BACKGROUND

An infectious disease (ID) is caused by one or more pathogens [viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa, parasites and/or infectious proteins (prions)].

Infectious diseases are transmitted through various mechanisms, including physical contact with an infected individual or their body fluids, consuming contaminated food or water or by touching contaminated objects.

Some conditions are transmitted by airborne inhalation and others are spread by a vector (carrier).

Transmissible diseases that are spread **person to person** are referred to as **communicable** or **contagious**.

Three primary factors impact treatment decisions in infectious diseases: the **bug (pathogen)**, the **drug (antibiotic)** and the **patient (host)**.

ANTIBIOTIC SELECTION

nbmn

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Not published yet.
Last updated 10th November, 2022.

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