

# Respiratory infections

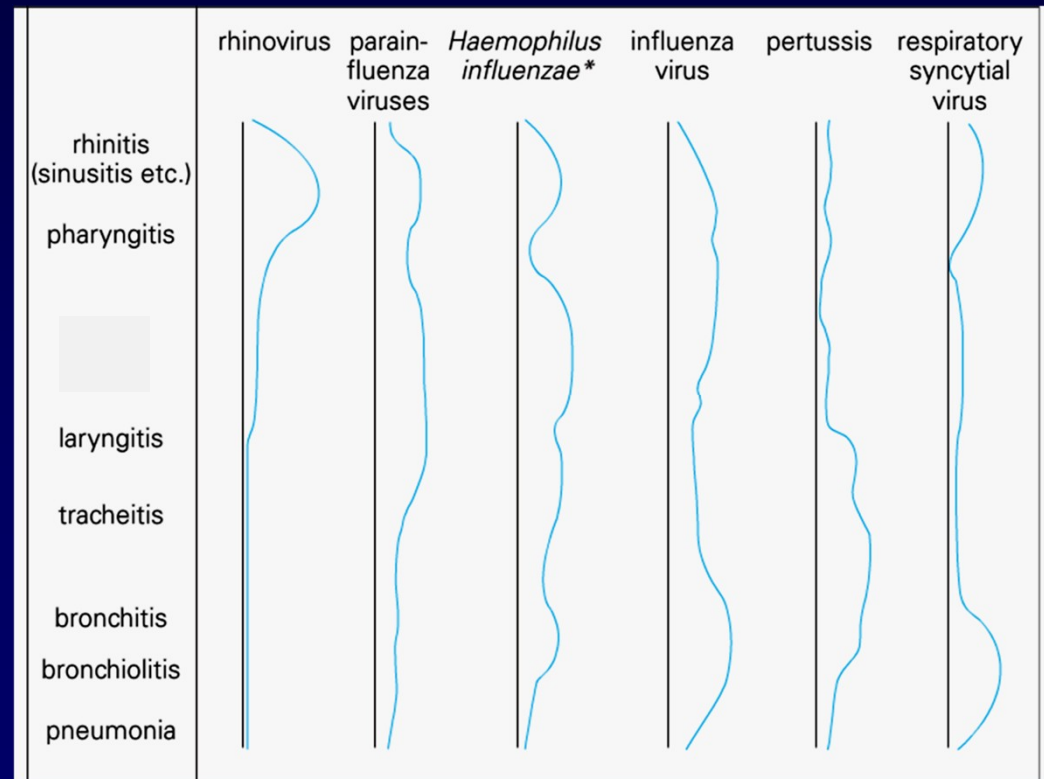
Pavel Drevinek

## Layout

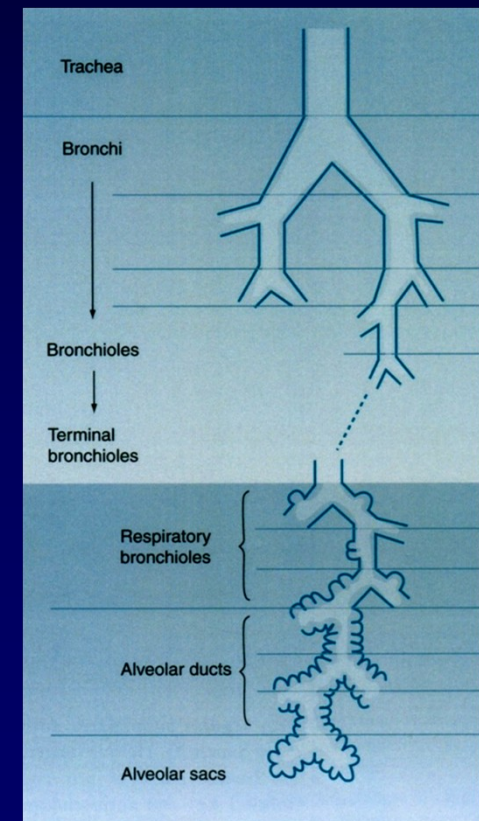
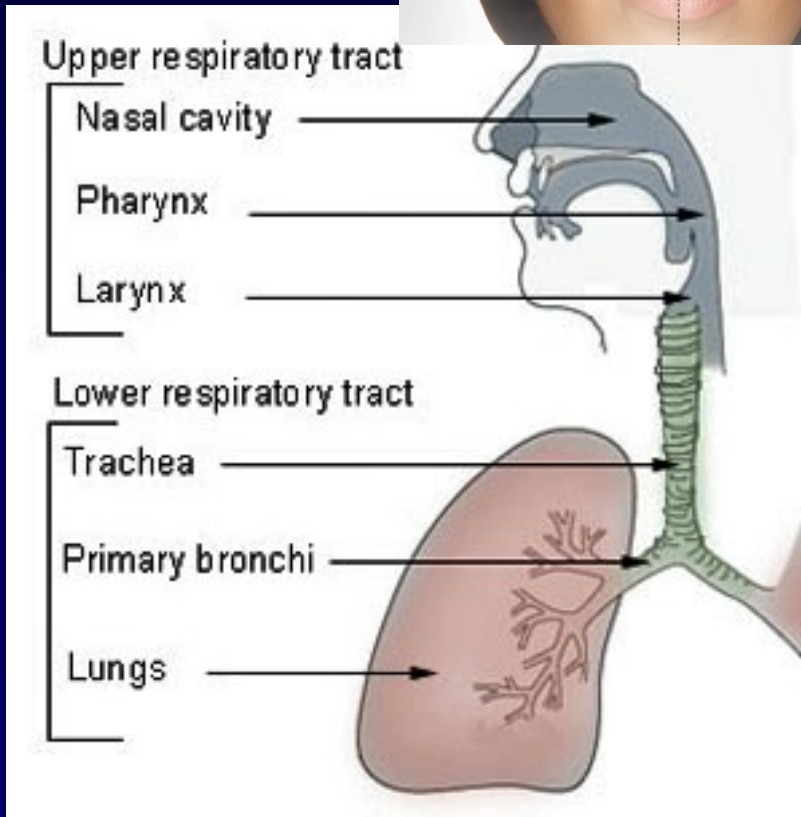
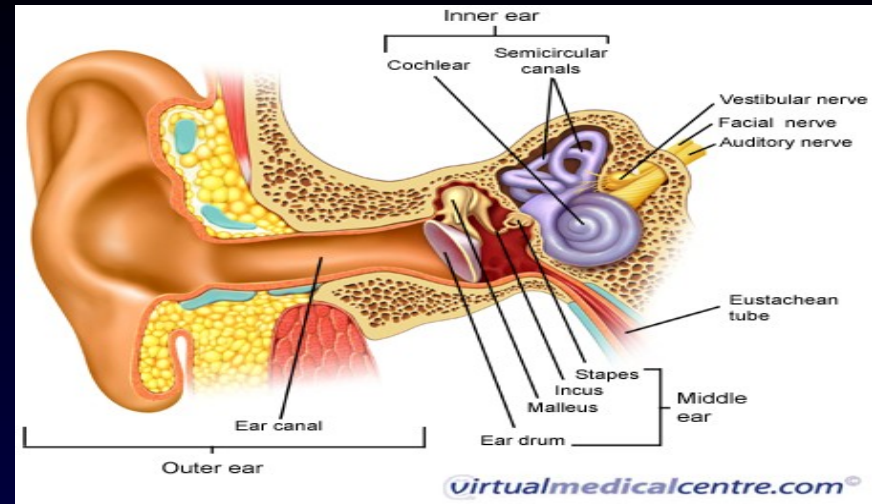
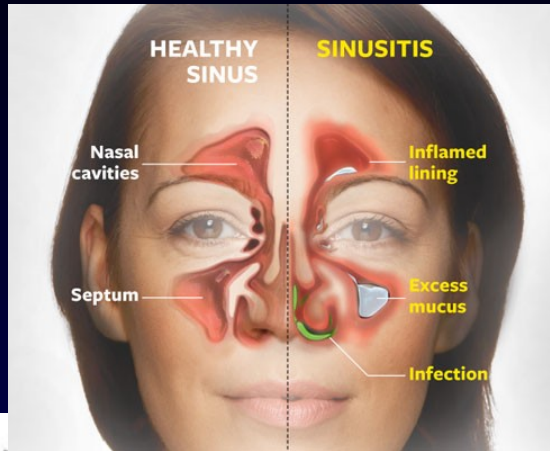
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  - hospital acquired pneumonia

