

**Antigen Name:**  
**Hae Maude Phyllis**  
*(Haemophilus influenzae (Hae) – one cause of bacterial pink eye)*

**Description:**  
 Small, round bacteria, Hae is one of the causes of bacterial conjunctivitis (pink-eye). Most strains of H. influenzae live in their host without causing any problems, but when viral infections or lowered immunity occur, this nasty pathogen takes advantage and

causes problems for the host. In this case, Gamma Master borrowed those bright blue contacts and mascara from a friend and then developed red, irritated eyes.

**Spread:**

Bacterial conjunctivitis (pink eye) is common, very contagious, and involves inflammation and swelling of the clear membrane covering the eye and lining the inner eyelids. Hae may come from the patient's own skin or from another person with conjunctivitis.

**Prevention:**

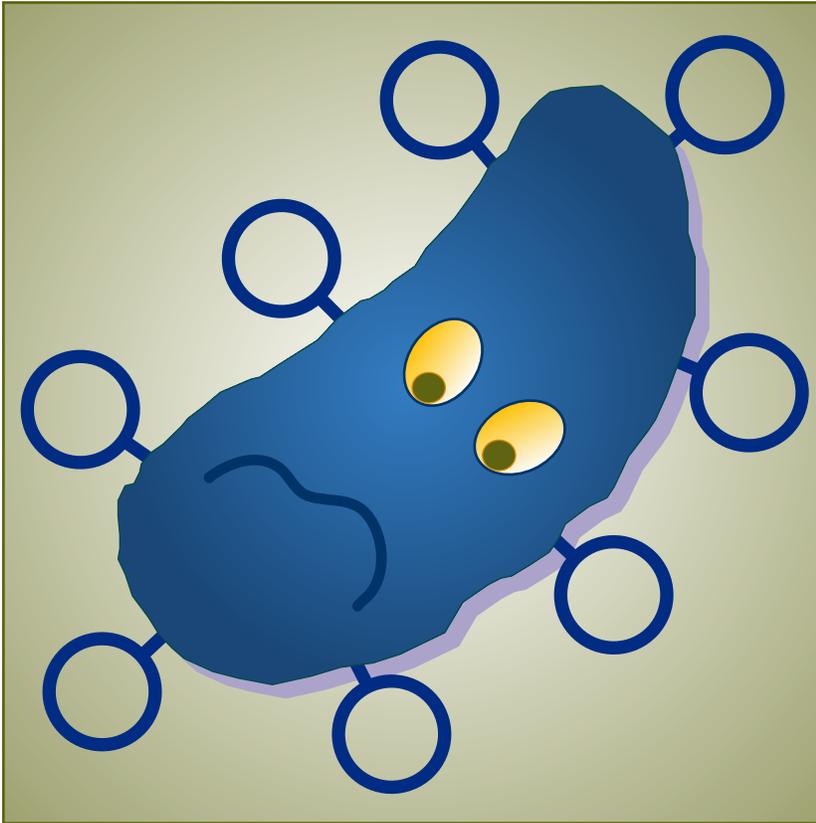
Good hygiene of hands and face is important. Avoid sharing contacts & solution, eye-drops, eye make up, cosmetics, washcloths, and face towels, especially if someone has conjunctivitis. Conjunctivitis can spread from one eye to the other, especially when you rub your eyes. Dispose of any antibiotic eye drops after the treatment is over.

**Treatment:**

Bacterial conjunctivitis may be treated with certain broad spectrum antibiotic drops or ointment. Irritated eyes should also be cleaned with cotton soaked in cooled boiled water to remove any crusts or stickiness.

*Hurry and defeat these round-shaped rogues and "get the red out"!*





**Antigen Name:**  
**Nuke U. Flu**  
*(Upper Respiratory  
 Influenza)*

**Description:**

Gamma Master didn't take a flu shot this fall and was exposed to friends who were coughing, sneezing, and had nasal drainage from the flu. This viral bad guy sneaked in through Gamma Master's respiratory passages and Gamma Master is now feverishly seeking relief from this relentless attack on his nose, throat and lungs.

