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# Francisella tularensis

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Francisella tularensis*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C86397.

A species of aerobic, Gram negative, coccobacilli shaped bacterium in the phylum Proteobacteria. It has two main serotypes, Jellison Type A and Jellison Type B. This species is hemolytic, oxidase negative, catalase positive and nonfermentative. *F. tularensis* is pathogenic, being a causative agent of Tularemia which is mainly contracted when handling infected rabbits. This bacterium has been classified as a Category A critical biological agent due to its ease of dissemination by aerosol, causing high mortality with the potential for a major public health impact.