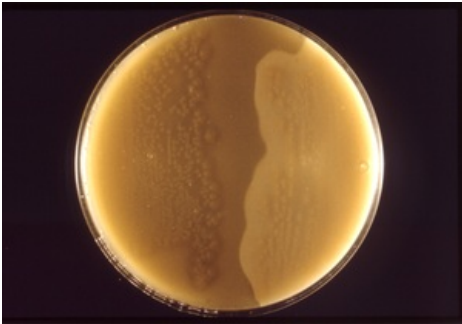


# Clostridium perfringens

<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	
<i>Clostridiaceae</i>	
<i>Clostridium</i>	
	
Colony of Clostridium Perfringens	
<b>Morphology</b>	Gram-positive rods , sporulating
<b>Relation to oxygen</b>	aerotolerant
<b>Cultivation</b>	blood agar , yolk agar
<b>Virulence factors</b>	toxin $\alpha$ , thermolabile toxin (types A, B, D)
<b>Transmission</b>	alimentary route
<b>Occurrence</b>	soil, waste, contaminated food, intestinal tract of herbivores and carnivores
<b>Incubation time</b>	8-14 hours
<b>Disease</b>	gas scab, cellulitis, colic, watery diarrhea , enteritis, enterotoxemia, soft tissue infections, early infection
<b>Diagnostics</b>	clinical picture, microscopic finding of clostridia
<b>Therapy</b>	crystalline penicillin with clindamycin, chloramphenicol, imipenem, metronidazole with clindamycin, surgery
<b>MeSH ID</b>	D003016

Template:Infobox - bakterie *Clostridium perfringens* is a gram-positive , sporulating , aerotolerant bacterium .

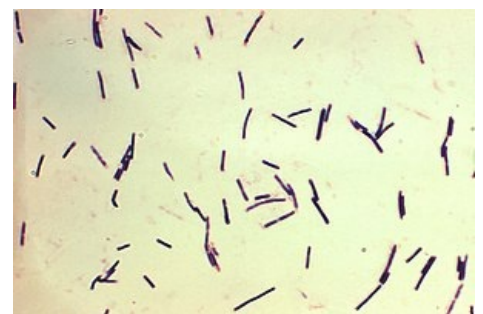
## Occurence

The vegetative cell has the **shape of a rod** , the thickness of which is over 1  $\mu\text{m}$  and the length ranges from 2 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ . **Spores** are **oval** , **thermoresistant** , paracentral, occur commonly in our environment, such as soil, waste and easily contaminate food (especially meat). **Sporulation** takes place **in the intestine** , never in the affected tissue. *Clostridium perfringens* produces many biologically active substances, including toxins and enterotoxin. According to the type of toxin produced, it is divided into five groups (A-E). *Clostridium perfringens* is **part of the normal intestinal microflora** of humans and animals.

## Toxins

All types of *Clostridium perfringens* produce  $\alpha$  toxin (phospholipase C, lecithinase), which has lethal and necrotizing effects. Other effects of toxins include:

- cytotoxicity
- cell membrane lysis and hemolysis
- increase capillary permeability
- lowering blood pressure
- damage to enterocytes and leukocytes , as well as the heart , kidneys and blood vessels



Clostridium Perfringes

Types A, B, D form a **thermolabile enterotoxin** in food , the spores of which are thermo-resistant and can survive even boiling.

## Pathogenesis

*Clostridium perfringens* is one of the most common human pathogens . Presence in the human body can cause histotoxic infections, gas gangrene, cellulitis. However, *Clostridium perfringens* is most often the cause of intestinal diseases (colic, watery diarrhea, enteritis, enterotoxemia). In colic and watery diarrhea, the incubation period is 8-

14 hours after eating contaminated food, the symptoms (diarrhea, convulsions, abdominal pain) persist for about 24 hours. Nausea, fever and vomiting are present minimally.

## Cultivation

Due to the fact that *Clostridium perfringens* belongs to aerotolerant bacteria, its cultivation is relatively easy. **It hydrolyzes gelatin** due to a number of saccharolytic and proteolytic enzymes. Type A forms **a double zone of hemolysis**, while the outer one (with incomplete hemolysis) is given by the action of phospholipase C (toxin  $\alpha$ ). **A zone of opalescence** is evident on the yolk agar, which is also caused by phospholipase C.

