



# Exploring antivirulence strategies for treating severe infections



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Conflicts of interest: Consulting or  
Lecture fees:

- KaloBios-sanofi, Kenta-Aridis, Medimmune, Nektar-Bayer, Pfizer, Trius, Janssen-Cilag, Cubist, Astellas



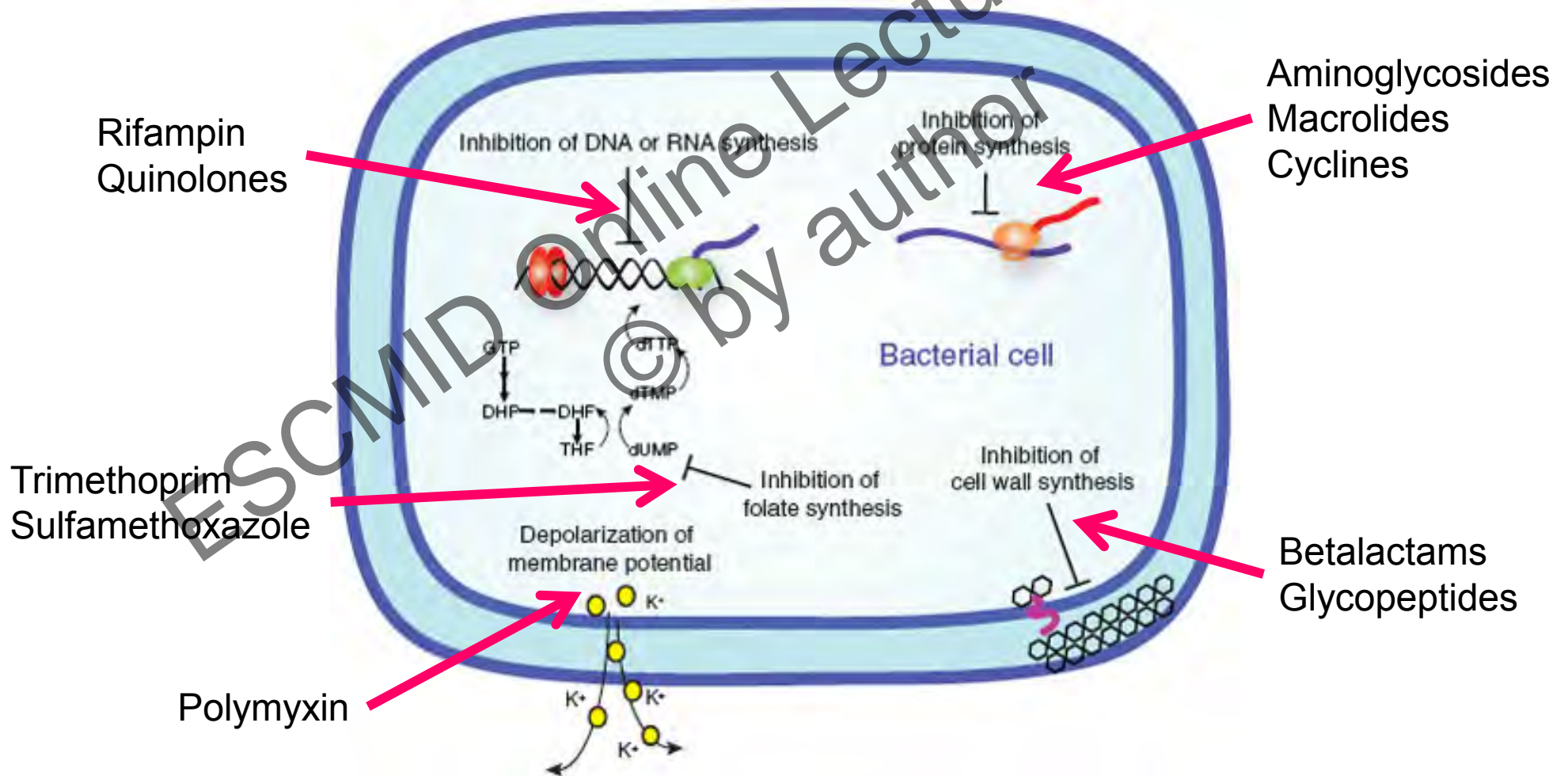
# The “Usual” Paradigm



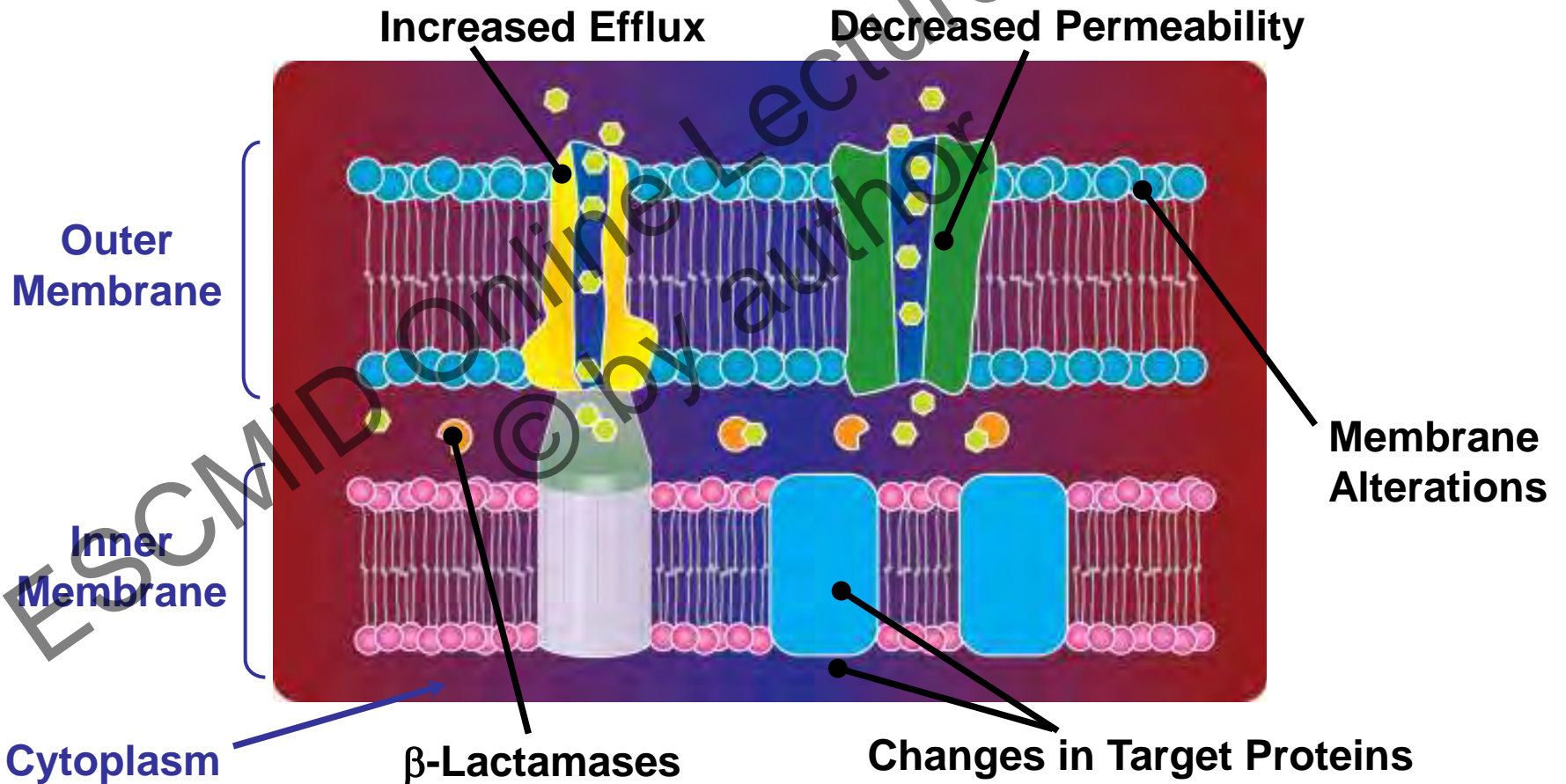


# Conventional Therapeutics, such as Antibiotics, Target Pathogen Viability

*Clatworthy AE, et al. Nat Chem Biol. 2007;9:541-8*



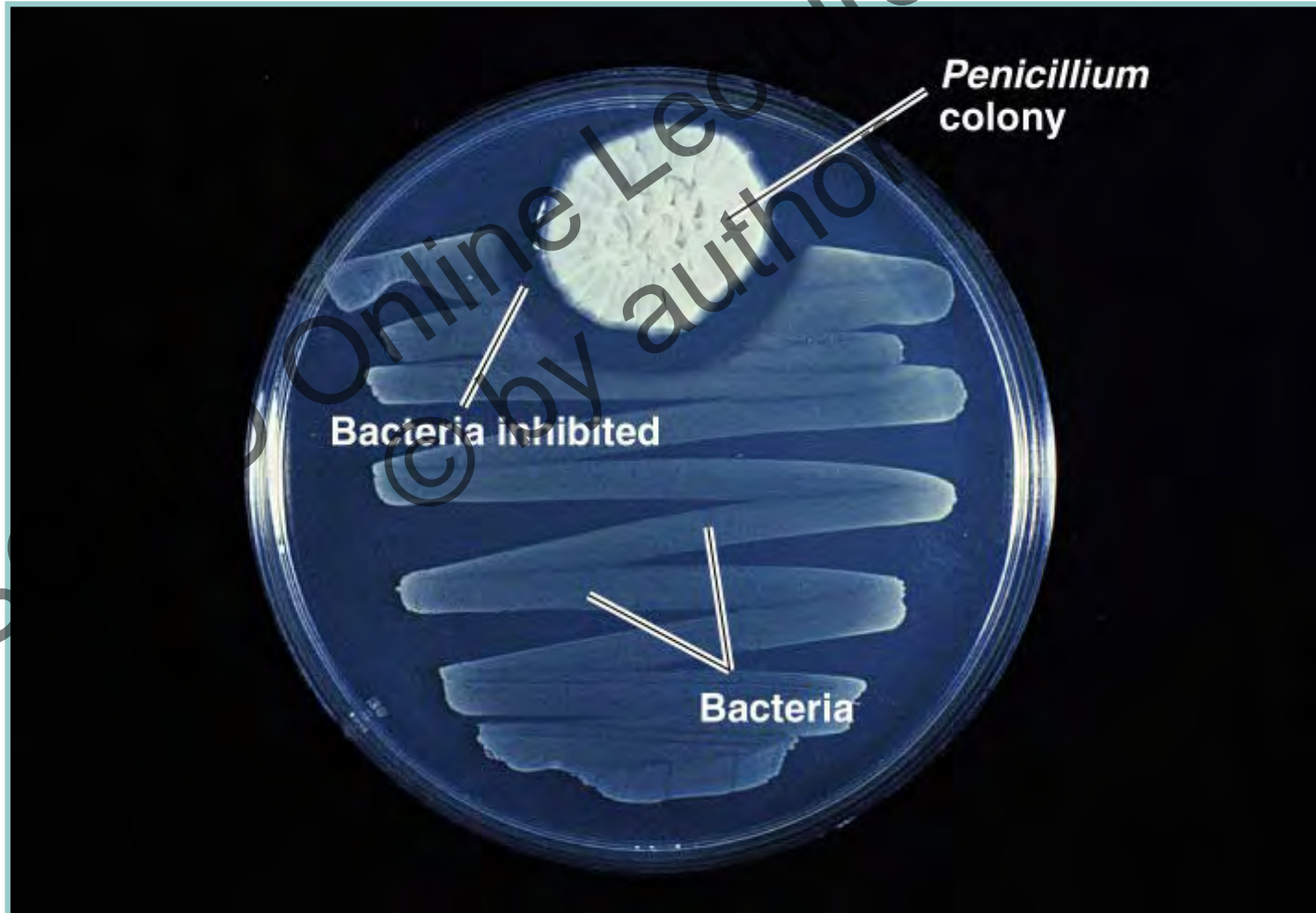
# Potential Mechanisms of Resistance in GNB







