Achromobacter xylosoxidans is an emerging pathogen primarily seen in immunocompromised patients. It is a non-fermentative, gram negative bacterium that has developed multi-drug resistance and is capable of forming biofilms on medical products. We present the case of a 50-year old immunocompetent, type 1 diabetic female with a five-month history of tender lump at an attachment site for her insulin pump. Incision and drainage of the lump produced 10 cc of purulent material that was cultured and grew Achromobacter xylosoxidans.

The culture was resistant to multiple antibiotics, but was susceptible to trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole. After surgical incision and drainage, extirpation of the surrounding granulomatous material, and a 10-day course of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole the patient had no signs or symptoms of infection.

This case of a granulomatous abscess formation with Achromobacter xylosoxidans in an immunocompetent patient demonstrates further emergence of this bacteria as a potential pathogen, not only in immunocompromised individuals, but in any patient with an indwelling catheter.

ABSTRACT

A. xylosoxidans is a non-fermentative non-spore forming, motile, gram negative, aerobic, catalase and oxidase positive flagellate bacterium. It is an emerging pathogen that is able to form biofilms on "disinfected" surfaces, may be resistant to multiple antibiotics, and our patient was treated successfully with surgical excision, drainage, and a 10-day course of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole.

REFERENCES

8. Kowalczyk A, Chyc M, Ryszka P, Latowski D. A. xylosoxidans has been documented to form biofilms on plastics, including on contact lenses, urinary and intravenous catheters, and reusable tissue dispensers treated with disinfectant solution. A recent study has demonstrated that A. xylosoxidans is even capable of biodegradation of plastic using the plastic as its sole source of carbon.

A. xylosoxidans is an emerging pathogen that is able to form biofilms on "disinfected" surfaces, may be resistant to multiple antibiotics, and is capable of causing infections with various presentations. Physicians should recognize A. xylosoxidans as an emerging pathogen that is able to form biofilms on “disinfected” surfaces, may be resistant to multiple antibiotics and is capable of causing infections with various presentations.