**Prevention:**

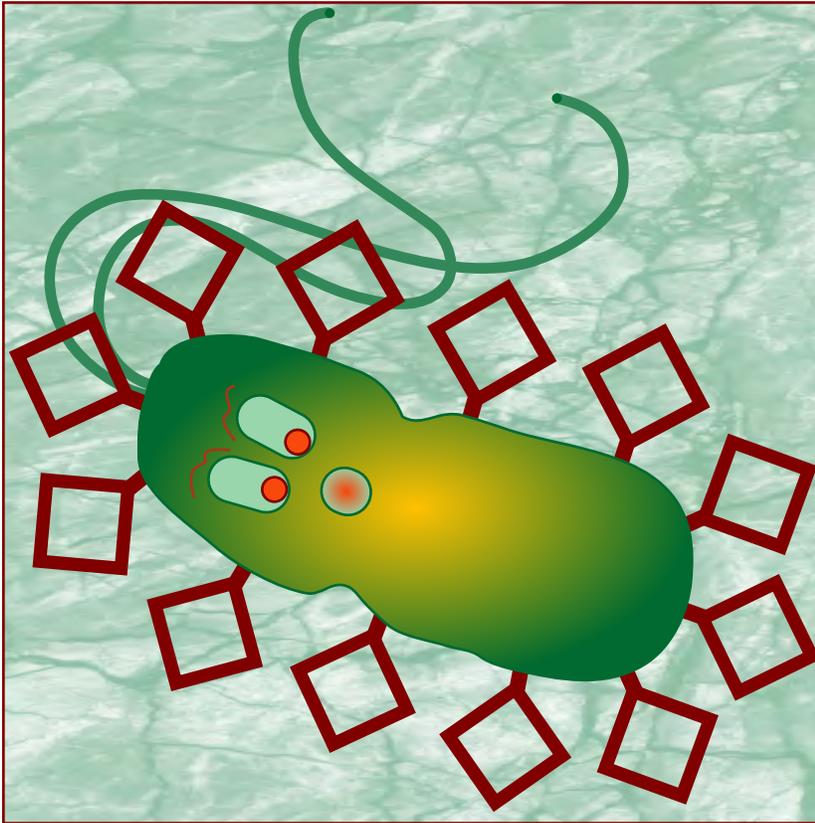
- Take a flu shot 3 weeks prior to flu season
- Wash hands frequently

**Treatment:**

- Plenty of rest and fluids
- Cough syrup and pain reliever can reduce the symptoms, but avoid giving aspirin to children or adolescents

*Good luck overcoming this potentially pandemic RNA renegade.*





**Antigen Name:**  
**Sue D. Monas**  
*(Pseudomonas aeruginosa - Opportunistic Bacterium)*

**Description:**

A nasty little rod-shaped villain, Sue is found in soil and water and will attack almost any part of your body. She almost never infects tissues in people with healthy immune systems, but if the immune system isn't working properly, she is a dreaded and dangerous foe. She has a resistant super shield against antibiotics and a slimy layer to fight off brave phagocyte warriors. She can cause urinary tract infections, respiratory system infections, dermatitis, soft tissue infections (as in infections from body piercing), gastrointestinal infections and others. She is a serious problem for patients with AIDS, burns, cystic fibrosis, and cancer. Sue D. Monas entered Gamma Master's body through a deep burn on the hand.

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**Prevention:**

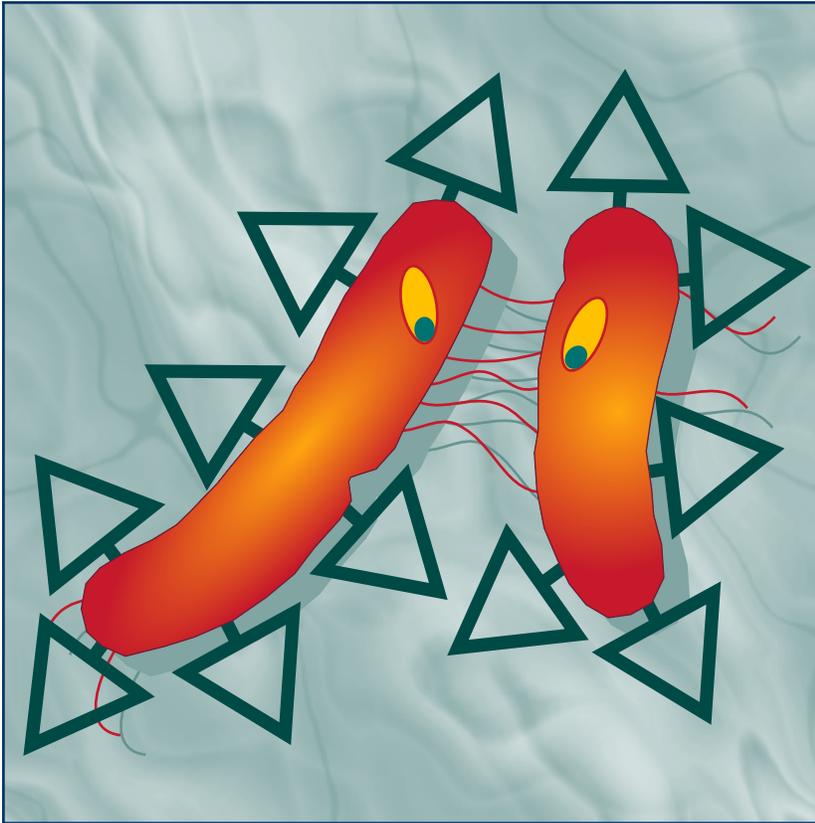
- Wash hands often - spread only occurs when in contact with contaminated people and objects
- Avoid sharing food and drinks as they may be contaminated with the bacteria

