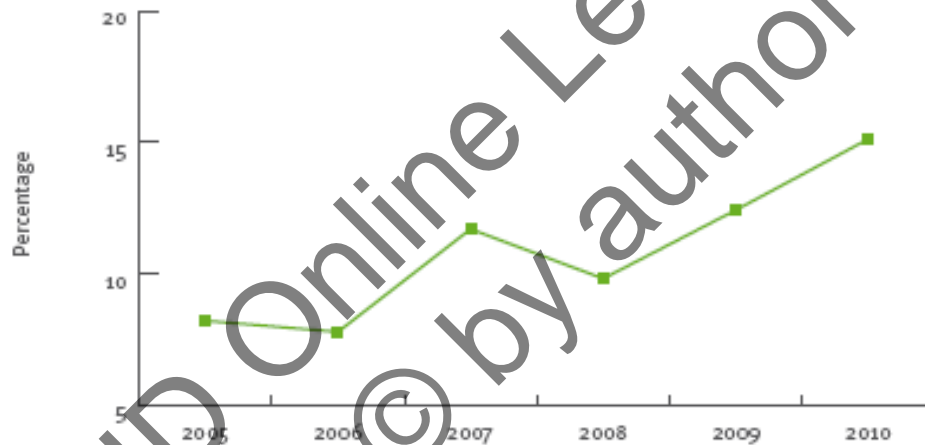


# Colistin in the treatment of infections by carbapenemase producing bacteria

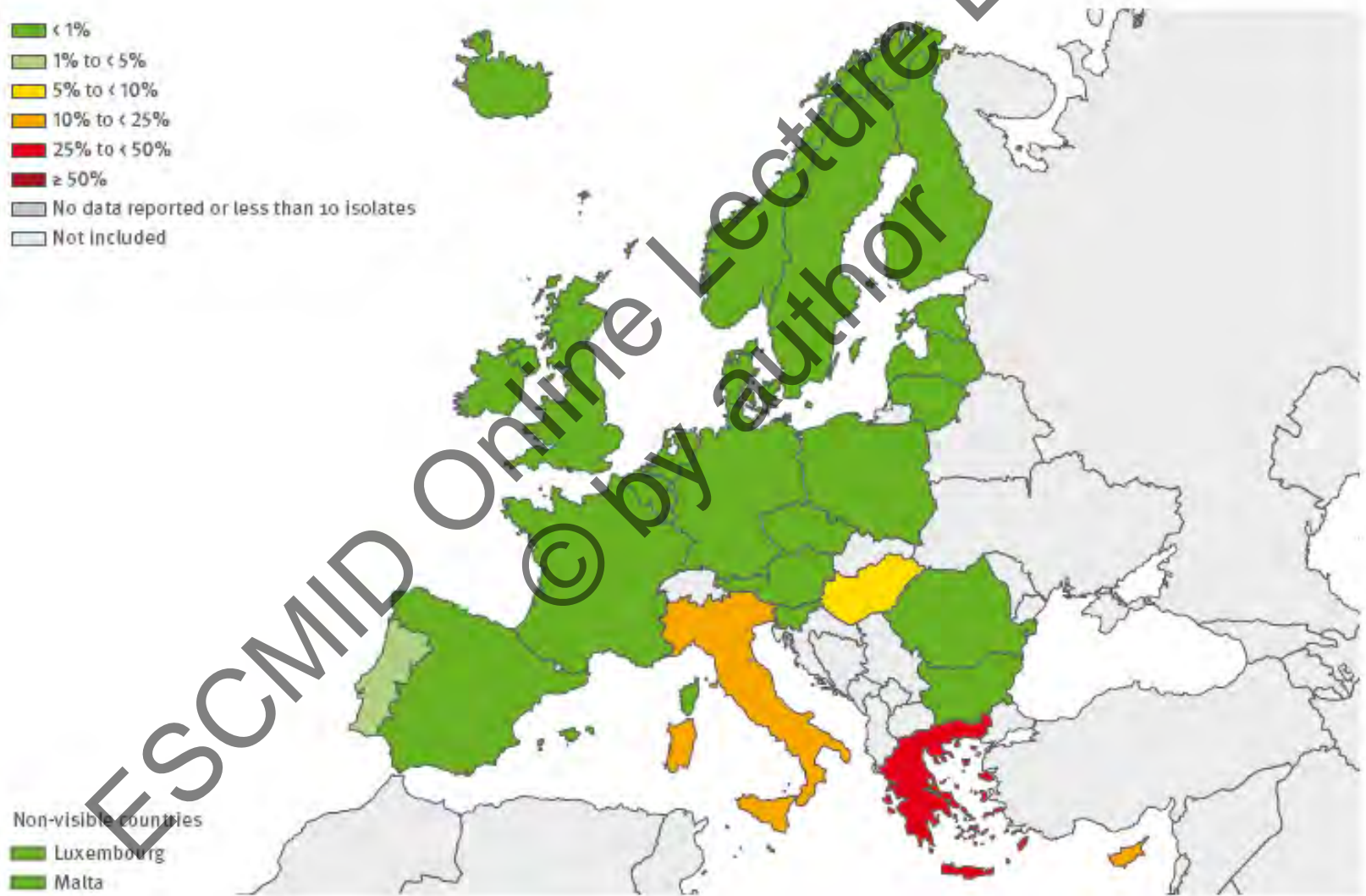
Diamantis Plachouras  
Assistant Professor  
4<sup>th</sup> Dept. of Internal Medicine  
University of Athens Medical School

# Trend of carbapenem resistance in *Klebsiella pneumoniae* in Europe



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# Carbapenem resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* in Europe - 2010



# Carbapenem resistance in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* - 2010



# What remains against carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae?

International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents 37 (2011) 415–419

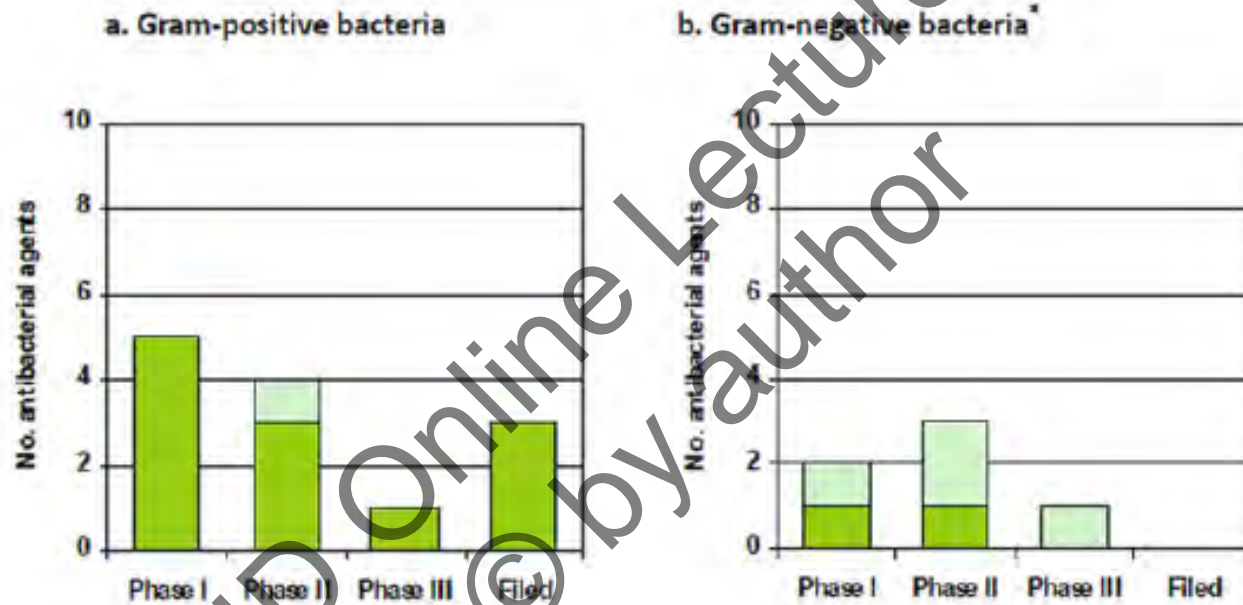
Antibiotic/species	No. isolates with indicated MIC (mg/L):													
	0.06	0.12	0.25	0.5	1	2	4	8	16	32	64	128	≥256	
<b>Colistin</b>														
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp.				36 <sup>f</sup>	13				1	2				
<i>Enterobacter</i> spp./ <i>C. freundii</i>				16 <sup>f</sup>	3			1						
<i>E. coli</i>				6 <sup>f</sup>	1									
<b>Fosfomycin</b>														
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp.						2 <sup>f</sup>	2	7	5	9	10	7	10	
<i>Enterobacter</i> spp./ <i>C. freundii</i>						2 <sup>f</sup>	3	3	4	4	3	1		
<i>E. coli</i>						5 <sup>f</sup>	1	1						
<b>Tigecycline</b>														
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp.				6	15			22	9					
<i>Enterobacter</i> spp./ <i>C. freundii</i>				1	9			5	3	2				
<i>E. coli</i>				1	3									

