Fold each printed sheet in half lengthwise. The left side of the document will list the term and the right side will list the definition. Tape or staple the open edges of your flashcards. Cut out your flashcards on the solid lines indicated and fold them on the dotted lines.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Antigen

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Any substance identified by the human immune system as “other” or “foreign," usually taking the form of a molecule originating from a bacterium or other invader.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Antimicrobial

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A substance, such as an antibiotic, that kills or stops the growth of microbes, including bacteria, fungi, or viruses; grouped according to the microbes they act against (antibiotics, antifungals, and antivirals). (CDC)

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Antimicrobial resistance

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The ability of microorganisms to grow when treated by a drug that was previously an effective antimicrobial agent.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Colonization

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The presence of microorganisms in or on a host with growth and multiplication but without causing any symptoms or disease.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Colonization pressure

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The proportion of other patients or residents colonized within a defined population or area.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Incubation period

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The period of time from exposure to some infectious source to the development of signs and symptoms.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Infection

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The entry into and multiplication of an infectious agent in the tissues of the host and tissue damage resulting in apparent or unapparent changes in the host.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Infectivity

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The ability of an infectious agent to invade, survive in, and multiply in a host; can be calculated as the number of those infected divided by the number of those exposed.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Latent period

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The time from exposure to the beginning of the infectious period.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Malnutrition

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An imbalance of nutrients or stores compared to physiological requirements.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Multiple-drug-resistant organisms (MDROs)

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Organisms that develop resistance to multiple antimicrobials, especially those that are traditionally used for treatment.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Overnutrition

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Malnutrition that leads to individuals being overweight or obese.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Pathogenicity

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The ability of an infectious agent to cause clinically apparent disease in infected hosts; calculated as the number of those diseased divided by the number of those infected.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Undernutrition

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Malnutrition due to chronic inadequate intake of energy and protein.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Urinary tract infection (UTI)

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A bacterial or fungal infection of the urinary tract.

Module 2
Section A: Infection and Aging

Term
Virulence

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The measure of a microbe's ability to invade and create disease in a host, determined by characteristics that relate to the favored site of invasion, disease induction, and avoidance of host resistance.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Bacteria

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Free-living, single-celled organisms that multiply through chromosomal replication and cellular division.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Biofilms

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Attached, architecturally defined, three-dimensional environments that may contain either single or multiple species of microorganisms.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Capsule

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An organized glycocalyx that is firmly attached to the cell wall.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Endospores

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Cell structures composed of nuclear material and protein that enable bacteria to survive extreme conditions.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Endotoxins

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Surface components (complexes of bacterial proteins, lipids, and polysaccharides remaining firmly in the bacteria) of Gram-negative bacteria.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Exotoxins

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Toxins that are secreted by bacteria, mainly those that are Gram-positive.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Fungus

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A term that refers generically to all members of the kingdom fungi.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Glycocalyx

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Chemical substances that surround cells.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Gram-negative bacteria

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Bacteria in which the cell walls contain only one (or very few) layers of peptidoglycan.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Gram-positive bacteria

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Bacteria in which the cell wall consists of many layers of peptidoglycan, forming a thick rigid structure.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Molds

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Usually reproduce by elongation and fragmentation of their hyphae (or pseudohyphae), which are tube-like projections; they produce fluffy, cottony, wooly, or powdery colonies.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Mycosis

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Infections or diseases caused by fungi.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Normal flora

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Microbes that normally live in and on the body without causing infection or disease to the host.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Parasite

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An organism that lives on or within another organism and obtains an advantage at the expense of the host.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Prions

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Infectious particles of abnormally folded proteins that do not contain DNA or RNA.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Resident flora

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Normal flora that are always present on the skin and throughout the body, including the body's colonizing bacteria.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Slime layer

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An unorganized glycocalyx that is loosely attached to the cell wall.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Transient flora

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Normal flora that colonize the skin and mucosa temporarily, without invading tissues.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Virions

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Intact viral particles made up of nucleic acid (either RNA or DNA), a protein coat (capsid), and possibly an envelope composed of viral proteins and host cell lipids.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Virulence

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The measure of a microbe's ability to invade and create disease in a host, determined by characteristics that relate to the favored site of invasion, disease induction, and avoidance of host resistance.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Viruses

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Obligate intracellular parasites that require living host cells to grow and reproduce and are dependent on the cells' synthetic and metabolic machinery.

