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etymologia

Francisella tularensis

[fran-sī-sel'ə too'lä-ren-sis]

While studying plague in ground squirrels in 1911, George McCoy and Charles Chapin discovered a bacterium that caused a different disease. They named the pathogen *Bacterium tularense* after Tulare County, California, location of their study. In 1928, Edward Francis, a US Public Health Service bacteriologist, linked *B. tularense* with deer fly fever—tularemia transmitted by deer flies from infected wild rabbits to humans. In 1974, *B. tularense* was renamed *Francisella tularensis* in recognition of Dr. Francis' many contributions to our knowledge of tularemia.

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