Other: chronic infections, immunocompromised

- most common infections worldwide
- often epidemic outbreaks: droplet transmission; direct contact  
seasonal pattern
- acute, chronic
- community acquired, nosocomial
- bacterial, viral (with the risk of bacterial superinfection)
  - the same microorganism can cause various diseases
  - from mild to life threatening



# Respiratory tract: anatomy

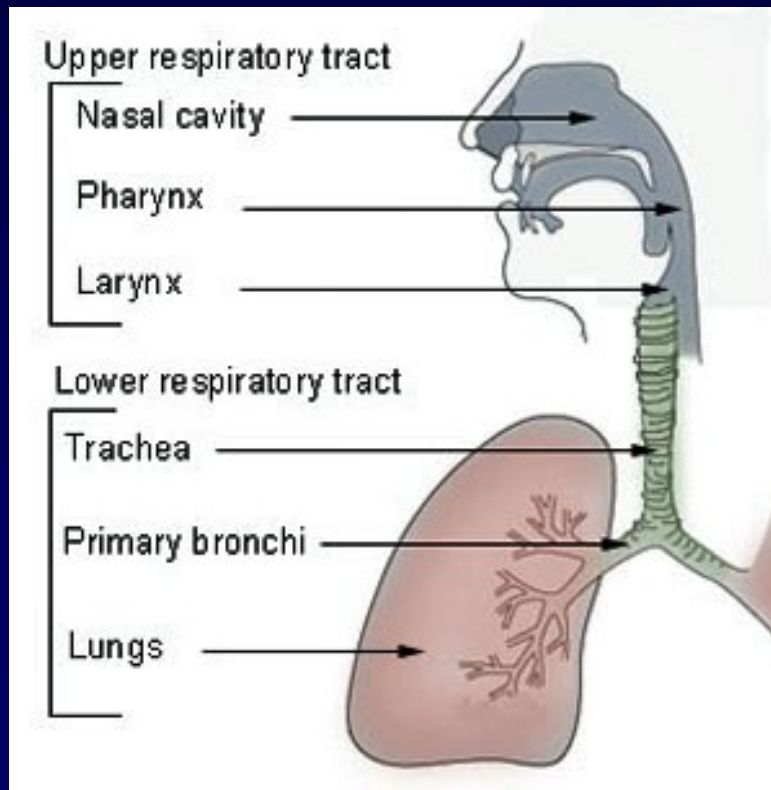


## Respiratory tract: one of important ports of entry

- some infections remain there
- some spread further
  - per continuitatem (pneumococcus)
  - via blood (pneumococcus, tuberculosis, measles)
  - systemic effect of toxin (scarlet fever, diphtheria, pertussis)

## Respiratory tract: naturally colonized

- not every bug means infection (microbiota)



- staphylococci, diptheroids, *S. aureus*
- *H. influenzae*, *S. pneumoniae*, viridans streptococci, neisseria, meningococci, enterobacteria, candida

- Lung microbiome: streptococci, haemophilus, anaerobes, pseudomonads
- .....

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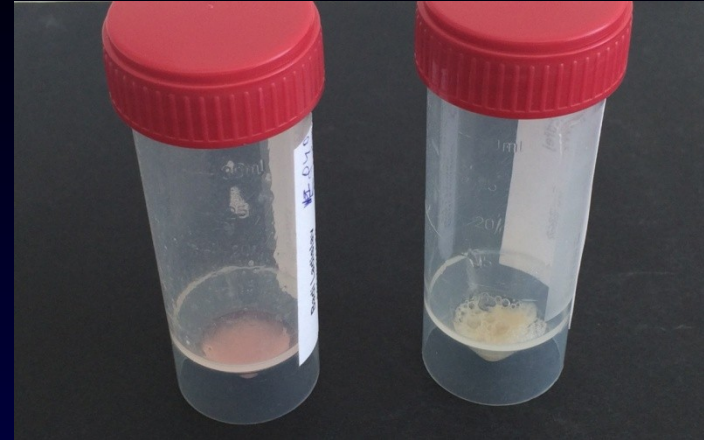
Other: chronic infections, immunocompromised

## Suitable material for investigation

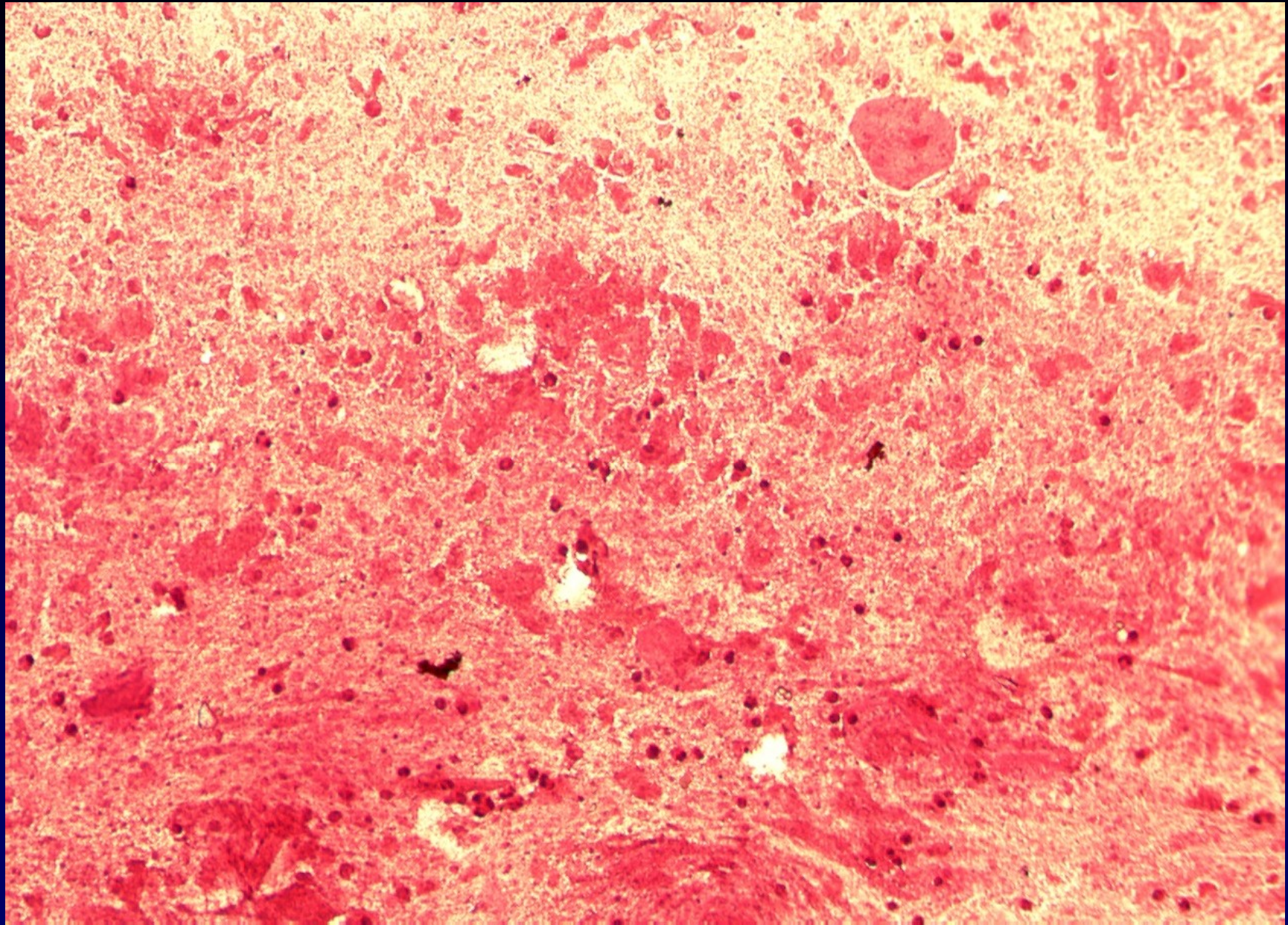
- SPUTUM

- microscopy (to validate sputum)
- culture (incl. quantification)
- molecular genetics in certain cases

