

Mastery Series: Epidemiology Terms

1. Compare the terms acute, chronic and latent.
2. Compare the terms pathology and pathogenesis.
3. Describe how an abscessed tooth could be used as an example of a local, and then focal infection.
4. Describe how a UTI could be a local infection that leads to a systemic infection.
5. Using locations such as United States, South America, and Skagit County—compare the outbreak of the seasonal flu with the terms endemic—epidemic—and pandemic.
6. The news reported that 75 people have been hospitalized for the flu and an estimated 420 people were sick. 50 new cases of seasonal flu reported in Skagit County the next week. What is the incidence of the flu in this situation compared to its prevalence?
7. Compare HIV and rhinoviruses using the terms communicable and contagious.
8. Give a disease that has the following vector:
 - a. Animal
 - b. Water
 - c. Fomites

Mastery Series ANSWERS: Epidemiology Terms

1. Compare the terms acute, chronic and latent.
Acute: sudden onset
Chronic: long-term or remitting and relapsing
Latent: dormant or asymptomatic, then appears after possibly years after infection
2. Compare the terms pathology and pathogenesis.
“study of disease” versus “study of disease development”
3. Describe how an abscessed tooth could be used as an example of a local, and then focal infection.
Local infection residing in the mouth; if the infection reaches the bloodstream and moves to the heart valves or blood vessel walls, then it’s focal.
4. Describe how a UTI could be a local infection that leads to a systemic infection.
Local—resides in the urethra; systemic if it enters the bloodstream and may lead to septic shock.
5. Using locations such as United States, South America, and Skagit County—compare the outbreak of the seasonal flu with the terms endemic—epidemic—and pandemic.
Endemic—Skagit County
Epidemic—U.S. is experiencing unusually high numbers of cases of a disease
Pandemic—A disease crosses national or geographic boundaries
6. Hypothetically: The news reported that 75 people have been hospitalized for the flu and an estimated 420 people were sick. 50 new cases of seasonal flu reported in Skagit County the next week. What is the incidence of the flu in this situation compared to its prevalence?
Incidence: 50
Prevalence: 470
7. Compare HIV and rhinoviruses using the terms communicable and contagious.
Both HIV and rhinovirus are communicable; only rhinoviruses (coronaviruses) are contagious.
Contagious technically means “easily” transmitted. Question for thought—is Ebola communicable or contagious, in your opinion?
8. Give a disease that has the following vector:
 - a. Animal: **rabies**
 - b. Water: **Vibrio cholera**
 - c. Fomites: **Influenza**