

Alpha Streptococci vs Streptococcus pneumoniae ID Chart

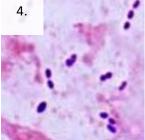
Summary

Alpha-hemolytic Streptococci (green color) on blood agar; do not grow on MacConkey; catalase negative

Streptococcus pneumoniae **Characteristics**

- 1. Colonies more mucoid and may have concave centers.
- 2. Dissolve in 10 min with bile (sodium desoxycholate)
- 3. Optochin (P) disk sensitive (zone).
- 4. Gram positive cocci in pairs. May be lancet shaped.

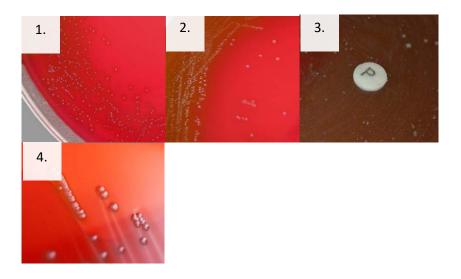
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Viridans Streptococci **Characteristics**

- 1. Pathogens are only in blood cultures.
- 2. Colonies are smaller and drier.
- 3. No zone around Optochin (P) disk.
- 4. Will not dissolve with bile.



This job aid is a component of the free, on-demand CDC training course "Biochemicals and Gram Positive Organism Identification." Find the course at <u>https://www.cdc.gov/labtraining</u>.