

# PHARMACOLOGIC CONTROL OF INFECTION

## **Bactericidal effect**

Destroys bacteria at low concentrations

## **Bacteriostatic effect**

Slows reproduction of bacteria

## **Superinfection**

Emergence of microorganism growth when natural protective flora is destroyed by anti-infective drug

## **Bacterial resistance**

A natural or acquired characteristic of an organism preventing destruction by a drug to which it was previously susceptible

## **Antibiotics**

Used to destroy bacteria or inhibit bacterial reproduction to control infection

## **Antivirals**

Provide prophylaxis when exposure to viral infection has occurred; prevent entrance of virus into host cells

## **Sulfonamides**

Anti-infective drugs used primarily to treat urinary tract infections

## **Antituberculars**

Used to treat tuberculosis; administered over a prolonged time period

## **Antifungals**

Used to treat systemic and localized fungal infections; destroys fungal cells (fungicidal) or inhibit the reproduction of fungal cells (fungistatic)

## **Antiparasitic**

Used to treat parasitic diseases; interfere with parasite metabolism and reproduction; helminthic (pinworm and malaria) as well as protozoal (amebiasis and malaria) infestations respond well to these drugs

## **Principles of Asepsis**

- Medical asepsis
- Surgical asepsis

## **TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

- How do you perform Medical Asepsis and Surgical Asepsis?
- As a medical practitioner, what are the important reminders to the patient before giving any medication?
- Do you think medications today are affordable to the general public?
- What should be done so that medications will be readily and easily available to the community?

Reference: Mosby's Comprehensive Review of Nursing