

Glossary

Antigen

A substance, usually a protein, on the surface of a cell or bacterium that stimulates the production of an antibody.

Antibody

A protein produced by B cells in the body in response to the presence of an antigen, e.g. a bacterium or virus. Antibodies are a primary form of immune response in resistance to disease and act by attaching themselves to a foreign antigen and weakening or destroying it.

Ataxia

The inability to coordinate the movements of muscles.

Acute

Severe and of short duration.

Conjunctival Sac

A delicate mucous membrane that covers the internal part of the eyelid and is attached to the cornea.

Clinical Signs

Based on or involving medical treatment, practice, observation, or diagnosis.

Cyanotic

A condition in which the skin and mucous membranes take on a bluish color.

Etiology

The science of dealing with the causes of disease.

Enteric

Relating to or situated in the intestine.

Edematous

A buildup of excess serous fluid between tissue cells.

Ecchymotic

Small hemorrhagic spot, larger than petechia.

Exudate

Fluid with a high content of protein, usually as a result of inflammation.

Fulminating

To occur suddenly with great intensity.

Gallinaceous

Birds of the order, Gallinae, which includes domestic fowl, pheasants, grouse and quail. "Chicken-like"

Nucleoprotein

A substance composed of a simple basic protein combined with a nucleic acid.

Neuraminidase

An enzyme of the surface of a virus that destroys the neuraminic acid of the cell surface during attachment preventing hemagglutination.

Nares

Openings or passages leading out of the nose or nasal cavity.

Necrosis

The death of cells in a tissue or organ caused by disease or injury.

Pathogenic

Causing disease, or able to cause disease.

Petechial

Minute red spot due to the escape of a small amount of blood.

Periorbital

Around the eye socket.

Peritoneum

A smooth transparent membrane that lines the abdomen and doubles back over the surfaces of the internal organs to form a continuous sac.

Peracute

Very acute, having severe symptoms and a short course.

Strain

A subgroup of a species of organism distinguished by specific characteristics.

Seroconversion

To produce specific antibodies in response to the presence of an antigen such as a bacterium or virus.

Torticollis

A twisting of the neck to one side, resulting in the head being tilted.

Virus

Submicroscopic parasite particle of a nucleic acid surrounded by protein that can only replicate within a host cell. Viruses are not considered to be independent living organisms.

Virulent

Extremely poisonous, infectious, or damaging to organisms.