

## The Rise of Raoul, the new threat or a dud?

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### INTRODUCTION

Diabetic foot infection (DFI) complicates 40-80% of diabetic foot ulcers and remains the leading cause of non-traumatic lower limb amputation worldwide. The common organisms implicated are *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus spp*, *Pseudomonas spp*, *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella sp*. Here we present a case of *Raoultella planticola*, a rarely encountered Gram negative bacteria in human infection, in a diabetic patient treated with below knee amputation (BKA) and prolonged intravenous antibiotic.

### REPORT

A 60-year-old female with poorly controlled diabetes, chronic kidney disease and iron deficiency anemia presented in septic shock with 3-day history of left foot pain, swelling and redness. She was immediately started on intravenous cloxacillin however the infection worsened and a surgical debridement and ray amputation was done along with escalation of antibiotic to augmentin. Intraoperative cultures grew *Raoultella planticola* which was resistant to augmentin, unasyn, bactrim, ciprofloxacin, gentamicin and all cephalosporins, and only has intermediate sensitivity to tazocin. In view of clinical deterioration with signs of kidney failure and an unhealthy wound with seropurulent discharge, a BKA was done and antibiotic changed to tazocin. After 10 days of intravenous tazocin and a session of hemodialysis, she began to show improvement and septic parameters gradually normalized and she was eventually discharged well with a healthy BKA stump.



Figure 1: Initial presentation



Figure 2: Post debridement



Figure 3: *R. planticola*

### CONCLUSION

*Raoultella planticola* is an unusual but potentially morbid human pathogen, commonly found in soil and water. An increasing number of cases have been reported worldwide with equally distressing extensive antibiotic resistance. It behoves us therefore to be on the lookout for this superbug and adhere strictly to antimicrobial stewardship in order to decrease its transmission.

### REFERENCE

1. Luqman et al., *Raoultella planticola* in a Soft Tissue Infection! An Emerging Pathogen, American Journal of Medical Case Reports, 2017, Vol.5, No. 7, 179-180.