

Sub: SOCIAL AND PREVENTIVE PHARMACY

Code: BP- 802T

Unit: I

Prevention and control of disease
social causes of disease

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Definition of disease

- A **disease** is a particular abnormal condition that negatively affects the structure or function of all or part of an organism, and that is not due to any immediate external injury. **Diseases** are often known to be medical conditions that are associated with specific signs and symptoms.

Concept for prevention and control of disease

Disease prevention is a procedure through which individuals, particularly those with risk factors for a **disease**, are treated in order to **prevent a disease** from occurring.

Treatment normally begins either before signs and symptoms of the **disease** occur, or shortly thereafter.

Prevention: refers to measures that are applied to **prevent the occurrence of a disease**.

Control: refers to measures that are applied to **prevent** transmission **after the disease** has occurred.

Methods to prevent disease

- (1) By preventing contact: helps to avoid transmission of infection, between the susceptible host and the source of infection
- (2) By rendering the host unsusceptible: by induction of an effective artificial immunity.

Levels of prevention

- Primordial prevention
- Primary prevention
- Secondary prevention
- Tertiary prevention

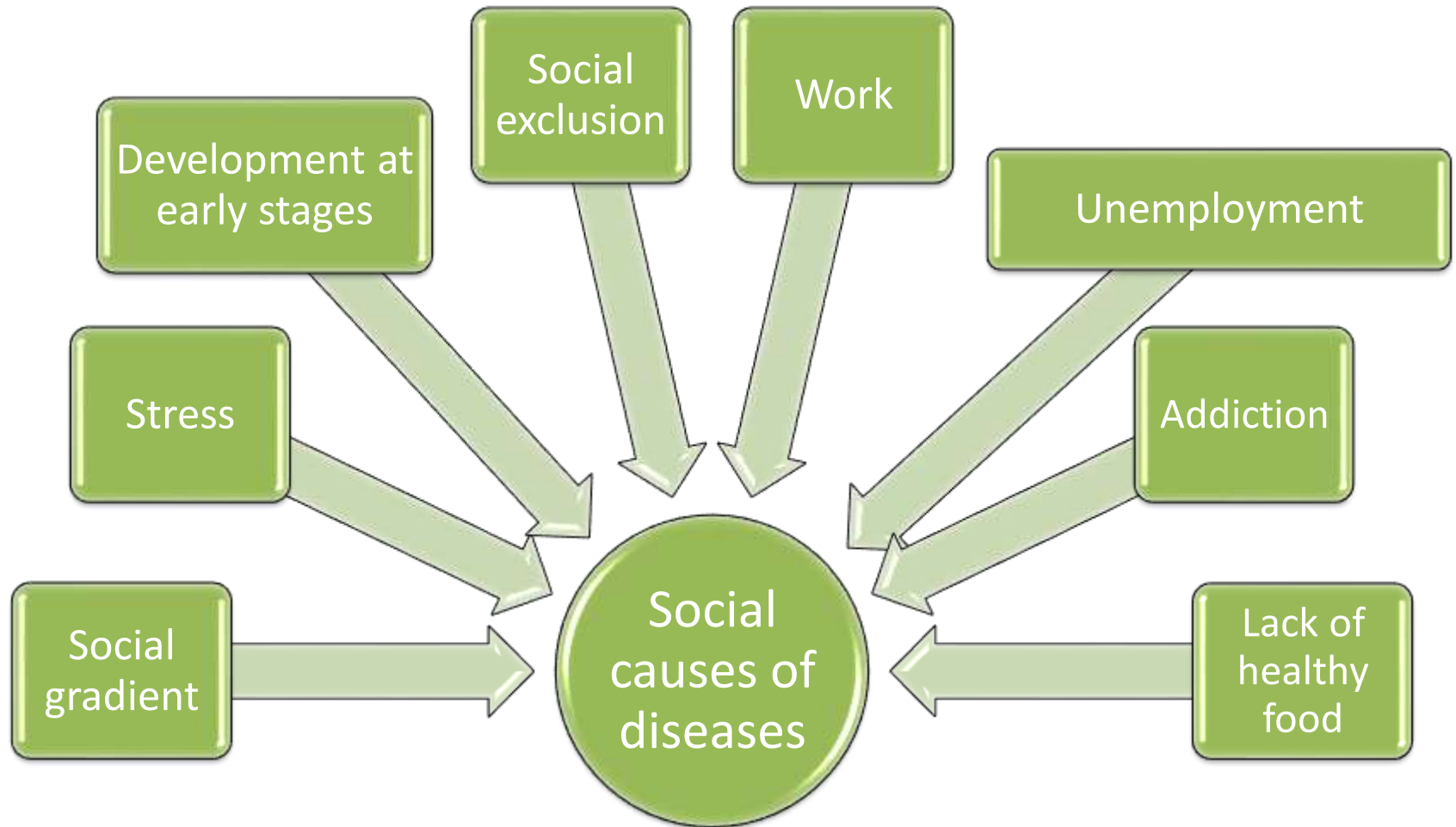
Primordial Prevention: Prevention of emergence or development of risk factors in population groups in which they have not yet appear • e.g. Lifestyle diseases

Primary Prevention :Action taken prior to the onset of disease, which removes the possibility that a disease will occur. e.g. Communicable diseases

Secondary Prevention :Actions which halts the progress of a disease at its incipient stage and prevents complications.

Tertiary Prevention : All measures taken to reduce or limit impairments and disabilities, minimize suffering caused by existing departures from good health and to promote the patient's adjustment to irremediable conditions.

Social causes of diseases



Social gradient: social and economic circumstances strongly affect their health throughout life, so health policy must be linked to the social and economic determinants of health.

Stress: Social and psychological circumstances can cause long-term stress. Continuing anxiety, insecurity, low self-esteem, social isolation and lack of control over work and home life have powerful effects on health.

Development at early stages: Slow growth and a lack of emotional support during this period raise the lifetime risk of poor physical health and reduce physical, cognitive and emotional functioning in adulthood.

Social exclusion: Processes of social exclusion and the extent of relative deprivation in a society have a major impact on health and premature death. The harm to health comes not only from material deprivation but also from the social and psychological problems of living in poverty.

Work: Stress in the workplace increases the risk of disease.

Unemployment: it puts health at risk, and the risk is higher in regions where unemployment is widespread. Evidence from a number of countries shows that, even after allowing for other factors, unemployed people and their families suffer a substantially increased risk of premature death.

Addiction: Drug use is a response to social breakdown and an important factor in worsening the resulting inequalities in health. It offers users a mirage of escape from adversity and stress, but only makes their problems worse.

Lack of food: The shortage of food and lack of variety cause malnutrition and deficiency diseases

Social problems of the sick

- Malnutrition
- Dumping
- Unethical practices
- Unemployment
- Poverty
- Humans, arms and drug trafficking
- Crime
- Child labour
- Corruption