

Overview

- Largest collection of gram neg bacteria
- Tests: biochemical properties, (e.g. sugars fermented, enzymes used), molecular methods.
- GI infections, UTIs (70%), septicaemias (30-35%)
- Some are opportunistic
- Motile (peritrichous all over) and non motile
- Asporogenic
- Rapid growth, non selective media
- Aerobic & anaerobic

Structure/Growth

LPS (lipopolysaccharide) :

- O polysaccharide (somatic antigen)
- Core polysaccharide
- Lipid A (toxic to host cell, overstimulation of immune system)
- Typed by antigen -> O/K on capsule, H on flagella.
- Ferment glucose, reduce nitrate
- Catalase + (can break down hydrogen peroxide)
- Cytochrome Oxidase needed as final electron acceptor



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Not published yet.

Last updated 3rd November, 2017.

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