

# Microbe Wanted Poster

(modified from an activity at Access Exchange)

## Assignment

Make a wanted poster for one of the diseases listed below. Include the following information:

- Hand drawn picture of your microbe.
- Write the name of the microbe and if it is bacterium, fungus, protist.
- Description of the disease it causes.
- How you get the disease (eating, breathing, through the air, touch, etc.)
- What happens to the victim.
- What are the symptoms.
- Is it considered armed and dangerous? rate the degree of damage caused (makes you sick, can kill you, etc.).
- How is it treated.

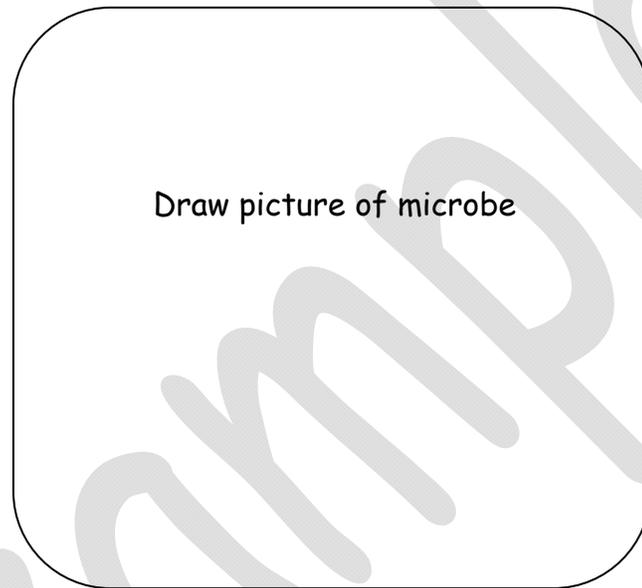
## Poster Rubric

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Required Elements	The poster includes all required elements as well as additional information.	All required elements are included on the poster.	All but 1 of the required elements are included on the poster.	Several required elements were missing.
Knowledge Gained	Student can accurately answer all questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student can accurately answer most questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student can accurately answer about 75% of questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student appears to have insufficient knowledge about the facts or processes used in the poster.
Content - Accuracy	All facts displayed on the poster are correct.	All but one fact displayed on the poster is correct.	2-3 facts displayed on the poster are incorrect.	Four or more facts displayed on the poster are incorrect.

# Wanted

Name of Microbe

Draw picture of microbe

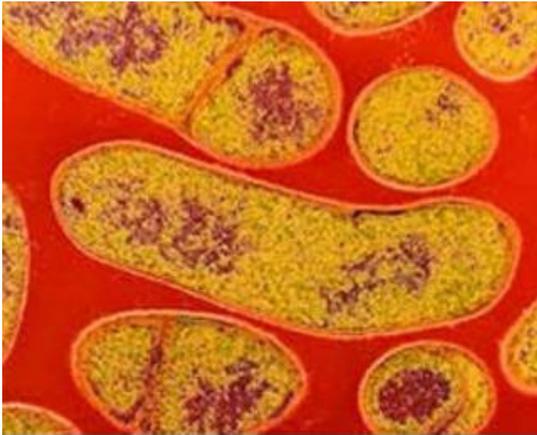


Required information in this section.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Name must be in bottom right corner!*

# Botulism (bot-u-liz-um)



Clostridium botulinum

## ***What is Botulism?***

Botulism is a rare but serious illness caused by a nerve toxin that is produced by bacteria (*Clostridium botulinum*).

## ***How do you get botulism?***

You get botulism by eating foods that contain the botulism toxin.

All forms of botulism can be fatal and are considered medical emergencies. Food borne botulism can be especially dangerous because many people can be poisoned by eating a contaminated food.

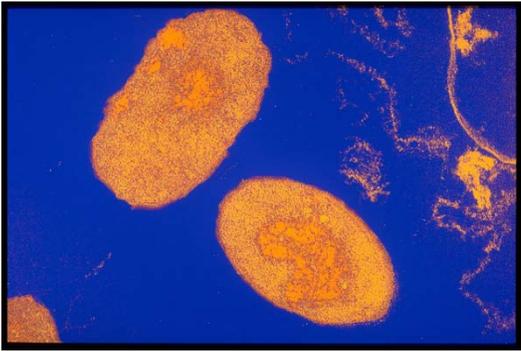
## ***What are botulism's symptoms?***

Double vision, blurred vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing, dry mouth, and muscle weakness. If untreated, these symptoms may progress to cause paralysis of the arms, legs, trunk and respiratory muscles. In food borne botulism, symptoms generally begin 18 to 36 hours after eating a contaminated food, but they can occur as early as 6 hours or as late as 10 days.