**Treatment:**

- Some types of antibiotics may work, but not well
- Vaccines are being developed, but are not ready
- Best treatment is to avoid exposure

*Good luck defeating this slippery foe.*





**Antigen Name:**  
**Sam n' Ella Salad**  
*(Salmonella – Food poisoning marvel)*

**Description:**

This devilish dynamic duo has deadly plans for the intestinal tract of our poor victim after hitching a ride on a bite of lukewarm potato salad or contaminated raw meat, eggs, fish, poultry, or contaminated fresh fruits and vegetables.

Salmonella is also carried by pet fish, turtles, dogs, and cats. When Gamma Master ate a poorly cooked chicken sandwich, Sam n' Ella stepped right in.

**Spread:**

Salmonella bacteria is found wherever animals live. Animals consume salmonella from the soil or contaminated feed. The bacteria are then shed alive in the infected animal's feces.

**Prevention:**

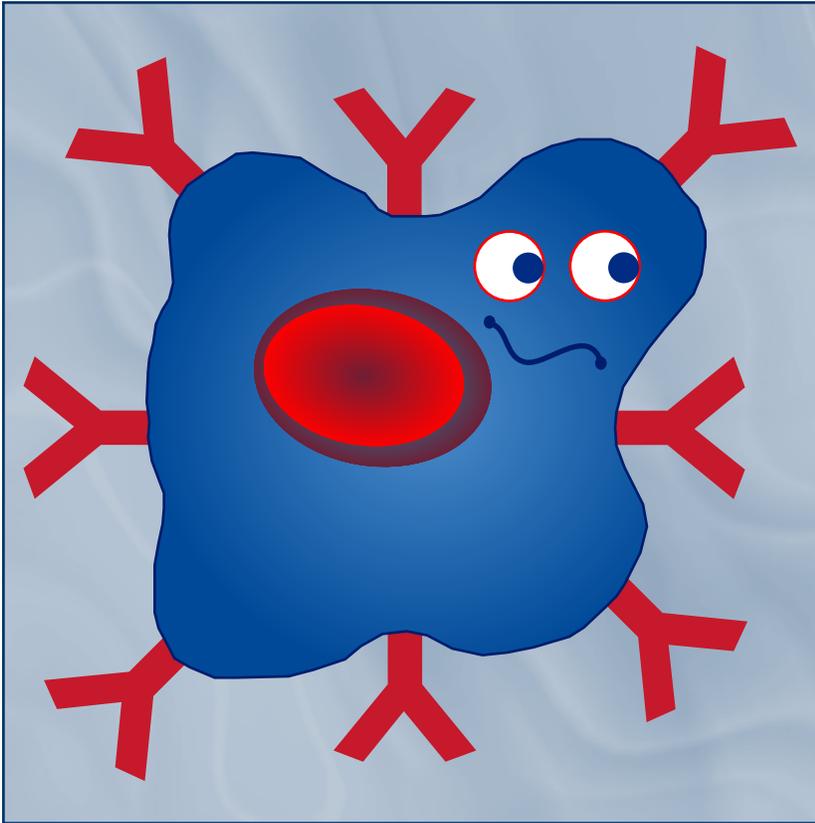
- Wash hands often
- Food safety routines – keep cold foods cold, hot foods hot, use one cutting board for meat and another for vegetables

**Treatment:**

Fluids to prevent dehydration

*Wave “bye bye” to this pair before they overcome their host with a wave of nausea.*



**Antigen Name:**

**Mel A. Noma**  
(Skin Cancer –  
Cells gone bad)

**Description:**

Cancer can take many forms, but it generally means “uncontrolled growth”. Cancer cells do not respond to normal signals that limit cell life and growth. Cancer cells can spread throughout the body, starting new cancerous growths. When they move and continue to grow, it is called metastasis.

