

Organism Directory

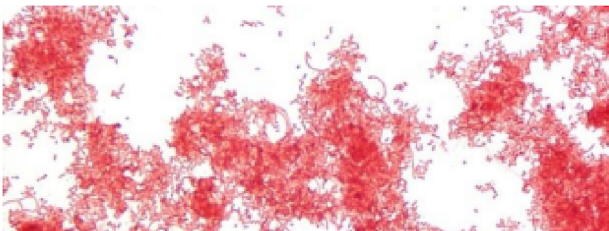
Fusobacterium necrophorum

Introduction

Fusobacterium necrophorum is classically the cause of Lemmierre's disease, a septicaemic illness with associated multi-organ involvement and, in many cases, jugular vein thrombosis. This organism may give rise to pyarthrosis and is associated with zoonotic foot rot infections

Features

- Gram negative bacillus – long/pleomorphic
- Obligate anaerobe at 35-37°C
- 35-37°C for 48-72 hours
- Non-spore former
- Non-motile
- Catalase negative
- Oxidase negative
- Commensal of oral cavity and gastrointestinal tract



F. necrophorum at 48 hours

Appearance

F. necrophorum yields haemolytic round, translucent grey colonies after 48 hours with a small zone of β -haemolysis. After five days the colonies grow larger, develop a yellow-tan colour, umbonate and take on a waxy consistency. The haemolysis becomes more marked with a larger zone at five days. Blood agar cultures fluoresce green under UV light.

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