## ***Treatment***

If caught early enough, shots of antitoxin are given to break down the botulism's toxin (poison). If you have breathing problems, you may need a ventilator to help you breathe.

# Whooping Cough



## *What is whooping cough?*

This is a disease of the respiratory tract, highly contagious, and a vaccine-preventable, bacterial (*Bordetella pertussis*) infection.

## *How do you get whooping cough?*

The infection is spread through the air by respiratory droplets from an infected person (direct contact). If you are going to get it, you usually get it 7 days after you were exposed to the disease.

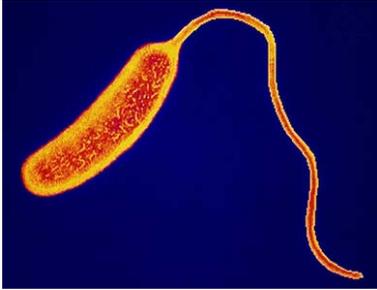
## *What are the symptoms of whooping cough?*

Symptoms are a runny nose; cough (severe); slight fever (102° or lower); severe coughing attacks that can end in a high pitched, crowing sound when inhaling or ends in a high-pitched "whoop"; a coughing spell that may end in a momentary loss of consciousness, or a cough with difficulty in breathing; vomiting during a severe bout of coughing; diarrhea, and choking spells in infants.

## *Treatment*

Bed rest and antibiotics are prescribed.

# Cholera (call-er-a)



## *What is cholera?*

Cholera is an acute, diarrheal illness caused by infection of the intestine with **bacteria (*Vibrio cholera*)**.

## *How do you get cholera?*

A person may get cholera by drinking water or eating food contaminated with the cholera bacterium. In an epidemic, the source of the contamination is usually the feces of an infected person. Shellfish eaten raw have been a source of cholera, and a few persons in the United States have contracted cholera after eating raw or undercooked shellfish from the Gulf of Mexico. Casual contact with an infected person is not a risk for becoming ill.

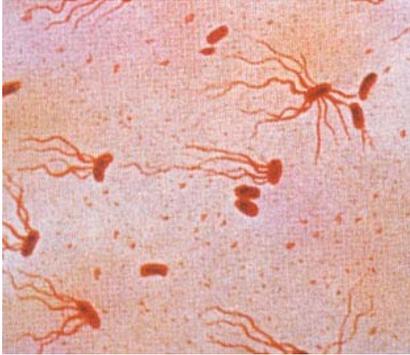
## *What are the symptoms of cholera?*

The infection is often mild or without symptoms, but sometimes it can be severe. Approximately one in 20 infected persons have severe disease characterized by profuse watery diarrhea, vomiting, and leg cramps. In these persons, rapid loss of body fluids leads to dehydration and shock. Without treatment, death can occur within hours.

## *Treatment*

Increasing fluids is essential. Antibiotics can also help.

# Typhoid (tie-foïd) Fever



## ***What is typhoid fever?***

Typhoid fever is a life-threatening illness caused by **bacteria (*Salmonella typhi*)**.

## ***How do you get typhoid fever?***

The bacteria live only in humans. You can get typhoid fever if you eat food or drink beverages that have been handled by a person who is shedding the bacteria or if sewage contaminated with bacteria gets into the water you use for drinking or washing food. Therefore, typhoid fever is more common in areas of the world where hand washing is less frequent and water is likely to be contaminated with sewage.

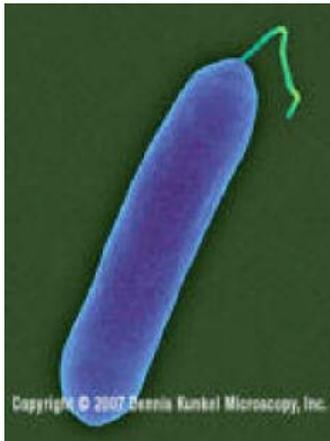
## ***What are the symptoms of typhoid fever?***

Persons with typhoid fever usually have a sustained fever as high as 103° to 104° F. They may also feel weak, or have stomach pains, headache, or loss of appetite. In some cases, patients have a rash of flat, rose-colored spots.

## ***Treatment***

Using antibiotics, increasing fluids, and a healthy diet.

# Salmonella



## *What is salmonella?*

Salmonella is a type of food poisoning caused by **bacteria** (*Salmonella enteritidis*).

## *How do I get salmonella?*

Salmonella are usually transmitted to humans by eating foods contaminated with animal feces. Contaminated foods usually look and smell normal. Contaminated foods are often of animal origin, such as beef, poultry, milk, or eggs, but all foods, including vegetables may become contaminated. Many raw foods of animal origin are frequently contaminated, but fortunately, thorough cooking kills Salmonella. Food may also become contaminated by the unwashed hands of an infected food handler, who forgot to wash his or her hands with soap after using the bathroom. Transmission may also occur by handling pet turtles, baby chicks, frogs and snails that harbor the Salmonella bacteria.

