



香港中文大學

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

# New strategies for combating multidrug-resistant bacteria

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY, CUHK

PHD STUDENT: LUO MINGJING

SUPERVISOR: PROFESSOR MARGARET IP

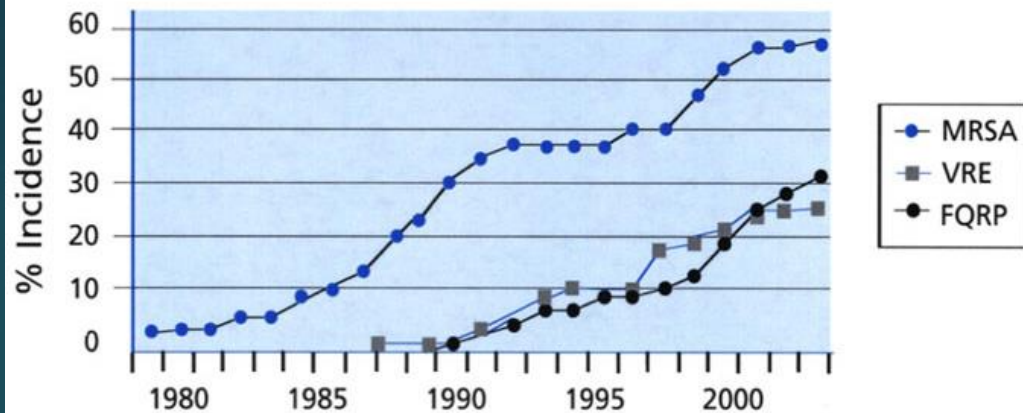
15 DEC 2014

# Outline

- The crisis of antibiotic resistance
  - ✓ The emergence of 'superbugs'
  - ✓ The decline of antibiotic development
- New strategies fights against resistant pathogens
  - ✓ Probiotics
  - ✓ Bacteriophage therapy
  - ✓ Anti-virulence strategies

# The crisis of antibiotic resistance

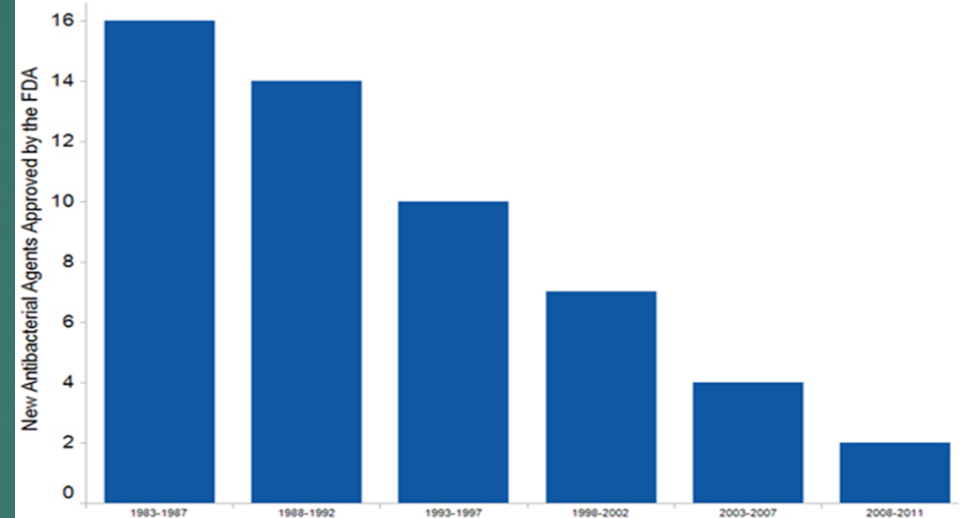
## Rise of Antibiotic Resistance in Various Common Infections



MRSA = methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*; VRE = Vancomycin-resistant *enterococci*  
FQRP = Fluoroquinolone-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

Superbugs are on the rise  
Antibiotic resistance is ancient  
Long term persistence of antibiotics resistance

## Decline in the Approval of New Antibiotics



Antibiotic development is dwindling  
Pharmaceutical firm abandon antibiotics development: economic and regulatory barriers.

# Strategies to fight against resistant pathogens

## ▶ **Preserving available antibiotics**

- ✓ Appropriate use of antibiotics
- ✓ Inhibitors of resistant enzymes and antibiotic efflux
- ✓ Silence resistant genes

## ▶ **New antibiotics**

- ✓ Structural modification of existing drugs
- ✓ New sources of antimicrobial chemicals-natural products, ocean

## ▶ **New strategies**

- ✓ Probiotics
- ✓ Bacteriophage therapy
- ✓ Anti-virulence strategies



**Antibiotics**

# Probiotics- 'good' bacteria

**Live microorganisms** which when administered in adequate amounts confer a health benefit on the host. (Lactobacillus group: genera Lactobacillus, Enterococcus, Streptococcus, Lactococcus, Pediococcus, Bifidobacterium and Leuconostoc)

