

# LECTURE VIII

Introduction to special microbiology. Causative agents of pus-inflammatory diseases. Pathogenic cocci (genus

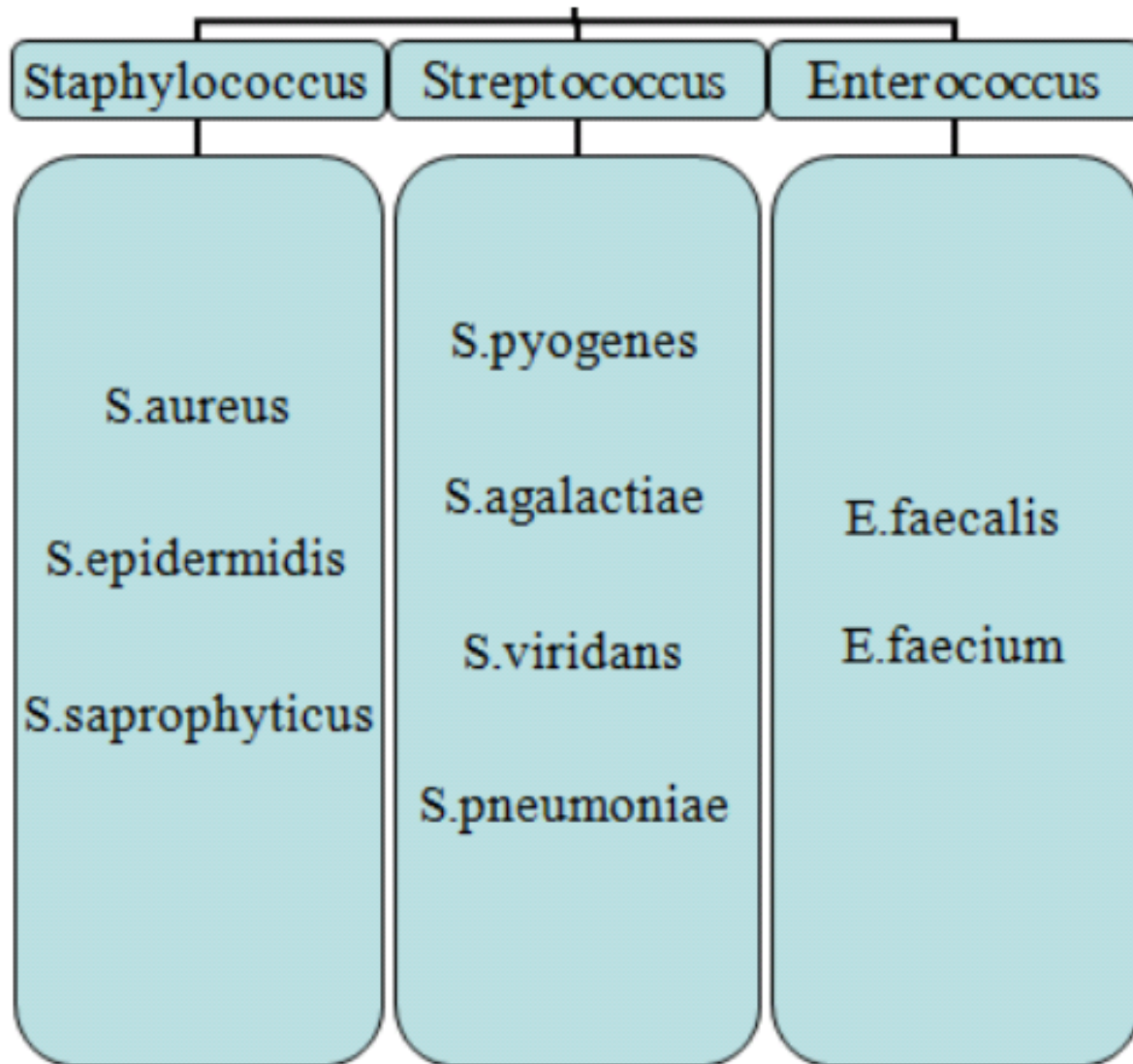
*Staphylococcus, Streptococcus, Neisseria*).

Opportunistic bacteria (genus

*Pseudomonas, Proteus, Klebsiella*).

- *The cocci as a causative agents*
- *of pus inflammation processes*
- *Aerobic gram-positive cocci:*
  - *- family Micrococcaceae (genes Staphylococcus,*
  - *Micrococcus, Stomatococcus)*
  - *- Streptococcaceae family (genes Streptococcus,*
  - *Enterococcus, Aerococcus, Leuconostoc,*
  - *Pediococcus, Lactococcus)*
- *Aerobic gram-negative cocci:*
  - *- cocci of the family Neisseriaceae (genus*
  - *Neisseria)*

# Gram positive cocci



# *Staphylococcus*

- Most important genus in Family *Micrococcaceae*
- Other genera
  - *Stomatococcus*
  - *Micrococcus*



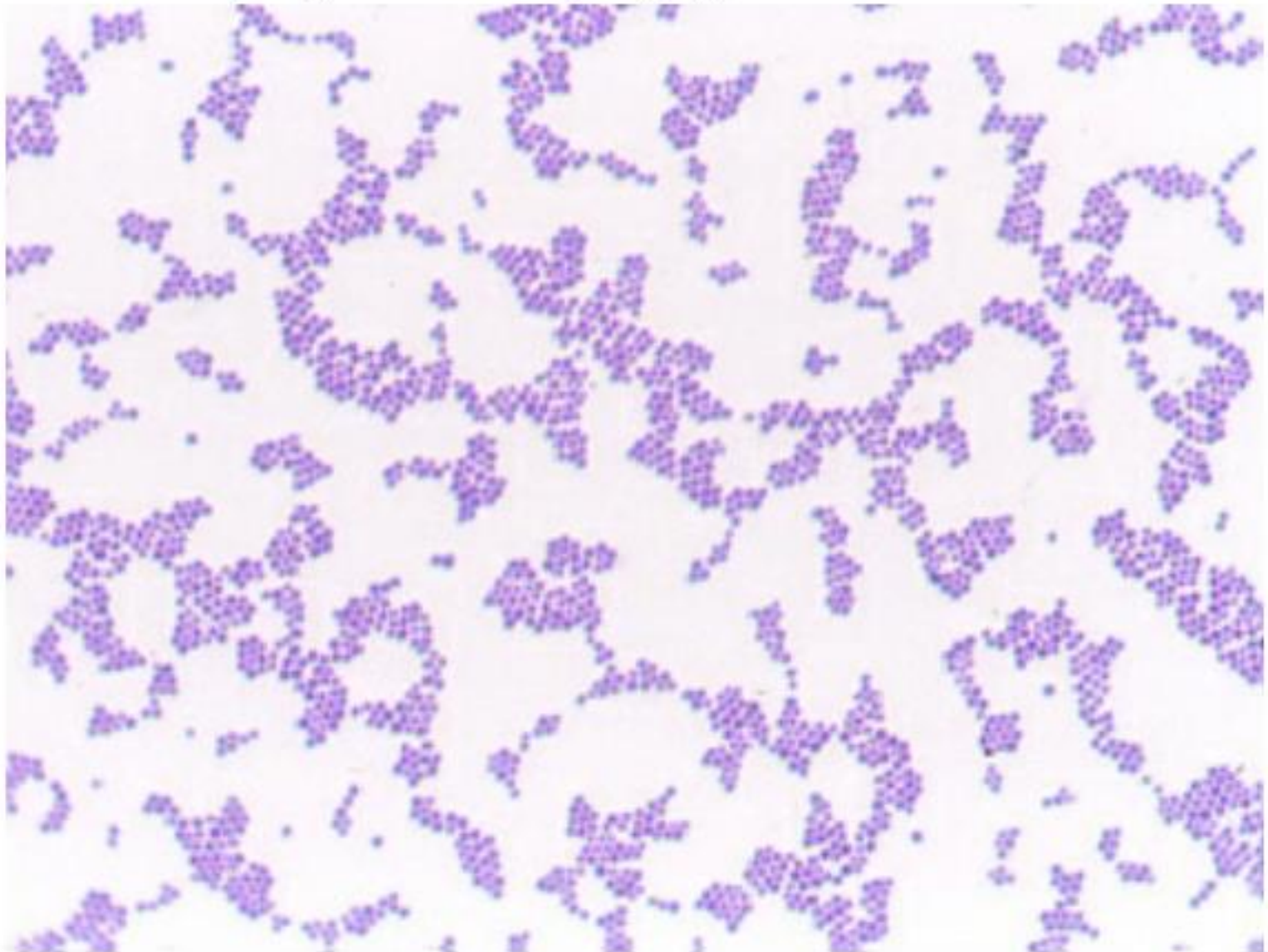
# *Staphylococci*

- Family - *Micrococcaceae*
- Genus - *Staphylococcus*
- Species - 27 species are known, 14 species are found in the human body, 3 of them are pathogenic: *S.aureus*, *S.epidermidis*, *S.saprophyticus*
- The greatest clinical value is *S.aureus*.

# Habitat

- ***S. aureus***
  - anterior nares 50-75% healthy people
  - skin & mucous membranes
  - hospital environment
- ***S. epidermidis* & others**
  - resident skin flora, gut, upper respiratory tract
- ***S. saprophyticus***
  - Urinary tract in young women

