## **TOPIC: INTRODUCTION TO ANTIMICROBIAL DRUGS**

## **History of Antimicrobial Drugs**

Selective toxicity: toxic to target organism () but NOT host ().
<ul> <li>Paul Erlich: early 1900s, introduced idea of "Magic";</li> </ul>
- Developed first antimicrobial – cure for
<ul> <li>Alexander Fleming: discovered 1928 - first widely used in</li> </ul>
growth inhibited bacteria on a petri plate.
<ul> <li>Today, effectiveness of antimicrobials is threatened because of</li> </ul>
•: any chemical-based medicine (today usually reserved for).
Antibiotic – produced by an
Antibacterial – bacteria Synthetic antibacterial.
Antimicrobial – Antiviral – viruses.
Antifungal – fungi.

## **PRACTICE**

Alexander Fleming is most famous for:

a) The phrase "Magic Bullet", which refers to a molecule that could kill microbes selectively.

Antiparasitic - non-fungal parasites.

- b) The discovery of the first antimicrobial drug.
- c) Developing a cure for syphilis.
- d) Discovering the drug penicillin, produced by *Penicillium* mold.

## **PRACTICE**

Which of the following statements is correct?

- a) The word "chemotherapy" technically describes any chemical-based medicine, but the term is usually reserved for antimicrobials.
- b) The term "antimicrobial" is reserved for drugs that are effective against non-bacterial pathogens.
- c) The term "antibiotic" technically means that the drug is produced by an organism but is usually used to mean any antibacterial drug.
- d) "Antibacterials" are chemicals used for disinfecting surfaces and objects, while "antibiotics" refer to drugs that kill bacteria.