

Medical Bacteriology- Lecture 16

Gram Negative Rods- Oxidase Positive

Pseudomonadaceae

Pseudomonas

Burkholderia

Vibrionaceae

Vibrio

Gram Negative coccobacilli

Brucella

Fracncisella

Pasteurella

Pseudomonas

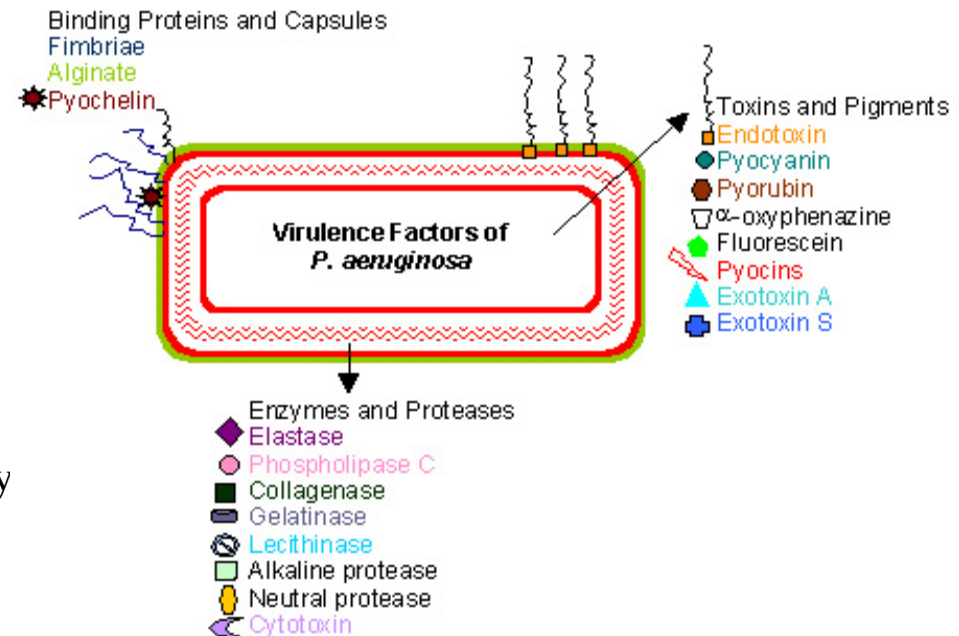
- Gram-negative motile **aerobic** rods
- **Versatile, Catalase +, Oxidase +**
- **Biofilm** (Biofilm mucoid strains of *Pseudomonas* are also less susceptible to antibiotics).
- Found in water, soil, sewage, vegetatable, human and animal intestine.
- **Medical importance species:** *P. aeruginosa*

P. aeruginosa

- Part of normal flora in human and animal intestine, water, soil and moist environment in hospitals.
- **Nosocomial pathogen- Opportunistic pathogens**
- very simple growth requirement. It is often observed "**growing in distilled water**", evidence of minimal nutritional needs).
- Its optimum temperature for growth is 37 C, and it is able to grow at temperatures as **high as 42C**.
- Invasive and toxigenic infections in patients with abnormal host defenses
- Produce soluble **fluorescent pyocyanin pigment**, refers to "**blue pus**", which is a characteristic of suppurative infections caused by *P. aeruginosa*.
- Causes **UTI (introduced by catheter)- Wound infection of burn sites, Septicaemia, Otitis externa (Malignant external ear infection in poorly treated diabetic patients) – Pneumonia- Eye infection (injury or surgery)- Endocarditis- bacteremia- meningitis- brain abscesses** .
- identification is based on **colony morphology, oxidase-positive, growth at 42C- Non lactose fermentor - Bluish-green pigmented large colonies with “fruity” odor on culture media**.
- It is resistant to high concentrations of salts and dyes, weak antiseptics, and many antibiotics.

