The Most Important Bacteria

By: Dr. M. Mobini-Dehkordi

Class Gammaproteobacteria

- *Gammaproteobacteria* into 13 orders, 20 families, and around 160 genera.
- several deeply branching groups. One consists of the purple sulfur bacteria; a second includes the intracellular parasites *Legionella*. The two largest groups contain a wide variety of nonphotosynthetic genera: *Vibrionaceae, Enterobacteriaceae,* and

Pasteurellaceae. Most are facultative anaerobes.

 These genera aere aerobic: *Pseudomonas*, *Azotobacter, Moraxella, Xanthomonas*, and *Acinetobacter.*

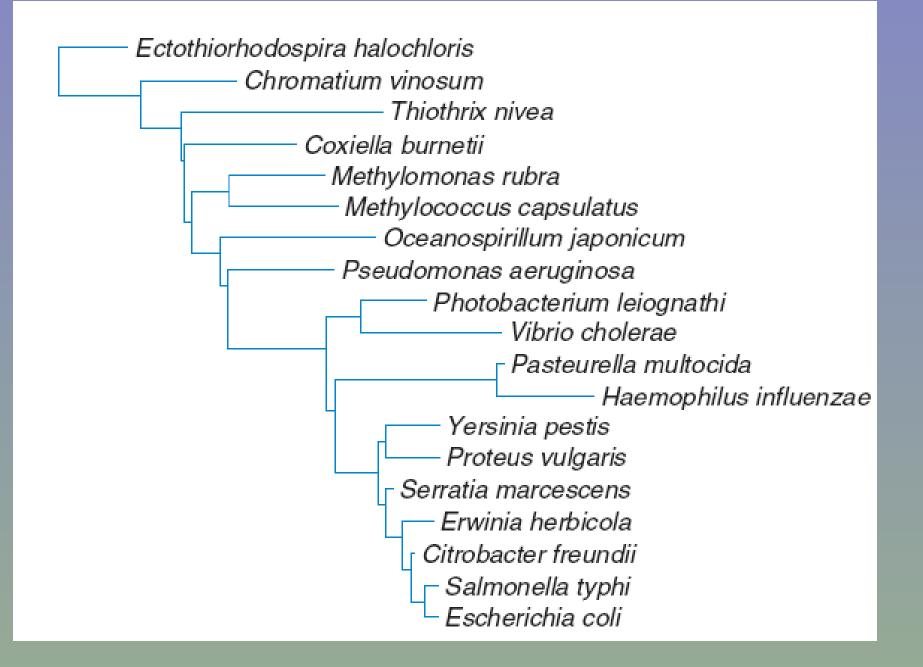


Table 22.5 C	Characteristics of Selected γ-Prot	eobacteria		
Genus	Dimensions (µm) and Morphology	G + C Content (mol%)	Oxygen Requirement	Other Distinctive Characteristics
Azotobacter	 1.5–2.0; ovoid cells, pleomorphic, peritrichous or nonmotile 	63.2–67.5	Aerobic	Can form cysts; fix nitrogen nonsymbiotically
Beggiatoa	≈1-50 × ≈2-10; colorless cells form filaments, either single or in colonies	37–51	Aerobic or microaerophilic	Gliding motility; can form sulfur inclusions with hydrogen sulfide present
Chromatium	1-6 × 1.5-16; rod-shaped or ovoid, straight or slightly curved, polar flagella	48-70	Anaerobic	Photolithoautotroph that can use sulfide; sulfur stored within the cell
Ectothiorhodospira	0.5–1.5 in diameter; vibrioid- or rod-shaped, polar flagella	50.5-69.7	Anærobic, some aerobic or microærobic	Internal lamellar stacks of membranes; deposits sulfur granules outside cells
Escherichia	1.1−1.5 × 2−6; straight rods, peritrichous or nonmotile	48-52	Facultatively anaerobic	Mixed acid fermenter; formic acid converted to H ₂ and CO ₂ , lactose fermented, citrate not used
Haemophilus	<1.0 in width; coccobacilli or rods, nonmotile	3347	Facultative or aerobic	Fermentative; requires growth factors present in blood; parasites on mucous membranes
Leucothrix	Long filaments of short cylindrical cells, usually holdfast is present	46-51	Aerobic	Dispersal by gonidia, filaments don't glide; rosettes formed; heterotrophic
Methylococcus	 1.0 in diameter; cocci with capsules, nonmotile 	6263	Aerobic	Can form a cyst; methane, methanol, and formaldehyde are sole carbon and energy sources
Photobacterium	0.8–1.3 × 1.8–2.4; straight, plump rods with polar flagella	4044	Facultatively anaerobic	Two species can emit blue-green light; Na ⁺ needed for growth
Pseudomonas	0.5-1.0 × 1.5-5.0; straight or slightly curved rods, polar flagella	58-70	Aerobic	Respiratory metabolism with oxygen as acceptor; some are able to use H ₂ or CO as energy source
Vibrio	0.5–0.8 × 1.4–2.6; straight or curved rods with sheathed polar flagella	38–51	Facultatively anaerobic	Fermentative or respiratory metabolism; sodium ions stimulate or are needed for growth; oxidase positive

