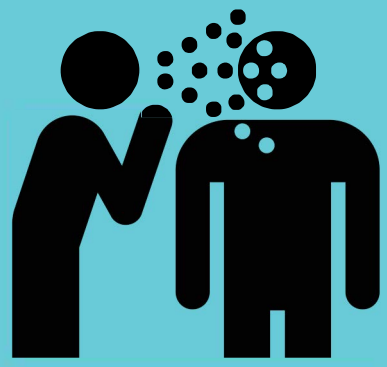


Jockey Club S.A.T.H. Project for Healthy Families

ABCs of Infectious Diseases

Enquiry:  jcsath@cuhk.edu.hk /  6104 9535

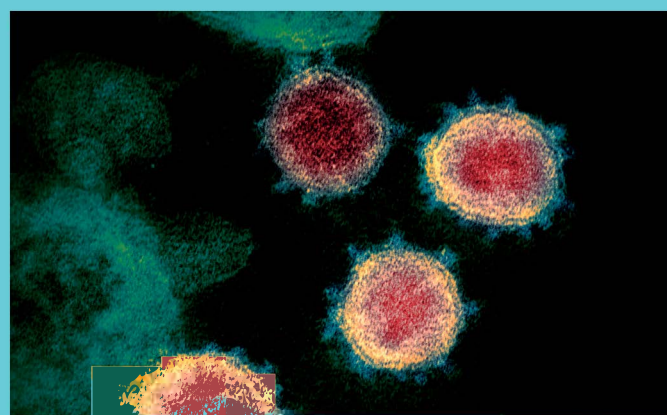
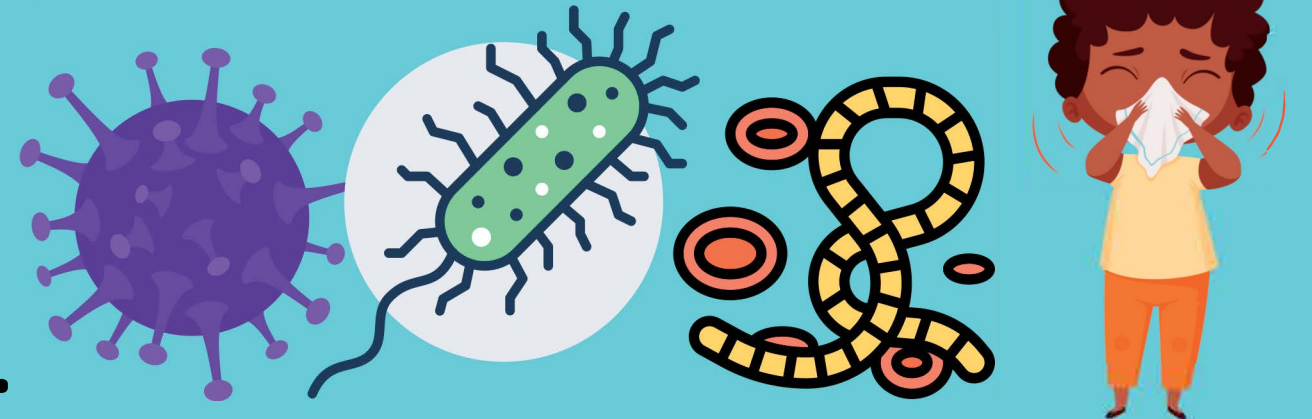
More info: www.jcsath.cuhk.edu.hk



Infectious diseases are illnesses caused by **pathogens** or their toxic products, which arises through **transmission** from an infected person, an infected animal, or a contaminated inanimate object to a susceptible host.

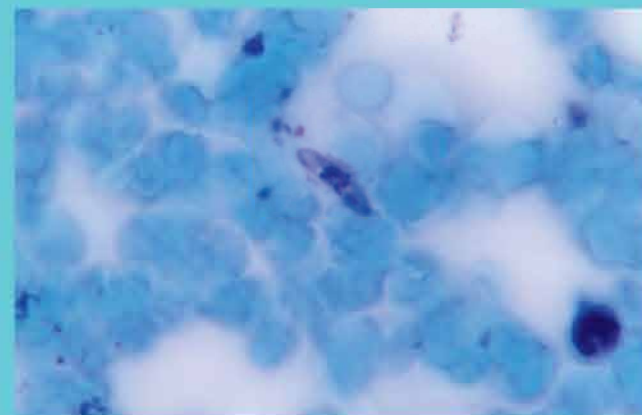
WHAT ARE PATHOGENS?

Pathogen is a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism **that can cause disease.**



SARS-CoV-2

is a **virus** that causes **COVID-19**



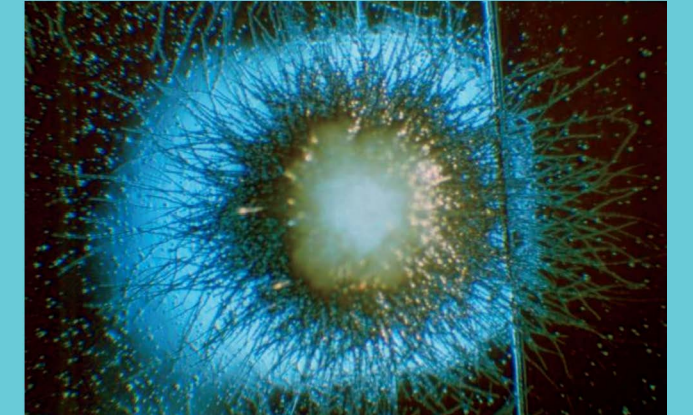
Plasmodium falciparum

is a **protozoa** that causes **malaria**



Salmonella

is a **bacteria** that causes **food poisoning**



Candida

is a type of **fungus** that causes **yeast infection**



THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL TRIAD: AGENT+HOST+ENVIRONMENT

Environment = external factors that can affect the agent and create opportunity for exposure, e.g. climate or the monkey shown in the example!

It is **important to understand the interplay of the three** to develop appropriate, practical, and effective public health measures.

