



University of Jordan  
Faculty of Medicine



Medical Committee  
The University of Jordan

Introduction to

# Microbiology

Title :

Gram negative coccobacilli and cocci

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# : 18

- Slides
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- Sheet

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Price: .....

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## Gram negative coccobacilli and cocci

- **Haemophilus Group:**

-many types associated with normal flora of upper respiratory tract

-might look like small bacilli or long bacilli consist of small bacilli attached together . no single cocci or bacilli .

**Haemophilus influenzae type b :-**

-haemophilus :- haemo --- blood / philus --- loving , means blood-loving organism (love to be associated with blood )

-influnzae : in relation to outbreak of influenza in 1918-1920 in Europe (in that time they didn't know that influenza caused by virus and found H.influnzae in the respiratory tract of the patients )

-more invasive than other species which can produce localized infections but less pathogenic

-it's an fastidious organism which means require certain environmental factors ( not easily cultured ) , can be easily die at room temperature due to activation of lysins in cell wall (specimens must be cultured without delay )

-requires 2 nutritional factors ( V,X factors ) which found in cell membrane of red blood cells

**\*virulence factors :**

1)presense of capsule.

2)endotoxins , part of cell wall similar to lipopolysaccharide in gram -ve cells but in less amount

3) certain pili for attachment and investment

**\*pathogenesis :-**

-common cause of children meningitis (especially 6 months to 5 years )

-first causes sore throat , then might disseminated to blood stream causing sepsis , and to CSF causing meningitis

-might also cause otitis media, sinusitis, conjunctivitis and bronchopneumonia ( if there is immunodeficiency )

-type b is responsible of 90% of H.influnae infections .

**\*lab diagnosis :**

1) to detect it, we collect specimens as the following :

\*in case of meningitis ---CSF sample

\*in case of sore throat --- throat swap

\*in case of sepsis ---- blood sample

\*but in children < 5 years --- all of these types .

2)gram staining

3) culture :-

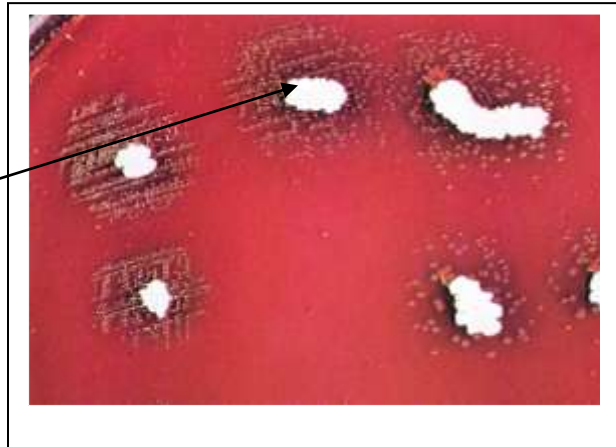
\*blood agar with growth factors V (NAD), X(part of hemoglobin - hemin)

\*chocolate agar (which is heated blood which causes the destruction of red blood cells and releasing of growth factors )

\*blood agar with hemolytic staph :- hemolytic staph will cause hemolysis of RBCs , releasing growth factors , H.influenzae appear in colonies surrounding the white color of staph ,this is called **satellitism**

-this picture shows the growth of H.influenzae in blood agar with Hemolytic staph

Satellitism : small colonies around large ones



4)biochemical test (in case of CSF sample ) to recognize if there is Increase of the amount of protein and decrease of the amount of sugar

Because any organism multiplication in CSF utilizes glucose and causes lysis of cell , releasing proteins

5) pathological test to look for the presence of white blood cells , polymorphic nuclear cells which indicates the presence of infection

\*clinical feature of meningitis : fever and rigidity in the neck

**\*treatment and vaccination :-**

-Treatment by antibiotics

-there is a vaccine called Hib-vaccine , recently added to the triple vaccine

-rare now in Jordan for causing meningitis

-this pictures shows a CSF sample containing H.influenzae



• **Bordetella pertussis :**

-bordetella : scientist from Belgium, who discovered it

-pertussis = **whooping cough** which is form of prolong cough for 2 min and might reach 30 min.

-release pertussis toxin which produce a form of hemolytic reaction to the hair like structures in bronchi of lung + can damage RBC .

-child suffer from cyanosis (lack of O<sub>2</sub> in blood ) --> disstress --> paralysis in respiratory tract --> death

- If adult no immunized can gain the disease from their children .

