

Neisseria and Moraxella (29/11/2011)

MORPHOLOGY:

Microscopic:

- Gram negative cocci.
- **Arrangement:** side-to-side attachment.
- Coffee bean shape.

Colony:

- Smooth, tiny, shiny, glistening colony.

BIOCHEMICAL TESTS:

Neisseria meningitidis and gonorrhoeae are both:

- Catalase positive
- Oxidase positive

DIFFERENCES:

- N. meningitidis has capsule, while N. gonorrhoeae doesn't.
- N. meningitidis converts glucose & maltose into acid but N. gonorrhoeae only converts glucose to acid.

IN THE EXAM:

A chocolate agar containing a pinpoint (small size), rough, glistening, gray colony with no hemolytic activity is put with an oxidase test.

If oxidase is positive then Neisseria or Moraxella.