International Committee On Systematic Bacteriology

Taxonomic Subcommittee on Gram-Negative Anaerobic Rods

Minutes of the Meetings, 6 and 7 July 1972

Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

Minutes of the Meeting, 30 August 1973

Jerusalem, Israel

The Subcommittee has met twice since its meeting in Mexico City, 1970, which was reported in Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol. 21:130-131 (1971).

1. Call to order. The meetings were called to order by the Chairman, S. M. Finegold, (a) At 9 AM, 6 July 1972, in Los Angeles; (b) at 9 AM, 30 August 1973, in Jerusalem, Israel, with a further open meeting at 14:30, 6 September 1973.

2. Record of attendance: Los Angeles, 1972. The following members were present—Ella M. Barnes, M. P. Bryant, S. M. Finegold, H. S. Goldberg, W. E. C. Moore (Secretary), A. C. Sonnenwirth, and S. Suzuki together with observers H. Attebery, H. Hoffman, Kazue Ueno, Keiu Ninomiya, J. Rosenblatt, P. Sugihara, and Vera Sutter. In the absence of H. Beerens the Chair was taken by S. Finegold.

Jerusalem 1973. The following members were present—Ella M. Barnes (Secretary), H. Beerens, S. M. Finegold (Chairman), H. S. Goldberg, T. Hofstad, and A. C. Sonnenwirth together with observers T. Mitsuoka, C. Romond, and A. Sedallian. H. P. R. Seeliger attended for part of the meeting. In addition to the above, the following were present at the Open Meeting—Donna J. Blazevic, J. G. Collee, V. R. Dowell, Jr., Elizabeth Reiss-Levy, and R. A. D. Williams.

3. Minimal standards for the description of new taxa. A list of minimal standards has been prepared, but details of the methods which should accompany this list are still under discussion and will be coordinated by a specially convened group of committee members.

4. Bacteroides melaninogenicus. Little further progress has been made concerning the criteria which should be used to assign strains to Bacteroides melaninogenicus subspecies asaccharolyticus, intermedius, or melaninogenicus. A collaborative study is to be undertaken which will consider type of pigment, growth factors, deoxyribonucleic acid base ratios, serology, cytochromes, fermentation products, and general biochemical properties. In the first instance the following strains will be examined—ATCC 25260, 25845, 25846, 25847, and 25611, together with NCTC 9336, 9337, and 9338.

5. Bacteroides corrodens. Apart from the facultatively anaerobic "corroding" organisms which have been renamed Eikenella corrodens, there are at present at least three groups of anaerobic bacteria producing similar colonies. This problem is being studied at present by the American Society for Microbiology's Bacteroidaceae Subcommittee.

6. Bacteroides clostridiiformis. Confusion still exists over the characterization of nonsporing strains of gram-negative pointed rods assigned to this species and their differentiation from strains which have been shown to produce spores.

7. Bacteroides fragilis and subspecies. Evidence was presented indicating that Bacteroides fragilis subsp. fragilis was the subspecies generally isolated from pathological conditions. The other subspecies (vulgatus, etc.) were mainly associated with the normal intestinal flora. This question would be examined further. There was disagreement among the members of the Subcommittee over the reproducibility of carbohydrate tests for these organisms.

8. Cell wall structure as a diagnostic criterion. The use of cell wall analyses for differentiating the genera was discussed. Data from Hofstad indicated that among the species so far tested there was a distinct difference between the cell wall lipopolysaccharide structure in Fusobacterium and Bacteroides.

9. Approved list of bacterial names. The approved list of species names requested by the ICSB has not yet been considered but will be prepared in time for the next Subcommittee meeting. Members were reminded that, before a strain can be designated as the neotype for a species, a complete description of the strain has to be published, preferably in the IJSB. Many
of the anaerobes are not yet validly published, including *Bacteroides fragilis* subsp. *fragilis* NCTC 9343.

10. **Membership.** The Subcommittee expressed their thanks to H. Beerens and W. E. C. Moore for all the work they did during their term of office as Chairman and Secretary from 1966-1972. The present membership of the Subcommittee consists of Ella M. Barnes, Secretary (Food Research Institute, Colney Lane, Norwich, NOR 70F, England), H. Beerens (CERTIA, 369 Rue Jules-Guesde, Flers Bourg, 59650 Villeneuve D'Ascq, France), J. Bittner (Services des Anaerobies, Institute "Dr. I. Cantacuzino," Spl. Independentei 103, Bucharest, Rumania), M. P. Bryant (Dairy Science Dept., University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61803, U.S.A.), S. M. Finegold, Chairman (Infectious Disease Sec. 691/11F, Bldg. 213, Room 304, Wadsworth VA Hospital, Los Angeles, California 90073, U.S.A.), H. S. Goldberg (Office of Dean, Medical Center, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri 65201, U.S.A.), Tor Hofstad (Laboratory of Oral Microbiology, Dept. of Microbiology, The Gade Institute Schools of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway), W. J. Loesche (Dept. of Oral Biology, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104, U.S.A.), T. Mitsuoka (Animal Physiology Lab., The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research, Komagome, Bunkyo-Ku, Tokyo, Japan), W. E. C. Moore (Anaerobe Lab., Virginia Polytechnic Institute, P.O. Box 49, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, U.S.A.), A. C. Sonnenwirth (The Jewish Hospital, 216 South Kingshighway, Saint Louis, Missouri, 63110, U.S.A.), S. Suzuki (Gifu University, School of Medicine, Tsukasa-Machi, Gifu-Shi, Gifu-Ken, Japan).

11. **Next meeting.** It was agreed that the next meeting should be in Europe, probably in 1975.

12. **Adjournment.** The Los Angeles meeting adjourned at 4 PM on 7 July 1972. The Jerusalem meeting adjourned at 17:30 on 30 August 1973 and the open meeting adjourned at 17:00 on 6 September 1973.

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**International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology**

**Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of Mycoplasmatales**

Minutes of Meeting, 5 and 6 September 1973

*Jerusalem, Israel*

1. **Call to order.** The closed session of the meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, 5 September, by the Chairman, D. G. ff. Edward, at the Convention Center.

2. **Record of attendance.** Members present were: D. G. ff. Edward, Chairman; E. A. Freundt, Secretary; S. Razin; and J. G. Tully. H. Brunner, M. Barile, and G. S. Cottew were present as alternates for R. M. Chanock, N. L. Somerson, and Ruth Lemcke, respectively. J. Fabricant, L. Hayflick, and Ruth G. Wittler had designated the secretary to act on behalf of them.

3. **Report of the Subcommittee on the ICSB.** The draft report, circulated to all members and alternates prior to the meeting, received unanimous approval.

4. **Status of the specific names Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae and Mycoplasma suipneumoniae.** The Subcommittee took note of as yet unpublished serology data which have confirmed the serological identity of strain 11, the type strain of *M. hyopneumoniae* Mare and Switzer 1965 (8), and strain J, the type strain of *M. suipneumoniae* Goodwin et al. 1965 (4). The Subcommittee agreed to make a recommendation to the Judicial Commission of the ICSB that the epithet *suipneumoniae* in the combination *M. suipneumoniae* be conserved over the epithet *hyopneumoniae* although this latter epithet has priority as to date of publication (10). The preference of the Subcommittee for the name *M. suipneumoniae* was based on the fact that a better description of the species was provided subsequently by the authors who had proposed that name, including a more adequate comparison of strain J with other *Mycoplasma* species. Thereby the description given for *M. suipneumoniae* is in better agreement with the minimal standards for descriptions of new species of the order *Mycoplasmatales* as proposed by the Subcommittee (11).

The Subcommittee took advantage of this