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# Emergence of a new antibiotic resistance mechanism in India, Pakistan, and the UK: a molecular, biological, and epidemiological study

	UK (n=37)		Chennai (n=44)		Haryana (n=26)	
	MIC <sub>50</sub> ; MIC <sub>90</sub> (mg/L)	Proportion susceptible*	MIC <sub>50</sub> ; MIC <sub>90</sub> (mg/L)	Proportion susceptible*	MIC <sub>50</sub> ; MIC <sub>90</sub> (mg/L)	Proportion susceptible*
Imipenem	32; 128	0%	64; 128	0%	32; 128	0%
Meropenem	32; 32	3%	32; >32	3%	>32; >32	3%
Piperacillin-tazobactam	>64; >64	0%	>64; >64	0%	>64; >64	0%
Cefotaxime	>256; >256	0%	>256; >256	0%	>256; >256	0%
Ceftazidime	>256; >256	0%	>256; >256	0%	>256; >256	0%
Cefpirome	>64; >64	0%	>64; >64	0%	>64; >64	0%
Aztreonam	>64; >64	11%	>64; >64	0%	>64; >64	8%
Ciprofloxacin	>8; >8	8%	>8; >8	8%	>8; >8	8%
Gentamicin	>32; >32	3%	>32; >32	3%	>32; >32	3%
Tobramycin	>32; >32	0%	>32; >32	0%	>32; >32	0%
Amikacin	>64; >64	0%	>64; >64	0%	>64; >64	0%
Minocycline	16; >32	0%	32; >32	0%	8; 16	0%
Tigecycline	1; 4	64%	4; 8	56%	1; 2	67%
Colistin	0.5; 8	89%†	1; 32	94%†	1; 2	100%†

# Novel antimicrobials against Gram (-)



# Resurgence of colistin

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# Pharmacology - History

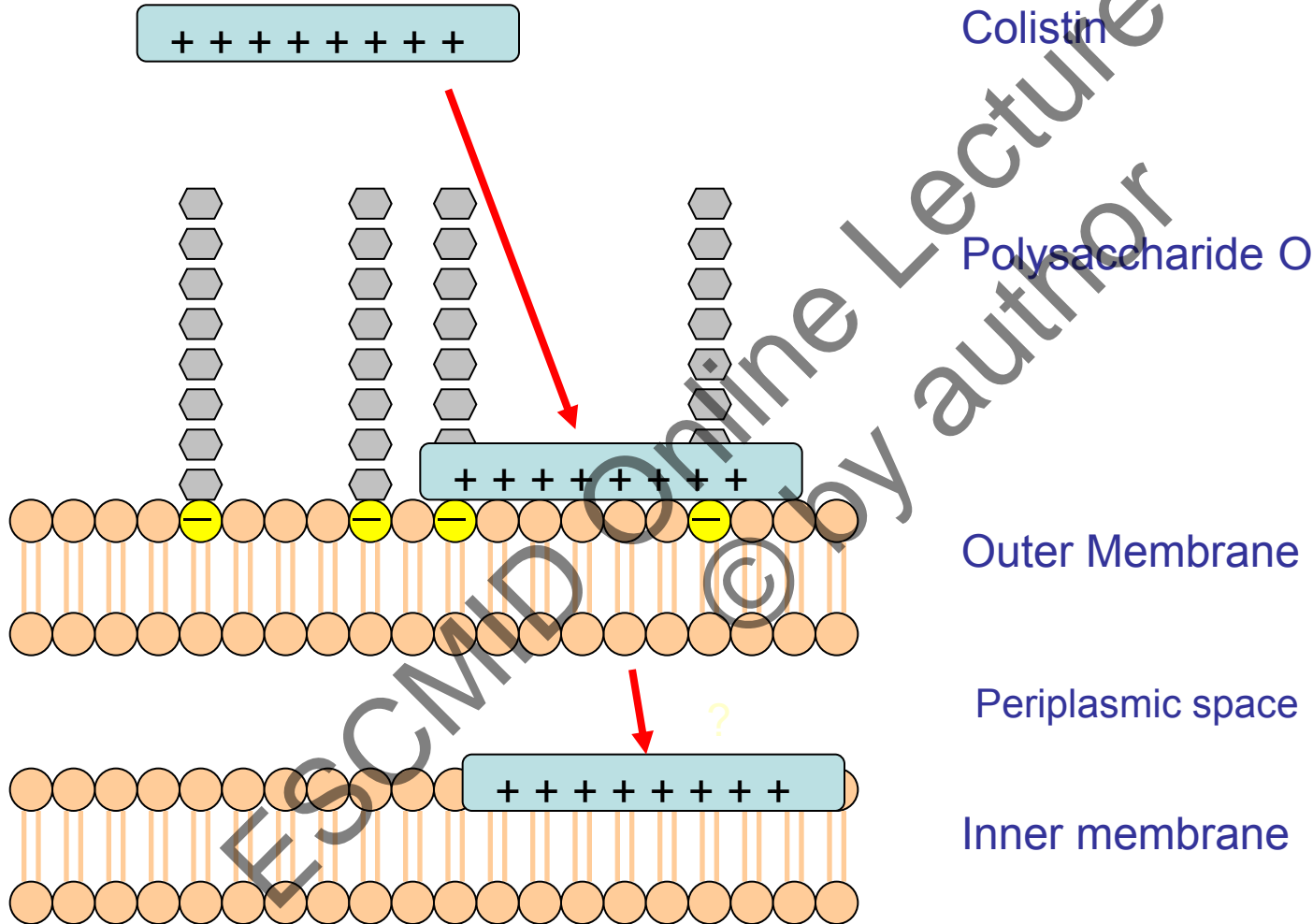
- Polymyxin lipopeptide
- Polymyxin E
- Isolated in 1950 from *Bacillus colistinus*
- Mixture of various forms
- Main forms: Colistin A and B
- Available in two pharmaceutical forms
  - Colistin sulfate: Local use
  - Colistimethate sodium – CMS
    - Less toxic
    - Parenteral use



# Mode of Action

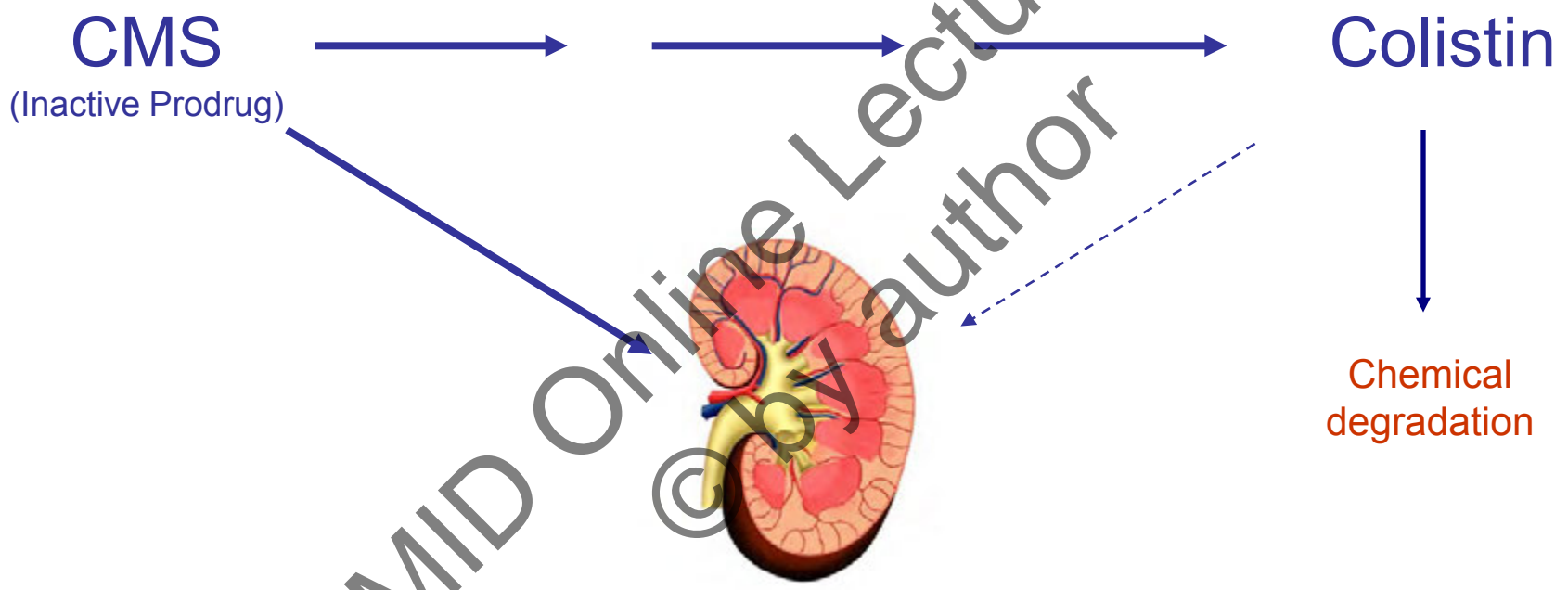
- Attachment of colistin to LPS of Gram-negative outer membrane
- Displacement of Ca and Mg ions that stabilize the outer membrane
- Increased permeability
- Antiendotoxic activity

