C. canimorsus Serovar and Disease Severity


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Etymology

Capnocytophaga canimorsus [kap"no-si-tof'ga kan"e-mor'ses]

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From the Greek kapnos (“smoke”) for its dependence on carbon dioxide, which is a large component of smoke, Capnocytophaga canimorsus (Latin canis, “dog,” and morsus, “bite”) are gram-negative, facultatively anaerobic, rod-shaped bacteria that are part of the normal oral microbiota of dogs and cats. The genus was proposed to distinguish these bacteria from Cytophaga spp. (Greek kytos, “cell,” and phagein, “eat”), which also exhibit gliding motility. C. canimorsus was previously known as CDC group DF-2 (dysgogenic fermenter type 2) and was first isolated from a man who had experienced multiple dog bites and developed septicemia and meningitis. C. canimorsus remains a major cause of septicemia in persons, particularly those who are asplenic or immunocompromised, who are bitten by dogs or cats.

Sources


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DOI: https://doi.org/10.3201/eid2412.ET2412

Emerging Infectious Diseases • www.cdc.gov/eid • Vol. 24, No. 12, December 2018 2201