



Epidemic pulmonary infection associated with *Mycobacterium xenopi* indigenous in sewage-sludge.

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Author: I. Szabó

K K Kiss

I. Várnai

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Mycobacterium Infections - epidemiology

Mycobacterium Infections, Nontuberculous - epidemiology - etiology

Nontuberculous *Mycobacteria* - isolation & purification

Sewage

Soil Microbiology

Waste Disposal, Fluid

Abstract: *Mycobacterium xenopi* was isolated from the sputum of 21 patients with clinical signs of pulmonary disease and of 52 asymptomatic subjects living in the environment of a sludge pool. *M. xenopi* was cultured in high numbers from sludge samples. The infections were assumed to occur partly via dry sludge particles scattered by the wind in summer, and partly by sludge used as fertilizer.

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