CONCEPT: INTRODUCTION TO PATHOGENIC TOXINS

●Certain pathogens produce biological poisons called	that allow them to invade & damage host tissues.
□ Toxigenicity: ability for a pathogen to produce toxins	that damage host cells.
●Toxins can be classified into groups:	
1) Exotoxins: soluble that a pathogen	n releases during infection or following lysis.
□ different categories of exotoxins are gr	rouped by their different structures & functions (see image).
2) Endotoxin: the lipopolysaccharide (LPS) found on the	e outer membrane of gram bacteria.
	(Toxins)
A-B Toxins Membrane-Damaging Toxins Pore-Forming Toxins Phospholipase	Superantigens

•NOTE: the host immune system is also capable of unintended damage to host cells when overstimulated during infection.

PRACTICE: Phospholipases are characterized by all of the following except which of these answers?

- a) Possess the ability to damage host cells.
- b) Are released by pathogens into host cells during infection.
- c) Are able to form pores in the cell membranes of host cells.
- d) Are able to hydrolyze cell membranes of host cells.

PRACTICE: The term endotoxin is synonymous with:

a) A-B toxins.

c) Phospholipase.

b) Lipopolysaccharide (LPS).

d) None of the above.