- Induced sputum

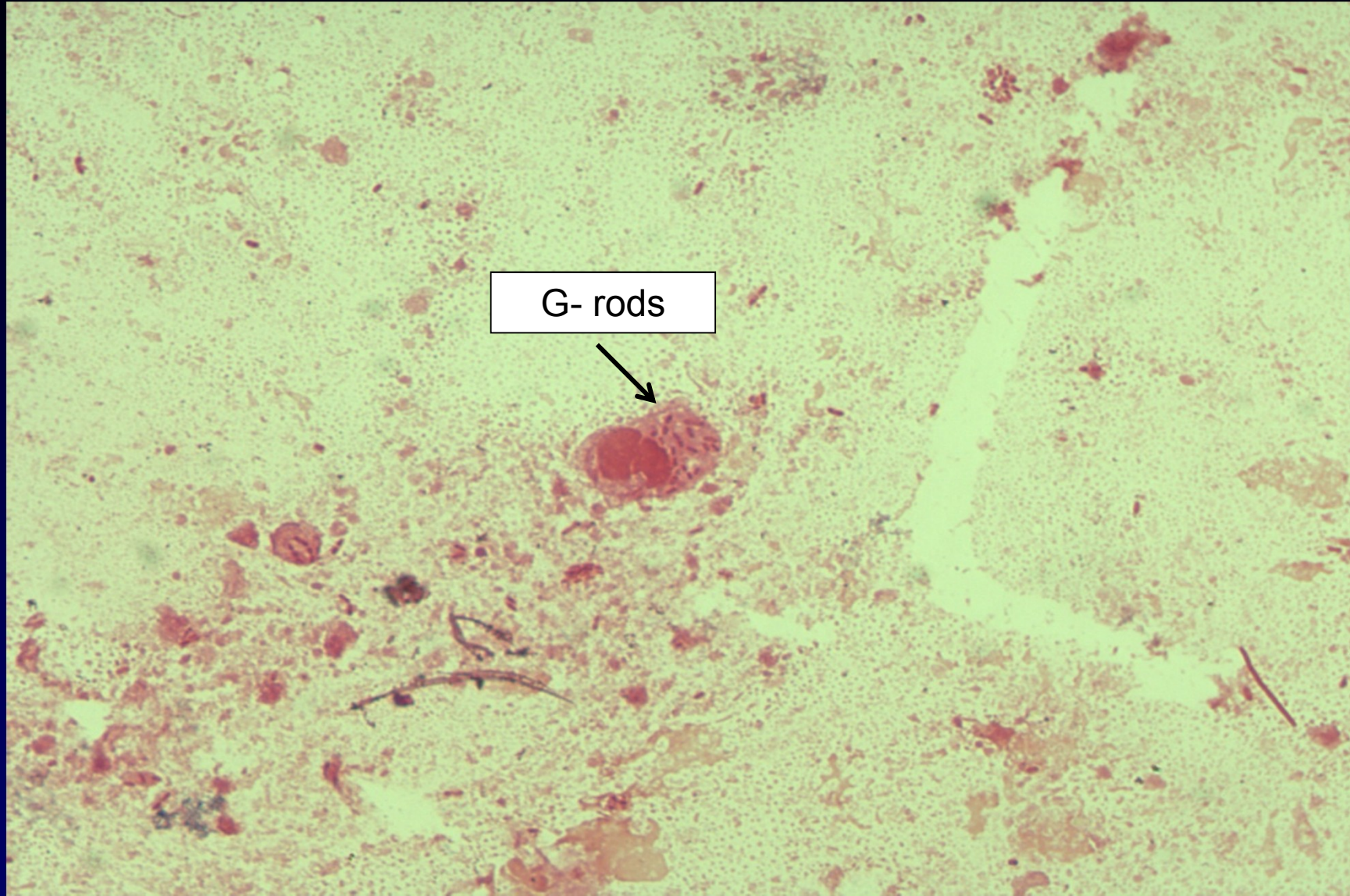






zoom 10x10





G- rods

zoom 10x100

- bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL)

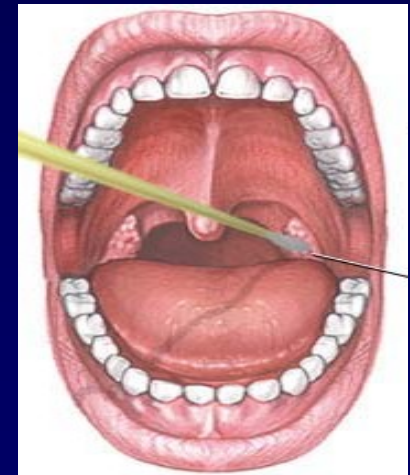
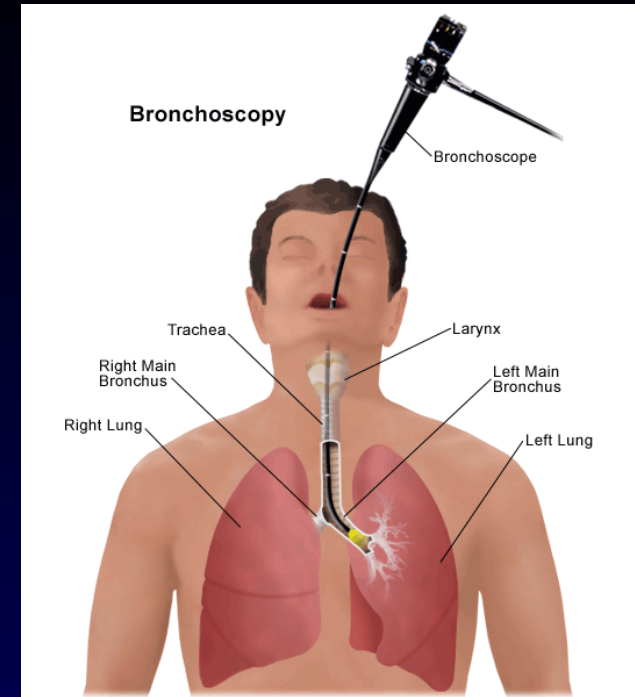
- microscopy, culture, PCR
- Ag of molds

- throat/cough swab

- culture
- Ag (Strep test)

- nasopharyngeal swab

- viral dg. (PCR)
- pertussis



- urine

- pneumococcal Ag (in children low PPV)
- legionella Ag

- serum

- mold Ag (glucan; galactomannan ~ aspergillus)
- antibodies (chlamydia, mycoplasma, pertussis, flu, herpesviruses)

- blood cultures

- pleural fluid

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## Key players

### Viruses, called respiratory viruses:

orthomyxoviruses: influenza A, B

paramyxoviruses: parainfluenza PIV 1-4, RSV,  
metapneumovirus hMPV, measles

picornaviruses: rhinovirus HRV; coxsackie and echovirus (= enteroviruses!)