*Staphylococci*, by gram stained



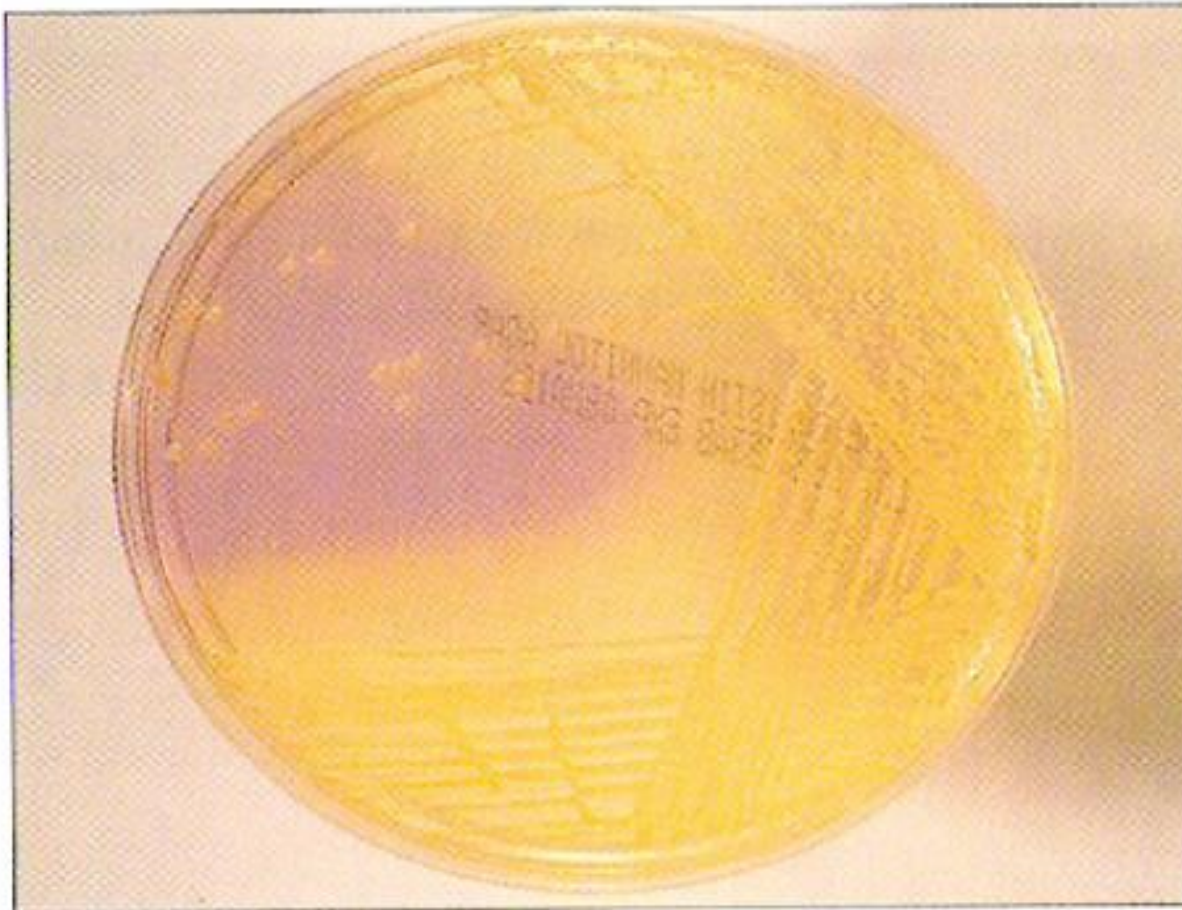
# *Staphylococcus aureus*

culture on blood agar



# *Staphylococcus aureus*

lecithinase test on yolk-salt agar



# Differential signs of *staphylococci*

|               |                                                           |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                               |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Oxidase       | Negative                                                  |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                               |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |
| Novobiocin    | Susceptible                                               |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                               |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |
| Coagulase     | Negative                                                  | Positive <sup>1</sup> – variable <sup>2</sup> – negative <sup>3</sup>                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                             | Negative                                                                                                                                      |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |
| Species group | Hyicus-Intermedius                                        |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Epidermidis-Aureus                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                               |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |
| Cluster group | Muscae                                                    | Hyicus                                                                                                                                | Intermedius                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Aureus                                                                                                                      | Epidermidis                                                                                                                                   | Warneri                                  | Haemolyticus                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Lugdunensis           |
| Species       | <i>S. muscae</i><br><i>S. microti</i><br><i>S. rostri</i> | <i>S. hyicus</i> <sup>2</sup><br><i>S. agnetis</i> <sup>2</sup><br><i>S. chromogenes</i> <sup>3</sup><br><i>S. felis</i> <sup>3</sup> | <i>S. intermedius</i> <sup>1</sup><br><i>S. delphini</i> <sup>1</sup><br><i>S. lutrae</i> <sup>1</sup><br><i>S. pseudintermedius</i> <sup>1</sup><br><i>S. schleiferi</i><br><i>ssp. schleiferi</i> <sup>3</sup><br><i>ssp. coagulans</i> <sup>1</sup> | <i>S. aureus</i><br><i>ssp. aureus</i> <sup>1</sup><br><i>ssp. anaerobius</i> <sup>1</sup><br><i>S. simiae</i> <sup>1</sup> | <i>S. epidermidis</i><br><i>S. capitis</i><br><i>ssp. capitis</i><br><i>ssp. urealyticus</i><br><i>S. caprae</i><br><i>S. saccharolyticus</i> | <i>S. warneri</i><br><i>S. pasteurii</i> | <i>S. haemolyticus</i><br><i>S. devriesei</i><br><i>S. hominis</i><br><i>ssp. hominis</i><br><i>ssp. novobiocin</i><br><i>ssp. septicus</i><br><i>S. jettensis</i><br><i>S. petrasii</i><br><i>ssp. croceoliticus</i><br><i>ssp. petrasii</i> | <i>S. lugdunensis</i> |

|               |                       |                                                                                                                                             |                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                           |                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oxidase       | Negative              |                                                                                                                                             |                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                           |                                         | Positive                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Novobiocin    | Susceptible           |                                                                                                                                             |                                                  | Resistant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                           |                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Coagulase     | Negative              |                                                                                                                                             |                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                           |                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Species group | Auricularis           | Simulans                                                                                                                                    | Saprophyticus                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                           |                                         | Sciuri                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cluster group | Auricularis           | Simulans-Carnosus                                                                                                                           | Pettenkoferi-Massiliensis                        | Saprophyticus                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Cohnii-Nepalensis                                                                         | Arlettae-Kloosii                        | Sciuri                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Species       | <i>S. auricularis</i> | <i>S. simulans</i><br><i>S. carnosus</i><br><i>ssp. carnosus</i><br><i>ssp. utilis</i><br><i>S. condimenti</i><br><i>S. piscifermentans</i> | <i>S. pettenkoferi</i><br><i>S. massiliensis</i> | <i>S. saprophyticus</i><br><i>ssp. saprophyticus</i><br><i>ssp. bovis</i><br><i>S. equorum</i><br><i>ssp. equorum</i><br><i>ssp. linens</i><br><i>S. gallinarum</i><br><i>S. succinus</i><br><i>ssp. succinus</i><br><i>ssp. casei</i><br><i>S. xylosus</i> | <i>S. cohnii</i><br><i>ssp. cohnii</i><br><i>ssp. urealyticus</i><br><i>S. nepalensis</i> | <i>S. arlettae</i><br><i>S. kloosii</i> | <i>S. sciuri</i><br><i>ssp. sciuri</i><br><i>ssp. carnaticus</i><br><i>ssp. rodentium</i><br><i>S. fleurettii</i><br><i>S. lentus</i><br><i>S. stepanovicii</i><br><i>S. vitulinus</i> |

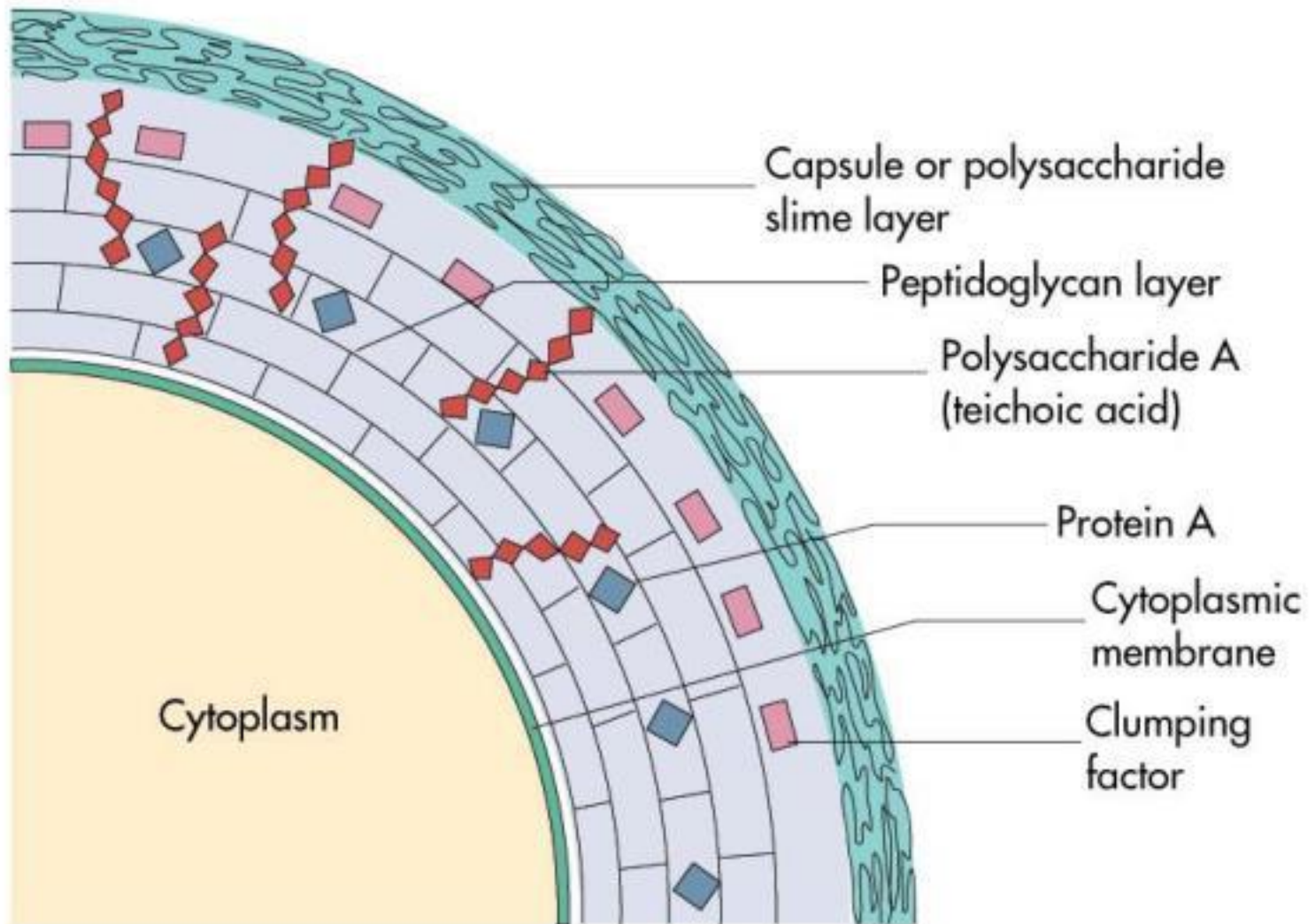
# Antigenic structure

- About 30 antigens
- Common for all types of protein antigen
- Protein A is species-specific for *S.aureus*.
- Polysaccharide antigens for serological specificity
- Polysaccharide A - ribiteichoic acid, found in *S.aureus*
- Polysaccharide B - glycerine-teichoic acid, found in *S.epidermidis*.

# Antigenic Structures & Virulence Factors of *S. aureus*

- Cell wall peptidoglycan
  - elicits production of IL-1 and opsonic antibody
  - PMN chemotaxis “pyogenic”
  - induces sepsis
  - activates complement
  - teichoic acid binds fibronectin on host cells
- Protein A - binds Fc of IgG
- Capsule (some strains) antiphagocytic

# Cell Wall of *S. aureus*



## ***S. aureus* Soluble Virulence Factors**

- Catalase - reduce phagocyte killing - remove  $H_2O_2$
- Coagulase - clots plasma (free & bound)
- Hyaluronidase - destroys connective tissue
- Beta lactamase - destroys beta lactam drugs
- Altered Penicillin binding proteins (PBP2')
- Fibrinolysin
- Lipases
- Nucleases

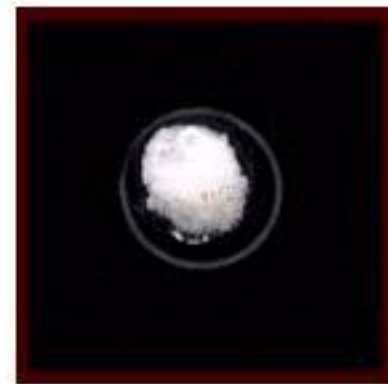
# Catalase Test for Distinguishing Staphylococci from Streptococci



**Bubbles**



Strep. Negative



Staph. positive

# Tube Coagulase Test

- Free coagulase secreted by *S. aureus* but not CNS
- Clots rabbit plasma



## ***S. aureus* Soluble Virulence Factors**

- Cytotoxins & leukocidins
  - lyse white blood cells (Panton-Valentine)
  - release lysosomal enzymes → damage tissue
- Exfoliatin
  - interrupts intercellular skin junctions
  - “Scalded Skin Syndrome”
- Toxic Shock Toxin
  - stimulates T cells → cytokines,
  - endothelial damage → rash
  - “Toxic Shock Syndrome”
- Enterotoxins
  - stimulate vomiting by interaction with GI neural receptors (food poisoning)