The Purple Sulfur Bacteria

- The purple photosynthetic bacteria are distributed between **three** subgroups of the proteobacteria.
- They have common properties.
- Bergey's Manual divides the purple sulfur bacteria into two families: the Chromatiaceae and Ectothiorhodospiraceae.
- *Ectothiorhodospira* has red, spiral-shaped, polarly flagellated cells that deposit sulfur globules <u>externally</u>.

Family I. Chromatiaceae
Genus I. Chromatium
Genus II. Allochromatium
Genus III. Halochromatium
Genus IV. Isochromatium
Genus V. <i>Lamprobacter</i>
Genus VI. <i>Lamprocystis</i>
Genus VII. Marichromatium
Genus VIII. <i>Nitrosococcus</i>
Genus IX. <i>Pfennigia</i>
Genus X. Rhabdochromatium
Genus XI. Thermochromatium
Genus XII. Thioalkalicoccus
Genus XIII. <i>Thiocapsa</i>
Genus XIV. Thiococcus
Genus XV. <i>Thiocystis</i>
Genus XVI. Thiodictyon
Genus XVII. Thioflavicoccus
Genus XVIII. <i>Thiohalocapsa</i>
Genus XIX. <i>Thiolamprovum</i>
Genus XX. <i>Thiopedia</i>
Genus XXI. Thiorhodococcus
Genus XXII. Thiorhodovibrio
Genus XXIII. Thiospirillum

Family II. Ectothiorhodospiraceae Genus I. Ectothiorhodospira . . Genus II. Arhodomonas Genus III. Halorhodospira . . . Genus IV. Nitrococcus Genus V. Thioalkalivibrio Genus VI. Thiorhodospira . . .

Characteristic	Purple Sulfur	
Major photosynthetic pigments	Bacteriochlorophyll a or b	
Morphology of photosynthetic membranes	Photosynthetic system contained in spherical or lamellar membrane complexes that are continuous with the	
Photosynthetic electron donors	plasma membrane H ₂ , H ₂ S, S	
Sulfur deposition Nature of photosynthesis	Inside the cell ^c Anoxygenic	
General metabolic type	Obligately anaerobic photolithoautotrophs	
Motility	Motile with polar flagella; some are peritrichously flagellated	
Percent G + C	45–70	

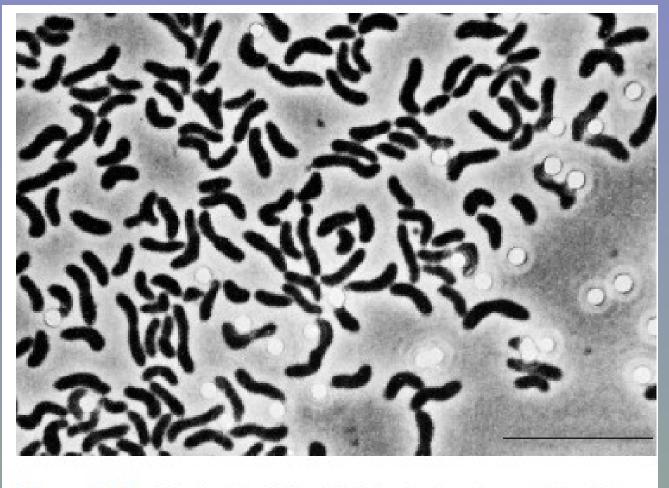
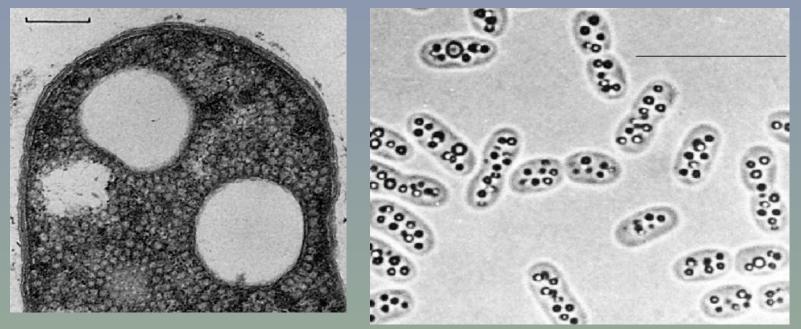


Figure 22.17 Purple Bacteria. *Ectothiorhodospira mobilis;* light micrograph. Bar = $10 \mu m$.

