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# Applied Microbiology

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### Polyphasic Taxonomy – The Order Myxococcale

*Myxobacteria* have a long tradition as the producers of biological active secondary metabolites even they belong to the more neglected bacteria in bioindustrial usage. There is only one compound on the market, Ixabepilone, a derivative of Epotilon which was developed by Bristol-Myers Squibb as a tumor therapeutic. The taxonomy of the members of the order myxococcales based only of the morphological features like pigmentation and fruiting body formation for a long time. Today we know that by using only this restricted characterization methods many of the existing species have been overlooked. Therefore we have developed a polyphasic characterization panel for this order. Aim of the workshop is to show the different aspects of the polyphasic taxonomy basing on the work of Vandamme et al. with the order *myxococcales* as an example. It will be discussed if the molecular biological characterization will replace morphology and chemotaxonomy.

### Biography

Joachim Wink has completed his Ph.D in 1985 from Frankfurt University. He then went to the pharmaceutical industry and started his career at the Hoechst AG where he was responsible for the strain collection and specialized in the cultivation and taxonomic characterization of *Actinobacteria* and *Myxobacteria*. In 2012 he went to the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research in Braunschweig where he founded the working group of the strain collection with its focus on *Myxobacteria*. He has published more than 40 papers on secondary metabolites and the taxonomy of the producing microorganisms in reputed journals.

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