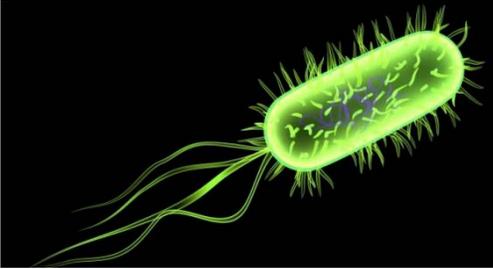
## *What are the symptoms of salmonella?*

Symptoms can vary greatly from person to person, may occur 12-72 hours after ingestion of contaminated food or water and may last 4-7 days. Most individuals experience two or more of the following symptoms: onset of severe headaches, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, low-grade fever and muscle aches. Some individuals experience no symptoms but harbor the bacteria in their intestines and are at risk of spreading it to other individuals. A diagnosis of Salmonella infection is made by testing a poop specimen for the presence of the bacteria.

## *Treatment*

Usually no antibiotics are given because it last such a short time. Rest and drinking plenty of fluids is usually the best course.

# E. coli



## *What is E. coli?*

*E. coli* (*Escherichia coli*) are **bacteria** that normally live in the intestines of humans and animals. Although, most of these bacteria are harmless, several are known to produce toxins that can cause diarrhea and food poisoning.

## *How do I get E. coli?*

The bacteria are acquired by eating food containing the bacteria. The bacteria live in the intestines of some healthy cattle, and contamination of the meat may occur in the slaughtering process. Eating meat that is rare or inadequately cooked is the most common way of getting the infection. Person-to-person transmission can occur if infected people do not wash their hands after using the toilet.

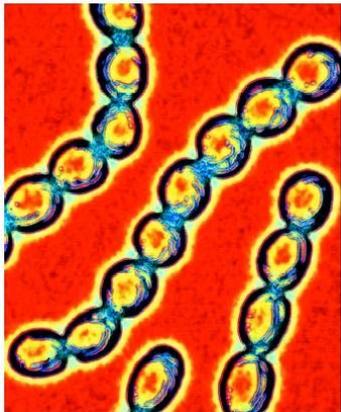
## *What are the symptoms of E. coli?*

Symptoms start about 7 days after you are infected with the germ. The first sign is severe abdominal cramps that start suddenly. After a few hours, watery diarrhea starts. The diarrhea causes your body to lose fluids and electrolytes (dehydration). This makes you feel sick and tired. The watery diarrhea lasts for about a day. Then the diarrhea changes to bright red bloody poop. The infection makes sores in your intestines, so the poop become bloody. Bloody diarrhea lasts for 2 to 5 days. You might have 10 or more bowel movements a day. Some people say their stools (#2) are "all blood and no poop." You may have a mild fever or no fever. You may also have nausea or vomiting. If you have any of these symptoms - watery, bloody diarrhea, cramps, fever, nausea or vomiting - try to get to your doctor right away.

## *Treatment*

Drink plenty of water and don't take medication for diarrhea because the body is getting rid of the disease.

# Strep Throat



## *What is strep throat?*

Strep throat is a sore throat caused by **bacteria** (*Streptococcus pyogenes*).

## *How do I get strep throat?*

These bacteria are spread through direct contact with mucus from the nose or throat of persons who are infected or through contact with infected wounds or sores on the skin. Preventing its spread is helped by: good hand washing not sharing eating utensils, or drinking from the same container used by the ill person, and avoiding close contact while ill.

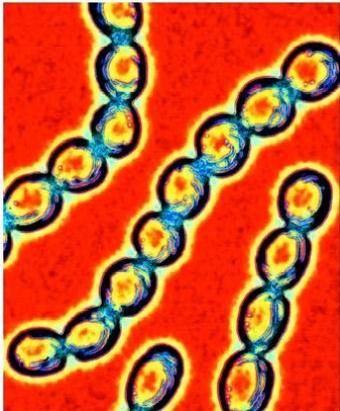
## *What are the symptoms of strep throat?*

Symptoms of strep throat may include: significant fever of approximately 101 degrees Fahrenheit or higher; pus, or white spots, on either or both the tonsils and throat area when the tonsils have been previously removed; swollen, tender lymph nodes in the throat area, just below the ear, where the jaw bone and neck meet; and a feeling of being sicker than you normally would be with a cold.

## *Treatment*

An antibiotic is prescribed.

# Scarlet Fever



## *What is Scarlet Fever?*

Scarlet Fever is an infection caused by **bacteria** (*Streptococcus pyogenes*).

