

Pasteurella



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Panasonic

HILLARY SHYONIE  
Faculty Rep  
School of Medicine  
International Medical Center

# Classification

- Family: *Pasteurella*
- Species: *Pasteurella sensu stricto*
  - *P. multocida* subsp. *multocida*
  - *P. multocida* subsp. *gallacida*
  - *P. multocida* subsp. *septica*
- *P. dagmatis*
- *P. gallinarum*
- *P. canis*
- *P. stomatis*
- *P. avium*

# General characteristics

- Small, Gram-negative rods or coccobacilli
- Facultative anaerobes
- Non motile
- Non-sporing
- Capsulated (*P. multocida*)
- Bipolar-staining
- Fermenters
- Oxidase positive

# Virulence factors

- **Iron acquisition** mechanism
- **Membrane LPS**-  
confers serum complement resistance
- **Capsule** prevents phagocytosis and complement-mediated opsonization
- **Surface components** that provide adherence properties e.g. FHA
- **Extracellular matrix-degrading enzymes** e.g. Hyaluronidase, neuraminidase and proteases.  
Facilitate colonization and/or dissemination

## Virulence factors

6. **Dermonecrotic toxin**(in highly virulent strains)- causes dermonecrosis and modulates the immune system
7. *Pasteurella multocida* toxin(PMT)

## Epidemiology and Transmission

- Normal microbiota of the oral, nasopharyngeal, and upper respiratory tracts of many wild and domestic animals
- **Transmission**
  - Bite or scratch wounds from pets, predominantly cats and dogs
  - Contact of skin lesions or nasooropharynx or other upper respiratory mucosa
  - *P. multocida* being the most prevalent isolate observed in human infections

## Clinical implications

- Cellulitis and **localized superficial abscesses** following an animal bite or scratch
- Oedema, cellulitis, bloody or suppurative/purulent exudate at the wound site
- Inflammation develops very rapidly

# Clinical implications

- Second most common site is the **respiratory tract**
- Mostly occurs in the **elderly**, underlying **chronic lower RT disease**
- Route of infection is **inhalation**
- Others: Osteomyelitis, intra-abdominal infections, septic arthritis, sepsis and meningitis



# Laboratory diagnosis

- Specimen: swabs, sputum etc
- Gram stain: Gram negative coccobacilli
- Culture: BA- produce grey colonies
- PCR

# Treatment

- **Combination therapy**
  - Amoxicillin /Clavulanic acid
  - Doxycycline + Metronidazole (pen. allergies)
  - Clindamycin + a fluoroquinolone

Prevention and control?

Francisella

# Classification

- Family: Francisellaceae
- Genus: Francisella
  - *Francisella tularensis*
  - *F. tularensis* subsp. *tularensis*
  - *F. tularensis* subsp. *holarctica*
  - *F. tularensis* subsp. *mediasiatica*
- *Francisella philomiragia*
- *Francisella novicida*

# General characteristics

- Gram-negative coccobacilli
- Facultative intracellular pathogens
- Non-motile
- Aerobes
- Non-spore forming

# Virulence factors

- No classical virulence factors
- Virulence stems from ability to proliferate within various host tissues and organs
- Disrupts their normal functions and induces a significant host inflammatory response that contributes to the disease

# Epidemiology

- Found globally in mammals and arthropod vectors
- Circulates in populations of rodents
- Outbreaks in humans often parallel outbreaks in animal populations
- *F. tularensis* can be acquired by
  - contact with, or ingestion of, contaminated material, including food and water,
  - inhalation of infectious particles



# Epidemiology

- A wide range of arthropod vectors implicated in transmission
  - mosquitoes
  - ticks
  - deer flies
- *F. tularensis* subspecies *tularensis* and *holarctica* cause the majority of reported cases
- Subspecies *tularensis* causes the more severe disease of the two

# Pathogenesis

- Major target organs:
  - lymph nodes,
  - lungs,
  - pleura,
  - spleen,
  - liver,
  - kidney
- If untreated, bacteria spread from the skin and mucous membranes to regional LNs
- In LNs: further multiplication then dissemination to other organs

# Clinical manifestations

- Causes a spectrum of clinical illnesses termed **tularaemia** (**glandular fever**, **rabbit fever**, **tick fever**, and **deer fly fever**)
  - Ulceroglandular
  - Glandular
  - Oculoglandular
  - Oropharyngeal
  - Pneumonic
  - Typhoidal
  - Septic

# Clinical implications

- Fever (38°C-40°C)
- Headache,
- Chills and rigors
- Generalized body aches
- Coryza, and sore throat
- Dry or slightly productive cough
- Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea

Case fatality rate 40-60% in untreated cases

## Clinical manifestations

- *Francisella tularensis*, is one of the most infectious pathogenic bacteria known, requiring inoculation or inhalation of as few as **10 organisms** to cause disease
- Therefore can be used as a biological weapon of terrorism

# Laboratory investigations

**Specimen:** Secretions, exudates, sputum, gastric aspirate, biopsy specimen, blood

**Gram stain**

**Culture:**

- Culture media: Cysteine heart blood agar; Buffered charcoal-yeast agar; CBA
- Incubate at 37°C
  - Growth visible from 24-48 hours
  - Hold at least for 10 days before discarding

# Laboratory investigations

- Colonial morphology:
  - CBA- tiny, grey-white, opaque colonies
  - Cysteine Heart Agar (CHA)-greenish-blue colonies
- Direct fluorescent antibody
- Immunohistochemical staining
- PCR

# Treatment

- Streptomycin
- Gentamicin
- Tetracycline
- Chloramphenicol