

# Dossiers

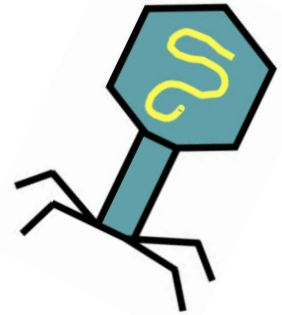
# Phagothérapie

**Pr. Tristan Ferry**  
*[tristan.ferry@univ-lyon1.fr](mailto:tristan.ferry@univ-lyon1.fr)*

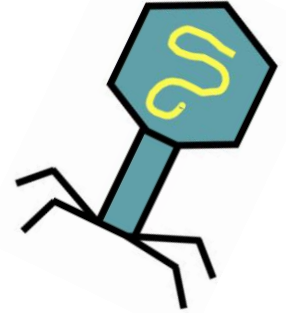
Infectious and Tropical Diseases Unit  
Croix-Rousse Hospital , Hospices Civils de Lyon  
Claude Bernard Lyon1 University, Lyon

Centre International de Recherche en Infectiologie, CIRI, Inserm U1111, CNRS  
UMR5308, ENS de Lyon, UCBL1, Lyon, France

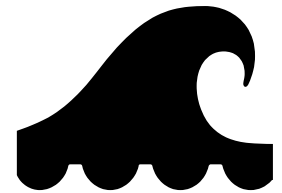
Centre de Référence des IOA complexes de Lyon (CRIOAc Lyon)



# What is a « bacteriophage » ?



- Suffix –phage, *phagos* φαγεῖν (*phagein*), "to eat", "to devour"
- Viruses that infect **ONLY** bacteria
- Classification (*myoviridae*, *podoviridae*, etc...)
- A phage is specific to A type of bacteria
- **Largely abundant in the biosphere:  
10<sup>31</sup> bacteriophages on the planet, more than every other organism**
- Especially in marine environment, sea, lake, backwater, soil, animal and human stools, etc.

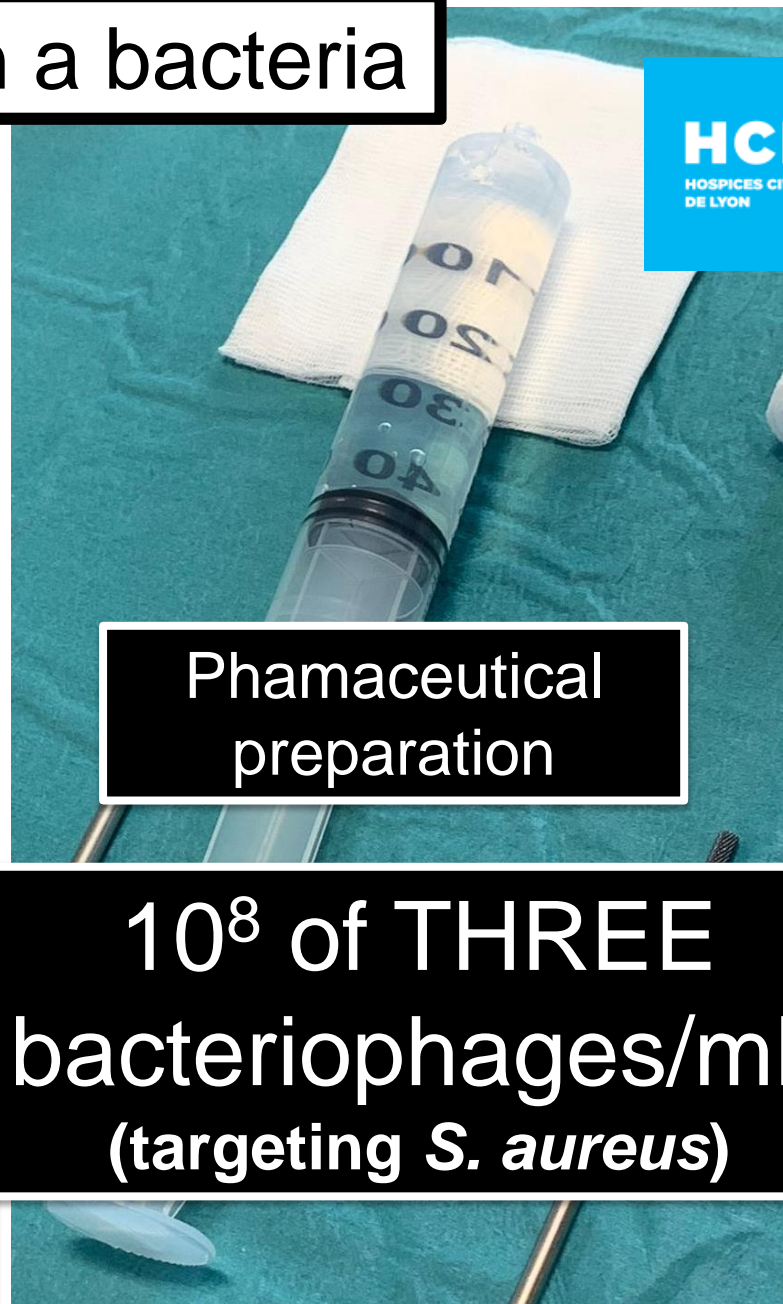


10 to 100 fold smaller than a bacteria

Translucent tap water



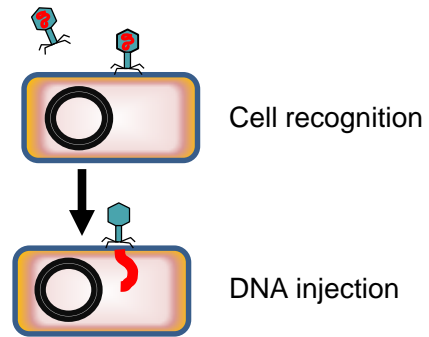
**X million of ≠  
BactériophageS !!!  
(targeting environmental bacteria)**



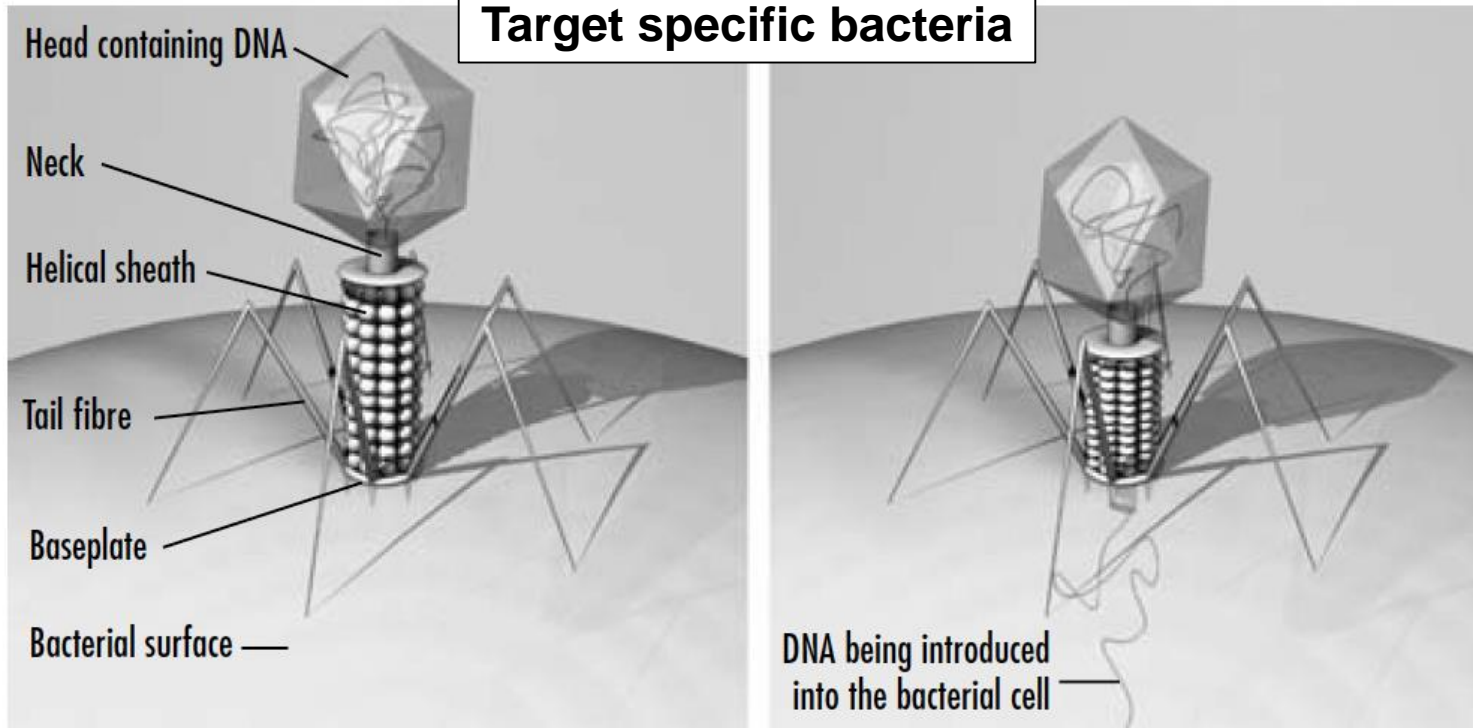
Pharmaceutical  
preparation

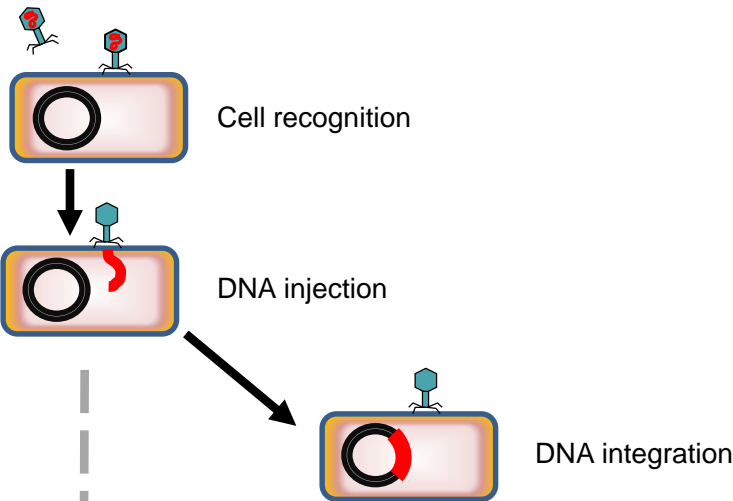
**10<sup>8</sup> of THREE  
bacteriophages/mL  
(targeting *S. aureus*)**

**HCL**  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON



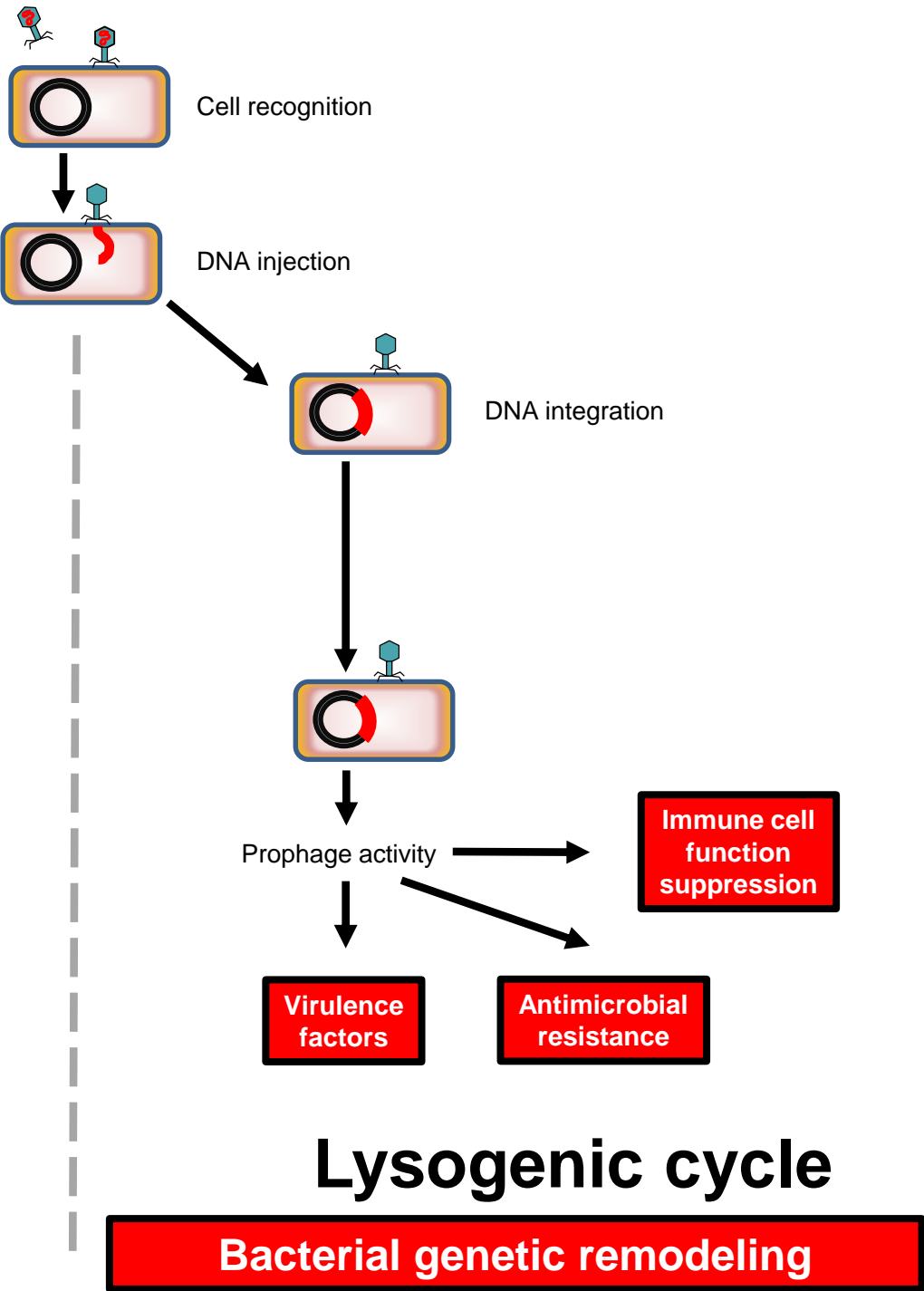
**Environmental viruses  
Target specific bacteria**

