



Microbiology I.
Practical training



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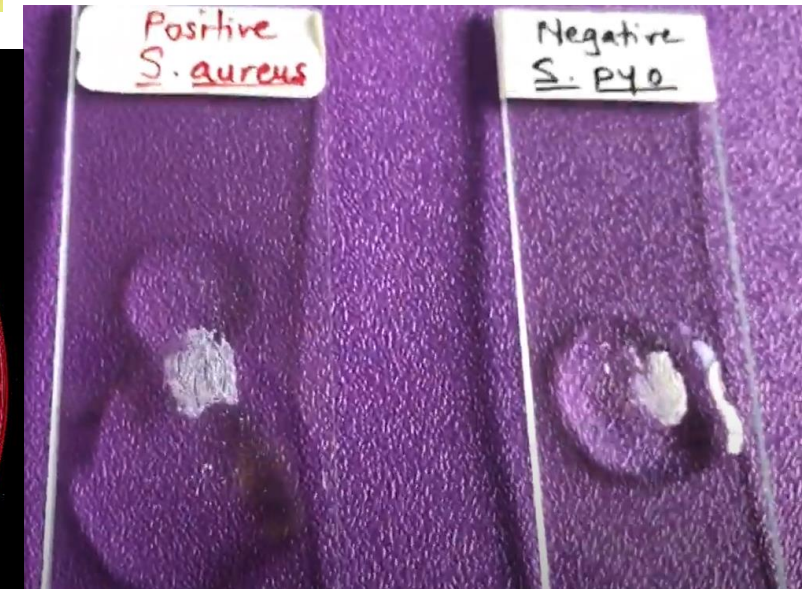
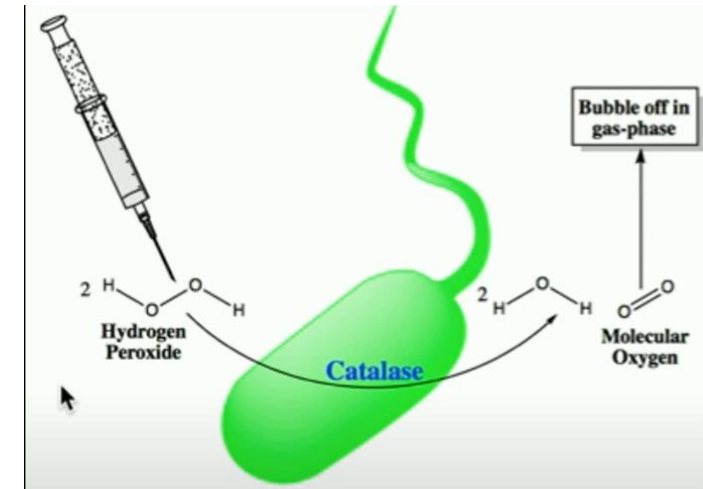
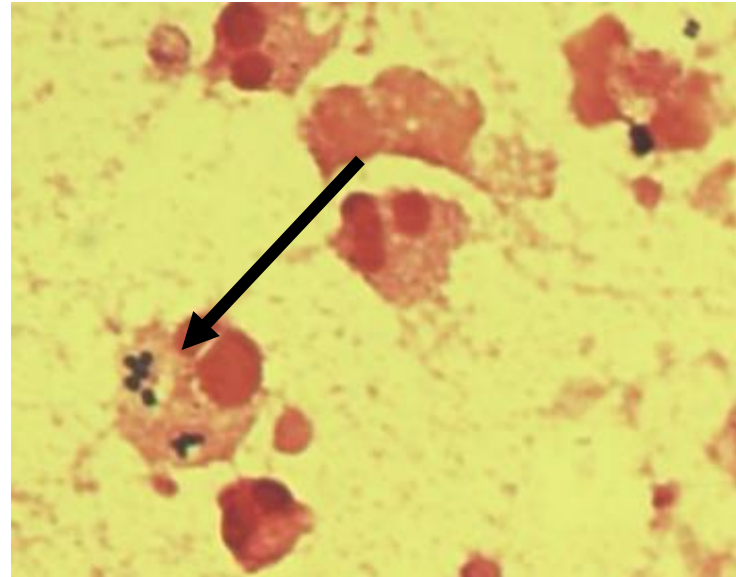
Diagnosics of important G+ cocci I. (staphylococci)

