

Request for an Opinion

Correspondence
David R. Arahal
arahal@uv.es

The status of the species *Pectinatus portalensis* Gonzalez *et al.* 2005. Request for an Opinion

Claudine Vereecke¹ and David R. Arahal²

¹BCCM/LMG Bacteria Collection, Ghent University, K. L. Ledeganckstraat 35, B-9000 Gent, Belgium

²Colección Española de Cultivos Tipo (CECT) and Departamento de Microbiología y Ecología, Universitat de València, Campus de Burjassot, 46100 València, Spain

On the basis of 16S rRNA gene sequence analysis and several key phenotypic features, it was ascertained that the cultures cited as the type strain of the species *Pectinatus portalensis*, CECT 5841^T and LMG 22865^T, do not conform to the description, [Gonzalez, J. M., Jurado, V., Laiz, L., Zimmerman, J., Hermosin, B. & Saiz-Jimenez, C. (2004). *Antonie van Leeuwenhoek* **86**, 241–248]. The type strain does not exist in any other established culture collection or with the authors who described this species. Therefore, it cannot be included in any scientific study. It is proposed that the Judicial Commission place the name *Pectinatus portalensis* on the list of rejected names if a suitable replacement type strain is not found or a neotype is not proposed within two years following the publication of this Request for an Opinion.

The species *Pectinatus portalensis* was described by Gonzalez *et al.* (2004) based on a single strain, B6, as an obligate anaerobic, Gram-negative bacterium possessing coccoid to slightly oval-shaped cells. The GenBank/EMBL/DBJ accession number for the 16S rRNA gene sequence of strain B6^T is AY428574. In the protologue of the effective publication, one culture collection number was given for the type strain, CECT 5841^T, and later a second one, LMG 22865^T, was provided on request for validation (Gonzalez *et al.*, 2005). It was later found that none of the deposited strains conformed to the description of the type strain of *Pectinatus portalensis*.

Based on the results of 16S rRNA gene sequence analysis, strains CECT 5841 and LMG 22865 were identified as *Enterococcus faecalis*. Indeed they could be cultured aerobically, had a perfect coccal morphology rather than coccoid or oval, and were Gram-positive. These results were obtained separately at the LMG and CECT almost simultaneously and communicated to each party and to the depositor and corresponding author of the original description (Gonzalez *et al.*, 2004). Unfortunately, all attempts to replace the type strain have been unfruitful (Juan M. Gonzalez, personal communication).

According to Rule 18c of the *International Code of Nomenclature of Bacteria* (Lapage *et al.*, 1992), if a suitable replacement type strain or a neotype cannot be found or proposed, respectively, within two years of the publication of this Request for an Opinion, it is proposed that the Judicial Commission places the name *Pectinatus portalensis* on the list of rejected names.

References

- Gonzalez, J. M., Jurado, V., Laiz, L., Zimmermann, J., Hermosin, B. & Saiz-Jimenez, C. (2004). *Pectinatus portalensis* nov. sp., a relatively fast-growing, coccoidal, novel *Pectinatus* species isolated from a wastewater treatment plant. *Antonie van Leeuwenhoek* **86**, 241–248.
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