

CARRIERS

- An infected person that harbors infectious agent in the absence of clinical disease & serves as a source of infection
- Carriers are less infectious than cases but are more dangerous epidemiologically
- Typhoid Mary is a classic example of a carrier • Carrier

Incubatory carriers a. Those who shed the infectious agent during incubation period of disease b

. E.g. measles mumps, polio, Pertussis, influenza,, hepatitis B,

diphtheria

2. Convalescent carriers

Continue to shed the disease agent during the period of convalescence

(gradual healing after illness)

So clinical recovery does not coincide with Bacteriological Recovery

E.g. Typhoid fever, bacillary/ amoebic dysentery, cholera, Pertussis, diphtheria

3. Healthy carriers

Victims of subclinical infection who have developed carrier state without suffering from overt disease

E.g. polio, Salmonellosis, meningococcal

meningitis, diphtheria, cholera, typhoid

II. DURATION

1. Temporary carriers

Shed the infectious agent for short periods of time

Includes incubatory, convalescent & healthy carriers

2. Chronic carrier

Excretes infectious agent for indefinite periods

E.g. typhoid, gonorrhoeae, hepatitis B, malaria
Chronic carriers are known to reintroduce disease into areas which are

otherwise free of infection

III. PORTAL OF EXIT

1. Urinary carriers-typhoid

2. Intestinal carriers-typhoid, cholera, amoebiasis In typhoid fever, Urinary carriers is more dangerous than an intestinal carrier

3. Respiratory carriers

4. Nasopharyngeal carriers-meningococcus

5. Nasal carriers-diphtheria Paradoxical carrier-carrier who gets infected from another carrier Pseudo-carriers Carriers of avirulent