

Phthisiology: textbook





Professional training of medical professionals of the general practicioners network is a very important task, since they are an important element in addressing the TB epidemic. Therefore there was a need for a national textbook of tuberculosis involving Ukrainian and foreign highly skilled professionals in this field, who have invaluable clinical, teaching and research experience. Textbook meets the requirements of the Bologna process. It provides information about the etiology, pathogenesis, clinical presentation, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of tuberculosis. Texbook expounds latest achievements of national and international scientists, WHO standardized protocols in compliance with consistency and volume of standard provision of specialized care for TB patients. For students in higher education institutions.

PHTHISIOLOGY

TEXTBOOK

Edited by Professor V.I. PETRENKO

SECOND EDITION



APPROVED by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine as a national textbook for students of higher medical educational establishments

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INTRODUCTION	9
KEY TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS	
Chapter 1. GENERAL BASICS OF PHTHISIOLOGY	
1.1. History of Phthisiology (V.I. Petrenko)	
1.2. Basics of TB Control and Elimination (Pierpaolo di Colo	mbani)24
1.3. The Stop TB Strategy (Pierpaolo di Colombani)	
1.3.1. TB Control and Styblo's Model	
1.3.2. The DOTS Strategy	29
1.3.3. The Stop TB Strategy	
1.4. Epidemiology and Control of TB at the Global Level (Richard Zaleskis)	
1.4.1. Basics of TB Epidemiology	
1.4.2. TB Epidemiology in the World and in the Europe	
Region	
1.4.3. Combating TB in the World and in the European	
1.4.4. Achievements in TB Control	
1.4.5. Main Challenges in TB Control	
1.4.6. Next Steps in Global TB Control and its Eradicat	ion50
1.5. TB Epidemiology and Control in Ukraine (O.S. Shevch	enko)53
1.5.1. TB Control in Ukraine	
1.5.2. General Issues on TB Epidemiology	
1.5.3. Epidemiology of TB in Ukraine	63
1.6. Prevention of TB (Giovanni Battista Migliori)	66
1.6.1. Social Determinants and Noncommunicable Dise	
(Giovanni Battista Migliori)	
1.6.2. Contact Tracing (Giovanni Battista Migliori)	
1.6.3. BCG Vaccination (Giovanni Battista Migliori, R	
Zaleskis)	
 1.6.4. Psychological Aspects of Stigma and Discriminat of Patients with Tuberculosis and TB/HIV Co-ir 	nfection
(L.D. Todoriko)	
1.7. Infection Control (S.M. Ljepshina)	
1.7.1. Infection Control Rationale (Definition)	
1.7.2. TB Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities	
1.7.3. Administrative Control	
1.7.4. Environmental Control/Control of Air Indoors	
1.7.5. Personal Respiratory Protection	
1.7.6. Infection Control in TB Patients' Homes	

Chapter 2.	ETIO	LOGY AND PATHOGENESIS OF TUBERCULOSIS99
2.1.	TB Et	iology (V.I. Petrenko, O.S. Shevchenko)
	2.1.1.	Causative Agent of TB and Its Types
	2.1.2.	MTB Replication
	2.1.3.	MTB Structure
	2.1.4.	MTB Genetics
	2.1.5.	MTB Resistance to Anti-TB Drugs
	2.1.6.	Environmental Stability of MTB
	2.1.7.	Non-Tuberculosis (Atypical) Mycobacteria 107
2.2.	Patho	genesis of Tuberculosis (O.K. Asmolov, V.I. Petrenko) 109
	2.2.1.	Immunophysiology and Immunopathology of Tuberculosis
	222	Pathophisiology of Tuberculosis
	4.4.4.	Tuchophisiology of Tuberculosis
Chapter 3.	DETI	ECTION AND DIAGNOSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS 120
3.1.	Case I	Finding, Diagnosis and Screening (Giovanni Battista
	Miglio	ori)
	3.1.1.	Case-finding
	3.1.2.	Diagnosis
	3.1.3.	Screening
	3.1.4.	From Diagnosis to Registration
3.2.		cal Approach to Lung Health (PAL) (Giovanni Battista
		ori)
3.3.		odology of TB Patient Observation
	3.3.1.	Case History (V.I. Petrenko)
	3.3.2.	Physical Examination (V.I. Petrenko)
		Haematology (V.I. Petrenko)
		Biochemistry (V.I. Petrenko)
	3.3.5.	Laboratory Testing for MTB (V.I. Petrenko, Richard Zaleskis)
	3.3.6.	The Role of Tuberculin Skin Test (Mantoux Test)
		in Diagnosis of TB (Giovanni Battista Migliori,
		V.I. Petrenko)
	3.3.7.	Other Immunology Testing for Tuberculosis in Ukraine
		(V.I. Petrenko)
	3.3.8.	Radiological Diagnosis (V.I. Petrenko) 160
	3.3.9.	Functional Tests (L.A. Gryschuk)
	3.3.10	Instrumental Diagnostics (V.I. Petrenko)

