

Pathogens and transmission

Define pathogen.

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Define transmissible disease.

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Name the direct route of transmission.

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Name four indirect routes of transmission.

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How do hairs in the nose and mucus protect the body?

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What do stomach acid and the skin do?

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Name the body defences in the syllabus.

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List the five measures that control the spread of disease.

A disease in which the pathogen can be passed from one host to another.

A disease-causing organism.

Contaminated surfaces, food, animals and air.

Direct contact, including through blood and other body fluids.

Stomach acid kills pathogens that are swallowed. Skin is a barrier that stops pathogens entering.

They trap pathogens in the air that is breathed in.

Clean water supply, hygienic food preparation, good personal hygiene, waste disposal and sewage treatment.

Skin, hairs in the nose, mucus, stomach acid and white blood cells.

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Why is sewage treated?

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How is cholera transmitted?

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What does the cholera toxin cause in the small intestine?

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Why does cholera cause diarrhoea and dehydration?

In contaminated water. It is caused by a bacterium.

Sewage contains pathogens; treating it stops it contaminating drinking water.

Chloride ions in the gut make water move in from the blood by osmosis, so water and ions are lost.

Secretion of chloride ions into the small intestine.