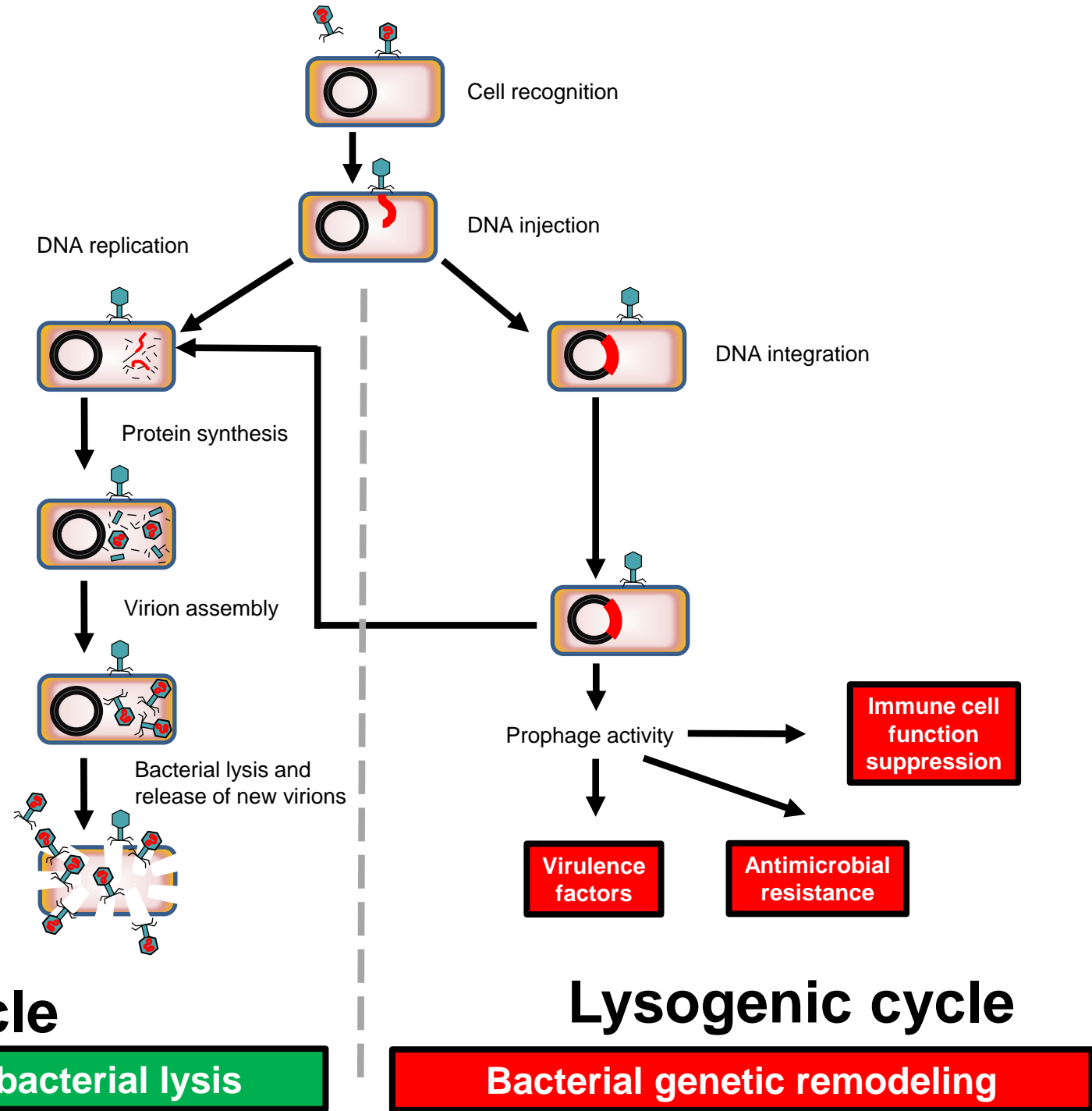


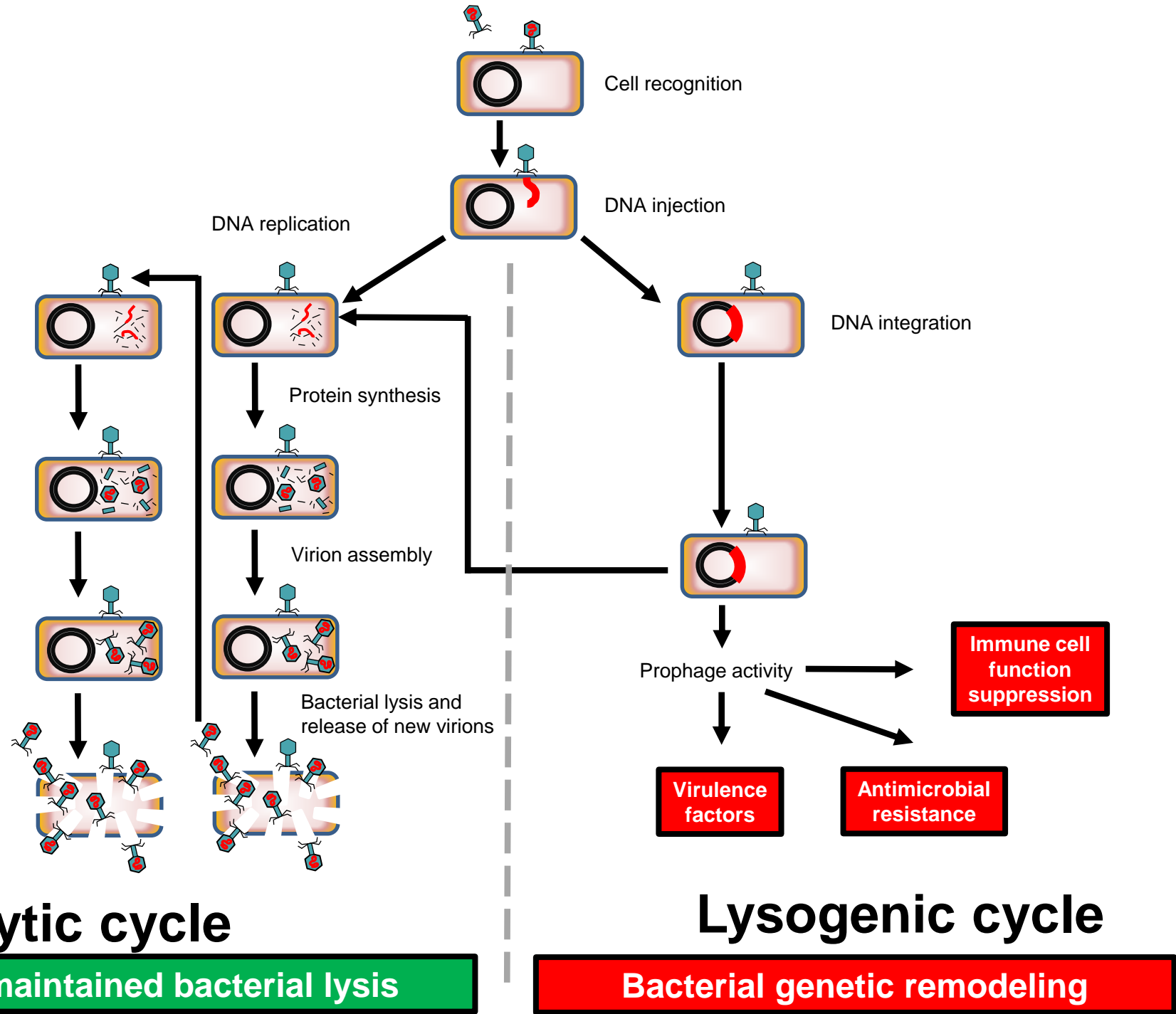


# Lysogenic cycle

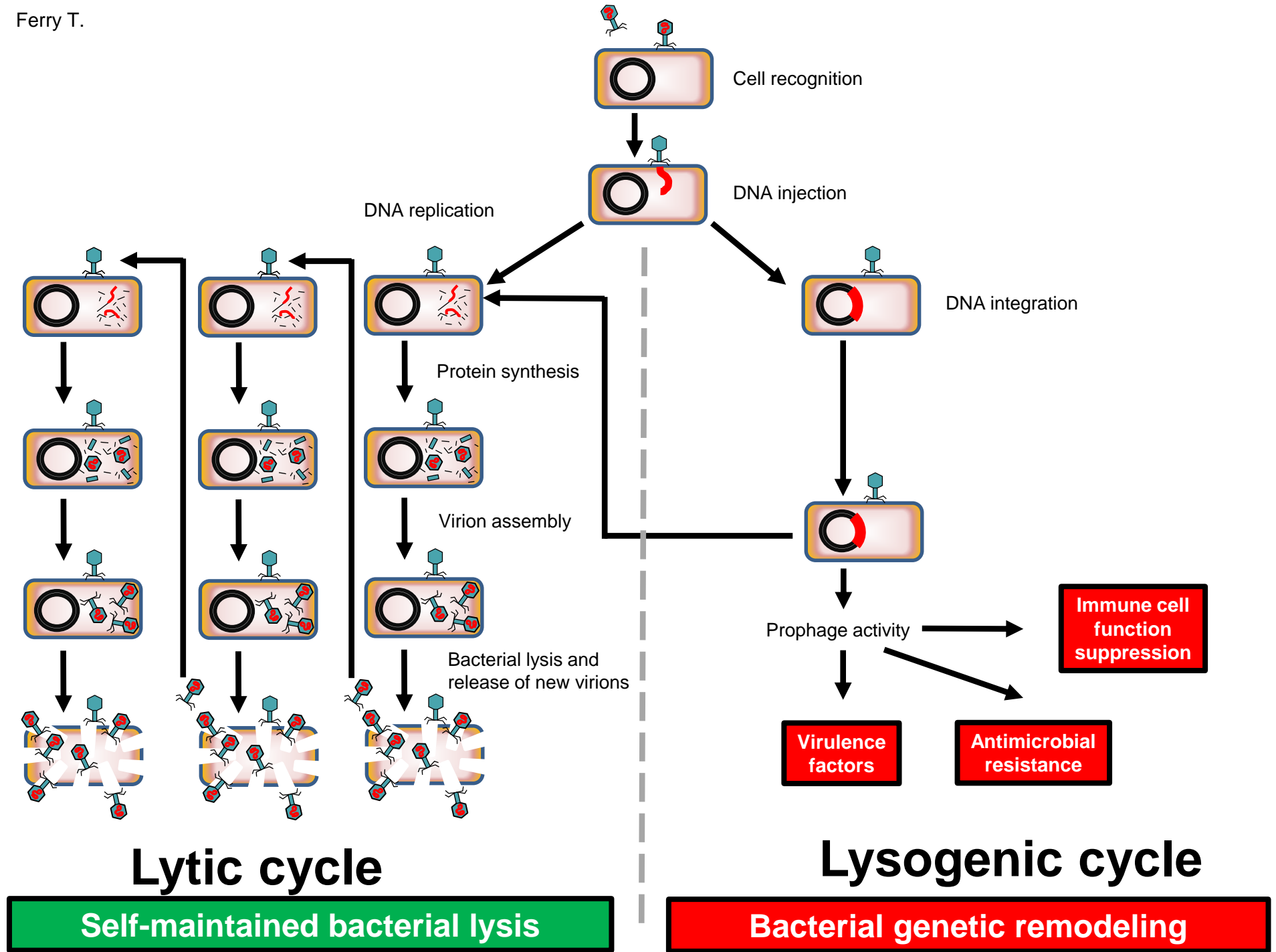
**Bacterial genetic remodeling**





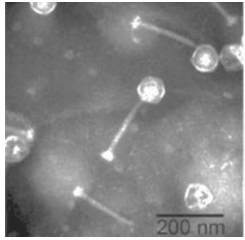






# A clear antibacterial activity!

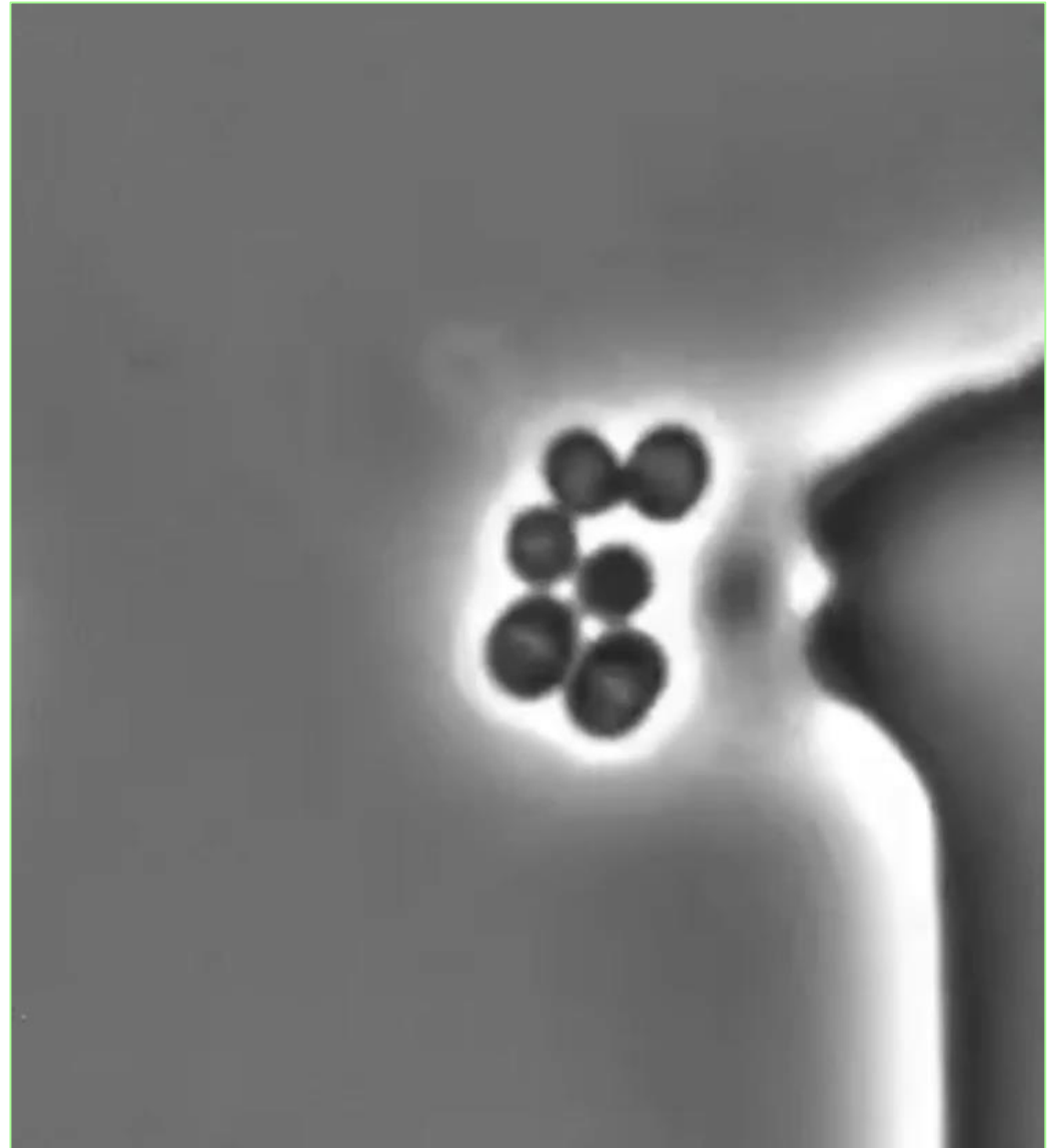
## *S. aureus* being lysed by the Sa2 phage



## Bacterial DNA appeared in green

Courtesy Pascal Maguin  
Luciano Marraffini Lab

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY





# History of phage therapy

- **Felix d'Herelle**
- Institut Pasteur, Paris





# History of phage therapy

- **Felix d'Herelle**
- Institut Pasteur, Paris
- He treated **shigellosis** (diarrhea) in children with **oral intake** of specific “filtered” **bacteriophages** that he found in stools of patients who spontaneously healed from... shigellosis





# History of phage therapy

- **Felix d'Herelle**
- Institut Pasteur, Paris
- He treated shigellosis (diarrhea) in children with oral intake of specific “filtered” bacteriophages that he found in stools of patients who spontaneously healed from... shigellosis
- He founded Eliava institute in Georgia and the “Laboratoire Français des Bactériophages” in Paris







# History of phage therapy

- F
- In
- H
- H

**LE LABORATOIRE DU BACTÉRIOPHAGE**  
Laboratoire de recherches dont les bénéfices sont destinés à des fins scientifiques  
sous le contrôle du  
**PROF. D'HERELLE**

<b><i>Bacté-coli-phage</i></b> Colibacilluries . Pyélonéphrites . Cystites	<b><i>Bacté-rhino-phage</i></b> Grippe . Coryza . Rhino-pharyngites
<b><i>Bacté-intesti-phage</i></b> Entérites . Colites . Diarrhées infantiles	
<b><i>Bacté-pyo-phage</i></b> Panaris . Phlegmons . Plaies Infectées	<b><i>Bacté-staphy-phage</i></b> Furonculose . Anthrax

