

# ENTEROBACTERIACEAE FAMILY

lecture on  
**E.coli, Klebsiella**

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# Enterobacteriaceae

- Family *Enterobacteriaceae* often referred to as “enterics”
- Enterics are ubiquitous in nature
- Except for few, most are present in the intestinal tract of animals and humans as commensal flora; therefore, they are sometimes call “fecal coliforms”
- Some live in water, soil and sewage

# Enterobacteriaceae

## Major Genera

Escherichia

Yersinia

Klebsiella

Citrobacter

Salmonella

Enterobacter

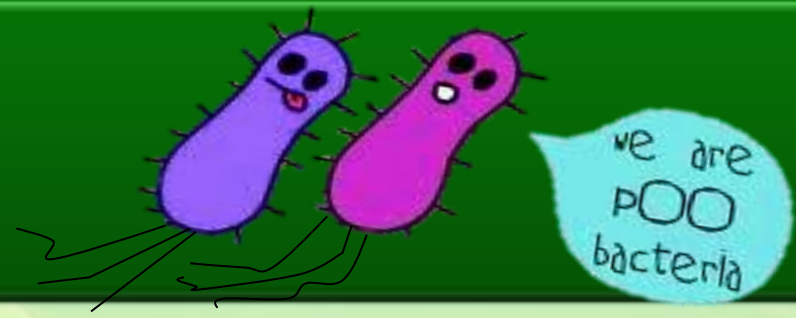
Shigella

Proteus

# Major Features

- Gram-negative rods
- Non-spore forming
- All except *Klebsiella*, *Shigella* and *Yersinia* are motile
- facultative anaerobes.
- All ferment glucose
- All reduce nitrates ( $\text{NO}_3$ ) to nitrites ( $\text{NO}_2$ )
- All are oxidase negative.
- All are Catalase positive.

# Escherichia coli



- E. Coli is a part of commensal flora of human GIT.
- The virulent strains of Escherichia coli predominantly cause **gastroenteritis**, **urinary tract infections**, and neonatal meningitis.
- Sporadically this bacterium may cause **sepsis**, **secondary pneumoniae** and nosocomial infections.

# strains of Escherichia coli

## A-Common strains:

- 1-Enteropathogenic Escherichia coli (EPEC).
- 2-Enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli (ETEC).
- 3-Enterohaemorrhagic Escherichia coli (EHEC)

## B-Rare strains of pathogenic Escherichia coli

have been isolated from infants and children with diarrhea, including:

- 1-Enteroinvasive Escherichia coli (EIEC)
- 2-Enteraggregative Escherichia coli (EAEC).