# *S. aureus* Diseases

## **Skin and soft tissue infections**

Furuncles

Carbuncles

Wound infections

Cellulitis

Impetigo

Bacteremia

## **Endocarditis**

## **CNS Infections**

Brain abscess

Meningitis - rare

Epidural abscess



**Impetigo**

# *S. aureus* Diseases

## **Pulmonary Infections**

embolic  
aspiration

## **Musculoskeletal**

osteomyelitis  
septic arthritis

## **Genitourinary Tract**

renal carbuncle  
lower UTI

## **Toxin mediated diseases**

- scalded skin syndrome
- food poisoning
- toxic shock disease

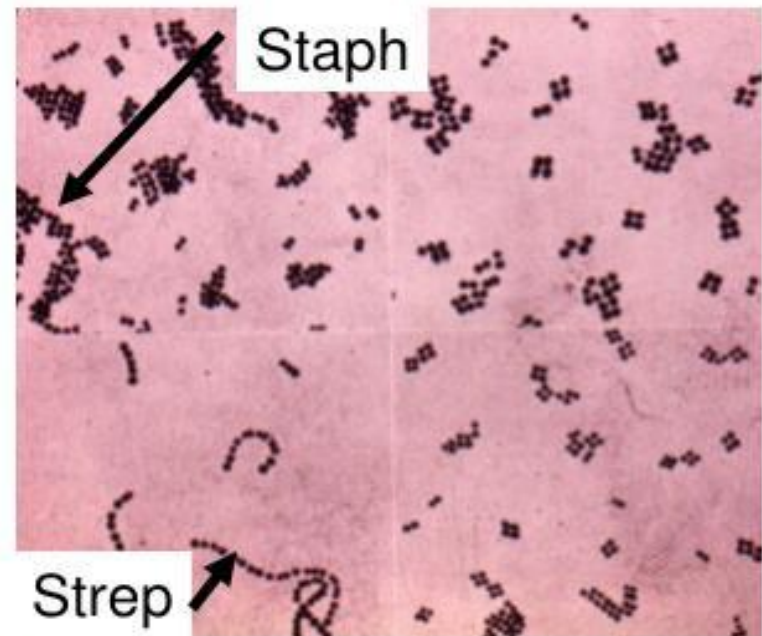


**Toxic shock**

**Scalded skin**

# *Streptococcaceae*

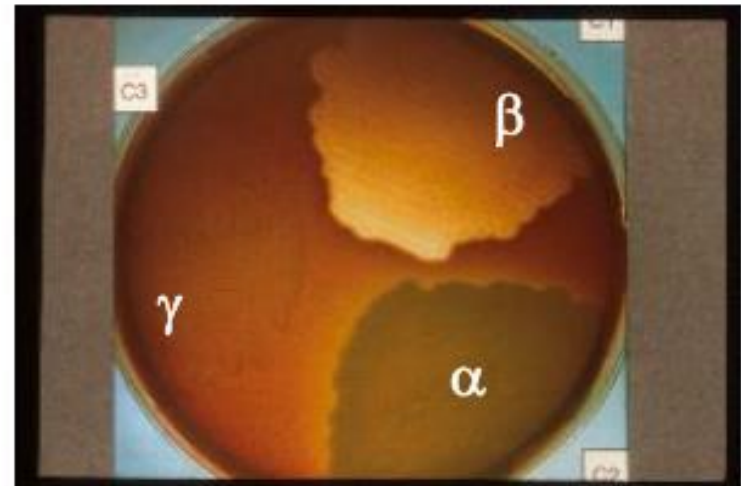
- *Streptococcus*
- *Enterococcus*



**Gram stain of staph (clusters)  
and strep (chains)**

# *Streptococcus* Classification

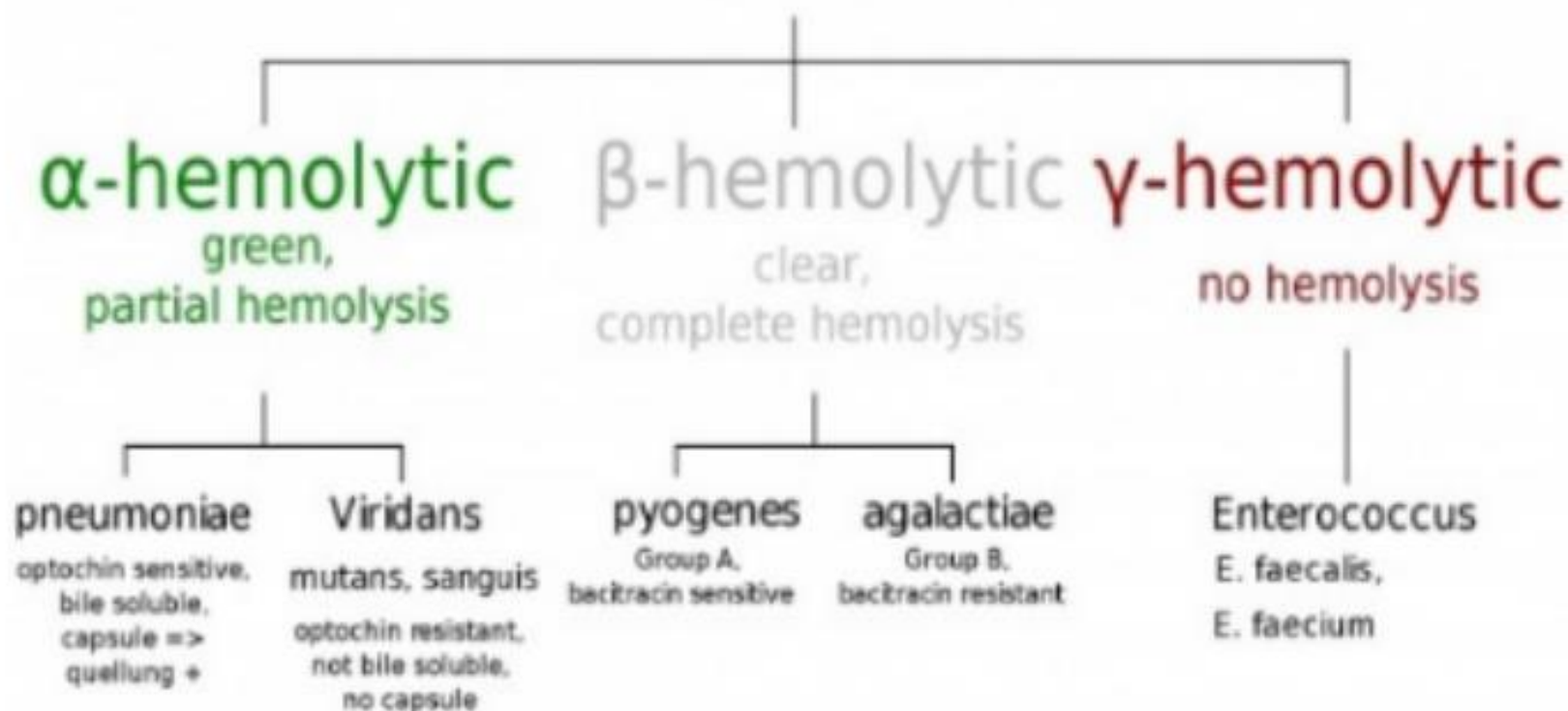
- Hemolysis
  - beta
  - alpha
  - gamma
- Lancefield Groups
  - (A-T-  $\beta$  hemolytic)
  - group-specific cell wall polysaccharide
- Species
  - phenotypic biochemical reactions



**Hemolytic Reactions**

# Classification of streptococci

## Streptococcus



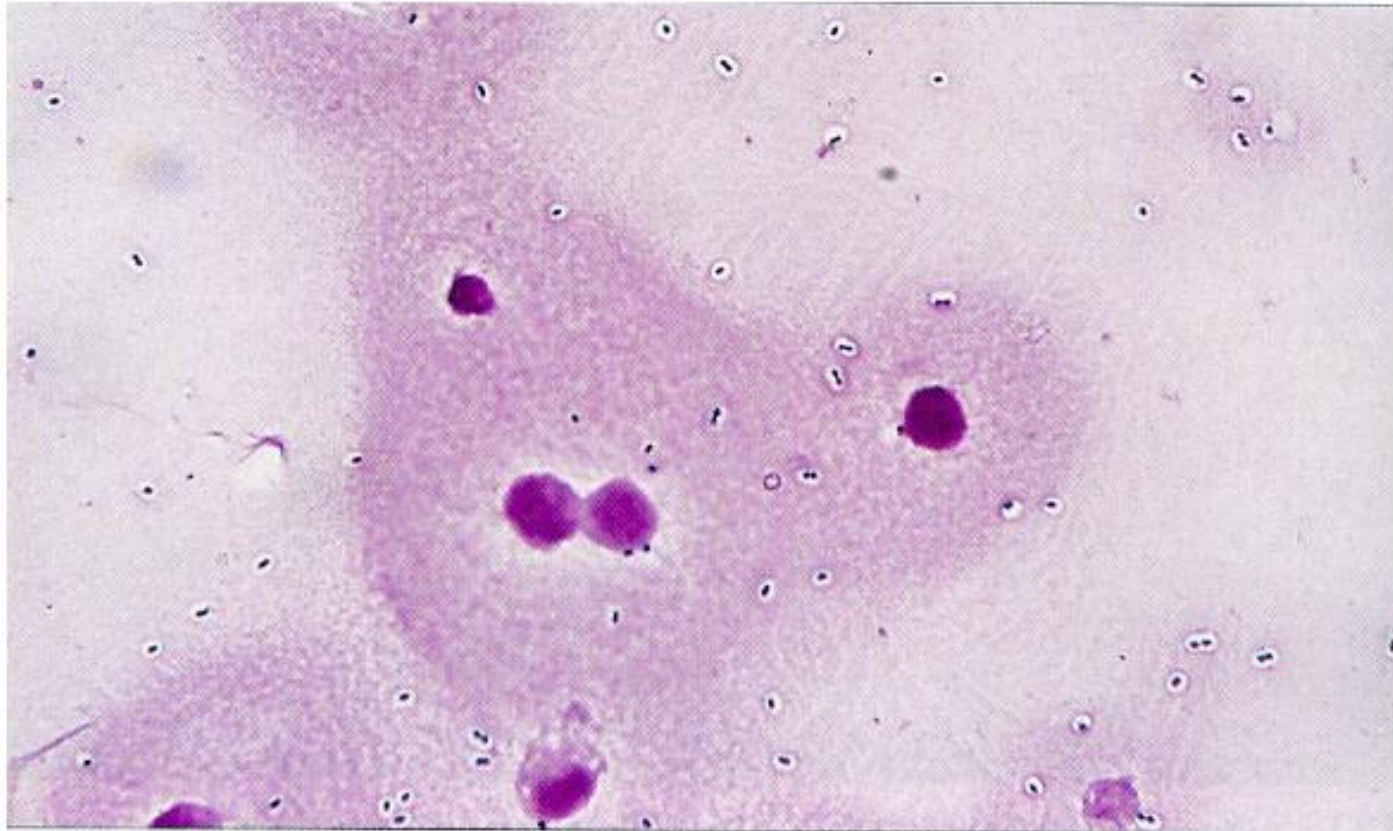
# *Streptococcus pyogenes*



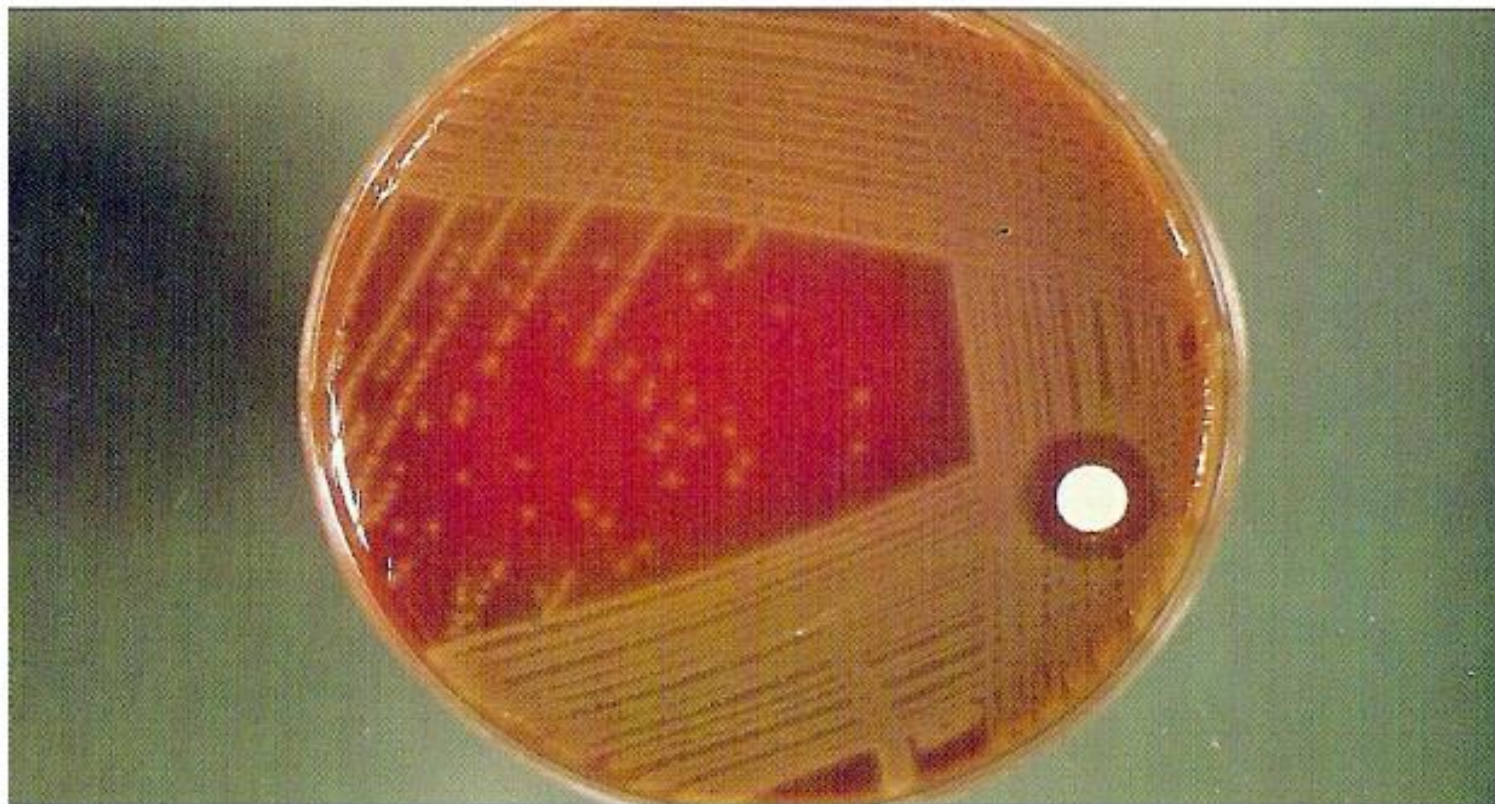
*Streptococcus pyogenes*  
on blood agar