# Mode of Action

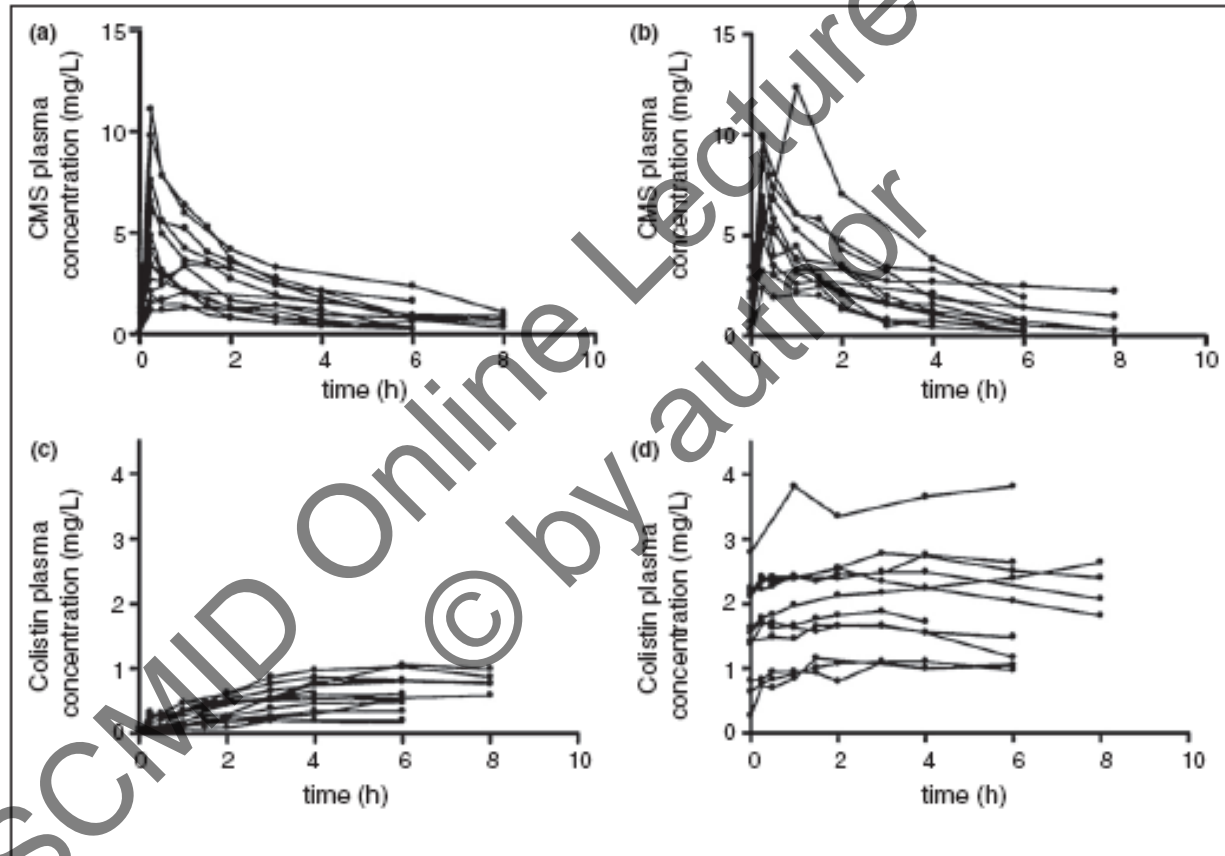


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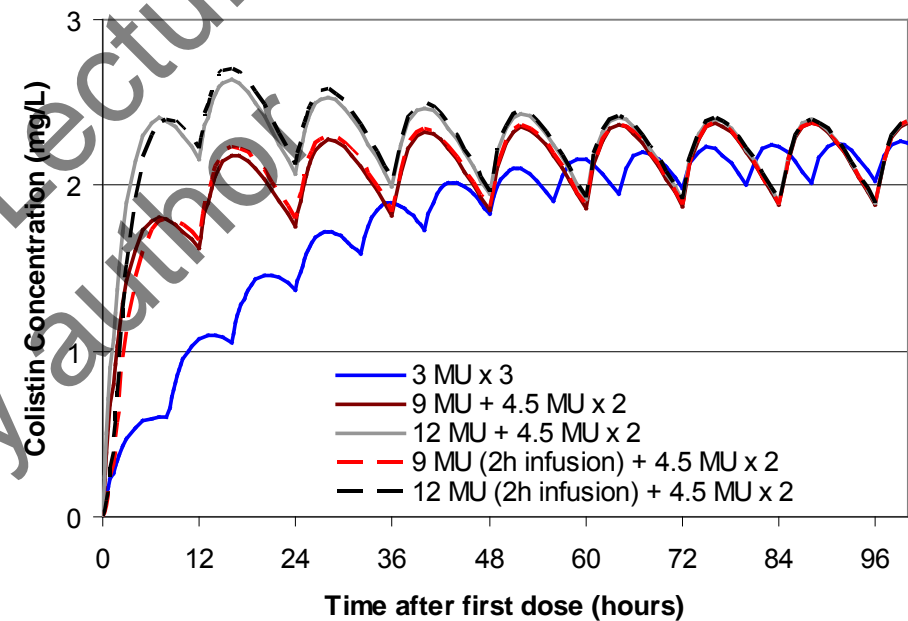
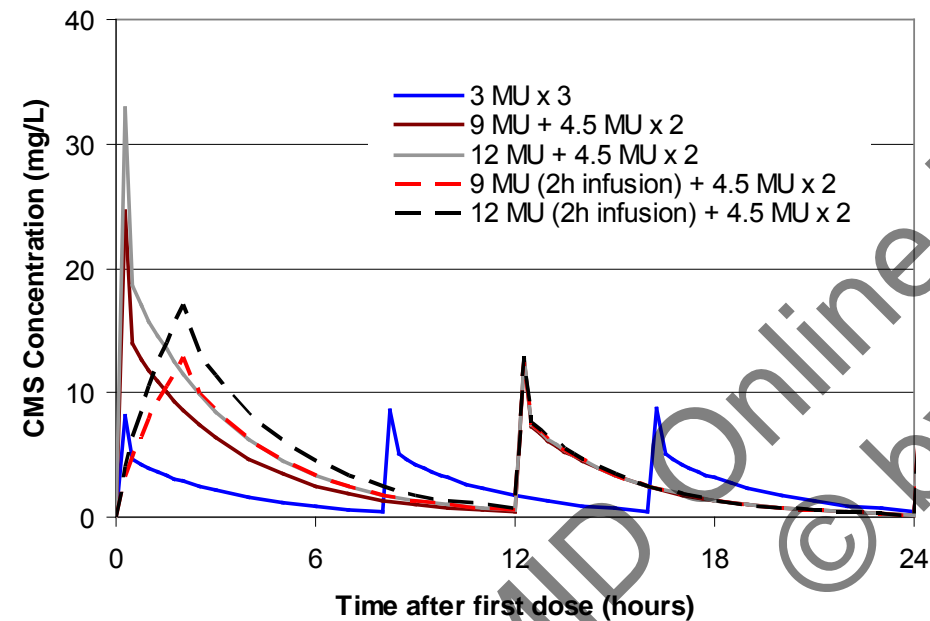
Non-enzymatic hydrolysis



