

Listeria monocytogenes Identification Chart

Summary

Major pathogen found in Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF) and Blood only

Characteristics

1. CSF showing Polymorphonuclear leukocytes (PMNs), Monocytes, and Gram-positive rods (may be intracellular).
2. (a-c) Regular small Gram (+) rods. May be short or longer.
3. a - Beta hemolysis does NOT extend beyond edge of colony. b – This microorganism is not *Listeria* because beta hemolysis extends beyond edge of colony.
4. Catalase (+)
Note: Colony looks like Group B streptococci. Differentiate from Group B streptococci by Gram stain and positive catalase reaction.
5. Motility:
 - a - Tumbling motility at 26°C
 - b - Non-motile at 35° C

