

*Test Bank for Nelson and Williams'
Infectious Disease Epidemiology 4th
Edition by Williams, Gurley*

ISBN: 9781284143942

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Chapter: Chapter 01 – Testbank

Multiple Choice

1. Who first proposed the theory that contagion could occur at a distance, without direct contact or fomites?

- A) Athanasius Kircher
- B) Thomas Sydenham
- C) Girolamo Fracastoro
- D) Frank Snowden

Ans: C

Ahead: Contagion

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2. According to Charles-Edward A. Winslow, why could germ theory have emerged earlier than it did?

- A) The invention of antibiotics was already complete by 1700.
- B) The three main scientists lacked the intelligence to collaborate.
- C) There was enough theoretical and observational evidence by 1700 to support germ theory.
- D) Most people already accepted germ theory by the 18th century.

Ans: C

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms

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3. What was the theory of disease involving toxic air called?

- A) Miasma theory
- B) Germ theory
- C) Humoralism
- D) Contagion theory

Ans: A

Ahead: Why Did It Take So Long from the Observation of Microorganisms to Understanding Them as Causes of Disease?

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4. What was Pasteur's improvement over Spallanzani's setup?

- A) He added oxygen inhibitors.
- B) He used fine gauze.
- C) He sealed flasks tighter.
- D) He used swan-necked flasks to allow air without contamination.

Ans: D

Ahead: Why Did It Take So Long from the Observation of Microorganisms to Understanding Them as Causes of Disease?

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5. If a scientist in the 18th century believed in humoralism, what treatment might they suggest?

- A) Antibiotics
- B) Balancing body fluids
- C) Eliminating bacteria
- D) Filtering air

Ans: B

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6. What barrier to germ theory did Theodor Schwann help overcome?

- A) The belief that disease was caused by maggots
- B) The idea that putrefaction and fermentation were purely chemical processes
- C) The belief that disease was caused by humoral imbalance
- D) The theory that diseases originated in political conditions

Ans: B

Ahead: Why Did It Take So Long from the Observation of Microorganisms to Understanding Them as Causes of Disease?

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7. Which belief system delayed the recognition of microbes as disease agents the most?

- A) Germ theory
- B) Humoralism
- C) Miasma
- D) Abiogenesis

Ans: D

Ahead: Why Did It Take So Long from the Observation of Microorganisms to Understanding Them as Causes of Disease?

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8. Why did Winslow believe physicians were cautious about accepting contagion theory?

- A) Early theories couldn't explain indirect transmission or carriers.

- B) It dismissed environmental factors entirely.
- C) It lacked historical precedent.
- D) It contradicted public opinion.

Ans: A

Ahead: Why Did It Take So Long from the Observation of Microorganisms to Understanding Them as Causes of Disease?

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9. Which Italian scientist proved that the silkworm disease muscardine is caused by a fungus?

- A) Agostino Bassi
- B) Filippo Pacini
- C) Jacob Henle
- D) Robert Koch

Ans: A

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*

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Title: A Brief History of the Origins of Infectious Disease Epidemiology

10. Who published *On the Mode and Communication of Cholera* in 1855, linking cholera to water?

- A) Louis Pasteur
- B) John Snow
- C) Max von Pettenkofer
- D) Walter Reed

Ans: B

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*

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11. The sanitary movement led by Edwin Chadwick was based primarily on the _____ theory of disease.

- A) humoral
- B) germ
- C) zymotic
- D) filth

Ans: D

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*

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12. If an investigator today followed all four Koch's postulates for a novel bacterium, what would the final (fourth) step be?

- A) Grow the bacterium on selective agar.
- B) Show antibodies form in infected hosts.
- C) Re-isolate the identical bacterium from the experimentally infected host.
- D) Sequence the bacterium's genome.

Ans: C

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*

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13. Why did Beijerinck describe viruses as a “living fluid”?

- A) They grew only in solid media.
- B) Their infectious nature persisted after filtration and they could not be cultured like bacteria.
- C) They were visible as motile rods under a light microscope.
- D) They dissolved bacterial cell walls.

Ans: B

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*

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14. Judge the following claim: “Early sanitary reforms were ineffective until germ theory was accepted.”

- A) Accurate—mortality declined only after Koch’s work.
- B) Accurate—vaccines were the sole cause of gains.
- C) Inaccurate—filth reduction lowered disease burdens even before full germ-theory adoption.
- D) Impossible to evaluate from historical evidence.

Ans: C

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*

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15. HIV and the immune suppression it causes have allowed for a resurgence of what disease in much of the world?

- A) Polio
- B) Malaria
- C) Syphilis
- D) Tuberculosis

Ans: D

Ahead: The Infectious Diseases Challenge

Subject: Chapter 1

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True/False

1. True or False? Carlo Francesco Cogrossi believed diseases were caused by an imbalance of bodily humors.

Ans: False

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms

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2. True or False? Miasma theory claimed that diseases were caused by living microscopic organisms.

Ans: False

Ahead: Why Did It Take So Long from the Observation of Microorganisms to Understanding Them as Causes of Disease?

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3. True or False? Virchow believed that understanding disease required attention to social and political contexts, not just biological ones.

Ans: True

Ahead: Why Did It Take So Long from the Observation of Microorganisms to Understanding Them as Causes of Disease?

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4. True or False? Bassi's muscardine research was the first to show a non-arthropod microbe could cause disease.

Ans: True

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*

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5. True or False? John Snow identified *Vibrio cholerae* while conducting his Broad Street pump epidemiology.

Ans: False

Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*

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