P. Aeruginosa Virulence Factors

- 1- **Pilli** (Adhere to epithelial cells)
- 2- **Exopolysaccharide capsule** (protected from opsonization by antibodies, complement & phagocytosis)
- 3- **Motility**: spread through tissues
- 4- **Fluorescent pigment pyocyanin** (impairs normal function of human nasal cilia, disrupts respiratory epithelium).
- Enzymes:**
- 5- Two extracellular proteases associated with invasive stage: elastase & alkaline protease
- ***Elastases**: Digests protein (elastin, collagen, IgG, lyse fibronectin for bacterial attachment on the mucosa of the lung, disrupts the respiratory epithelium and interferes with cilia function)
- * **Alkaline protease** lyses fibrin.
- Toxins:**
- 6- **Haemolysins** (beta haemolysis)
- 7- **Phospholipase & lecithinase** (destroy lipid and lecithin)
- 8- **Exotoxin A** (Cytotoxic by blocking protein synthesis- pore forming protein)
same mechanism of action as the **diphtheria toxin**
- 9- **Toxin S**: interfere with membrane permeability
- 10- **Lipd A** (Endotoxin): tissue necrosis
- 11- **Enterotoxins**: food poisoning



Summary of the Virulence Determinants of Pathogenic *P. aeruginosa*

- **Adhesins** pili
polysaccharide capsule
biofilm
- **Invasins** elastase
alkaline protease
hemolysins (phospholipase and lecithinase)
cytotoxin (leukocidin)
iron uptake systems
pyocyanin pigment

Motility flagella

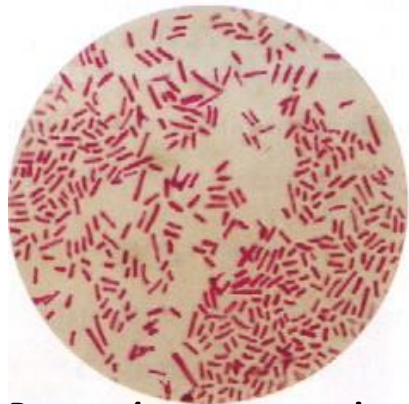
Toxins Exoenzyme S
Exotoxin A
LPC

Antiphagocytic surface properties capsules
LPS
Biofilm

Defense against serum bactericidal reaction capsules, biofilm, LPC,
protease enzymes

Ecological criteria

adapt to minimal nutritional requirements
metabolic diversity
widespread occurrence in a variety of habitats



P. aeruginosa gram stain



Florescent pigment of *P. aeruginosa* on Cetrimide agar



P. aeruginosa on MacConkey agar
(non lactose fermentor)

Burkholderia

- **Burkholderia mallei* (*pseudomonas mallei*) Human & animal pathogen causing **Glanders**
- *Burkholderia pseudomallei* Human & animal pathogen causing **Melioidosis**
- **Burkholderia cepacia* (Onion bulb rot, **Foot rot of man**)
 - Septicemia, urinary tract infection, wounds, endocarditis pneumonia in immunocompromised individuals
- *Pseudomonas alkaligenes* Very rarely human pathogen- Nosocomial pathogen, wounds, urinary tract infection
- *Pseudomonas fluorescens* unusual cause of disease in humans (usually affects patients with compromised immune system) **Produce yellow pyoverdinin pigment, which is soluble in water but not chloroform**

Burkholderia mallei grown on sheep blood agar for 72 hours.



Curved Bacilli (Vibrio)



- Actively motile, gram-negative **curved rods**
- Vibrios are distinguished from **enterics** by being **oxidase-positive** and motile by means of polar flagella.
- Vibrios are distinguished from **pseudomonads** by being **fermentative and oxidative** in their metabolism
- Vibrios are one of the most common organisms in surface waters of the world.
- **Medical importance species:** *V. cholerae* and *V. parahaemolyticus* are pathogens of humans
- Both produce diarrhea, but in different ways.
- *V. parahaemolyticus* is an **invasive** the **colon**
- *V. cholerae* is **noninvasive**, affecting the **small intestine** through secretion of an enterotoxin.
- *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* Two biotypes (*Parahaemolyticus* and *Alginolyticus*)
- Parahaemolyticus **causes food poisoning in Japan**
- Gastroenteritis (enterotoxin): Explosive or mild diarrhea
- *Aeromonas hydrophila* Septicemia (Produce phospholipase + haemolysin)
- *Pleisiomonas shigelloides*
Septicemia, wound infections, and gastroenteritis
Haemolysin (kanagawa test)