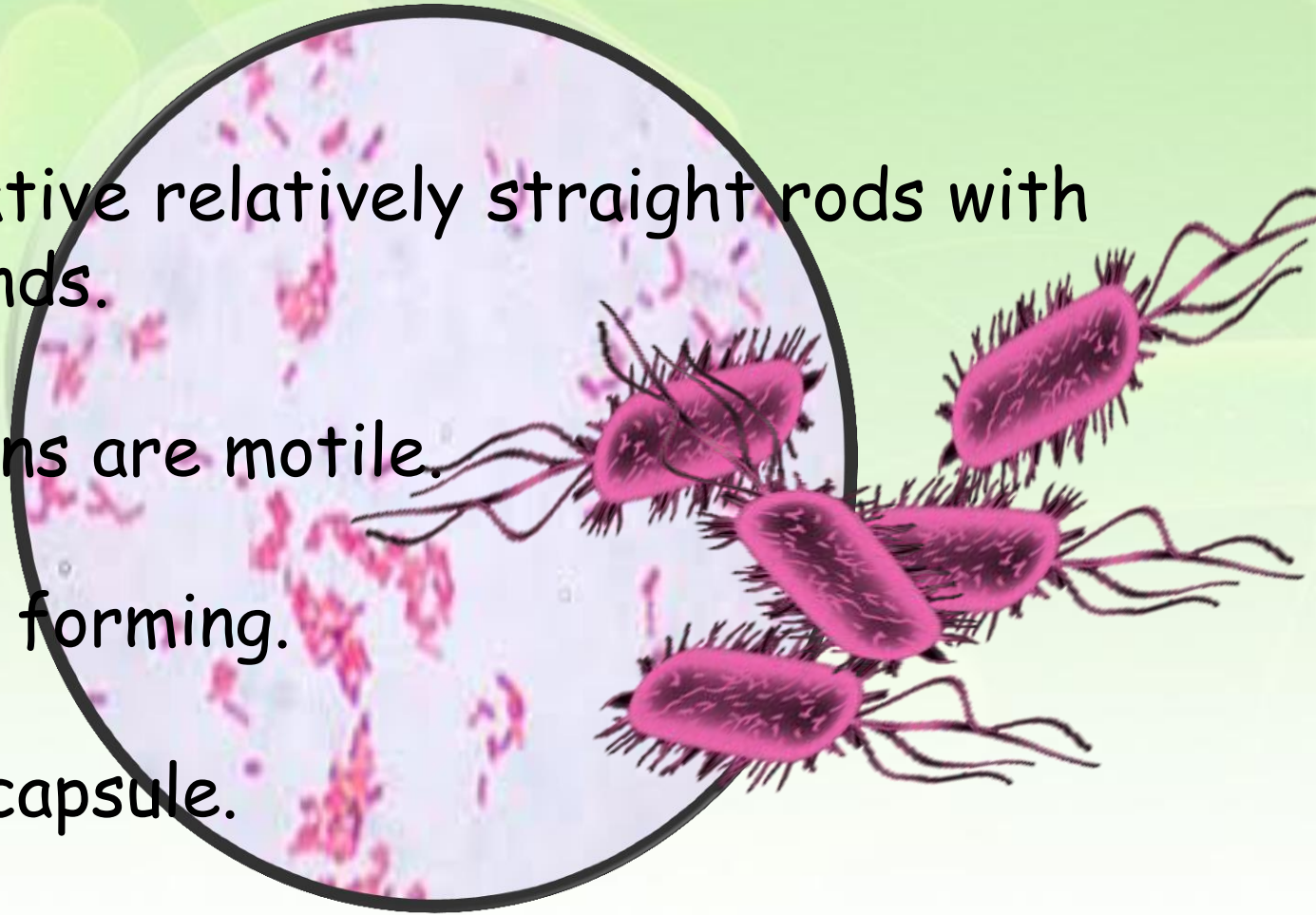
# Specimens for isolation

The source of culture material depends on the clinical symptoms.

- **Feces:** when the patient is ill with gastroenteritis.
- **Infected tissue:** when the bacteria are locally invasive.
- **Blood:** invasive bacteria (i.e., those causing bacteremia and sepsis).
- **Urine:** for investigation of urinary tract infection

# Microscopical appearance

- Gram-negative relatively straight rods with rounded ends.
- Most strains are motile.
- Non-spore forming.
- May have capsule.





# Cultural characteres

- ✓ Optimum temperature 37 °C.
- ✓ Aerobic and facultative anaerobes.
- ✓ Colonies on nutrient agar are 2-4 mm in diameter, opaque, smooth, convex with an entire edge.
- ✓ Colonies on eosin methylene blue (EMB) agars are metallic green seen.
- ✓ Most grow on MacConkey agar, which contain lactose and pH indicator. If lactose is fermented, acid will be generated and the colonies appear pink.