Module 2
Section B: Microbiology

Term
Yeasts

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Unicellular, round to oval organisms ranging in size from 2 to 60 millimeters.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Agent

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A component of the epidemiological triangle; may be a bacteria, virus, fungus, protozoan, helminth, or prion.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Airborne spread

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An efficient mode of transmission that may involve varying distances between the source and the host.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Antibiogram

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A report that summarizes typical patterns of susceptibility to antibiotics by specific species of bacteria.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Association

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The relationship between a risk factor and an outcome, such as a disease.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Carrier

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A person who shows no recognizable signs or symptoms of a disease but is capable of spreading the disease to others.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Causative agent

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A biological, physical, or chemical entity capable of causing disease.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Chronic carriers

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Persons who may continue to have organisms present for very long periods of time.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Cluster

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A group of persons with a given disease occurring in the same space and time but not epidemiologically linked. If an epidemiological link is made, may become an outbreak.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Community-acquired infection

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An infection that is present on admission to a healthcare facility and has no association with a recent hospitalization.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Convalescent carriers

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Those who have recovered from a disease but still have organisms present that can be transmitted.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Culture

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A laboratory technique used to grow (cultivate) bacteria and yeast.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Direct contact

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A mode of transmission that features person-to-person spread with actual physical contact occurring between a source and a susceptible host.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Droplet transmission

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A mode of transmission that occurs when the infectious agent spends only a brief period passing through the air and can be inhaled at that time.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Endemic

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The usual incidence of a given disease within a geographical area during a specified time period.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Environment

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A component of the epidemiological triangle; consists of all external factors associated with the host.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Epidemic

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An excess over the expected incidence of disease within a given geographical area during a specified time period.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Epidemiology

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The study of the distribution and determinants of disease and other conditions in human populations.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
External vector-borne transmission

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The mechanical transfer of microorganisms by a vector, such as a fly on food.

Module 2 *Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing* **Term** Fomite APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025	An inanimate object on which organisms may exist for some period of time, for example, a contaminated piece of medical equipment.
Module 2 *Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing* **Term** Healthcare-associated infection (HAI) APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025	An infection that is not present at the time of admission to a healthcare facility but is temporally associated with admission to or a procedure performed in the facility; may also be related to a recent hospitalization.
Module 2 *Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing* **Term** Herd immunity APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025	The resistance of a group to invasion and spread of an infectious agent, based on the immunity of a high proportion of individual members of the group.
Module 2 *Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing* **Term** Host APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025	A component of the epidemiological triangle; refers to a human or other animal.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Incidence

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The number of new cases of a given disease in a given time period.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Indirect contact

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A mode of transmission that occurs when a patient comes in contact with a contaminated intermediate object or fomite.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Infection—apparent, clinical, or symptomatic

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An infection that results in clinical signs and symptoms of a recognizable disease process.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Infection—unapparent, asymptomatic, or subclinical

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An infection that runs a course similar to that of clinical disease but below the threshold of discernible clinical symptoms.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Intermediate-susceptible

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

In antimicrobial susceptibility testing, level at which a drug is likely to be effective only at body sites where it is physiologically concentrated or at other body sites if higher-than-usual dosing regimens are used.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Intermittent carriers

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Persons who periodically shed organisms.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Internal vector-borne transmission

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Involves the transfer of infectious material directly from the vector into the new host, such as occurs with mosquitoes and malaria.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Mode of transmission

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The method by which an organism reaches a susceptible host.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Outbreak

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Synonymous with epidemic but often preferred when dealing with the public; in local settings, a group of people with the same disease who are epidemiologically linked.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Pandemic