Most antimicrobial agents we are using for killing bacteria were in fact “invented” by microorganisms to defend their “territory”

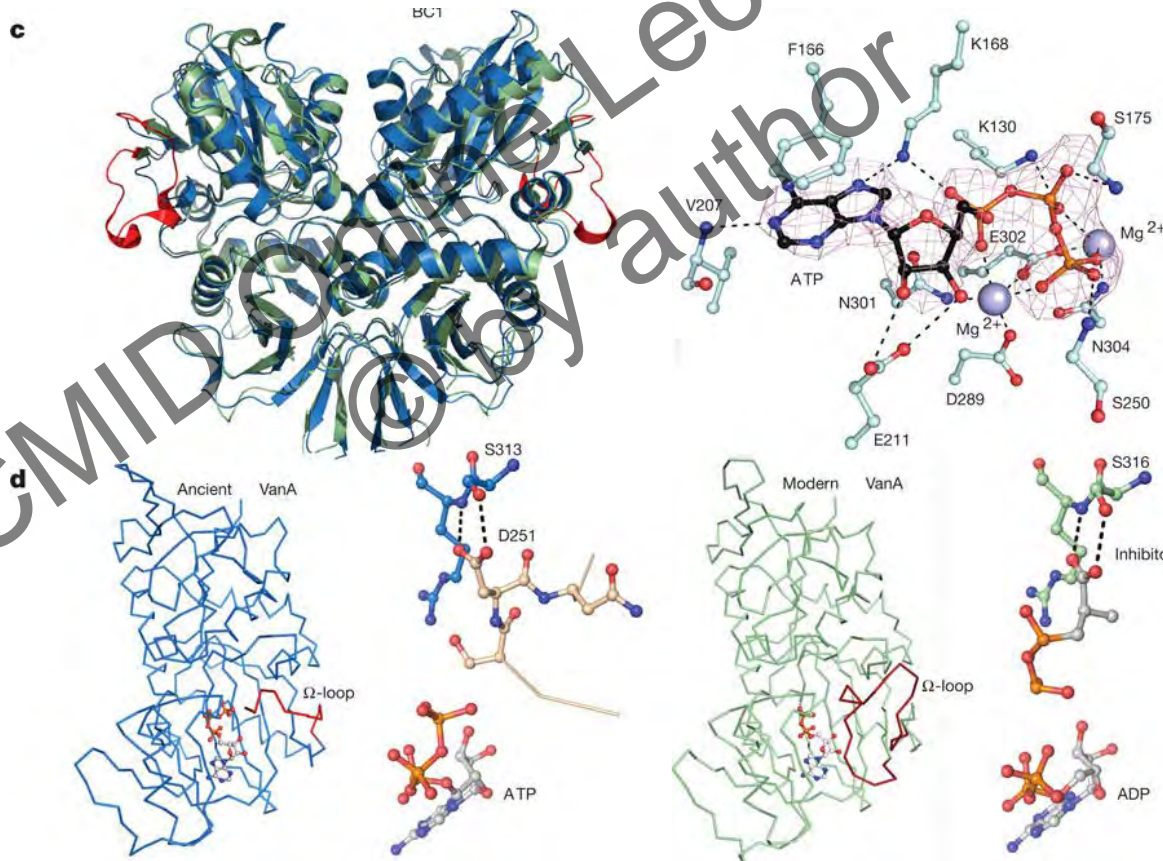










# Antibiotic resistance is ancient as demonstrated by metagenomic analyses of ancient DNA from 20,000-year-old permafrost



Structure and function studies on the complete vancomycin resistance element VanA confirmed its similarity to modern variants

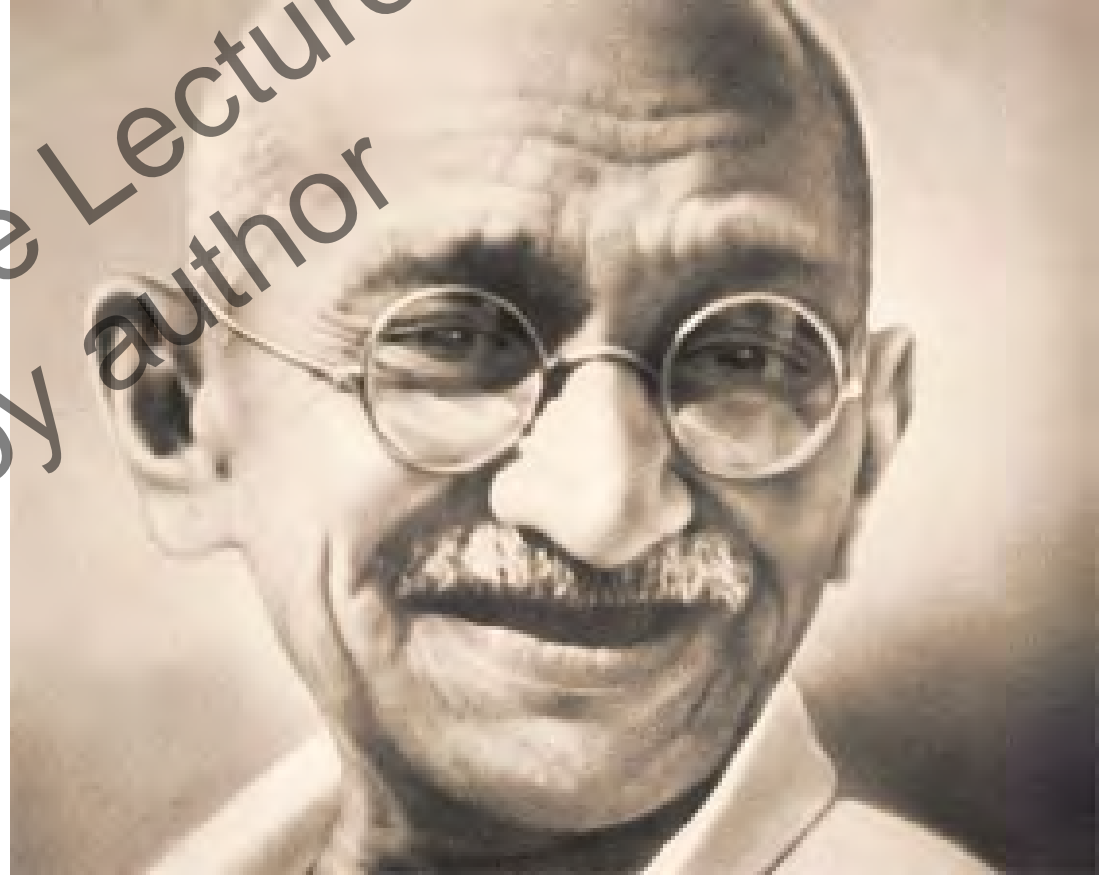
77(7365):457-61



-  *Lepus*
-  *Microtus & Ellobius*
-  *Ovis*
-  *Bison*
-  Ice wedge
-  Icing
-  Segregated ice
-  aDNA sample