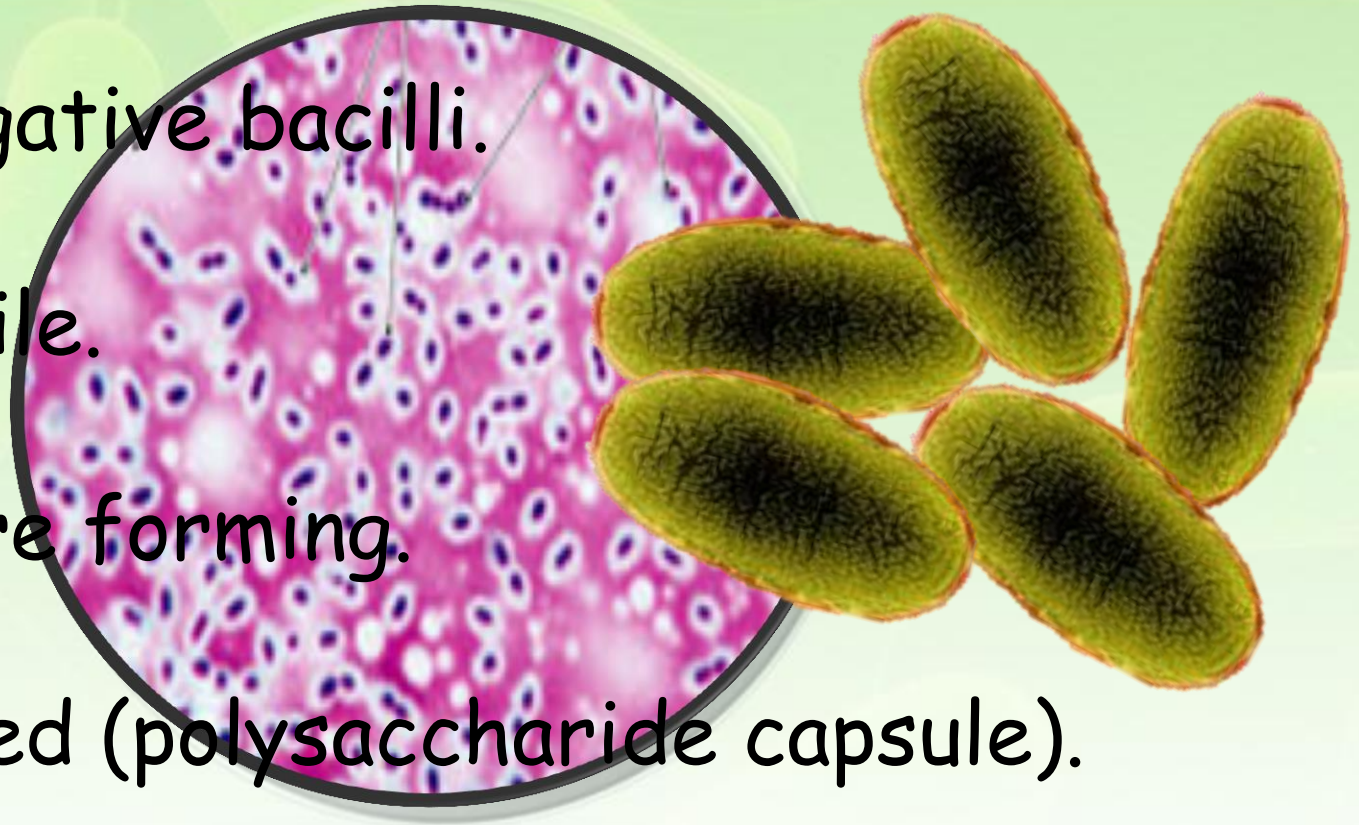


# Klebsiella spp.

It cause a variety of opportunistic infections in debilitated patients. Common klebsiellae infections in humans include (1)pneumonia, (2)UTI, (3)nosocomial infection (4)septicaemia , (5)soft tissue infection

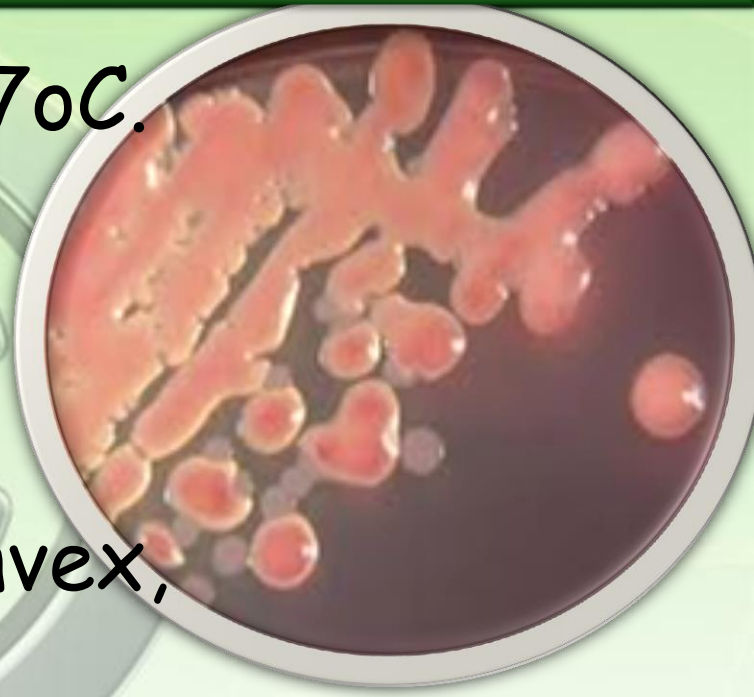
# Microscopical appearance

- Gram negative bacilli.
- Non-motile.
- Non-spore forming.
- Capsulated (polysaccharide capsule).



# Cultural characteristics

- Optimum temperature is 37°C.
- Aerobic and facultatively anaerobic.
- Colonies are large, high convex, mucoid and tend to coalesce.
- On MacConkey's agar the majority of strains give pink colonies due to lactose fermentation.



