

# Infectious Diseases

- Caused by pathogens (germs that cause disease)
  - Bacteria
  - Viruses
  - Protozoa
  - Fungi
  - Parasites
- Passed by direct contact with an infected person or body fluids.
  - Skin-to-skin contact
  - Mucus
  - Blood
  - Other body fluids (semen, vaginal fluid, saliva)
- Can also be passed by indirect contact:
  - By touching things an infected person has touched
  - Through the air
  - Through insect or animal bites
  - Through food or water
  - Through needles, syringes or other equipment

**Noninfectious diseases** develop inside a person's body and can't be "caught" or passed to other people.