Vibrio cholerae

- Found in fresh water- sea food. most often in communities with poor sewage and water treatment.
- **Grow in asparagine (as a sole source of carbon and nitrogen)**
- **Optimum pH growth range (8.5- 9.5)- Sensitive to acidic pH**
- Causes **Cholera (epidemic cholera)** is a severe diarrheal disease
- Transmission to humans is by contaminated water or food- Route of infection is (fecal-oral)- Incubation period 1-4 days
- **Large inoculum** (10⁸) is required to cause disease because the bacteria are susceptible to acidic stomach environment
- Cholera is one of the most rapidly fatal illnesses . Human may become hypotensive within an hour of the onset of symptoms and may die within 2-3 h if no treatment The disease progresses from the first liquid stool to shock in 4-12 hours, with death following in 18 h to several days.
- Abrupt **watery diarrhea and vomiting (Rice– water stool is characteristic)** contains enormous numbers of vibrios – **result in severe fluids and electrolytes loss- dehydration, can lead to coma and death-** The loss of potassium ions may result in cardiac complications and circulatory failure. Untreated cholera results in high (50-60%) mortality.
Cholera toxin (enterotoxin) is the most important virulence factor of *V. cholerae*. action on the mucosal epithelium- it is responsible for the characteristic diarrhea of cholera disease.
Cholera toxin activates the adenylate cyclase enzyme of the intestinal mucosa leading to increased the secretion of H₂O, Na⁺, K⁺, Cl⁻, and HCO₃⁻ into the lumen of the small intestine.
The bacterium produces an invasins, neuraminidase, during the colonization stage which is degrade N-acetyl-neuraminic acid.
- **Cultures:** 1- **TCBS (thiosulphate citrate bile salt sucrose agar)** Selective media for primary isolation of *V. cholerae* (Observe for large yellow sucrose-fermenting colonies after 18-24 hrs of incubation)
- 2- **Alkaline peptone water:** Enrichment media for *V. cholerae*
- **Treatment:** fluids and electrolytes replacement - Antibiotics are not important because they are lost in watery stool – Tetracycline shorten the duration of diarrhea and reduce fluid loss.

Disease progression

Ingestion- Pass HCl Barrier of the stomach
(100,000,000 acidic, 10,000 neutral)



Multiply in the small intestine (predisposes malnutrition, vitamin B drop)



1 -Motility (for contact)

2 -Envelope (for adhesion)

3-Mucinase (break the mucosal layer to allow attachment to epithelial cells)



4- Endotoxin

5-Enterotoxin

6-Neuraminidase to break N-acetyl- neuraminic acid

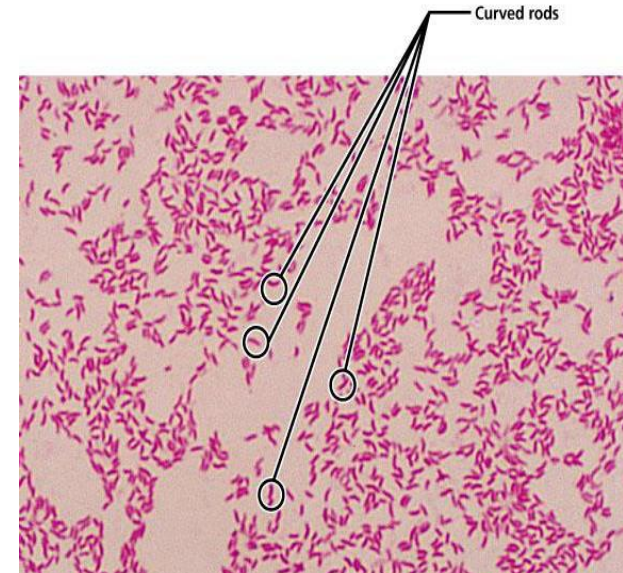


diarrhea (plasma → lumen)