C	n	A	-	-	M	7
1		N		ы	Ν	и
•	u	13				

Chapt	ter 4.	TREATMENT OF PATIENTS WITH TUBERCULOSIS	175
-	4.1.	Brief Historical Overview of the Development	
		of Antimycobacterial Therapy (Vaira Laimane)	175
	4.2.	Principles of Treatment of Patients with Tuberculosis	
		(V.I. Petrenko)	176
	4.3.	Antimycobacterials. Theoretical Basis of Antituberculosis	
		Treatment (V.I. Petrenko, Vaira Laimane)	
		4.3.1. Antituberculosis Drugs Activity	
		4.3.2. Bacteriologic Bases for TB Treatment (Vaira Laimane)	178
		4.3.3. Antituberculosis Drugs (V.I. Petrenko, Richard Zaleskis)	179
		4.3.4. Side Effects of Anti-TB Drugs (B.M. Puchlykh)	188
	4.4.	Treatment of Susceptible TB (Vaira Laimane)	192
		4.4.1. The Aims of Susceptible TB Treatment	192
		4.4.2. Standardized Treatment Regimens for Active Tuberculosis	
		in Defined Patient Groups (L.D. Todorico)	192
		4.4.3. Phases of Treatment of Pulmonary and Extra Pulmonary	
		Tuberculosis	193
		4.4.4. Evidence Based Recommendations for Tuberculosis	
		Treatment	194
		4.4.5. Recommended Treatment Regimens for New Pulmonary	
		TB Cases	195
		4.4.6. Recommended Treatment for Previously Treated	
		TB Cases (Relapses, Treatment after Failure, and	400
		Treatment after Default)	
	, -	4.4.7. Monitoring of TB Treatment Response	
		Adjuvant Therapy in Ukraine	
	4.6.	Surgical Treatment of Patients with Tuberculosis (I.D. Duzhij)	
		4.6.1. Historical Overview on Surgery for Tuberculosis	
		4.6.2. Current Indications for Surgery in TB	
		4.6.3. Contraindications for Surgery in TB	
		4.6.4. Types of Surgical Operations	
		4.6.5. Pre- and Post-Surgical Follow-up	
	4.7.	Patients' Support and DOT (Vaira Laimane)	
		4.7.1. Importance of Adherence to TB Treatment	
		4.7.2. Patient-Centered Approach	
		4.7.3. Directly Observed Therapy (DOT)	
		4.7.4. Treatment for TB in Hospital	215
		4.7.5. Delivering DOT on Ambulatory Bases	216
		4.7.6. TB Patient Education	219