In this case, Gamma Master got skin cancer from excessive sun exposure without using sunscreen.

**Known causes:**

Melanoma can arise in an existing mole or as a new lesion. Excessive exposure to sun, tanning beds, UV radiation, or a suppressed immune system can all lead to melanoma.

**Prevention:**

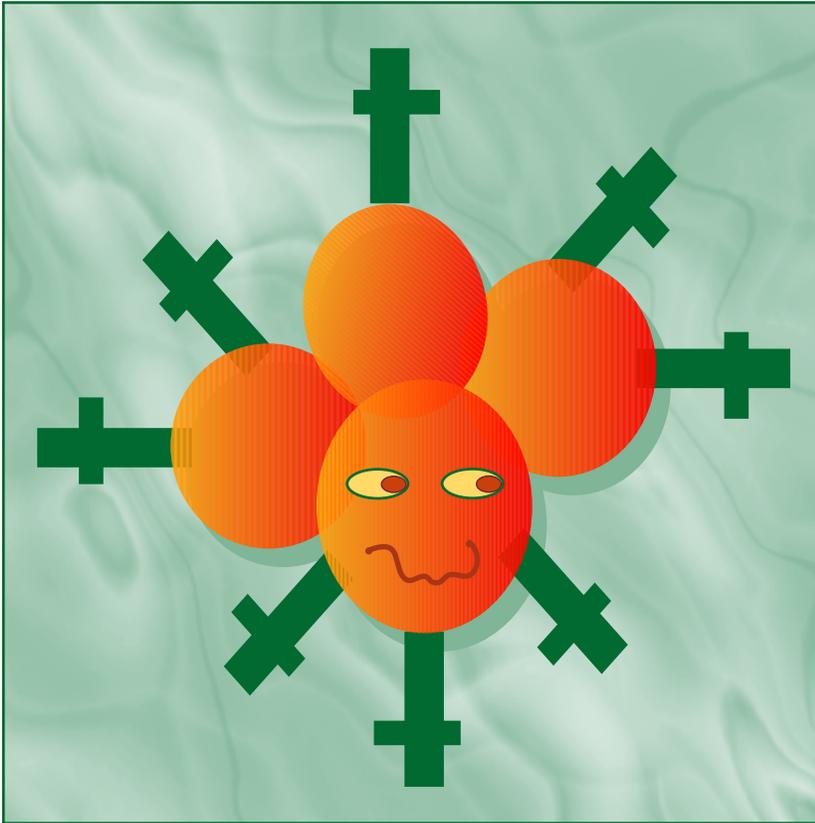
- Limit sun exposure and use sunscreen, hats, and protective clothing
- Self-examination of skin for suspicious lesions or changes in moles and/or freckles
- Routine screening and medical check-ups by a dermatologist
- Healthy diet and exercise
- Maintain healthy immune system

**Treatment:**

- Surgical removal of the lesion
- If the cancer has spread, immunotherapy and chemotherapy are used
- Prevention is the best course of action

*Hurry and defeat this miserable malady before it mobilizes into a mess of mismatched dermis!*





**Antigen Name:**  
**Staff L. O. Coxus**  
*(Staphylococcus aureus )*

**Description:** These rounded little invaders are frequent and unwelcome invaders. They can cause skin boils and pimples, wound infections, pneumonia, food poisoning, bone infections, and burn infections. They can become resistant to antibiotics, making them especially dangerous. They have a microcapsule shield to protect against macrophages. Gamma Master's pierced ear cartilage has become infected with

*S. aureus*. Ear cartilage has no blood supply and relies on surrounding tissue for nutrients; therefore it is more prone to infection from ear lobe piercing. Any infection of cartilage must be treated immediately by a doctor to avoid cartilage destruction and disfigurement.

**Spread:**

Staphylococcus bacteria are found everywhere! They can enter the body through the respiratory system, with food, skin wounds (including body piercing), and skin pores.

