

# Diagnosing a disease



# Vocabulary

**Pathogen:** any small organism, such as a virus or a bacterium that can cause disease.

**Untoward:** unexpected and not convenient or unpleasant.

**Susceptible:** easily influenced or likely to be hurt by something.

**Intravenous:** into or connected to a vein.

**Targeted:** directed at a particular group or activity.

# What is a diagnosis?

A **diagnosis** is based significantly on laboratory reports or test results, rather than the physical examination of the patient.

The tests to diagnose a disease.

1. Blood tests. A technician obtains a sample of your blood by inserting a needle into a vein, usually in your arm.
2. Urine tests. This painless test requires you to urinate into a container.
3. Throat swabs.
4. Stool sample.
5. Spinal tap.