## *Streptococcus pneumoniae*



*Streptococcus pneumoniae*  
on blood agar

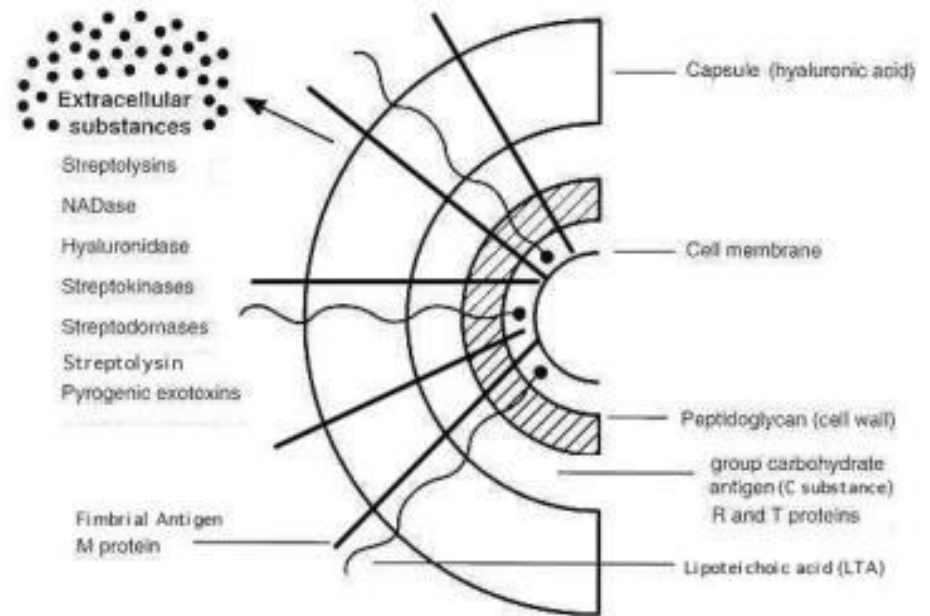


# ***Streptococcus* Habitat**

- Skin, mucous membranes, respiratory tract and GI/GU tracts, depending on species
- 20% of children may carry GAS in their pharynx during winter months.
- *S. pneumoniae* is commonly isolated from the respiratory tract of asymptomatic carriers.
- Enterococci in gut flora are important pathogens in hospitals where they are selected by high antibiotic usage.
- Organisms spread by droplets, direct contact and fomites.

# Antigenic Structure & Virulence Factors of *S. pyogenes*

- Hyaluronic acid capsule - antiphagocytic
- Hyaluronidase - tissue penetration
- Group specific cell wall antigen distinguishes from B,C,D,F,G, etc.
- Beta hemolytic



# Antigenic Structure & Virulence Factors of *S. pyogenes*

- **M Protein**

- Virulence factor present on pilus with teichoic acid
- Organisms lacking it are readily opsonized and phagocytized
- Binds fibrinogen, fibrin & degradation products forming dense coating on the organism's surface, blocking complement
- Antibody against M protein is an important protective mechanism, but repeated infections with strains possessing one of over 80 different serotypes can occur
- Autoantibody target-Acute Rheumatic Fever

# Antigenic Structure & Virulence Factors of *S. pyogenes*

- Protein F - facilitates attachment by binding fibronectin
- Protein G - binds Fc portion of antibody
- Diphosphopyridine nucleotidase (DPNase) – enzyme kills WBCs
- C5a peptidase



Erysipelas

# Antigenic Structure & Virulence Factors of *S. pyogenes*

- Erythrogenic Toxin “Scarlet Fever”
- Streptokinases
  - transform plasminogen to plasmin
  - digest fibrin
- DNAase
  - depolymerizes DNA
  - antibody used to follow pyoderma
- Hemolysins “Streptolysins”
  - Important immunogens
  - Antibody against streptolysin O used to follow course of pyoderma
  - Streptolysin S -  $\beta$  hemolysis

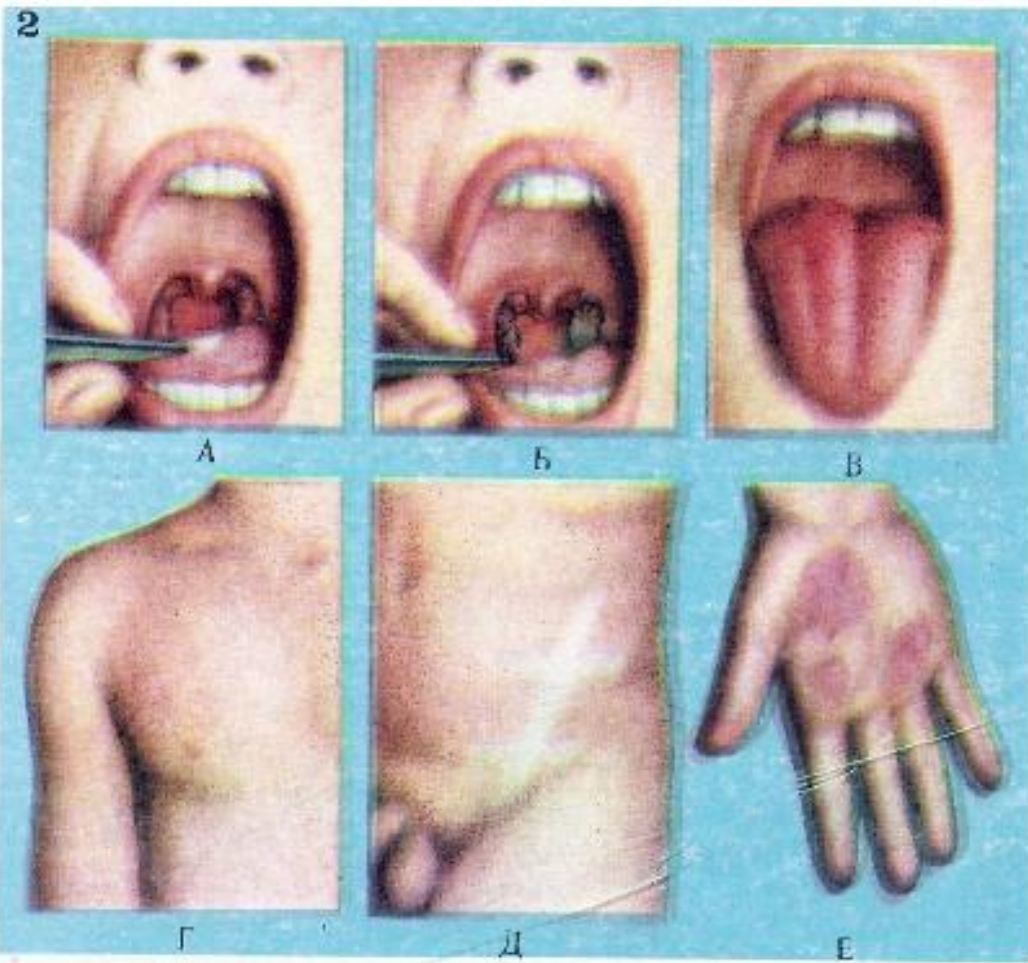


**Strep. cellulitis**

# Erysipeloid

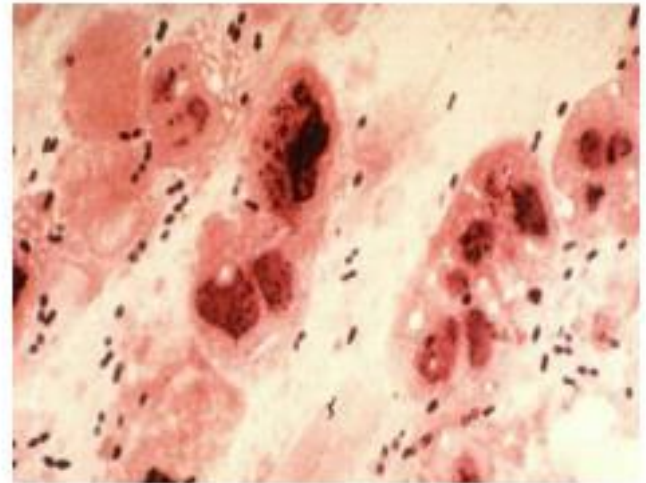


# Scarlet fever

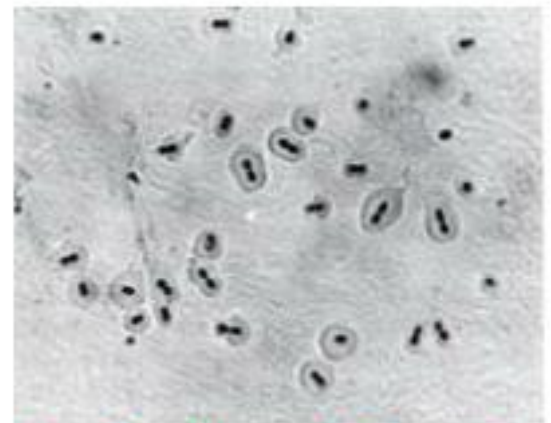


# *S. pneumoniae* Virulence Factors

- Antiphagocytic capsule – immunogen
- PspA: inhibits opsonization
- Autolysin – release cell components
- Pneumolysin
  - Cytotoxic – inhibit cilia, wbc's
  - lyses RBCs
  - activates classic complement path.
  - stimulates cytokines → tissue damage & purulent inflammation
- Hydrogen peroxide - tissue damage
- Surface protein adhesins
- Neuraminidase
- IgA protease
- Peptidoglycan
  - activate alternate complement
  - cytokine release
- Transformation– antibiotic resistance
- Intracellular invasion



