

Burkholderia cepacia

Confirmation

Although *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* remains the most common organism recovered from patients with cystic fibrosis, the isolation of another bacterial pathogen, *Burkholderia cepacia* has important clinical implications as well. *Burkholderia cepacia*, formerly known as *Pseudomonas cepacia*, is intrinsically resistant to a wide range of antimicrobial agents and may be especially virulent in patients with CF. Because of phenotypic similarities to other bacteria, it is frequently difficult to identify. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation supports a clinical research laboratory at Allegheny University of the Health Sciences in Philadelphia, PA under the direction of Dr. John LiPuma that we have found helpful in characterizing these difficult to identify non-fermenting gram-negative rods. The testing is performed without charge and the only requirement for submission is that a brief summary, similar to the CDC form, be completed and mailed with the isolate. For more information or to obtain a copy of the submission form by FAX, please call Peter Iwen at (402) 559-7774.