

### ANAEROBIC BACTERIA

Test	<i>Peptostreptococcus</i> species	<i>Propionibacterium</i> species	Anaerobic non-spore forming Gram positive bacilli	<i>Clostridium</i> species	<i>B. fragilis</i>	Anaerobic Gram negative bacilli
Gram	g+c	g+b small, branching	g+b small	g+b, large	g-b	g-b
Catalase	N/A	+	-	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subculture BA CO <sub>2</sub>	No growth	No growth	No growth	No growth*	No growth	No growth
Subculture CHOC CO <sub>2</sub>	No growth	No growth	No growth	No growth*	No growth	No growth
Subculture BRUC AnO <sub>2</sub>	Growth	Growth	Growth	Growth	Growth	Growth
BBE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	+	-
RapID ANA**	N/A	N/A		Some ID	N/A	ID
Vitek ani**	N/A	N/A				N/A

\* Some *Clostridium* species can grow aerobically

\*\* Usually not done – report as anaerobic gram positive or gram negative bacilli

- Anaerobic, small Gram positive bacilli resembling diphtheroids that are catalase positive should be reported as “*Propionibacterium* species”.
- Anaerobic, small Gram positive bacilli that are catalase negative should be reported as “Anaerobic non-spore forming Gram positive bacilli”.