

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET - INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES

SECTION I - INFECTIOUS AGENT

NAME: *Micrococcus* spp.

SYNONYM OR CROSS REFERENCE: *M. luteus*, *M. lacticum*, *M. freundenreichii*, *M. roseus*, *M. varians*

CHARACTERISTICS: Gram-positive cocci, aerobic, occur in irregular masses (characteristically divide in one or more planes)

SECTION II - HEALTH HAZARD

PATHOGENICITY: Most strains are saprophytic and non-pathogenic found in soil, water, dust, and dairy products; frequently found on the skin of man and other animals; some species are opportunistic pathogens (pathogenicity is uncertain because isolations are very frequently from sites where other potential pathogens are present); may occasionally participate in infections like endocarditis; localized cutaneous infections in the immune-compromised

EPIDEMIOLOGY: Worldwide

HOST RANGE: Humans, animals

INFECTIOUS DOSE: Not known

MODE OF TRANSMISSION: Not known

INCUBATION PERIOD: Not known

COMMUNICABILITY: Not transmitted from person-to-person

SECTION III - DISSEMINATION

RESERVOIR: Widespread in nature - soil, water, dust; skin of humans and animals

ZOONOSIS: None

VECTORS: None

SECTION IV - VIABILITY

DRUG SUSCEPTIBILITY: Susceptible to antibiotics (rifampicin, gentamicin, vancomycin, teicoplanin)

DRUG RESISTANCE: nitrofurantoin

SUSCEPTIBILITY TO DISINFECTANTS: Susceptible to many disinfectants - 1% sodium hypochlorite, 70% ethanol, glutaraldehyde, formaldehyde, iodines

PHYSICAL INACTIVATION: Sensitive to moist heat (121° C for at least 15 min) and dry heat (160-170° C for at least 1 hour)

SURVIVAL OUTSIDE HOST: Survives well in nature - soil, fresh water

SECTION V - MEDICAL

SURVEILLANCE: Monitor for symptoms; bacteriological confirmation; immunological techniques not available

FIRST AID/TREATMENT: Wash exposed area with warm water and soap (omit soap if mucous membrane exposure); Antibiotic therapy

IMMUNIZATION: None

PROPHYLAXIS: Not usually administered

SECTION VI - LABORATORY HAZARDS

LABORATORY-ACQUIRED INFECTIONS: No reported cases of laboratory infection with *Micrococcus* spp.

SOURCES/SPECIMENS: Environmental sources - soil, water; skin

PRIMARY HAZARDS: Hazard of infection is low, however, avoid accidental parenteral inoculation, ingestion, and inhalation of infectious droplets

SPECIAL HAZARDS: None

SECTION VII - RECOMMENDED PRECAUTIONS

CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS: Well designed laboratory with good microbiological practices; this level of containment does not allow for any additional risk that may present for those persons with pre-existing disease, compromised immunity or who are pregnant

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING: Laboratory coat; gloves when contact with infectious materials is unavoidable

OTHER PRECAUTIONS: None

SECTION VIII - HANDLING INFORMATION

SPILLS: Allow aerosols to settle; wearing protective clothing, gently cover spill with absorbent paper towel and apply 1% sodium hypochlorite, starting at perimeter and working towards the centre: allow sufficient contact time (30 min) before clean up

DISPOSAL: Decontaminate before disposal; steam sterilization, chemical disinfection

STORAGE: In sealed containers that are appropriately identified

SECTION IX - MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

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Prepared by: Office of Laboratory Security, PHAC

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