

## *Bacillus cereus* biovar *anthracis*

Characteristic	<i>B. cereus</i> biovar <i>anthracis</i>		<i>B. anthracis</i>	<i>B. cereus</i>
	CI	CA		
Hemolysis	=	=	=	+
Motility	+/=*		=	+
Penicillin G	S	R	S	R
Capsule	+	+	+	Absent <i>in vitro</i>
Gamma phage susceptibility	+	=	=	=

\**B. cereus* biovar *anthracis* strains are usually motile, including those recovered from gorillas, chimpanzees, and elephants. *B. cereus* biovar *anthracis* goat strains from Democratic Republic of the Congo were non-motile.



**Until new guidelines are available, the following recommendations should be considered:**

Suspect isolates should be investigated to determine if the isolate is significant regardless of motility. If the isolate was recovered from a sterile site or from a wound culture the clinical lab should contact the patient's attending physician to determine the likely clinical significance (e.g., does the patient have an anthrax-like clinical syndrome?). Appropriate travel history should be obtained as well. If the isolate is deemed significant, contact the North Dakota Department of Health and refer the isolate for confirmatory testing.