# A “New” Paradigm

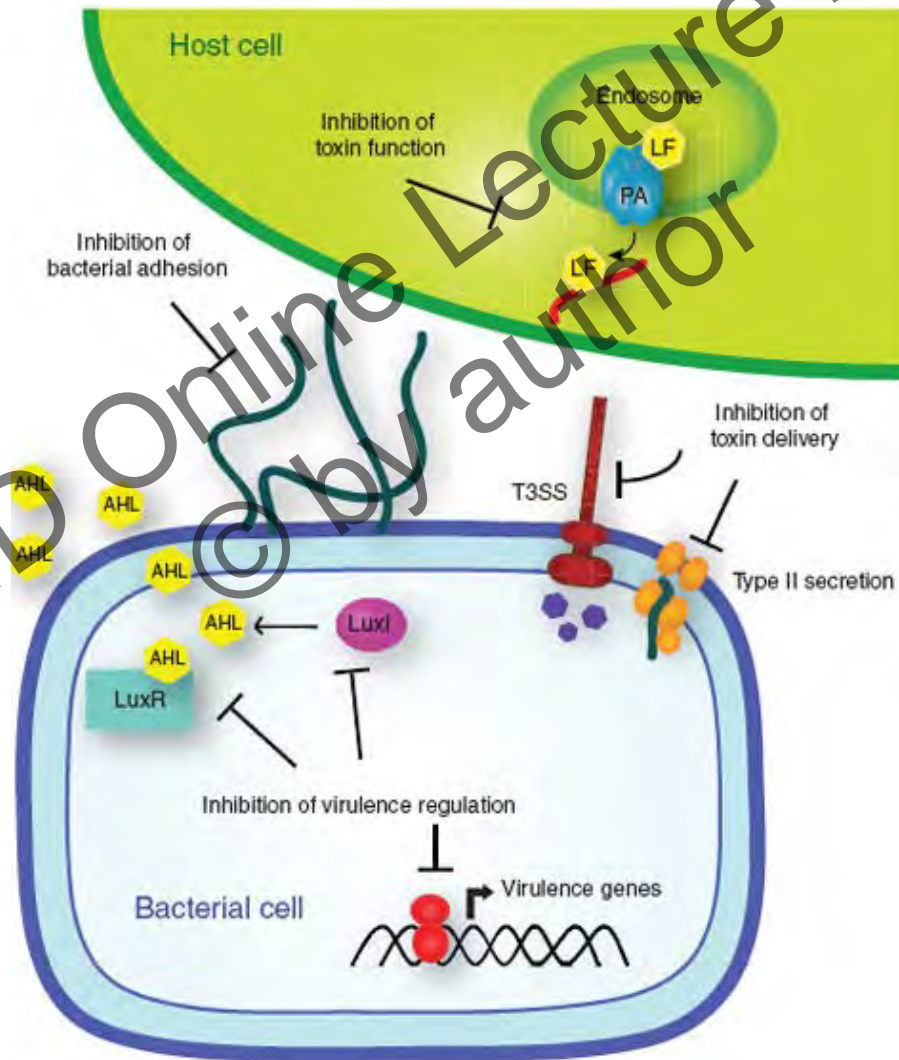






# Alternative Approaches Designed to Target Virulence Factors

*Clatworthy AE, et al. Nat Chem Biol. 2007;9:541-8*







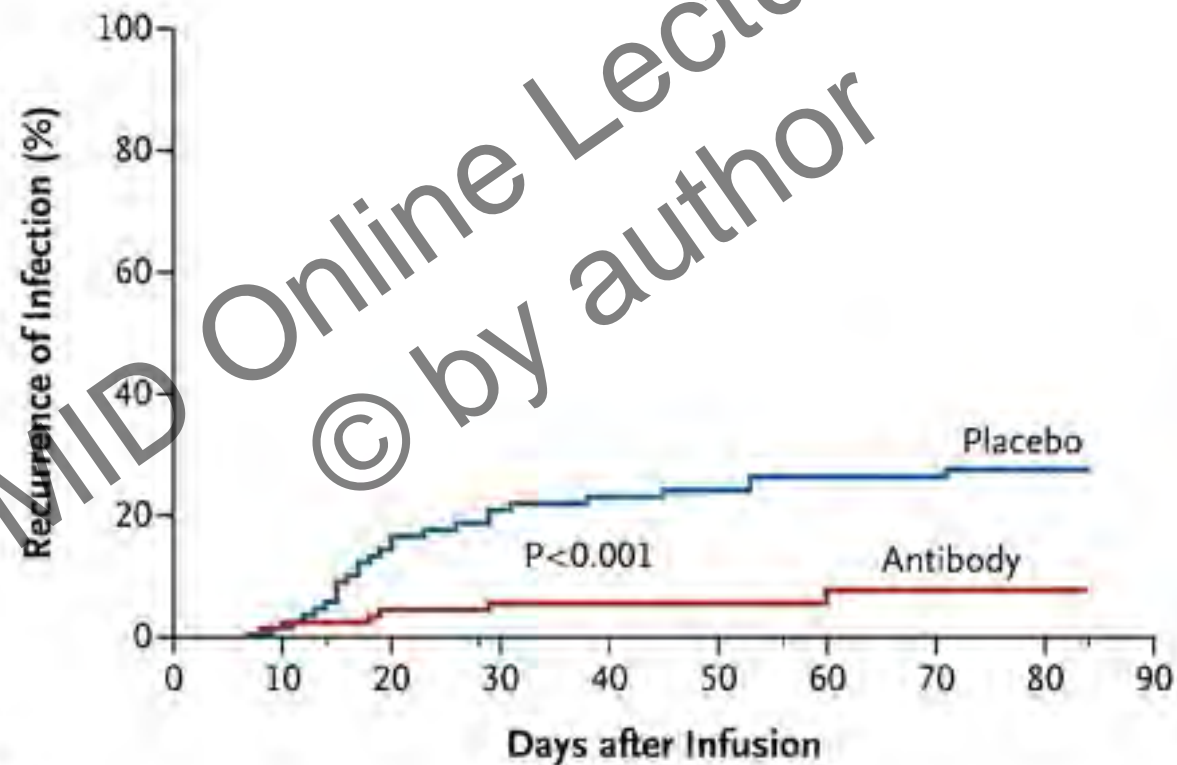
# Alternative Approaches Targeting Microorganisms Virulence Factors

*Clatworthy AE, et al. Nat Chem Biol. 2007;9:541-8*

- These approaches have several potential advantages:
  - They expand the repertoire of bacterial targets.
  - They preserve the host endogenous microbiome.
  - They exert less selective pressure for the development of antibiotic resistance relative to current antibiotics.

# Time to Recurrence of *Clostridium difficile* Infection

Lowy I et al. N Engl J Med 2010;362:197-205



No. at Risk

Antibody

101

93

89

85

Placebo

99

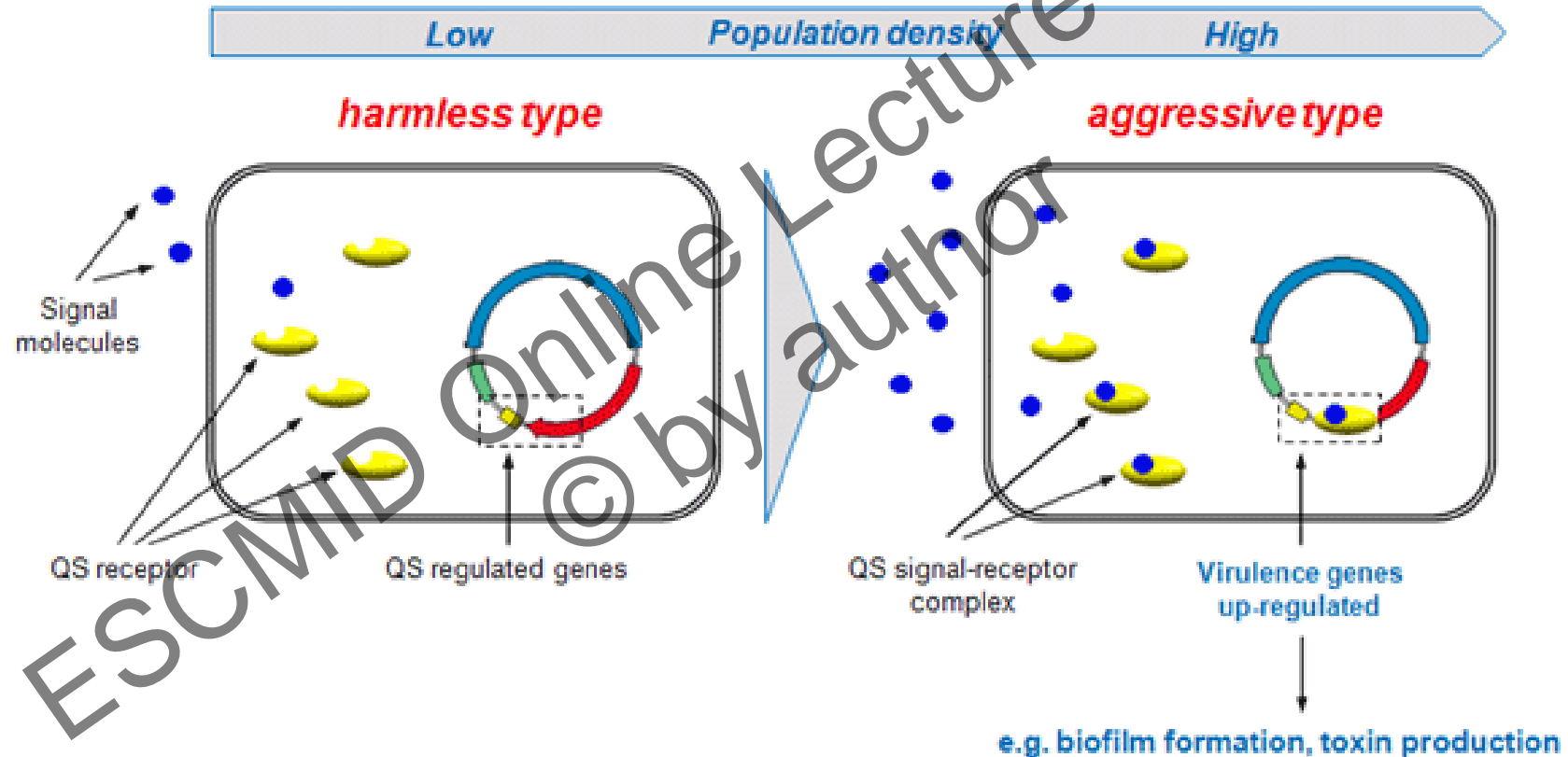
77

66

62



# The “Quorum Sensing” system



Signal molecules, such as N-acyl-L-homoserine lactones (AHLs), are utilized by bacteria to monitor their own population densities and to activate virulent genes



# Effect of Clarithromycin in Patients with Sepsis and VAP

*Giamarellos-Bourboulis EJ, et al. CID 2008;46:1157–64*

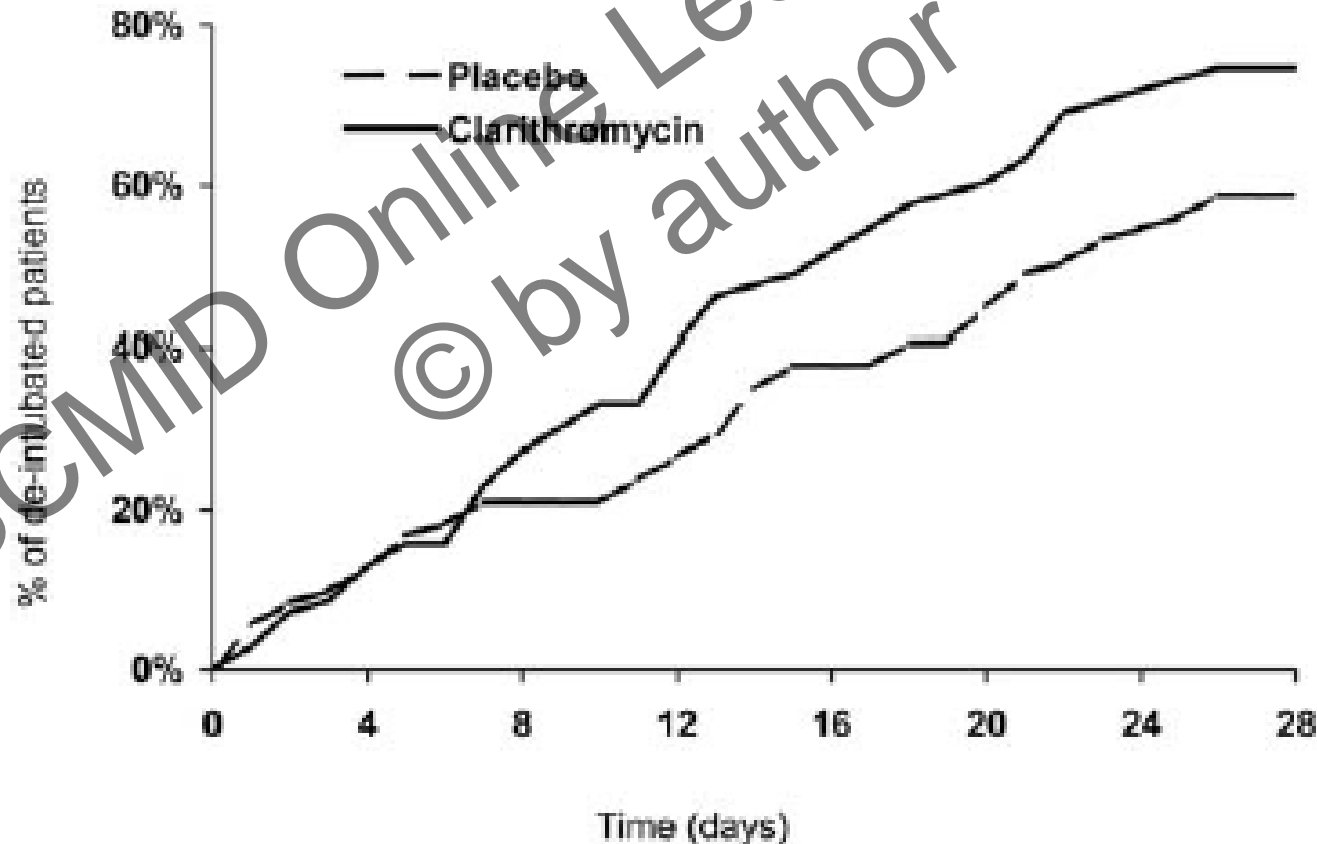
- **200 patients with sepsis and VAP** were enrolled in a **double-blind**, randomized, multicenter trial in Greece
- **Clarithromycin (1 g)** was administered IV once daily for **3 consecutive days** in 100 patients; another 100 patients were treated with placebo
- **Main outcomes were resolution of VAP, duration of MV, and sepsis-related mortality within 28 days**