## What's new...

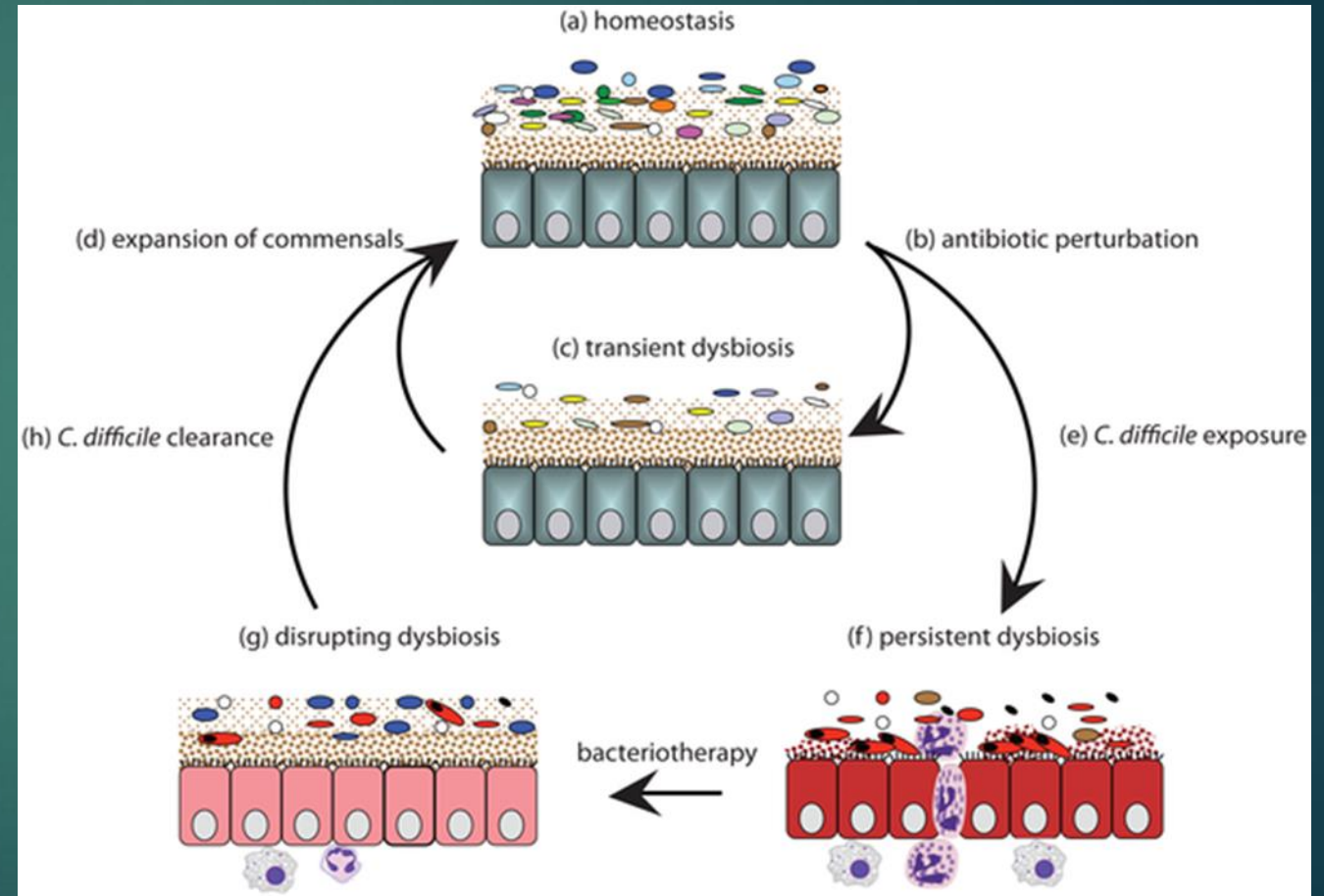
- ▶ The importance of gut microbiota
- ✓ 90%
- ✓ Break down food
- ✓ Clean the gut waster
- ✓ Suppress bad bacteria
- ✓ ...
- ▶ Imbalance and diseases
- ▶ Antibiotic associated infections
- ✓ Recurrent *C. difficile* infection





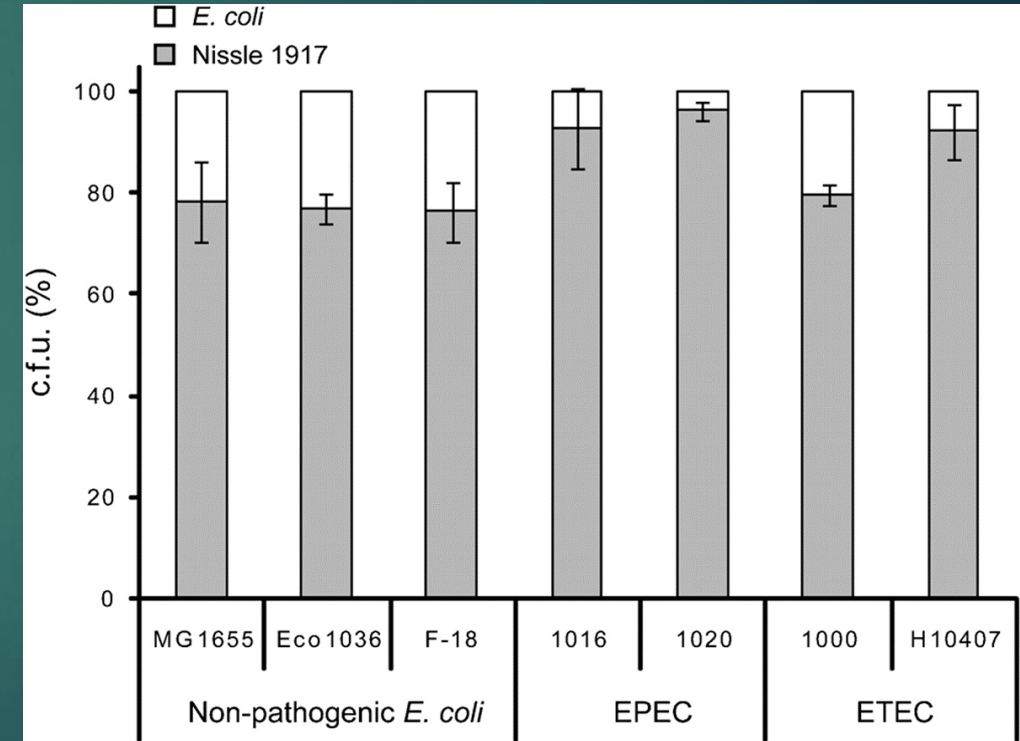
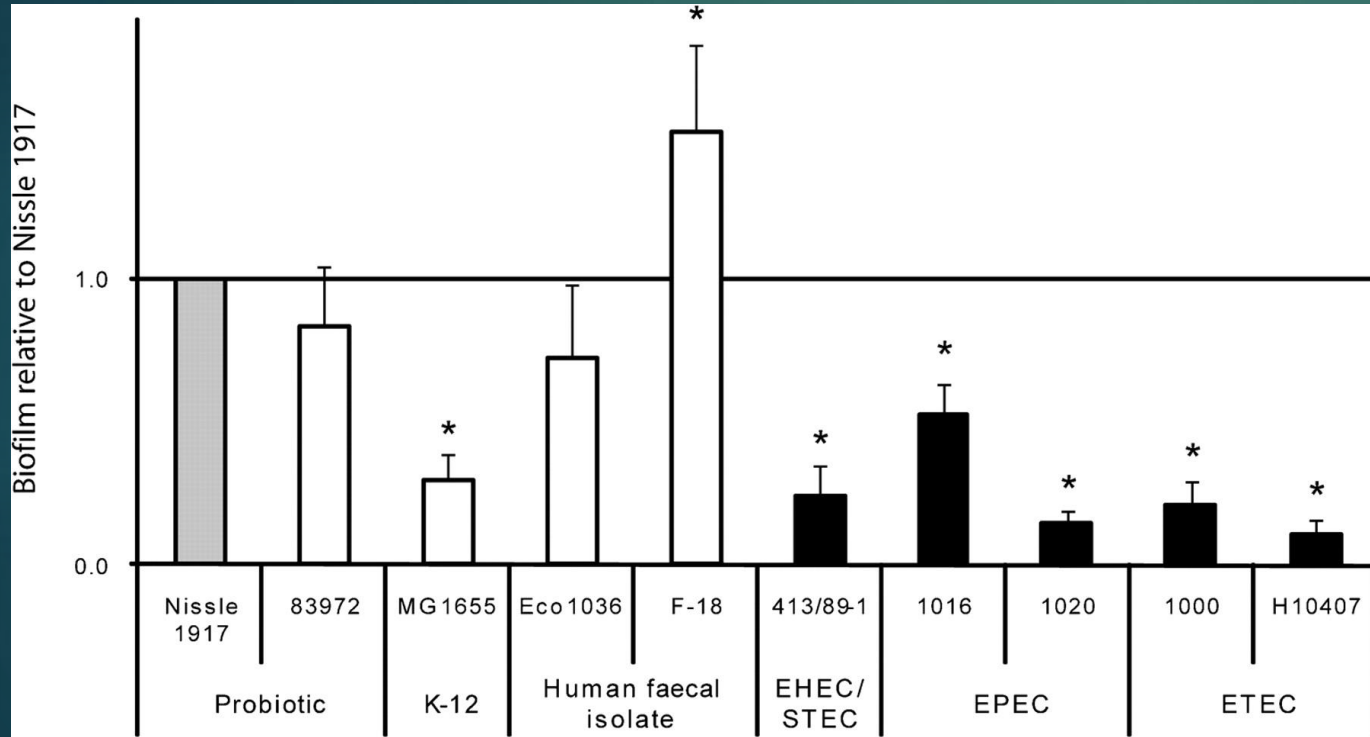
# Probiotics- 'good' bacteria fight against 'bad' ones

