Defeating Drug Dependency	110
by Dianne Hales	
Breaking the devastating habit of drug abuse can be a daunting challenge. But for many people, the right treatment program can make the difference.	
The Puzzle of PMS	124
by Sally Squires	
Although researchers have not yet identified the cause of premenstrual syndrome, many women have found effective ways of coping with this condition.	
Closing in on Parkinson's Disease	138
by Michael Woods	
Scientists believe they are close to finding the cause or causes of Parkinson's disease, a brain disorder that results in a loss of muscle control.	
Learning to Treat Schizophrenia	152
by Bruce Bower	
Schizophrenia's symptoms bring anguish to patients and their families. But there is hope for recovery.	
Apocalypse Then: A History of Plague	166
by Robin Netherton	
During the 1300's, a mysterious and deadly disease wiped out a third of Europe—roughly 20 million people.	
What's Behind Shyness?	182
by Richard Saltus	
Psychologists say that some people are born with a tendency to be shy. Many learn to cope with their shyness, and parents can help shy children.	
Poison on a Plate	196
by Yvonne Baskin	
What caused Canada's largest outbreak of botulism, a deadly form of food poisoning? A team of "disease detectives" turned up an unlikely suspect.	
Sexually Transmitted Danger	210
by Joseph Wallace	
Rising at epidemic rates, sexually transmitted diseases rank among the most serious public health problems in the United States.	

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