SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIAE

CITATIONS WITH MILITARY RELEVANCE

C. McDonough

C. Benjamin

G. C. Gray

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NAVAL HEALTH RESEARCH CENTER
P. O. BOX 85122
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92186 – 5122

NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMAND
BETHESDA, MARYLAND
Select Bibliography of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*  
Citations With Military Relevance

Colleen McDonough  
Cyrene C. Benjamin  
Gregory C. Gray

Emerging Illness Research Team  
Department of Health Sciences and Epidemiology  
Division of Clinical Epidemiology  
Naval Health Research Center  
P.O. Box 85122  
San Diego, CA 92186-5122

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SUMMARY

Problem.

Locating high-quality references can be taxing and time-consuming. Military researchers often spend valuable time searching through library databases and journals to find information relevant to their field of work, time that would be much better spent at the laboratory bench, medical clinic, or at a study site.

*Mycoplasma pneumoniae* is a common cause of pneumonia among military trainees. Serologic studies demonstrate that as many as 57% of recruits were infected over an 11-week period. The pathogen has been implicated as a risk factor for concomitant infection with other respiratory pathogens. Unexplained fulminant infection and death may also be attributed to infection with *M. pneumoniae*.

Although recognized nearly 30 years ago as a leading cause of atypical pneumonia, little progress has been made in developing clinically useful diagnostic tests or in preventing morbidity from this pathogen. Attempts were made but aborted in the 1970s to develop a vaccine. For many years, the only sure way to diagnose infection was via slow-growing cultures or serologic studies. Recently, the development of better and more clinically adaptable diagnostic techniques, such as those using enzyme-linked immunoassay and polymerase chain reaction, have brought promise to mycoplasma research. These tests may enable military researchers to better understand the epidemiology of *M. pneumoniae* and thereby to prevent morbidity associated with this pathogen.

Objective.

To compile a bibliography of military-relevant *M. pneumoniae* citations for Department of Defense public health and research personnel.

Approach.

We performed a MEDLINE search and collected a number of key published works regarding *M. pneumoniae* infection among military personnel. We added relevant references from their bibliographies. This approach led us to other significant articles, from which we
extracted additional references. Since the Department of Defense sponsored much mycoplasma research during the 1960s and 1970s, we focused chiefly on this time frame.

**Results.**

This document currently lists 242 references, organized by year of publication, and then stratified in alphabetical order according to the first author's last name. We have chosen to focus upon years for which no electronic catalog of references exists (e.g., MEDLINE).

**Conclusions.**

These seminal works will aid the rapid identification of high-quality references needed to study the epidemiology of *M. pneumoniae*. They are fundamental to understanding this pathogen's epidemiology and in planning public health measures to reduce its associated morbidity.
Table of Contents

1996 ................................................................. 1
1995 ................................................................. 1
1994 ................................................................. 1
1993 ................................................................. 2
1992 ................................................................. 3
1991 ................................................................. 3
1990 ................................................................. 3
1989 ................................................................. 4
1988 ................................................................. 4
1987 ................................................................. 4
1986 ................................................................. 4
1985 ................................................................. 5
1984 ................................................................. 5
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1981 ................................................................. 6
1980 ................................................................. 6
1979 ................................................................. 6
1978 ................................................................. 7
1977 ................................................................. 7
1976 ................................................................. 7
1975 ................................................................. 8
1974 ................................................................. 9
1973 ................................................................. 9
1972 ................................................................. 10
1971 ................................................................. 10
1970 ................................................................. 11
1969 ................................................................. 11
1968 ................................................................. 12
1967 ................................................................. 12
1966 ................................................................. 13
1965 ................................................................. 13
1964 ................................................................. 13

iii
1996

1995


1994


1993


1992


1991


1990

1989


1988


1987


1986


1985


1984


1983


1982


1981


1980


1979


1978


1977


1976


1975


1974


1973


1972


1971


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1968


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1966

1965


1964


1963


1962

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Reimann HA. An acute infection of the respiratory tract with atypical pneumonia; a disease entity probably caused by a filterable virus. *JAMA*. 1938;111:2377-2384.
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