## *How do I get Scarlet Fever?*

This illness can be caught from other people if you come in contact with the sick person because this germ is carried in the mouth and nasal fluids. If you touch your mouth, nose or eyes after touching something that has these fluids on them, you may become ill. Also, if you drink from the same glass or eat from the same plate as the sick person, you could also become ill. The best way to keep from getting sick is to wash your hands often and avoid sharing eating utensils.

## *What are the symptoms of Scarlet Fever?*

The most common symptoms of scarlet fever are:

- A rash first appears as tiny red bumps on the chest and abdomen. This rash may then spread all over the body. It looks like a sunburn and feels like a rough piece of sandpaper. It is usually redder in the armpits and groin areas. The rash lasts about 2-5 days. After the rash is gone, often the skin on the tips of the fingers and toes begins to peel.
- The face is flushed with a pale area around the lips.
- The throat is very red and sore. It can have white or yellow patches.
- A fever of 101 degrees Fahrenheit (38.3 degrees Celsius) or higher is common. Chills are often seen with the fever.
- Glands in the neck are often swollen.

- A whitish coating can appear on the surface of the tongue. The tongue itself looks like a strawberry because the normal bumps on the tongue look bigger.

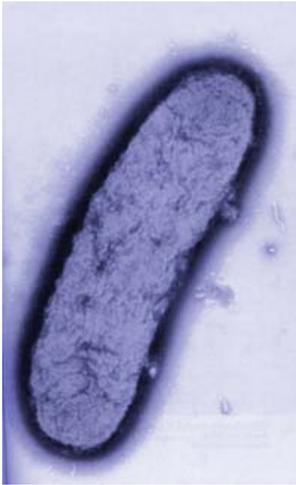
Other less common symptoms include:

- Nausea and vomiting
- Headache
- Body aches

### ***Treatment***

Antibiotics are prescribed.

# Bubonic Plague (Boo-bon-ik)



## *What is Bubonic Plague?*

Bubonic Plague is an infection caused by **bacteria** (*Yersinia pestis*).

## *How do I get Bubonic Plague?*

Plague is transmitted among rodents and to humans by fleabite or ingestion of the feces of fleas. It can also be transmitted from human to human when a plague victim develops pneumonia and spreads infected droplets by coughing.

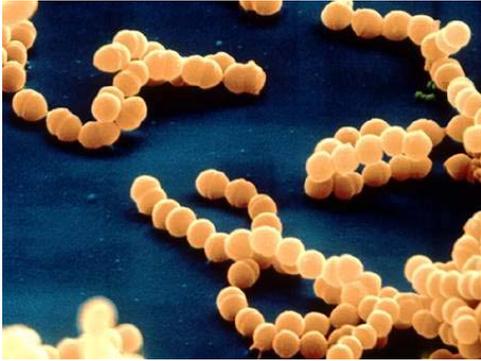
## *What are the symptoms of Bubonic Plague?*

Sudden onset of high fever, chills, general discomfort and uneasiness, muscular pain, severe headache, and seizures.

## *Treatment*

Hospitalization and antibiotics,

## Meningitis (Men-in-gi-tis)



### *What is Meningitis?*

Meningitis is an infection caused by **bacteria** (*Neisseria meningitides*).

### *How do I get Meningitis?*

It is a contagious disease. You can only get it when a person has been in very close contact with a person who becomes sick, such as a household member or a girlfriend or boyfriend. The bacteria are spread through the exchange of respiratory and throat secretions (i.e., coughing, kissing). The bacteria are not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with meningococcal disease has been.

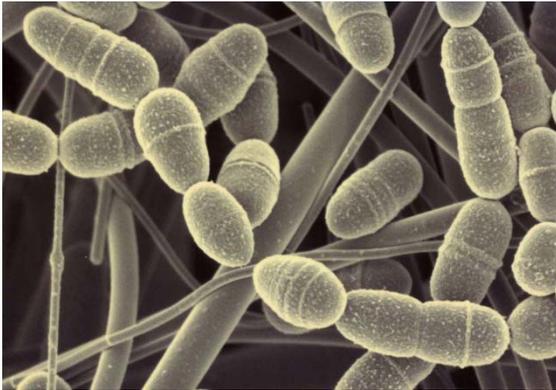
### *What are the symptoms of Meningitis?*

A high fever, headache, stiff neck, or a development of a dark purple rash. These symptoms at first may appear similar to other illnesses such as the flu, but the symptoms progress rapidly and persons with meningococcal disease can be seriously ill 12-24 hours after symptoms start.

### *Treatment*

Hospitalization and antibiotics.