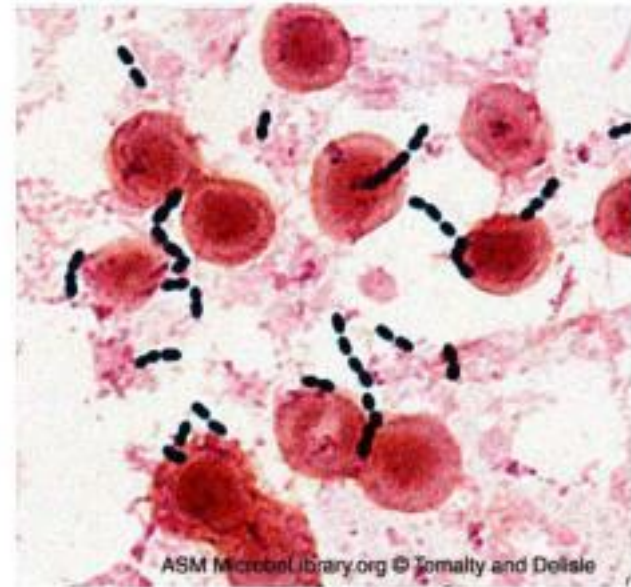
**sputum - pneumonia**



**Capsule Quellung Reaction**

# *Enterococcus*

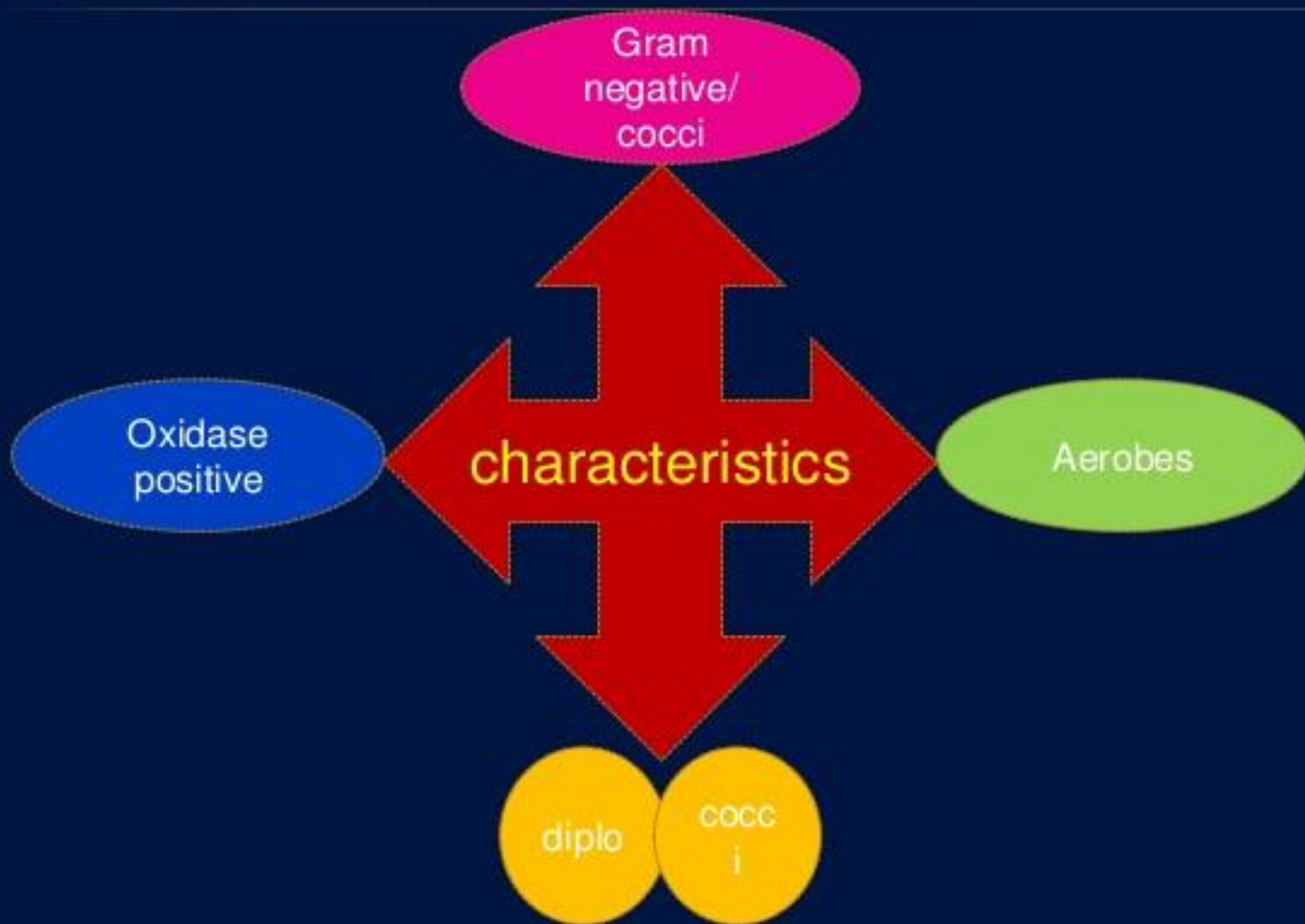
- At least 12 species
- Usually non-hemolytic
- *E. faecalis* most common
- Distinguish from streptococci by:
  - esculin hydrolysis
  - growth in 6.5% NaCl
  - PYR hydrolysis (Group A  $\beta$  strep. are +)
- Enteric flora
- Opportunist - nosocomial pathogen
- Intrinsic antimicrobial resistance
- *E. faecium* - vancomycin-resistance
- Abscesses, urinary tract, endocarditis, abdominal/pelvic, bacteremia, wound infections



## Aerobic Gram-negative cocci

- Family - *Neisseriaceae*
- Genus - *Neisseria*
- Species – *Neisseria meningitidis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *N.flava*, *N.subflava*, *N.perflava*, *N.sicca*, *N.mucosa* etc.

# CHARACTERISTICS:



# CONTAINS TWO IMPORTANT PATHOGENS

- ✗ *Nisseria meningitidis*
- ✗ *Nisseria gonorrhoeae*



The intracellular presence  
of these bacteria inside  
polymorphs in patient  
sample is a  
characteristics finding

# IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN *N.gonorrhoeae* & *N. meningitidis*

I have got a  
polysaccharide  
capsule

*N. gonorrhoeae*  
*meningitidis*

I have got an  
antibiotic resistant  
plasmid

*N.*

*Note: both can be differentiated by biochemical tests using serum sugar*

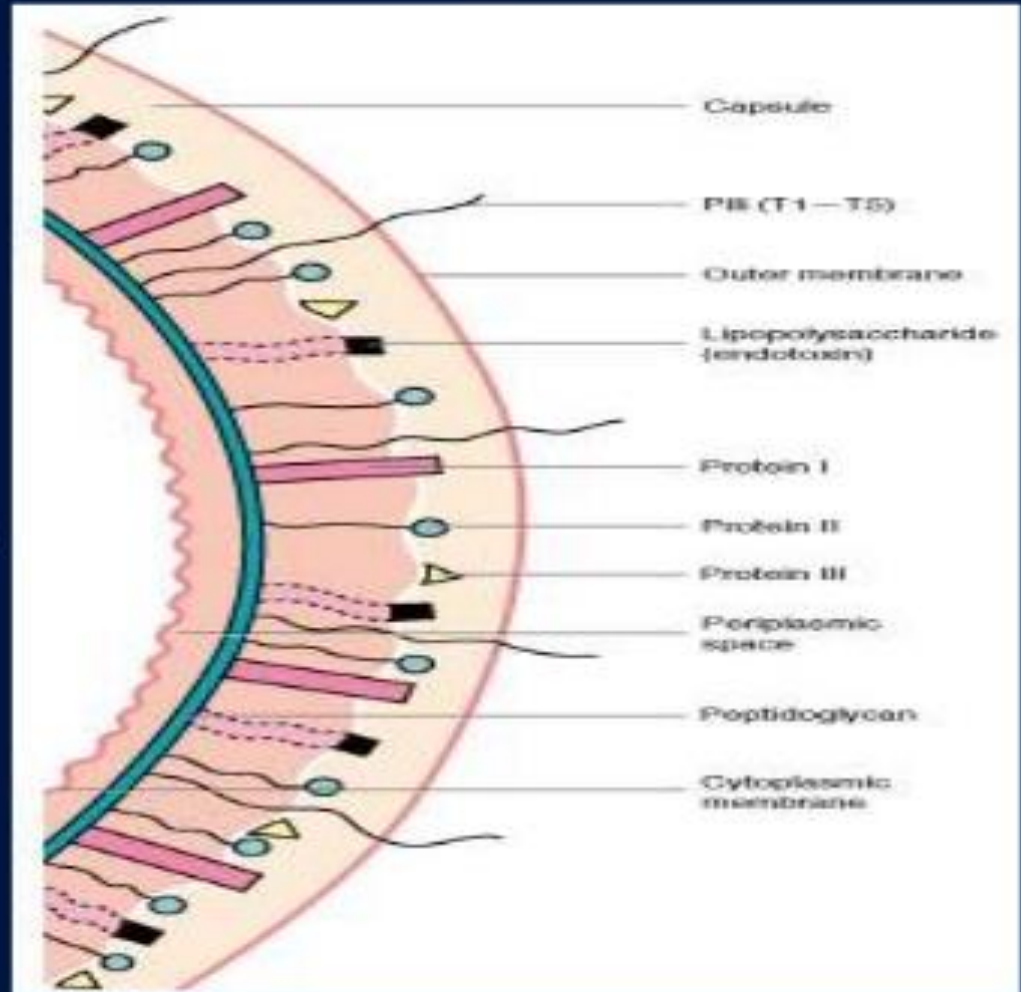
*Neisseria meningitidis*  
growing on chocolate  
agar



*Neisseria meningitidis*  
growing on sheep  
blood agar

# VIRULENCE FACTORS

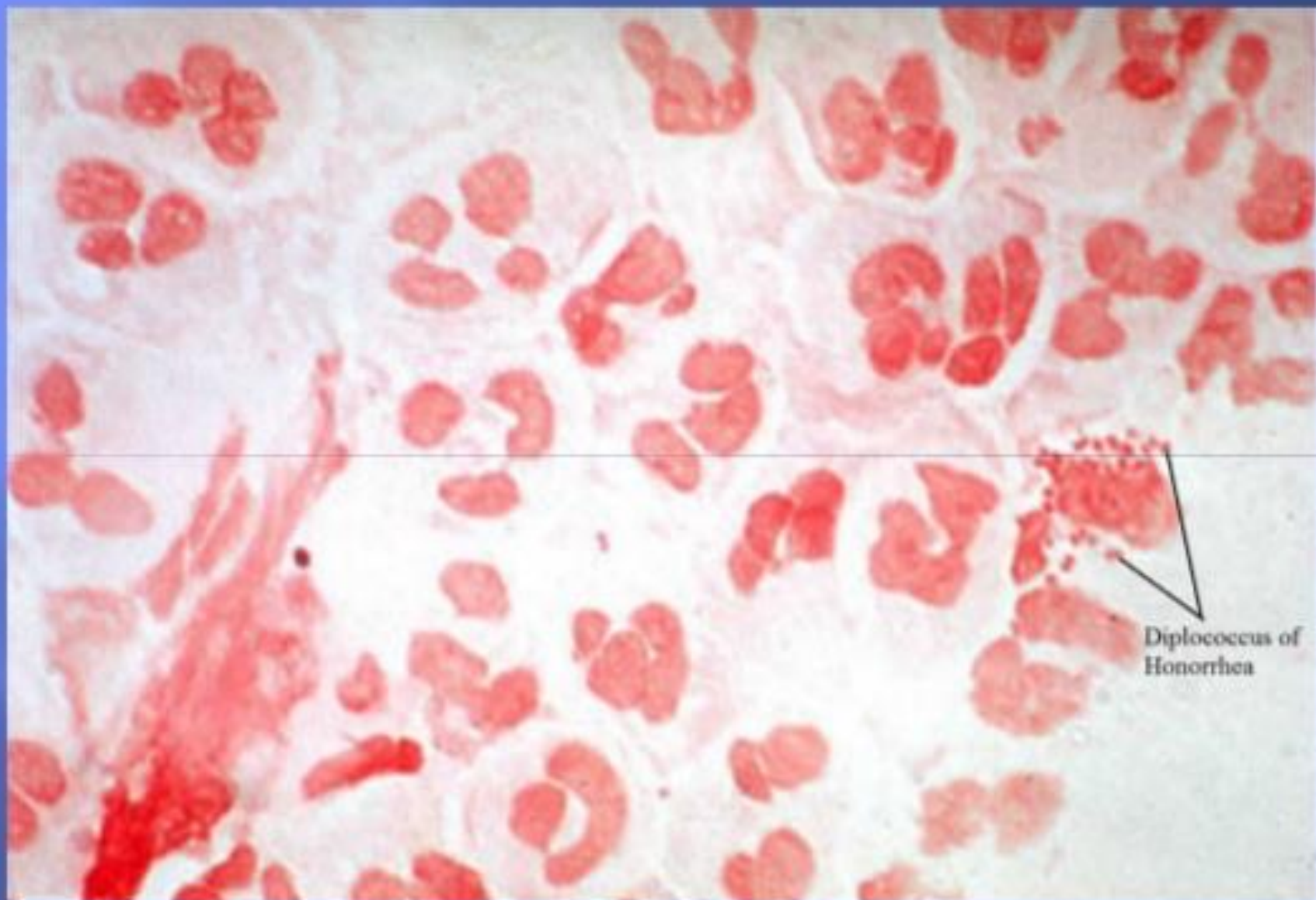
- ✧ **Fimbriae** (common pili)-
- ✧ **Lipooligosaccharide:**
- ✧ **Capsule**
- ✧ **Cell membrane proteins**
- ✧ **IgA protease-**





**Hemorrhage in the adrenal glands in Waterhouse-Fridericksen syndrome**

Meningococcal disease is favoured by deficiency of the terminal complement components (C5-C9)



Diplococcus of  
Honorrhoea

**Meningococccemia showing striking involvement of the extremities with relative sparing of the skin of the child's body surface.**



# Taxonomy :

- | Domain = Bacteria
- | Phylum = Proteobacteria
- | Class = Gammaproteobacteria
- | Order = Enterobacteriales
- | Family = Enterobacteriaceae
- | Genus = *Klebsiella*
- | Species = *k.pneumonia* , *k.ozaenae*  
 , *k.rhinoscleromatis*.