# Biochemical Tests



# IMViC Test

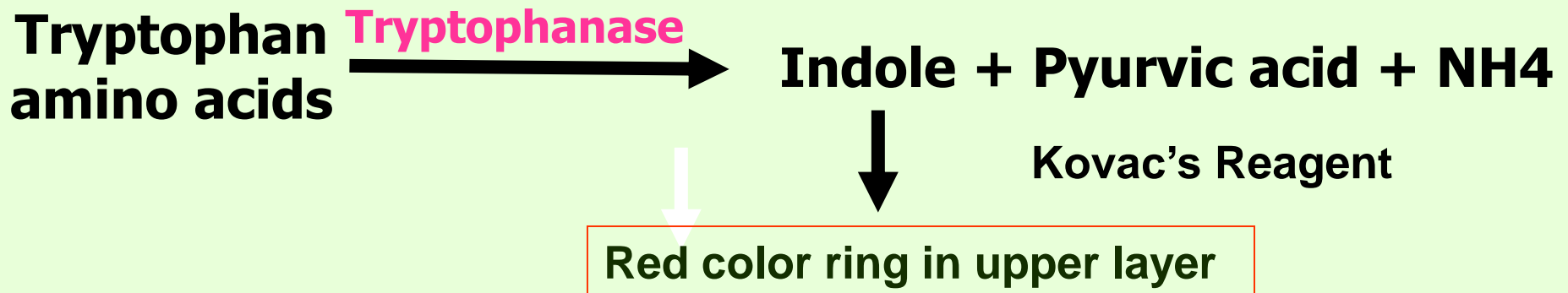
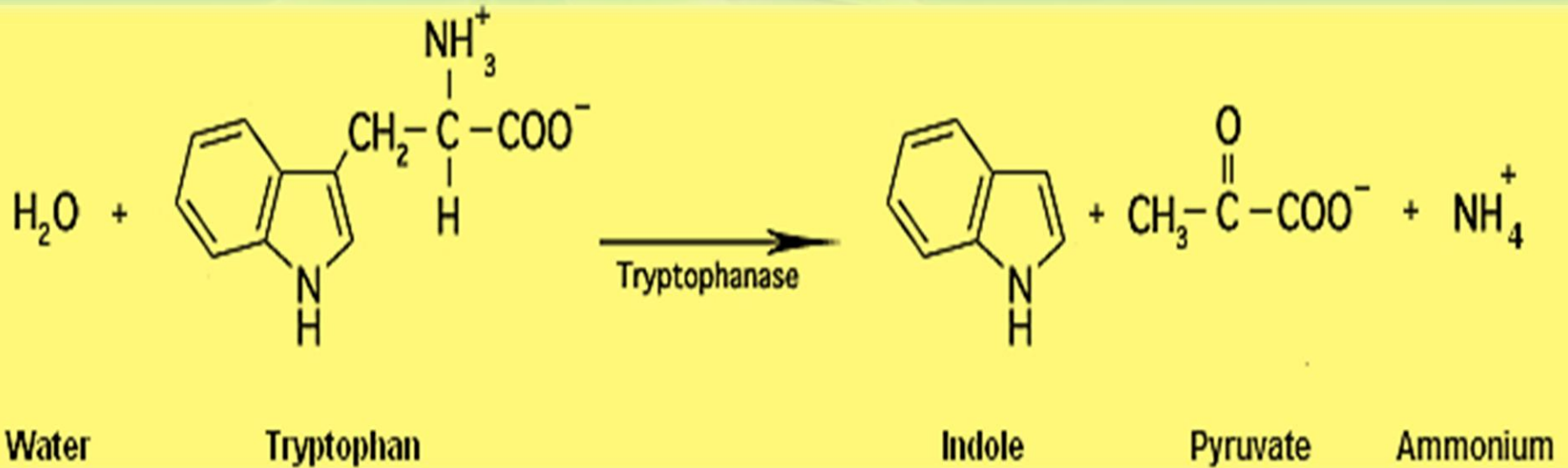
- ❑ IMViC reactions are a set of four useful reactions that are commonly employed in the identification of members of family enterobacteriaceae.
- ❑ The four reactions are: Indole test, Methyl Red test, Voges Proskauer test and Citrate utilization test.

# IMViC: Indole test

## Principle

- Certain microorganisms can metabolize amino acid tryptophan by **tryptophanase**
- The enzymatic degradation leads to the formation of, indole, pyruvic acid and ammonia
- The presence of indole is detected by addition of Kovac's reagent.

# Chemical equation





## Method:

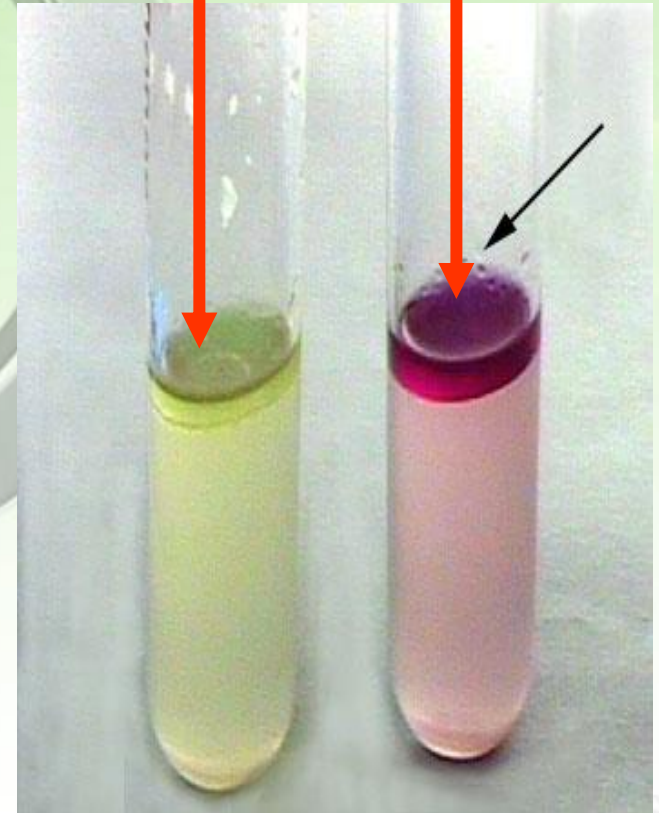
- Inoculate **peptone water** with the tested microorganism
- Incubate at 37°C for 24 hours
- After incubation interval, add 1 ml **Kovacs reagent**, shake the tube gently and read immediately

