



Glossary

- **Antibiotics** are a type of antimicrobial drug used in the treatment and prevention of bacterial infections. They may either kill or inhibit the growth of bacteria.
- **Antimicrobial** is an agent that kills microorganisms or inhibits their growth.
- **Bacteria** is a member of a large group of unicellular microorganisms which have cell walls but lack organelles and an organized nucleus, including some which can cause disease.
- **Bacteriocin** is a protein produced by bacteria of one strain and active against those of a closely related strain.
- **Chemical Preservative** is a chemical that is added to products such as food, beverages, pharmaceutical drugs, paints, biological samples, cosmetics, wood, and many other products to prevent decomposition by microbial growth or by undesirable chemical changes.
- **Corrosive:** A substance having the capability or tendency to cause slow destruction.
- **Disinfection** is the killing, inhibition, or removal of pathogenic microorganisms (usually on inanimate objects).
- **Food Preservation** is the process of treating and handling food to stop or slow down food spoilage, loss of quality, edibility, or nutritional value and thus allow for longer food storage.
- **Food Spoilage** can be defined as a disagreeable change in a food's normal state. Such changes can be detected by smell, taste, touch, or sight. These changes are due to a number of reasons -- air and oxygen, moisture, light, microbial growth, and temperature.
- **Gram Negative Bacteria** lose the crystal violet stain (and take the color of the red



counterstain) in Gram's Method of staining. This is characteristic of bacteria that have a cell wall composed of a thin layer of peptidoglycan.

- **Gram Positive Bacteria** are bacteria that give a positive result in the Gram stain test. Gram-positive bacteria take up the crystal violet stain used in the test, and then appear to be purple-coloured when seen through a microscope.
- **Heat-Labile** describes one that is capable of changing or destruction when subjected to heat
- **Hypochlorite** is an ion composed of chlorine and oxygen, with the chemical formula ClO^- . It can combine with a number of counter ions to form hypochlorites, which may also be regarded as the salts of hypochlorous acid.
- **Infection** is the invasion of an organism's body tissues by disease-causing agents, their multiplication, and the reaction of host tissues to these organisms and the toxins they produce.
- **Iodophore** refers to any of a group of disinfectants containing iodine in combination with a surfactant.
- **Lantibiotics** are a class of peptide antibiotics that contain the characteristic polycyclic thioether amino acids lanthionine or methyllanthionine, as well as the unsaturated amino acids dehydroalanine and 2-aminoisobutyric acid.
- **Microbial Load:** The total number of bacteria and fungi in a given quantity of water or soil or on the surface of food.
- **Mould** is a fungus that grows in the form of multicellular filaments called hyphae.



- **Parasiticide** is a substance used in medicine and veterinary medicine to kill parasites (especially those other than bacteria or fungi).
- **Quat** is the common name for quaternary ammonium chloride compounds of which there are about 300 varieties all with varying anti-microbial efficacies. Quats are generally surfactants with cationic (positive) charges.
- **Sanitization** is the process of destruction or removal of all viable organisms from an object or from a particular environment.////////
- **Secondary Metabolites** are organic compounds that are not directly involved in the normal growth, development, or reproduction of an organism.
- **Vaccine** is a preparation of killed microorganisms, living attenuated organisms, or living fully virulent organisms that is administered to produce or artificially increase immunity to a particular disease.