*Klebsiella pneumoniae*

# Characteristics:

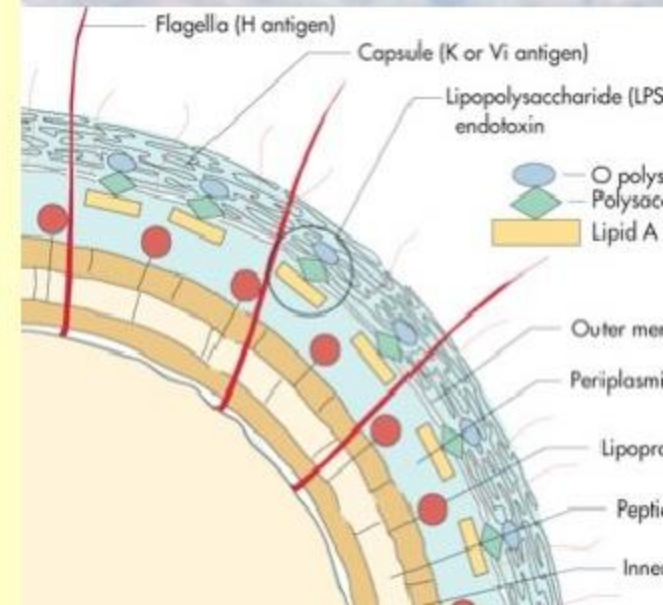
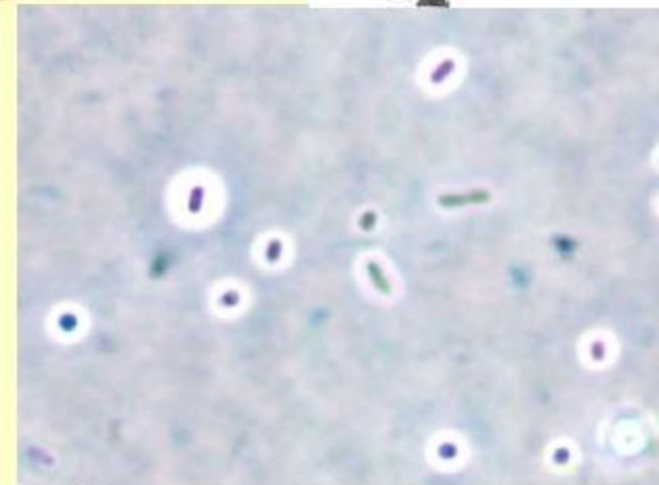
1. gram-negative
2. Non motile
3. Lactose fermenting
4. Oxidase negative
5. Rod shaped organism
6. Facultative anaerobe
7. Surrounded by thick capsule
8. Act as opportunistic human pathogen



# Antigenic structure



- 80 Capsular (K) antigens
  - Gram stain
  - Capsular 'swelling' reaction
  - CCIE
  - ELISA
- 5 Somatic (O) antigens



# Virulence factors and Pathogenesis

## ■ Capsule

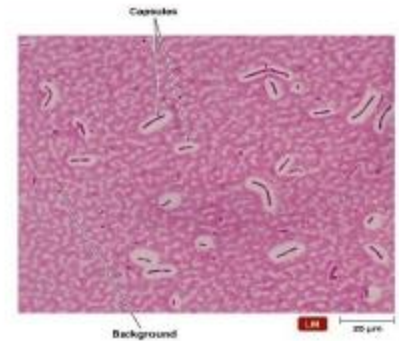
- Anti phagocytic
- Prevents from complement mediated bacteriolysis

## ■ LPS

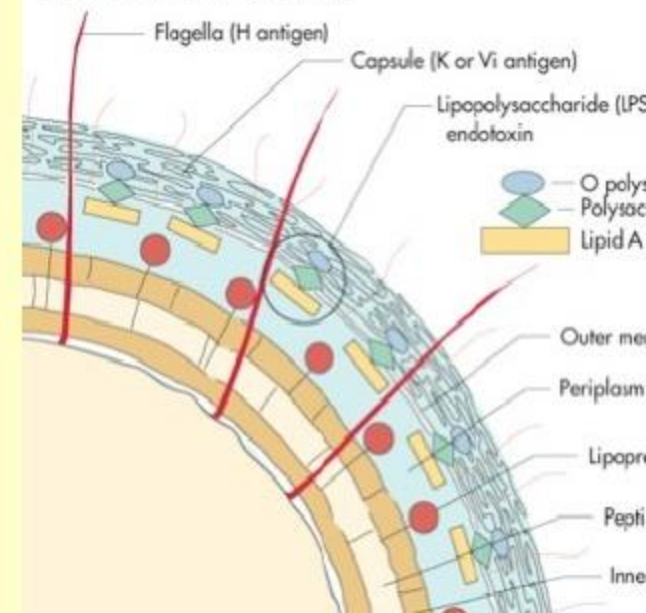
- Prevent from complement mediated bacteriolysis

## ■ Adhesins (Fimbrial and non-fimbrial)

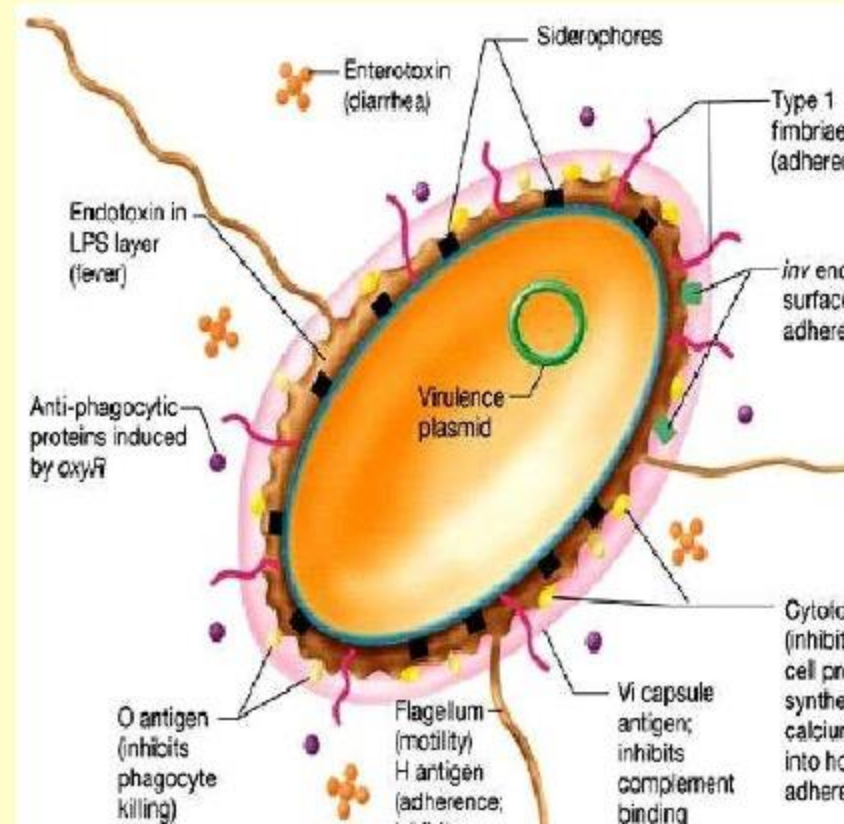
- Type-I and Type-III
- Adhesion to host tissues



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- Toxins
  - Heat labile and heat stable toxins
  - Role not well defined
- Enzymes
  - $\beta$ -lactamase and ESBL



## Serum resistance

## Adhesins

Type 1 pili (MSHA)  
Type 3 pili (MR/K-HA)  
KPF-28 fimbriae  
CF29K (nonfimbrial)  
Aggregative adhesin

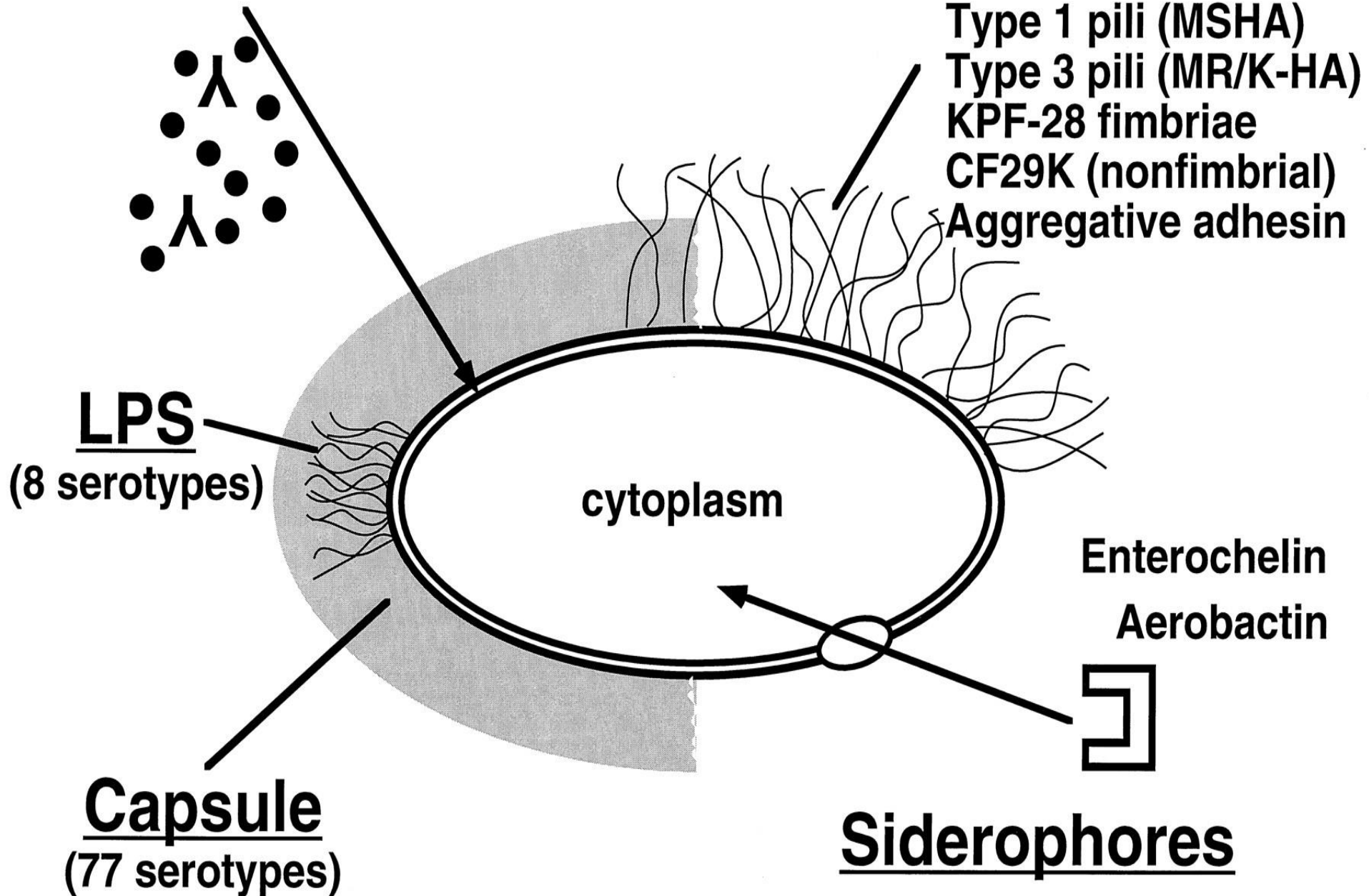
LPS  
(8 serotypes)

cytoplasm

Enterochelin  
Aerobactin

Capsule  
(77 serotypes)

Siderophores



## Where it is found?

- 1) Found in the normal flora of the nose, mouth, skin, GI tract and intestines.
- 2) It is also found in soil and water.