Loss of fluids (decrease of blood volume + pressure)



Shock



- **Loss of electrolytes:** Potassium → Disturb heart rhythm
Bicarbonate → Acidosis → weak heart
- **Rice water stools:** mucosa, epithelial cells, and lots of bacteria
- **Give solution containing:** Glucose + Bicarbonate + Potassium

Brucella

- Gram-negative, non-motile, non-sporeforming, **zoonotic**, obligate **intracellular** aerobic coccobacilli

Major human pathogenic species

- | Species | Primary animal host |
|----------------------------|---|
| • <i>B. abortus</i> | Cattle |
| • <i>B. melitensis</i> | Goat / Sheep |
| • <i>B. suis</i> | Swine |
| • <i>B. canis</i> | Dogs (pathogenic to humans with immunodeficiency) |
| • <i>Brucella neotomae</i> | Wood rat (<i>Neotoma lepida</i>), desert mice and fleas |
| • <i>Brucella ovis</i> | Sheep |
- **Brucellosis (Undulant fever)** is a zoonotic disease transmitted to human by direct contact with infected tissue via skin and mucus membrane, or ingestion of infected milk via intestinal tract
 - **Complication:** Brucella spondylitis (Vertebral brucellosis)
 - **Brucella human symptoms:** chills, fever (undulant) sweats, weakens, myalgia and headache.
 - **no vaccine to humans.**

Mechanism of pathogenesis

Skin , contaminated milk and cheese, Aerosols to the mucosa of (nose, mouth and conjunctiva)



Local multiplication

(Slight ulceration of mucosa, PMN phagocytize but *Brucella* multiply in them)



Lymphatic system (local lymph nodes)



Reticulo-endothelial system

(Liver, spleen, and bone marrow)

chronic inflammation (granulomas → abscesses)

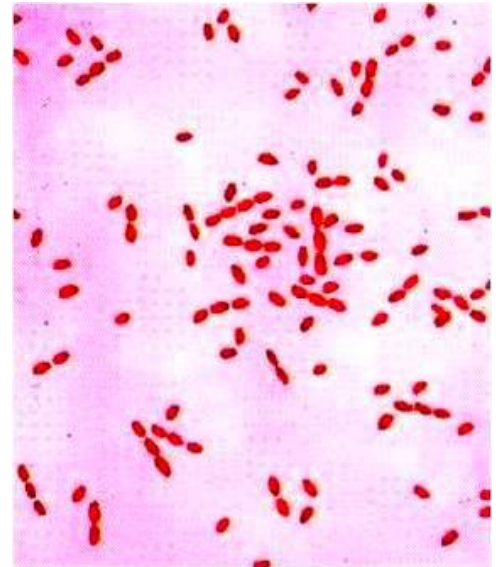


Septicemia



Generalized infections

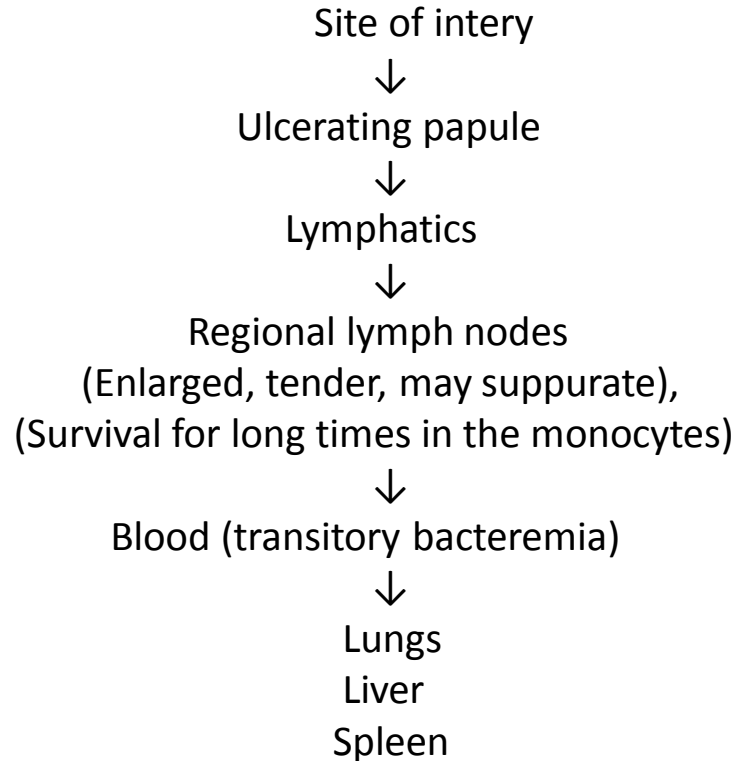
(Meningitis, L-forms in bone marrow)