Chapter 5. CLINICAL FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	
(V.I. Petrenko, M.G. Boyko)	
5.1. Classification of Tuberulosis	
5.1.1. International Classification of Tuberculosis	
5.1.2. Classification of TB in Ukraine	
5.1.3. Formulation of TB Diagnosis	
5.2. The Primary Tuberculosis	
5.2.1. Overview of Primary TB Forms	
5.2.2. Tuberculosis of the Nondefined Localization/Primary Site 22	
5.2.3. Primary TB Complex	
5.2.4. TB of Intrathoracic Lymph Nodes Tuberculosis 23	
5.2.5. Complications of the Primary Tuberculosis 24	43
5.2.6. Specific Features of the Primary Tuberculosis in Different	22720
Age Groups	
5.3. The Secondary Tuberculosis	
5.3.1. Disseminated Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
5.3.2. Focal Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
5.3.3. Infiltrative Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
5.3.4. Caseous Pneumonia	
5.3.5. Pulmonary Tuberculoma	
5.3.6. Fibrotic-Cavitary Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
5.3.7. Cirrhotic Pulmonary Tuberculosis	39
5.3.8. Pulmonary Tuberculosis Associated with Occupational Dust-related Pulmonary Disease (Coniotuberculosis) 29	93
5.4. Complications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis	95
5.4.1. Respiratory Insufficiency/Failure	95
5.4.2. Cor Pulmonale	
5.4.3. Haemoptysis and Pulmonary Bleeding 30	00
5.4.4. Spontaneous Pneumothorax	
5.4.5. Atelectasis	
5.4.6. Amyloidosis of Internal Organs	
5.4.7. Bronchial and Thoracic Fistulae	
5.5. Residual Changes after Pulmonary Tuberculosis 30	08
5.6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory Organs Associated with Other	
Illnesses and Conditions	12
5.6.1. Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Non-Specific Respiratory	
Disease	12
5.6.2. Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Diabetes Mellitus	13

O			

5.6.3. Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer 31	13
5.6.4. Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Alcoholism 31	14
5.6.5. Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Cancer	15
5.6.6. Tuberculosis in Pregnancy and Lactation	16
5.6.7. Tuberculosis in Children	23
5.6.8. Tuberculosis in the Elderly and Aged People	24
5.7. Extrapulmonary tuberculosis	25
5.7.1. Tuberculosis of bronchi, trachea, larynx and upper	
respiratory tract	25
5.7.2. Tuberculosis pleurisy (including empyema)	27
5.7.3. Neuro-tuberculosis and meningeal tuberculosis	32
5.7.4. Boneandjoint tuberculosis	36
5.7.5. Genitourinary tuberculosis	38
5.7.6. Tuberculosis of peripheral lymph nodes	43
5.7.7. Abdominal tuberculosis	43
5.7.8. Miliary tuberculosis	44
5.7.9. Skin, subcutaneous tissue and ocular tuberculosis 34	48
Chapter 6. DRUG RESISTANT TUBERCULOSIS AND TB/HIV	
COINFECTION	52
6.1. Epidemiology of Multidrug Resistant Tuberculosis	
(Giovanni Battista Migliori)	
6.1.1. Risk Factors for MDR-TB and XDR-TB Development 35	55
6.2. Diagnostics and Treatment of Drug-Resistant TB	2
(Giovanni Battista Migliori)	
6.2.1. Clinical Features of MDR-TB and XDR-TB	
6.2.2. Establishing Diagnosis of Drug-resistant TB	
6.2.3. New Technologies for Rapid Diagnosis of MDR-TB 35	
6.2.4. Conservative Drug Treatment of Drug-resistant TB 36	
6.2.5. Failure of Therapy and Retreatment Regimens 36	
6.2.6. Treatment Monitoring for Drug-resistant TB 36	64
6.2.7. Risk Factors and Treatment Outcomes of MDR-TB	
Treatment	
6.2.8. Surgical Treatment for MDR-TB and XDR-TB	
6.3. Control of MDR-TB and XDR-TB (Giovanni Battista Migliori) 36	
6.3.1. Infection Control Measures and Recommendations 36	66
6.3.2. Global Recommendations for Prevention and Control	00
of Drug-resistant TB	
6.4. TB/HIV Co-infection (Alberto Mattelli)	70

