

## Lecture No Thirteen

*Coxiella burnetii*

Disease Q fever

*Coxiella* is passively phagocytized by host cell and multiplies with vacuoles.

*Coxiella* is inhaled into the alveoli picked up by macrophage, and carried to lymph node from which it disseminated into the blood stream granulomatous hepatitis and endocarditis are common sequel.

*C. burnetii* undergoes an antigenic phase variation during infection. The organism exists in phase 11 during initial infection, and humans produce antibody to phase 11 early in disease, such as endocarditis or hepatitis, antibodies to phase 1 are present and can be measured by complement fixation or immunofluorescence.