

Week 7 Assignment: Pathogens Summary Part 2

1. Briefly summarize in your own words the USPHS Untreated Syphilis Study at Tuskegee (3 to 4 sentences maximum). You may refer to your textbook or this link for more information on the study <https://www.cdc.gov/tuskegee/timeline.htm>

- a. The USPHS Untreated Syphilis Study at Tuskegee was conducted between 1932 and 1972, where 600 African American men, 399 with syphilis and 201 without, were enrolled in the study without their informed consent. The men were told they were being treated for "bad blood," but in reality, treatment was deliberately withheld to observe the natural progression of untreated syphilis. Even after penicillin became the standard treatment in 1947, the men were still not treated. The study only ended after it was exposed by the media in 1972.

2. Write one to two sentences explaining why this study was unethical.

- a. This study was unethical because the participants were deceived and not provided with the standard medical treatment, violating their rights to informed consent and medical care, resulting in preventable suffering and deaths.

3. Whooping cough

- a. Pathogen name
 - i. *Bordetella pertussis*
- b. Type of pathogen:
 - i. Bacterial
- c. Body system affected:
 - i. Respiratory system
- d. Signs and symptoms:
 - i. Severe coughing fits, "whooping" sound during inhalation, vomiting after coughing, and exhaustion
- e. Epidemiology:
 - i. Highly contagious; primarily affects infants and young children, but can occur in all age groups; vaccination has significantly reduced its incidence
- f. Disease treatment and prevention:
 - i. Treated with antibiotics; prevented through DTaP/Tdap vaccines

4. Cysticercosis

- a. Pathogen name
 - i. *Taenia solium* (pork tapeworm)
- b. Type of pathogen:
 - i. Helminth (parasitic worm)
- c. Body system affected:
 - i. Nervous system, muscles, skin, eyes
- d. Signs and symptoms:
 - i. Seizures, headaches, muscle or eye pain, lumps under the skin
- e. Epidemiology: