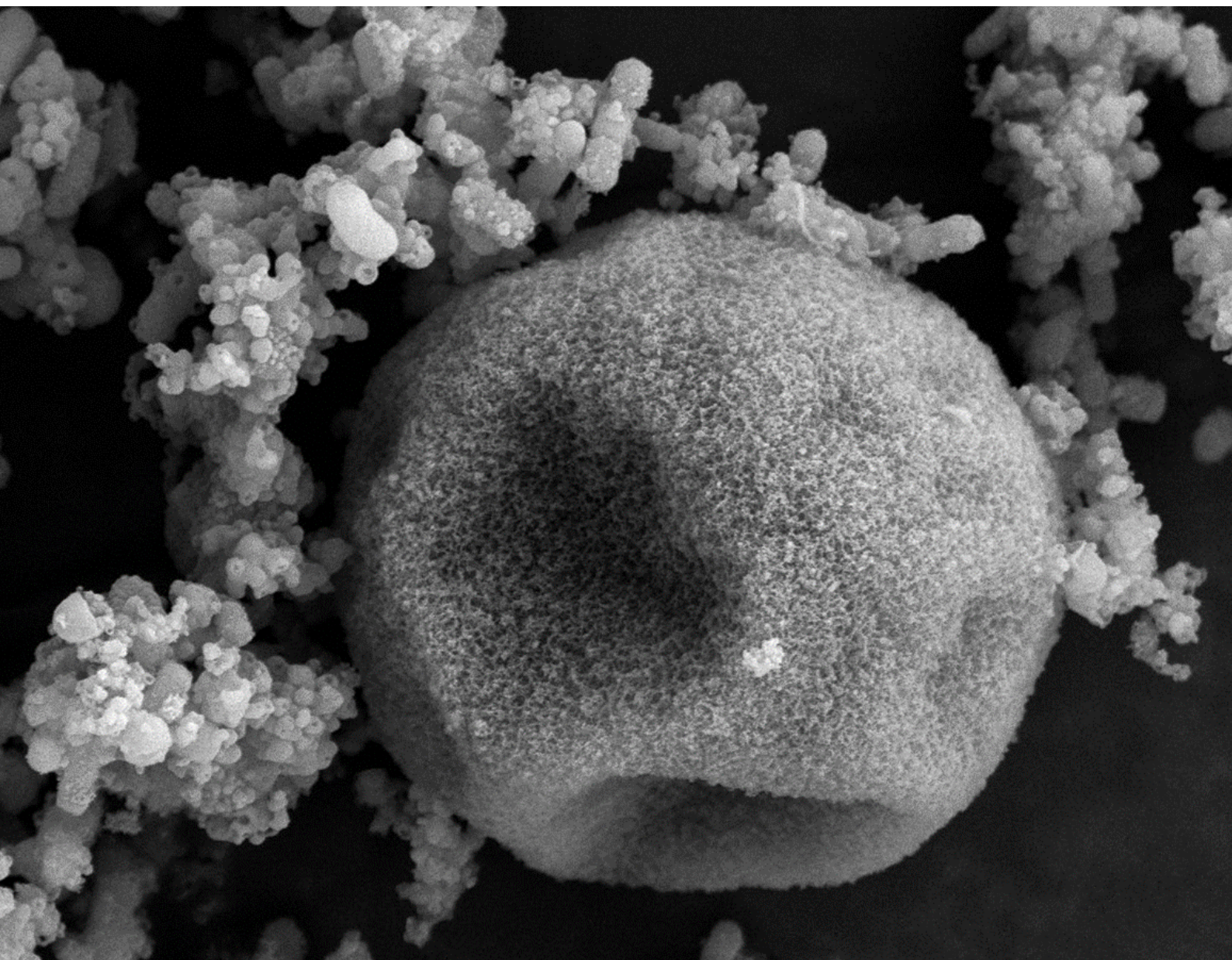


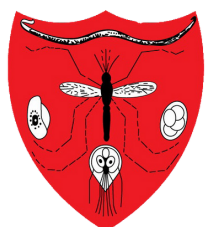
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“*Blastocystis* sp., a century-long enigma”

This image shows the scanning electron micrograph of *Blastocystis* sp. isolated from Malaysian quail birds. *Blastocystis* is a ubiquitous intestinal unicellular protist of human and several other animals. This isolate is spherical, with a dimpled and fibrous spongy cell surface. Bacteria colonies are seen attached to the cell surface. The speciation of *Blastocystis* and its role in host gut health and disease is still unclear. Understanding the ultrastructure of *Blastocystis* may aid in the deciphering of *Blastocystis* biology.

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