Bacterial Pathogens Project:

You have studied 3 diseases as exemplars of bacterial pathogens: Cholera, Tuberculosis and Typhoid all have long histories. In the 19th century, there were outbreaks of all three in the US and Europe. As a result of the lack of public awareness, no antibiotics, and poor sanitation, these outbreaks took a great toll on human life. Now we will consider these diseases in today’s world:

**Groups of 3**:

1. Create a ‘RAP Sheet’ as a template for entering the disease information and complete one for each disease using the following criteria. (You may add additional information as long as it is accommodated by your common form).

* ***Infectious Agent***
* ***Mode of Transmission***

***Reservoir(s)***

***Presence/Absence of healthy carriers***

***Social inequalities involved in its spread***

* ***Colonization and growth – location(s) of disease in body.***
* ***Treatment/Preventation/Drug Resistance***

***CURRENT Status*** –

* ***Where in the world is it occurring today***? (Go to HealthMap.org for this – enter disease name in search box)

1. Be sure each person has copies of all 3. Discuss.
2. Come up with a group opinion, in writing, comparing the threat of these illnesses to the populations today, and identifying which of these three represents the greatest threat and why. To be shared with the class.

**Individually**: (homework for Thursday 10/6)

Look on HealthMap.org, and use Advanced Search option to look at the outbreaks that occurred in the US in the past week. Click on ‘pushpins’ to see info.

1. What types of bacterial illness pose the greatest threat to people in a developed country like the US today? (Note – Skip West Nile, measles and rabies – these are Viral).
2. Create RAP sheets like those above for *E. coli* and *Listeria.*
3. Short (3 paragraph) essay: Why are food borne diseases such a problem in developed countries today? What factors contribute to this problem? What measures can be or are being taken to prevent them in the future?

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