AGENTS GÉNÉRAUX  
**LABORATOIRES ROBERT & CARRIÈRE** — 37, rue de Bourgogne — Paris

and the “Laboratoire Français des Bactériophages” in Paris

und  
ously  
orgia

# Lessons to be learned of phage therapy of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

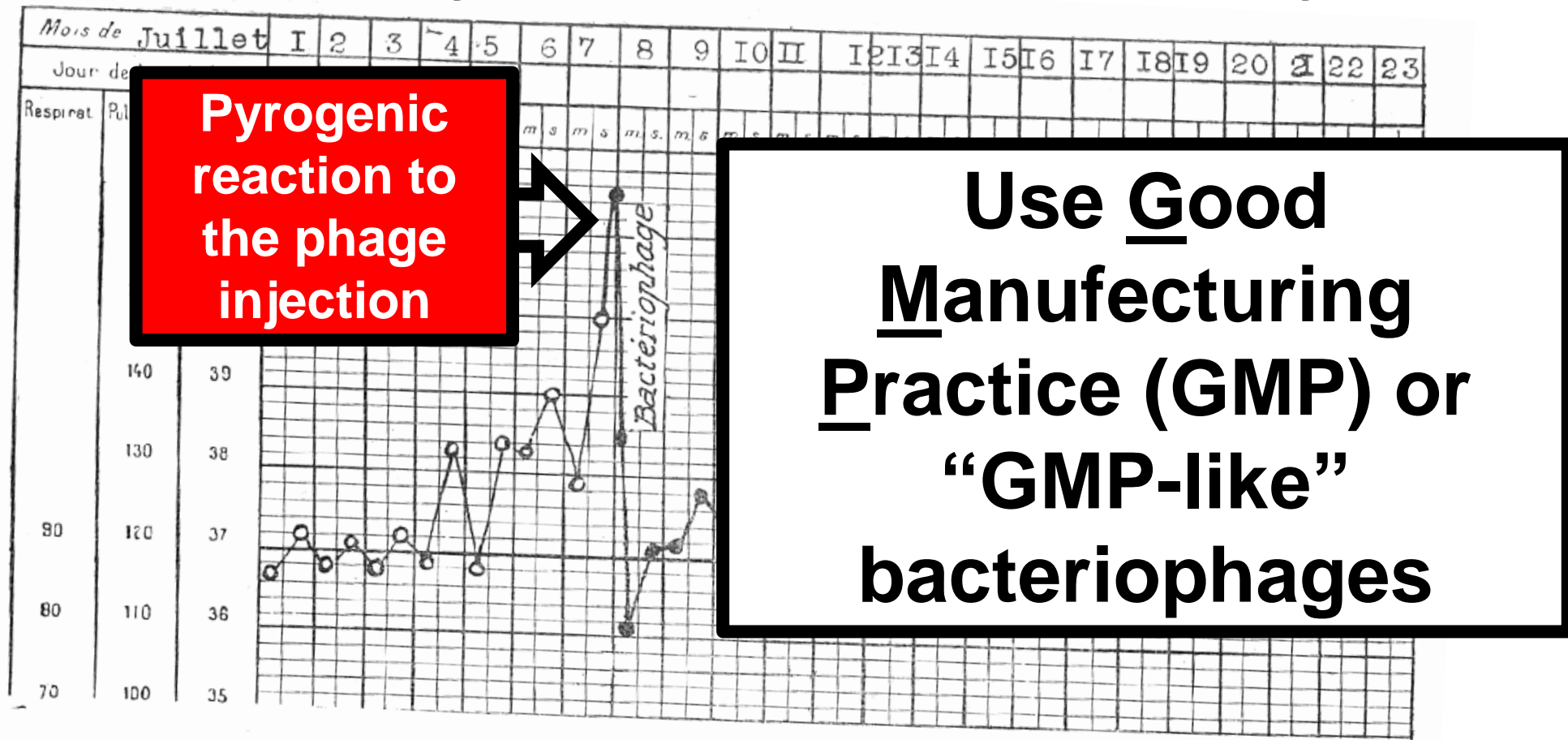


Fig. 1.  
Obs. 841, Mme D..., 7, 8 Juillet 1930. Septicémie à staphylocoque.  
 o—o—o Température avant }  
 ●—●—● Température après } l'injection intra-veineuse de Bactériophage.



## Docteur André RAIGA

Ancien Interne lauréat des Hôpitaux  
Ex-Chef de Clinique chirurgicale à la Faculté

...

*At the stage of bone necrosis, it will only succeed in stopping the progression of the infection, but it will be able to do nothing against the dead bone deprived of circulation; this bone will become sequestered and the lesion is no longer a matter of surgery. To do otherwise is to commit, in my opinion, an error of therapeutic indication.*

Au stade de nécrose osseuse, il ne réussira plus qu'à enrayer la progression de l'infection, mais il ne pourra plus rien contre l'os que la mort a privé de circulation ; cet os va se séquestrer et la lésion ne relève plus maintenant que de la chirurgie. Agir autrement c'est commettre, à mon sens, une erreur d'indication thérapeutique.





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**Partial bone necrosis  
requiring surgery**

**Skin and soft tissue damage  
requiring surgical coverage**

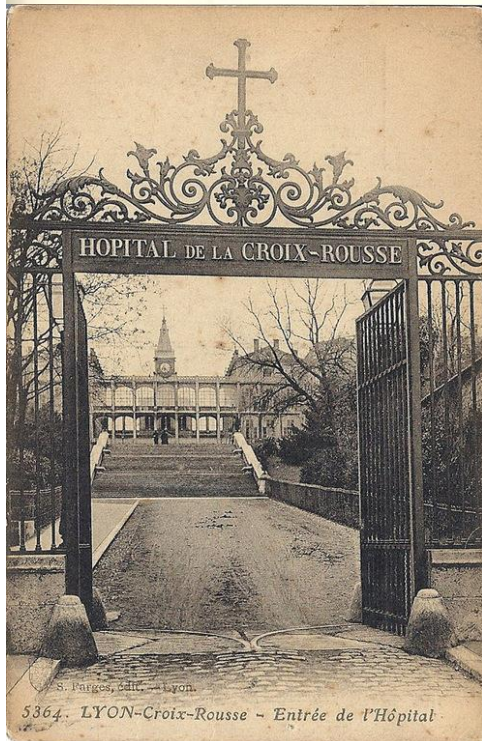
**MAJOR BIOLOGICAL LIMIT:**

**Bacteriophages have not the capacity to perform bone debridement nor to regenerate skin and sof tissue**



## Traitement des infections à bacilles pyocyaniques par des bactériophages adaptés par sélection.

Par MM. André BERTOYE et A.-L. COURTIEU.