Francisella

- ***Francisella tularensis***
- Small, facultative **intracellular**, gram negative, nonmotile coccobacillus, grow in blood-**cysteine** agar
- **Tularemia (Rabbit Fever)** is a major **zoonotic** disease and transmitted to human by
 - 1- biting (rabbit)
 - 2- direct contact with infected animal tissue
 - 3- inhalation of aerosols
 - 4- ingestion of contaminated food and water.
 - 5- by fly or Ticks
- **Ulceroglandular tularemia:** Ulceration of arms and hands with lymphadenitis after tick bite or direct contact of broken skin with infected tissue or blood
- **Oculoglandular tularemia:** Accidental contamination of conjunctiva with infected droplets/aerosols
- **Pneumonic tularemia:** Contracted through contaminated aerosols
- **Typhoidal tularemia:** Following ingestion of inadequately cooked food

Mechanism of pathogenesis



***Francisella tularensis*, Colonization
on Cysteine Heart Agar after 72hrs**



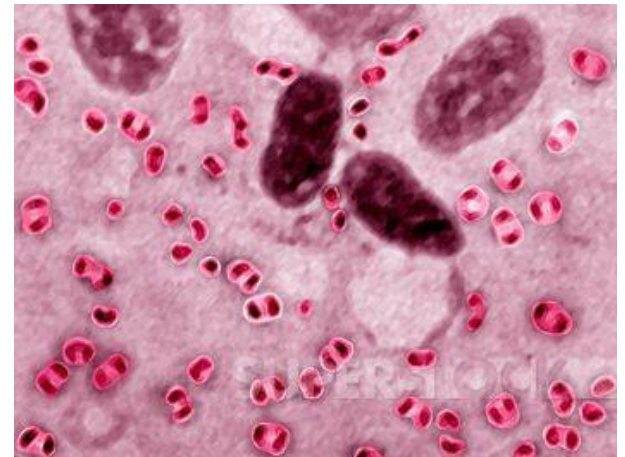
Pasteurella

- Gram-negative, small, non-motile, aerobic or facultative anaerobic coccobacilli or rods shaped
- Grow in ordinary media
- Catalase positive- Oxidase positive
- Primarily parasites of domestic and wild animals and birds.