# Cumulative time to weaning from ventilation among placebo-treated and clarithromycin-treated patients

*Giamarellos-Bourboulis EJ, et al. CID 2008;46:1157–64*

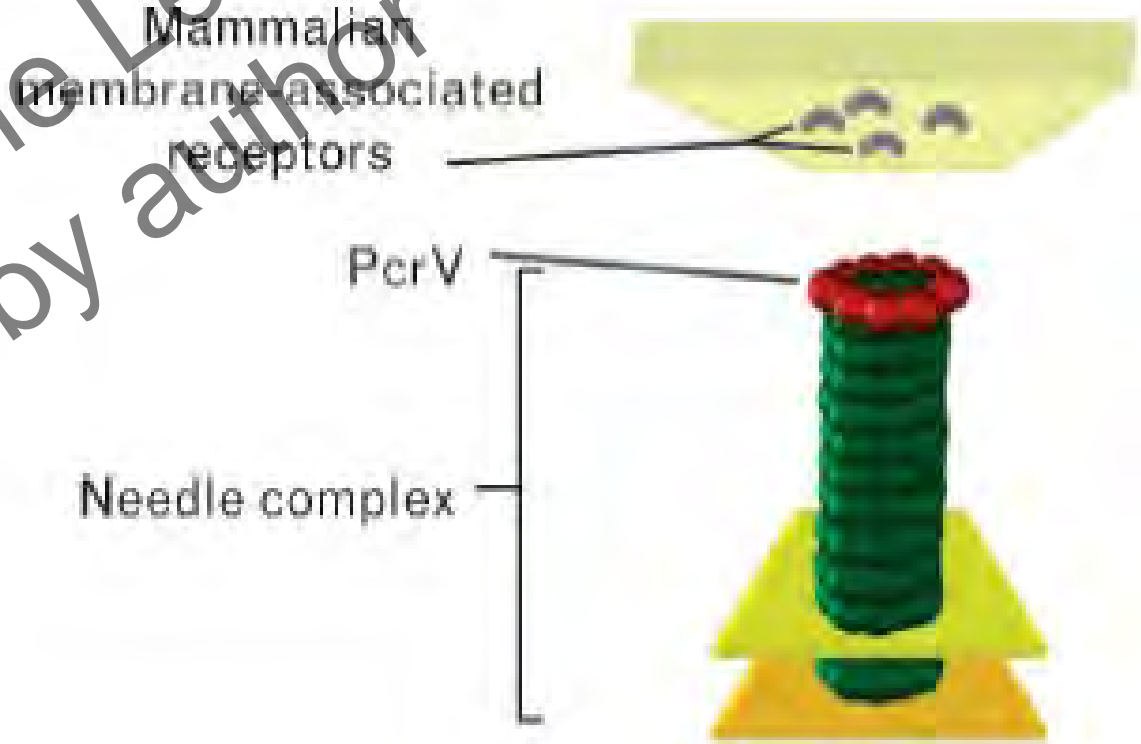


# Type III Secretion System and Antibody-based Blockage of this Virulence System



- The type III secretion system involves a needle-like complex that traverses the bacterial bi-layer, crowned by PcrV proteins at the distal tip.

*Kubori et al. Science 1998*



# Type III Secretion System and Antibody-based Blockage of this Virulence System

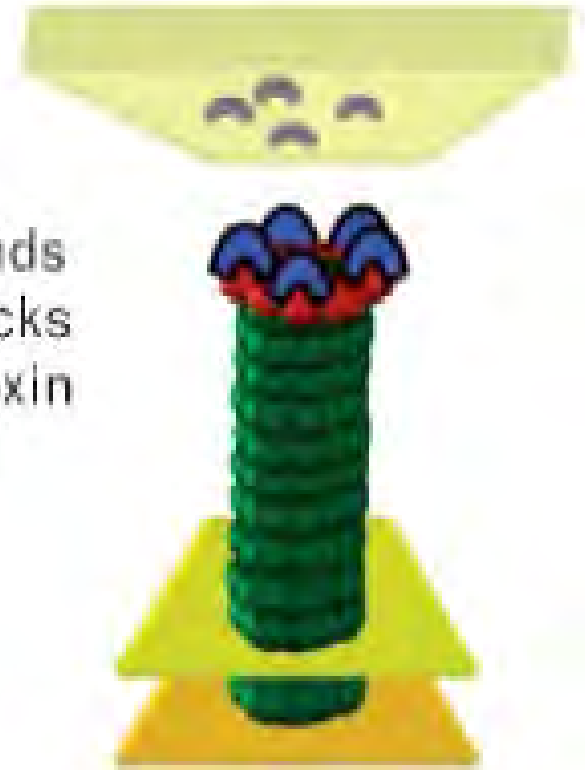


Cytotoxin secretion

Needle binding with membrane-bound receptors



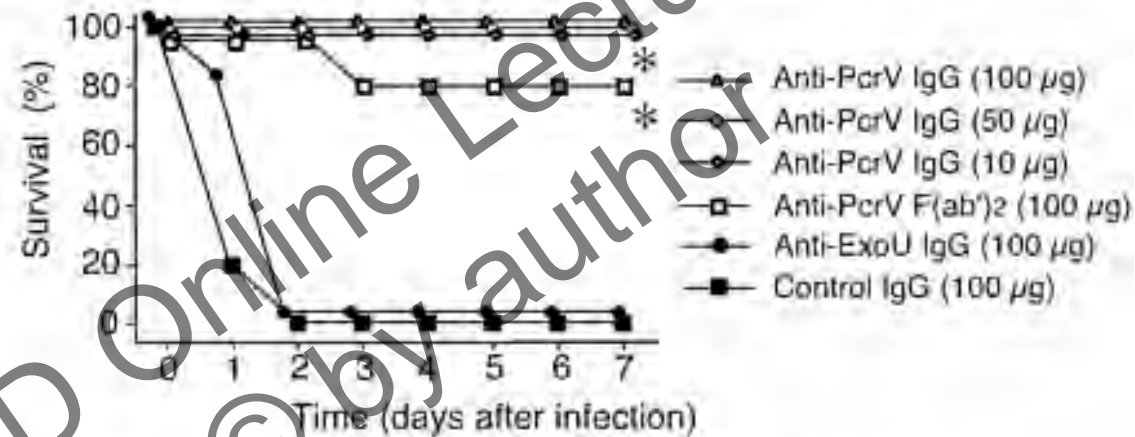
Anti-PcrV binds PcrV and blocks type III cytotoxin secretion



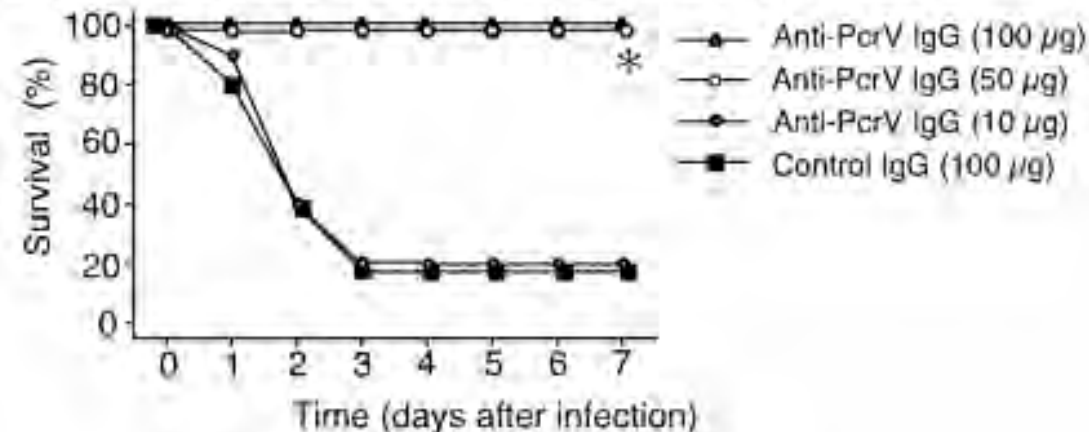
# Anti-PcrV Antibodies Protect Mice Against *Pa*-mediated Lethality

Shime et al, *J Immunol* 2001;167:5880-6

a. Intravenous treatment 1 h after infection



b. Intravenous treatment 4 h after infection







# Safety and pharmacokinetics of an anti-PcrV monoclonal antibody in ventilated patients colonized with *P. aeruginosa*: A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

François B., et al. *Crit Care Med* 2012;40(8):2320-6

## ○ Inclusion criteria

- On MV and expected to remain ventilated for  $\geq 3$  days
- Documented pulmonary *Pa* colonization
- $\geq 10^3$  CFU/mL by ETA or  $\geq 10^2$  CFU/mL by BAL culture

## ○ Exclusion criteria

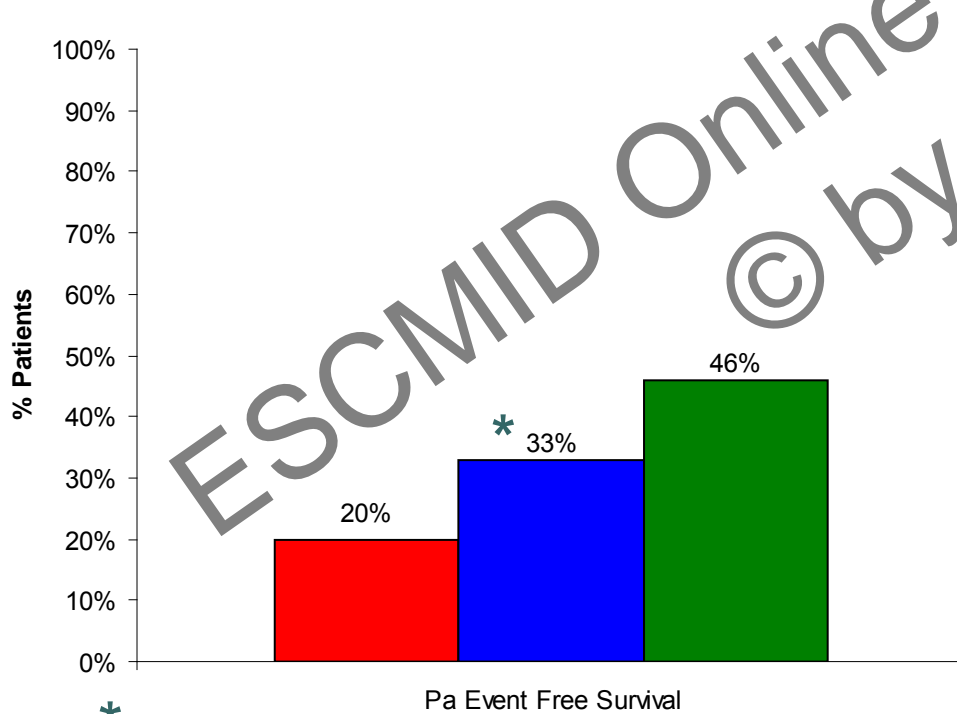
- patients with cystic fibrosis
- Currently diagnosed with *Pa* VAP
- Change in systemic antibiotic therapy active against *Pa* within 72 hours prior to culture used for documenting pulmonary *Pa* colonization for study entry