Les bacilles pyocyaniques sont fréquemment résistants aux antibiotiques usuels. Cependant, les infections cutanées, otitiques, bronchiques, leur être attribuées semble être en augmentation. Leur caractère rebelle est une de leurs caractéristiques. La phagothérapie est une thérapeutique différente de celles que nous connaissons. Mais l'emploi de l'existence de bactériophages. Mais l'emploi de stock-bactériophages. Mais l'emploi de sélection d'une variété de bactériophage à la souche isolée du malade permet une action thérapeutique. Mais l'emploi de nutritif ordinaire. Mais l'emploi de indispensable de diluer le bouillon pour pouvoir l'introduire. Mais l'emploi de intraveineuse, intracutanée, intrarachidienne. Mais l'emploi de Un certain nombre de cas ont été rapportés dans cette publication.

**Antimicrobial resistance**

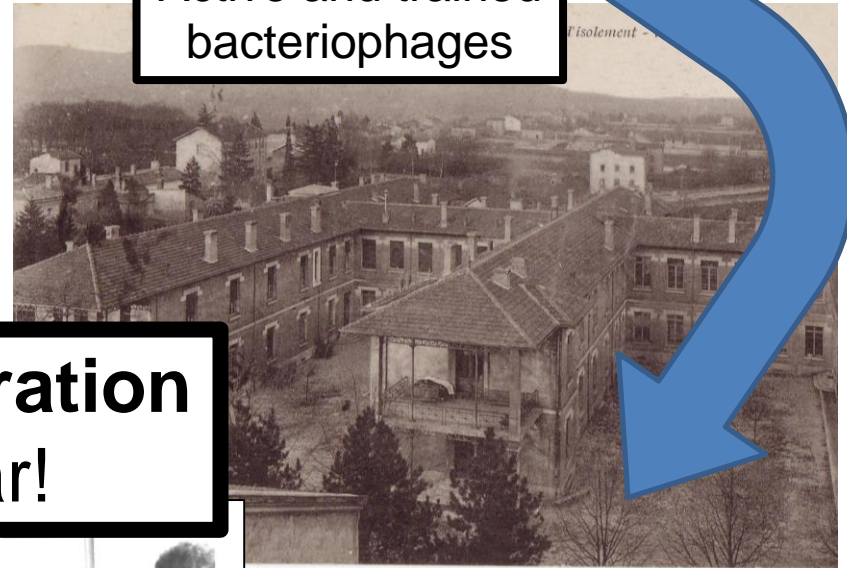
**Phage banking  
Phage training**

**Meningitis  
Skin and soft tissue  
Bone and joint**

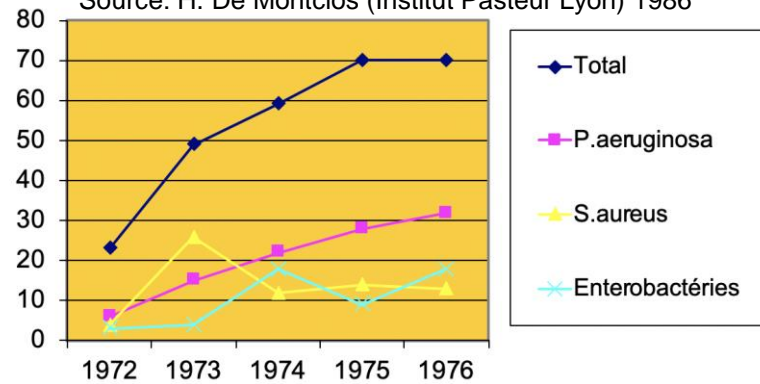


# Institut Pasteur Lyon

Active and trained  
bacteriophages



Source: H. De Montclos (Institut Pasteur Lyon) 1986



**Bactériophages thérapeutiques  
préparés à l'Institut Pasteur de Lyon  
dans les années 1970**

**Academic collaboration  
70 patients/year!**

Pathogenic bacteria  
from the patient



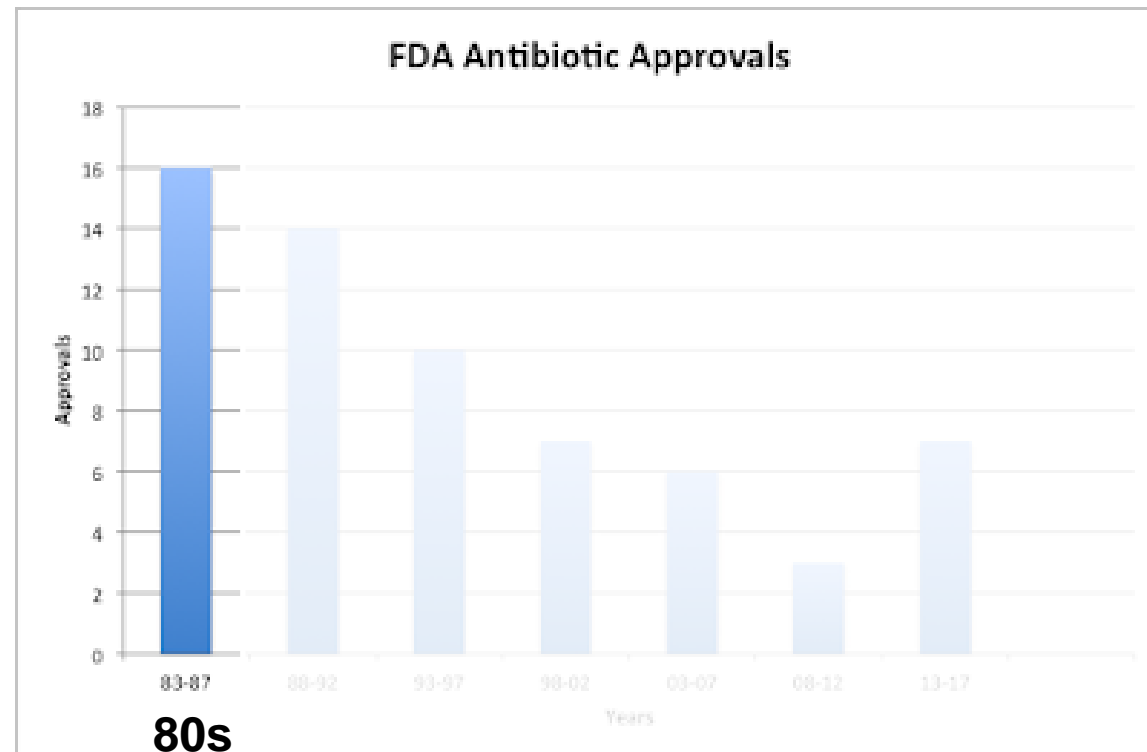
1978

Pr. Bertoye

**Infectious  
Disease  
clinic**

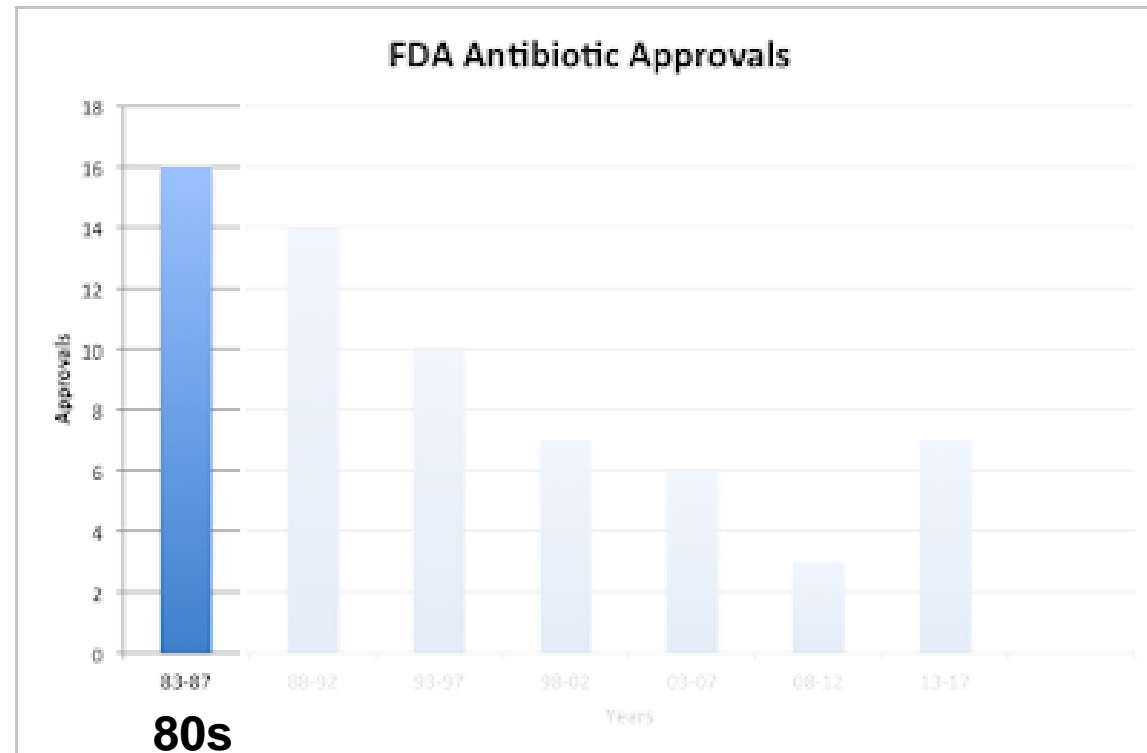
# Large production of antibiotics in 1970-1980 killed the phage therapy

- Industrial production
- Large spectrum
- Bactericidal activity
- Oral and IV
- Systemic diffusion to the infected site
- Numerous different kinds of families, with different mechanism of action



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VS.

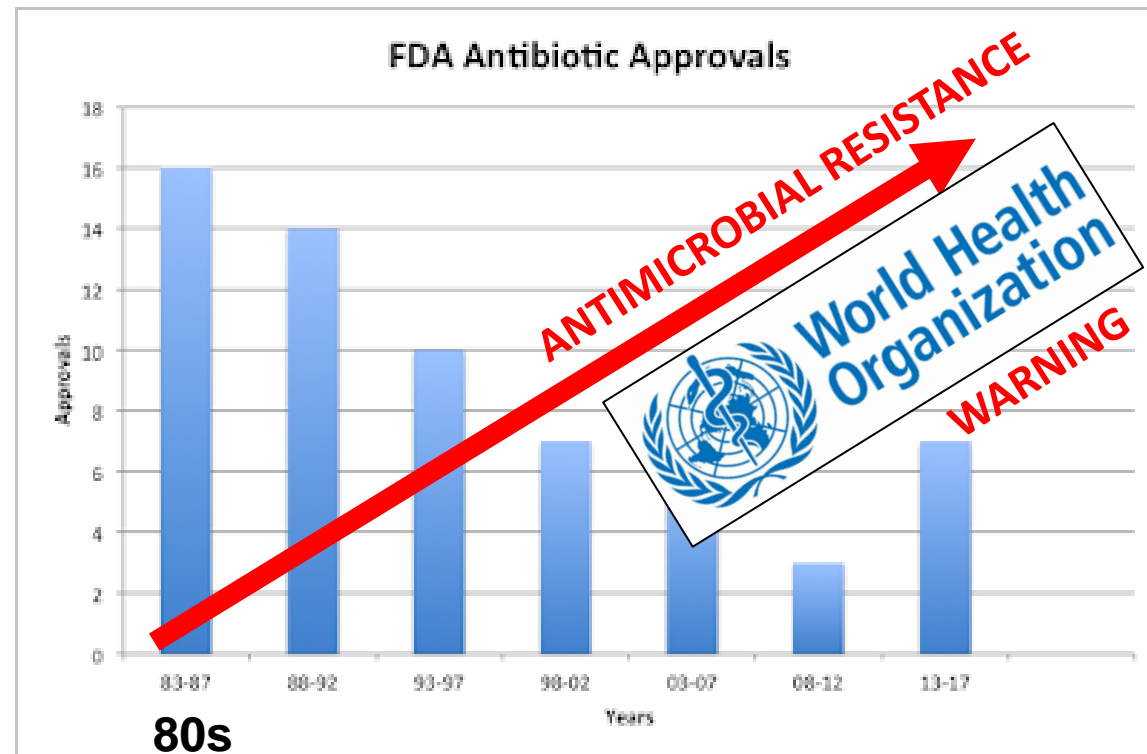


Complex virus-based personalized treatment without clear industrial process, not considered as a drug



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## Phages as the Phoenix?