# Colistin PK in critically ill patients



# Dosage regimen simulation



# Colistin Pharmacokinetics after Administration of a Loading Dose of Colistin Methanesulphonate (CMS)

n=10 (6 males, 4 females)

Age (mean (range)) : 55.4 (32-88) years

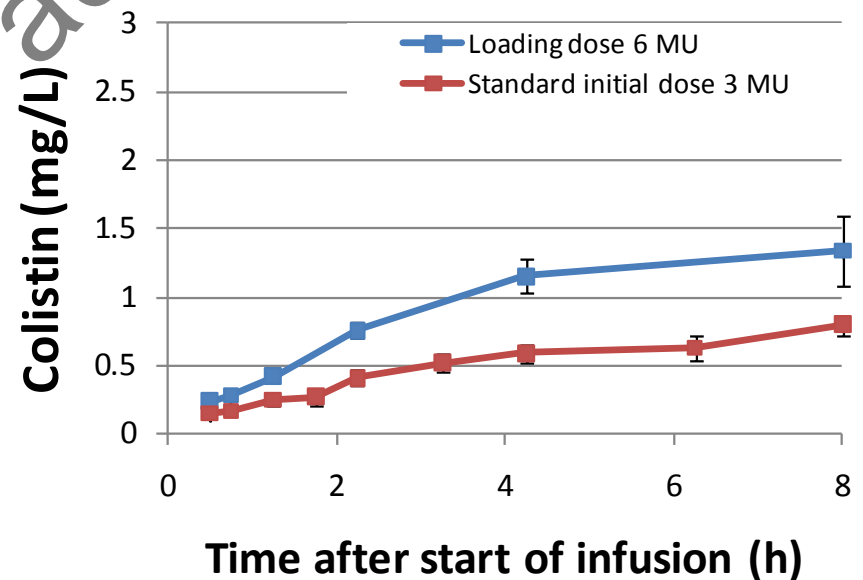
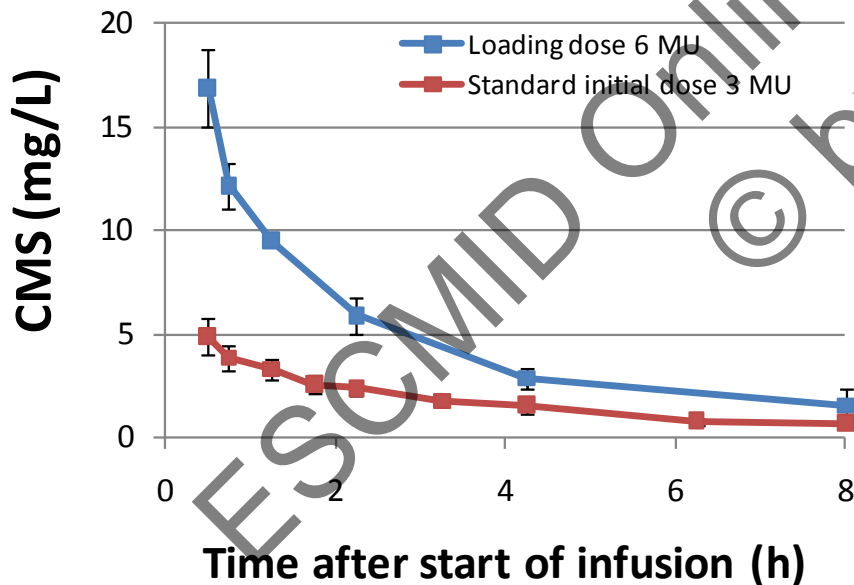
APACHE II score (mean (range)) : 15.4 (7-24)

*Observed plasma concentrations :*

C<sub>max</sub> after loading dose (mean (SEM)):

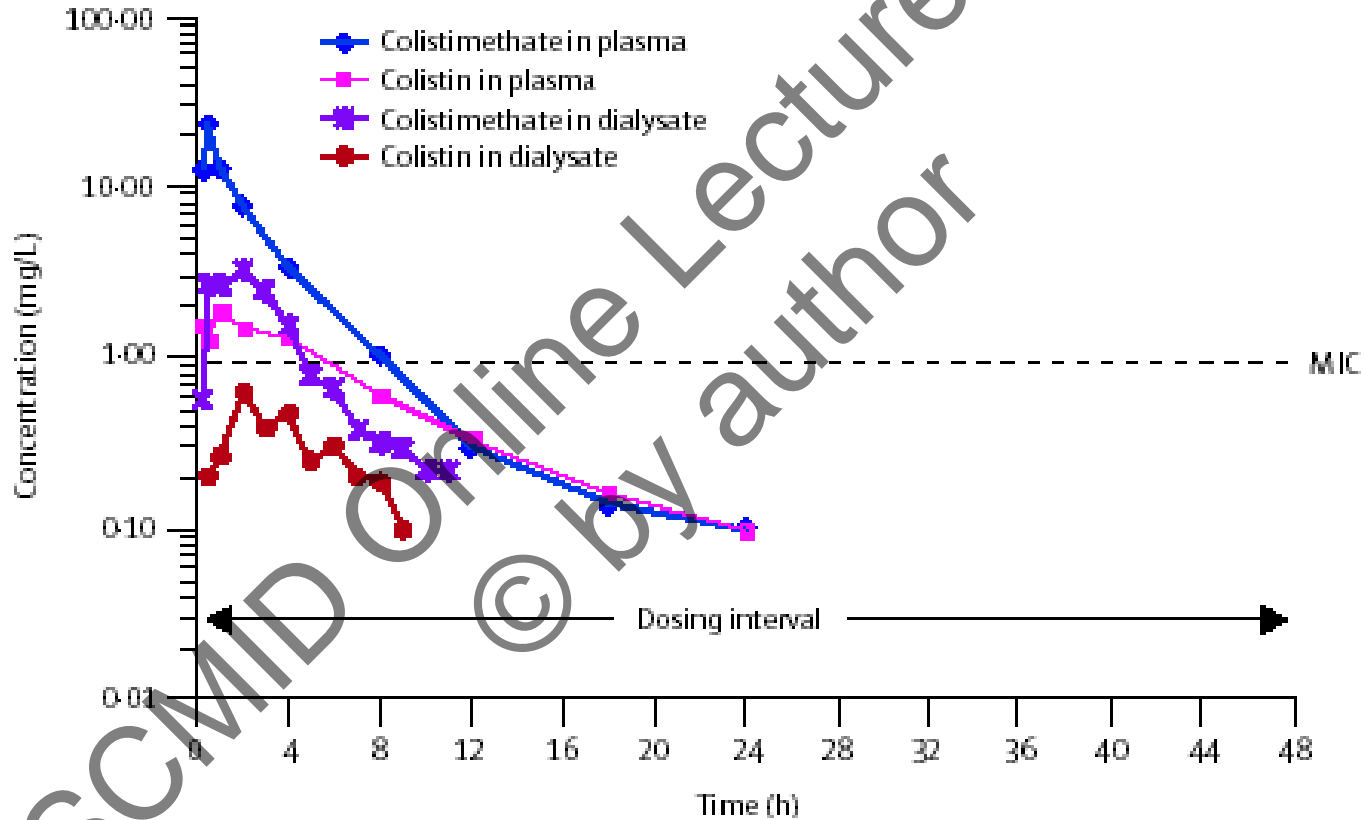
CMS : 16.9 (1.83) mg/L

Colistin: 1.43 (0.25) mg/L

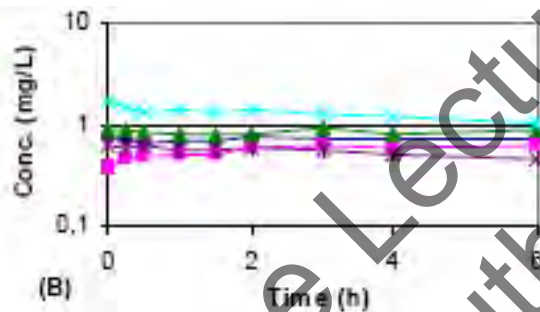
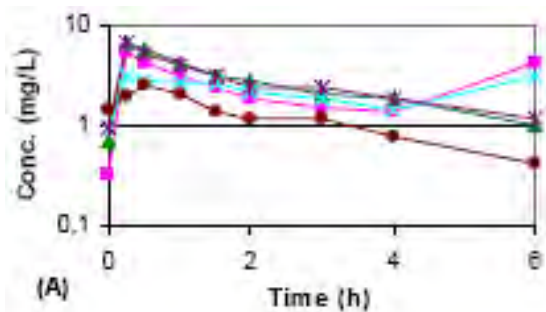