# KB001 MVP Trial: Day 28 Clinical Outcomes Evaluable Population

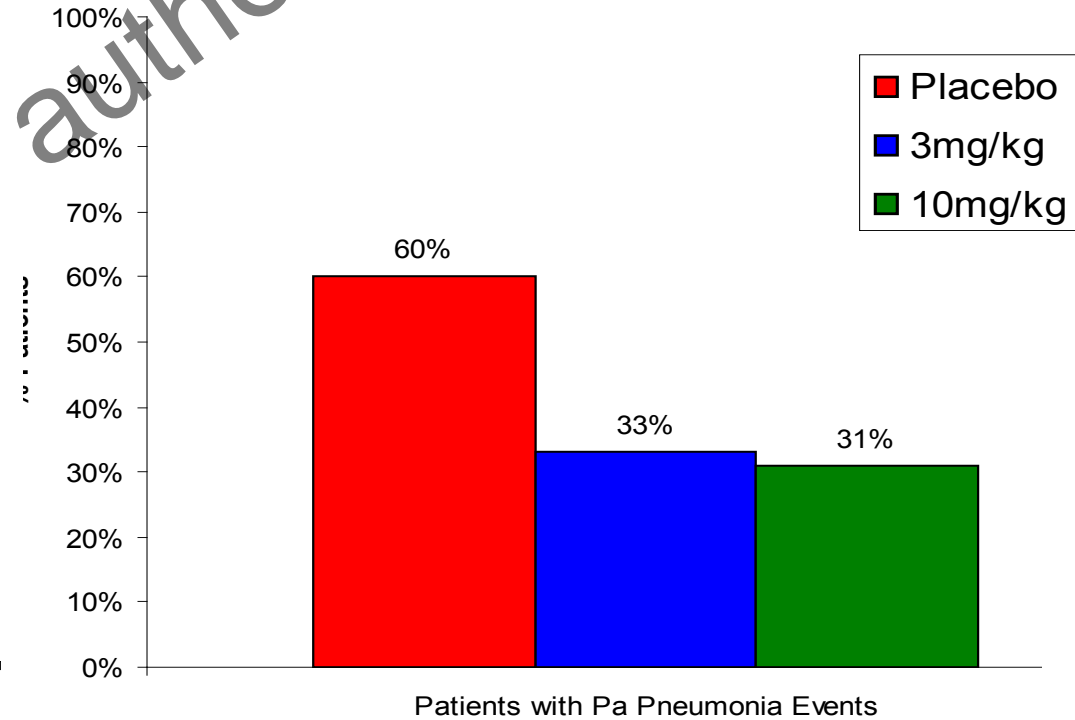
François B., et al. Crit Care Med 2012;40(8):2320-6

Increased *Pa* Event Free Survival



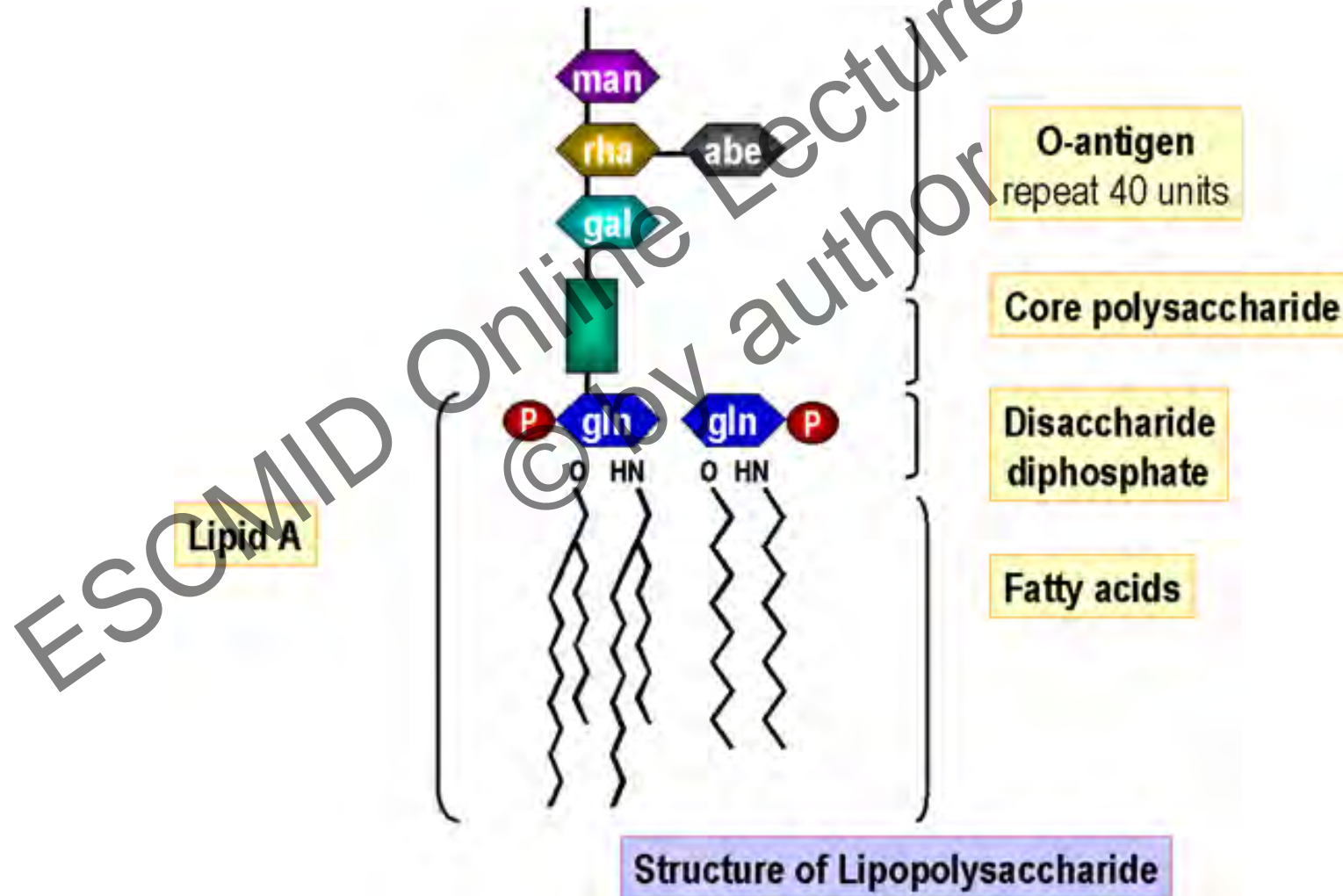
\* Excludes two subjects with *Pa* UTI

Decreased *Pa* VAP events





# Adjunctive Immunotherapy Targeting *P. aeruginosa* LPS





# Specific adjunctive immunotherapy with panobacumab in patients with *P. aeruginosa* O11 pneumonia

Lu Q, et al. J A C 2011;66(5):1110-6

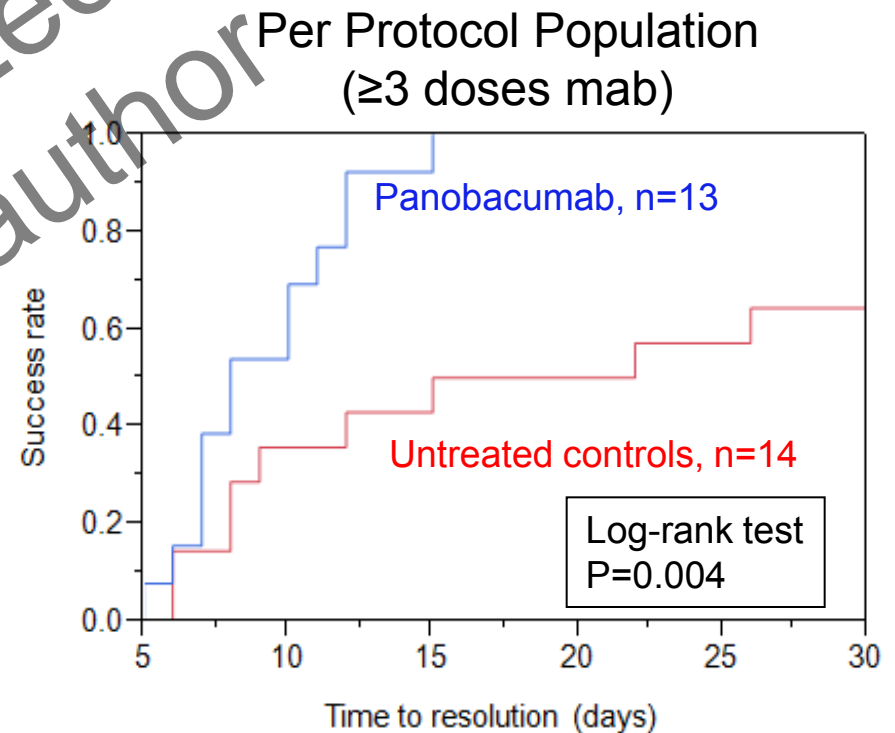
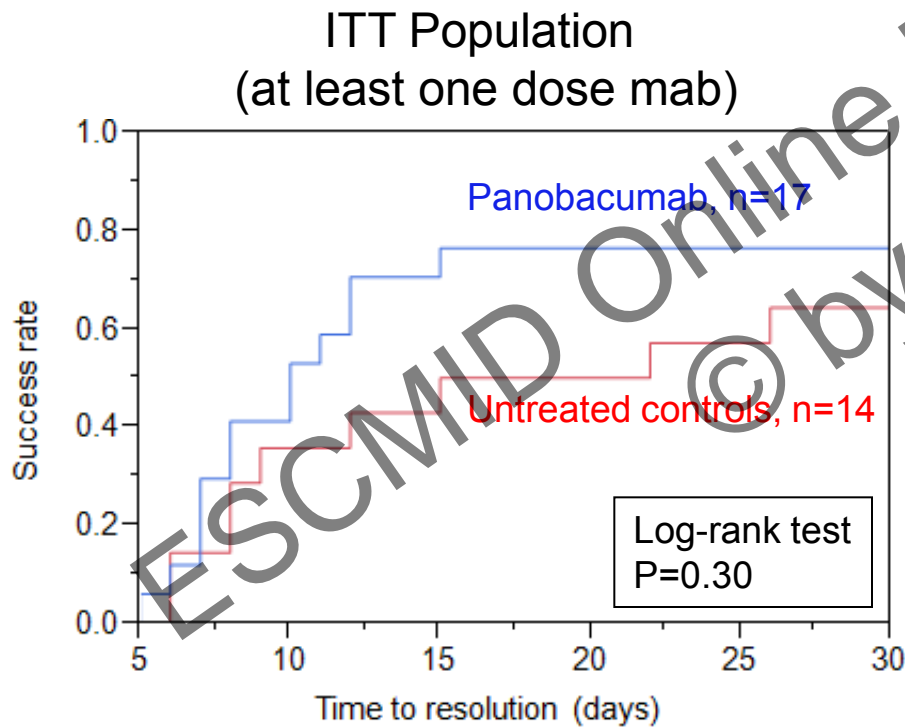
- Multicentre, open pilot Phase 2a clinical trial of 3 doses of 1.2 mg/kg panobacumab, a fully human monoclonal anti-lipopolysaccharide IgM, given every 72 h in 17 patients developing nosocomial *P. aeruginosa* (serotype O11) pneumonia





