

# Clostridium

*Clostridium* spp.

*Clostridiaceae*

*Clostridium*



Clostridium Perfringens

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Morphology</b>         | G + sticks   |
| <b>Relation to oxygen</b> | anaerobic  |
| <b>Occurrence</b>         | soil, mud, ponds, rivers and the coast, dust, vegetation, many species are commensal in the intestines of vertebrates and humans                                   |
| <b>Disease</b>            | neurointoxication, necrotizing toxin infections, intestinal disease processes  |
| <b>Therapy</b>            | beta lactam ATB (penicillin G), cephalosporins (cefoxitin), deoxylinecomycin, clindamycin, vancomycin, tetracyclines, erythromycin, chloramphenicol, metronidazole |

Template:Infobox - bacteria

An important group of bacteria, whose common characteristics are sensitivity to oxygen and the ability to sporulate. Developmentally, it belongs to a very old group of bacteria with numerous links to archaeobacteria.

- **Morphology:** G + rods, variously long and wide, mostly straight.
- **Occurrence:** Widespread in nature, occur in soil, mud (ponds, rivers, sea coast), dust, vegetation. Many species saprophyte in the gut of vertebrates and humans.

## Disease

Clostridia cause 3 types of disease:

- Neurointoxication (*C. tetani*, *C. botulinum*).
- Necrotizing toxin infection of soft tissues and intra-abdominal organs containing muscle (histotoxic clostridia).
- Intestinal processes (necrotizing enterocolitis, enterotoxemia, pseudomembranous enterocolitis and diarrhea).

## Shortcuts

- *Clostridium botulinum*
- *Clostridium difficile*
- *Clostridium novyi*
- *Clostridium tetani*
- *Clostridium perfringens*
- *Clostridium septicum*
- *Clostridium ulcerans*

## Photo gallery



Clostridium Botulinum



Clostridium Tetani

## Links

### Related articles

- Pseudomembranous enterocolitis
- Botulism
- Tetanus
- Enterotoxins
- Sporulation

### References

- 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 .

| Bacteria |  |
|----------|--|
|          |  |

G +

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



Go

sticks

facultatively  
anaerobic

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