# Result

- A bright pink color in the top layer indicates the presence of indole
- The absence of color means that indole was not produced  
indole test is negative

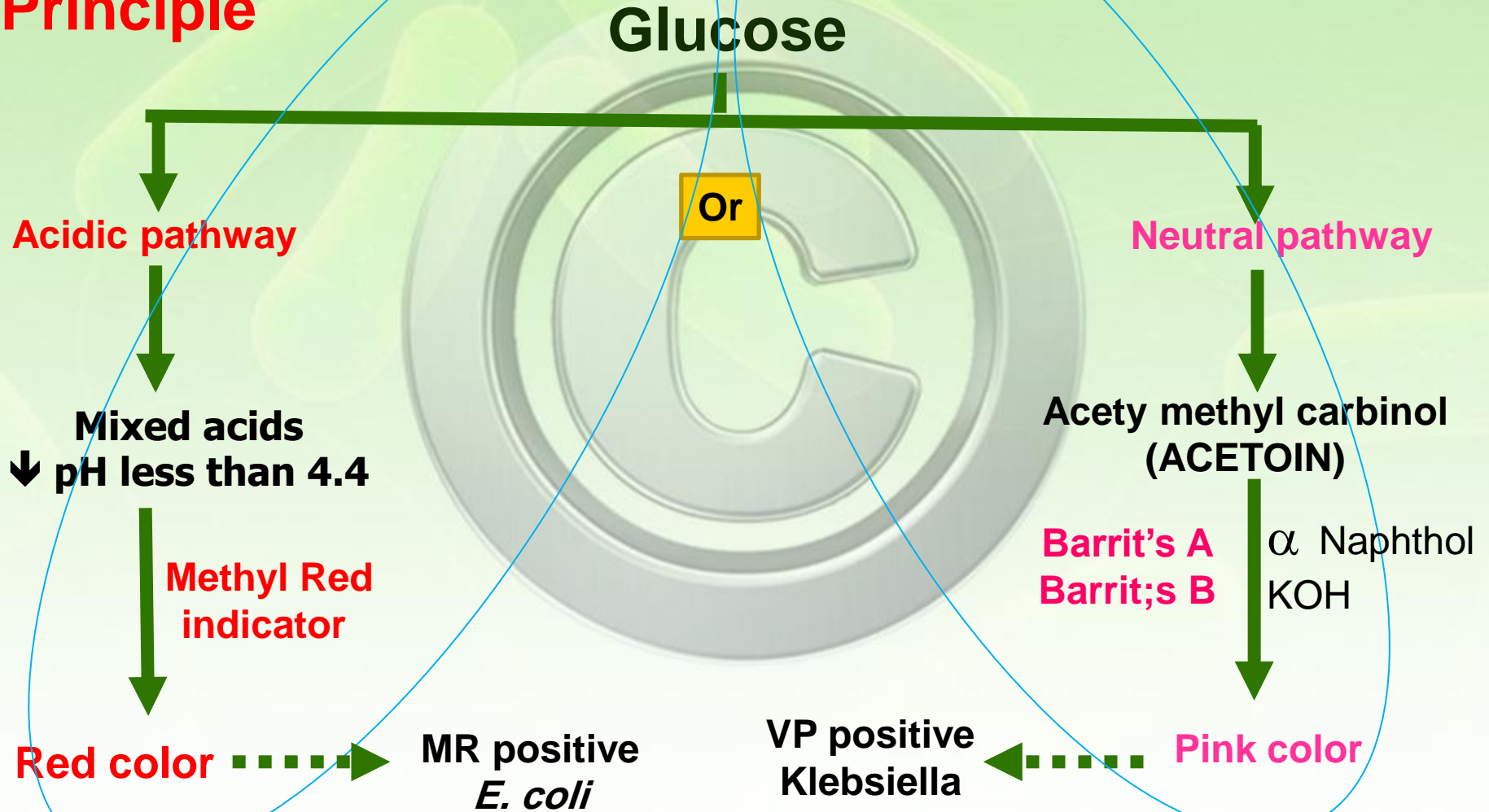
Negative test  