# Specific adjunctive immunotherapy with panobacumab in patients with *P. aeruginosa* O11 pneumonia

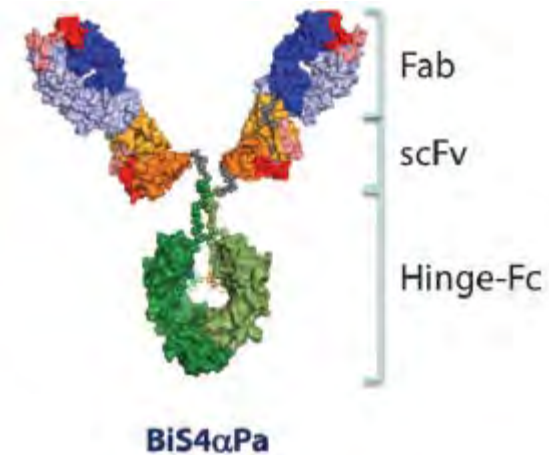
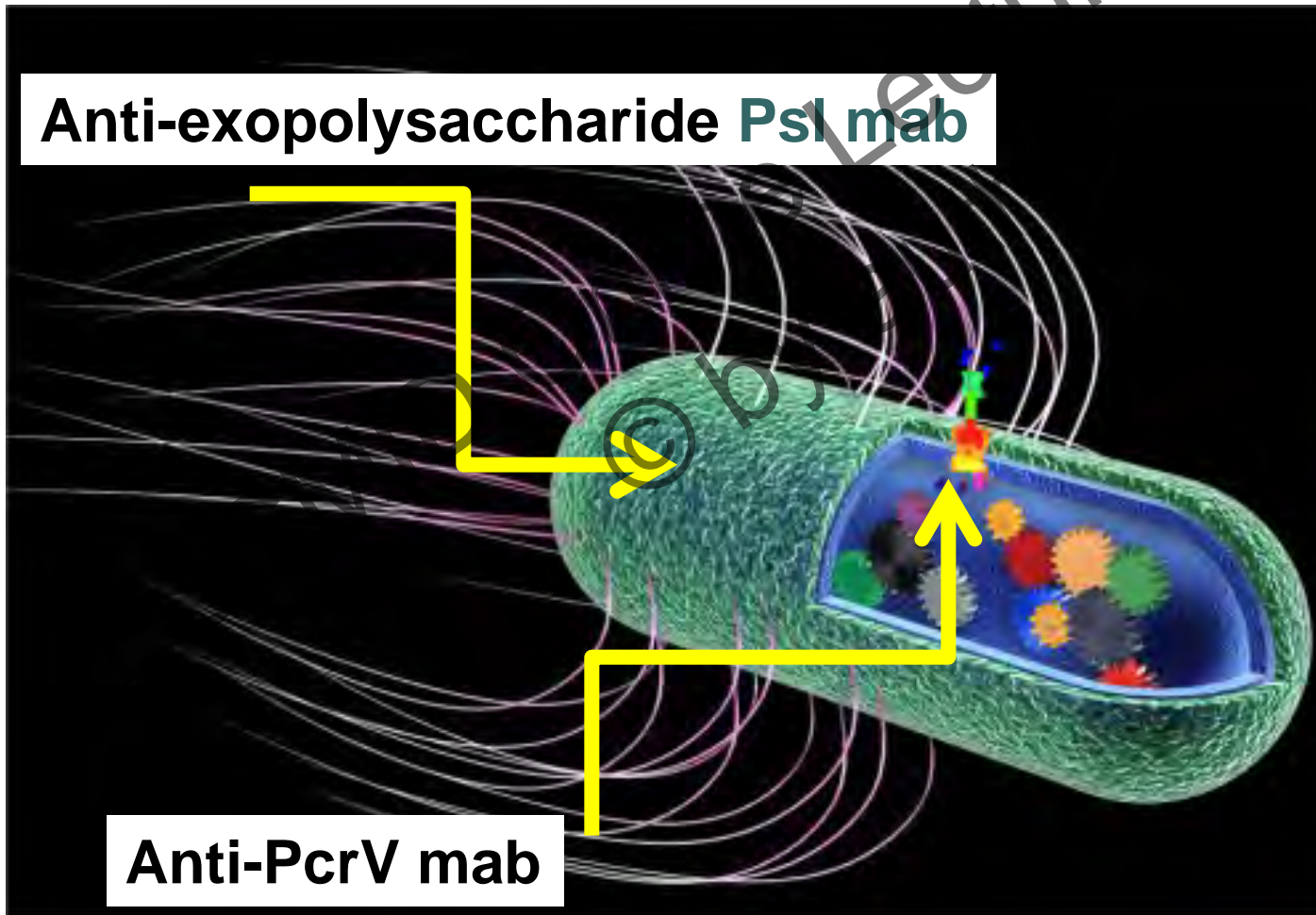
Que YA, et al. *Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis.* 2014 ;33:1861-7





# A multifunctional bispecific antibody against *P. aeruginosa*

DiGiandomenico A, et al. *Science Translational Medicine* 2014



Fab = anti-PcrV  
scFv = anti-Psl

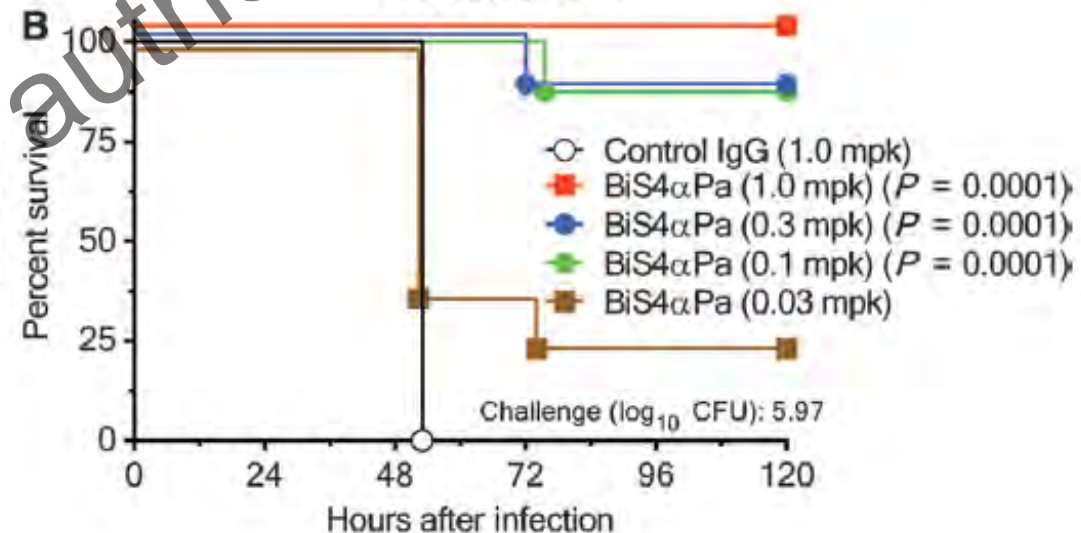
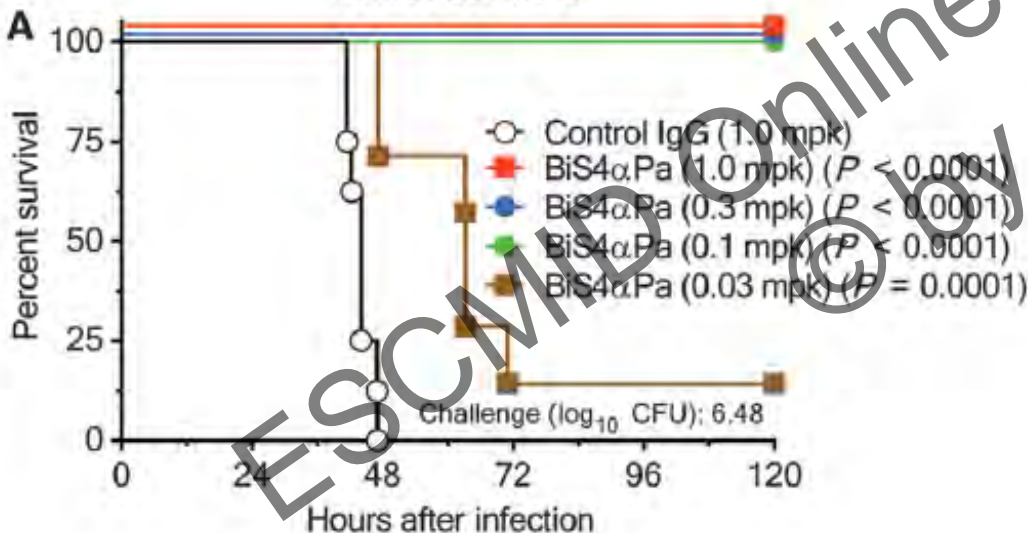