The Purple Sulfur Bacteria

• Internal photosynthetic membranes are organized as lamellar stacks. The typical purple sulfur bacteria are located in the family *Chromatiaceae*, which is much larger and contains 22 genera.



.Chromatium vinosum with intracellular sulfur granules

The Purple Sulfur Bacteria

- Thiospirillum, Thiocapsa, and Chromatium are typical purple sulfur bacteria. They are found in anaerobic, sulfide-rich zones of lakes.
- Large blooms of purple sulfur bacteria occur in bogs and lagoons under the proper conditions.



Purple Photosynthetic Sulfur Bacteria. (a) Purple photosynthetic sulfur bacteria growing in a bog. (b) A sewage lagoon with a bloom of purple photosynthetic bacteria.

The family *Pseudomonadaceae* was circumscribed for this volume on the basis of phylogenetic analysis of 16S rRNA sequences; the family contains the genera *Pseudomonas* (type genus), *Azomonas*, *Azotobacter*, *Cellvibrio*, *Mesophilobacter*, *Rhizobacter*, and *Rugamonas*. *Serpens* is also included.

Aerobic chemoorganotrophs with respiratory metabolism. Most are motile by means of flagella. *Azomonas* and *Azotobacter* fix nitrogen; *Azotobacter* forms cysts. *Type genus*: **Pseudomonas** Migula 1894, 237^{AL} (Nom. Cons.,

Pseudomonas

- The genus *Pseudomonas* contains straight or slightly gramnegative curved rods, 0.5 to 1.0 m by 1.5 to 5.0 m in length, that are motile by one or several polar flagella and lack prosthecae or sheaths.
- These chemoheterotrophs are aerobic and carry out respiratory metabolism with O2 (and sometimes nitrate) as the electron acceptor. All pseudomonads have a functional tricarboxylic acid cycle and can oxidize substrates to CO2.
- Pseudomonas aeruginosa, P. fluorescens, P. putida, and P. syringae are members of this group.

Pseudomonas

- *P. fluorescens* are involved in the spoilage of refrigerated milk, meat, eggs, and seafood because they grow at 4°C and degrade lipids and proteins.
- *P. aeruginosa* infects people with low resistance such as cystic fibrosis patients and invades burn areas or causes urinary tract infections.
- *P. syringae* is a plant pathogen. (Blithe)
- *P. putida* can do microbial breakdown of organic materials to inorganic substances. (mineralization process).

Species	Toxins	Target or mechanism
P. syringae		
P. syringae pathovar atropurpurea	Coronatine	
P. syringae pathovar coronafaciens	Tabtoxinine-β-lactam	Glutamine synthetase
P. syringae pathovar garcae	Tabtoxinine-β-lactam	Glutamine synthetase
P. syringae pathovar glycinea	Coronatine, polysaccharide	,
P. syringae pathovar lachrymans	Polysaccharides	
P. syringae pathovar maculicola	Coronatine	
P. syringae pathovar morsprunorum	Coronatine	
P. syringae pathovar phaseolicola ^b	Phaseolotoxin	Ornithine transcarbamylase
P. syringae pathovar savastanoi ^b	Indole acetate, cytokinins	
syringae pathovar syringae Syringomycins		Plasma membrane
, , , , , ,	Syringopeptins	
	Syringotoxins	Plasma membrane
P. syringae pathovar tabaci	Tabtoxinine-β-lactam	Glutamine synthetase
P. syringae pathovar tagetis	Tagetitoxin	Chloroplastic RNA polymerase
P. syringae pathovar tomato	Coronatine	
P. tolaasii	Tolaasin	Plasma membrane

TABLE BXII.y.109. Some toxins produced by phytopathogenic *Pseudomonas* species and pathovars^a

^aFor symbols see standard definitions. Modified from Durbin (1992). The nomenclature used is the one preceding the proposal by Gardan et al. (1992).

^b *P. syringae* pathovar *savastanoi* is described in this treatment as an independent species, *P. savastanoi*, and pathovar *phaseolicola* is considered as a pathovar of *P. savastanoi*, see description of this species in the list of species).





.Pseudomonas putida KT2442



Figure 22.24 Pseudomonas Fluorescence. Pseudomonas aeruginosa colonies fluorescing under ultraviolet light.

