Ten-year-old Miriam is brought to the ER by her grandmother with a fever of 103° and an extremely sore throat. During the initial examination, the ER physician notes a grayish patch in the oropharynx. He orders a culture and sensitivity test and admits her into the hospital. Within a few hours of admission, she is showing signs of extreme respiratory distress and appears to be choking. Intubation is difficult.

a. Diagnosis –

b. Causative agent –

c. What is the recommended treatment at this point of the infection? Why?

d. What is the possible future side effect of this treatment?

e. What could have prevented this?