

✓ **AEROCOCCUS VIRIDANS MENINGITIS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD**

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Three cases of acute meningitis in children aged 5 months, 7 months and 2 years respectively, are reported. CSF from all 3 cases plated at the bedside gave pure cultures of *Aerococcus viridans*; direct smears of CSF showed gram positive cocci with a predominant single coccal arrangement. Skin sepsis and a respiratory tract infection were the probable antecedent infections in case 3 and 2 respectively. The first patient died with necropsy appearances of a predominantly vertical and basal pyogenic meningitis from which *A. viridans* was recovered. Cases 2 and 3 recovered on treatment with antibiotics, with no residual lesions.

The isolates from all 3 cases were identical in morphological, cultural and biochemical properties and conformed to typical strains of *Aerococcus viridans*. Apart from reports of the isolation of *A. viridans* from a few cases of human endocarditis, bacteraemia and urinary tract infection, no previous reports appear to exist of human meningitis caused by *A. viridans*.