FAMILY I. PSEUDOMONADACEAE

Characteristics	P. aeruginosa	P. balearica	P. putida	P. stutzeri
Type of colony:				
Smooth	+		+	
Wrinkled		+		+
Number of flagella	1	1	>1	1
Hydrolysis of:				
Gelatin	+	—	-	—
Starch	—	+	-	+
Utilization of:				
Maltose	<u></u>	+	d	+
Xylose		+	d	_
γ-Aminobutyrate	_	-	d	d
Malate	d	+	_	+
Suberate	d	—	1	d
Mannitol	+	—	—	d
Ethylene glycol		—		+
Denitrification	+	+	_	+
Growth at:				
42°C	+	+	1.00	d
46°C	120	+	-	d
Growth in media with 8.5% NaCl		+		-
Fatty acid content (%):				
C _{17:0} cyclo	0.8	4.71	>5	0.28 - 1.72
C _{19:0} cyclo	1.2	3.8	Traces	0.32-1.45
Mol% G + C of the DNA	67	64.1-64.4	60.7-62.5	60.9-64.9

TABLE BXII.y.114. Characteristics differentiating Pseudomonas aeruginosa, P. balearica, P. stutzeri, and P. putida^a

^aFor symbols see standard definitions. Data from Bennasar et al. (1996) and Stanier et al. (1966).

Vibrionaceae

- Members of the family Vibrionaceae are gram-negative, straight or curved rods with polar flagella. Most are oxidase positive, and all use D-glucose as their sole or primary carbon and energy source.
- The majority are aquatic microorganisms, widespread in freshwater and the sea. There are six genera in the family: *Vibrio, Photobacterium, Enhydrobacter, Salinivibrio, Listonella,* and *Allomonas.*

Vibrio

- V. cholerae is the causative agent of cholera.
- *V. parahaemolyticus* sometimes causes gastroenteritis in humans following consumption of contaminated seafood.
- *V. anguillarum* and others are responsible for fish diseases.

V. cholera

- The Vibrio cholerae genome has now been sequenced and found to contain 3,885 open reading frames (ORF) distributed between two circular chromosomes, chromosome 1 (2.96 million base pairs) and chromosome 2 (1.07 million bp).
- The larger chromosome primarily has genes for essential cell functions such as DNA replication, transcription, and protein synthesis. It also has most of the virulence genes (e.g., the cholera toxin gene is located in an integrated CTX phage on chromosome 1).
- Chromosome 2 also has essential genes such as transport genes and ribosomal protein genes. Copies of some genes are present on both chromosomes

both chromosomes.



Figure 21-4. Vibrio cholerae growing on thiosulfate-citrate-bile saltsucrose agar. Notice the yellow color of the colonies. Other colonies of Vibrio species will appear green on this medium. Image courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

TREATMENT AND PREVENTION

Successful therapy of cholera requires prompt replacement of fluids and electrolytes. Oral rehydration therapy is usually the first therapy attempted; however, if the dehydration cannot be corrected by oral administration of fluids, intravenous administration of fluids can be given. Tetracycline reduces the severity and length of disease.

Family Thiotrichaceae

- Family Thiotrichaceae: Beggiatoa, Leucothrix, Thiotrix
- Two of the best-studied gliding genera in this family: Beggiatoa and Thiothrix : Internal S granule.
- The name (gliding) is derived from the tendency of members to glide over moist surfaces. The gliding property evidently involves rotation of filaments or fibers just under the outer membrane of the cell wall. They do not have flagella.

Beggiatoa

- Beggiatoa is microaerophilic and grows in sulfide-rich habitats such as sulfur springs, freshwater with decaying plant material, rice paddies, salt marshes, and marine sediments.
- Its filaments contain short, disklike cells and lack a sheath. *Beggiatoa* is very versatile metabolically. It oxidizes hydrogen sulfide to form large sulfur grains located in pockets formed by invaginations of the plasma membrane.

Beggiatoa

 Beggiatoa can subsequently oxidize the sulfur to sulfate. The electrons are used by the electron transport chain in energy production. Many strains also can grow heterotrophically with acetate as a carbon source, and some may incorporate CO₂ autotrophically.