# Dental Caries (caries)/Tooth Decay



## *What is Dental Caries?*

Dental Caries is a disease caused by bacteria (*Streptococcus mutans*).

## *How do I get Dental Caries?*

Tooth decay is one of the most common of all disorders. Bacteria are normally present in the mouth. The bacteria convert all foods into acids. Bacteria, acid, food debris, and saliva combine in the mouth to form a sticky substance called plaque that adheres to the teeth. Plaque begins to build up on teeth within 20 minutes after eating (the time when most bacterial activity occurs). The acids in plaque dissolve the enamel surface of the tooth and create holes in the tooth (cavities).

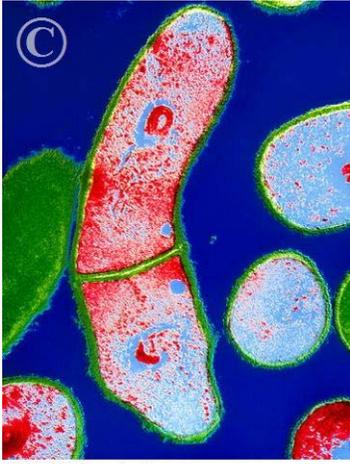
## *What are the symptoms of Dental Caries?*

Toothache -- particularly after sweet, hot, or cold foods and drinks  
Visible pits or holes in the teeth.

## *Treatment*

The decayed material is removed (by drilling) and replaced with a restorative material such as silver alloy, gold, porcelain, or composite resin.

# Diphtheria



## *What is diphtheria?*

Diphtheria is a very contagious and potentially life-threatening infection that usually attacks the throat and nose. Diphtheria is caused by **bacteria** (*Corynebacterium diphtheriae*). The bacteria produce a toxin (poison) that is carried in the bloodstream.

## *How do I get diphtheria?*

Diphtheria spreads from person to person very easily. People get diphtheria by breathing in diphtheria bacteria after an infected person has coughed or sneezed. People also get diphtheria from close contact with discharges from an infected person's mouth, nose, throat, or skin. Some people can be infected but not appear ill. They can also spread the infection.

## *What are the symptoms of diphtheria?*

Symptoms include a sore throat, fever and chills, bloody and watery drainage from the nose, croup like coughing, and difficult or rapid breathing. In more serious cases, it can attack the nerves and heart. Because of widespread immunization, diphtheria is very rare in the United States. However, some people are not adequately vaccinated, and cases still occur.

## *Treatment*

Antibiotics and/or antitoxins are prescribed.

# Tetanus



## *What is tetanus?*

Tetanus, commonly called lockjaw, is a **bacterial** (*Clostridium tetani*) disease that affects the nervous system.

## *How do I get tetanus?*

Tetanus is contracted through a wound, which becomes contaminated with the organism. It is not transmitted from person to person.

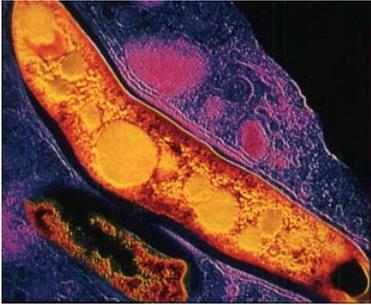
## *What are the symptoms of tetanus?*

A common first sign of tetanus is muscular stiffness in the jaw (lockjaw), followed by stiffness of the neck, difficulty in swallowing, rigidity of abdominal muscles, spasms, sweating and fever.

## *Treatment*

A tetanus antitoxin and antibiotics are prescribed.

# Tuberculosis (two-berk-u-low-sis)



## *What is tuberculosis?*

A highly contagious, airborne, rod-shaped **bacteria** (*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*) that thrives on oxygen, and primarily attacks the lungs, but which may also affect the kidneys, bones, lymph nodes, and brain.

## *How do I get tuberculosis?*

Infection spreads through direct person-to-person contact. When an infected person talks, coughs, sings, or spits, tiny aerosolized droplets containing bacteria are released into the air and inhaled by uninfected persons. Viable bacteria can remain in the air for a long time.

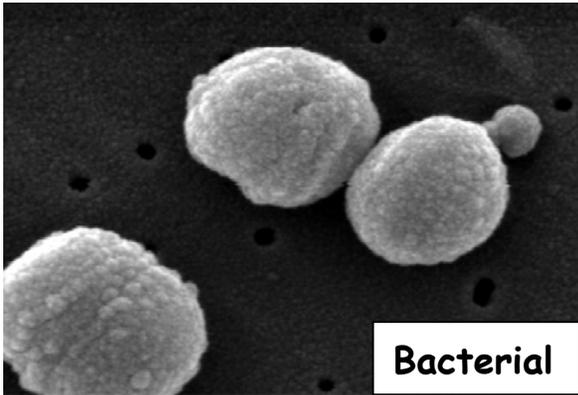
## *What are the symptoms of tuberculosis?*

Symptoms include: cough that is worse in the morning (sometimes with hemoptysis, blood in the sputum), chest pain, breathlessness, night sweats, and signs of pneumonia. In advanced disease, there may be extreme weight loss. Examination with a stethoscope may reveal diminished breath sounds, bronchial breathing, tracheal deviation, and coarse crackles.