Generally, Klebsiella infections are seen mostly in people with a weakened immune system.

# Diseases Caused by Klebsiella :

- 1) urinary tract infections
- 2) pneumonia
- 3) Sepsicaemia
- 4) nosocomial infections
- 5) soft tissue infections.





Some *Klebsiella* bacteria have become highly resistant to antibiotics.

*Klebsiella pneumoniae* produce an enzyme known as a carbapenemase (referred to as KPC-producing organisms).



APPEARANCE OF  
KLEBSIELLA  
ON CULTURE MEDIA

## On blood agar

-slimy appearance of the colonies

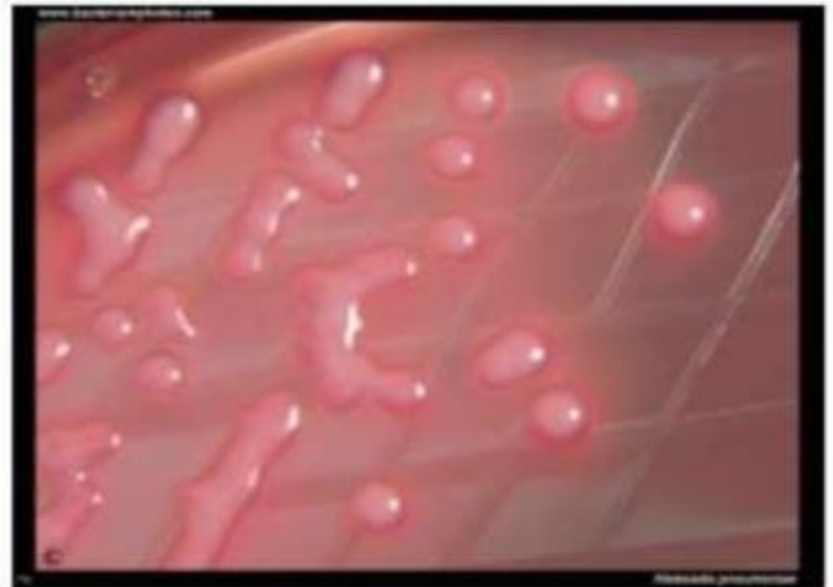


## On MacConkey agar

- red/pink colonies



*Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Salmonella enterica* on MacConkey agar:  
lactose + and -



Mucous, lactose positive colonies of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* on MacConkey agar. Cultivation 37°C, 24 hours.

## On EMB

- *Klebsiella* species produces large, mucoid, pink to purple colonies with no metallic green sheen on EMB agar.



## On CLED AGAR

- This medium supports the growth of urinary pathogens and provides distinct colony morphology.



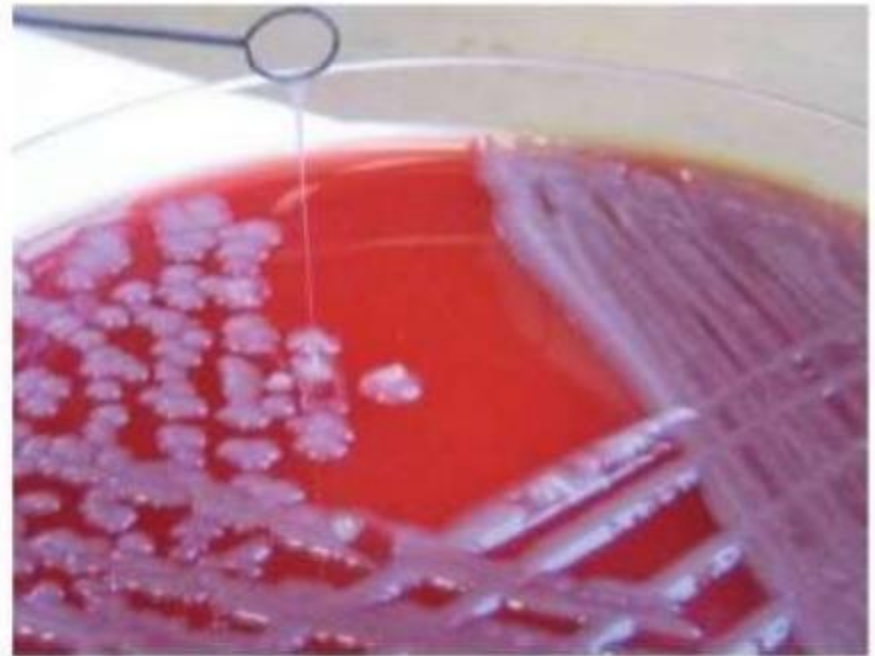
*Klebsiella pneumoniae* on CLED Agar. Large, mucoid colonies.

Bromothymol blue indicator in the agar changes to yellow due to acidification of the medium due to lactose fermentation by bacterial growth.

Lactose fermenters appear yellow. Non Lactose fermenters remain a translucent blue.

## String test

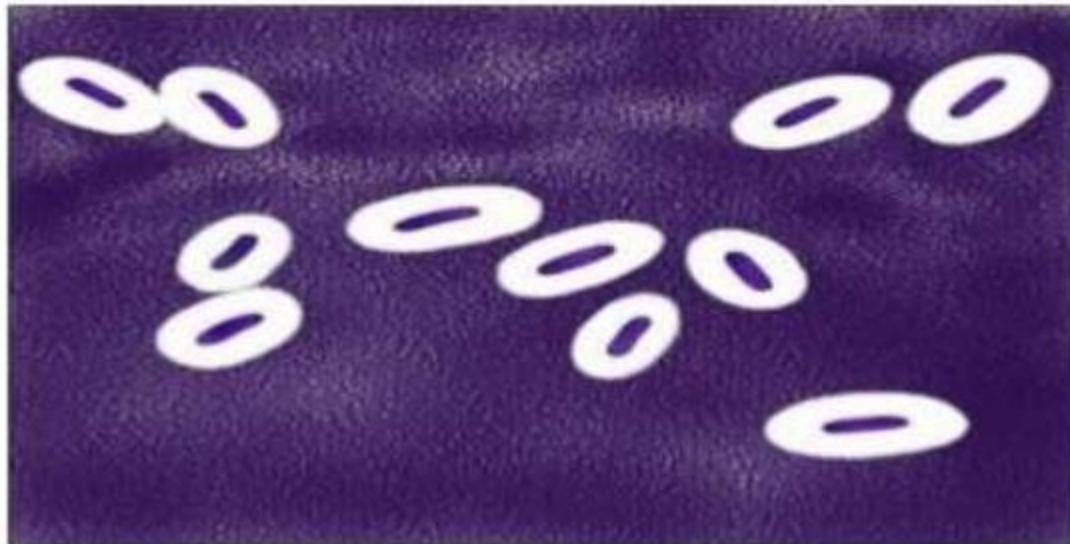
- A colony that stretches more than 5 mm using a standard inoculation loop tests positive for hypermucoviscosity.



Mucoid colony of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* . When colonies were touched with a loop and the loop lifted vertically from the surface of the agar plate, mucoid isolates adhered to the loop as it was lifted from the plate .

# India ink capsule stain

- The background will be dark.
- The bacterial cells will be stained purple.
- The capsule (if present) will appear clear against the dark background.



India Ink Capsule Stain of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* showing white capsules (Glycocalyx) surrounding purple cells

# IMViC Reactions

|                              | <u>I</u> | <u>M</u> | <u>Vi</u> | <u>C</u> |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| <i>Escherichia coli</i>      | +        | +        | —         | —        |
| <i>Proteus vulgaris</i>      | +        | +        | —         | —        |
| <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> | —        | —        | +         | +        |
| <i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>    | +        | —        | +         | +        |
| <i>Enterobacter</i> spp.     | —        | —        | +         | +        |
| <i>Serratia marcescens</i>   | —        | —        | +         | +        |
| <i>Citrobacter freundii</i>  | —        | +        | —         | +        |
| <i>Citrobacter koseri</i>    | +        | +        | —         | +        |

# PSEUDOMONAS

- A large group of aerobic, non sporing gram negative bacteria motile by polar flagella
- Found in nature water, soil, other moist environments
- Some of them are pathogenic to plants
- Creation of new genera such as Burkholderia, Stenotrophomonas

# GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Widely distributed in soil and water
- Gram negative rods
- Aerobic
- Motile
- Produce water-soluble pigments
- Opportunistic pathogens



# *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*



## *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* causing :-

- Skin infections ( wound swab )\*

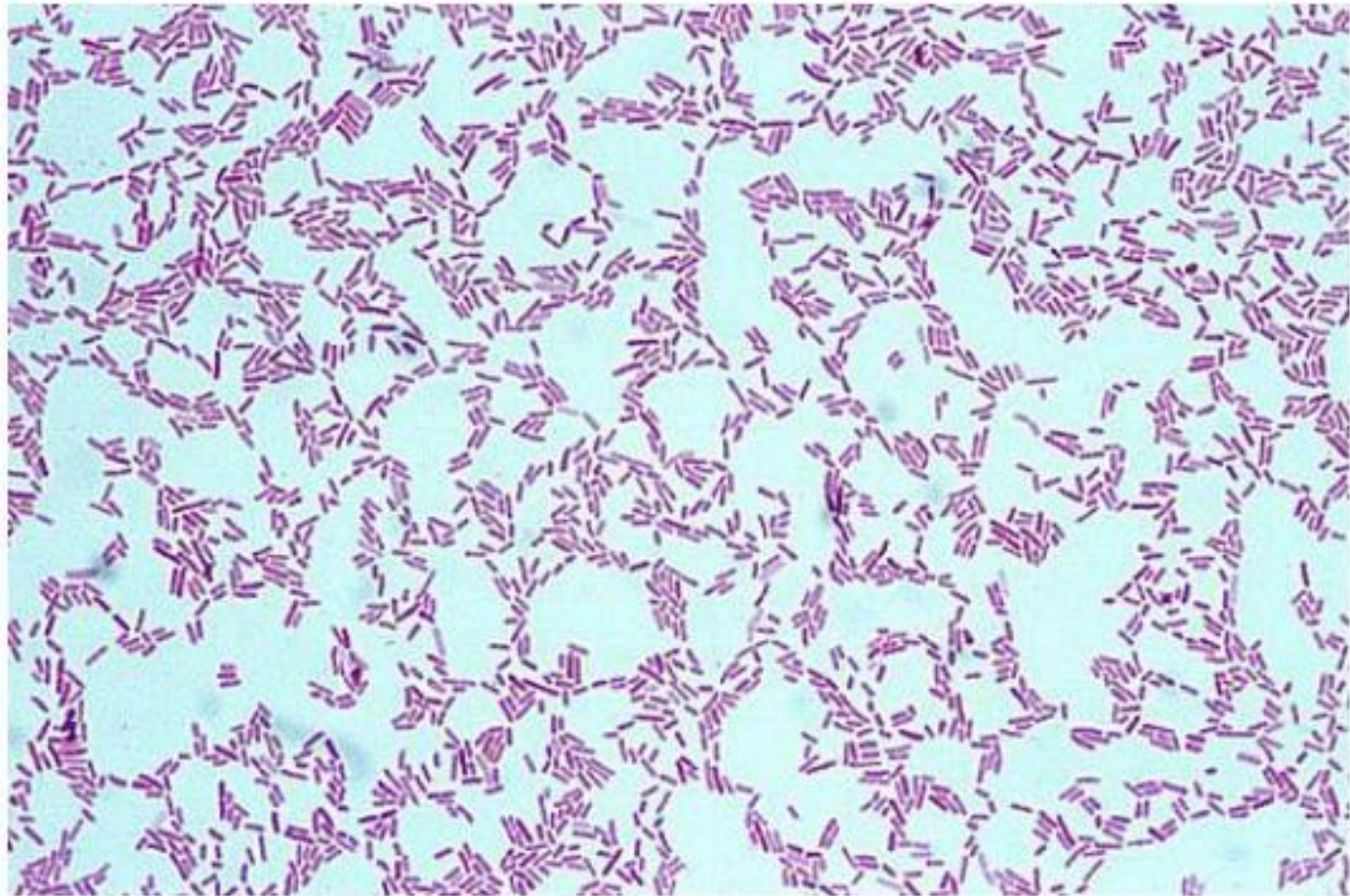


\* Specimens depending on the site of infection.

- Urinary Tract infection ( urine )\*
- Respiratory infections ( sputum & effusions )\*
- Otitis Externa ( ear swab )\*



\* Specimens depending on the site of infection.