adenoviruses

coronaviruses HCoV

### Bacteria:

*S. pneumoniae*

*H. influenzae*

*C. pneumoniae*

*M. pneumoniae*

*S. aureus*

*L. pneumophila*

*M. tuberculosis*, NTM

*B. pertussis*, *B. parapertussis*

*C. diphtheriae*

### Nosocomial infections:

*P. aeruginosa*

other G- non-fermenters

enterobacteria

**Fungi:** *Aspergillus* spp., *Pneumocystis jiroveci*

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## Rhinitis

- rhinoviruses (also others – e.g. coronaviruses)
- mucoid secretion is not a sign of bacterial infection

## Sinusitis, otitis media

- viruses
- *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, *M. pneumoniae*, *M. catarrhalis*, anaerobes

otitis in young children

complications - mastoiditis, risk of meningitis

Th: amoxicillin



## Tonsillopharyngitis

- adenoviruses, EBV
- *S. pyogenes*
- streptococci groups C, G
- *Arcanobacterium haemolyticum*
- *N. gonorrhoeae*

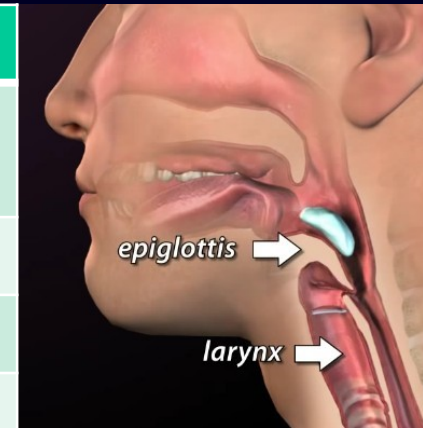
in GAS scarlet fever (when exotoxin is produced)  
rheumatic fever (alteration of mitral valve, arthritis,  
chorea minor, erythema)  
glomerulonephritis  
peritonsillar abscessus

Th: PNC V for 10 days



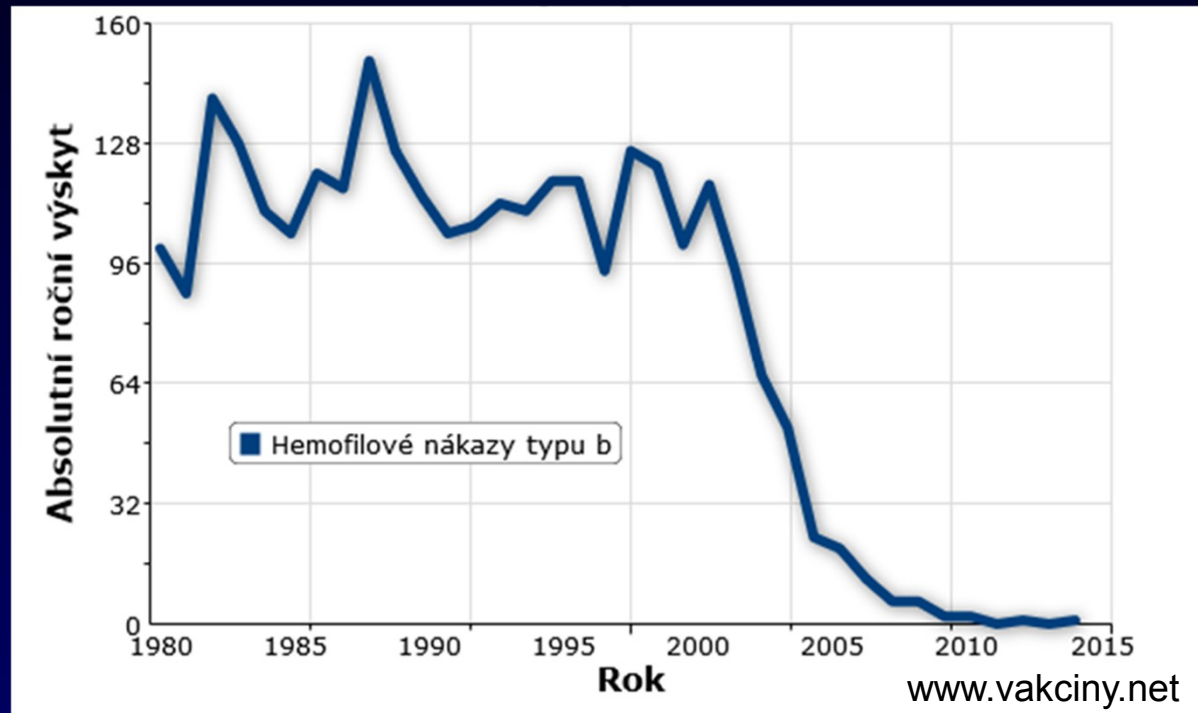
## epiglottitis versus laryngitis (subglottic laryngitis, laryngotracheitis)

| Epiglottitis                                    | Croup, pseudocroup         |
|---|----------------------------|
| <i>H. influenzae</i> type b                     | viruses<br>(parainfluenza) |
| rapid onset                                     | upper airway infection     |
| no cough, stridor                               | barking cough, stridor     |
| fever above 38 deg.                             | temp below 38 deg.         |
| no swallowing, anxiety                          |                            |
|   |                            |
| blood cultures                                  |                            |
| swab from epiglottis questionable               |                            |
|   |                            |
| ATB th! aminoPNC, cephalosporins II., III. gen. |                            |



## Invasive *H. influenzae* type b in CR

1999: 54x meningitis, 36x epiglottitis, 6x sepsis, 5x pneumonia



BUT: other groups of *H. influenzae* still out there  
*H. influenzae* non-typeable, types e, f

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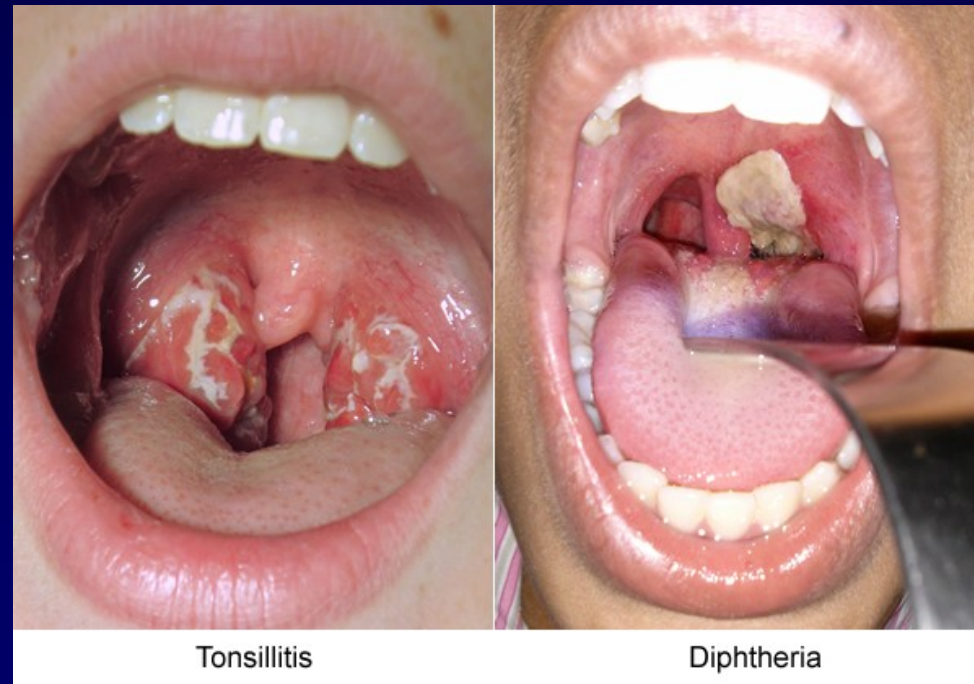
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## Diphtheria