VS.

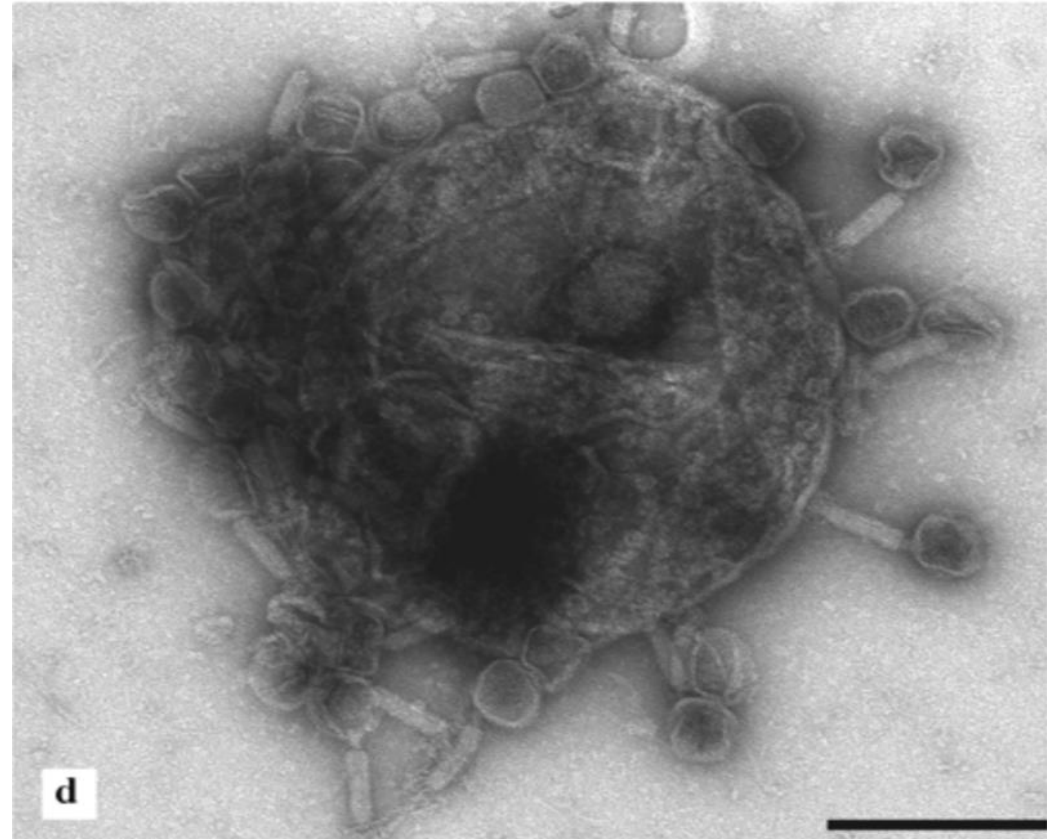
Complex virus-based personalized treatment without clear industrial process, not considered as a drug



# Cocktails produced in 2020 by the Eliava Institute

- PYO Bacteriophage
- FERSIS Bacteriophage
- STAPHYLOCOCCAL Bacteriophage
- SES Bacteriophage
- INTESTI Bacteriophage
- ENKO Bacteriophage

Bacteriophage ISP (*Myoviridae*)

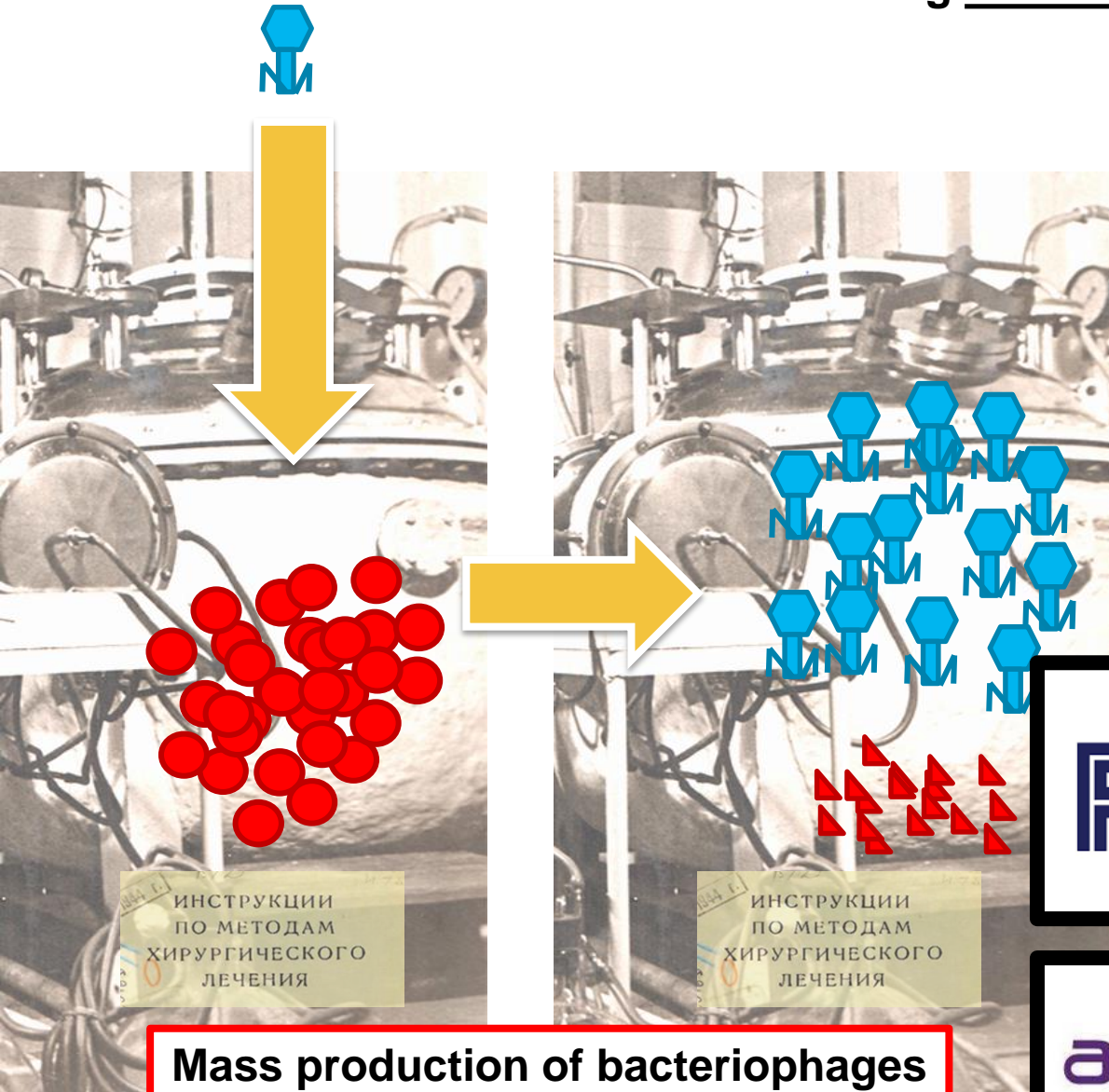


Merabishvili et al. PloS ONE 2009



T. Ferry

# Not meeting Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)



Pyrogenic  
Bacterial  
remnant?



$10^6$  phages/mL



**GMP**

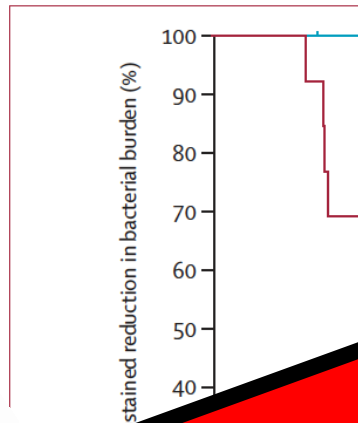


Mass production of bacteriophages  
in Soviet Union during WWII

T. Ferry. *The story of Phage therapy*

# Efficacy and tolerability of a cocktail of bacteriophages to treat burn wounds infected by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (PhagoBurn): a randomised, controlled, double-blind phase 1/2 trial

Patrick Jault, Thomas Leclerc, Serge J  
Ronan Le Floch, Jean Vivien Schaal, C



**COMPASSIONATE  
USE**

2: Time to observe reduction

Kaplan-Meier analysis of median time

highest daily bacterial burden compared with day 0. HR=hazard ratio. PP1131=cocktail of 12 natural lytic anti-*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* bacteriophages.



*osa*

RECYDES  
RMA





# PHOSA



PHERECYDES  
PHARMA



PHOSA & Phagothérapie

Consortium PHOSA

Communication

Contact



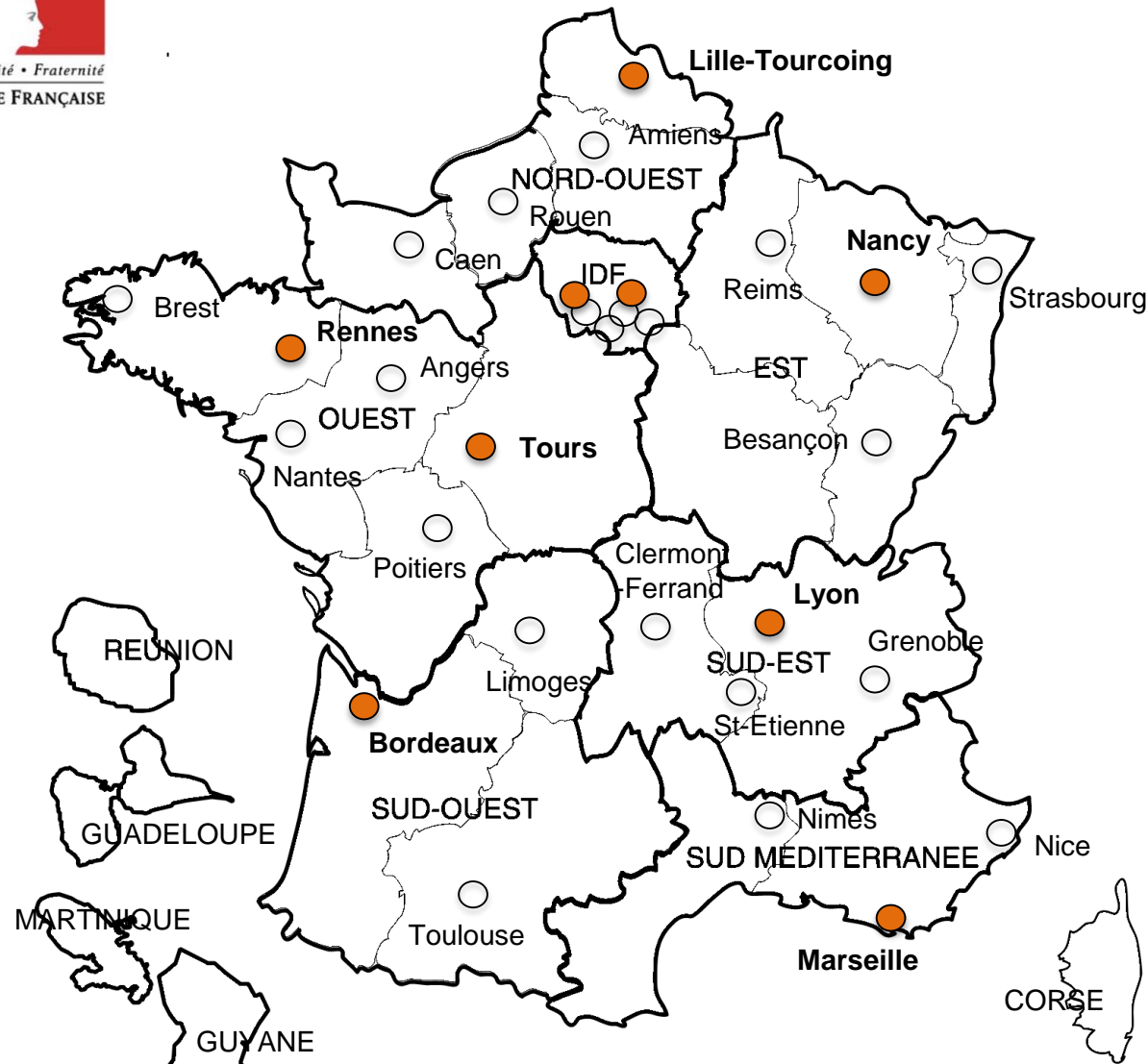
**Phage discovery  
to find active  
bacteriophages  
against Staphylococci**