## *Treatment*

Long-term antibiotics are prescribed (6 - 12 months) - doctors could prescribe at least four different antibiotics.

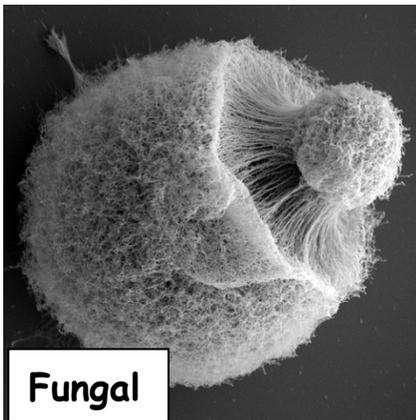
# Pneumonia (new-moan-ya)



## *What is pneumonia?*

Pneumonia is an inflammation of the lungs caused by **bacterial** (*Streptococcus pneumoniae*) or **fungal** (*Cryptococcus neoformans*) infection. **Bacterial** pneumonias tend to be the most serious. In adults, **bacteria** are the

most common cause.



## *How do you get pneumonia?*

The bacteria that cause pneumonia are contagious and are usually found in fluid from the mouth or nose of an infected person. Illness can spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes on a person, by sharing drinking glasses and eating utensils, and when a person touches the used tissues or handkerchiefs of an infected person.

## *What are the symptoms of pneumonia?*

Symptoms can include a cough, chills with shaking, fever, easy fatigue, chest pain, headache, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting, shortness of breath, excessive sweating, clammy skin, and coughing up blood.

## *Treatment*

If caused by bacteria - antibiotics are prescribed. If caused by fungus, antifungals will be prescribed.

# Aspergillosis (asper-jill-o-sis)



## ***What is aspergillosis?***

A fungal (*Aspergillus*) infection that attacks the respiratory system, usually with fever, cough, and chest pain.

## ***How do I get aspergillosis?***

Transmission is through inhalation of airborne spores.

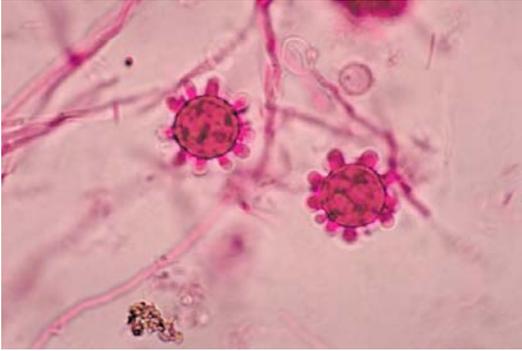
## ***What are the symptoms of aspergillosis?***

Cough, chest pain, difficulty breathing, fever, and night sweats, sinus pain and facial swelling. It may disseminate to other organs, including brain, skin and bone. Also causes allergic sinusitis and allergic bronchopulmonary disease.

## ***Treatment***

Antifungal drugs are prescribed.

# Histoplasmosis (histo-plaz-mo-sis)



## *What is histoplasmosis?*

Histoplasmosis is an infection of the respiratory system caused by fungus (*Histoplasma capsulatum*).

## *How do I get histoplasmosis?*

Histoplasmosis is spread through the air. If soil containing the histoplasmosis fungus is disturbed, the fungus spores get into the air. People can breathe in the spores and get histoplasmosis. The disease is not spread from person to person.

## *What are the symptoms of histoplasmosis?*

Most infected persons have no symptoms. When symptoms occur, they vary widely, depending on the form of the disease.

The lung infection can be short-term (acute) and relatively mild, or it can be long-term (chronic) and serious. Symptoms of the acute lung infection are tiredness, fever, chills, chest pains, and a dry cough. The chronic lung infection is like tuberculosis and occurs mostly in persons who already have lung disease. It can progress over months or years and can scar the lungs.

Disseminated histoplasmosis results in a variety of serious symptoms and can involve all body organs. The liver and spleen usually become enlarged, and sores in the mouth or gastrointestinal tract can develop. Disseminated histoplasmosis can be fatal.

## *Treatment*

Treatment for mild cases is not required. More serious forms of the disease require antifungal medications.

