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### **1. Definition of susceptible host:**

A susceptible host is a person or animal who lacks sufficient resistance or immunity to a particular infectious agent and can therefore become infected if exposed. The host's susceptibility determines whether infection will occur after exposure.

### **Factors Affecting Host Susceptibility**

1. Immunity Status:
  - . Individuals who have not been vaccinated or previously exposed to a disease are more susceptible.
    - A weak immune system, such as in HIV/AIDS patients, increases susceptibility.
  - 2. Age: Infants and elderly people have weaker immune defenses and are more prone to infections than other age range.
  - 3. Nutrition: Poor nutrition, especially protein-energy malnutrition and vitamin deficiencies, reduces the body's ability to fight infection.
  - 4. Genetic Factors: Certain genetic traits influence susceptibility. For example, people with sickle cell trait are less susceptible to severe malaria.
  - 5. Health Status: Chronic illnesses like diabetes, kidney disease, and heart disease can lower resistance to infections.
  - 6. Behavioral Factors: Risky behaviors such as unprotected sex, poor hygiene, and drug abuse increase exposure to pathogens.
  - 7. Environmental and Social Factor: Overcrowding, poor sanitation, poverty, and limited healthcare access increase vulnerability to infections.

### **Prevention and Control Measures**

1. Immunization programs
2. Health education and hygiene promotion
3. Improved nutrition
4. Early detection and treatment of chronic diseases
5. Strengthening immune systems through proper healthcare.