Streptococcus

Is a genus of spherical Gram positive bacteria belonging to the phylum Firmicutes and the lactic acid bacteria group. Cellular division occurs along a single axis in these bacteria, and thus they grow in chains or pairs, hence the name—from Greek στρεπτός streptos, meaning easily bent or twisted, like a chain (twisted chain).

Contrast this with staphylococci, which divide along multiple axes and generate grape-like clusters of cells. Most streptococci are oxidase- and catalase-negative, and many are facultative anaerobes.

In 1984, many organisms formerly considered Streptococcus were separated out into the genera Enterococcus and Lactococcus

Currently, over 50 species are recognised in this genus.

see streptococcal meningitis.

see Streptococcus pneumoniae.

Streptococcus pyogenes.

see Streptococcus epidural spinal abscess

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