MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET - INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES

SECTION I - INFECTIOUS AGENT

NAME: *Actinobacillus* spp.

SYNONYM OR CROSS REFERENCE: *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans*, localized juvenile periodontitis

CHARACTERISTICS: Small, nonmotile, nonencapsulated, gram-negative coccobacilli or rods

SECTION II - HEALTH HAZARD

PATHOGENICITY: Occurs as a normal inhabitant of human respiratory tract; impaired host defense can lead to localized juvenile periodontitis; cases of subacute bacterial endocarditis and abscess formation also described

EPIDEMIOLOGY: Worldwide; common in human mouths

HOST RANGE: Humans

INFECTIOUS DOSE: Not known

MODE OF TRANSMISSION: By direct contact with saliva (i.e. kissing)

INCUBATION PERIOD: Not known

COMMUNICABILITY: Presumably while lesions are present

SECTION III - DISSEMINATION

RESERVOIR: Humans (mucous membrane of respiratory tract)

ZOOONOSIS: None

VECTORS: None

SECTION IV - VIABILITY

DRUG SUSCEPTIBILITY: Sensitive to tetracycline, metronidazole

DRUG RESISTANCE: Penicillin; resistance to metronidazole is on the rise

SUSCEPTIBILITY TO DISINFECTANTS: Susceptible to 70% ethanol, 2% glutaraldehyde, 1% sodium hypochlorite

PHYSICAL INACTIVATION: Heating at 121°C for 15 minutes under pressure

SURVIVAL OUTSIDE HOST: Survives for less than 24 hours when dried on paper

SECTION V - MEDICAL
SURVEILLANCE: Monitor for symptoms; confirm by bacterial isolation on blood agar and biochemical testing

FIRST AID/TREATMENT: Administer appropriate drug therapy

IMMUNIZATION: None available

PROPHYLAXIS: None available

SECTION VI - LABORATORY HAZARDS

LABORATORY-ACQUIRED INFECTIONS: None reported to date

SOURCE/SPECIMENS: Saliva, gingival scraping

PRIMARY HAZARDS: Accidental parenteral inoculation; droplet exposure of the mucous membranes

SPECIAL HAZARDS: None

SECTION VII - RECOMMENDED PRECAUTIONS

CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS: Biosafety level 2 practices and containment equipment for all activities involving bacterial cultures and potentially infectious body fluids or tissues

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

OTHER PRECAUTIONS: None

SECTION VIII - HANDLING INFORMATION

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

DISPOSAL: Decontaminate all wastes before disposal; steam sterilization, chemical disinfection, incineration

STORAGE: In sealed containers that are appropriately labelled

SECTION IX - MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Date prepared: November 1999

Prepared by: Office of Laboratory Security, PHAC

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(Material Safety Data Sheets - Index)