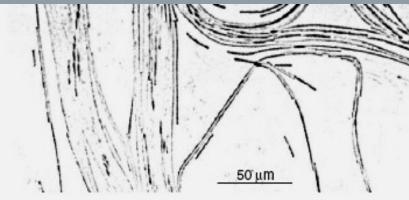
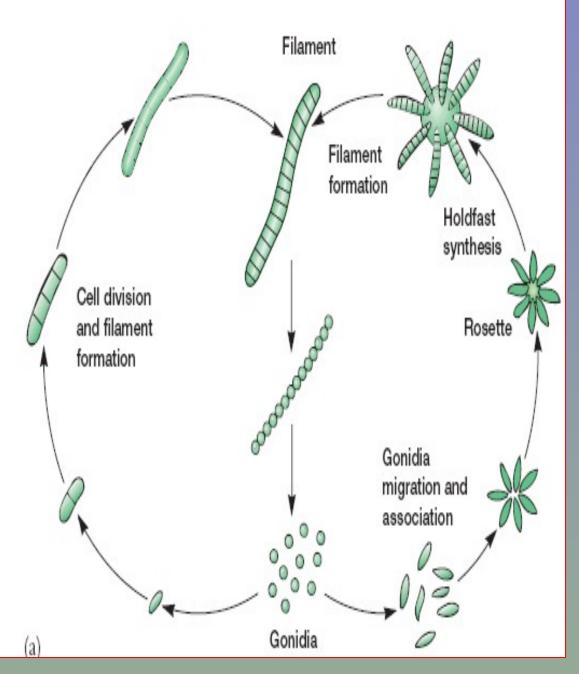


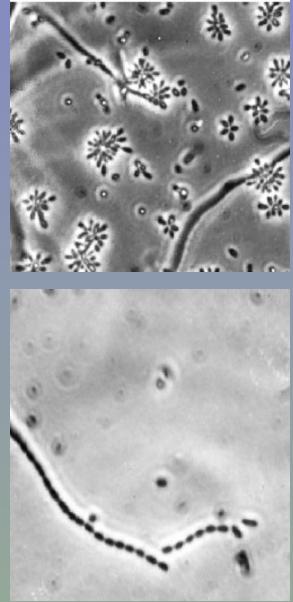
Figure 22.20 Beggiatoa. Beggiatoa sp. colony growing on agar.

Leucothrix

- Leucothrix is an aerobic chemoorganotroph that forms long filaments or trichomes up to 400 µ long. It is usually marine and is attached to solid substrates by a holdfast.
- Leucothrix has a complex life cycle in which dispersal is by the formation of gonidia. Rosette formation often is seen in culture.



.Leucothrix mucor



Thiothrix

- **Thiothrix** is a related genus that forms sheathed filaments and releases gonidia from the **open** end of the sheath.
- Thiothrix is a chemolithotroph that oxidizes hydrogen sulfide and deposits sulfur granules internally. It also requires an organic compound for growth (i.e., it is a mixotroph). Thiothrix grows in sulfide-rich flowing water and activated sludge sewage systems.

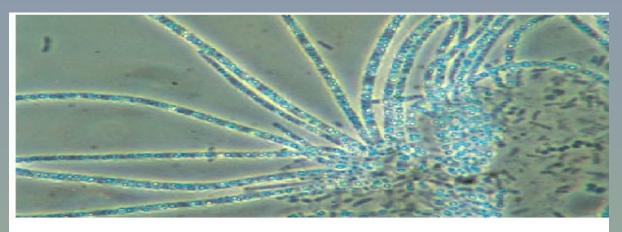


Figure 22.22 *Thiothrix.* A *Thiothrix* colony viewed with phasecontrast microscopy (×1,000).

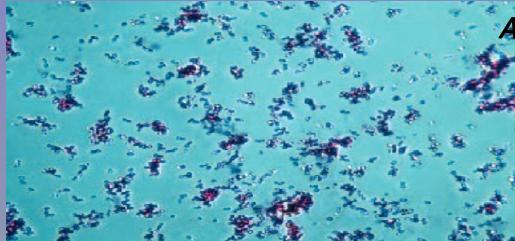
Mixotrophy

 Mixotrophy: A mode of metabolism in which energy is obtained by the oxidation of an inorganic substrate, and carbon is obtained from an organic substrate (and sometimes also from the fixation of CO2 via an autotrophic pathway). The genus Azotobacter also is in the family Pseudomonadaceae. The genus contains large, ovoid bacteria, 1.5 to 2.0 µ in diameter, that may be motile by peritrichous flagella. The cells are often pleomorphic, ranging from

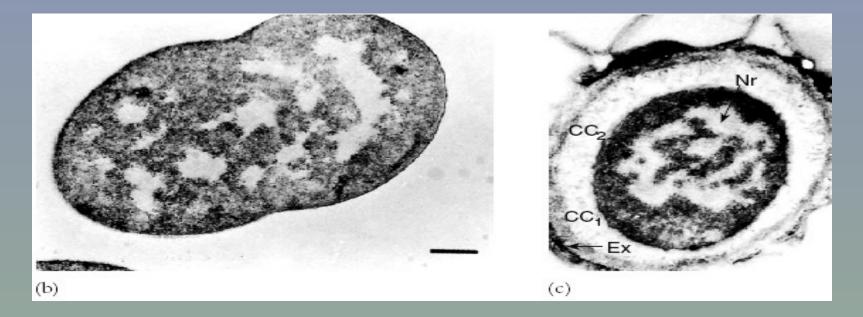
- rods to coccoid shapes, and form **cysts** as the culture ages.
- The genus is aerobic, catalase positive, and fixes nitrogen nonsymbiotically. *Azotobacter* is widespread in soil and water.

