

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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