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An epidemic spread over a wide geographical area, across countries or continents.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Portal of entry

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

In the chain of infection, the means by which an infectious agent enters a susceptible host.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Portal of exit

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

In the chain of infection, the path by which an infectious agent leaves the reservoir.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Prevalence

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The number of existent cases of a given disease at a given time.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Reservoir

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A place in which an infectious agent can survive but may or may not multiply, for example, Pseudomonas in nebulizers and hepatitis B on the surface of a hemodialysis machine.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Resistant

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

In antimicrobial susceptibility testing, level at which a drug is unlikely to be effective for the treatment of infection unless predictably toxic dosages are used.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Risk

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The probability or likelihood of an event occurring.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Risk factor

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A characteristic, behavior, or experience that increases the probability of developing a negative health status (e.g., disease, infection).

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Susceptibility

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Describes whether an identified organism is able to be treated successfully using a given antimicrobial.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Susceptible

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

In antimicrobial susceptibility testing, level at which a drug is likely to be effective for the treatment of infection using a standard dosage.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Sustained carriers

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Persons who may continue to have organisms present for very long periods of time.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Vector

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

In biology, a biting insect, tick, or other organism responsible for transmitting a disease, pathogen, or parasite between persons, animals, or plants.

Module 2
Section C: General Principles of Epidemiology and Testing

Term
Zoonosis

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A disease transmitted from animals to humans (e.g., cat scratch fever, psittacosis).

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Active immunity

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Arises when a person is exposed to an organism by either vaccination or direct exposure; when the immune person comes into contact with the organism in the future, the immune system will remember it and trigger an immune response.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Bivalent

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A SARS-CoV-2 vaccine consisting of two SARS-CoV-2 strains targeted to specific variants.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Cleaning

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The removal of foreign material (e.g., soil, organic material) from objects; required before disinfection and sterilization can occur since foreign material interferes with the effectiveness of these processes.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Critical items

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Objects or instruments that must be free of any microorganisms, including bacterial spores, when they enter sterile tissue, bone, or the vascular system in order to not introduce microorganisms into the site that would result in an infection or a disease.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Disinfection

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Thermal or chemical destruction of pathogenic and other types of microorganisms.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Enhanced barrier precautions (EBP)

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Infection control interventions designed to reduce transmission of multidrug-resistant organisms in nursing homes. (CDC)

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Immunization

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A process by which a person becomes protected against a disease through vaccination.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Monovalent

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A vaccine consisting of a single strain or type of organism.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Noncritical items

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Medical devices and other items that come in contact with intact skin but not mucous membranes.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Passive immunity

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Conveyed through administration of antibodies for a specific disease or administration of certain blood products; results in immediate immunity.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Polyvalent

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A vaccine consisting of multiple strains or types of organisms (e.g., 23-valent pneumococcal vaccine).

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Quadrivalent

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

An influenza vaccine consisting of four influenza strains (e.g., two A virus strains, two B virus strains).

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Semicritical items

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Medical devices that come in contact with mucous membranes or nonintact skin; should be free of all microorganisms (i.e., mycobacteria, fungi, viruses, bacteria), although small numbers of bacterial spores may be present.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Standard precautions (SP) strategies

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A series of evidence-based procedures, used for all patients in all settings, to reduce the presence of microbiological agents in a healthcare facility and to prevent cross-contamination between HCP, patients, and the environment.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Sterility

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The state of being free from all living microorganisms.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Transmission-based precautions (TBP)

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

Procedures used with residents who are known or suspected to be infected or colonized with infectious agents, including certain epidemiologically important pathogens.

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Trivalent

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

A vaccine consisting of three types or strains of a single organism (e.g., influenza vaccine) or three different organisms (e.g., diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus vaccine).

Module 2
Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term
Vaccination

APIC LTC-CIP Learning System © 2025

The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce immunity to a specific disease.

Module 2

Section D: Processes to Mitigate Transmission

Term

Vaccine

A preparation that is used to stimulate the body's immune response against diseases. (CDC)

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