*Corynebacterium diphtheriae* (and other corynebacteria) with production of the toxin (the evidence by PCR)

- tonsillitis, pharyngitis
- laryngitis (true croup) with production of pseudomembranes
- myocard alteration
- neurological problems



# Pertussis

*Bordetella pertussis, B. parapertussis*

## Disease stages:

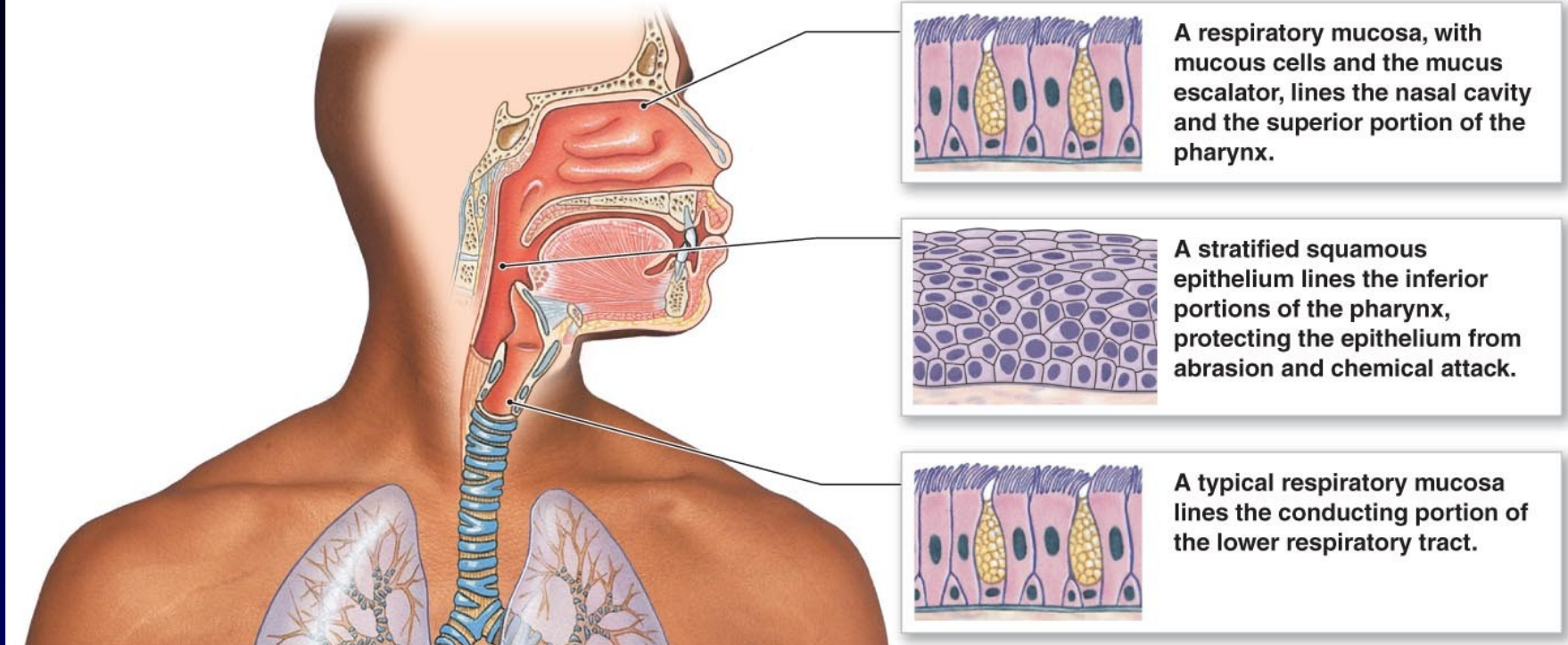
- catarrhal (common cold)
  - paroxysmal (paroxysmal cough, dyspnoe, vomiting)
  - convalescent (risk of secondary infections, encephalopathy)
- today more likely atypical course (persistent cough in adults)
- in infants (non-vaccinated) a risk of malignant pertussis:
- respiratory failure
  - leukocytosis and right-sided heart failure
  - encephalopathy





Dg: culture, PCR, serology

The structure of the respiratory epithelium at different sites within the respiratory tract



non-invasive disease affecting ciliated epithelium

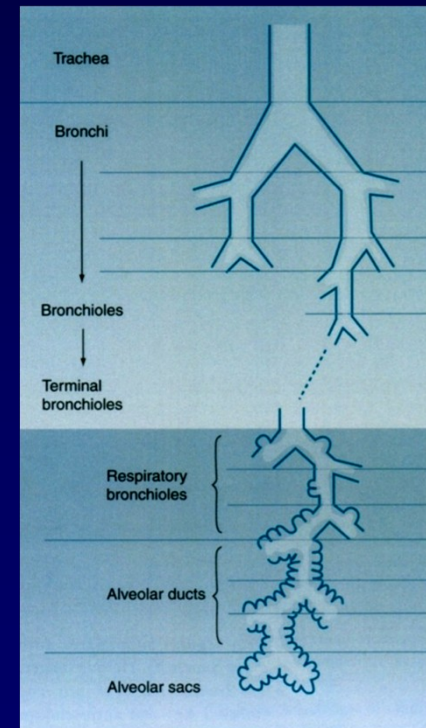
→ nasopharyngeal swab, aspirate

## Bronchiolitis (obliterans)

respiratory syncytial virus RSV-A, RSV-B

- in children below 6 months of age, preterm babies
- serious condition

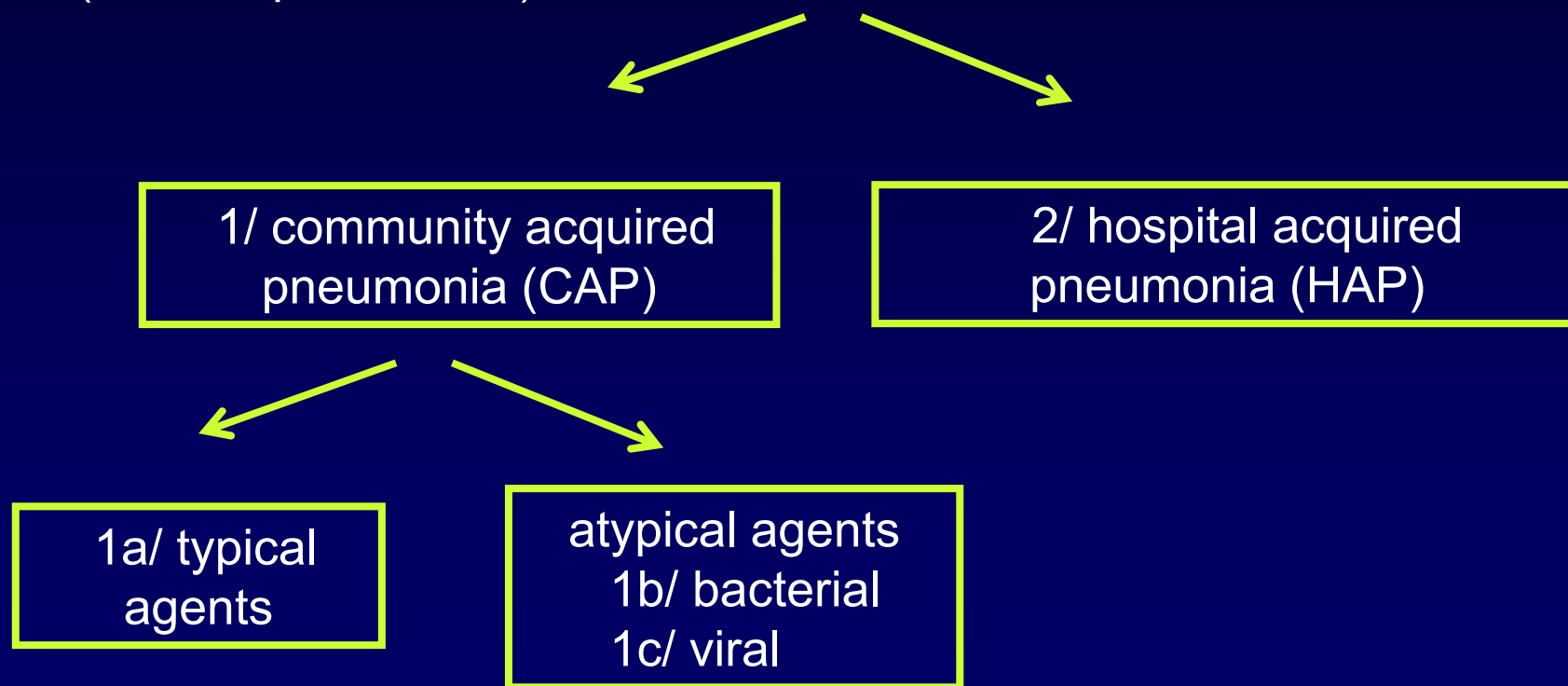
Th: ribavirin + passive immunization (Ab against F protein)