Cyst

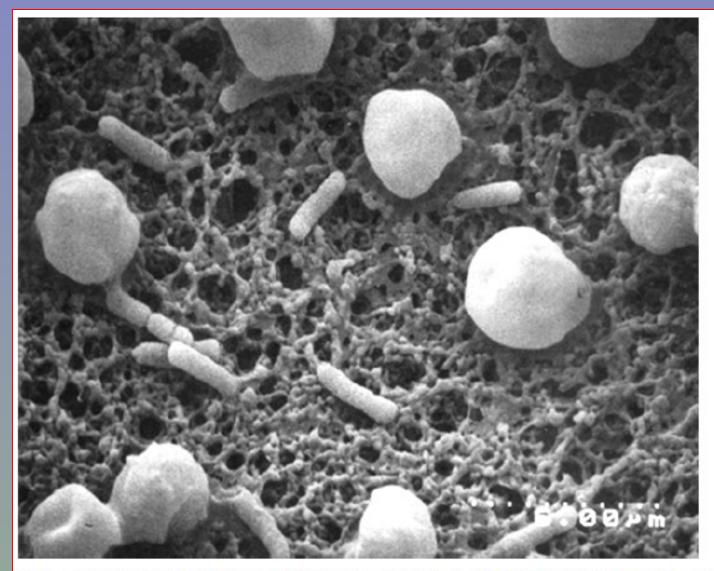
- Cyst-formation occurs maximally in old cultures on nitrogen-free media containing 0.2% butanol.
- During cyst formation (*encystment*), an organism produces a thick or thin wall within which it becomes totally enclosed. Cysts are usually resistant to desiccation, and may be resistant to e.g. ultraviolet radiation and/or heat.



Azotobacter chroococcum



In cyst: The nuclear region (Nr), exine layers (CC1 and CC2), and .exosporium (Ex) are visible



.132. Scanning electron micrograph of *E. coli* and *A. vinelandii* vegetative cells, \times 1000 magnifiduced with permission from E.T. Efuet et al., Journal of Basic Microbiology *36:* 229–234, 1996,

Enterobacteriaceae

- The family *Enterobacteriaceae* contains gram-negative, peritrichously flagellated or nonmotile, facultatively anaerobic, straight rods with simple nutritional requirements.
- It has 41 genera and often called **enterobacteria** or **enteric bacteria**.
- The family can be divided into **two** groups based on their fermentation products. The majority (e.g., *Escherichia, Proteus, Salmonella, and Shigella*) carry out **mixed acid fermentation** and produce mainly lactate, acetate, succinate, formate (or H2 and CO2), and <u>slightly</u> ethanol (**Methyl Red** Test).
- Enterobacter, Serratia, Erwinia, and Klebsiella are butanediol fermenters. They produce mixed alcohols and slightly acids. (Voges-Proskauer test)
- Because the enteric bacteria are so similar in morphology, biochemical tests are normally used to identify them after examination of their morphology, motility, and growth responses.



A state-of-the-art medium developed for culturing and identifying the most common urinary pathogens. CHROMagar Orientation[™] uses color-forming reactions to distinguish at least seven species and permits rapid identification and treatment.