	6.4.1. Epidemiology	
	6.4.2. Diagnosis and Treatment of TB/HIV	
	Persons:	
	6.4.4. Treatment of TB and HIV Co-infection	
	6.4.5. Prevention of TB in HIV-infected People	
	6.4.6. Control of TB/HIV Co-infection	378
Chapter 7	. TREATMENT OF LATENT TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION	
	(Richard Zaleskis, V.I. Petrenko)	385
7.1.	Introduction	385
7.2.	Recommended Regimens for Treatment of Latent TB	
	Infection and Their Effectiveness	386
Chapter 8	NEW PERSPECTIVES IN DEVELOPMENT	
	OF PHTHYSIOLOGY (Giovanni Battista Migliori)	388
8.1.	New Technologies in TB Diagnostics	
	8.1.1. The New Diagnostics	388
	8.1.2. Improving Culture and Drug Susceptibility Testing 8.1.3. Looking for Biomarkers: Mycobacterial Lipoarabinomannan	
	(LAM)	
	8.1.4. Immunodiagnostic Methods: Are They Able to Differentiate	
	TB Infection and Disease?	390
	8.1.5. Other New Diagnostic Techniques	391
	8.1.6. World Health Organization Policy Statement	000
0.0	on Commercial Serodiagnostic Tests	
8.2.	New Medications	
	8.2.1. Priority Areas for Research in Anti-TB Drugs	
	8.2.2. Methodological Issues in Anti-TB Drug Development	
Sections	8.2.3. Anti-TB Drugs Presently Undergoing Clinical Trials	
8.3.	Vaccines	
	8.3.1. BCG Vaccine	401
	8.3.2. The Two Vaccination Strategies: Pre-exposure and Post-exposure	402
	8.3.3. The Roadmap for the Future	
REFERE	NCES	407

INTRODUCTION

Currently tuberculosis (TB) poses one of the major threats for the public health. Weakening of struggle against this disease in many economically developed countries was premature and led to loss of control over the situation and, as a consequence, not a single region of the world has eliminated this disease.

In the 90th of the XX century socio-economic crisis in Ukraine, stress and unbalanced diet, impact of the small doses of radiation after the Chernobyl disaster, environmental pollution, primarily of air, water and food products by industrial emissions, and pesticides led to decreased immunity of many people, as well as insufficient TB control activities, forming a background for an outbreak of tuberculosis to occur. Nowadays TB is widely spread in the post-soviet countries as well as in the poorest countries of Africa and Asia. However, TB much rarely occurs in representatives of indigenous population of economically developed countries. Cases of disease in these countries are mainly associated with HIV-infection or migration of population from TB high burden countries.

TB is first of all a social disease that is why TB morbidity is growing in the countries with poor socio-economic conditions of life, low educational level and sanitary culture of population.

In April 1993 World Health Organization (WHO) proclaimed tuberculosis the global emergency.

Drawbacks in the operations of the healthcare system, spread of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV/AIDS) and development of forms of tuberculosis resistant to anti-TB drugs have exacerbated the problem.

In the year 2001 Verhovna Rada of Ukraine approved the Law of Ukraine "On Combating Tuberculosis Disease". After that departmental orders regulating operations of the state tuberculosis service of the country were issued.

International organizations, first of all WHO Regional Office for Europe, WHO office in Ukraine and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have greatly supported organization of anti-TB activities in Ukraine. Dozens of conferences and training workshops have been conducted with participation of international professionals. Collaboration with international organizations provided material support for interventions to combat TB and enhanced the level of knowledge of health professionals. Collaboration with such respected organizations as the World Bank and Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was also useful.

General practitioners being an important link in overcoming TB epidemics, their training seem to be an extremely important process. This necessitated the creation of a national textbook on phthisiology with participation of Ukrainian and top international experts in this field, possessing a valuable experience of clinical, pedagogical and scientific work.

INTRODUCTION

This textbook meets the requirements of Bologna process. It provides information on aetiology, pathogenesis, clinical picture, diagnostics, treatment and prevention of tuberculosis. The most up-to-date developments of both national and international scientists, WHO materials, which have been unified by working protocols with respect to sequence and scope of provision of specialized medical care to TB patients, are presented.

