How to Prevent Getting Infected: Conceptualising Knowledge From Experience

Infections are a major cause of illness and death worldwide. They can be caused by a variety of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites. Infections can be spread through contact with contaminated surfaces or objects, through the air, or through contact with infected people or animals.



COVID-19: How to Prevent Getting Infected (Conceptualising knowledge from experience Book 3)

by Rajaratnam Abel

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There are a number of things you can do to prevent getting infected, including:

- Washing your hands frequently with soap and water
- Avoiding contact with people who are sick

- Getting vaccinated against common infections
- Practicing safe food handling
- Using condoms during sex

Understanding the Different Types of Infections

There are many different types of infections, each with its own unique symptoms and treatment. Some of the most common types of infections include:

- Bacterial infections are caused by bacteria, such as *Streptococcus* pneumoniae (which causes pneumonia) and *Staphylococcus aureus* (which causes skin infections). Bacterial infections can be treated with antibiotics.
- Viral infections are caused by viruses, such as the influenza virus (which causes the flu) and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
 Viral infections cannot be treated with antibiotics, but some can be prevented with vaccines.
- Fungal infections are caused by fungi, such as *Candida albicans* (which causes yeast infections) and *Aspergillus fumigatus* (which causes aspergillosis). Fungal infections can be treated with antifungal medications.
- Parasitic infections are caused by parasites, such as *Plasmodium falciparum* (which causes malaria) and *Schistosoma mansoni* (which causes schistosomiasis). Parasitic infections can be treated with antiparasitic medications.

Implementing Effective Preventive Measures

There are a number of effective preventive measures you can take to reduce your risk of getting infected. These measures include:

- Washing your hands frequently with soap and water is one of the most important things you can do to prevent getting infected. Hands can become contaminated with bacteria and viruses from contact with surfaces, objects, and people. Washing your hands frequently with soap and water removes these microorganisms and reduces your risk of infection.
- Avoiding contact with people who are sick is another important way to prevent getting infected. If someone is sick, it is best to avoid close contact with them until they are feeling better. This will help to reduce your risk of being exposed to the infection.
- Getting vaccinated against common infections is a good way to protect yourself from these diseases. Vaccines work by introducing a weakened or inactivated form of the virus or bacteria into the body. This allows the body to develop immunity to the infection without actually getting sick. Vaccines are available for a variety of common infections, including measles, mumps, rubella, polio, and tetanus.
- Practicing safe food handling is important to prevent foodborne infections. Foodborne infections are caused by eating food that has been contaminated with bacteria, viruses, or parasites. To prevent foodborne infections, it is important to wash your hands thoroughly before handling food, cook food to the proper temperature, and store food properly.
- Using condoms during sex is an important way to prevent sexually transmitted infections (STIs). STIs are caused by bacteria, viruses, or

parasites that are transmitted through sexual contact. Condoms can help to block the transmission of STIs by preventing contact with infected bodily fluids.

By following these simple tips, you can help to reduce your risk of getting infected. Remember, prevention is always better than cure.



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