

## Topic Page: [Asepsis](#)

Definition: **asepsis** from *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*

Practice of ensuring that bacteria are excluded from open sites during surgery, wound dressing, blood sampling, and other medical procedures. Aseptic technique is a first line of defence against infection.

### Summary Article: **Asepsis**

From *Black's Medical Dictionary, 43rd Edition*

A technique to produce a germ-free environment to protect patients from infection. It is used for any procedure that might introduce infection into the body, and is essential for all surgery – even minor procedures. Asepsis is achieved by ensuring that all people who come into contact with the patient scrub their hands and wear sterilised gowns with disposable masks and gloves. Operating-theatre air and equipment must also be clean. An aseptic technique is also necessary when caring for patients whose immune system (see IMMUNITY) is suppressed: one example is LEUKAEMIA, the treatment of which affects the immune system. Asepsis is aimed at preventing infection; antisepsis is the use of chemicals to destroy germs already on the body or in a wound (see ANTISEPTICS).

#### **APA**

Chicago

Harvard

MLA

---

Asepsis. (2018). In H. Marcovitch (Ed.), *Black's Medical Dictionary, 43rd edition* (43rd ed.). London, UK: A&C Black. Retrieved from <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/asepsis>

---



Copyright © A & C Black Publishers Ltd



Copyright © A & C Black Publishers Ltd

## APA

Asepsis. (2018). In H. Marcovitch (Ed.), *Black's Medical Dictionary, 43rd edition (43rd ed.)*. London, UK: A&C Black. Retrieved from <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/asepsis>

## Chicago

"Asepsis." In *Black's Medical Dictionary, 43rd Edition*, edited by Harvey Marcovitch. 43rd ed. A&C Black, 2018. <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/asepsis>

## Harvard

Asepsis. (2018). In H. Marcovitch (Ed.), *Black's Medical Dictionary, 43rd edition. (43rd ed.)*. [Online]. London: A&C Black. Available from: <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/asepsis> [Accessed 18 November 2019].

## MLA

"Asepsis." *Black's Medical Dictionary, 43rd Edition*, edited by Harvey Marcovitch, A&C Black, 43rd edition, 2018. *Credo Reference*, <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/asepsis>. Accessed 18 Nov. 2019.