## Diagnostics

To diagnose diseases caused by *Clostridium perfringens*, clinical signs, an epidemiological history and microbiological examination must be assessed. In the case of soft tissues, excision is taken from the wound, exudate or part of the damaged tissue.

## Summary

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<mediaplayer width='500' height='300'>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_A8yVY1kBq</mediaplayer>
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## Links

## References

1. BENEŠ, Jiří, et al. *Infectious medicine*. 1st edition. Galén, 2009. 651 pp. 269-270. ISBN 978-80-7262-644-1 .

## References

- BEDNÁŘ, Marek. *Medical microbiology: bacteriology, virology, parasitology*. 1st edition. Prague: Marvil, 1996. ISBN 80-2380-297-6 .
- VOTAVA, Miroslav. *Medical microbiology special*. 1st edition. Brno: Neptun, 2003. ISBN 80-902896-6-5 .
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## Source

- PubMed: Toxin plasmids of *Clostridium perfringens* (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23699255>)
- Nejm: Bacterial Diarrhea (<https://login.ezproxy.is.cuni.cz/login?url=http://www.nejm.org%2fdoi%2fpdf%2f10.1056%2fNEJMcp0904162>)
- NCBI:Clostridia: Sporeforming Anaerobic Bacilli (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK8219/>)

G +	coke	aerobic	<i>Micrococcus</i>	<i>Micrococcus luteus</i>
			<i>Rhodococcus</i>	<i>Rhodococcus equi</i>
		facultatively anaerobic	<i>Enterococcus</i>	<i>Enterococcus durans</i> • <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> • <i>Enterococcus faecium</i>
			<i>Streptococcus</i>	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> • <i>Streptococcus mutans</i> • <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> • <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> • <i>Streptococcus suis</i> • <i>Oral streptococci</i>
	<i>Staphylococcus</i>		<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> • <i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> • <i>Staphylococcus intermedius</i> • <i>Staphylococcus saprophyticus</i>	
	anaerobic	<i>Peptococcus</i>	<i>Peptococcus niger</i>	
		<i>Peptostreptococcus</i>	<i>Peptostreptococcus anaerobius</i> • <i>Peptostreptococcus prevotii</i> • <i>Peptostreptococcus vaginalis</i>	
	sticks	aerobic + facultative anaerobic	<i>Arcanobacter</i>	<i>Arcanobacterium haemolyticum</i>
			<i>Bacillus</i>	<i>Bacillus anthracis</i> • <i>Bacillus cereus</i>
			<i>Corynebacterium</i>	<i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i> • <i>Corynebacterium jeikeium</i> • <i>Corynebacterium ulcerans</i> • <i>Corynebacterium urealyticum</i>
<i>Erysipelothrix</i>			<i>Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae</i>	
<i>Listeria</i>			<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	
<i>Nocardia</i>			<i>Nocardia asteroides</i> • <i>Nocardia brasiliensis</i>	
<i>Rhodococcus</i>			<i>Rhodococcus equi</i>	
anaerobic			<i>Actinomyces</i>	<i>Actinomyces israeli</i> • <i>Actinomyces naeslundii</i>
			<i>Bifidobacterium</i>	<i>Bifidobacterium dentium</i>
			<i>Clostridium</i>	<i>Clostridium botulinum</i> • <i>Clostridium difficile</i> • <i>Clostridium novyi</i> • <i>Clostridium tetani</i> • <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> • <i>Clostridium septicum</i> • <i>Clostridium ulcerans</i>
			<i>Lactobacillus</i>	<i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i>
			<i>Propionibacterium</i>	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i> • <i>Propionibacterium propionicus</i>