# Athlete's Foot



## *What is athlete's foot?*

Athlete's foot is a very common skin condition — many people will develop it at least once in their lives. It is more frequent among teenage and adult males. Athlete's foot is a **fungal (*Trichophyton*) infection**, tiny plant-like "germs," that can grow and multiply on human skin, especially the feet. It

grows best in a dark, moist, and warm environment. A foot inside a shoe is the perfect place for the fungus.

## *How do I get athlete's foot?*

Athlete's foot is contagious and may be caught by walking barefoot in the locker room. However, it is not known exactly who is at risk for getting athlete's foot. Sweaty feet, tight shoes/socks, not drying one's feet well after swimming, bathing, or exercising all contribute to the development of athlete's foot.

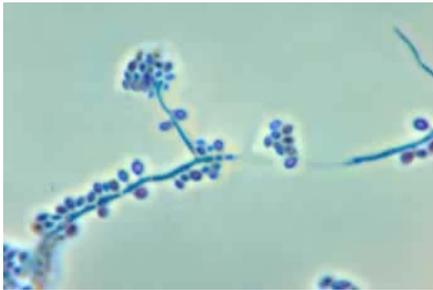
## *What are the symptoms of athlete's foot?*

There is an annoying, persistent itching of the skin on the sole of the foot or between the toes (often the fourth and fifth toes). As the infection progresses, the skin grows soft. The center of the infection is inflamed and sensitive to the touch. Gradually, the edges of the infected area become milky white and the skin begins to peel. There may also be a slight watery discharge.

## *Treatment*

For mild cases, over-the-counter antifungal creams or lotions are used. For more serious cases, or if the case does not respond to the over-the-counter creams, antifungal medication can be prescribed.

# Sporotrichosis (spore-o-trick-o-sis)



## *What is Sporotrichosis?*

Sporotrichosis is a disease caused by a **fungus** (*Sporothrix schenckii*).

## *How do I get Sporotrichosis?*

The fungus can be found in some mosses, in hay, in other plant materials, and in the soil. It enters the skin through small cuts or punctures from thorns, barbs, pine needles, or wires. It can also be inhaled and cause pulmonary infection or disseminated infection. It is not spread from person to person.

## *What are the symptoms of Sporotrichosis?*

The first symptom is usually a small painless bump resembling an insect bite. It can be red, pink, or purple in color. The bump usually appears on the finger, hand, or arm where the fungus first enters through a break on the skin. This is followed by one or more additional bumps which open and may resemble boils. Eventually lesions look like open sores and are very slow to heal. The infection can spread to other parts of the body, including bones and joints and the central nervous system.

## *Treatment*

Antifungals are prescribed.

# Giardiasis (GEE-are-DYE-uh-sis)



## *What is giardiasis?*

It is a diarrheal illness caused by a **protozoan (Giardia lamblia)**, that lives in the intestine of people and animals.

## *How do I get giardiasis?*

The parasite is passed in the poop of an infected person or animal. The parasite is protected by an outer shell that allows it to survive outside the body and in the environment for long periods of time. You can become infected after accidentally swallowing the parasite. *Giardia* may be found in soil, food, water, or surfaces that have been contaminated with the feces from infected humans or animals. *Giardia* is **not** spread by contact with blood. *Giardia* can be spread: By putting something in your mouth or accidentally swallowing something that has come in contact with the poop of a person or animal infected with *Giardia*; by swallowing recreational water contaminated with *Giardia*. Recreational water is water in swimming pools, hot tubs, Jacuzzis, fountains, lakes, rivers, springs, ponds, or streams that can be contaminated with sewage or feces from humans or animals; by eating uncooked food contaminated with *Giardia*. Thoroughly wash with uncontaminated water all vegetables and fruits you plan to eat raw. See below for information on making water safe; by accidentally swallowing *Giardia* picked up from surfaces (such as toys, bathroom fixtures, changing tables, diaper pails) contaminated with poop from an infected person.

## *What are the symptoms of giardiasis?*

Symptoms include diarrhea, loose or watery poop, stomach cramps, and upset stomach. These symptoms may lead to weight loss and dehydration. Some people have no symptoms. Symptoms generally begin 1-2 weeks after being infected. In otherwise healthy persons, symptoms may last 2-6 weeks. Occasionally, symptoms last longer.

## *Treatment*

Use of special antibiotics.

# Malaria



## *What is malaria?*

Malaria is a debilitating, infectious disease caused by a **protozoan (*Plasmodium*)** and transmitted by a mosquito

## *How do I get malaria?*

Humans get malaria from the bite of a malaria-infected mosquito. When a mosquito bites an infected person, it ingests microscopic malaria parasites found in the person's blood.