e.g. *Klebsiella*

Positive test  
e.g. *E. coli*



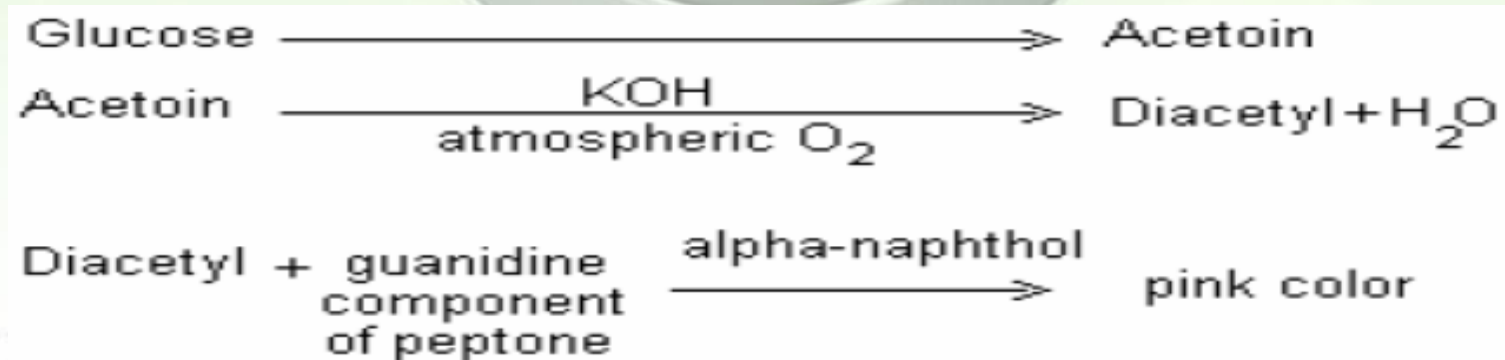
# Methyl Red-Voges Proskauer (MR-VP) Tests

## Principle

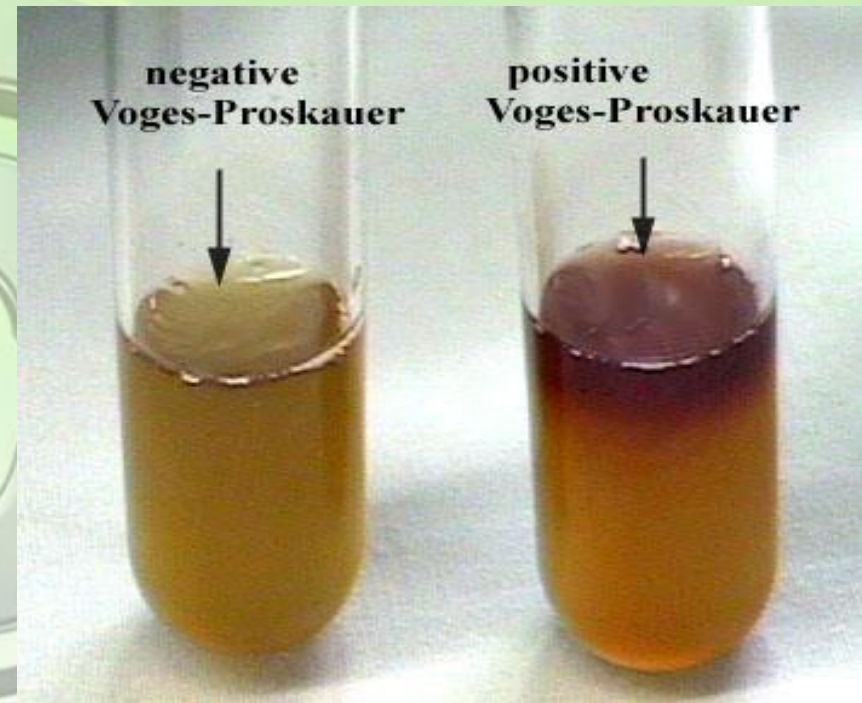
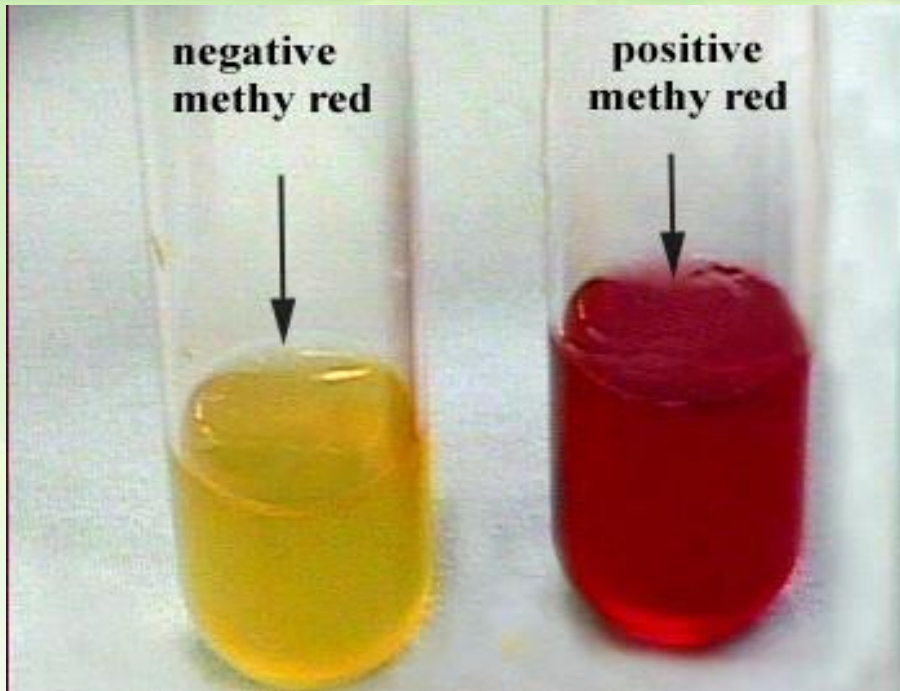


