Catch me if you can!

Sandra and Janice
Definition of Infectious Diseases:

- Are caused by microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, and fungi
- Can be transmitted human-human and human-animal
- Most affect third world countries
Top 10 Most common diseases that kill

- 1. Ischemic heart disease
- 2. Cerebrovascular disease
- 3. *Lower Respiratory infections
- 4. *HIV/AIDS
- 5. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
- 6. Perinatal conditions
- 7. *Diarrheal diseases
- 8. *Tuberculosis
- 9. *Malaria
- 10. Trachea, bronchus, lung cancers
Recent Diseases in our World

- Recently (January), 115 people have died of Avian Flu
- 2007: A business man flying from US to various countries in Europe as a TB carrier was detained. A fellow passenger was affected.
Problems with I.D.

- The infectious disease itself and mutation
- Resources (and lack thereof)
- Environment (climate and ecology)
- Time
- Lack of understanding
- Ethical constraints on research
Ways we have been tackling the problems:

- Vaccines
- Antibiotics
- Pharmaceutical drugs

- Not developed for all
- Resistant strains (e.g. penicillin resistance)
- Allergies to antibiotics
- Painful Side effects, allergies, also resistance
Proposed Solutions:
Bioengineer Bacteria

- Engineer bacteria to attack disease microbes (like was seen in the IGEM project)
- Attack!!
Engineer Viruses

- Engineer Bacteriophages (bacteria-specific viruses) to attack target bacteria
Boost Immunity

- Vitamin-C producing bacteria that live in your small intestine (symbiotic relationship)
Detect Virus infection mode

- And design compound to inhibit different areas of the virus’s infection
Connect Hospitals to Researchers

- When patient comes in with new virus, a sophisticated screening system will be able to identify protein coat and infection mode, a vaccine can be developed from the blueprint, and this information can be transferred to other hospitals.
New innovative solutions! (that you create!)
Save the good viruses, save the world!