- ▶ Mechanism:
  - maintain microbial ecology
  - interspecific competition
- ▶ Probiotics
  - ✓ Dietary supplements
  - ✓ Microbiota transplantation
- ▶ Major concerns
  - ✓ Efficiency, safety, mechanism
  - ✓ Regulation



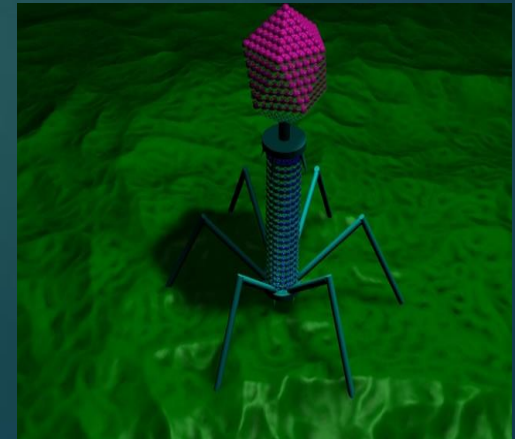
# Probiotic *Escherichia coli* strain Nissle 1917 outcompetes intestinal pathogens during biofilm formation

Viktoria Hancock, Malin Dahl and Per Klemm



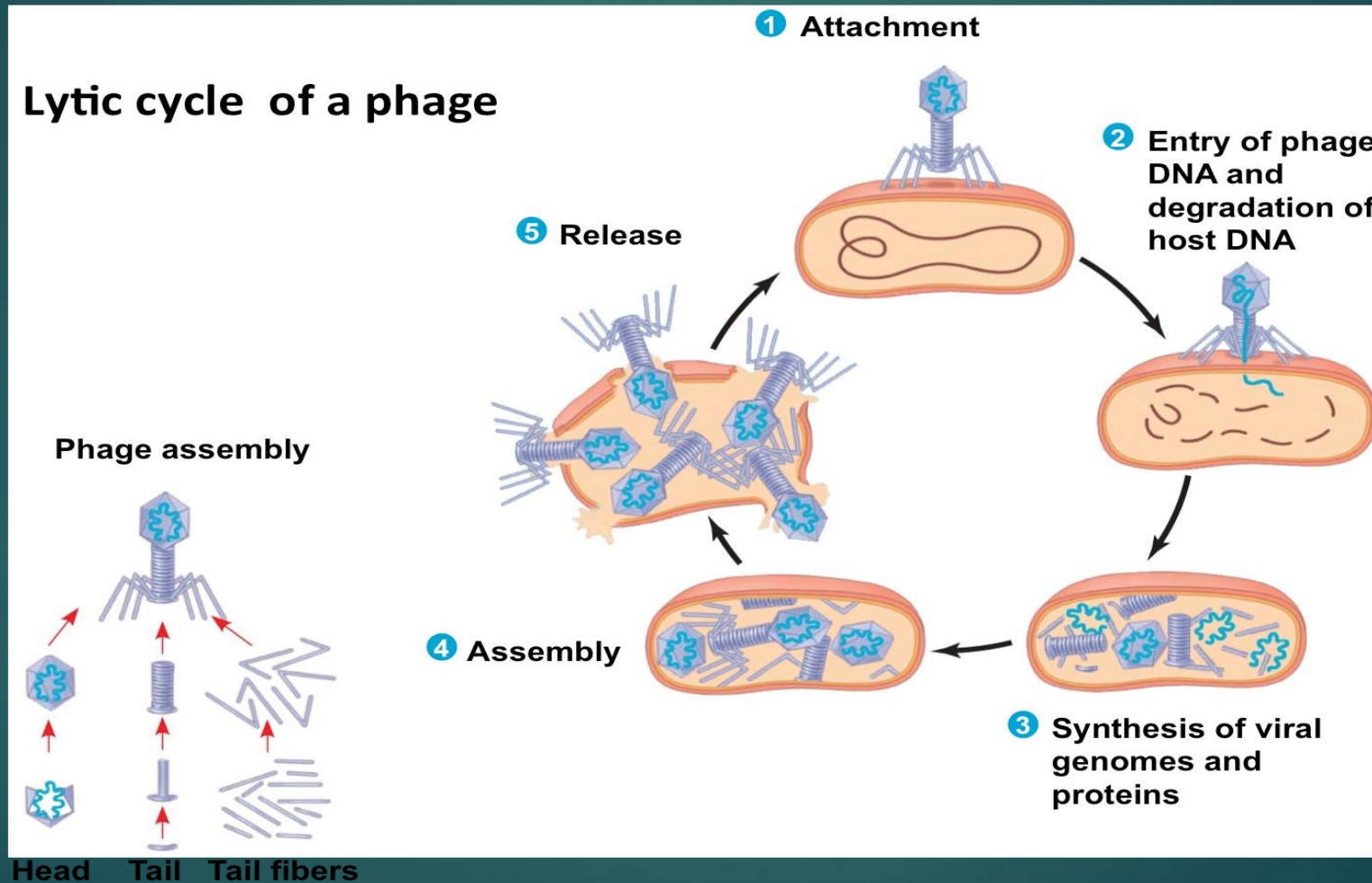
# Bacteriophage therapy

- ▶ Bacteriophages, or simply 'phages', are viruses that infect and in some cases destroy bacterial cells.
- ▶ Phages are a natural part of the microbial ecosystem.
- ▶ Phage species are specific to particular bacterial species.
- ▶ The golden age in use of phage was in the 1930s.
- ▶ Phage 'cocktail'





# Mechanism of phage therapy



# Bacteriophage therapy

## ▶ **Advantages**

- ✓ Phage therapy is possible in all bacterial infections
- ✓ Phage coevolving with bacteria
- ✓ Specific- no effect on healthy microflora
- ✓ And so on...