# Method

- Inoculate the tested organism into two tubes of **MRVP** broth
- Incubate the tubes at 37°C for 48 hours .
  - For methyl red: Add 6-8 drops of methyl red reagent.
  - For Voges-Proskauer: Add 12 drops of Barritt's A ( $\alpha$ -naphthol), mix, 4 drops of Barritt's B (40% KOH), mix



# Results



## Methyl Red test

- ✓ Red: Positive MR (*E. coli*)
- ✓ Yellow or orange: Negative MR (*Klebsiella*)

## Voges-Proskauer test

- ✓ Pink: Positive VP (*Klebsiella*)
- ✓ No pink: Negative VP (*E. coli*)

# Citrate Utilization Test

## Principle:



Alkaline,  $\uparrow$ pH

Simmons's Citrate media  
Contains Citrate as a sole of C source

Bromothymol blue

Positive test

Blue color

➤ Positive test: *Klebsiella*

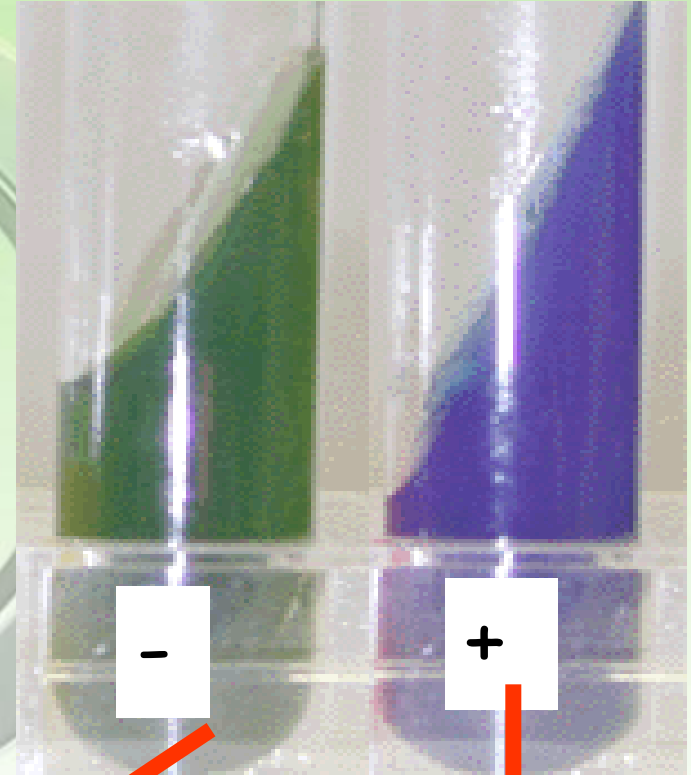
➤ Negative test: *E. coli*

# Method

- Streak a **Simmon's Citrate agar** with the organism
- Incubate at 37°C for 24 hours.

# ❖ Result

Growth on the medium is accompanied by a rise in pH to change the medium from its initial green color to deep blue



