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# Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C86377.

A species of facultatively anaerobic, Gram positive, rod shaped bacterium assigned to the phylum Firmicutes. This species is nonsporulating, not acid fast, decolorizes rapidly so may appear Gram negative, alpha-hemolytic and catalase and oxidase negative. *E. rhusiopathiae* is found in a variety of host animals including fish and swine as well as in feces and sewage. It is pathogenic in a variety of organisms including domestic swine and humans, causing both cutaneous and septicemic infections and the disease swine erysipelas.