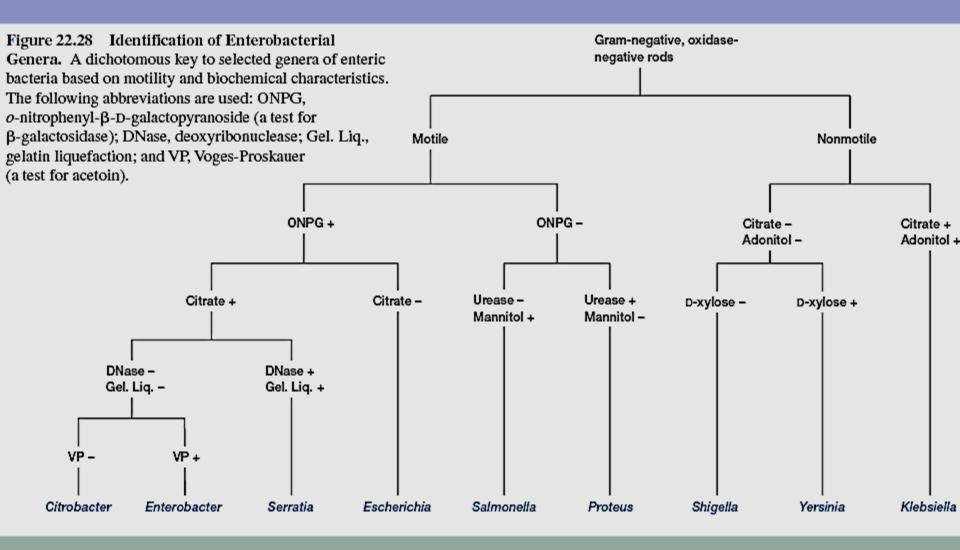


Table 22.7	Some Characteristics	of Selected Genera	in the Enterobacteriaceae
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Characteristics	Escherichia	Shigella	Salmonella	Citrobacter	Proteus
Methyl red	+	+	+	+	+
Voges-Proskauer	-	-	-	-	d
Indole production	(+)	d	-	d	d
Citrate use	-	-	(+)	+	d
H ₂ S production	-	-	(+)	d	(+)
Urease	2	-	-	(+)	+
β-galactosidase	(+)	d	d	+	-
Gas from glucose	+	-	(+)	+	+
Acid from lactose	+	-	(-)	d	-
Phenylalanine deaminase	-	-	-	-	+
Lysine decarboxylase	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
Ornithine decarboxylase	(+)	d	(+)	(+)	d
Motility	d	-	(+)	+	+
Gelatin liquifaction (22°C)	-	-	-	-	+
% G + C	48-52	49-53	50-53	50-52	38-41
Other characteristics	$1.1-1.5 \times$	No gas from	$0.7-1.5 \times 2-5 \mu m;$	$1.0 \times 2.0-6.0 \mu{ m m};$	0.4-0.8 ×
	2.0-6.0 μm; peri when motile	itrichous sugars	peritrichous flagella	peritrichous	1.0-3.0 μm; peritrichous

en en E. coll en en

- Escherichia coli is undoubtedly the beststudied bacterium and the experimental organism of choice for many microbiologists. It is an inhabitant of the colon of humans and other warm-blooded animals, and it is quite useful in the analysis of water for fecal contamination (Index): MPN Test (Most Probability Number)
- Some strains cause gastroenteritis or urinary tract infections.

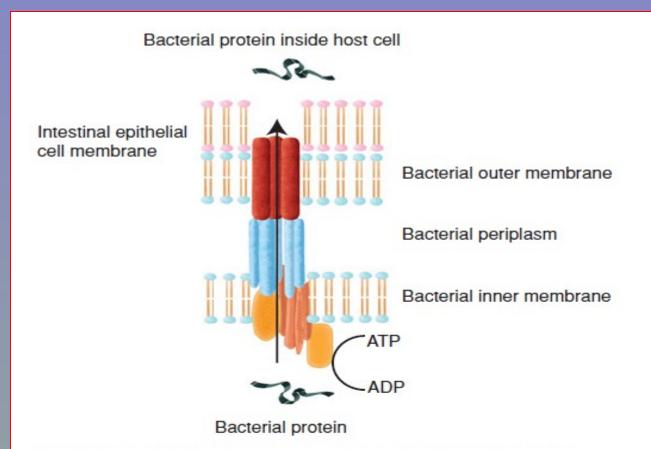


Figure 21-1. A schematic of the type III bacterial secretory system. Contact between the bacteria and host cell induces the bacterial cell to produce the proteins needed to construct the type III bacterial secretion system. EPEC produces the proteins that form a channel between the cytoplasm of the bacterium and the cytoplasm of the host cell so that bacterial proteins can be placed in the host cell. Some of these bacterial proteins cause alterations in the glycocalyx of the epithelial cells in the small bowel. ATP, adenosine triphosphate; ADP, adenosine diphosphate.

Enterobacteriaceae

- Several enteric genera contain very important human pathogens responsible for a variety of diseases: Salmonella, typhoid fever and gastroenteritis; Shigella, bacillary dysentery (S. dysenteria); Klebsiella, pneumonia; Yersinia, plague (Y. pestis).
- Members of the genus **Erwinia** are major pathogens of crop plants and cause blights, wilts, and several other plant diseases.
- E. carotovora (Soft rot in fruits)

Family Pasteurellaceae

- The family contains **six** genera: <u>Pasteurella</u>, <u>Haemophilus</u>, Actinobacillus, Lonepinella, Mannheimia, and Phocoenobacter.
- Pasteurella multilocida and P. haemolytica are important animal pathogens. P. multilocida is responsible for birds cholera, which destroys many chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese each year. P. haemolytica is at least partly responsible for pneumonia in cattle, sheep, and goats.
- *H. Influenzae* type b is a major human pathogen that causes a variety of diseases, including meningitis in children.