# A multifunctional bispecific antibody protects against *P. aeruginosa*

DiGiandomenico A, et al. *Science Translational Medicine* 2014

Prophylaxis  
ARC3928: MDR

Treatment  
ARC3928: MDR

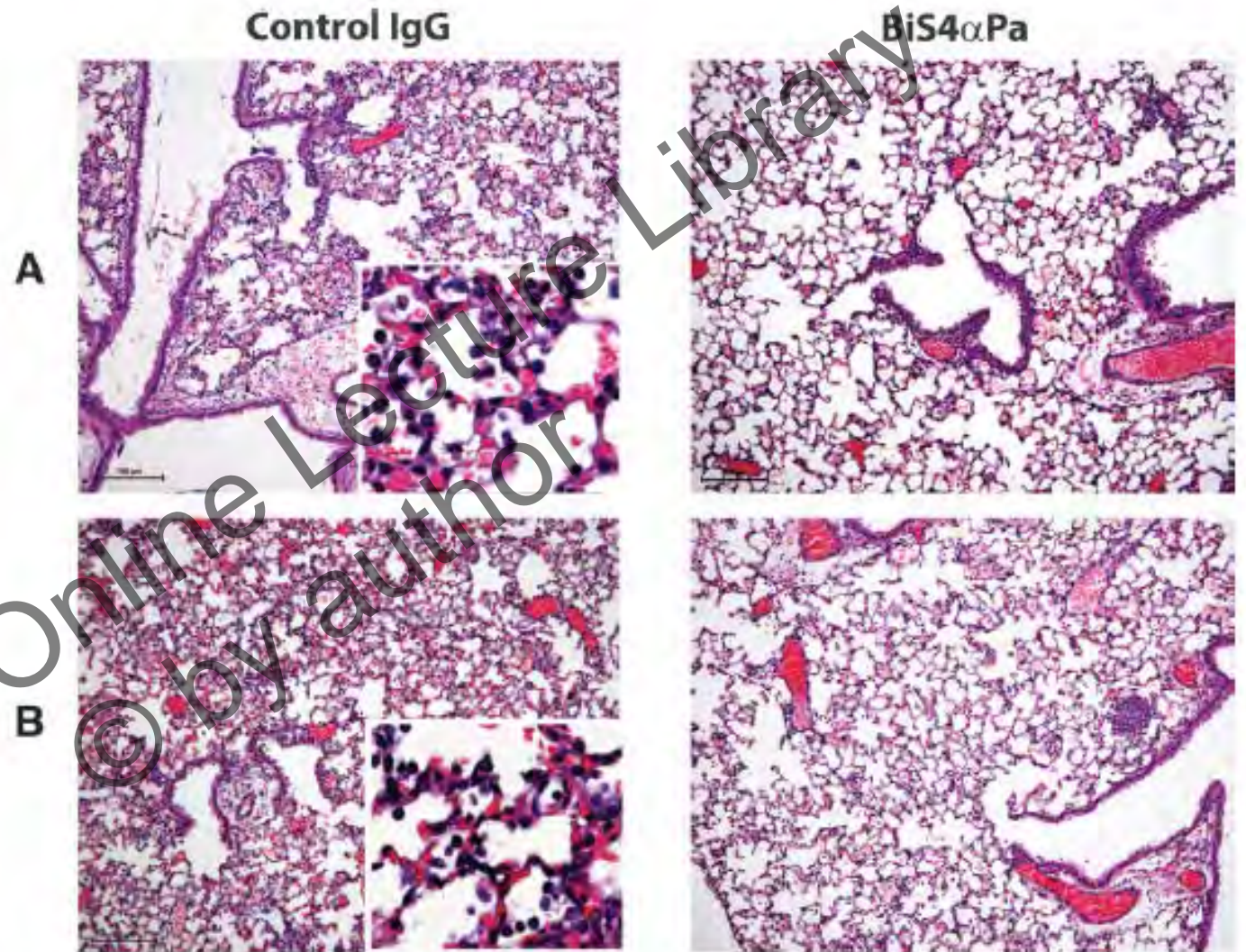






## A multifunctional bispecific antibody protects against *P. aeruginosa*

DiGiandomenico A, et al.  
*Science Translational Medicine* 2014



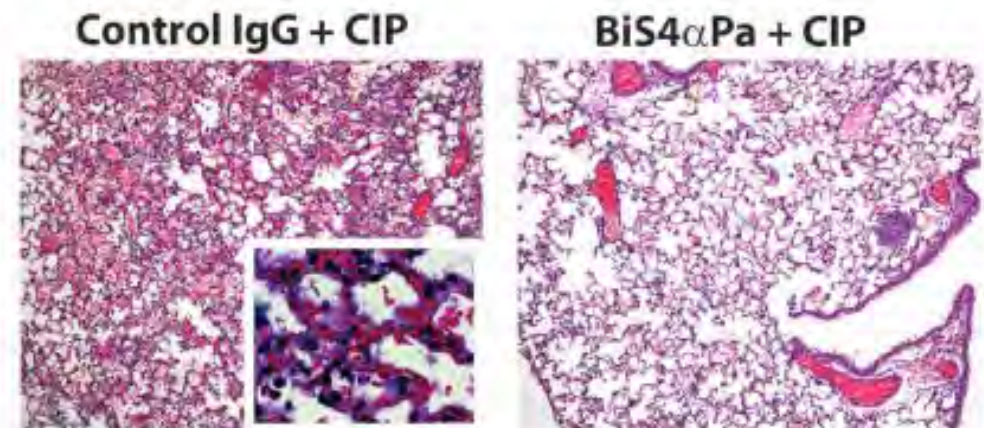
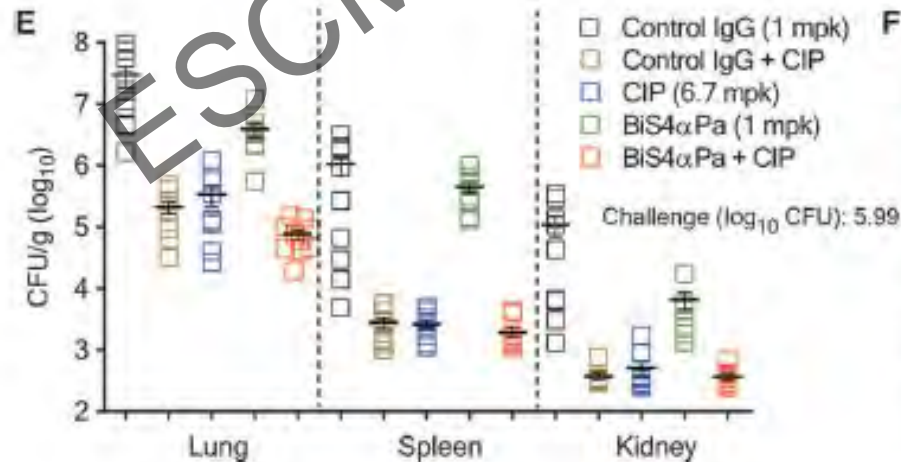
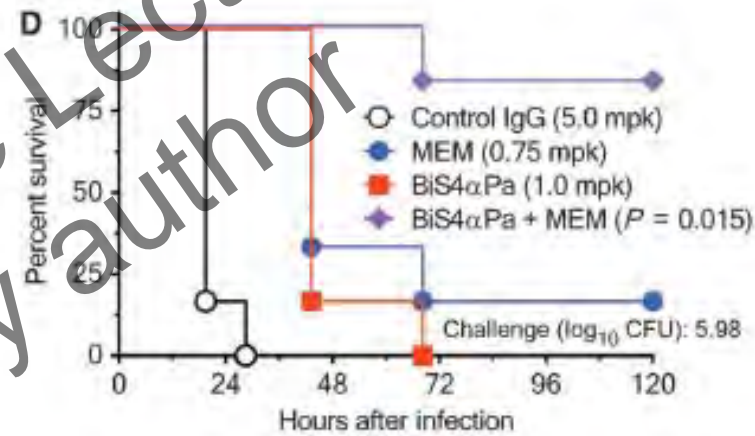
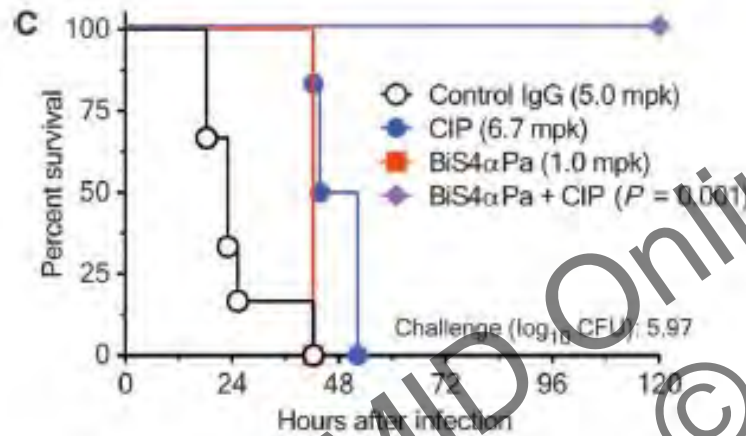
**Fig. 3. BiS4 $\alpha$ Pa-mediated reduction in pneumonia lung pathology in mice.** (A and B) Mice received IgG control or BiS4 $\alpha$ Pa prophylactically ( $n = 3$  for each, respectively) (A) or as a single-agent treatment at 4 hours after infection with *P. aeruginosa* strain 6077 ( $n = 3$  for each, respectively) (B).





# A multifunctional bispecific antibody protects against *P. aeruginosa*

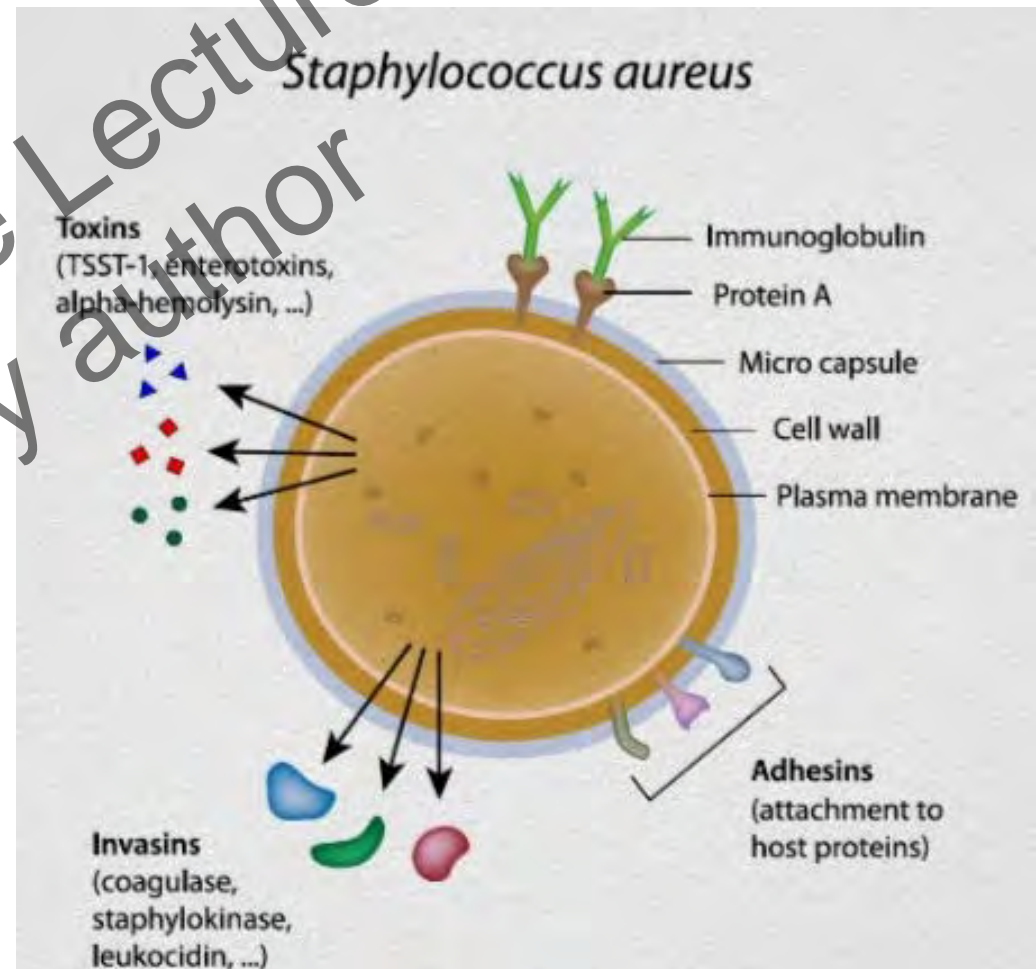
DiGiandomenico A, et al. *Science Translational Medicine* 2014





# Adjunctive Immunotherapy Targeting *S. aureus* Alpha-Toxin

**Alpha-toxin** is one of the **major cytotoxic agent** released by *S. aureus* and the first identified member of the **pore forming beta-barrel toxin family**