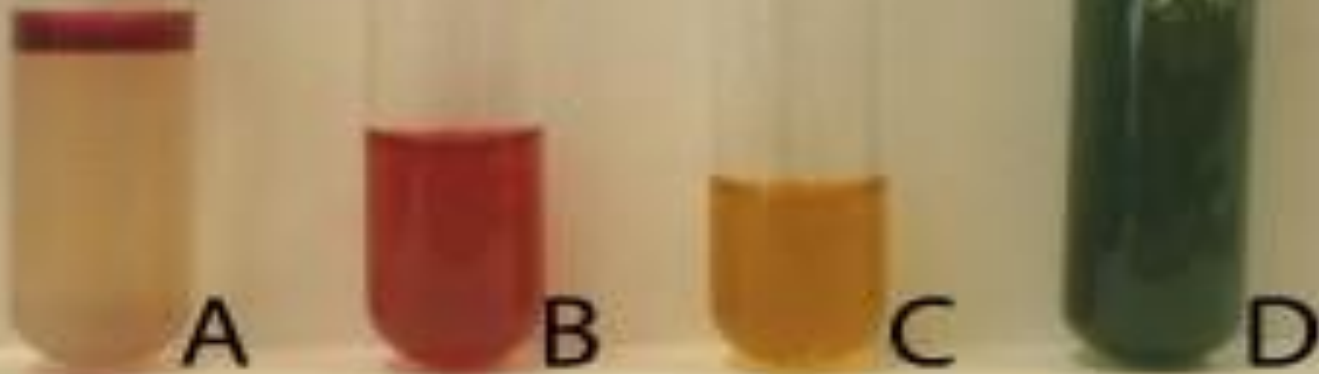
Negative  
*E. coli*

Positive  
Klebsiella



# IMViC Tests for *E. coli*

## IMViC Test



A. Indole (+) , B. Methyl red (+) , C. Voges-Proskauer (-) D. Citrate (-)

# IMViC Tests for *Klebsiella*

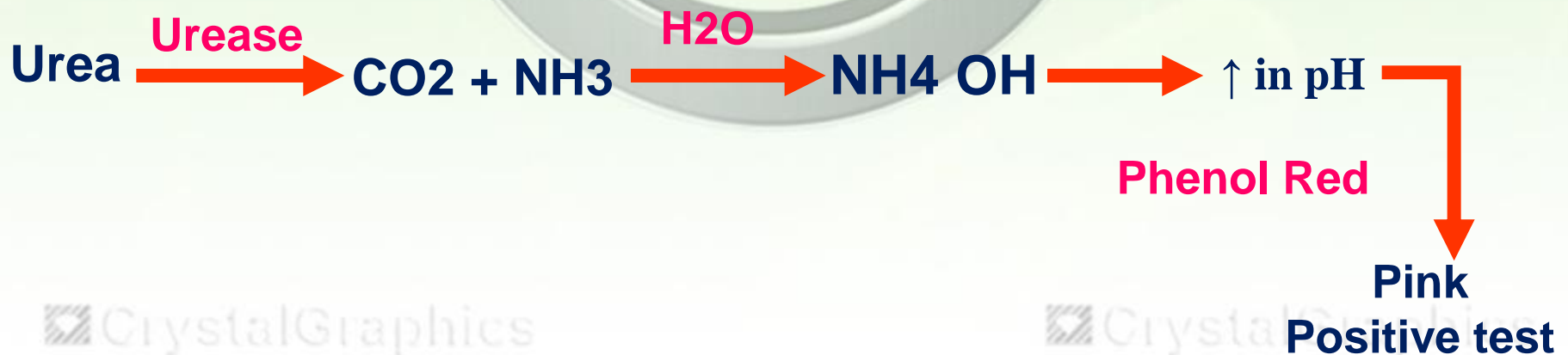


A. Indole (-) , B. Methyl red (-) , C. Voges-Proskauer (+) D. Citrate (+)

# Urease Test

## Principle

- Christenson medium contains urea 40% and phenol red
- Urease is an enzyme that catalyzes urea to CO<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>
- Ammonia combines with water to produce ammonium hydroxide, a strong base which ↑ pH of the medium.
- ↑ in the pH causes phenol red to turn a deep pink. This is indicative of a positive reaction for urease

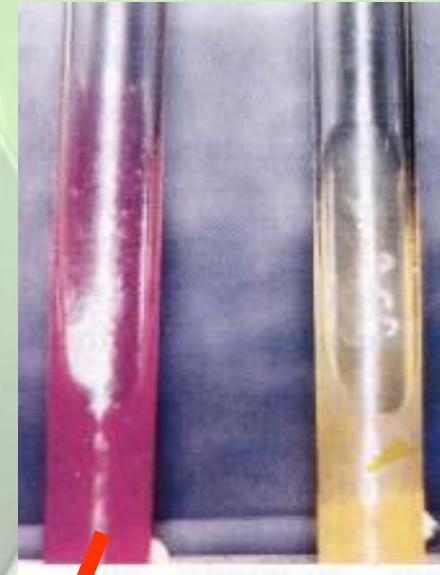


# Method

- Streak a **urea agar** tube with the organism
- Incubate at 37°C for 24 h

# Result

- If color of medium turns from yellow to pink indicates positive test.
- *Klebsiella* gave positive results after 24 hrs



Positive test

Negative test

# Conclusion

Test	Media	Substrate	Reagent	positive	negative
Indole	Pepton water	Tryptophan	Kovacs	Red ring	No red ring
Methyl red	MR-VP	Glucose	Methyl red	Red color	No red color
Voges-Proskauer	MR-VP	Glucose	$\alpha$ -naphthol + KOH 40%	Pink color	No pink color
Citrate	Simmon's citrate	Citrate	Bromothymol blue	Blue	Green
Urease	Christenson medium	urea	phenol red	Pink color	yellow

Thank You