**Burkholderia mallei**

**Major Characteristics of Burkholderia mallei**

**Gram stain Morphology:** Gram-negative coccobacillus or small rod

**Colony Morphology:** Poorly growing colonies after 24 hours incubation. At 48 hours better growth of gray, translucent colonies without pigment or hemolysis; Poor or no growth on MAC in 48 hours

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**Indole?**
- **Positive:** Burkholderia mallei is ruled out. Continue with routine identification.
- **Negative:**
  - **Catalase?**
    - **Positive:**
      - **Motility?**
        - **Positive:** Burkholderia mallei is ruled out. Consider Burkholderia pseudomallei.
        - **Negative:**
          - **Colistin or Polymyxin B?**
            - **Sensitive:** Burkholderia mallei can NOT be ruled out
            - **Resistant:**
              - **Growth at 42°C?**
                - **No growth:**
                  - **Call the North Dakota Department of Health and send the suspected agent**

**Report:** Possible Burkholderia mallei submitted to NDPHL for confirmatory testing

https://www.asm.org/Articles/Policy/Laboratory-Response-Network-(LRN)-Sentinel-Level-C