

Lecture no 6

Brucella

rods

Species

B. abortus cattle, B. melitensis sheep, goat, B. suis pig, B. canis spread to human from dog

Bacteriology

Are small, coccobacillary are Gram negative rods morphology resemble Haemophilus and Bordetella. They are non motile, non acid fast, non spore forming. The cells have atypical G- structure and the outer membrane contains proteins and two major antigenic variants (A,M). Their growth is slow, requiring at least 2-3 days of aerobic incubation in enriched broth or on blood agar. All species produce catalase, oxidase, and urease, but not ferment carbohydrate. They differentiate by carbon dioxide requirements, hydrogen sulphide production, and susceptibility to dyes (thionine and basic fuchsin)

Pathogenesis

All brucella are facultative intracellular parasites of epithelial cells and professional phagocytes. After they penetrate the skin or MM they enter and multiply in macrophage in the liver, sinusoids, spleen, bone marrow.

Diagnosis

Definitive diagnosis requires isolation of brucella from the blood or from biopsy specimens of the liver, bone marrow or L.N. Supplementation with carbon dioxide is needed for growth of B. abortus. Blood cultures may require 2 to 4 weeks for growth. The diagnosis is made serologically. Antibodies that agglutinate suspension of heat-killed organisms typically reach titers of 1:640 or more in acute disease. Lower titers may of previously human brucellosis reflect previous disease or cross-reacting antibodies.

products

Tetracycline, Doxycycline

Prevention

The control of human brucellosis relates directly to prevention programs in domestic animals and avoiding unpasteurized milk and milk products. In slaughter houses, important means of prevention include careful wound dressing, protective glasses and clothing, prohibition of raw meat ingestion, and the use of previously infected immune individuals in high risk areas

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