

PATHOGEN SAFETY DATA SHEET

Streptococcus pyogenes

CHARACTERISTICS	
	Aerobic, gram-positive, non-motile, non-sporing cocci,
	extracellular bacterium. It has a β -hemolytic growth
Morphology	pattern on blood agar
	Group A (β-hemolytic) streptocci (GAS), streptococcal
	sore throat, strep throat, pharyngitis, scarlet fever,
	impetigo, erysipelas, puerperal fever, necrotizing
	fasciitis, toxic shock syndrome, septicaemia, acute
	rheumatic fever, acute post-streptococcal
Disease	glomerulonephritis, gas gangrene
	Cows infected by humans are intermediate hosts and
	can pass the bacterium in their milk, which, if
Zoonosis	consumed unpasteurized, can infect other humans

HEALTH HAZARDS	
Light Dange	Humans are primary reservoir for this bacterium,
Host Range	although cattle can also act as a reservoir
	Transmission via respiratory droplets, hand contact
Modes of	with nasal discharge and skin contact with impetigo
Transmission	lesions
Signs and	
Symptoms	Respiratory and gastrointestinal illness
Infectious Dose	Unknown
Incubation Period	Generally 1-3 days

MEDICAL PRECAUTIONS/TREATMENT	
Prophylaxis	Administering penicillin to carriers has been shown to reduce the number of people infected during an outbreak of streptococcal sore throat
Vaccines	None.
Treatment	Penicillin is used for respiratory tract infections (pharyngitis) and macrolides or lincosamides are used if there are allergies. Clindamycin may be used in cases of necrotizing fasciitis and surgical debridement of the affected area is necessary
Surveillance	Monitor for symptoms of infection.
MSU Requirements	Report any exposures

LABORATORY HAZARDS	
Laboratory	
Acquired Infections	
(LAIs)	78 documented cases since 1999
	Respiratory specimens, skin lesions, blood, sputum and
	wound exudates. Cultures, frozen stocks, other samples
Sources	described in IBC protocol.

RISK GROUP & CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS

	Agents that are associated with human disease
	which is rarely serious and for which preventive or
Risk Group 2	therapeutic interventions are often available.
	For all procedures involving suspected or known
BSL2	infectious specimen or cultures.
ABSL2	For all procedures utilizing infected animals.

SPILL PROCEDURES	
	Notify others working in the lab. Remove PPE and
	don new PPE. Cover area of the spill with absorbent
	material and add fresh 1:10 bleach:water. Allow 20
	minutes (or as directed) of contact time. After 20
Small	minutes, cleanup and dispose of materials.
	 Immediately notify all personnel in the lab and
	clear all personnel from the area. Remove any
	contaminated PPE/clothing and leave the lab.
	 Secure the area by locking doors, posting signage
	and guarding the area to keep people out of the
	space.
	For assistance, contact MSU's Biosafety Officer (406-
	994-6733) or Safety and Risk Management (406-994-
Large	2711).

EXPOSURE PROCEDURES	
	Flush eyes, mouth, or nose for 5 minutes at eyewash
Mucous membrane	station.
Other Exposures	Wash area with soap and water for 5 minutes.
	Immediately report incident to supervisor, complete
	a First Report of Injury form, and submit to Safety
Reporting	and Risk Management.
	During business hours:
	Bridger Occupational Health 3406 Laramie Drive
	Weekdays 8am -6pm. Weekends 9am-5pm
	After business hours:
	Bozeman Deaconess Hospital Emergency Room
Medical Follow-up	915 Highland Blvd

VIABILITY	
	1% sodium hypochlorite, 4% formaldehyde, 2%
	glutaraldehyde, 70% ethanol, 70% propanol, 2% peracetic acid, 3-6% hydrogen peroxide and 0.16%
Disinfection	iodine
	Inactivated by moist heat (15 minutes at 121° C) and
Inactivation	dry heat (1 hour at 170° C).
	The bacterium can survive on a dry surface for 3
	days to 6.5 months. It has been found to survive in
	ice cream (18 days), raw and pasteurized milk at 15-
	37 ºC (96 hrs), room temperature butter (48 hrs),
	and neutralized butter (12-17 days). GAS has been
	found to last several days in cold salads at room
Survival Outside Host	temperature

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES	
	http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/lab-bio/res/psds-
Canadian MSDS:	ftss/index-eng.php
BMBL	https://www.cdc.gov/labs/BMBL.html
	https://www.cdc.gov/groupastrep/diseases-
CDC	hcp/index.html
	https://osp.od.nih.gov/wp-
NIH Guidelines	content/uploads/NIH_Guidelines.pdf

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Minimum PPE Requirements	Lab coat, disposable gloves, safety glasses, closed toed shoes, long pants
Additional Precautions	Additional PPE may be required depending on lab specific SOPs and IBC Protocol.