

Mycoplasmas

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10:02 PM

Mycoplasma:

- Smallest free-living bacterium (100-300 nm)
- Saprophytes, part of normal flora of oropharynx and genital tract of humans and animals
- Lack true cell wall
- Some species are pathogenic

Mycoplasma Pneumoniae

- Primary cause of atypical pneumonia
- More common in younger individuals (15-35 years)
- Rarely complications lead to meningoencephalitis, myocarditis
- Diagnosis is usually clinical, no lab confirmation
- Treatment: erythromycin or tetracycline

Genital Mycoplasma (Mycoplasma Hominis, Ureaplasma Urealyticum)

- Part of normal genital flora
- Rate of colonization increases with number of sexual partners
- May cause urethritis, epididymitis, pelvic inflammatory disease and postpartum fever
- Infertility and premature birth??

Levels (depth) of infection by fungal pathogens

- Skin to bloodstream:
 - Superficial
 - Cutaneous
 - Subcutaneous
 - Systemic