



The University of Texas at Tyler
Environmental Health and Safety
BIOLOGICAL AGENT REFERENCE SHEET

Characteristics	
Risk Group	2 - Agents that are associated with human disease which is rarely serious and for which preventive or therapeutic interventions are often available.
Agent Type	Biohazard
Description	<p><i>Raoultella</i> planticola, previously <i>Klebsiella</i> aerogenes, is a Gram-negative, nonmotile, opportunistic anaerobe, rod bacteria. This bacteria is almost ubiquitously found in soil, water and fish. This pathogen may be responsible for but not limited to: nosocomial pneumonia, septicaemia, urinary tract infection, wound infections, and hospital aquired diseases. Risk groups include immunocompromised individuals. Laboratory aquired infections are extremely rare. (Peer-reviewed literature is ambiguous as to the bacterium's respiration being aerobic v/s anaerobic.)</p> <p>ref: https://www.woundsresearch.com/article/raoultella-planticola-rare-cause-wound-infection; https://eol.org/pages/972639/articles; https://eol.org/pages/972639/articles</p>
Host Range	Humans, dogs
Exposure route	Skin contact, fecal transmissions
Incubation period	Approx. 4 days

Laboratory Hazards	
High Energy	n/a

Sharps	n/a
Aerosols	n/a
Equipment	n/a
Exposed body	Skin contact; ingestion
Notes	Resistant to penicillins, cephalosporinases and carbapenemases

Laboratory Handling Guidelines

Biosafety Level	2 - refer to Biosafety Manual; contact EH&S for a copy
Training	EH&S Biosafety Training; Lab specific training
Engineering controls	use in BSL II only
PPE	Eye protection, gloves and lab coat
Waste	Biohazard - put in red biohazard bins

Agent Viability

Disinfection	1% sodium hypochlorite, 70% ethanol
Survival outside host	This bacteria survives well on vegetation, wood and sawdust; they do not grow well on human skin
Engineering controls	BSC if working with liquids; lids while working with high energy equipment
PPE	Eye protection, gloves, long sleeve or lab coat
Waste	Biohazard - put in red biohazard bins

Exposure and Spill procedures

Mucous membranes	n/a
Skin contact	Wash with soap and water for a minimum of 30 second for bare skin contact.
Minor (small) spills	Notify all persons present in the area. Allow aerosols to settle. While wearing protective clothing, gently cover the spill with absorbent paper towel and apply appropriate disinfectant, starting at perimeter and working towards the centre. Allow sufficient contact time before clean up.
Major (large) spills	Contact EH&S immediately; after-hours contact University Police
Waste	Decontaminate all wastes before disposal by incineration, chemical disinfection or steam sterilization

References

ref: <https://www.woundsresearch.com/article/raoultella-planticola-rare-cause-wound-infection>;
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