

TABLE 8.1 Kinds of Mutants

Description	Nature of Change	Detection of Mutant
Nonmotile	Loss of flagella; nonfunctional flagella	Compact colonies instead of flat, spreading colonies
Noncapsulated	Loss or modification of surface capsule	Small, rough colonies instead of larger, smooth colonies
Rough colony	Loss or change in lipopolysaccharide outer layer	Granular, irregular colonies instead of smooth, glistening colonies
Nutritional	Loss of enzyme in biosynthetic pathway	Inability to grow on medium lacking the nutrient
Sugar fermentation	Loss of enzyme in degradative pathway	Do not produce color change on agar containing sugar and a pH indicator
Drug resistant	Impermeability to drug or drug target is altered or drug is detoxified	Growth on medium containing a growth-inhibitory concentration of the drug
Virus resistant	Loss of virus receptor	Growth in the presence of large amounts of virus
Temperature sensitive	Alteration of any essential protein so that it is more heat sensitive	Inability to grow at a temperature normally supporting growth (e.g., 37°C) but still growing at a lower temperature (e.g., 25°C)
Cold sensitive	Alteration in an essential protein so that it is inactivated at low temperature	Inability to grow at a low temperature (e.g., 20°C) that normally supports growth

With permission, from T. D. Brock, D. W. Smith, and M. T. Madigan, *Biology of Microorganisms*, 4th ed., Pearson Education, Upper Saddle River, NJ, 1984, p. 306.