*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is a Gram negative, non-sporing motile rod



*P. aeruginosa* produces large, flat, spreading colonies which are often haemolytic and usually pigment-producing.

The pigments diffuse into the medium giving it a dark greenish-blue colour





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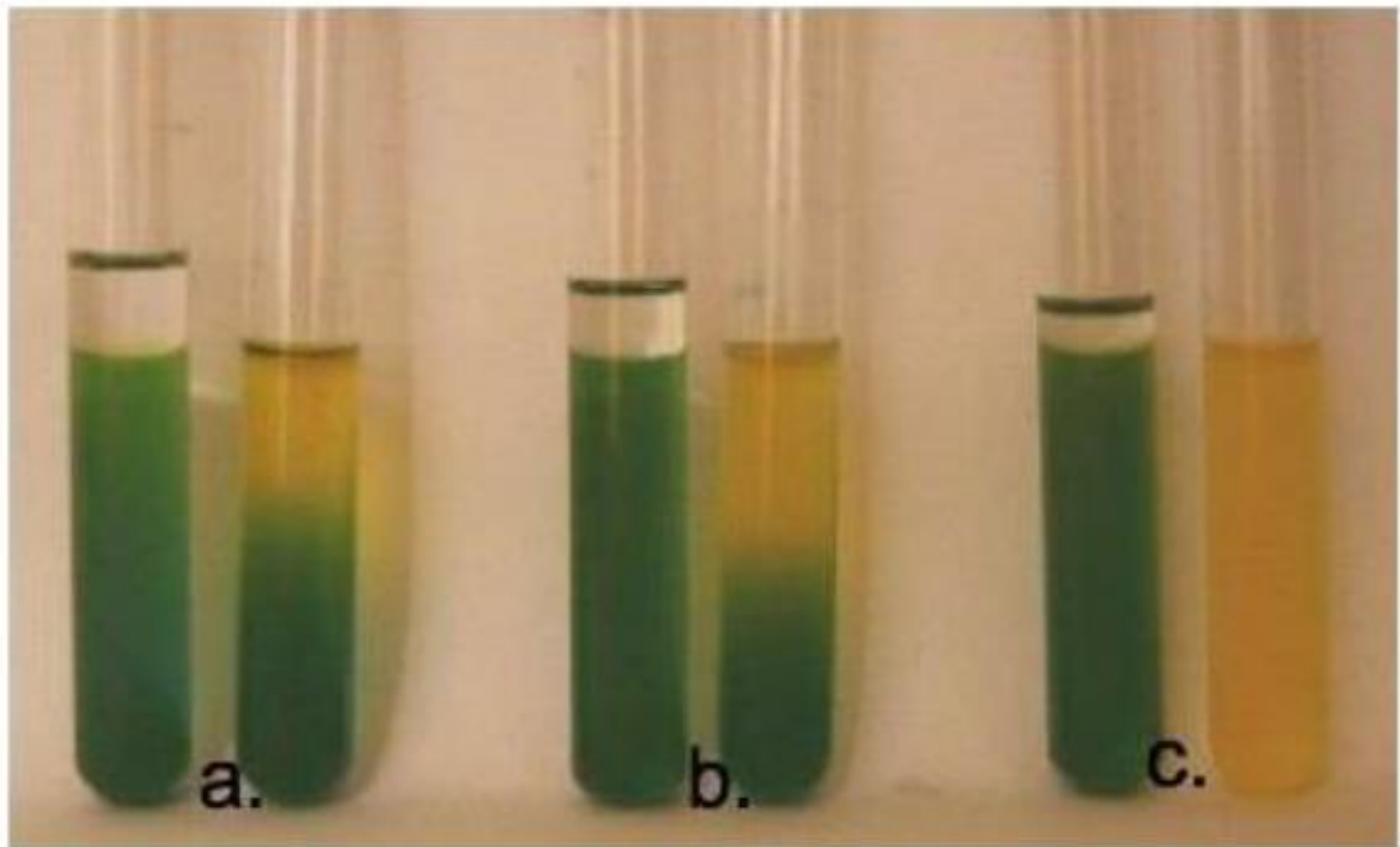
*P. aeruginosa* produces pale coloured colonies on MacConkey agar



On Nutrient agar *P. aeruginosa* can be recognized by the pigments, it produces a blue-green pigment (pyocyanin).

# O-F TEST

The oxidative-fermentative test determines if certain gram-negative rods metabolize glucose by **fermentation** or aerobic respiration (**oxidation**). During the **anaerobic** process of glucose **fermentation**, the high concentration of acid produced will turn the bromthymol blue indicator in OF media from green to yellow in the presence or absence of oxygen

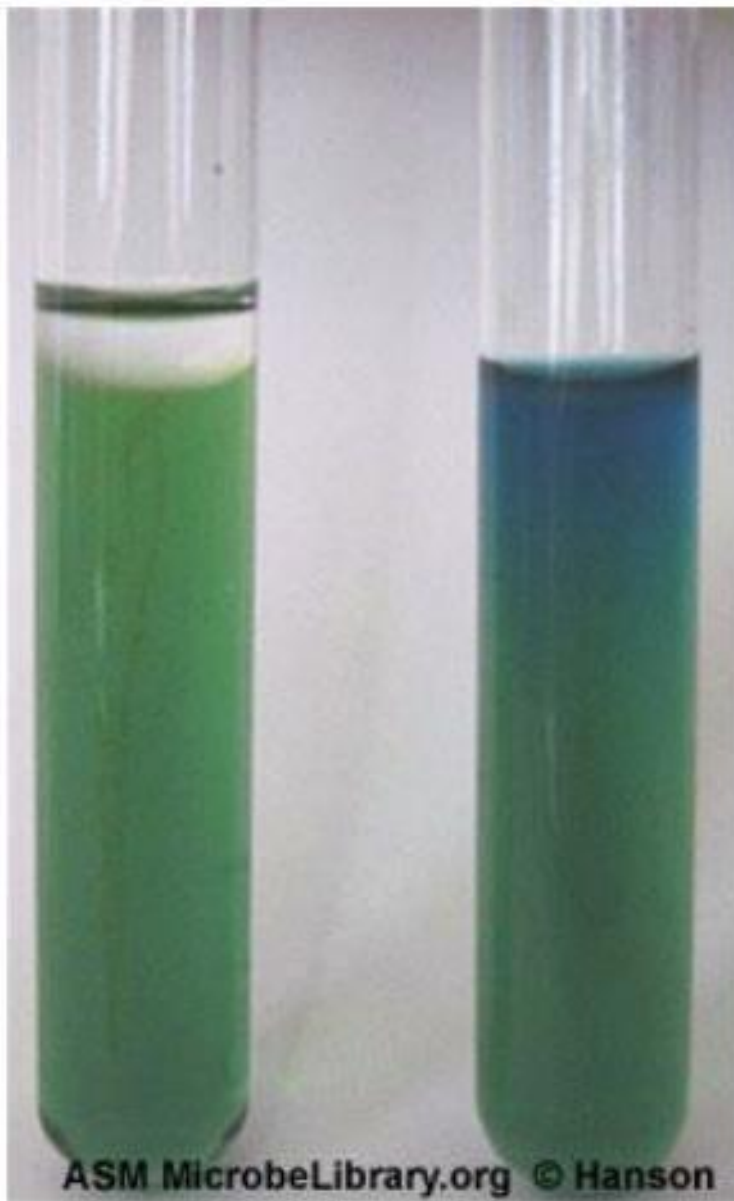


Acid production in the open tube and not the oil-covered tube indicates an **oxidative** result.

(a) *P. aeruginosa* incubated for 24 hours.

(b) *P. aeruginosa* incubated for 48 hours.

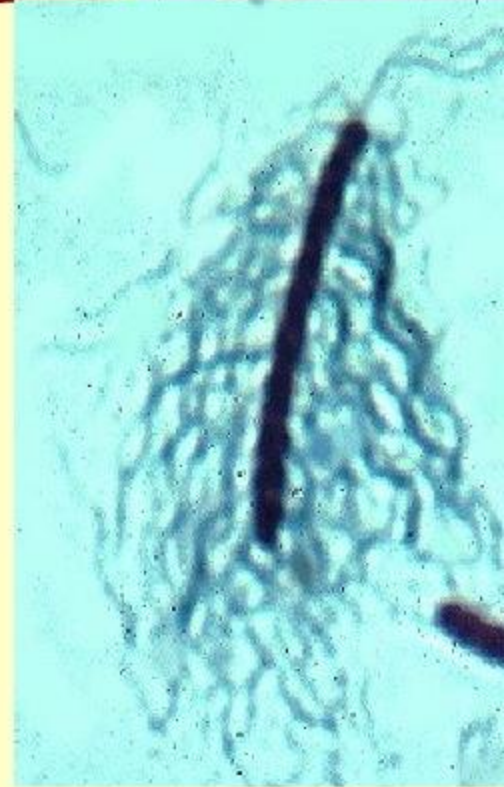
(c) *P. aeruginosa* incubated for 5 days.



No color change in the oil-covered tube and color change to alkaline in the open tube indicates a negative result. *A. faecalis* cannot use glucose fermentatively or oxidatively. The blue at the top of the open tube is due to amine production resulting from the metabolism of protein in the media.

# Species of Proteus

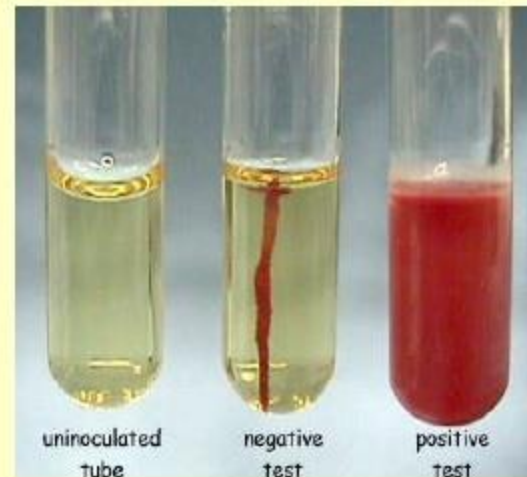
- *Proteus mirabilis*
- *Proteus vulgaris*
- *Proteus myxofaciens*
- *Proteus penneri*



# Virulence Factors

- Urease activity
- Protease
- Fimbriae
- Haemolysins
- Motility
- Swarming

**Motility test**



# Pathogenicity



- *P. mirabilis* -70-90 %
- UTI – Commonest site
  - Young / elderly patients
  - High concentration of Urea in urine
- Superficial septic lesions
- Meningitis
- Osteomyelitis
- Septicemia
- Otitis media

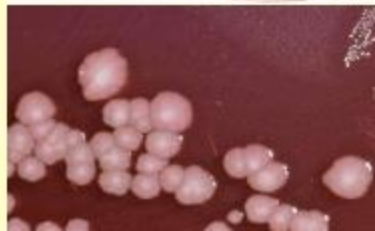
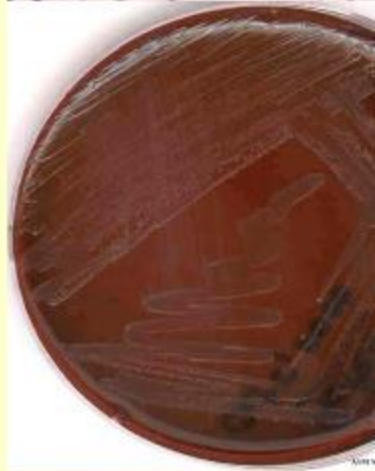
# Lab Isolation and Identification

## Morphology

- GNR, 1 – 3  $\mu\text{m}$
- Motile-peritrichate flagella

## Cultural Characteristics

- Grow well on ordinary media
- Swarming
  - Continuous
  - Discontinuous
- Faint ammonia / fishy odor



# Swarming



- Characteristic but not unique
  - *Serratia marcescens*
  - *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*
  - Bacillus
- Continuous swarming
- Discontinuous swarming
- Ascending infection



# Anti-swarming Agents



- Increasing Agar concentration 3-4 %
- Incorporation into media of a polyvalent-H anti-sera
- Incorporating growth inhibitors
  - Sulphonamides
  - Chloral Hydrate
  - p-Nitrophenyl Glycerol
  - Neomycin
  - Barbiturates
- Incorporation of
  - Detergents
  - Bile Salts-MacConkey Agar
- Electrolyte Deficiency- CLED