Chapter 2

ETIOLOGY AND PATHOGENESIS OF TUBERCULOSIS

2.1. TB ETIOLOGY

2.1.1. Causative Agent of TB and Its Types

On March 24, 1882 R. Koch demonstrated to the scientific community the causative agent of TB under microscope and its pure culture. R. Koch proved its infectious origin by causing disease in animals. In his honor the microorganism was named Koch's bacillum (*bacillum Kochii*). The current name of the TB causative agent is Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB), a pathogen from the *Mycobacterium* genus of the family of fungi *Actinomicetae* (See Fig. 2.1.1).

Causative agent of lepra, acid-fast, opportunistic (atypical) mycobacteria and acid-fast saprophytes also belong to the genus of mycobacteria. In certain conditions the atypical mycobacteria can cause mycobacteriosis in humans — disease

similar to TB. Acid fast saprophytes are not pathogenic for human beings or animals.

The generic term 'tubercle bacilli' incorporates at least five species belonging to a group termed M. tuberculosis complex: M. tuberculosis, M. bovis, M. africanum, M. microti, M.canetti.

Mycobacterium tuberculosis are the human species, causative agent of tuberculosis in human beings.

Mycobacterium bovis are the bovine species, causative agent of tuberculosis in cattle;

Mycobacterium africanum — African species, isolated in Western Africa, having the signs of both above types.

A rare TB cases in humans caused by *M. Microti and M. Canetti* have also been reported. Most often the disease in humans is caused by human species of *M. tuberculosis* (92% of cases), seldom — by bovine (5%) and intermediate species (3%).

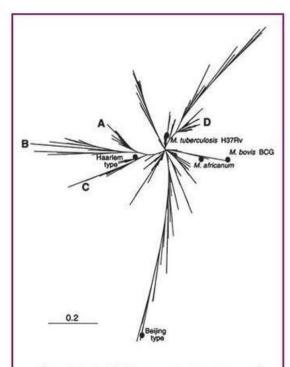


Fig. 2.1.1. Philogenetic Position of MTB within the Genus Mycobacterium (Positions of some reference strains (M.tuberculosis H37Rv, M.bovis BCG, M. africanum group) are shown as well)

Chapter 2 ETIOLOGY AND PATHOGENESIS OF TUBERCULOSIS

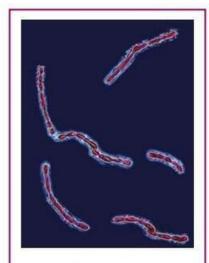


Fig. 2.1.2. Mycobacteria Tuberculosis (Optical Microscopy)

Typical MTB (Fig. 2.1.2 - 2.1.5) are aerobes, non motile, which look like thin, straight or slightly bended sticks/rods, homogeneous or granulated 0.8-5 micrometers in length and 0.3-0.6 micrometers in width, they do not form spores and capsules, they are acid-, base-, alcohol fast and gram positive. The microbial cell has a microcapsule, cytoplasmatic membrane, cytoplasm with organelles (granules, vacuoles, and ribosomes).

In contrast to M. Tuberculosis, M. bovis are shorter and thicker, their dimensions are $0.2-0.8 \times 1-10$ micrometers. At the same time its cocci like L-forms were described (Fig. 2.1.6-2.1.7). It is known that globally over 50 mln. of cattle are infected with

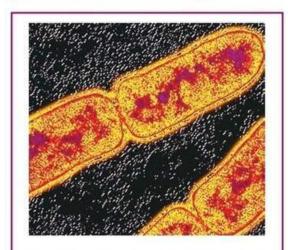


Fig. 2.1.3. Mycobacteria Tuberculosis (Electron Microscopy; × 50 000)

