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Reflection Page

When watching the videos, I learned a lot more about TB than I had realized. I originally thought TB was confined to the lungs only, but it can spread to other organs such as kidneys, spinal cord, brain, and lymph nodes and is known as disseminated tuberculosis. I also learned that a person can be false positive if they are too young or too old and if they have AIDS. That makes me wonder what in the AIDS virus makes it seem like a positive TB test, what do the two have in common? The two common medications, pyrazinamide and rifampin, should not be used together due to liver and kidney failure. There have been reports of death when the two are used together. The BCG vaccine is not effective in adults which is something I was unaware of. Some things I learned when watching the COPD video includes the fact that the alveoli are surrounded by tiny blood capillaries where gas exchange takes place in the respiratory system. In Emphysema, damage takes place in the alveolar walls, and the alveoli lose shape. Which hinders breathing. I also did not know that there is a genetic condition known as Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency that can contribute to the development of COPD. The patient would have a deficiency of AAT protein. There is a lung therapy for COPD can get supplemental oxygen which has several portable devices that are used to provide oxygen to the lungs. For COPD, this therapy is the only therapy proved to improve quality and proven to extend life. In the pneumonia video, there are organisms that can cause severe pneumonia such as bacteria, mostly streptococcus pneumoniae. Also, fungus, which usually target people with weaker immune systems. If a patient is suspected to have pneumonia the patient will have a sputum test and a blood test which can tell which organism is causing the infection. This can be used to determine which antibiotics are going to be used to treat the infection. Proper hygiene, keeping a strong immune system, healthy diet, exercise, and quitting smoking can all be preventative measures against pneumonia. The pneumonia vaccine is recommended for people ages sixty-five or older. In the video with the chest tubes, the tube is inserted in the pleural space of the lungs to remove air or fluid to expand the lungs. When the lungs are getting more of a positive pressure, they will collapse which will indicate the need for a chest tube. Also, a pneumothorax will indicate for a chest tube. A pleural effusion is fluid in the pleural space and messes up the pressure setting indicating the need for a chest tube. Also, hemothorax which could be from trauma where blood is leaking in will need for a chest tube. There are two types of suction with chest tubes. A wet suction which is suction regulated by the height of the water in the suction control chamber you will hear and see bubbling with this. In the dry suctioning there is no water column, but it uses a suction monitor, this has higher suction pressure. I learned a lot about the different conditions with gas exchange in the videos that were provided.