



Technical Bulletin

Taxonomy Changes in the MALDI-TOF/MS Database

TO: Medical Staff and Clients

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SUBJECT: Database update includes some significant name changes

An avalanche of taxonomic changes have occurred in recent years, which are based on more accurate molecular methods. An unfortunate consequence is that those names familiar to medical practitioners may be lost or obscured; however, the pathogenic significance of these organisms remain.

Our primary method for identification of microorganisms is Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization – Time of Flight Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF/MS). We need to periodically update our MALDI-TOF/MS software to keep our instrumentation current: however, taxonomic changes are in these updates.

In order to avoid as much confusion as possible, we have used our middleware to include the older nomenclature of the clinically relevant isolates, usually in parentheses. These are changes in the most recent update:

Former Actinomyces:

BOUDABOUSIA (ACTINOMYCES) MARIMAMMALIUM
BOWDENIELLA (ACTINOMYCES) NASICOLA
BUCHANANELLA (ACTINOMYCES) HORDEOVULNERIS
GLEIMIA (ACTINOMYCES) COLEOCANIS
GLEIMIA (ACTINOMYCES) HOMINIS
SCHAALIA (ACTINOMYCES) CANIS
SCHAALIA (ACTINOMYCES) CARDIFFENSIS
SCHAALIA (ACTINOMYCES) SUIMASTITIDIS
SCHAALIA (ACTINOMYCES) TURICENSIS
SCHAALIA (ACTINOMYCES) VACCIMAXILLAE
WINKIA (ACTINOMYCES) NEUII

Other:

ROTHIA (KOCURIA) KOREENSIS

Former Candida:

CLAVISPORA (CANDIDA) LUSITANIAE
KLUYVEROMYCES MARXIANUS
formerly CANDIDA KEFYR
PICHIA KUDRIAVZEVII
formerly CANDIDA KRUSEI

Former Atopobium:

FANNYHESSEA (ATOPOBIUM) VAGINAE
LANCEFIELDELLA (ATOPOBIUM) PARVULA
LANCEFIELDELLA (ATOPOBIUM) RIMAE

Former Clostridium:

CLOSTRIDIOIDES (CLOSTRIDIUM) DIFFICILE
ENTEROCLOSTER (CLOSTRIDIUM) ALDENSIS

There were many other taxonomic name changes, but those were not organisms seen in a clinical microbiology laboratory.

Please refer any questions to Terrie Koyamatsu, Manager - DLS Microbiology Laboratory at 589-5196, or DLS Client Services at 589-5101.

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