

## Yersinia pestis ID Flowchart

## **Major Characteristics:**

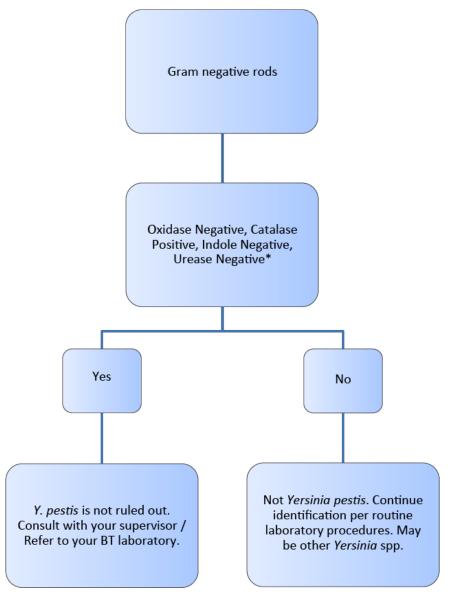
Gram stain morphology: Gram-negative rods, 0.5 x 1-2 mm

<u>Colony morphology:</u> Slow growing, pinpoint colonies after 24h; Colonies are 1-2mm, gray=white to slightly yellow and opaque on BAP after 48 h; non-lactose fermenter on MAC/EMB; growing both At 25-28 °C and at 35-37 °C.

Specimen: Blood, sputum, or lymph node aspirate.

## WARNING:

Some of the automated identification systems do not identify Y. Pestis adequately. Y. pestis has been falsely identified as Y. Pseudotuberculosis, Shigella,  $H_2S$  negative Salmonella, Acinetobacter and Pseudomonas species.



<sup>\*=</sup> See Biochemical Tests for Gram Negative Organism ID Job aid for positive and negative result reference.

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