Table 22.6 Characteristics of Families of Facultatively Anaerobic Gram-Negative Rods

Characteristics	Enterobacteriaceae	Vibrionaceae	Pasteurellaceae
Cell dimensions	0.3–1.0 × 1.0–6.0 μm	0.3–1.3 × 1.0–3.5 μm	$0.2-0.3 \times 0.3-2.0 \mu m$
Morphology	Straight rods; peritrichous flagella or nonmotile	Straight or curved rods; polar flagella	Coccoid to rod-shaped cells, sometimes pleomorphic; nonmotile
Physiology	Oxidase negative	Oxidase positive; all can use D-glucose as sole or principal carbon source	Oxidase positive; heme and/or NAD often required for growth; organic nitrogen source required
G + C content	38-60%	38–63%	38–47%
Symbiotic relationships	Some parasitic on mammals and birds; some species plant pathogens	Most not pathogens (with a few exceptions)	Parasites of mammals and birds
Representative genera	Escherichia, Shigella, Salmonella, Citrobacter, Klebsiella, Enterobacter, Erwinia, Serratia, Proteus, Yersinia	Vibrio, Photobacterium	Pasteurella, Haemophilus

TABLE 4.6				
Medically Important Families and Genera of Bacteria, with Notes on Some Diseases*				
I. Bacteria with gram-positive cell wall structure Cocci in clusters or packets that are aerobic or facultative Family Micrococcaceae: <i>Staphylococcus</i> (members cause boils, skin infections)				
Cocci in pairs and chains that are facultative Family Streptococcaceae: <i>Streptococcus</i> (species cause strep throat, dental caries)				
Anaerobic cocci in pairs, tetrads, irregular clusters Family Peptococcaceae: <i>Peptococcus, Peptostreptococcus</i> (involved in wound infections)				
Spore-forming rods Family Bacillaceae: <i>Bacillus</i> (anthrax), <i>Clostridium</i> (tetanus, gas gangrene, botulism)				
Non-spore-forming rods Family Lactobacillaceae: Lactobacillus, Listeria (milk-borne disease), Erysipelothrix (erysipeloid) Family Propionibacteriaceae: Propionibacterium (involved in acne)				
Family Corynebacteriaceae: Corynebacterium (diphtheria)				
Family Mycobacteriaceae: Mycobacterium (tuberculosis, leprosy)				
Family Nocardiaceae: Nocardia (lung abscesses)				
Family Actinomycetaceae: Actinomyces (lumpy jaw), Bifidobacterium				
Family Streptomycetaceae: Streptomyces (important source of antibiotics)				
II. Bacteria with gram-negative cell wall structure Family Neisseriaceae Aerobic cocci <i>Neisseria</i> (gonorrhea, meningitis), <i>Branhamella</i> Aerobic coccobacilli <i>Moraxella, Acinetobacter</i> Anaerobic cocci Family Veillonellaceae <i>Veillonella</i> (dental disease) Miscellaneous rods <i>Brucella</i> (undulant fever), <i>Bordetella</i> (whooping cough), <i>Francisella</i> (tularemia)				
Aerobic rods Family Pseudomonadaceae: <i>Pseudomonas</i> (pneumonia, burn infections) Miscellaneous: <i>Legionella</i> (Legionnaires' disease) Facultative or anaerobic rods and vibrios Family Enterobacteriaceae: <i>Escherichia, Edwardsiella, Citrobacter, Salmonella</i> (typhoid fever), <i>Shigella</i> (dysentery), <i>Klebsiella, Enterobacter, Serratia, Proteus, Yersinia</i> (one species causes plague)				
Family Vibronaceae: Vibrio (cholera, food infection), Campylobacter, Aeromonas				
Miscellaneous genera: Chromobacterium, Flavobacterium, Haemophilus (meningitis), Pasteurella, Cardiobacterium, Streptobacillus				
Anaerobic rods Family Bacteroidaceae: <i>Bacteroides, Fusobacterium</i> (anaerobic wound and dental infections)				
Helical and curviform bacteria Family Spirochaetaceae: <i>Treponema</i> (syphilis), <i>Borrelia</i> (Lyme disease), <i>Leptospira</i> (kidney infection)				
Obligate intracellular bacteria Family Rickettsiaceae: Rickettsia (Rocky Mountain spotted fever), Coxiella (Q fever) Family Bartonellaceae: Bartonella (trench fever, cat scratch disease) Family Chlamydiaceae: Chlamydia (sexually transmitted infection)				
III. Bacteria with no cell walls Family Mycoplasmataceae: <i>Mycoplasma</i> (pneumonia), <i>Ureaplasma</i> (urinary infection)				