

## MICROCOCCUS CRYOPHILUS IS NOT FLAGELLATED

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McLean, Sulzbacher, and Mudd (J. Bacteriol. **62**:724, 1951) stated in regard to *Micrococcus cryophilus*, "Peritrichous flagella have been demonstrated on a very occasional cell by Kulp's modification of Loeffler's stain. Likewise, an occasional motile cell has been observed in hanging drop preparations."

The first author was solely responsible for the conclusion that this organism was flagellated. The statement quoted above was based on an original stain, even though numerous subsequent stained preparations (Kulp's and Leifson's methods) and electron micrographs made prior to publication failed to demonstrate flagella. After extensive experience in staining flagella, the author is now convinced that streaming slime

(in a particularly deceptive instance) was interpreted as flagella in the original flagella stain on this organism. Motion of certain cells, as distinguished from Brownian movement, was observed in hanging drop preparations. The motion was not typical of movement of flagellated bacterial cells. It was a rather slow, tumbling or rolling motion which could conceivably have been associated with nuclear division (*see* Hunter, Exptl. Cell Res. **9**:224, 1955) in the occasional cell in which it was observed.

The following correction is hereby made: *Micrococcus cryophilus* (McLean et al.) is a nonflagellated coccus which is nonmotile in the usual sense of the word.