

## 1. Chemotherapeutic agents

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| A. sulphonamides (BS) | sulphanilamide, sulphamethoxazole, sulphadimidine    |
| B. Trimethoprim (BS)  |  |
| C. Sulphones (BS)     |  |
| D. Quinolones (BC)    | naladixic acid, ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin, Enoxacin |
| E. Nitrofurans (BS)   | furadantin   |
| F. Nitroimidazoles    | metronidazole  |

## 2. Antibiotics

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| A. Beta lactams (BC)                     | penicillins, cephalosporins, carbapenems, Monobactams   |
| B. Aminoglycosides & Aminocyclitols (BC) | streptomycin, kenamycin, gentamicin, ampicillin, tobramycin, netilmicin, sisomicin, spectinomycin |

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### SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

### DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

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### ANTIBIOTICS AND CHEMOTHERAPY

## STERILIZATION AND DISINFECTION

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These are procedures applied to eliminate completely or reduce the micro organisms from potential sources of infection, contaminated materials and surfaces

- ❖ Methods- physical or chemical , choice based on
  - a) Material which the object is made of
  - b) Intended use
  - c) Available methods
- ❖ Aim is to protect workers against infection eg. Hospitals, operating theatres, clinics , microbiology laboratories etc.

### STERILIZATION

The treatment or procedure which destroys all living microorganisms, bacteria, vegetative spores, fungi including fungal spores

- ❖ Results in destruction of all microbes (an item is either sterile or not there are no intermediates)
- ❖ Applied to instruments used in procedures that penetrate the skin eg. Injections, diagnostic aspirations

- ❖ In labs , during culture media preparation ,preparing reagents
- ❖ On specimens and cultures after handling in the laboratory

Methods used in sterilization are divided broadly in to 2 types

1. Physical methods
  - a) heat
  - b) filtration
  - c) ionizing radiations
2. Chemical methods- use of sterilants

## **Heat**

- used widely
- can be regulated by the user
- both dry heat and moist heat are used
- Temperature used is very important, determined by the nature of the material to be sterilized
- duration of exposure also matters, the greater the temperature the lesser the time taken
- degree of contamination of the object and the contaminants themselves (microorganisms)
- depends on whether the organisms form spores or not (those that form spores are harder to sterilize )
- cleaning reduces the number of bacteria before sterilization and should be applied where necessary

### **a) Dry heat**

As a method of sterilization applied in form of

**1.Red heat**- Bunsen burner flame, metals only, spatulas, forceps etc

**2.Flaming**- a needle , a scalpel, passing it via the hottest part of a flame (gas or spirit falme), takes only a few seconds

### **3.Hot air oven**

- used where large number of items are to be sterilized
  - use an oven with a chamber and thermostat that regulates temperature, a fan to circulate the hot air
  - Items can be wrapped using paper
- Conditions for sterilization:- 160°C for 1hour, destroys most organisms and the spores
- 170°C for 40 minutes
  - 180°C for 20 minutes

Timing starts when all the items have reached the required temperature .Used for Glassware, scalpels, forceps etc.

### **4.Infrared radiation**

- an electrically heated element that directs rays to items to be sterilized
- temps are as high as 180°C

### **b) Moist heat**

- Involves the use of steam and water at different temperatures

- Kills microorganisms by denaturing their proteins
1. Steam applied at temperatures above 100°C (steam sterilization)
    - 15lbs per sq. inch (100k Pascals) at 121°C for 15 minutes
    - 30lbs per sq. inch (200k Pascals) at 134°C for 3 minutes (reusable instruments)
  2. At 100°C boiling
    - Steamer sterilization
    - Boiling; reliable for inactivating pathogenic microbes
  3. Temperature less than 100°C (pasteurization)
    - Heating at 63-66°C for 30 minutes
    - For milk primarily
    - Prevents decomposition of milk and milk borne infections
- Chemical tests are used to determine the efficiency of the sterilization
    - I. Brown's indicator tubes- colour change occurs when exposed to required temperature for the required amount of time
    - II. Bowie- Dick test (tapes)
    - III. Spore indicators
      - Bacillus stercorothermophilus spores
      - Bacillus subtilis- for chemical sterilants

## **Filtration**

- Removal of microorganisms from fluids
- Applied in heat labile substances eg. Serum, some vaccines etc.
- Filters of different pore sizes made of cellulose membranes

## **Ionizing radiations**

- Gamma radiation (mainly), electron beams from radioactive elements
- Damages chromosomal DNA of microorganism
- Not available locally, used on commercial basis for disposable items eg. Plastic syringes
- UV radiation
  - Radiation from the sun
  - Mercury vapour lamps are used
  - Rays are bactericidal and can destroy spores

## **Chemical methods**

- STERILANTS
  - Fluids at given temperature, humidity and concentration
  - Examples include; ethylene oxide, glutaraldehyde, formaldehyde

- Their concentrations can be altered and used as disinfectants
1. Ethylene oxide- used at 55-60°C
    - for heat sensitive materials including fabrics, plastics and endoscopes
    - not common
  2. Glutaraldehyde- used as 2% aqueous solution
    - for items that cannot withstand the autoclave
    - for items made of rubber and plastic
    - prolonged exposure can damage some instruments
  4. Formaldehyde- fluid or gaseous form
    - highly effective to microorganisms and spores
    - used in the form of formalin , 40% solution of formaldehyde in water
    - wooden materials
    - main disadvantage is that it's an irritant

## DISINFECTION

- ✓ Process of eliminating some or all of microorganisms from an article some of which might cause infection during its use
- ✓ The aim is to reduce chances of transmitting an infection, less precise compared to sterilization
- ✓ Useful when sterilization is not available
- ✓ Reduction of microbial contamination eg. Walls, floors etc.
- ✓ Washing of hands before surgical or invasive procedures
- ✓ Methods

1. washing

2. heat- washing or rinsing in hot water at 80-100°C for a short time

3. Chemical disinfectants

- -classified into groups based on chemical composition
- Their activities vary
- Posses little selective toxicity
- Used on inanimate environment and very limited extent on the skin, we use antiseptics, are relatively mild

MOA

- I. Coagulation or denaturing of proteins; phenolates
- II. Oxidation of essential molecules in cells eg. Sulphydryl groups of proteins to sulphoxides eg. Halogens, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, KMnO<sub>4</sub>
- III. Detergent like activity on cytoplasmic membranes; alcohols, ammonium compounds
- IV. Interference with enzyme activity
- V. Combination with nucleic acids of the microorganisms

Can be ineffective due to –over dilution

- Shortened exposure time
- Contact with organic material eg.pus
- Improper storage eg. exposure to light
- Prolonged storage after dilution for use

❖ Examples of classes of disinfectants

- 1) Phenolics- clearsol, dettol, Lysol 0.5-5% concentration
- 2) Halogens – hypochlorites;sodium hypochlorite (jik), calcium hypochlorite  
- iodine and iodophores(1% sol in 70% alcohol), used at a conc. of  
1-10% dilution
- 3) alcohols – ethanol eg.used to disinfect skin at the injection site
- 4) chlorohexidine (hibitane) – disinfection of hands before invasive procedures can  
be combined with cetrimide to give savlon
- 5) quaternary ammonium compounds
- 6) Aldehydes (also sterilants)  
Include 2% glutaraldehyde  
10% formaldehyde
  - Effective in saturated steam at 40-80°C and 50 -60°C humidity