# Pneumonia

- infectious condition with corresponding respiratory symptomatology (cough, tachypnoe, dyspnoe, ...) and the fresh radiological finding on lungs
- inflammation affecting alveoli, respiratory bronchioli (bronchopneumonia), or also interstitium



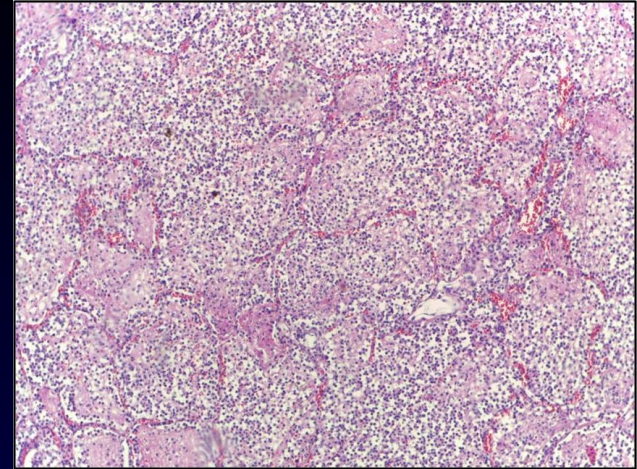
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## 1a/ CAP with typical pathogens

- *S. pneumoniae* (most common)
- *H. influenzae*
- *Moraxella catarrhalis*
- *S. aureus* (secondary pneumonia; production of PVL)
- *K. pneumoniae*, *E.coli*



### Diagnostics: direct methods

- sputum
  - microscopy, culture
  - PCR occasionally
- detection of pneumococcal antigen in urine
- blood cultures

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## 1b/ CAP with atypical pathogens

sometimes termed atypical pneumonia, walking pneumonia,  
several weeks cough

- *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*: former primary atypical pneumonia
- *Chlamydophila pneumoniae*
- *Chlamydophila psittaci*: psittacosis
- *Coxiella burnetii*: Q fever

Diagnostics: indirect methods

- serology; careful interpretation (up to 80% prevalence in healthy)

direct method - PCR

- *Legionella pneumophila*
  - pontiac fever (mild infection, not pneumonia)
  - Legionnaire's disease

## *Legionella pneumophila*

### Diagnostics:

- detection of legionella antigen in urine
- culture
- PCR
  
- serology



## 24 year old lady

5 days fever 40 °C, vomiting

3 days cough, with sputum, dyspnoea

CRP 153 mg/l

WBC  $8.2 \times 10^9$  /l

x ray: small infiltrates on the bottom right

### Microbiology:

urine: antigen *S. pneumoniae* neg.

antigen *L. pneumophila* neg.

nasopharyngeal swab:

*M. pneumoniae* \*\*\*\*

*C. pneumoniae* neg

*C. psittaci* neg

*L. pneumophila* neg

*P. jiroveci* neg

7 days since the start of therapy with fluoroquinolons:

mild cough, no temperature

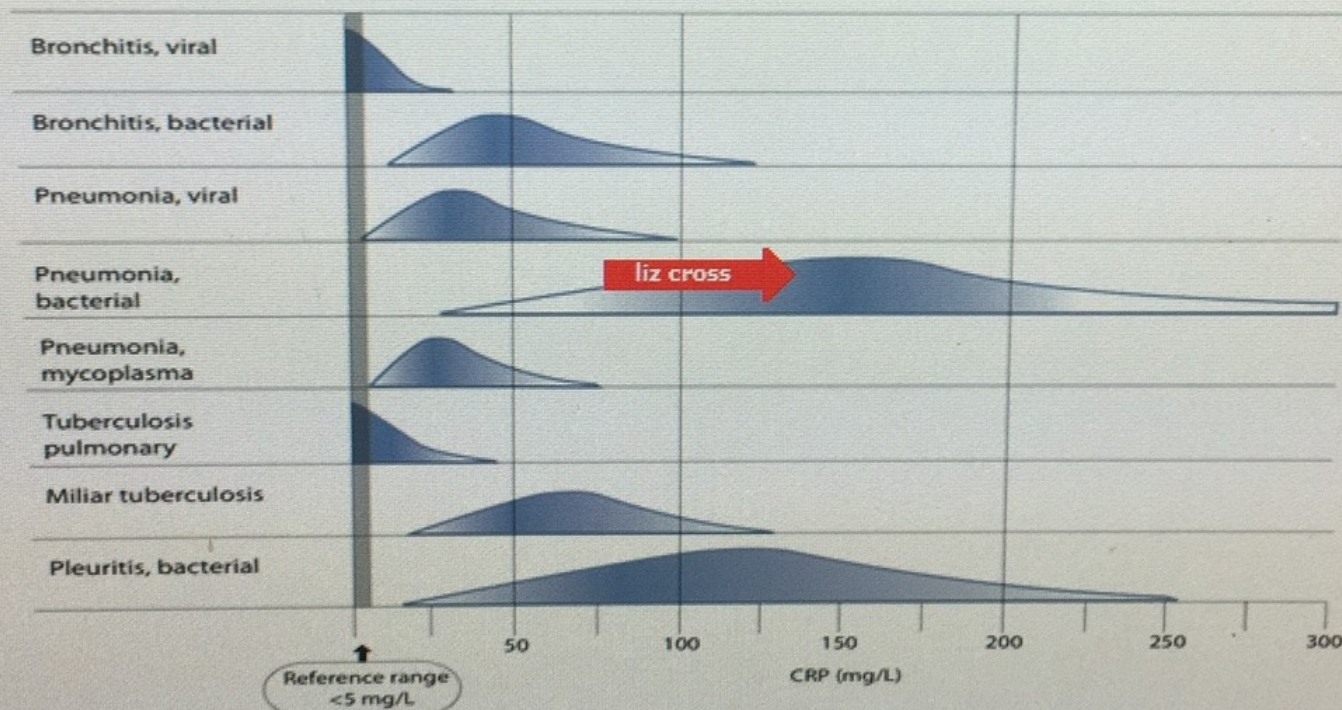
CRP 12.3 mg/l

x ray: substantial regression of the infiltrates



# CRP LEVELS IN LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTION

Typically higher values in bacterial infections than in viral infections





## ATB therapy of CAP

### Pneumococcal pneumonia:

non complicated - amoxicillin (not hospitalized)  
hospitalization - PNC G or cephalosp. III. gen.

