|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Keyword** | **Definition** |
| **ADH** | A hormone that make kidney tubules more permeable to water, causing greater reabsorption of water |
| **Alcohol** | The intoxicating chemical in wine, beer and spirits. Causes changes in behaviour and may create long-term addiction |
| **Antibiotic resistant** | Microorganisms that are not killed by antibiotics |
| **Antibiotics** | Drugs that kill or stop the growth of bacteria and fungi |
| **Antibodies** | A group of proteins made by white blood cells to fight dangerous microorganisms. A different antibody is needed to fight each different type of microorganism. Antibodies bind to the surface of the microorganism, which triggers other white blood cells to digest them |
| **Antigens** | Proteins on the surface of a cell. A cell’s antigens are unique markers |
| **Arteries** | Blood vessels that carry blood away from the heart |
| **Bacteria** | Single-celled microorganisms that do not have a nucleus. Some bacteria may cause disease |
| **Blind trial** | A clinical trial in which the patient does not know whether they are taking the new drug, but their doctor does |
| **Blood pressure** | The pressure exerted by blood pushing on the walls of a blood vessel |
| **Capillaries** | Tiny blood vessels that are one cell thick. They carry blood through the tissues between the arteries and veins |
| **Clinical trials** | When a new drug is tested on humans to find out whether it is safe and whether it works |
| **Control** | In a clinical trial, the control group is people taking the currently used drug. The effects of the new drug can then be compared to this group |
| **Coronary arteries** | Artery that supplies blood carrying oxygen and glucose directly to the muscle cells of the heart |
| **Correlation** | A link between two things, for example, when pollen count increases hayfever cases also increase |
| **Digests** | Break down larger, insoluble molecules into small, soluble molecules |
| **Double-blind trial** | A clinical trial in which neither the doctor nor the patient knows whether the patent is taking the new drug |
| **Ecstasy** | A recreational drug that increases concentration of serotonin at synapses in the brain, giving pleasurable feelings. Long-term effects may include destruction of the synapse |
| **Effector** | The part of a control system that brings about a change to the system (egg muscles shivering to warm you up) |
| **Epidemiological studies** | Scientific study that examines the causes, spread, and control of disease in a human population |
| **Excretion** | The removal of waste products of chemical reactions from cells |
| **Fungus (Plural Fungi)** | A group of living things, including some microorganisms, that cannot make their own food |
| **Genetic studies** | Scientific study of the genes carried by people in a population to look for alleles that increase the risk of disease |
| **Heart disease** | A range of potentially serious illnesses that affect the heart |
| **Homeostasis** | Maintaining a constant internal environment |
| **Human trials** | The stage of a trial process for a new drug where the drug is taken by healthy volunteers to see if it is safe, and then by sick volunteers to check it is safe |
| **Immune** | Able to react to an infection quickly, stopping the microorganisms before they can make you ill, usually because you have been exposed to them before |
| **Immune system** | A group of organs and tissues in the body that fight infections |
| **Infectious** | A disease that can be caught |
| **Kidneys** | Organ in the body that removes waste urea from the blood, and balances water and blood plasma levels. People are usually born with two kidneys |
| **Lifestyle** | The way in which people choose to live their lives, for example, what they choose to eat, how much exercise they choose to do, how much stress they experience in their job |
| **Lifestyle diseases** | Disease that are not caused by microorganisms. They are triggered by other factors, for example, smoking, diet and lack of exercise |
| **Match** | Some disease studies compare two groups of people. The people in each group is chosen to be as similar as possible (matched) so that results can be fairly compared |
| **Memory cells** | Long-lived white blood cell, which is able to respond very quickly (by producing antibodies to destroy the microorganism) when it meets a microorganism for the second time |
| **Microorganisms** | Living organism that can only be seen by looking through a microscope. They include bacteria, viruses and fungi |
| **Mutation** | A change in the DNA of an organism. It alters the gene and may change an organisms characteristics |
| **Negative feedback** | A system where any change results in actions that reverse the original change |
| **Open label-trial** | A clinical drug test in which both the patient and their doctor knows whether the patient is taking the new drug |
| **Pituitary gland** | Part of the human brain that coordinates many different function, for example, release of ADH |
| **Placebo** | Something which looks like the real treatment, but has no drug in it. |
| **Processing centre** | The part of a control system that receives and processes information for the receptor, and triggers action by the effectors |
| **Pulse rate** | The rate at which the heart beats. The pulse is measured by pressing on an artery in the neck, wrist, or groin |
| **Random** | No predictable pattern |
| **Receptors** | The part of the control system in the body that detect changes in the system and passes this information to the processing centre (E.g. skin receptors detecting that you are cold and sending information to the brain to warm you up) |
| **Risk factors** | A variable linked to an increased risk of disease. Risk factors are linked to diseases but may not be the cause of the disease |
| **Symptoms** | What a person has when they have a particular illness, for example, a rash, high temperature, and sore throat |
| **Vaccinations** | Introducing the body to a chemical (a vaccine) used to make a person immune to a disease. A vaccine contains dead or weakened microorganisms, or parts of the microorganism, so that the body makes antibodies to the disease without being ill |
| **Veins** | Blood vessels that carry blood towards the heart |
| **Virus** | Microorganisms that can only live and reproduce inside living cells |
| **White blood cells (WBC)** | Cells in the blood that fight microorganisms. Some white blood cells digest invading microorganisms. Others produce antibodies |