

Bacteroides

Template:Infobox - bakterie Bacteria of this genus are a significant part of the intestinal flora, some species are potentially pathogenic. Their membrane contains sphingolipids, and there is diaminopimelic acid in their wall.

Bacteroides are **gram-negative** pleomorphic rods with round ends, usually **encapsulated**. They are typical for being **resistant to bile acids**. They massively colonize both the large and small intestine, where they play a role in digesting complex molecules, and the upper respiratory tract. In the vagina the species **B. fragilis**, **B. capillosus**, or **B. ureolyticus** are commensal species. Their endotoxin has low biological activity.

Pathogenicity

B. fragilis is among the most significant pathogens, with a polysaccharide capsule as its virulence factor. It can cause peritonitis, infections during surgery in the gastro-intestinal tract, and appendicitis. It inhibits phagocytosis and like other species of this genus it's resistant to beta-lactames, aminoglycosides, and recently there have appeared strains resistant to erythromycin and tetracycline. Another notable species in the *Bacteroides* genus are *B. ovatus*, *B. vulgatus*, and *B. gracilis*.

Links

Related articles

- Repetitorium mikrobiologie
- Gramnegativní anaerobní tyčinky a koky

External links

- Bacteroides

References

Bibliography

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