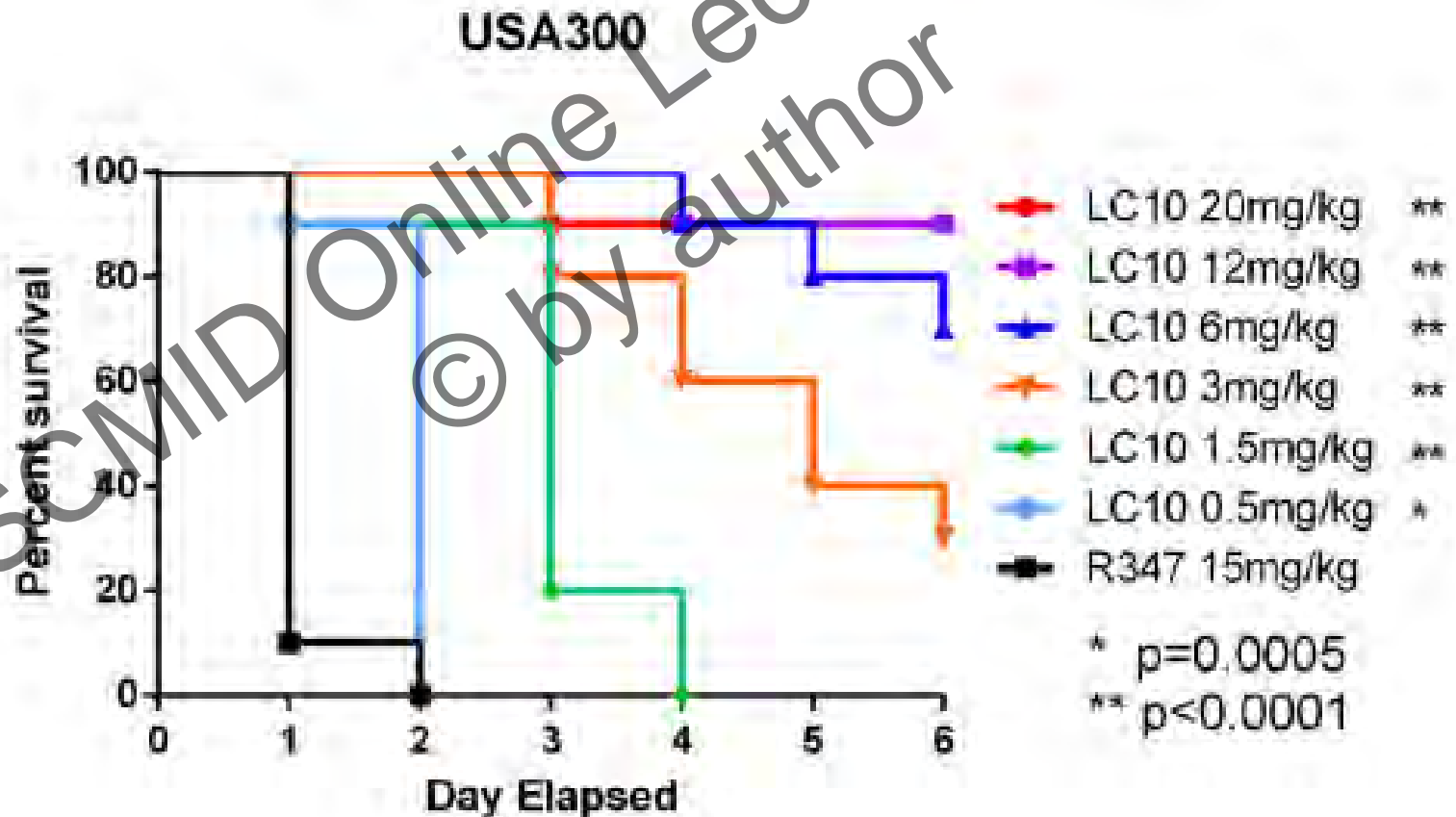






# Treatment with monoclonal antibody targeting alpha-toxin, a pore-forming toxin, increased survival of infected mice with *S. aureus*

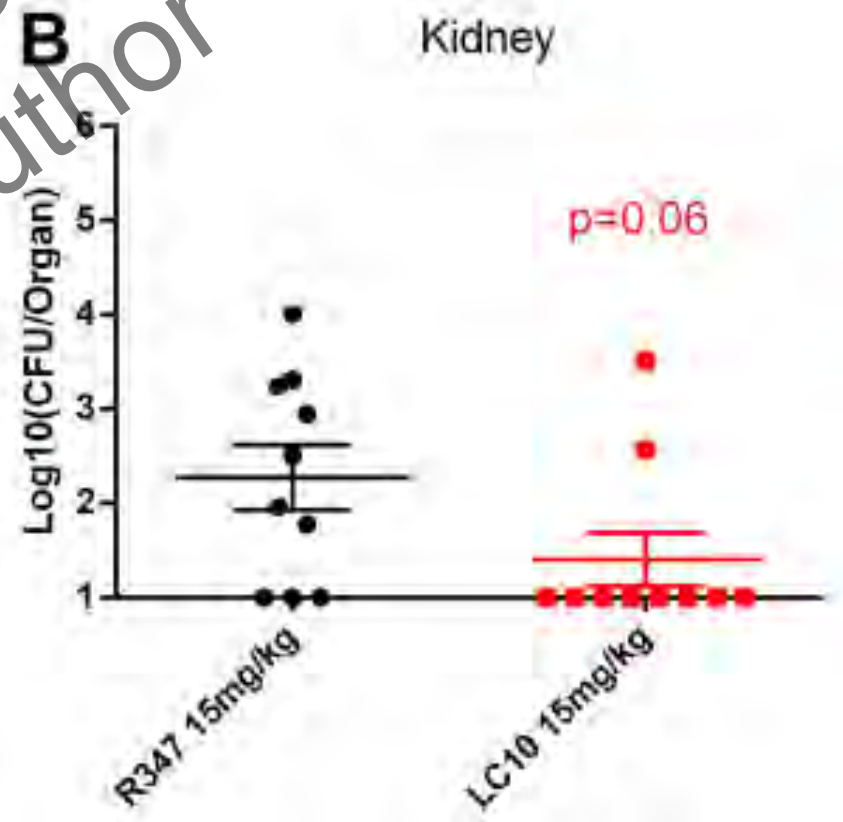
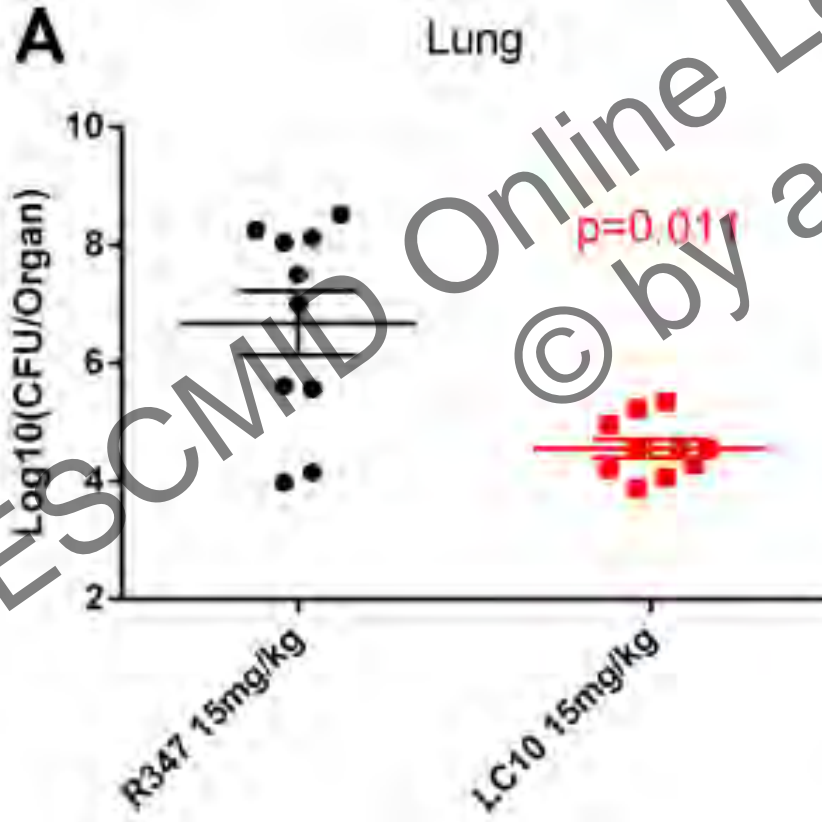
Hua L., et al. AAC 2014, 58(2):1108-17





# Treatment with a mab targeting the alpha-toxin, a pore-forming toxin, reduced bacterial numbers in the lungs and kidneys of infected mice with *S. aureus*

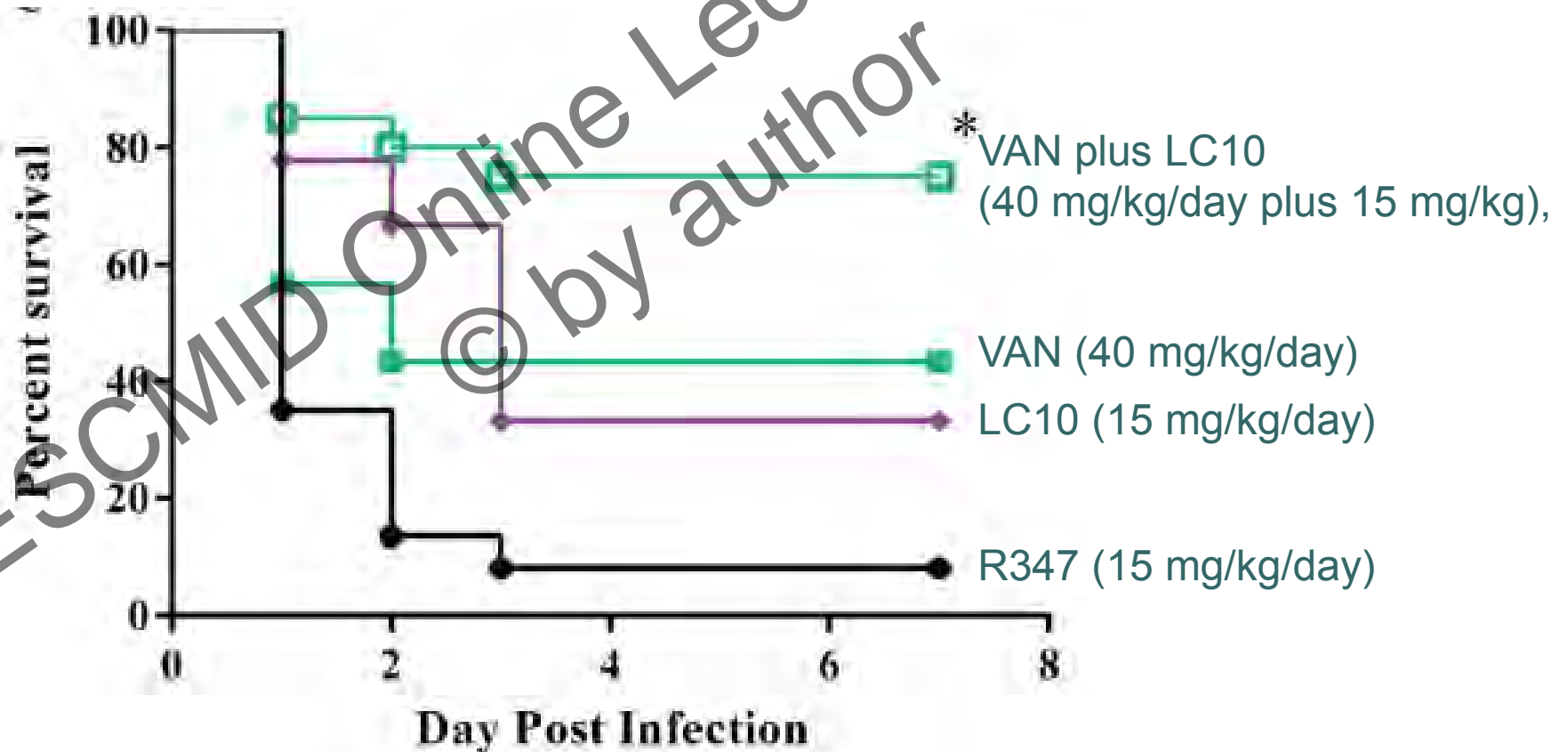
Hua L., et al. AAC 2014, 58(2):1108-17





# Treatment with a combination of mab and vancomycin resulted in a significant increase in survival relative to monotherapies

Hua L., et al. AAC 2014, 58(2):1108-17





# Non-antibiotic approaches for treating severe infections

- **Better understanding of the factors that influence the virulence of bacteria, as well as innovative strategies** has rendered possible to envision **non-antibiotic approaches** for preventing or treating severe infection.
- However, and even if recent experimental studies are very encouraging, convincing **clinical data are still lacking to support their routine use.**