-might result in damage of respiratory tract

-killer number 1 for children who aren't immunized

-any delay in the treatment will result in long life damage and allergic reactions in the respiratory tract (asthma)

-if the person isn't immunized the body might to some extent produce antibodies originated from organisms which has similar pathogenicity called bordetella parapertussis (produce less toxins)

-**vaccination** : triple vaccine (DTP) with diphtheria and tetanus in form of inactivated or depleted pertussis cells (not virulent )

-**treatment** : antibiotics (at early stage) before releasing of large amount of toxins.

\***diagnosis** : very difficult

-less culture ( lab diagnosis ) .

-by using a molecular technique called PCR

-symptoms: fever , pale face

but might be confused with other cases such as b. Para-pertussis (newest physicians haven't seen cases of pertussis that's why they might misdiagnose similar diseases and think it's para-pertussis )

-no pertussis in Jordan due to immunization

- **Neisseria and Moraxella group :-**

-gram –ve diplococci ( kidney-shape )

-oxidase and catalase +ve

-susceptible to environmental factors , damaged autolysis, can't survives in cold temperatures , must be cultured without delay .

-many Neisseria group are not pathogenic , part of respiratory tract normal flora such as (N.sicca, N.flava, N.subflava, N.mucosa )

-the pathogenic species are :

### 1) **Neisseria gonorrhoea :**

-related to genital tract of humans and animals .

-intracellular organism

-causative agent for gonorrhoea ( مرض السيلان )

-gonorrhoea : in relation to flow of fluids

#### **\*Virulent factors :**

-attach to mucosa by pili

-release of enzyme called IgA-protease (damage receptor that prevent attachment ,which allow to attach firmly)

-release endotoxins (Lipooligopolysaccharides ) which are shorter chains than lipopolysaccharides but produce the same effect which is endotoxicity which contributes to the inflammatory process

#### **\*Pathogenesis:**

-**gonorrhoea** :- sexually transmitted disease can be in form of :-

\*Acute inflammation :-sever inflammatory reaction in the urethra associated with high fever and severe abdominal pain and pain during urination

\*subacute

\*chronic or asymptomatic : more in women without symptoms (and if there is symptoms like vaginal discharge , might be from other organisms such as candida) .

\*men often develop acute infection while women often develop chronic.

-causes urethritis (inflammation in the urethra ), cervicitis (inflammation of the cervix ), salpingitis

-rarely produce sepsis (generally not invasive)

-might produce localized infection in the oral cavity

**\*Lab diagnosis :**

-can be detected from urethral discharge in men and vaginal discharge in women

-means releasing of thick yellowish fluid contain large amount of polymorphic nuclear cells in addition to the organism (pus)

-if we do gram staining we will recognize the following :-

Intracellular presence of gram –ve diplococci, if it's outside the cell it's other than Neisseria

-culture media in blood agar - chocolate agar ( to confirm )

-no vaccine available

-Treatment by antibiotics (generally no resistance )

**2)Neisseria meningitidis :-**

-in relation to meningitis

-might found in the respiratory tract without producing inflammation

-in children ages 6 months – 5 years are susceptible to meningitis if they aren't immunized

\*This is because infants before 6 months have immunity from the mother called maternal immunity .

-start infection as sore throat , tonsillitis then might reach blood stream causing sepsis and CSF causing meningitis

-similar in invasiveness with H.influnzae but more than group A streptococcus

\*always acute

**\*virulence factors :** 1)presence of capsule 2)presence of IgA-protease

3) LPS

-there are serotypes A, B, C (middle east A+B / sub-Sahara Africa – A+B+C and other)

-not common in Jordan, acquired from outside

-if one case discovered in any community we have to expect other 100 cases

asymptomatic ( other 100 cases undetectable ) (highly infectious) .

-close family members should be treated with antibiotics to prevent developing of other cases

**\*treatment :** antibiotics in hospital with supportive fluids and isolation for at least 48 hours (same thing as H. influenza and strep. pneumoniae )

-there is a vaccine especially for persons going to endemic areas for at least one year

### **3) Moraxella catarrhalis**

-first called Neisseria catarrhalis but then it's changed due to change of classification of this organism

-catarrhalis : in relation to catarrhal stage –inflammation in the larynx

-Moraxella same as Neisseria gram –ve diplococci

-in certain persons who are heavy smokers or have damage in lungs (have compromised lung )

-despite that it's part of the normal flora , of less pathogenicity compared to N.meningitidis and H.influenzae but might be associated with infection in the larynx and might produce pneumonia

**\*Lab diagnosis :**

1)gram staining

2)culturing

3)biochemical test (oxidase and catalase ) --> +ive

4) full biochemical test

**\*Treatment :** antibiotics .

GOOD LUCK