### Atypical agents:

macrolides

tetracyclines

respiratory fluoroquinolons (moxifloxacin)

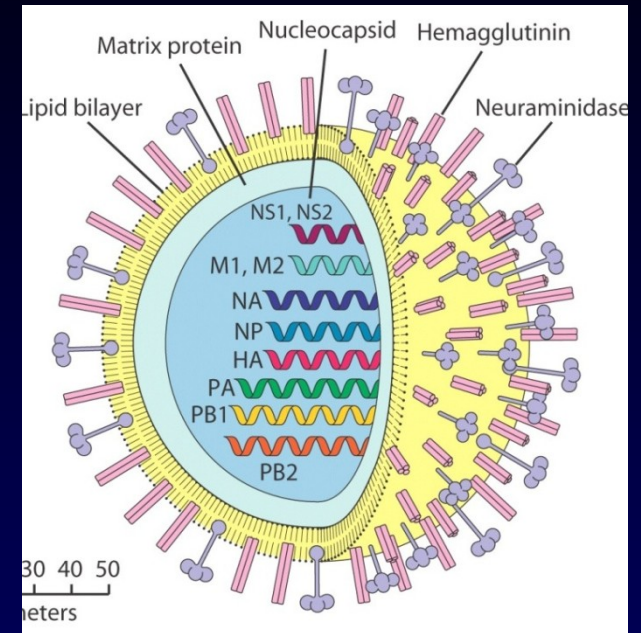
## 1c/ CAP with atypical pathogen - virus

Influenzavirus type A, B, C  
subtypes HxNx (H1N1, H3N2)

Spanish flu 1918 - 1919  
20 - 50 mil. deaths



The Family, 1918 Egon Schiele



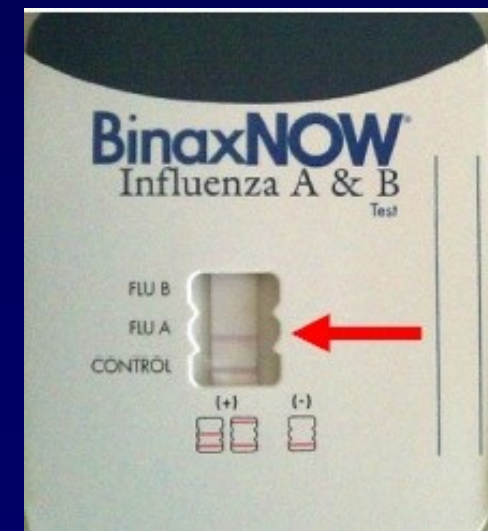
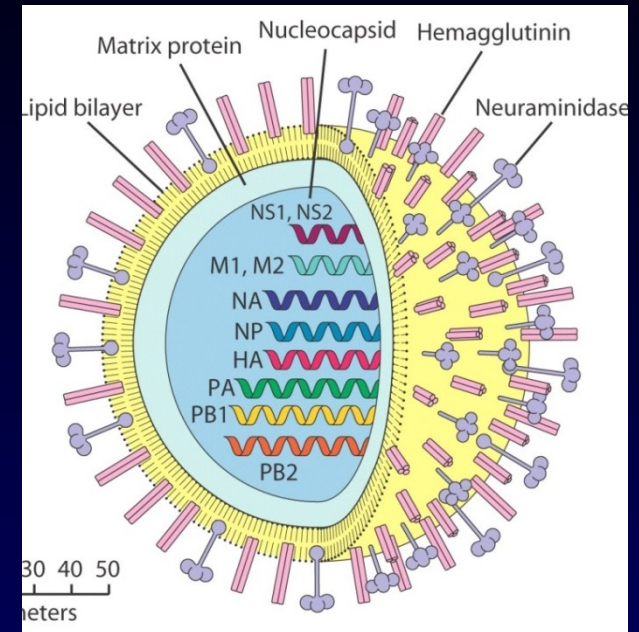
## 1c/ CAP with atypical pathogen - virus

### Influenzavirus type A, B, C subtypes HxNx (H1N1, H3N2)

- tracheobronchitis
- pneumonia
  - primary viral
  - secondary bacterial

#### Diagnostics:

- antigen detection (low sensitivity)
- PCR
- serology



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## 2/ HAP

develops min. 48 hours post admission and in association with hospitalization

typically of bacterial origin

### Ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP)

secondary colonization of lower airways

- from upper airways and the gut
- from the outside (via personnel)



#### Early onset (by day 5)

- *S. aureus*
- *S. pneumoniae*
- *H. influenzae*
- *K. pneumoniae, E. coli*

#### Late onset

- *K. pneumoniae, E. coli ...*
- *P. aeruginosa*
- MRSA
- *A. baumannii*

Diagnostics: endotracheal aspirate

(careful interpretation – colonization vs. infection)

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## Newborn pneumonia

- *S. agalactiae*
- *Chlamydia trachomatis*
  
- *K. pneumoniae, E. coli*

## Chronic respiratory diseases and chronic infections

- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPN)
- chronic bronchiectasis
- cystic fibrosis (mucoviscidosis)

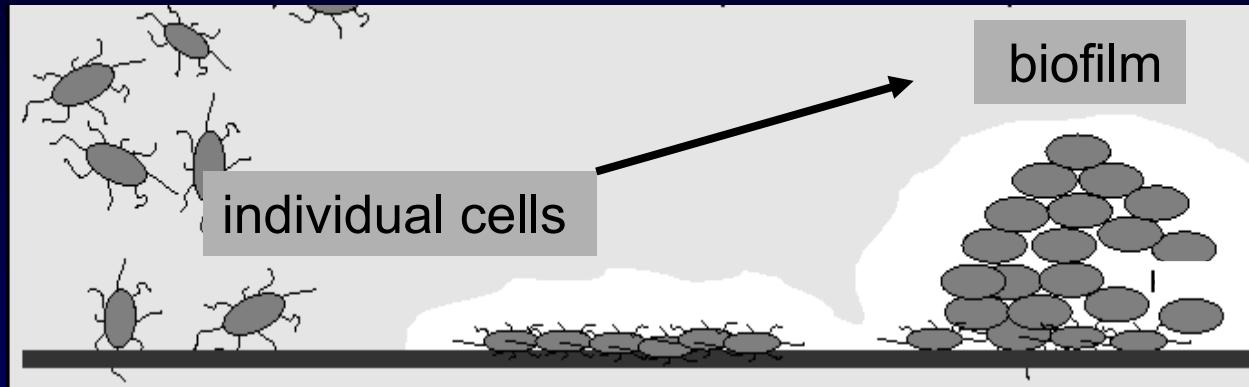
### Exacerbations

= worsening of the condition that requires the change of therapy (ATB)

- usual pathogens (respiratory viruses)
- opportunistic pathogens with resistant phenotype, chronic infections
  - *S. aureus*
  - enterobacteria (*K. pneumoniae*)
  - G- nonfermenters
    - *P. aeruginosa*
    - complex *B. cepacia*
    - *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia*
    - *Achromobacter xylosoxidans*