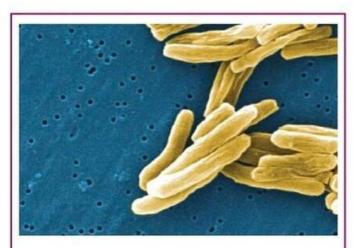


Fig. 2.1.4. Mycobacteria Tuberculosis (Color Electron Microphotograph; × 15,594)

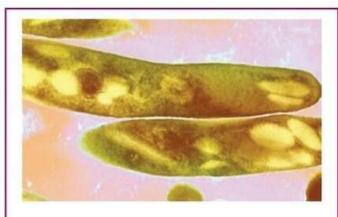


Fig. 2.1.5. Mycobacteria Tuberculosis (Electron Microphotograph Showing Details of MTB Ultrastructure)

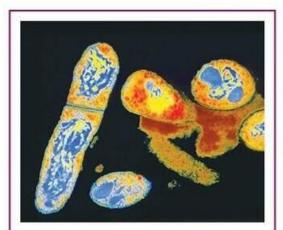


Fig. 2.1.6. Mycobacterium Bovis (Electron Microphotograph)

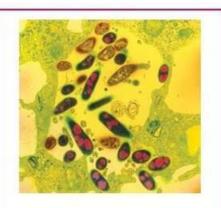


Fig. 2.1.7. BCG Vaccinal Strain (M. bovis) in the Human Macrophage (Green-color Microphotograph; × 11500)

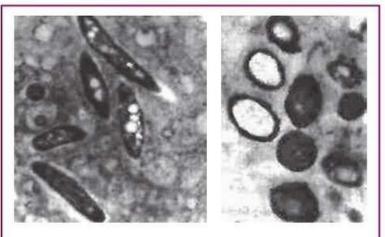


Fig. 2.1.8. Much's Granules in MTB (Optical Microscopy)

M. Bovis, which leads to significant economic losses. M. bovis may be pathogenic for humans.

To identify human species MTB niacin test is used (they secrete more niacin — nicotine acid).

Young MTB are homogenous, but with ageing granulation develops (Much's granules), which can be detailed by optical microscopy (see Fig. 2.1.8).

Under the influence of anti-TB drugs change of physical and chemical properties of MTB occurs: they become short, approach coccobaccilli, their acid fastness is reduced (when stained by Zeil-Nilsen they discolorate/poorly stain and cannot be identified) (See Fig. 2.1.9, 2.1.10). The TB causative agent can also exist as *filterable* forms (Fontes, 1910).

Transformation of bacterial form of MTB into dormant forms is called *persis*tence. Return of persistent forms into bacterial ones is called reversion.

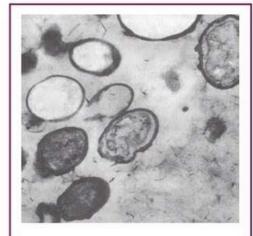


Fig. 2.1.9. Dormant Forms of MTB (Electron Microscopy)

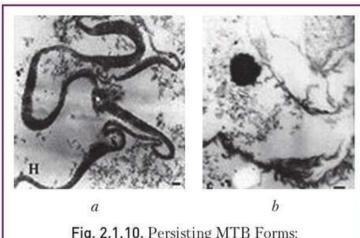


Fig. 2.1.10. Persisting MTB Forms: a) Thread-like forms of M.tuberculosis; b) Spherical forms of M. tuberculosis

Chapter 2 ETIOLOGY AND PATHOGENESIS OF TUBERCULOSIS

2.1.2. MTB Replication

MTB replicates by transverse splitting, branching or budding of individual granules. This cycle lasts for 20—29 hours.

MTB grow on nutritional media in presence of oxygen, however they are facultative aerobes that is they are able to grow in the absence of oxygen access to the nutritional medium (they obtain oxygen from carbohydrates). That is why growing of MTB requires nutrient medium rich in carbohydrates (E.O.Shkolnikova). Effective solid nutrient media contain eggs, milk, potatoes, glycerin. Most often Lowenstein-Jensen and Fyn-2 media are used; less frequently — of Ogava, Middlebrook (the optimum temperature for growth is 37—38°C).