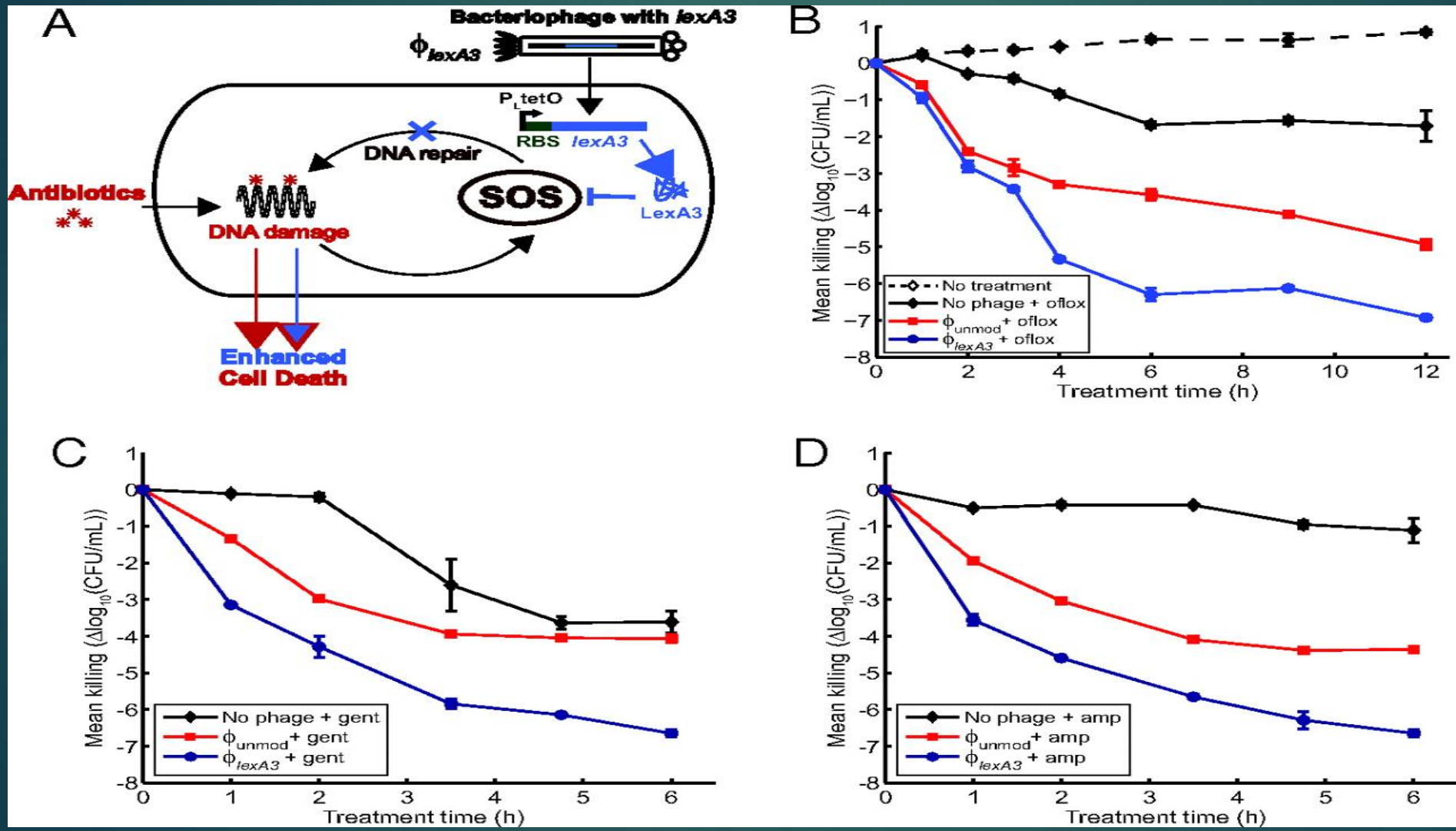
## ▶ **Challenges**

- ✓ Safety issue
- ✓ Precise and quick diagnosis are needed before prescribing a phage treatment
- ✓ Difficulties in getting the approval of phage 'cocktail' and intellectual property issue

# Engineered bacteriophage targeting gene networks as adjuvants for antibiotic therapy

PNAS

Timothy K. Lu<sup>a,b</sup> and James J. Collins<sup>b,1</sup>



Engineered *lexA3* bacteriophage enhances killing of wild-type *E. coli* EMG2 bacteria by bactericidal antibiotics.

# Bacteriophage endolysins

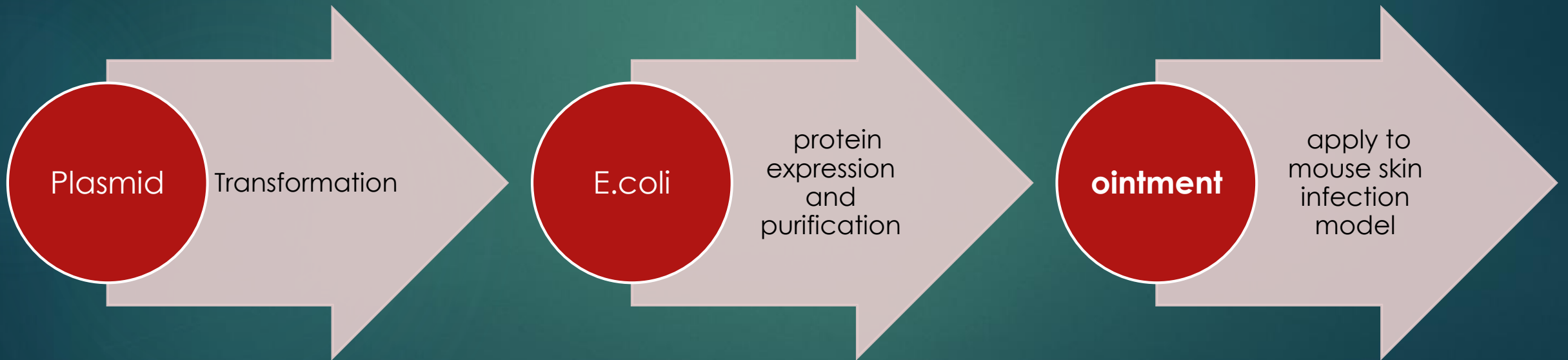
- ▶ Endolysins (or lysins) are highly evolved enzymes produced by phage to digest the bacterial cell wall for phage progeny release.
- ▶ Lysins exert their lethal effects by forming holes in the cell wall through peptidoglycan digestion.
- ▶ NO living viruses involved-

