

Streptococcus other than **Streptococcus pneumoniae** are a rare cause of **bacterial meningitis** in adults.

Cabellos et al. report 29 cases of streptococcal meningitis (1977-1997). The patients comprised 19 men and 10 women, with a mean age $\pm$ standard deviation of 47 $\pm$ 18 years. Nine cases were secondary to neurosurgical procedures, seven to brain abscess, five to cerebrospinal fluid pericranial fistula, and three to endocarditis. Causative microorganisms included the following: viridans group streptococci, 20 cases; anaerobic streptococci, 3; *Streptococcus agalactiae*, 3; *Streptococcus bovis*, 2; and *Streptococcus pyogenes*, 1. Four *Streptococcus mitis* strains showed decreased susceptibility to penicillin (MIC, 0.5-2 microg/mL). Five patients (17%) died. The infection is increasing in the hospital setting. Streptococci resistant to penicillin should be considered in the empirical treatment of nosocomial meningitis. In cases of community-acquired infection, anaerobic streptococci or streptococci of the *Streptococcus milleri* group should alert the clinician to the presence of an undiagnosed brain abscess, whereas oral streptococci of the viridans group suggest the diagnosis of bacterial endocarditis ¹⁾.

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Cabellos C, Viladrich PF, Corredoira J, Verdaguer R, Ariza J, Gudiol F. Streptococcal meningitis in adult patients: current epidemiology and clinical spectrum. Clin Infect Dis. 1999 May;28(5):1104-8. PubMed PMID: 10452643.

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