To facilitate MTB growth 3—6% glycerin is added to the media. MTB grow better on weakly alkaline medium although they can grow in neutral medium. Adding bile to the medium slows down their growth, which was used by Calmette and Guerin when they developed their vaccine.

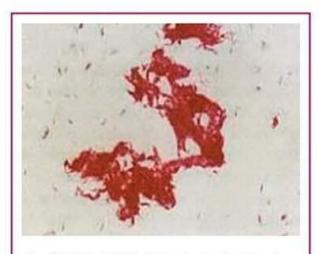
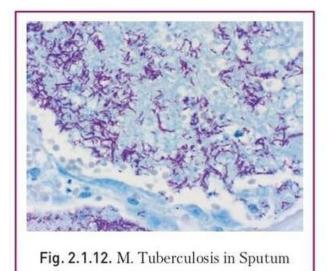
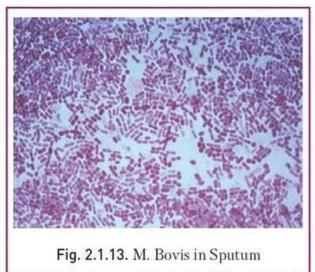


Fig. 2.1.11. MTB Colonies in the Nutrient Medium (Microscopy)

MBT grow slowly. As a rule first colonies appear on liquid nutrient media on day 7, and on the solid ones — in two-three weeks, allowing obtaining the pure culture and identifying the causative agent (Fig. 2.1.11 — 2.1.13). On liquid nutrient media with added glycerol the MTB colonies grow as films. MTB colonies can be rough (R-variants) or rarer — smooth confluent colonies (S-variants). R-variants of MTB are virulent for humans and animals; S-variants most often are non-virulent.





2.1.3. MTB Structure

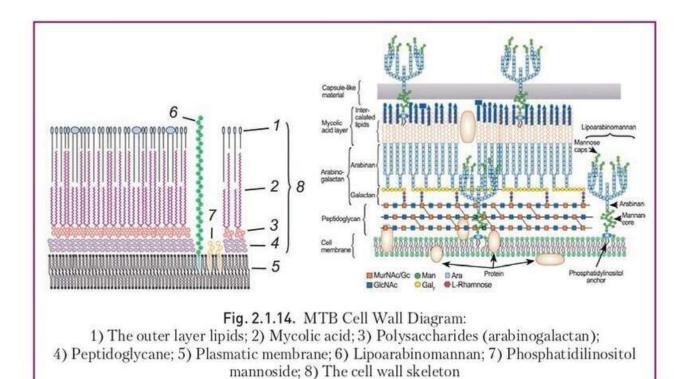
The MTB cell wall has three layers: outer, medium and inner layer. In the virulent MTB it is 230-250 nm thick.

The outer layer surrounding the cell is called *microcapsule*; it is formed by polvsaccharides and contains fibrils. It can surround the whole population of MTB and may be located at sites of its contact. The absence or presence of growth, its intensity and composition of the microcapsule depend on which amount of cordfactor is extracted from the cytoplasm into the cell wall. The more cord-factor is extracted, the more pronounced MTB capsule is.

The cell wall participates in the regulation of metabolic processes. It contains the species specific antigens, due to which the cell wall is the locus, in which allergic reactions of hypersensitivity of the slow type and formation of antibodies occur, since it, as well as the surface structure of the bacterial cell is the first to contact with the macroorganism/host tissues.

Beneath the cell wall there are three layers of cytoplasm membrane closely adjacent to cytoplasm and consisting of lipoprotein complexes. Here the processes which condition the specificity of MTB response to environmental factors take place (Fig. 2.1.14).

The MTB cytoplasmic membrane by way of afferent invagination forms the inner cytoplasmic membrane system in the cytoplasm — mesosome. Mesosomes are semifunctional structures containing many enzymatic systems. They participate in the synthesis and formation of the cell wall and play the role of mediator between the nucleus and the cytoplasm of the bacterial cell.





КУПИТИ