# A Novel Chimeric Lysin Shows Superiority to Mupirocin for Skin Decolonization of Methicillin-Resistant and -Sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus* Strains<sup>∇</sup>

Mina Pastagia,<sup>1,2\*</sup> Chad Euler,<sup>1</sup> Peter Chahales,<sup>1</sup> Judilyn Fuentes-Duculan,<sup>2</sup> James G. Krueger,<sup>2</sup> and Vincent A. Fischetti<sup>1</sup>

MICROBIAL DRUG RESISTANCE  
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## The development of ClyS ointment

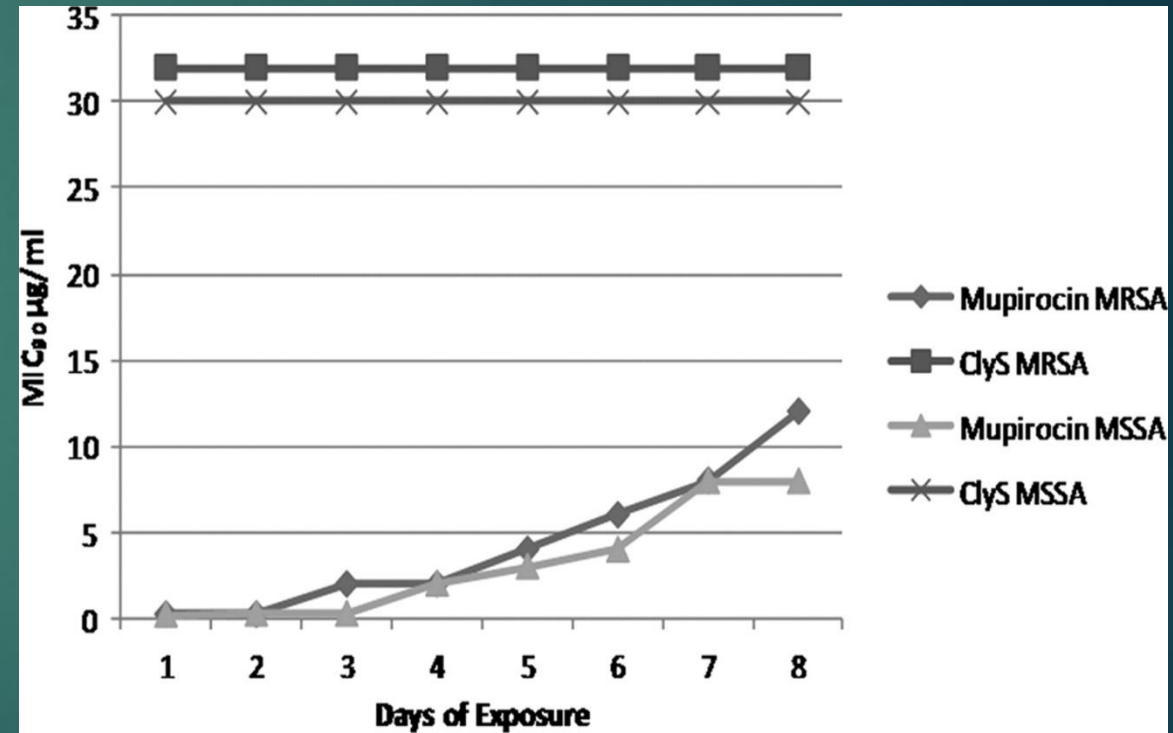
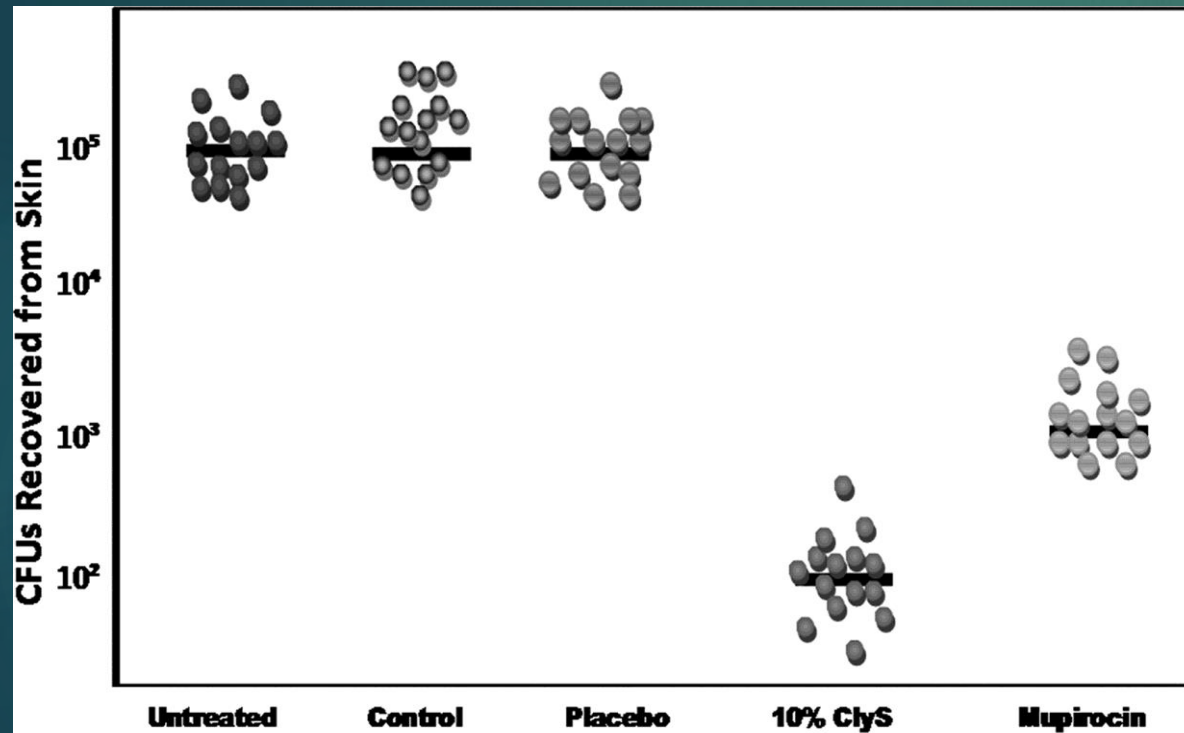




