

# Chlamydiae

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## Chlamydiae:

- Obligate intracellular energy parasites; cocci
  - Can not make their own ATP or other energy intermediates
  - Can not be grown on artificial media
- Life cycle has 2 forms:
  - Elementary body (300 - 400 nm)
    - Infectious form
    - No growth or replication
  - Reticulate body (800 - 1000 nm)
    - Replication and growth

## Chlamydia trachomatis

- STD chlamydia
- Most common STD in Canada and US
- Males: urethritis
- Females: cervicitis
- Many patients are asymptomatic and untreated
  - Limited diagnostic tools
  - Untreated male: prostatitis, epididymitis
  - Untreated female: PID, tubal infertility, ectopic pregnancy, chronic pelvic pain
- 2 biovars: Trachoma and LGV
  - Trachoma: 15 serovars; LGV: 4 serovars
- Other infections
  - Trachoma: chronic ocular infection; leading cause of blindness in Middle East, North Africa and South East Asia
  - Conjunctivitis in newborns >> perinatal transmission
  - Lymphogranuloma venereum: STD from some serotypes of C. trachomatis; endemic in tropical and subtropical countries

## Other Chlamydiae:

- Chlamydia Pneumoniae

~~Chlamydia pneumoniae~~

- Respiratory tract infections, mild pneumonia
- Usually sub-clinical infections
- Chlamydia Psittaci
  - Bird pathogen
  - Can transmit to humans
  - Pneumonia or endocarditis