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etymologia

Mycobacterium abscessus subsp. *bolletii*

From the Latin *ab-* (“away”) + *cedere* (“to go”), an abscess is named for the notion that humors leave the body through pus. *Mycobacterium abscessus* was first isolated from gluteal abscesses in a 62-year-old patient who had injured her knee as a child and had a disseminated infection 48 years later. The species *M. bolletii*, named

after the late microbiologist and taxonomist Claude Bollet, was described in 2006. In current taxonomy, *M. bolletii* and *M. massiliense* (named for Massilia, the ancient Greek and Roman name for Marseille, where the organism was isolated) have been incorporated into *M. abscessus* subsp. *bolletii*.

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