**Prevention:**

- Sterilize piercing jewelry and piercing site
- Wash hands often
- Wash the pierced area twice a day with antibacterial soap, see your doctor at the first sign of an infection or allergic reaction
- Meticulous care of body piercing wounds or avoidance of piercing altogether
- Avoid stress, poor diet, illness, poor quality jewelry, dirty clothing and bedding, poor nutrition and get plenty of exercise to reduce that chance of infection

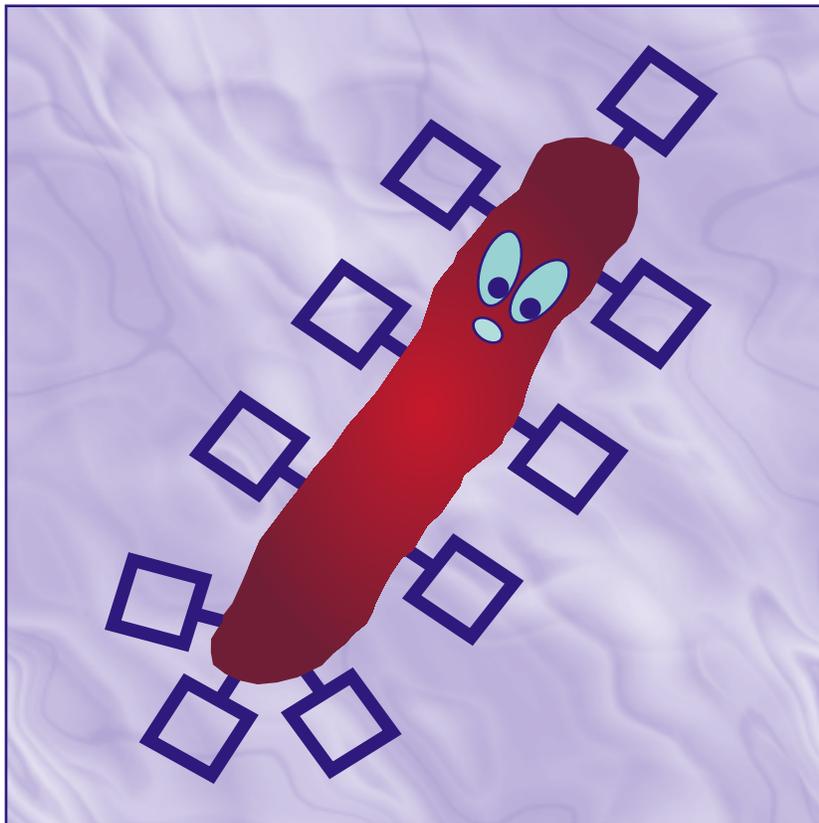
**Treatment:**

Antibiotics and often lengthy healing time

*Hurry to defeat these round, reviling rascals before they cause infection at a location near you!*



## ID Card # 7



### Antigen Name: Claus T. Ridium (*Clostridium tetani*)

**Description:** These nasty rod-shaped bacteria cause tetanus, aka, lockjaw. Tetanus is a serious but preventable disease that affects the body's muscles and nerves. Tetanus is caused by a skin wound that is infected by *Clostridium tetani*, which is commonly found in soil. *C. tetani* makes a neurotoxin that causes muscle spasms. Without treatment, tetanus can be fatal. Wounds contaminated with soil, saliva, or feces and skin punctures from nonsterile needles (as with drug use, tattooing, or body piercing) also create the risk of developing tetanus. *C. tetani* entered Gamma Master's body by way

of a dog bite from the neighbors' Chihuahua, Bully. Bully will be checked for rabies and Gamma Master may need treatment for that as well.

**Spread:** *Clostridium tetani* bacteria are found everywhere there is soil! They can enter the body through skin wounds, including body piercing, tattooing, stepping on sharp objects, animal bites, etc.

#### Prevention:

- Keep knives, scissors, and breakables out of the reach of children.
- Keep up-to-date on vaccinations. A tetanus vaccine is generally recommended every 10 years.

#### Treatment of puncture wounds:

- Wash your hands. Use a stream of water for at least five minutes to rinse the puncture wound. Wash wound with soap
- Apply antibacterial ointment and a clean bandage.
- Call your doctor immediately if:
  - The wound is large or deep, even if the bleeding is not severe
  - The person has been bitten by a human or an animal
  - A cut or puncture is caused by a fishhook or rusty object
  - You step on a nail or other similar object
  - An object or debris is embedded – DO NOT remove yourself
  - The wound shows signs of infection (warmth and redness in the area, a painful or throbbing sensation, fever, swelling, or pus-like drainage)
  - You have not had a tetanus shot within the last 10 years

*Hurry and defeat these rod-shaped raiders before they ruin the day!*

