

TABLE 1. Typical elemental composition of biological specimen

Element	Mass fraction in the following cells	
	Tissue ^a	Bacteria ^b
C	0.50	0.47
N	0.16	0.14
H	0.07	0.06
O	0.25	0.23
P + S	0.02	0.10 ^c

^a Bulk analysis of tissue was done as previously described (15).

^b Bulk analysis of bacteria was a result of this study; H and O compositions were estimated to be as previously described (24).

^c Includes also Mg, Cl, and K.

15. Hall, T. A. 1971. The microprobe assay of chemical elements, p.157-275. In G. Oster (ed.), Physical techniques in biomedical research. vol. 1A, 2nd ed. Academic Press, Inc., New York.

24. Luria, S. E. 1960. The bacterial protoplasm: composition and organization, p. 1-34. In I. C. Gunsales and R. Y. Stanier (ed.), The bacteria, vol. 1. Academic Press, Inc., New York.