

Lactobacillus

Template:Infobox - bakterie *Lactobacillus* spp. is a group of gram-positive , non- sporulating , anaerobic rods

Meaning and uae

Lactobacilli occur in the human microflora, mainly forming the mucosal flora of the vagina of women of childbearing age. It is a mixture of lactobacilli, often called Döderlein's lactobacillus . These bacteria create an acidic environment in the vagina by fermenting glycogen from disintegrating epithelia into lactic acid. This low pH protects the mucosa from colonization by other microorganisms. In addition, they can produce H_2O_2 , which is also inhibited by other bacteria. The amount of lactobacilli depends on sufficient glycogen secretion . It in turn is dependent on estrogen secretion , so hormonal disorders can cause colpitis .

Lactobacilli (eg *Lactobacillus helveticus*) are used for food preservation, such as the fermentation of cabbage and cucumbers or in the dairy industry for the production of yoghurt, cheese and acidophilic milk.

Biochemical properties

Most lactobacilli ferment glucose and lactose to lactate and hence their name.

Pathogenicity

Lactobacilli are considered non-pathogenic. However, some species have been isolated from the blood of patients with endocarditis or sepsis and from mixed anaerobic infections. It is therefore possible that they are potential pathogens.

Therapy

 They are resistant to vancomycin .

Large doses of penicillin and gentamicin are used during therapy.

Links

Related articles

- Bacteria
- Vagina

References

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- BEDNÁŘ, M, V FRAŇKOVÁ and J SCHINDLER, et al. *Medical microbiology - bacteriology, virology, parasitology*. 1st edition. Prague: Marvil, 1996. 558 pp. ISBN 80-238-0297-6 .

Kategorie:Mikrobiologie Kategorie:Bakterie