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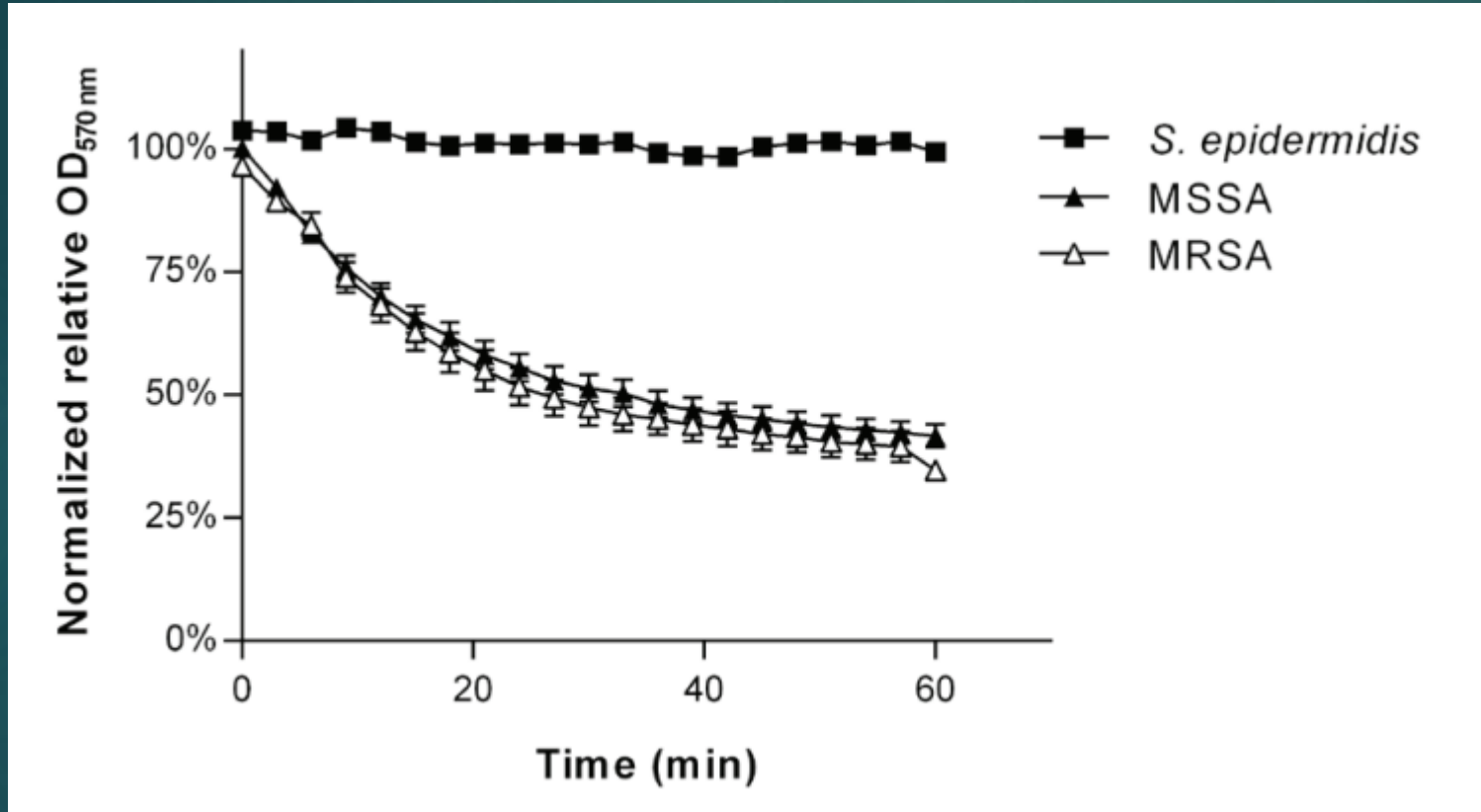
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*In vivo* activity of ClyS ointment versus that of placebo or mupirocin on tape-stripped mice infected with *S. aureus* 8325-4 or MRSA MW2.

*In vitro* resistance studies of ClyS and mupirocin. MIC<sub>90</sub> values for MRSA and MSSA remain the same for ClyS but increase for mupirocin

# Staphefekt-the first endolysin available for human use on intact skin



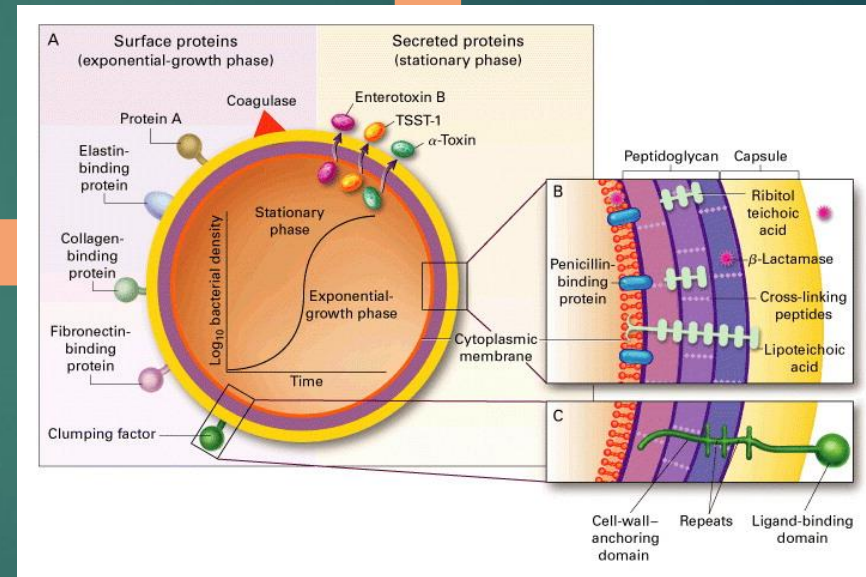
Specific lysis of MRSA and MSSA by Staphefekt

<https://www.staphefekt.com/en/products>  
Staphefekt™ effectively kills MRSA & MSSA without disturbing normal skin flora

# What is virulence ?

- ▶ **Capacity to cause disease**
- ✓ Adhesins
- ✓ Toxins, proteases
- ✓ Secretion systems
- And so on...
- ▶ **Global regulation**