***Phages anti-S. aureus***



# REFERENCE CENTERS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF BONE AND JOINT INFECTION



● CRIOAc coordonateur ○ Centres correspondants

## “CRIOAc” Network



## CRIOAc Lyon



**Pr. Tristan Ferry**  
MD, PhD  
Infectiologist



**Pr. Sébastien Lustig**  
MD, PhD  
Orthopaedic surgeon



**Pr. Frédéric Laurent**  
PharmD, PhD  
Microbiologist



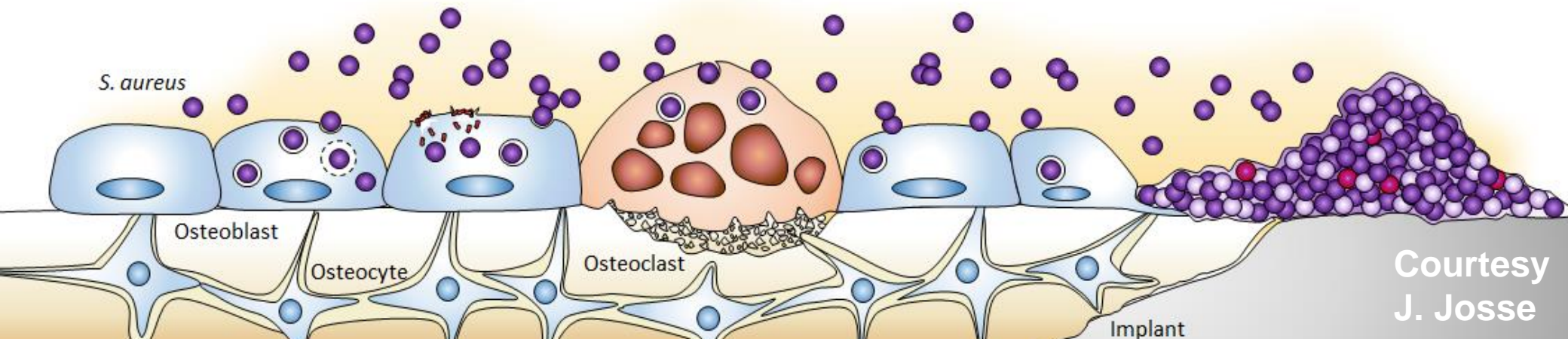
Multidisciplinary management of the patient

Better understanding of the pathophysiology of BJI

Promotion of innovative treatments

# Persisters in chronic BJI

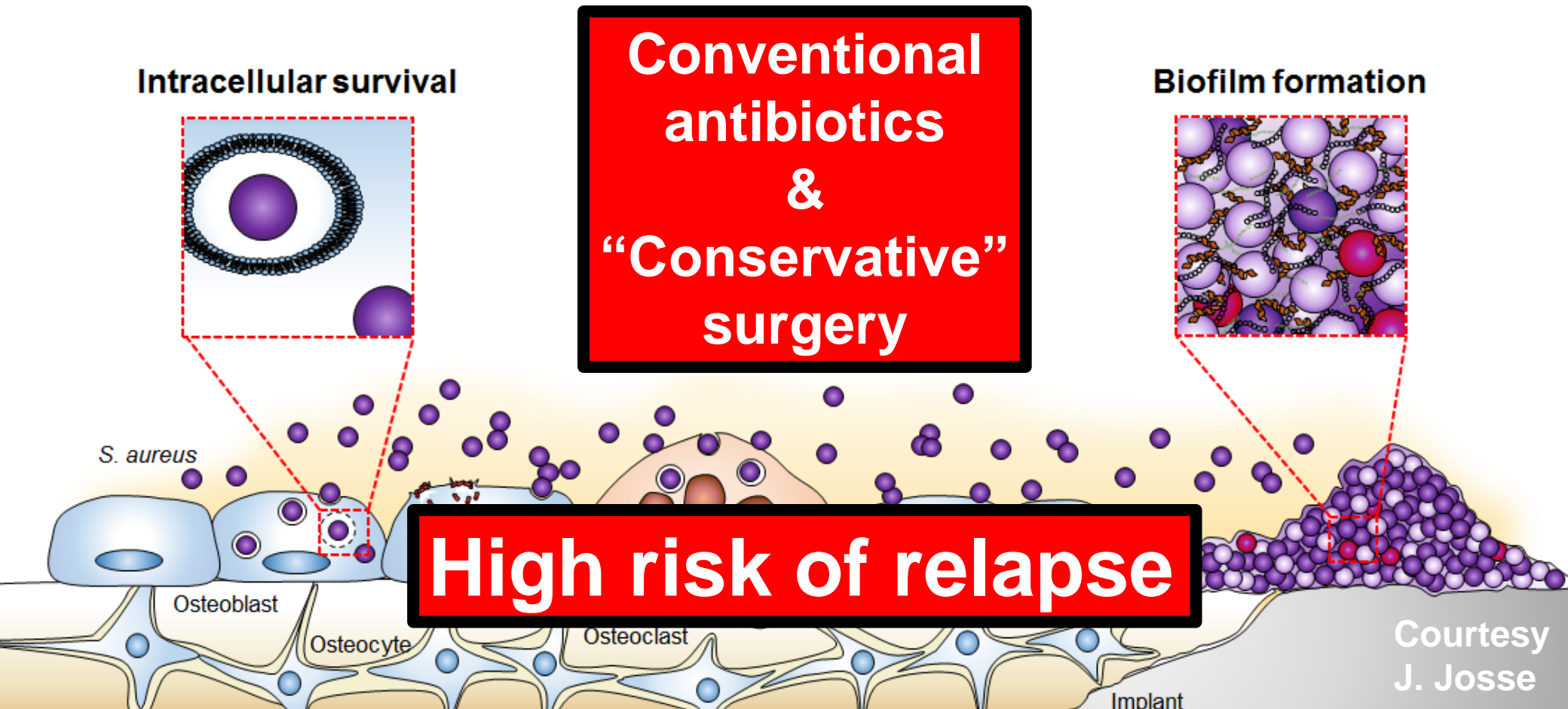
**“Bacterial cells that escape the effects of antibiotics without undergoing genetic change”**



Courtesy  
J. Josse

# Persisters in chronic BJI

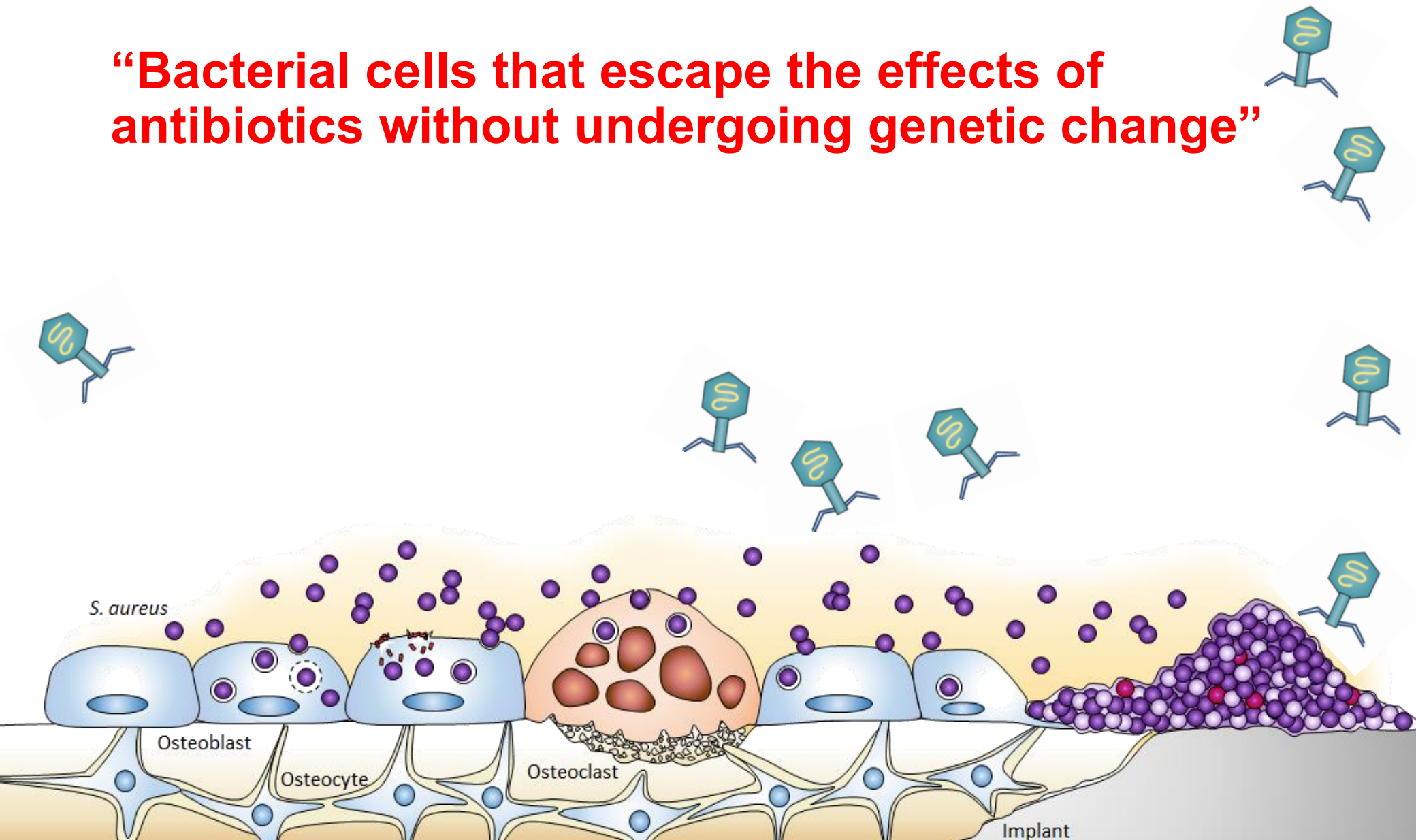
**“Bacterial cells that escape the effects of antibiotics without undergoing genetic change”**





# Persisters in chronic BJI

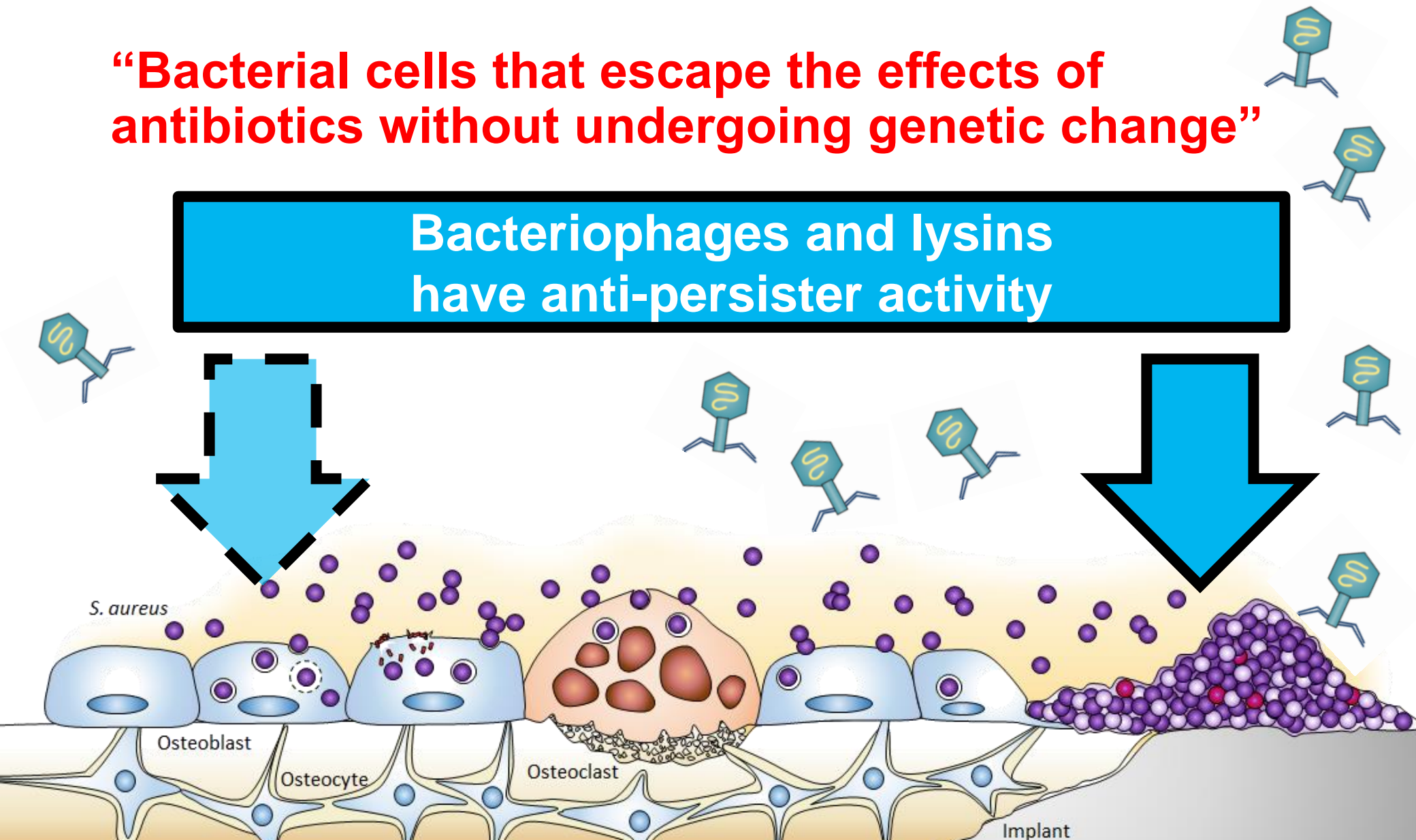
**“Bacterial cells that escape the effects of antibiotics without undergoing genetic change”**



