**Pharmabees Glossary of Terms:**

**Session 2**

**Antibacterial:** Anything that destroys bacteria or suppresses their growth or their ability to reproduce. For example, heat, chemicals such as chlorine, and antibiotic drugs all have antibacterial properties.

**Antibiotic:** A drug used to treat bacterial infections. Antibiotics have no effect on viral infections.

**Antibiotic Resistance**: The ability of bacteria and other microorganisms to resist the effects of an antibiotic to which they were once sensitive. Antibiotic resistance is a major concern of overuse of antibiotics.

**Antimicrobial:** An antimicrobial is an agent that kills microorganisms or stops their growth. Antimicrobial medicines can be grouped according to the microorganisms they act primarily against. For example, antibiotics are used against bacteria and antifungals are used against fungi.

**Bacteria:** Bacteria are microscopic living organisms that can be found everywhere. They can be dangerous, such as when they cause infection, or beneficial, as in yoghurt, and those that decompose wastes. Bacterium is singular.

**Bacterial Colony:** A colony of bacterial is a visible mass of bacteria, could be thousands, growing on media. Microbiologists use colonies to identify and study bacteria.

**Broad-spectrum antibiotics:** Antibiotics thatattack a wide range of bacteria, including ones that are beneficial to us.

**Cell wall:** A rigid layer lying outside the plasma membrane of the cells of plants, fungi, and bacteria. It can be tough, flexible, and sometimes rigid. It provides the cell with both structural support and protection, and also acts as a filtering mechanism.

**Contamination:** The non-intended or accidental introduction of microbes such as bacteria, yeast, mould, fungi, virus, prions, protozoa or their toxins and by-products.

**Control:** A scientific control is an experiment or observation designed to minimize the effects of variables other than the independent variable. This increases the reliability of the results, often through a comparison between control measurements and the other measurements.

**DNA:** Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is a chemical made up of two long molecules, arranged in a spiral, called a double-helix structure. DNA carries genetic information. It has all the instructions that a living organism needs to grow, reproduce and function.

**E. Coli:** Escherichia coli is a bacterium commonly found in the intestines of humans and other animals, some strains of which can cause severe food poisoning.

**Epidemic:** a widespread occurrence of an infectious disease in a community at a particular time.

**Feaces:** solid waste excreted from the body of a human or animal through the bowels, poop.

**Host:** an animal or plant on or in which a parasite or commensal organism, such as a virus, lives.

**Hypothesis:** A hypothesis is an idea or explanation that you then test through study and experimentation.

**Hygienic:** conducive to maintaining health and preventing disease, especially by being clean and sanitary.

**Incubation:** The process of keeping something at the right temperature and under the right conditions so it can develop and grow.

**Infectious disease:** Diseases/disorders caused by organisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi or parasites.

**Labour:** The process of childbirth.

**Microbiologist:** Microbiologists study microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, algae, fungi, and some types of parasites. They try to understand how these organisms live, grow, and interact with their environments.

**Microorganism:** A microscopic, very small, organism, such as bacteria, viruses, or fungi. Also called Microbes.

**Molecule**: The smallest particle in a chemical element or compound that has the chemical properties of that element or compound. Molecules are made up of atoms that are held together by chemical bonds

**MRSA:** meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, a type of bacteria that's resistant to several widely used antibiotics. This means infections with MRSA can be harder to treat than other bacterial infections.

**Organism:** An individual animal, plant, or single-celled life form.

**Pandemic:** An epidemic (a sudden outbreak) that becomes very widespread and affects a whole region, a continent, or the world due to a susceptible population.

**pH**: A figure expressing the acidity or alkalinity of a solution

**Phytochemical:** Chemical compounds produced by plants, generally to help them thrive or prevent competitors, predators, or pathogens

**Plague:** a contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever and delirium, typically with the formation of buboes ( bubonic plague ) and sometimes infection of the lungs. Trransmitted to humans from rats by means of the bites of fleas.

**Protein:** An example of a protein is the type of nutrient found in meats. Protein builds, maintains, and replaces the tissues in your body. Your muscles, your organs, and your immune system are made up mostly of protein.

**Roadkill:** The remains of an animal that has been killed on a road by a motor vehicle.

**Sterile:** Something totally clean and free from bacteria and other microorganisms.

**Sterilise:** To make something free from bacteria and other living microorganisms usually by bringing to a high temperature with steam, dry heat, or boiling liquid, or using a chemical cleaner that kills bacteria.

**Superbug:** Used to describe strains of bacteria that are resistant to the majority of antibiotics commonly used today.

**Virus:** An infective agent that typically consists of a nucleic acid molecule in a protein coat. A virus is too small to be seen by light microscopy, and is able to multiply only within the living cells of a host.