# Pharmacokinetics in Continuous Venovenous Hemodiafiltration (CVVHDF)



# Colistin pharmacokinetics in patients on continuous veno-venous hemodiafiltration (CVVHDF)



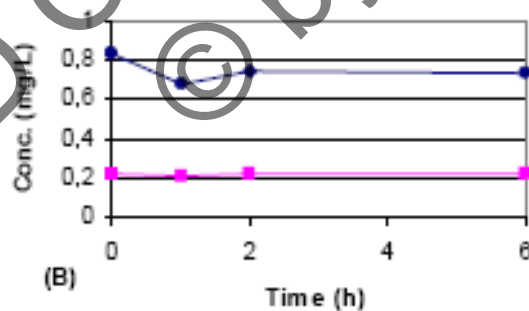
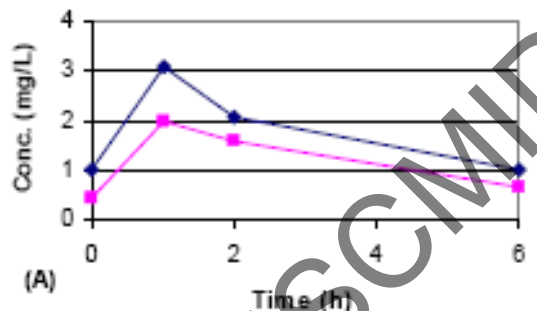
Serum CMS (A) and colistin (B) concentrations

5 patients

2 mIU tid iv

$C_{max}$  : 0.92 mg/L

Extraction: 68%



CMS (A) and colistin (B) concentration before and after filter

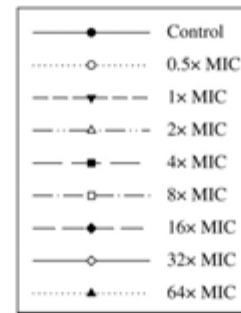
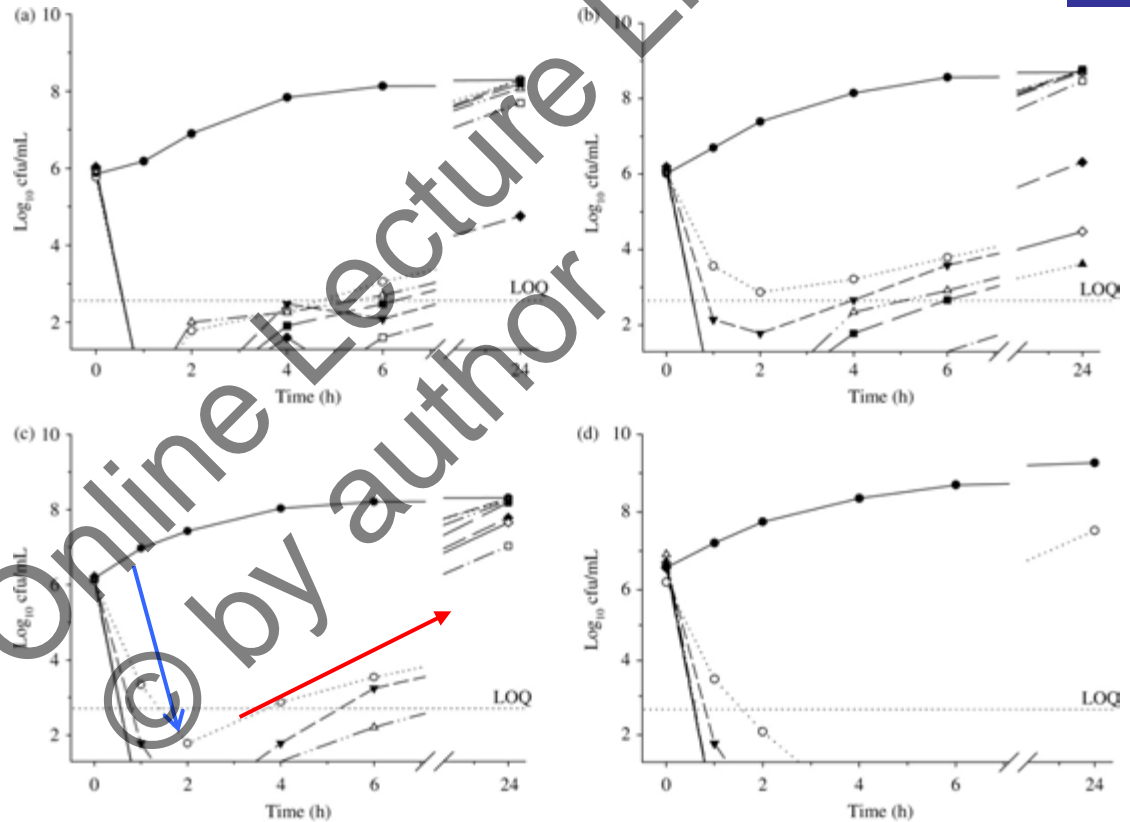
	CMS	Colistin
$C_{max}$ (mg/L)	4.93 (2.01)	0.92 (0.46)
$C_{min}$ (mg/L)	1.08 (0.40)	-
$T_{1/2}$ (terminal, h)	3.29 (0.62)	-
Extraction (%)	30 (13)	68 (8)
$CL_{CVVHDF}$ (L/h)	2.45 (1.26)	5.5 (1.10)