## *What are the symptoms of malaria?*

Symptoms of malaria include fever and flu-like illness, including shaking chills, headache, muscle aches, and tiredness. Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea may also occur. Malaria may cause anemia and jaundice (yellow coloring of the skin and eyes) because of the loss of red blood cells. If not promptly treated, may cause kidney failure, seizures, mental confusion, coma, and death.

## *Treatment*

It is essential to get antimalarial drugs as soon as possible.

# Cryptosporidiosis (krip-toe-spo-rid-ee-oh-sis)



## *What is cryptosporidiosis?*

It is a diarrheal disease caused by a **protozoan (Apicomplexa)**. It can live in the intestine of humans and animals and is passed in the poop of an infected person or animal.

## *How do I get cryptosporidiosis?*

The parasite is passed in the poop of an infected person or animal. The parasite is protected by an outer shell that allows it to survive outside the body and in the environment for long periods of time. You can become infected after accidentally swallowing the parasite. *Giardia* may be found in soil, food, water, or surfaces that have been contaminated with the feces from infected humans or animals. *Giardia* is **not** spread by contact with blood. *Giardia* can be spread: By putting something in your mouth or accidentally swallowing something that has come in contact with the poop of a person or animal infected with *Giardia*; by swallowing recreational water contaminated with *Giardia*. Recreational water is water in swimming pools, hot tubs, Jacuzzis, fountains, lakes, rivers, springs, ponds, or streams that can be contaminated with sewage or feces from humans or animals; by eating uncooked food contaminated with *Giardia*. Thoroughly wash with uncontaminated water all vegetables and fruits you plan to eat raw. See below for information on making water safe; by accidentally swallowing *Giardia* picked up from surfaces (such as toys, bathroom fixtures, changing tables, diaper pails) contaminated with poop from an infected person.

## *What are the symptoms of cryptosporidiosis?*

Symptoms include diarrhea, loose or watery poop, stomach cramps, upset stomach, and a slight fever. Some people have no symptoms. Symptoms generally begin 2-10 days after being infected. In persons with average immune systems, symptoms usually last about 2 weeks; the symptoms may go in cycles in which you may seem to get better for a few days, then feel worse, before the illness ends.

## *Treatment*

Antibiotics can be prescribed for treating diarrhea. Drinking plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration is recommended.

# Amebiasis (am-e-BI-a-sis)



## *What is amebiasis?*

Amebiasis is a disease caused by **protozoa** (*Entamoeba histolytica*).

## *How do I get amebiasis?*

You can get amebiasis by putting anything into your mouth that has touched the poop of a person who is infected the protozoan; by swallowing something, such as water or food, that is contaminated with the protozoan; by touching and bringing to your mouth cysts (eggs) picked up from surfaces that are contaminated with the protozoan.

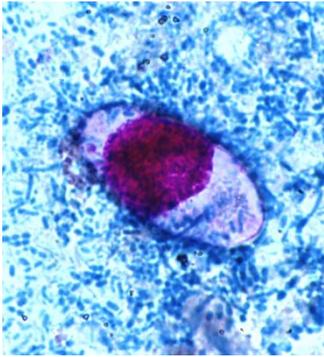
## *What are the symptoms of amebiasis?*

On average, about one in 10 people who are infected with *E. histolytica* becomes sick from the infection. The symptoms often are quite mild and can include loose poop, stomach pain, and stomach cramping. Amebic dysentery is a severe form of amebiasis associated with stomach pain, bloody poop, and fever. Rarely, *E. histolytica* invades the liver and forms an abscess. Even less commonly, it spreads to other parts of the body, such as the lungs or brain.

## *Treatment*

Antibiotics are prescribed.

# Cyclospora Infection (SIGH-clo-SPORE-uh)



## *What is cyclospora?*

A disease caused by protozoan (*Cyclospora cayetanensis*).

## *How do I get cyclospora?*

*Cyclospora* is spread by people ingesting something, for example, water or food that was contaminated with infected poop. For example, outbreaks of cyclosporiasis have been linked to various types of fresh produce.

*Cyclospora* needs time (days or weeks) after being passed in a bowel movement to become infectious. Therefore, it is unlikely that *Cyclospora* is passed directly from one person to another.

## *What are the symptoms of cyclospora?*

*Cyclospora* infects the small intestine (bowel) and usually causes watery diarrhea, with frequent, sometimes explosive, bowel movements. Other symptoms can include loss of appetite, substantial loss of weight, bloating, increased gas, stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting, muscle aches, low-grade fever, and fatigue. Some people who are infected with *Cyclospora* do not have any symptoms. The time between becoming infected and becoming sick is usually about 1 week. If not treated, the illness may last from a few days to a month or longer. Symptoms may seem to go away and then return one or more times (relapse).

## *Treatment*

Antibiotics, rest, and drinking plenty of fluids when diarrhea is present.