

South America's Health Landscape: Climate Change, Infectious Diseases, and

Public Health · Practice Test · 16 Questions

1. Which infectious disease is noted as being endemic in South America and experiencing expanded range due to global warming, with frequent epidemic cycles?

- A) Malaria
- B) Dengue
- C) Yellow Fever
- D) Chikungunya

2. According to recent analyses, what has been a primary contributor to drug use disorders in South America over the past decade, contrasting with North America's opioid crisis?

- A) Opioid and amphetamine use
- B) Cannabis and cocaine use
- C) Hallucinogen and ketamine use
- D) Prescription benzodiazepine abuse

3. Which of the following is a significant health disparity faced by Indigenous populations in Latin America, as highlighted in recent scoping reviews?

- A) Lower prevalence of chronic kidney disease
- B) Higher prevalence of infectious diseases and malnutrition
- C) Lower rates of anemia
- D) Greater access to specialized healthcare services

4. Climate change is intensifying health risks in South America. Which of the following is a direct consequence of increased temperatures and altered weather patterns on human health in the region?

- A) Decreased incidence of heat-related illnesses
- B) Reduced prevalence of infectious diseases
- C) Increased risk of death from heatwaves and expansion of infectious diseases
- D) Improved food production and nutritional content

5. What is a major challenge for tuberculosis control in parts of South America, contributing to overall poor cure rates despite advances in treatment?

- A) Universal access to the latest TB medications
- B) High rates of treatment dropout
- C) Sufficient funding for preventative programs
- D) Lack of diagnostic capacity

6. Studies on multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in Latin America and the Caribbean indicate a high case-fatality rate. Which of the following is a frequently studied MDRO associated with significant lethality?

- A) Methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus (MSSA)
- B) Vancomycin-sensitive Enterococcus (VSE)
- C) Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)
- D) Escherichia coli (non-resistant strains)

7. Despite efforts to address health disparities, Indigenous populations in Latin America continue to face significant challenges. Which of the following is a major contributing factor mentioned in reviews?

- A) Over-investment in culturally tailored interventions
- B) Abundant access to specialized medical facilities
- C) Systemic barriers such as poverty, geographic isolation, and discrimination
- D) Low prevalence of chronic diseases

8. The migration of health professionals is a growing concern in the Americas. What is the projected shortage of health professionals in Latin America and the Caribbean by 2030?

- A) Between 100,000 and 300,000
- B) Between 600,000 and 2 million
- C) Approximately 50,000
- D) Between 3 and 5 million

9. What is a key public health concern related to drug use disorders in the Americas, according to a recent PAHO study?

- A) Drug use is not among the top 10 risk factors for mortality and disability.
- B) Drug use disorders are primarily underpinned by cannabis use in all sub-regions.
- C) Drug use is among the top 10 risk factors contributing to mortality and disability.
- D) The mortality rate from drug use disorders in the Americas is lower than the global average.

10. The impact of climate change on food production in South America is a growing concern. How does climate change affect crops?

- A) It improves the nutritional content of staple crops.
- B) It reduces droughts and extreme weather events.
- C) It interferes with crop growth, yield, and nutritional content.
- D) It has no significant impact on agriculture.

11. What is a significant factor contributing to the persistence of TB and HIV epidemics in South America, hindering epidemic control?

- A) Over-reliance on short-term funding cycles
- B) Complete eradication of social barriers
- C) Fragmented health systems and volatile funding
- D) Low incidence of co-infection with HIV

12. Which arboviral disease has seen a significant increase in Latin America, with Brazil reporting the most cases among dengue, Zika, and chikungunya?

- A) West Nile Virus
- B) Oropouche Fever
- C) Dengue
- D) Mayaro Virus

13. Recent reports indicate a concerning downward trend in immunization coverage in Latin America and the Caribbean over the last decade. What is a contributing factor to this decline?

- A) Increased public trust in vaccine efficacy
- B) Strengthening of health systems
- C) Political and economic instability, and increased vaccine hesitancy
- D) Greater availability of healthcare professionals

14. In terms of childhood obesity, which South American country has the highest prevalence of overweight and obesity in the region, according to recent data?

- A) Argentina
- B) Brazil
- C) Chile
- D) Colombia

15. What is a major cause of the critical gaps and inequalities in the availability and distribution of health personnel in South America?

- A) Even distribution of professionals across urban and rural areas
- B) Excess of health professionals in remote regions
- C) Concentration in capitals and large cities, with shortages in rural and underserved areas
- D) Adequate supply of specialists in all regions

16. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing global health crisis. In the Americas, how many deaths were linked to bacterial AMR in 2019, according to the GRAM Project?

- A) Approximately 100,000
- B) At least 569,000
- C) Around 1.2 million
- D) Over 2 million