## *In vitro* pharmacodynamics of colistin against multidrug-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

- Concentration dependent
- Bactericidal

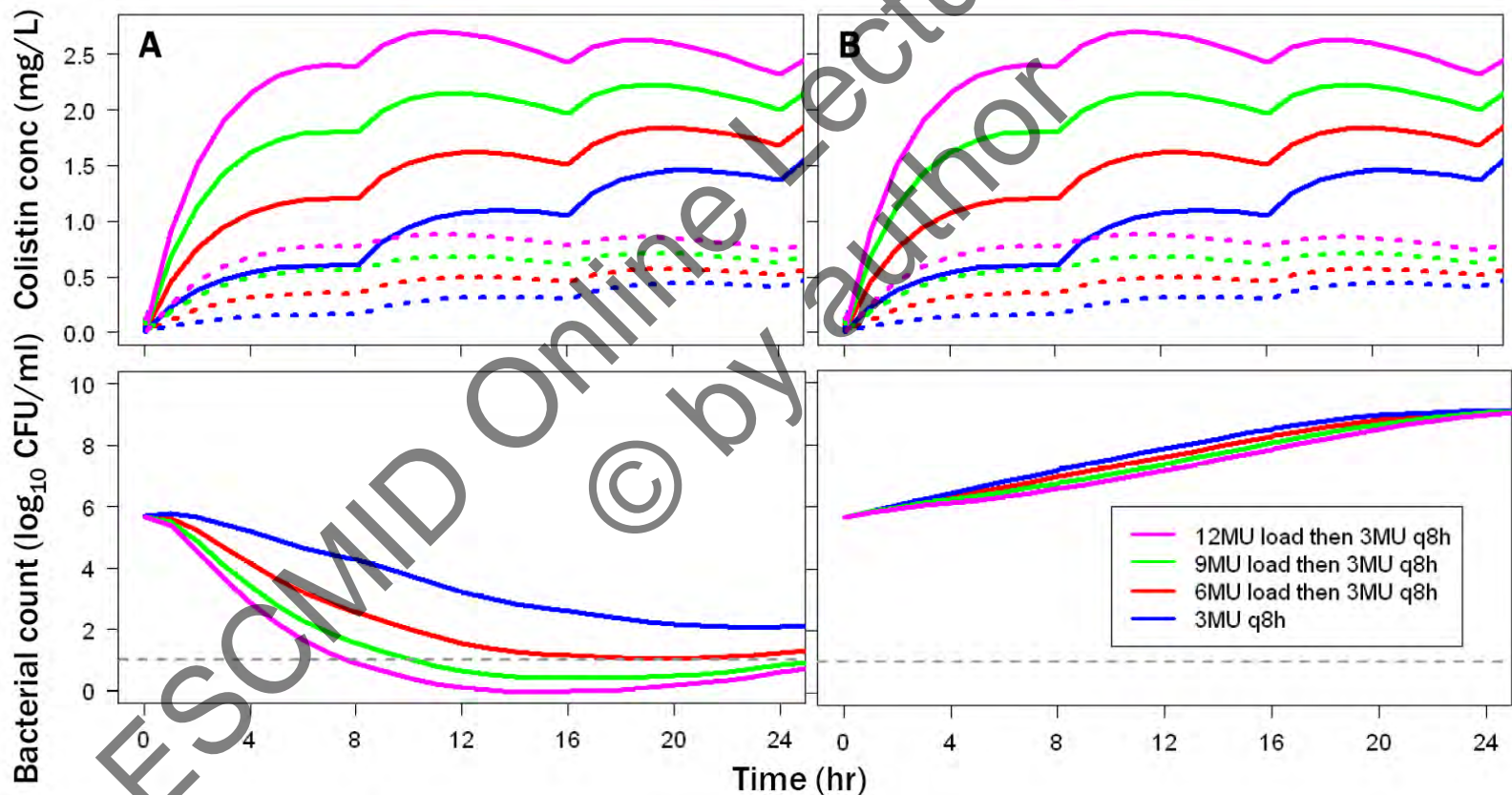
But

- Emergence of resistance
- ? Heteroresistance

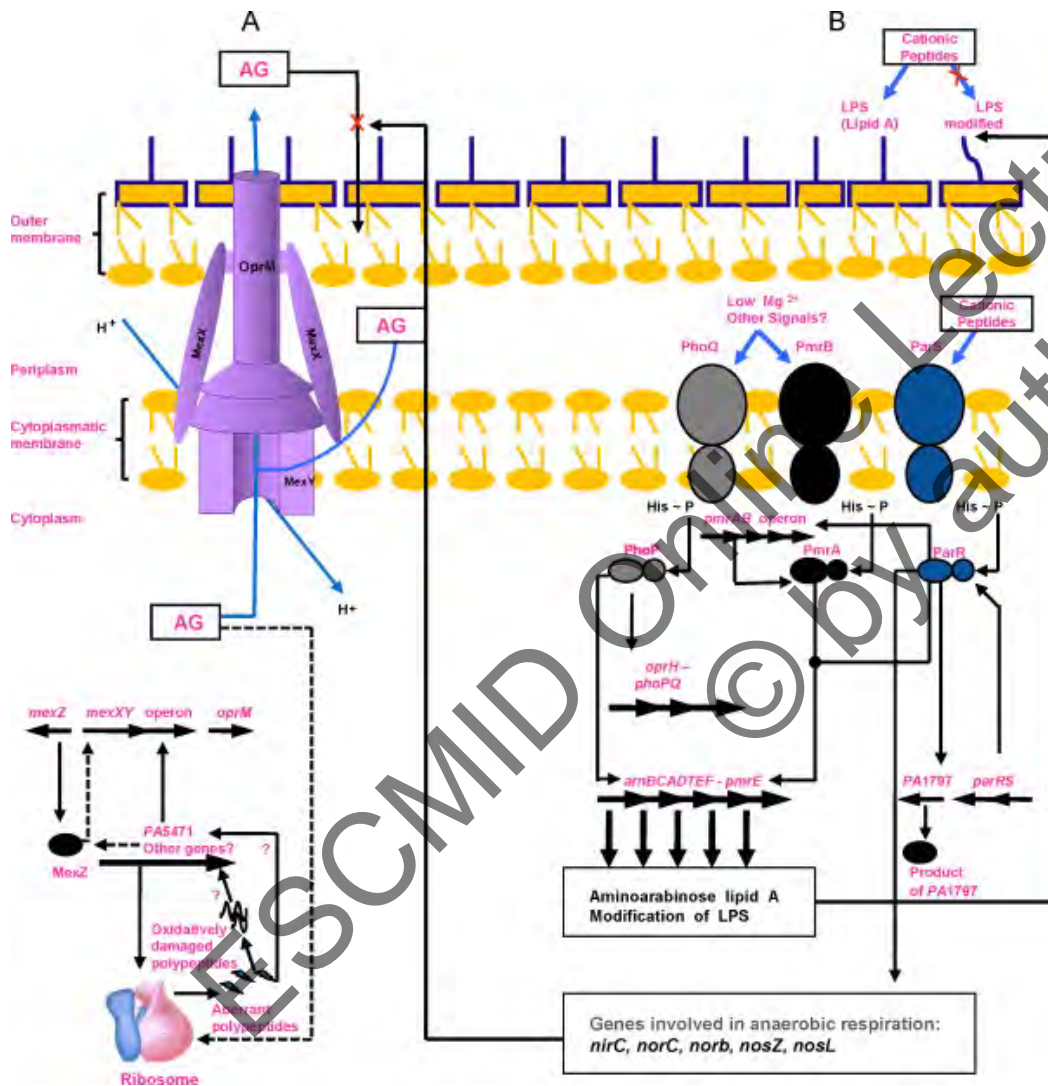


# Colistin pharmacodynamics

Modelling of bacterial killing by various dosing regimens



# Adaptive resistance



# Antimicrobial spectrum

- Gram negative bacteria
  - Enterobacteriaceae → *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae*
  - *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
  - *Acinetobacter baumannii*
- Excluding
  - *Proteus*, *Providencia*, *Morganella*, *Serratia*

# MIC breakpoints

- Colistin sulfate
- CLSI:  $\leq 2$  mg/L
- EUCAST:  $< 4$  mg/L
- E-test
  - Especially when disk inhibition zone 12-13 mm
    - » Galani I et al. Int J Antimicrob Agents 2008

# Resistance

- Modification of negative LPS charge -> reduced binding of colistin (*pmrA-pmrB*)
- 18 strains colistin resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae*
  - » Antoniadou A. JAC 2007
- 33 strains *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, 6 *Acinetobacter baumannii* και 2 *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
  - » Matthaïou DK et al. Crit Care Med 2008
- Risk factor: duration of colistin treatment > 13 days
  - » Mentzelopoulos SD. Intensive Care Med 2007
- heteroresistance in *Acinetobacter*
  - » Li J et al. AAC 2006



# Colistin resistance

Retrospective cohort study of emergence of colistin resistance incl. 150 patients

	Colonization, No (%)	Infection			All-cause mortality, No (%)	
		VAP	BSI	Other		Total
<b>CR pathogens</b>						
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	30 (20)	1	5	1	7 (23)	6 (86)
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	2 (1)				0	0
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>	4 (3)				0	0
<i>Enterobacter aerogenes</i>	3 (2)			1	1 (33)	1 (100)
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	2 (1)				0	0
<b>CIR pathogens</b>						
<i>Serratia marcescens</i>	16 (13)		3		3 (18)	2 (67)
<i>Providencia stuartii</i>	8 (5)				1 (13)	1
<i>Proteus mirabilis</i>	23 (15)	2	3		5 (22)	2 (40)
<i>Morganella morganii</i>	16 (11)		3		3 (19)	3 (100)
		Colonized by CRKP	Not colonized by CRKP	Univariate analysis	Multivariate analysis	Odds ratio
Age, median (range)		68 (22–86)	72 (14–89)	NS		
Gender (female/male)		11/19	54/66	NS		
APACHE II score, median (IQR)		19.5 (11.75)	18.0 (10)	NS		
Colistin treatment (%)		27 (90)	67 (56)	<0.001	<0.001	5.2
Carbapenem treatment (%)		23 (77)	81 (68)	NS		
Piperacillin/tazobactam treatment (%)		16 (53)	77 (64)	NS		
Median length of stay in ICU, days (IQR)		65 (61)	26 (32)	<0.001	NS	
Median duration of colistin treatment, days (IQR)		20.0 (17)	14.5 (23)	0.048		

All cases of infection by CIR pathogens occurred in patients having received colistin (p 0.003, OR 1.7)

## Colistin heteroresistance in carbapenemase-producing *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

Georgios Meletis<sup>1\*</sup>, Egki Tzampaz<sup>1</sup>, Effrosyni Sianou<sup>1</sup>, Ioannis Tzavaras<sup>2</sup> and Danai Sofianou<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Clinical Microbiology, Hippokratia General Hospital, Thessaloniki, Greece; <sup>2</sup>3rd Army Veterinary Hospital, Thessaloniki, Greece