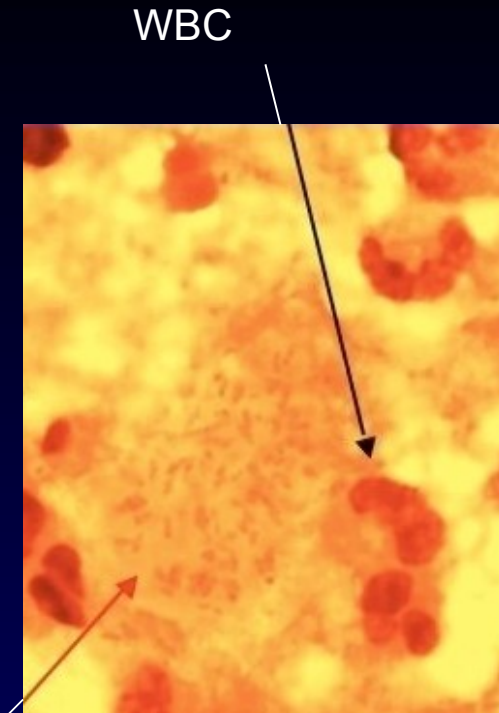
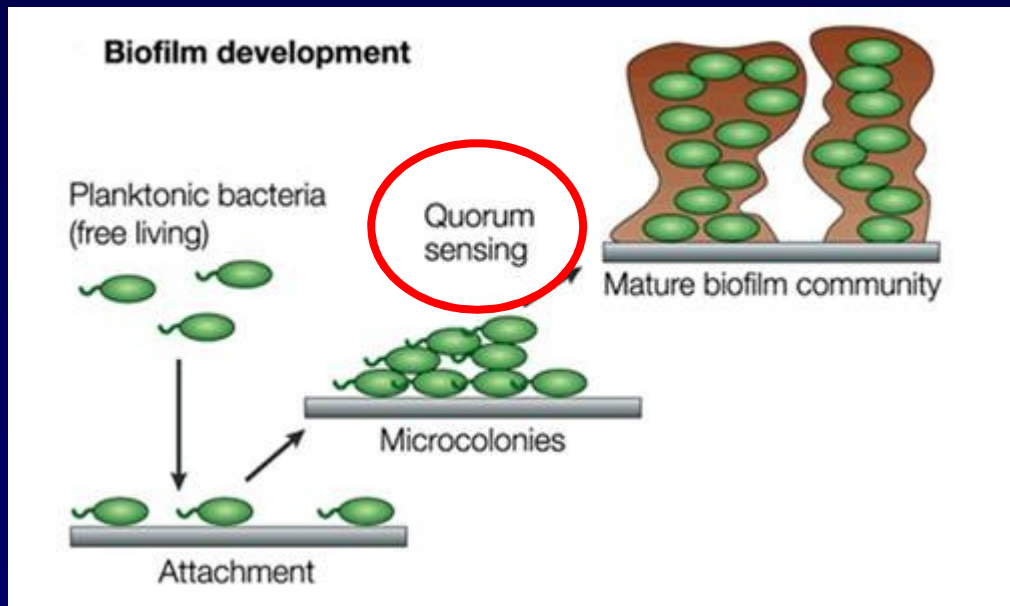


## Infection course

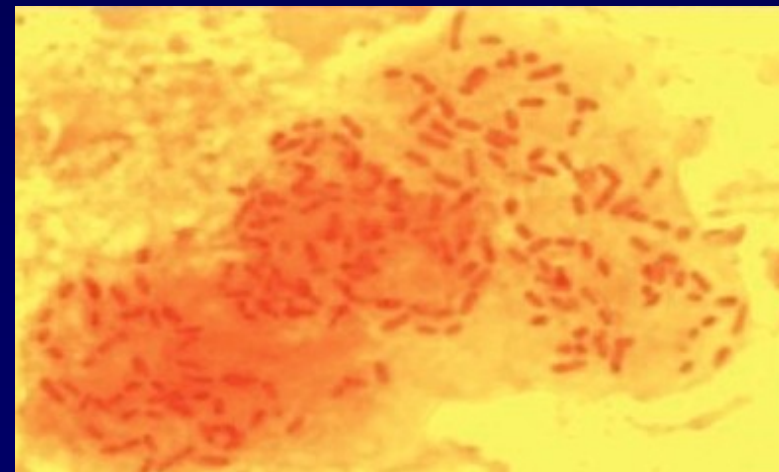


## Biofilm

- Aggregate of bacteria embedded in matrix which they produce themselves (polysaccharides, proteins, DNA)
- Protection against phagocytosis, ATB



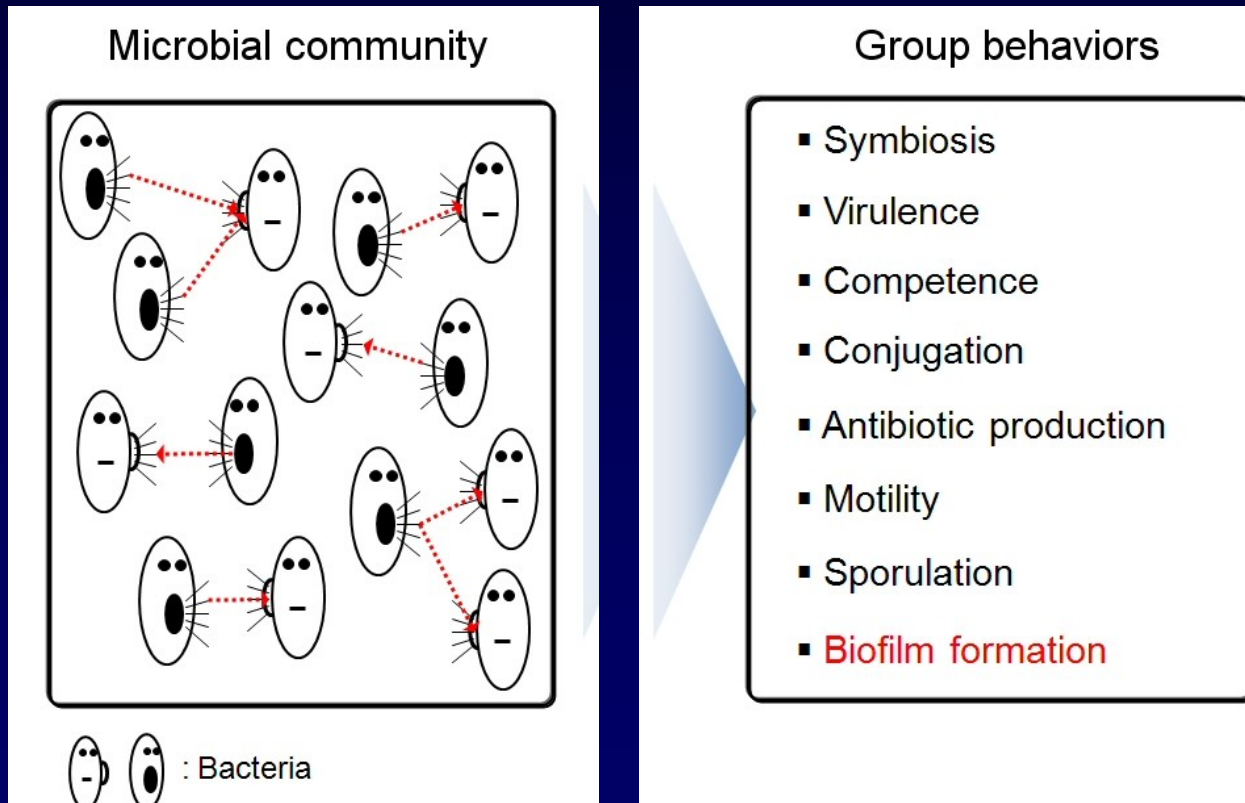
*P. aeruginosa* biofilm



Courtesy: Prof. N. Hoiby, Copenhagen

## Quorum sensing

- Cell to cell communication
- Perception of their density, mass
- Synchronizing their behaviour



## Immunocompromised and respiratory infections

- haematological malignancies
- AIDS
- after solid or bone marrow transplantation

Opportunistic pathogens of both endogenous and exogenous origin

- CMV
- TB, NTM
- *Pneumocystis jiroveci* (also preterm babies); microscopy, PCR
- fungi

## 2-month old girl

10 days cough, increased mucus, temperature max. 37.5 °C  
x ray: diffuse gentle infiltrates

### Microbiology:

culture aspirate from upper airways: *S. aureus*; *K. oxytoca*

PCR nasopharyngeal swab:  
respiratory viruses all neg.

*M. pneumoniae* neg  
*C. pneumoniae* neg  
*L. pneumophila* neg  
*P. jiroveci* \*\*

BAL:

*M. pneumoniae* neg  
*C. pneumoniae* neg  
*L. pneumophila* neg  
*P. jiroveci* \*\*\*\*

Therapy:

Ampicillin/sulbactam --> cotrimoxazol