

Number of strains of *Corynebacterium* species and coryneform bacteria used in this study

Microorganisms	Number of strains	Source	Country
<i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i> (biotypes <i>gravis</i> , <i>mitis</i> , <i>intermedius</i> and <i>belfanti</i>)	18 (10 tox ⁺ and 8 tox ⁻)	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium ulcerans</i>	7 (2 tox ⁺ and 5 tox ⁻)	Human and animal	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis</i> (biovars <i>ovis</i> and <i>equi</i> ^a)	93 (20 tox ⁺ ^a and 73 tox ⁻)	Animal	Egypt and/or Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium pseudodiphtheriticum</i>	7	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium jeikeium</i>	1	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium afermentans</i>	2	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium minutissimum</i>	5	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium propinquum</i>	4	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium amycolatum</i>	9	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium striatum</i>	4	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium xerosis</i>	3	Human	Brazil
<i>Corynebacterium amycolatum/xerosis/minutissimum</i> complex	5	Human	Brazil
<i>Nocardia</i> sp.	4	Human	Brazil
<i>Oerskovia</i> sp.	2	Human	Brazil
<i>Rhodococcus equi</i>	27	Human and animal	Brazil

a: all *C. pseudotuberculosis* biovar *equi* strains were toxigenic (tox⁺); tox⁻: non-toxigenic.