

**Passage 5**

Epidemiological trends show populations across Europe and beyond becoming less healthy as 'diseases of comfort' (e.g. chronic diseases caused by an obesogenic environment) due to technological advance grow at an alarming rate, manifesting themselves as major public health problems in this century. A sharp rise in childhood obesity, resulting in an increase in health-related diseases such as diabetes, is matched by rapid increases in alcohol-related diseases and in sexually transmitted infections. In addition, infectious diseases have not disappeared and pandemics such as Avian bird flu threaten to occur at any time. As if these public health challenges were not enough, there are also the threats arising from a range of diverse concerns like toxic environments and bioterrorism.

156. According to the passage, ..... an obesogenic environment have worsened the health condition of European people.

- a. scientific advances stemming from
- b. maladies induced by
- c. epidemiological trends preceding
- d. health challenges leading to

157. A common feature in childhood obesity and sexually transmitted diseases is their .....

- a. rapid spread
- b. comfort-seeking trait
- c. deterioration of health
- d. high acuity

158. In an obesogenic setting, people tend to .....

- a. put up weight
- b. ignore technological advance
- c. challenge obesity
- d. contract alcohol-related diseases

159. Avian bird flu mentioned in the passage is an example of .....

- a. regional diseases
- b. epidemiological trends
- c. global diseases
- d. diseases of comfort

160. Toxic environments and bioterrorism are referred to as ..... diseases of comfort.

- a. recent alternatives for
- b. current counterparts of
- c. further threats besides
- d. definitive varieties of

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