Definitions:

Pathogenesis - is the manner in which a disease develops.

Infection - is the invasion or colonization of the body by pathogenic microorganisms.

Disease - is any departure from a normal state of health.

Normal Flora - are microbial inhabitants or permanent residents of the body; do not produce disease under normal conditions

Opportunistic Organisms - potentially pathogenic don’t cause disease in their normal habitant.

Communicable Disease - spreads from one host to another either directly or indirectly.

Contagious - Easily spread from one person to another.

Prevalence - the actual proportion of the population that is infected at any given time.

Endemic - a disease which infects a small percentage of the population in a community at all times.

Epidemic - (outbreak) # of cases rises significantly above the Endemic #.

Pandemic - Epidemic proportion of the disease in people of many nations.

Acute - rapid presentation of disease.

Chronic - illness is one that develops slowly and is likely to continue or recur for long periods.

Latent - causative agent remains inactive for a time.

Nosocomial - an infection that develops during the course of a hospital stay and was not present at admission.

Primary Infection - acute causing illness.

Secondary Infection - opportunistic infection after acute illness.