Chapter 25 – Noncommunicable Diseases and Disabilities

Vocabulary Words

1. noncommunicable disease – a disease that is not transmitted by another person, a vector, or the environment.
2. cardiovascular disease – a disease that affects the heart or heart vessels.
3. hypertension – high blood pressure.
4. atherosclerosis – a disease characterized by the accumulation of plaque on artery walls.
5. arteriosclerosis – hardened arteries with reduced elasticity.
6. angina pectoris – chest pain that results when the heart does not get enough oxygen.
7. arrhythmias – irregular heartbeats.
8. stroke – an acute injury in which blood flow to the brain is interrupted.
9. cancer – uncontrollable growth of abnormal cells.
10. tumor – abnormal mass of tissue.
11. benign – noncancerous.
12. malignant – cancerous.
13. metastasis – the spread of cancer from the point where it originated to other parts of the body.
14. carcinogen – a cancer-causing substance.
15. biopsy – the removal of a small piece of tissue for examination.
16. remission – cancer is either gone or under control.
17. allergy – a specific reaction of the immune system to a foreign and frequently harmless substance.
18. histamines – chemicals that can stimulate mucus and fluid production.
19. asthma – an inflammatory condition in which small airways in the lungs become narrowed, causing difficulty in breathing.
20. diabetes – a chronic disease that affects the way body cells convert sugar into energy.

21. autoimmune disease – a condition in which the immune system mistakenly attacks itself, targeting the cells, tissues, and organs of a person's own body.
22. arthritis – a group of more than 100 different disease that cause pain and the loss of movement in the joints.
23. osteoarthritis – a disease of the joints in which cartilage breaks down.
24. rheumatoid arthritis – a disease characterized by the debilitating destruction of the joints due to inflammation.

Academic Vocabulary

25. regulate – to fix the time, amount, degree, or rate of.
26. link – to connect.
27. respond – to react in response.