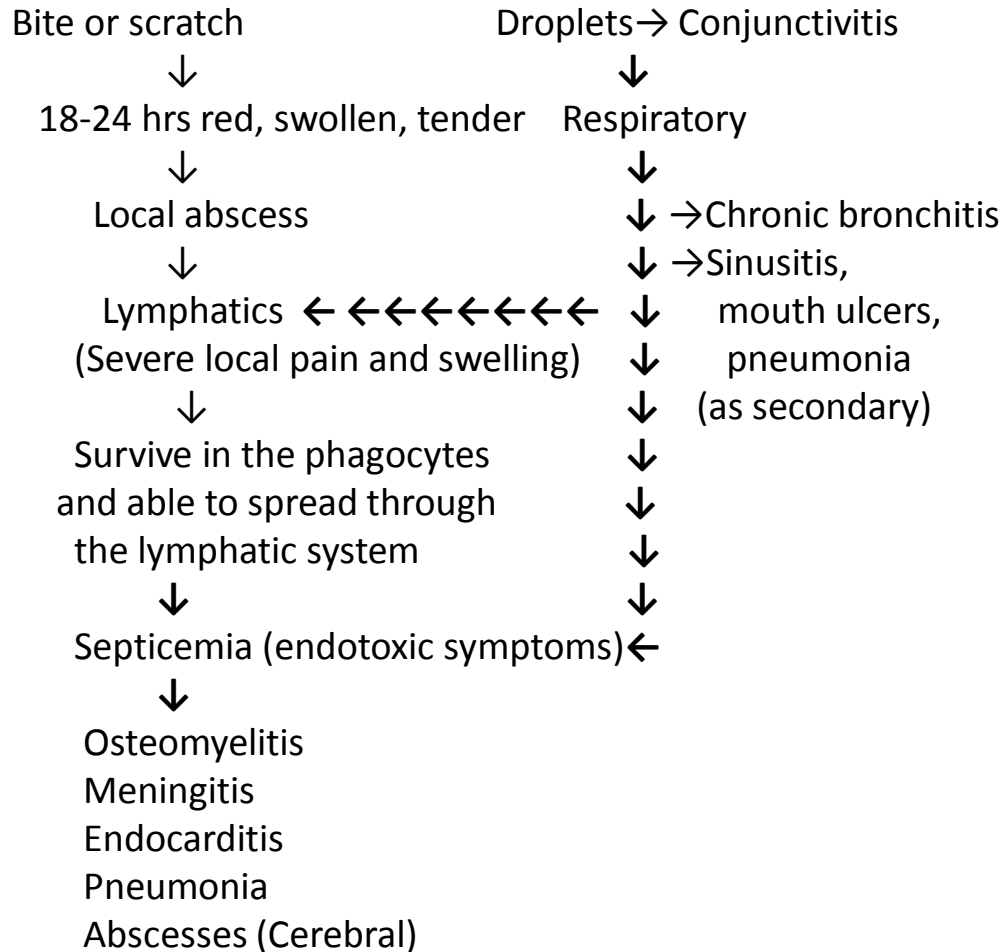
- ***Pasteurella multocida*** (Shipping fever and cat bite fever)

Occur in gastrointestinal and respiratory tract of many domestic and wild animals-

Most common organism in human wounds inflicted by bites from cats and dogs.



Mechanism of pathogenesis



Review Questions

- What is the causative agent of: Brucellosis (Undulant fever)- cholera- tularemia?
- What is the major characteristic of *P. aeruginosa*- how can identify it?
- Give six examples of *P. aeruginosa* virulence factors? Give three examples of its toxins, with its roles? Its exotoxin A is similar with other bacteria toxin. What is it?
- Why *P. aeruginosa* can grow on distilled water? The bacteria can grow at two different temperature. Explain. What is the special pigment?
- Give three examples of *P. aeruginosa* infections? (nosocomial urinary tract infection introduced by catheter- Wound infection of burn sites- eye infection)
- You studied two species under the genus *Burkholderia*. Give the species name and disease for each?
- What is the difference between endotoxins, enterotoxins and neurotoxins?
- Write the Latin name of the bacteria that cause 50% of the food poisoning cases in Japan?
- Differentiate between *Vibrio cholera* and *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*?
- Grow in asparagine (as a sole source of carbon and nitrogen, optimum growth at alkaline pH, sensitive to acidity. What is the bacteria?
- Why *V. cholera* needs a large number of cells to initiate their infections?
- Cholera fatality or death may result from severe fluids and electrolytes loss due to dehydration, explain? How can lead the loss of potassium and bicarbonates- How can you treat a patient with severe diarrhea as a result of *V. cholera* infection?
- What is the characteristic of cholera diarrhea? Explain the mechanism of the *V. cholerae* enterotoxin?
- What is the major virulence factor for *V. cholera*?
- What are the types of tularemia diseases. How can be transmitted to human?