**Pharmabees Glossary of Terms:**

**Session 2 for Students**

**Antibacterial:** Anything that destroys bacteria and does not allow them to growth or reproduce. For example: heat, chemicals such as chlorine, and antibiotic drugs all have antibacterial properties.

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

**Antibiotic Resistance**: The ability of bacteria and other microorganisms to not be affected by an antibiotic. Antibiotic resistance is caused by an overuse of antibiotics.

**Antimicrobial:** An antimicrobial is something that kills microorganisms or stops their growth. 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, growing on media. Microbiologists use colonies to identify and study bacteria. One colony can contain thousands of bacteria.

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

**Cell Wall:** A cell wall is a structural layer surrounding some types of cells, just outside the cell membrane. 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 accidental introduction of microbes such as bacteria, yeast, fungi, or viruses.

**DNA:** 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.

**Faeces:** Solid waste from a human or animal, poop.

**Host:** An animal or plant in which a parasite, such as a virus, lives**.**

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

**Hygienic:** Being clean and sanitaryto maintain health and prevent disease.

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

**Infectious disease:** Diseases 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. Molecules are made up of atoms that are held together by chemical bonds

**MRSA:** A type of bacteria that is 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:** A sudden outbreak of disease that becomes very widespread and affects a whole region, such as a continent.

**pH**: The acidity or alkalinity of a something, on a scale of 1-14, with 7 being neutral. 1-6 is acidic, and 8-14 is alkaline.

**Plague:** a contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever and chills, transmitted to humans from rats and the bites of fleas.

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

**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: T**otally clean and free from bacteria and other microorganisms.

**Sterilize:** 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:** A virus is an extremely tiny parasite that can only reproduce if it is within a living being; an example of a virus is HIV.