

Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases

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Introduction

After the intervention of antibiotics in medical sciences, after the Second World War, it was assumed by everyone that only disease that is left uncured is heart disease and cancer and all types of the bacterial infections are easily cured. There were vaccines that prevented the spreading of a few fatal diseases as well.

Discussion

Emerging Infectious Diseases are termed to be the diseases that have new emerged in a particular region or globally where as the Re-emerging Diseases are the ones that disease whose frequency has amplified in a defined time period and location. Though many of the infectious disease are curable but the modern science has seen more dangerous forms of the infection and other infectious diseases. As HIV/AIDS came on the screen the ideas related to the Infectious Diseases totally changed. Similarly, 30 more new Infectious Diseases appeared in the past. Infectious Diseases are known as the third leading cause of death in America (Stolen, 1998).

There are many causes of these new emerging and re-emerging diseases. One of the foremost factors is the changes in the ecological system and the land use changes and deforestation that have disturbed the ecology of the natural system. Many of the emerging and the reemerging infections are transferred from the animals host and are also known as zoonotic like bird flu, mad cow virus, monkeypox etc. Urbanization is another reason for the emerging and the reemerging diseases. Improper living conditions, like in slums and improper provision of the infrastructure are the main causes of these diseases in mega cities. International travelling

that occurs very frequently, that is 400 million people per year travel internationally, becomes the transmission of the disease that occurs in a region to spread globally. Further the contamination of food and mass production is another reason to amplify the causes of these diseases. Another mentionable cause is microbial adaptation and change. This is occurred due to the utilization of the microbes by the numerous genetic mechanisms (Beltz, 2011). This has been evident by the behavior of the genome that the lateral transfer is experienced more commonly.

Many of the diseases are caused due to the presence of harmful bacteria already present in the environment that are called pathogens. These diseases came to focus when the in 1979, people started dying due to an unknown disease that was named as HIV/AIDS that destroys the immune system of an individual. It is being evaluated that 61% of all AIDS cases that are evident since past few years is due to the injection drug use or sex with partners who inject drugs (Lashley & Durham, 2002).

There are many diseases like Hepatitis C, dengue fever, HIV/AIDS. Dengue fever is the best example to quote the reemerging diseases that has been witnessed since 1950s in many parts of the world like South-East Asia. All the factors like urbanization, contamination of water, and changer in the ecology are the reason of the spread of this virus. The source of this virus is mosquitoes therefore it spread more frequently through its bite.

Conclusion

It can be concluded that modernization is one of the major factors that are responsible for the emerging and the reemerging diseases. There are several research groups working in America and many other nations as well WHO in order to prevent the people from these diseases.

References

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