Immune evasion



Colonization

Resource acquisition

Host invasion

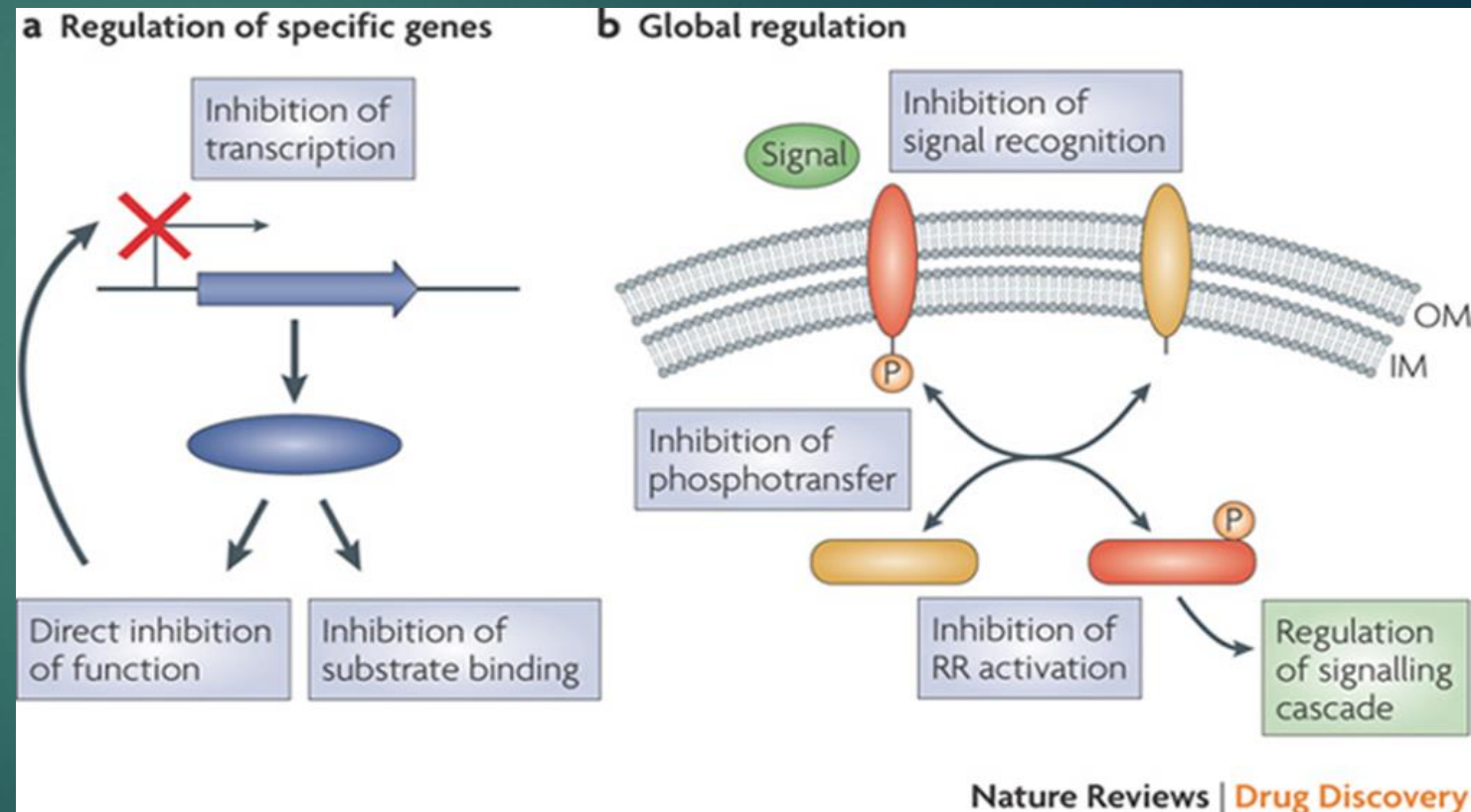
# Anti-virulence strategies

## ▶ Block virulence factor induction, synthesis, or release

- ✓ Singal
- ✓ Transcription
- ✓ Assemble
- ✓ Delivery

## ▶ Inhibit the function

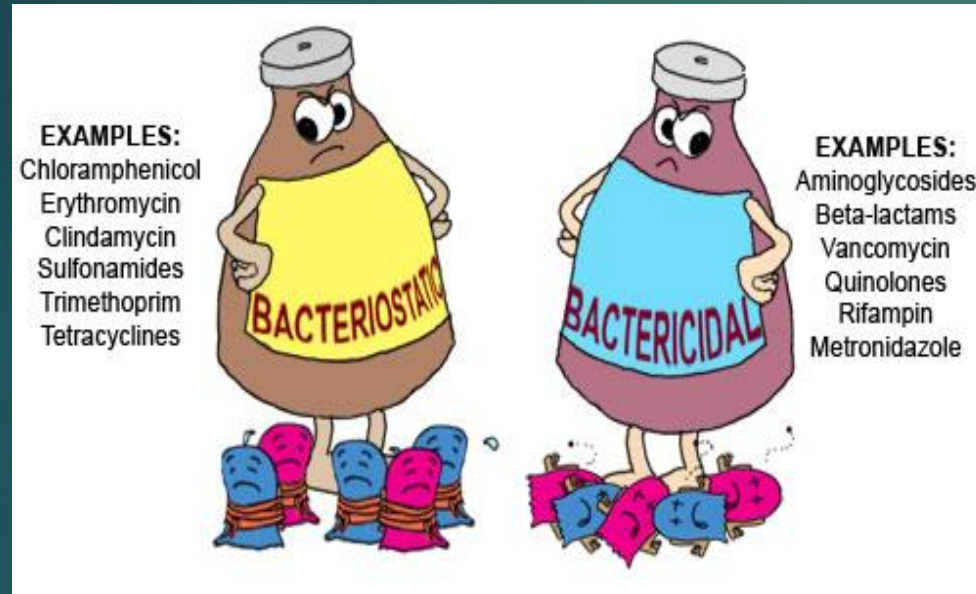
- ✓ Neutralization
- ✓ Host receptor antagonist