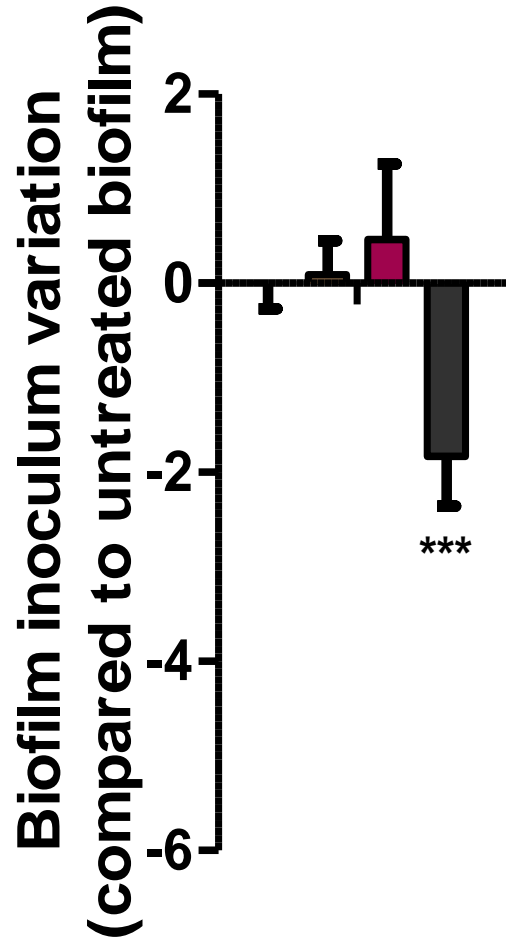
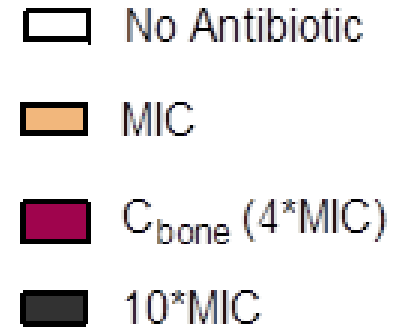
# Persisters in chronic BJI

**“Bacterial cells that escape the effects of antibiotics without undergoing genetic change”**

**Bacteriophages and lysins  
have anti-persister activity**



# vancomycin



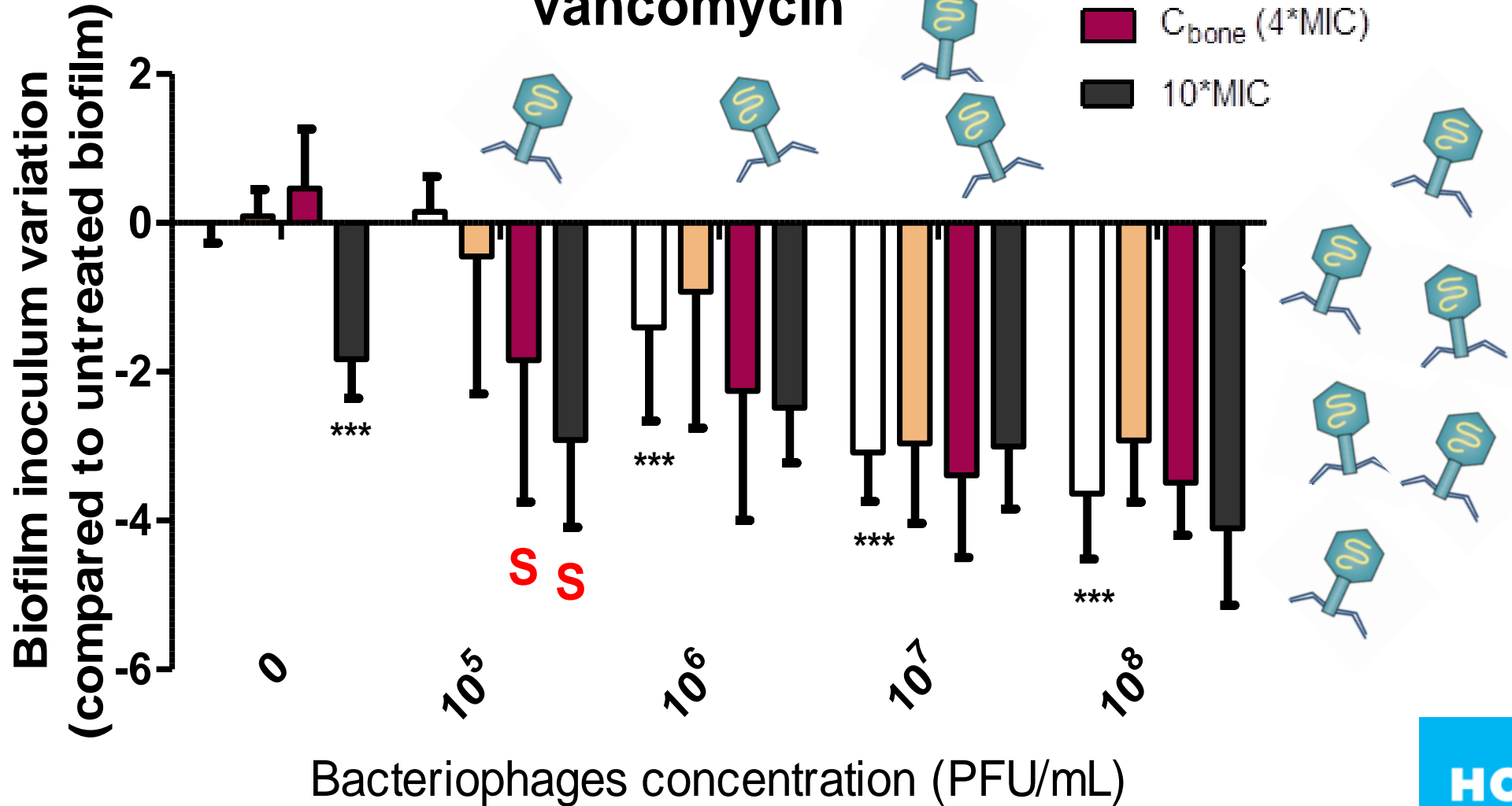
□ No Antibiotic

■ MIC

■ C<sub>bone</sub> (4\*MIC)

■ 10\*MIC

**vancomycin**



# Declaration of Helsinki

## Medical Research Involving Human Subjects



WORLD  
MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION

Special Communication

World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki  
Ethical Principles for Medical Research  
Involving Human Subjects

**JAMA** 2013  
The Journal of the  
American Medical Association

World Medical Association

- **Unproven Interventions in Clinical Practice**

- 37. In the treatment of an **individual patient, where** proven interventions do not exist or other known interventions have been **ineffective, the physician**, after seeking expert advice, **with informed consent from the patient** or a legally authorised representative, **may use an unproven intervention** if in the **physician's judgement** it offers **hope of saving life, re-establishing health** or alleviating suffering.

