Microbiology of Selected Infectious Diseases That Changed History

Course # 612-318-16 / 1.0 credit hours

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Level of Instruction:  Basic
Category:  Microbiology/History
Target Audience:  All are welcome

Description:  A look at selected infectious diseases from microbiological and historical perspectives—can knowledge learned from the past be used to tackle some of the infectious disease challenges of today?

Objectives:
At the completion of the presentation, the audience will be able to:
• Briefly describe the microbiology and epidemiology of selected infectious diseases
• Explain why these diseases are historically important—what lessons were learned, what advancements in medicine ensued?
• Reflect on a few of the current challenges in infectious disease—can knowledge from past experience be applied to deal with them, and what are roadblocks remaining to their elimination?

https://webcast.jhu.edu/Mediasite/Play/de144772073a42db922b08901ab429151d

Questions:
1. Which disease discussed has been eliminated from the human population by vaccination? Who was the Hopkins doctor who led this effort?

2. What is the pathogenic mechanism of the organism causing diphtheria, and what are two of its physical effects?

3. List 2 diseases discussed in this presentation that are controlled primarily by the availability of clean water, good sanitation and hand washing.

4. True or False---The influenza pandemic of 1918 primarily affected the very old and very young.