

Lecture no7

Clostridium

CL.tetani

Disease:Tetanus

CL secrete two toxin

1-tetanospasmin

2-tetanolysin

pore

L.D

There is no microbiologic or serologic diagnosis. Organisms are rarely isolated from the wound site. CL.tetani produce a terminal spore at the end of the rod. This gives the organisms the characteristic appearance of a tetanus racket G+ or drum stick.

Treatment

maintained and respiratory support.

Tetanus immune globulin(tetanus antitoxin) is used to neutralize the toxin. Adequate airway must be

Maintained and respiratory support given.

Clostridium botulinum blocks the release of acetylcholine

Disease:Botulinum

Pathogenesis

Botulinum toxin types of toxin, type A,B,E are the most

Is absorbed from the gut and carried via the blood to peripheral nerve synapse where it blocks release of acetylcholine, it is a protease that cleaves the protein involved in acetylcholine release. The toxin is a polypeptide encoded by a lysogenic phage. Along with tetanus toxin, it is among the most toxic substances known. There are eight immunologic types of toxin, type A,B,E are the most common in human illness.

L.D

The organism is not cultured. Botulinum toxin is demonstrable in uneaten food and the patient serum by mouse protection tests. Mice are inoculated with sample of the clinical specimen and will die unless protected by antitoxin.

Treatment

Trivalent antitoxin (type A, B, E) is given along with respiratory support.

Clostridium perfringens

Cause two diseases: gas production, gangrene and food poisoning, depending on the route of entry into the body.

Disease gas gangrene

Myonecrosis, necrotizing fasciitis is one of the two diseases caused by *Cl. Perfringens*

Pathogenesis

Organisms grow in trauma tissue especially muscle and produce a variety of toxins. The most important is alpha toxin (lecithinase) which damages cell membranes including those of erythrocytes.

L.D

Smears of tissue and exudates sample show large G⁺ rods. Spores are not seen because they are formed primarily under nutritionally deficient conditions, the organisms are cultured anaerobically and then identified by sugar fermentation reaction and organic acid production. *Cl. Perfringens* colonies exhibit (double zone of hemolysis on blood agar or egg yolk agar is used to demonstrate the presence of the lecithinase. Serologic tests are not useful.

Treatment

Penicillin G

Clostridium difficile

Disease

Antibiotic-associated pseudomembranous colitis most common nosocomial hospital acquired infection cause of diarrhea.

L.D

The presence of exotoxin in the filtrate of a patient, stool specimen is the basis of the laboratory diagnosis. It is sufficient to culture the stool for the presence of *Cl. Difficile* because people can be colonized by the organisms and not have disease. There are two tests used to detect exotoxin one is ELISA, two PCR.

Treatment

Oral metronidazole.