In France: compassionate use,  
magistral preparation by the hospital pharmacist

**A clear antibacterial activity!**

# Phagogram

**Phage**

**$10^{10}$**

**$10^9$**

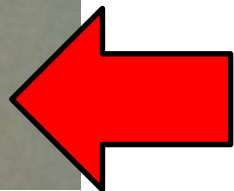
**$10^8$**

**$10^7$**

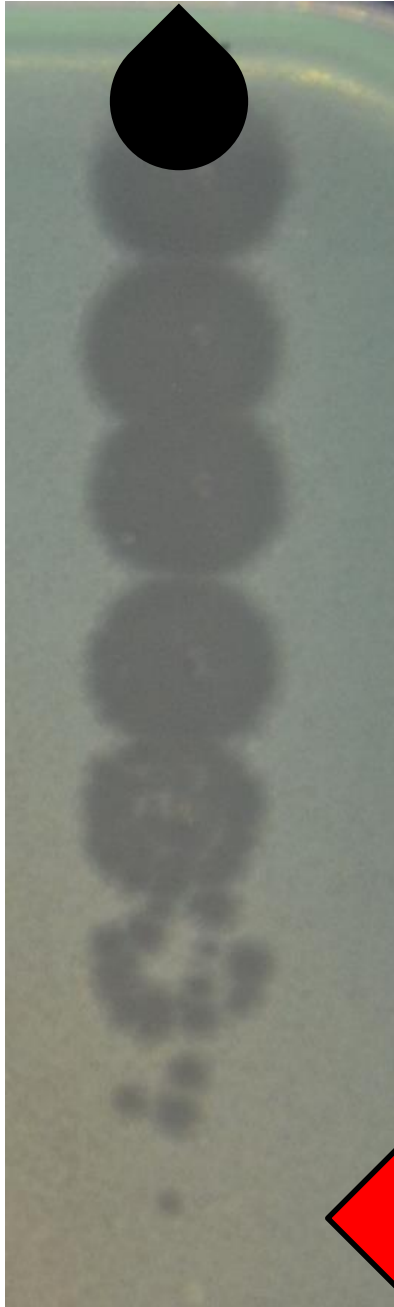
**$10^6$**

**$10^5$**

PFU/mL



***S. aureus* culture on a gelosis**





**A clear antibacterial activity!**

# Phagogram

**Phage**

$10^{10}$

$10^9$

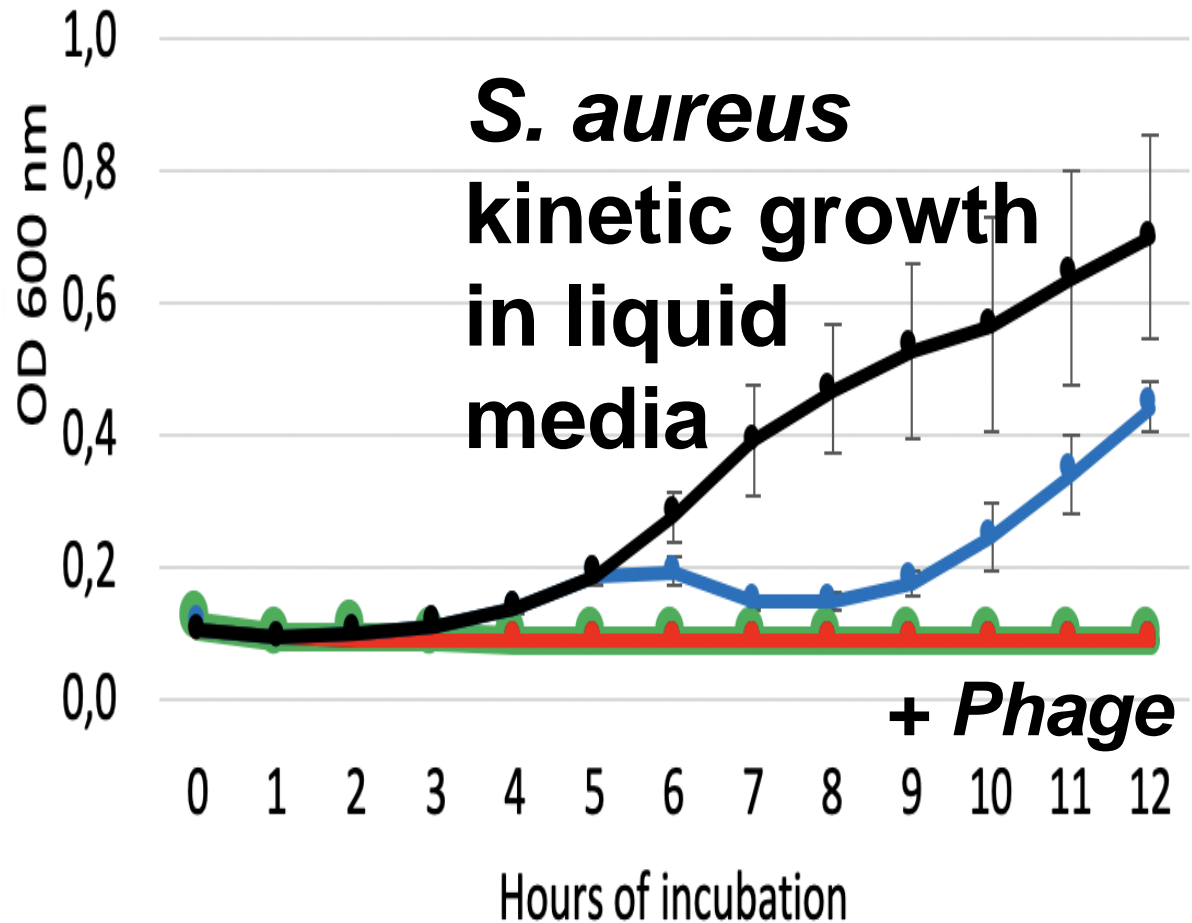
$10^8$

$10^7$

$10^6$

$10^5$

PFU/mL



***S. aureus* culture on a gelosis**

# Lyon Phage team



**Pr. Tristan Ferry**  
MD, PhD  
Infectiologist



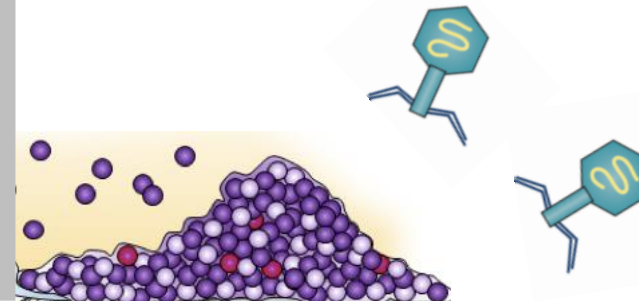
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Microbiologist



**Dr. Gilles Leboucher**  
PharmD  
Pharmacist





ID Clinic



**HCL**  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON



Surgery



**HCL**  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON

Lab



**HCL**  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON

Under the supervision of

**ansm**

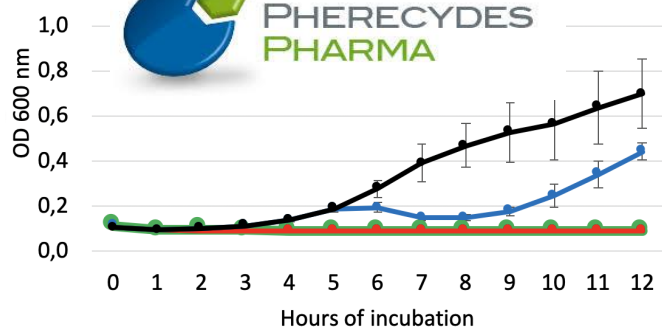
Agence nationale de sécurité du médicament  
et des produits de santé

French Health Authority

Pharmacy



**HCL**  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON



**Phagogram**  
**Selection of active bacteriophages**



**Active *S. aureus* Bactériophages**



1 mL

Phage A



1 mL

Phage B



1 mL

Phage C



ID Clinic



**HCL**  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON

Surgery



**HCL**  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON



Lab



**HCL**  
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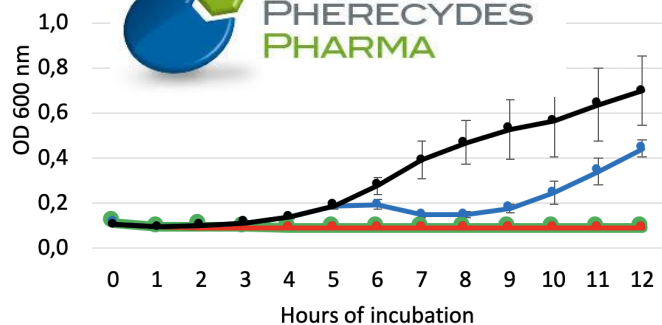
French Health Authority

Pharmacy



**HCL**  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON

Extemporaneous  
magistral  
preparation of the  
mix of  
bacteriophages



Phagogram  
Selection of active bacteriophages



Active *S. aureus* Bactériophages



1 mL

Phage A



1 mL

Phage B



1 mL

Phage C

# 'Debridement And Implant Retention' (DAIR) with local administration of personalized cocktail of bacteriophages (PhagoDAIR) followed by suppressive antibiotherapy as salvage therapy in patients with relapsing prosthetic knee infection

**Phago  
DAIR**

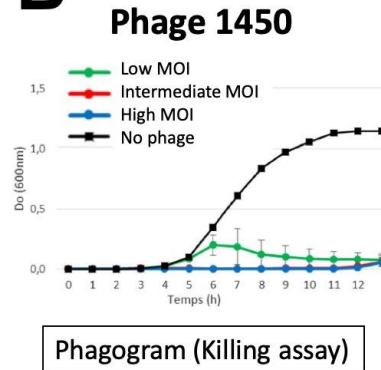


**A**

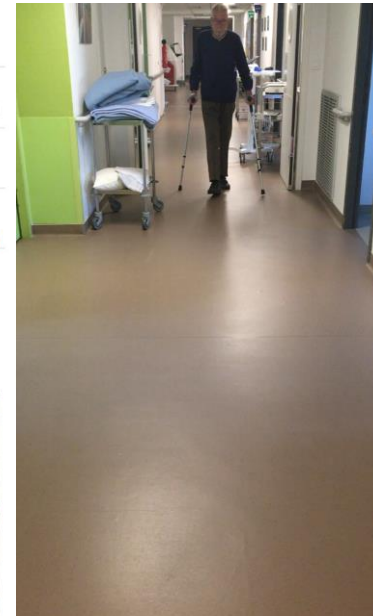


Left PKI with purulent joint effusion

**B**



**D**



Favorable outcome at 1 year

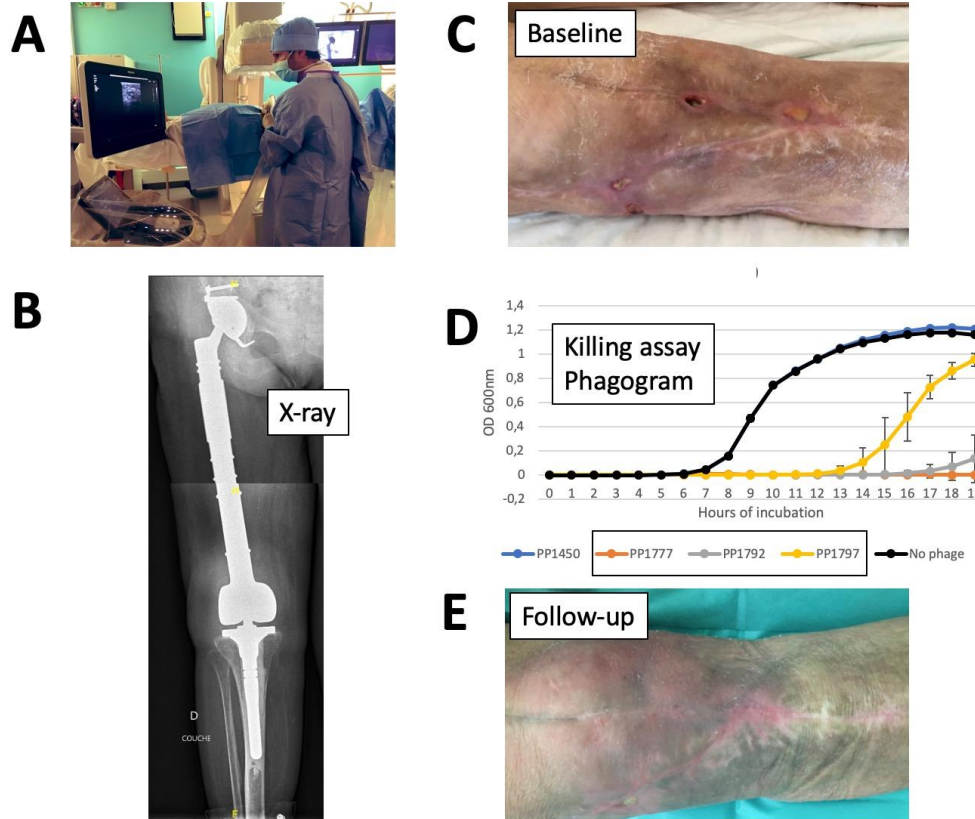
30th  
**ECCMID**

Paris, France  
18 –21 April 2020



**Conclusions:** **Personalized bacteriophage therapy has the potential** to be used as salvage therapy during DAIR in patients with relapsing *S. aureus* and *P. aeruginosa* prosthetic knee infection, **to improve the efficacy of suppressive antibiotics, and to avoid considerable loss of function.**

# Ultrasound guided local administration of personalized cocktail of bacteriophages followed by suppressive antibiotherapy as salvage therapy in patients with relapsing total femur prosthesis infection



30th  
ECCMID

Paris, France  
18 –21 April 2020

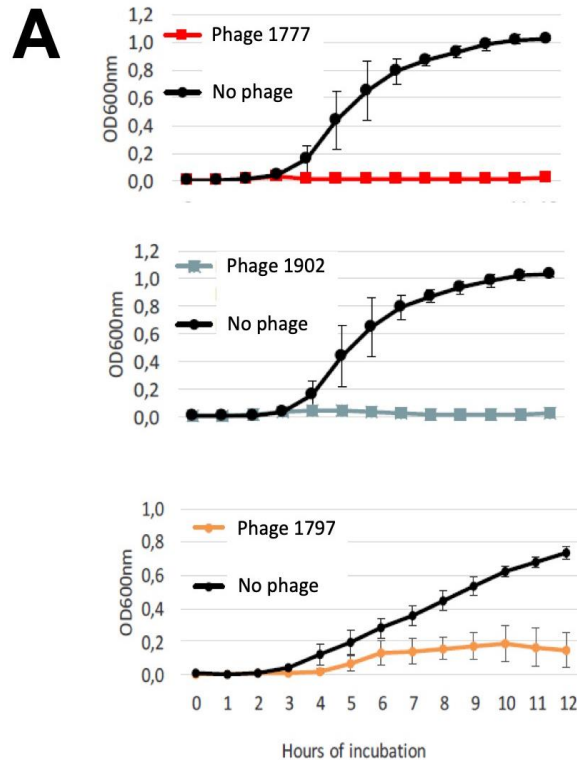
PHERECYDES  
PHARMA

HCL  
HOSPICES CIVILS  
DE LYON

**Conclusions:** Ultrasound-guided local administration of personalized cocktail of GMP bacteriophages followed by suppressive antibiotherapy in patients with relapsing total femur PJI has the potential to be used as salvage therapy to control the infection and avoid disarticulation. Dramatic superinfection could be diagnosed at the time of phage administration.



# Intravenous administration of personalized cocktail of bacteriophages as salvage therapy in combination with ceftazidime/avibactam in patients with relapsing *P. aeruginosa* bacteremia: Lesson learned from two cases



**Conclusions:** The type of filter used for the magistral preparation and the duration of the perfusion influenced the phage titer, as the titer in the patient's blood. Personalized GMP bacteriophage therapy has the potential to be used as salvage therapy of *P. aeruginosa* intravascular implant infections.



# Conclusion



- Crucial need for (alternatives) **additional therapies to antibiotics** to maximize clinical success in complex bacterial infections
- Phage therapy is a **Phoenix**
- Don't forget **Lessons from 20<sup>th</sup> century**
- Develop and use **GMP bacteriophages** (phages 2.0) ► **14 patients treated in 2 years**
- Industry / health authority / academic **collaborations**
- Reference (regional or national) clinical centers to determine **relevant indications**
- Need for **Phage discovery**, **banking**, **susceptibility**, to personalize the therapy
- **Need for national phage therapy center(s)**

