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Bacteroides fragilis

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Bacteroides fragilis*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C86172.

A species of obligately anaerobic, Gram-negative, rod shaped bacteria assigned to the phylum Bacteroidetes. This species is nonmotile, non-spore forming, indole positive, produces hydrogen sulfide, does not reduce nitrate, hydrolyzes esculin and starch, does not ferment trehalose, melezitose or arabinose, and is penicillin resistant. *B. fragilis* is commensal and part of the normal human gastrointestinal tract flora, but may become pathogenic in other body regions.