coke	aerobic	<i>Acinetobacter</i>	<i>Acinetobacter calcoaceticus</i>
		<i>Moraxella</i>	<i>Moraxella catarrhalis</i> • <i>Moraxella lacunata</i>
		<i>Neisseria</i>	<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> • <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> • Non-pathogenic species of <i>Neisseria</i>
anaerobic			
	<i>Veillonella</i>	<i>Veillonella alcalescens</i> • <i>Veillonella parvula</i>	
cocobacilli	aerobic	<i>Rickettsia</i>	<i>Rickettsia prowazekii</i> • <i>Rickettsia rickettsii</i> • <i>Rickettsia typhi</i>
	aerobic	<i>Alcaligentes</i>	<i>Alkaligentes feacalis</i>
		<i>Bartonella</i>	<i>Bartonella bacilliformis</i> • <i>Bartonella henselae</i> • <i>Bartonella quintana</i>
		<i>Bordetella</i>	<i>Bordetella bronchiseptica</i> • <i>Bordetella parapertussis</i> • <i>Bordetella pertussis</i>
		<i>Brucella</i>	<i>Brucella abortus</i> • <i>Brucella canis</i> • <i>Brucella melitensis</i> • <i>Brucella suis</i>
		<i>Burkholderia</i>	<i>Burkholderia cepacia</i> • <i>Burkholderia mallei</i> • <i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i>
		<i>Francisella</i>	<i>Francisella tularensis</i>
		<i>Legionella</i>	<i>Legionella pneumophila</i>
		<i>Kingella</i>	<i>Kingella denitrificans</i> • <i>Kingella kingae</i> • <i>Kingella oralis</i>
		<i>Pseudomonas</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> • <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>
		<i>Stenotrophomonas</i>	<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>

sticks	facultatively anaerobic	<i>Actinobacillus</i>	<i>Actinobacillus equuli</i> • <i>Actinobacillus lignieresii</i>
		<i>Aeromonas</i>	<i>Aeromonas caviae</i> • <i>Aeromonas hydrophila</i> • <i>Aeromonas sobria</i>
		<i>Afipia</i>	<i>Afipia felis</i>
		<i>Citrobacter</i>	<i>Citrobacter freundii</i> • <i>Citrobacter koseri</i>
		<i>Eikenella</i>	<i>Eikenella corrodens</i>
		<i>Enterobacter</i>	<i>Enterobacter aerogenes</i> • <i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>
		<i>Escherichia</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>
		<i>Haemophilus</i>	<i>Haemophilus ducreyi</i> • <i>Haemophilus haemolyticus</i> • <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> • <i>Haemophilus parainfluenzae</i>
		<i>Klebsiella</i>	<i>Klebsiella granulomatis</i> • <i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i> • <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>
		<i>Pasteurella</i>	<i>Pasteurella haemolytica</i> • <i>Pasteurella multocida</i> • <i>Pasteurella ureae</i>
	<i>Plesiomonas</i>	<i>Plesiomonas shigelloides</i>	
	<i>Proteus</i>	<i>Proteus mirabilis</i> • <i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	
	<i>Salmonella</i>	<i>Salmonella</i> Enteritidis • <i>Salmonella</i> Typhi • <i>Salmonella</i> Paratyphi	
	<i>Serratia</i>	<i>Serratia marcescens</i>	
<i>Shigella</i>	<i>Shigella boydii</i> • <i>Shigella dysenteriae</i> • <i>Shigella flexneri</i> • <i>Shigella sonnei</i>		
<i>Vibrio</i>	<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> • <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>		
<i>Yersinia</i>	<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i> • <i>Yersinia pestis</i> • <i>Yersinia pseudotuberculosis</i>		
microaerophilic		<i>Campylobacter</i>	<i>Campylobacter coli</i> • <i>Campylobacter fetus</i> • <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>
		<i>Helicobacter</i>	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>
anaerobic			
		<i>Bacteroides</i>	<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i> • <i>Bacteroides vulgatus</i>
		<i>Fusobacterium</i>	<i>Fusobacterium necrophorum</i> • <i>Fusobacterium nucleatum</i> • <i>Fusobacterium stabile</i>
		<i>Leptotricha</i>	<i>Leptotricha buccalis</i>
		<i>Mobiluncus</i>	<i>Mobiluncus curtisii</i> • <i>Mobiluncus mulieris</i>
	<i>Prevotella</i>	<i>Prevotella melaninogenica</i>	
	<i>Porphyromonas</i>	<i>Porphyromonas gingivalis</i>	

acid resistant	sticks	aerobic	<i>Mycobacterium</i>	<i>Atypical mycobacteria • Mycobacterium tuberculosis • Mycobacterium leprae</i>
non-stainable G +/-	spiral	strictly aerobic	<i>Leptospira</i>	<i>Leptospira biflexa • Leptospira interrogans • Leptospira parva</i>
		microaerophilic	<i>Borrelia</i>	<i>Borrelia burgdorferi • Borrelia hermsi • Borrelia recurrentis • Borrelia vincenti</i>
		strictly anaerobic	<i>Treponema</i>	<i>Non-pathogenic treponems • Treponema carateum • Treponema pallidum • Treponema phagedenis • Treponema pertenue</i>
Portal: Microbiology				

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