

Eikenella

The only known representative of this genus is *Eikenella corrodens*, which was discovered in 1958 by M. Eiken. It is a **gram-negative facultative anaerobic rod**. In humans, it can be isolated as a commensal from the oral cavity, gastrointestinal system or female urogenital system. Eikenella is classified in the **HACEK** group (some species of the genus *Haemophilus*, *Actinobacillus*, *Cardiobacterium*, *Eikenella*, *Kingella*), based on similarity in cultivation requirements.

Cultivation

For growth under aerobic conditions, this bacterium requires the presence of **hemin** (factor X) in the culture medium, it grows better in an atmosphere enriched with **carbon dioxide**. On solid culture media, we observe the growth of gray small colonies of two types, namely **corroding colonies** that grow into the agar and **non-corroding colonies**. In one culture, we can observe both types at the same time. Growth can be accompanied by the smell of chlorine. Eikenella is oxidase-positive, catalase-negative, reducing nitrate.

Diseases

Eikenella corrodens has been isolated from **periapical** and **periodontal abscesses** or **gingivitis**. Furthermore, this bacterium plays a role in the etiology of brain abscesses, otitis, sinusitis, aspiration types of pneumonia and lung abscesses, it can be an infectious agent of endocarditis, skin infections, prostatitis or sepsis. It is also used as a pathogen in mixed infections, for example in patients with cancers in the head and neck area, and is often observed in the wound by a bite (*vulnus morsum*). It is also an etiological agent in *needle-licker's osteomyelitis*, which is osteomyelitis in patients with IDM* or intravenous drug users who lick needles before using them.

*from French - infarctus du myocarde

Therapy

Eikenella is resistant to lincosamides, metronidazole, aminoglycosides and vancomycin. Cefoxitin and cefuroxime are suitable for therapy. It is sensitive to penicillin, tetracycline and cephalosporins.

Links

Extern links

- [Eikenella corrodens \(english wikipedia\)](#)

Literature

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- BEDNÁŘ, Marek. *Lékařská mikrobiologie : bakteriologie, virologie, parazitologie*. 1. edition. 1996.
- JULÁK, Jaroslav. *Úvod do lékařské bakteriologie*. 1. edition. Praha : Karolinum, 2006. ISBN 80-246-1270-4.
- VOTAVA, Miroslav, et al. *Lékařská mikrobiologie speciální*. 1. edition. Brno : Neptun, 2003. 495 s. ISBN 80-902896-6-5

Category: Microbiology

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