

Name _____

Unraveling the Mystery: How Microorganisms Cause Disease

Short Answer Key

1. Microorganisms cause diseases through toxin production by producing harmful substances that can damage host tissues or interfere with normal cellular functions.
2. Invasion and colonization by microorganisms involve the entry of pathogens into the body through various portals, followed by their multiplication and establishment in host tissues, leading to infection.
3. One strategy that microorganisms use to evade the human immune system is by targeting and impairing immune cells, weakening the body's ability to mount an effective defense against infections.
4. When the body detects the presence of microorganisms, it initiates an inflammatory response characterized by the recruitment of immune cells, release of inflammatory mediators, and activation of defense mechanisms to eliminate the invaders.
5. An excessive inflammatory response to microorganism invasion can contribute to disease severity by causing tissue damage, organ dysfunction, and systemic complications.

