

Edwardsiella

What is Edwardsiella?

Edwardsiella tarda is typically isolated from fresh or brackish water environments such as river mouths. It has also been isolated from the intestines of humans (after eating fresh water food sources such as catfish or eels) and from animals, including reptiles and freshwater fish.

What sort of germ is Edwardsiella?

Edwardsiella tarda is a motile, facultatively anaerobic, Gram-negative rod that is categorized as a member of the family Enterobacteriaceae.

How is Edwardsiella diagnosed?

Approximately 80% of *E tarda* infections in humans are characterized as gastroenteritis and *E tarda* is primarily isolated from stool samples. Extraintestinal infections, such as endocarditis, empyema, hepatobiliary infections, peritonitis, intra-abdominal abscesses, osteomyelitis, wound infections and meningitis, have been reported less frequently.

How can Edwardsiella be treated?

The natural susceptibility patterns found in the present study point to the suitability of numerous antibiotics for the treatment of *Edwardsiella* infections. Apart from these examinations, which included in most cases only a few strains and/or a limited number of antibiotics, little is known about the antimicrobial susceptibilities of *Edwardsiella* species.

Long-term effects

Although rare, this disease can be fatal in humans. However; little is known about clinical epidemiology of this bacteria.

How can humans get Edwardsiella?

E tarda rarely causes infections in humans. The colonization rate in humans ranges from 0.0073% in the Japanese to 1% in Panamanians. Approximately 80% of *E tarda* infections in humans are characterized as gastroenteritis and *E tarda* is primarily isolated from stool samples.

Prevention of Edwardsiella

Antibiotics should be used to treat infected fish. Control of this disease is done by vaccination. Reducing stress in fish, along with keeping their habitat properly sanitized can reduce exposure to the disease. Other stress factors include drastic changes in temperature, pH, and dissolved oxygen levels in the water. For humans, make sure the fish you are working with follow the checklist previously mentioned to reduce exposure to yourself. Wear gloves when dealing with fish known to have disease and proper handwashing should be taken.