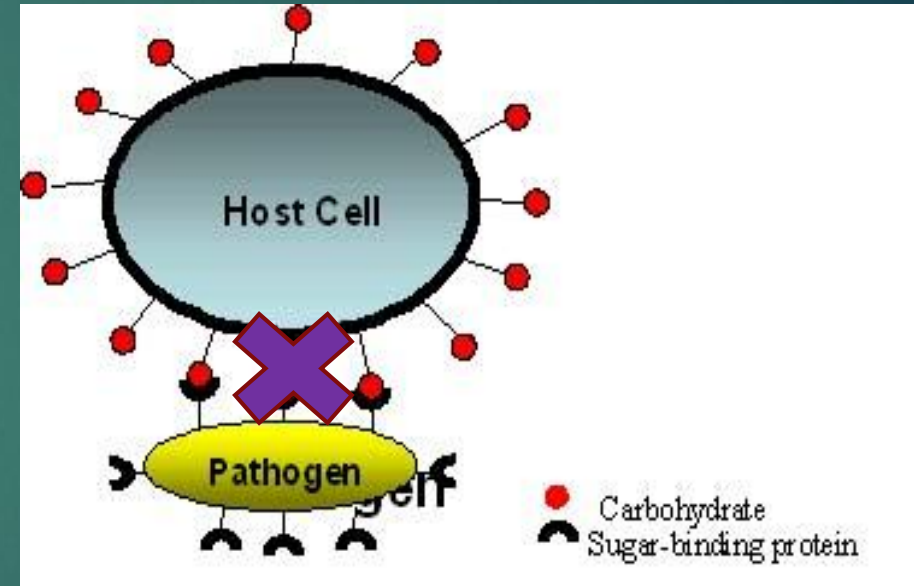


# Anti-virulence strategies

## Antibiotics VS Anti-virulence



Kill or inhibit cell growth

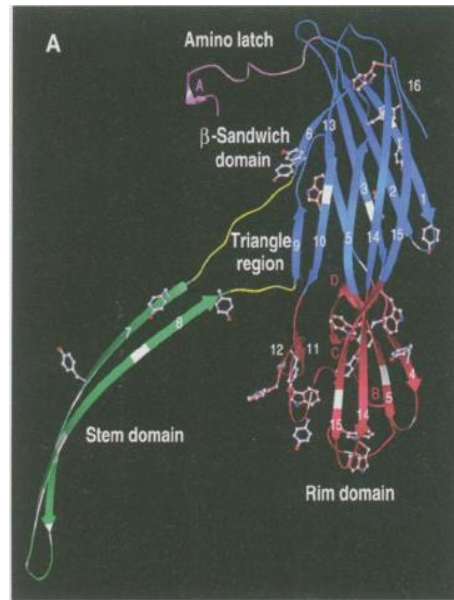


Interrupt infection



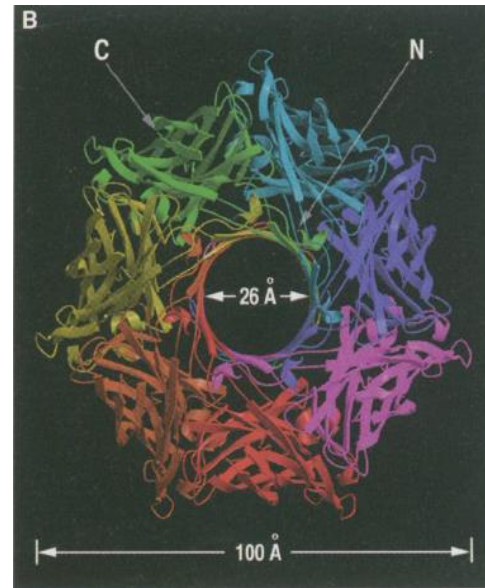
# Anti-virulence strategies against MRSA

## Alpha-hemolysin ( $\alpha$ -toxin)



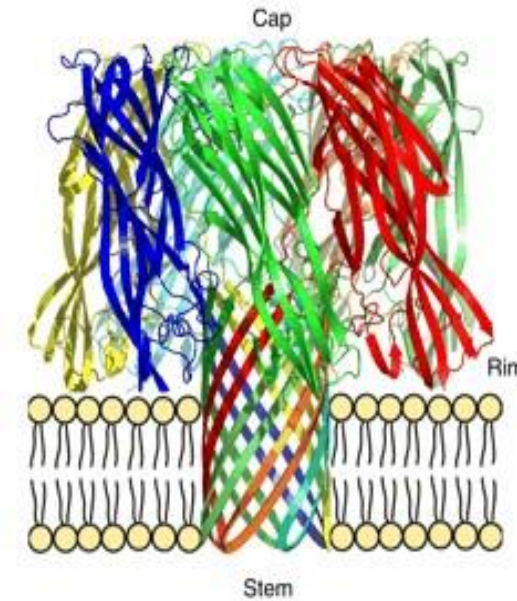
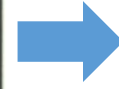
**Monomer:33.2kD**

L. Song et al.,*Science*,1996



**Heptamer:232.4kD**

L. Song et al.,*Science*,1996



**Pore formation**

J.Lakmal et al.,*JBC*,2006

1.  $\alpha$ -toxin is an essential virulence in SA
2.  $\alpha$ -toxin form pore on cell membrane and lysis host cells
3. Metalloprotease 10 (ADAM10) is a cellular receptor for  $\alpha$ -toxin

## Anti-Alpha-Hemolysin Monoclonal Antibodies Mediate Protection against *Staphylococcus aureus* Pneumonia<sup>∇</sup>

Brook E. Ragle<sup>1</sup> and Juliane Bubeck Wardenburg<sup>1,2\*</sup>

ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS AND CHEMOTHERAPY, Jan. 2010, p. 298–304  
0066-4804/10/\$12.00 doi:10.1128/AAC.00973-09  
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Vol. 54, No. 1

## Prevention and Treatment of *Staphylococcus aureus* Pneumonia with a $\beta$ -Cyclodextrin Derivative<sup>∇</sup>

1. antibody: **neutralize**  $\alpha$ -toxin
2.  $\beta$ -Cyclodextrin derivatives: **block the pore** formation
3. ADAM10 Inhibitor: **inhibit binding** of  $\alpha$ -toxin to host cell

JID 2014:210

Targeting *Staphylococcus aureus*  $\alpha$ -Toxin as a Novel Approach to Reduce Severity of Recurrent Skin and Soft-Tissue Infections

Georgia R. Sampedro,<sup>1,2</sup> Andrea C. DeDent,<sup>1,2</sup> Russell E. N. Becker,<sup>2</sup> Bryan J. Berube,<sup>2</sup> Michael J. Gebhardt,<sup>2</sup> Hongyuan Cao,<sup>3</sup> and Juliane Bubeck Wardenburg<sup>1,2</sup>

# Summary

- ▶ Antibiotic resistance pathogens continue to rise, while antibiotic development is dwindling
- ▶ Probiotics : 'Good' bacteria fight against 'bad' ones
- ▶ Bacteriophage therapy: 'Viruse' fight against pathogens
- ▶ Anti-virulence strategies: Strategies aim to interrupt pathogen-host interaction

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**Thanks for your attention**