# Heteroresistance in Enterobacteriaceae

Strain	Colistin treatment	Carbapenemase type	Broth MIC (mg/L)	Highest concentration of growth in PAPs (mg/L)	Proportion of resistant subpopulations	Resistant colonies MIC before daily passages onto colistin-free medium (mg/L)	Resistant colonies MIC after 2 week daily passages onto colistin-free medium (mg/L)	Susceptibility	PFGE group
1	yes	VIM-1	2	8	$4.4 \times 10^{-7}$	16	16	heteroresistant	A
2	yes	VIM-1	2	8	$8 \times 10^{-7}$	16	16	heteroresistant	
9	no	VIM-1	1	8	$4.1 \times 10^{-7}$	64	32	heteroresistant	
3	yes	KPC	2	8	$2.6 \times 10^{-6}$	32	32	heteroresistant	B
6	yes	KPC	1	8	$1.7 \times 10^{-5}$	32	16	heteroresistant	
12	no	KPC	1	8	$1.5 \times 10^{-5}$	64	64	heteroresistant	
17	no	KPC	1	8	$1.2 \times 10^{-6}$	16	16	heteroresistant	
18	no	KPC	1	8	$2 \times 10^{-6}$	32	16	heteroresistant	
19	no	KPC	1	8	$3.6 \times 10^{-7}$	16	16	heteroresistant	
8	yes	KPC	1	8	$3.5 \times 10^{-5}$	4	1	heteroresistant	
5	yes	KPC	4	8	NA	NA	NA	resistant	C
7	yes	KPC	4	8	NA	NA	NA	resistant	
13	no	VIM-1	4	8	NA	NA	NA	resistant	
10	no	VIM-1	2	8	$3.2 \times 10^{-7}$	32	32	heteroresistant	D
20	no	VIM-1	2	8	$4.2 \times 10^{-7}$	16	16	heteroresistant	
4	yes	KPC	4	8	NA	NA	NA	resistant	E
11	no	KPC	0.5	0.5	NA	NA	NA	susceptible	ND
14	no	KPC	0.5	0.5	NA	NA	NA	susceptible	
15	no	KPC	0.5	0.5	NA	NA	NA	susceptible	
16	no	VIM-1	0.5	0.5	NA	NA	NA	susceptible	

# Dosage

- 80 mg CMS = 1 million IU
- Intravenous
  - 1-2 mIU tid (UK) or 4-6 mg/kg in three divided doses
  - 6.5-13 mg/kg in three doses - USA (max 800 mg)
  - 2-3 IU tid ( 480-720 mg ) in Greece
  - Adjustment in renal failure
- Intrathecal / Intraventricular
  - 125.000 – 250.000 IU/day
- Inhalational (Tadim)
  - 1-2 mIU tid/qid
- Other routes: i.m. (?)

# Colistin dosage recommendation

Patient category	Dose (mIU) to target of C <sub>ss</sub> , avg 2 mg/L
	<b>Loading dose</b>
All patients	$BW^{**} \text{ (kg)} / 7.5 \text{ (max 10)}$
	<b>Maintenance dose</b>
Not on renal replacement	$(Cl_{Cr} / 10) + 2$ in 2-3 doses 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 24 h after loading dose
Intermittent hemodialysis	2 (in two doses) +30% on the day of hemodialysis after session
Continuous renal replacement	12 In 2-3 doses

\* 1million IU of CMS ~ 30mg of CBA ~ 80 mg of CMS

\*\*Lower of ideal or actual body weight in kg

# Is Colistin Safe?

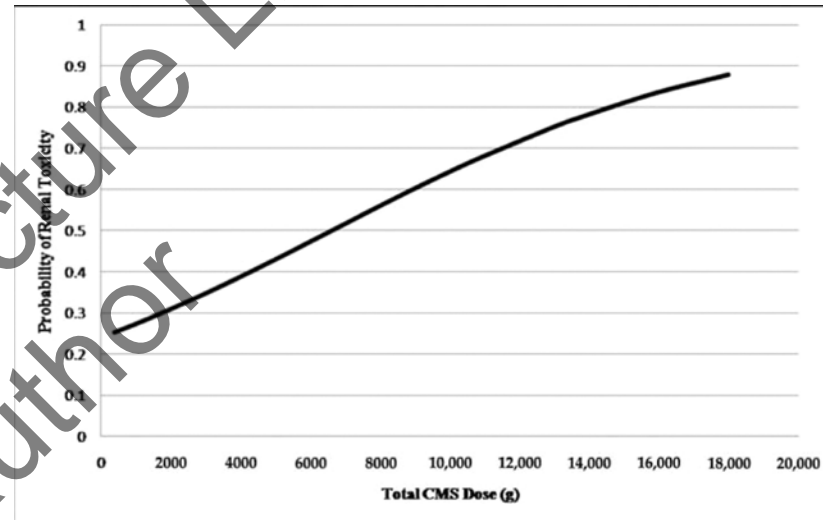
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# Nephrotoxicity

- Wide range of reported toxicity: 0-39%
- Less than previously thought

Category	Criteria
Risk (R)	Increased creatinine level $\times 1.5$ or GFR decrease $>25\%$
Injury (I)	Increased creatinine level $\times 2$ or GFR decrease $>50\%$
Failure (F)	Increased creatinine level $\times 3$ , GFR decrease $>75\%$ , or creatinine level $\geq 4$ mg/dL
Loss (L)	Persistent acute renal failure or complete loss of function for $>4$ weeks
ESKD (E)	ESKD for $>3$ months

**NOTE.** ESKD, end-stage kidney disease; GFR, glomerular filtration rate.



No. (%) of patients fulfilling criterion

Criterion	At last CMS dose (n = 66)	At peak creatinine level during CMS treatment (n = 66)	1 week after last CMS dose (n = 59)	1 month after last CMS dose (n = 50)	3 months after last CMS dose (n = 26)
No injury	39 (59)	36 (54)	36 (61)	35 (70)	23 (88)
Risk (R)	14 (21)	13 (20)	11 (19)	14 (28)	3 (12)
Injury (I)	9 (14)	10 (15)	10 (17)	1 (2)	0 (0)
Failure (F)	4 (6)	7 (11)	2 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Loss (L)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
ESKD (E)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

**NOTE.** CMS, colistimethate sodium; ESKD, end-stage kidney disease.

J Antimicrob Chemother. 2011 Nov 28. [Epub ahead of print]  
**Ascorbic acid protects against the nephrotoxicity and apoptosis caused by colistin and affects its pharmacokinetics.**

Yousef JM, Chen G, Hill PA, Nation RL, Li J.

# Other adverse effects

- Neurotoxicity
    - Dose dependent
    - Neuromuscular blockade
    - Paresthesias (face, tongue, limbs)
    - Confusion, seizures
  - Hypersensitivity reactions
  - Bronchospasm
    - Inhalational treatment
- Rare to non-existent



Is Colistin effective?

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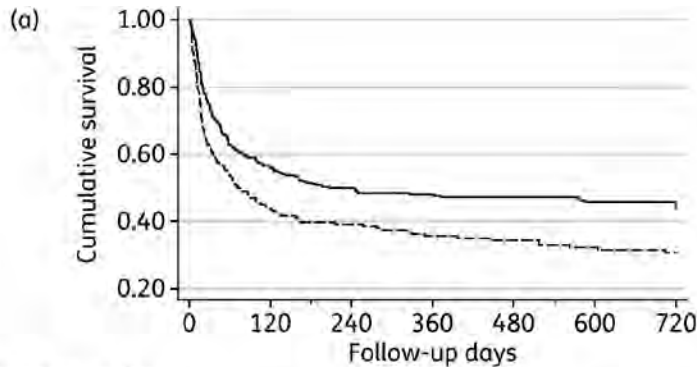
# Colistin efficacy studies

	Number	Pathogens (%)	Study Design	Combination	Efficacy (%)	Daily Dose
Pintado V. J Inf 2008	60	Acinetobacter 50 Pseudomonas 23 Klebsiella 13	Retrospective cohort	87	72	2-4 mIU
Kasiakou SK. AAC 2005	50	Acinetobacter 52 Pseudomonas 43 Klebsiella 4	Retrospective cohort	92	67	3 mIU
Reina R. Int Care Med 2005	55	Acinetobacter 65 Pseudomonas 35	Prospective cohort	Unavailable	15 (on day 6)	4.5 mIU
Levin AS. Clin Infect Dis 1998	60	Acinetobacter 65 Pseudomonas 35	Uncontrolled observational	Unavailable	58 25 in LRTI	2 mIU
Michalopoulos AS. Clin Microbiol Infect 2005	43	Acinetobacter 19 Pseudomonas 81	Retrospective case series	74	74	9 mIU
Markou N. Crit Care 2003	26	Acinetobacter 23 Pseudomonas 77	Uncontrolled observational	100	73	9 mIU

# Is colistin effective?

## Effectiveness and safety of colistin: prospective comparative cohort study

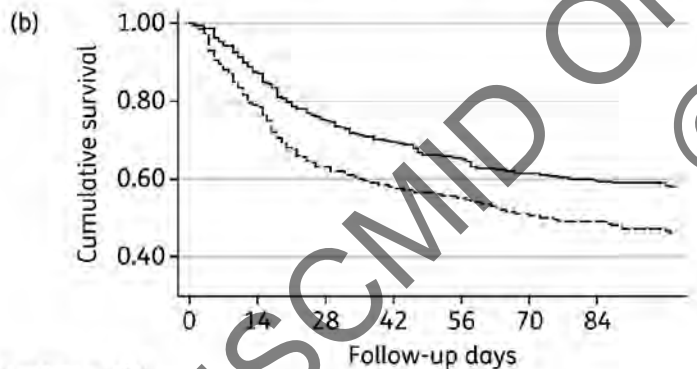
Mical Paul<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Jihad Bishara<sup>1,2</sup>, Ariela Levcovich<sup>1,2</sup>, Michal Chowers<sup>2,3</sup>, Elad Goldberg<sup>1,2</sup>, Pierre Singer<sup>2,4</sup>, Shaul Lev<sup>2,4</sup>, Perla Leon<sup>5</sup>, Maria Raskin<sup>1,2</sup>, Dafna Yahav<sup>2,6</sup> and Leonard Leibovici<sup>2,6</sup>



Number at risk

Tx=Comparators	295	160	127	120	107	89	73
Tx=Colistin	200	84	70	59	51	43	36

— Tx=Comparators    - - - Tx=Colistin



Number at risk

Tx=Comparators	295	258	222	205	193	181	175
Tx=Colistin	200	158	126	116	110	102	98

— Tx=Comparators    - - - Tx=Colistin

Prospective cohort study

495 patients Israel

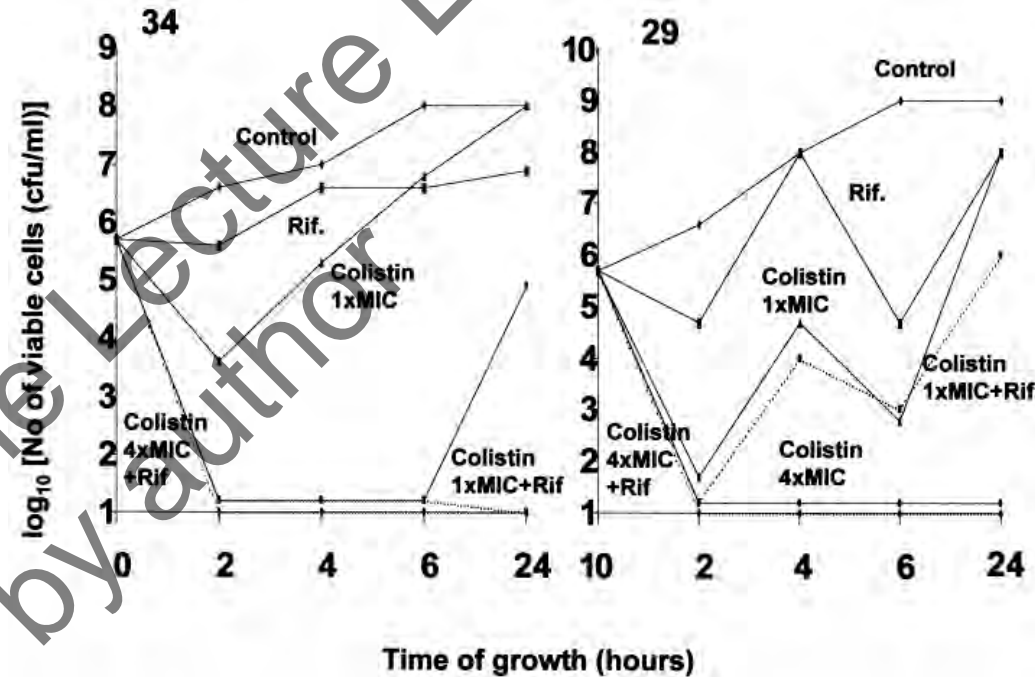
OR 1.99 bacteremic patients

# (More) Unresolved Issues

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# Synergy

- Colistin + Rifampin / carbapenem
  - In vitro
  - Animal models
  - Clinical studies effectiveness (No RCT):  
65-76%



Petrosillo N. Clin Microbiol Infect 2008

Giamarellos-Bourboulis EJ. Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis 2001

Bassetti M et al. JAC2008

# Inhaled colistin

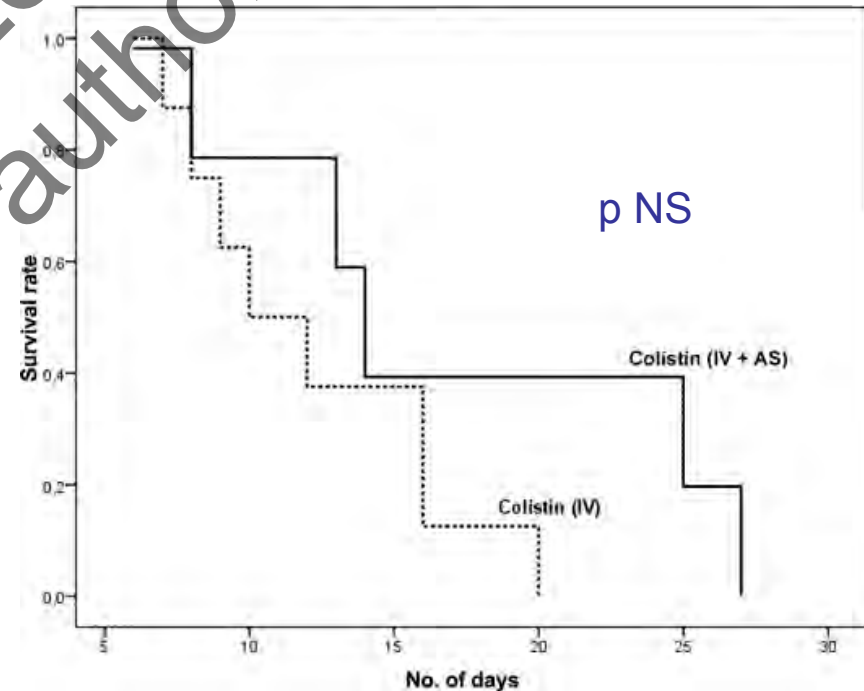
Controlled clinical trial of iv colistin vs iv + inh colistin in VAP

43 pts in each group

Outcome	No. (%) of patients		P
	IV colistin group (n = 43)	AS-IV colistin group (n = 43)	
<b>Clinical outcome</b>			
Clinical cure	14 (32.5)	23 (54)	.05
Clinical improvement	12 (28)	9 (21)	.451
Clinical failure	14 (32.5)	7 (16)	.126
Recurrence	3 (7)	4 (9)	>.99
<b>Bacteriological outcome<sup>a</sup></b>			
Eradication	17 (50)	19 (45)	.679
Persistent	12 (35)	10 (24)	.272
Recurrence	2 (6)	5 (12)	.450
Colonization	3 (9)	8 (19)	.208
<b>Mortality</b>			
All-cause	18 (42)	10 (23)	.066
VAP-related	11 (26)	7 (16)	.289
<b>Adverse events</b>			
Nephrotoxicity	8 (19)	8 (19)	>.99
Neurotoxicity	0	0	

**NOTE.**AS, aerosolized; IV, intravenous; VAP, ventilator-associated pneumonia

<sup>a</sup> Bacteriological outcome was evaluated in 34 patients in the IV colistin group and in 42 patients in the AS-IV colistin group.



# Pitfalls of colistin studies

- No prospective, randomized, controlled clinical trials
- Colistin monotherapy is understudied
- Most published studies focused on *Pseudomonas* and *Acinetobacter*
- Diagnostic inaccuracy in VAP affects assessment of treatment efficacy
- Treatment efficacy and toxicity difficult to assess due to multiple confounding factors in critically ill patients

# Future challenges

- Dosage optimization (loading dose, optimum interval)
- Prospective randomized, controlled clinical trials



Thank you!

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