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Who are they

- **G+ cocci in clusters**
 - Facultatively anaerobic
 - Catalase positive
- **Cultivation conditions**
 - Easy: at 37°C, 18-24 hours
 - No special atmosphere is required
- **Significance**
 - Part of the physiological microbiota
 - Colonisation of surfaces
 - Opportunistic pathogens



Classification of staphylococci

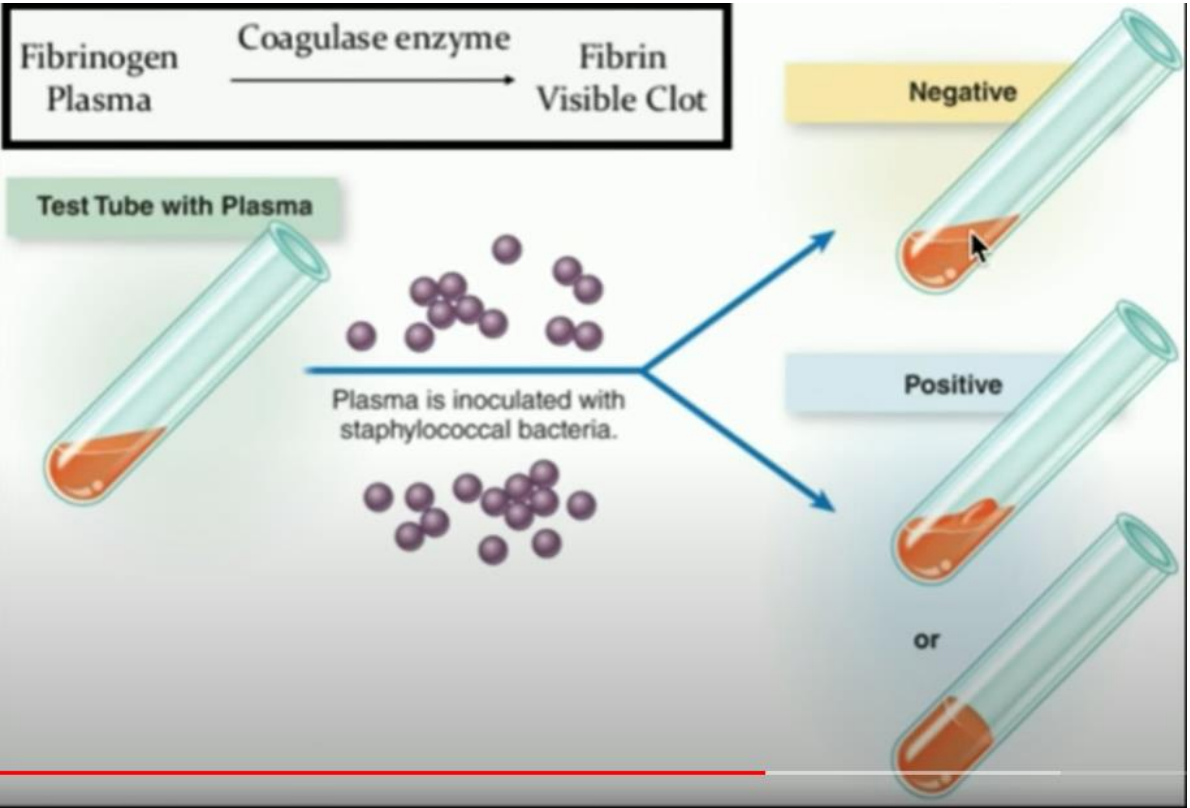
According to the plasma-coagulase test

Coagulase-positive = *S.aureus*
Common agent of a wide range of infections

- Toxin production

Coagulase-negative = CoNS

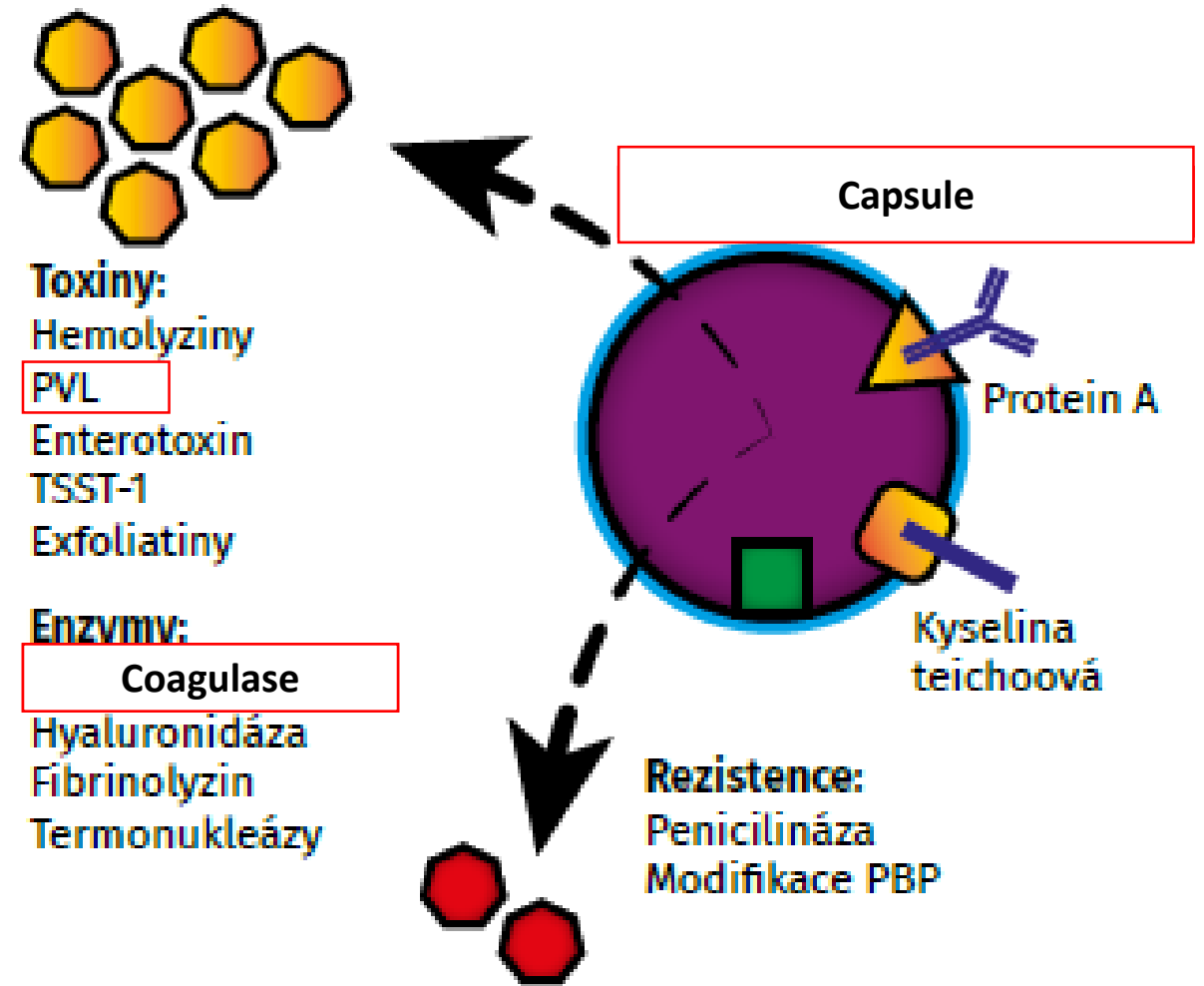
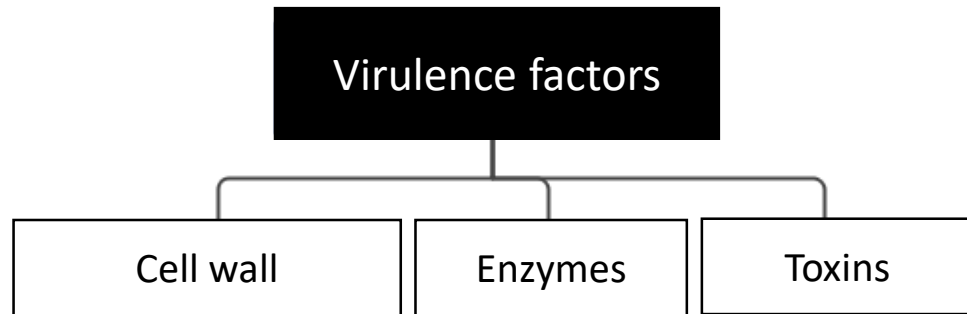
- Colonization of foreign materials,
- Catheter sepsis, urinary infections, biofilm,
- These strains do not produce toxins



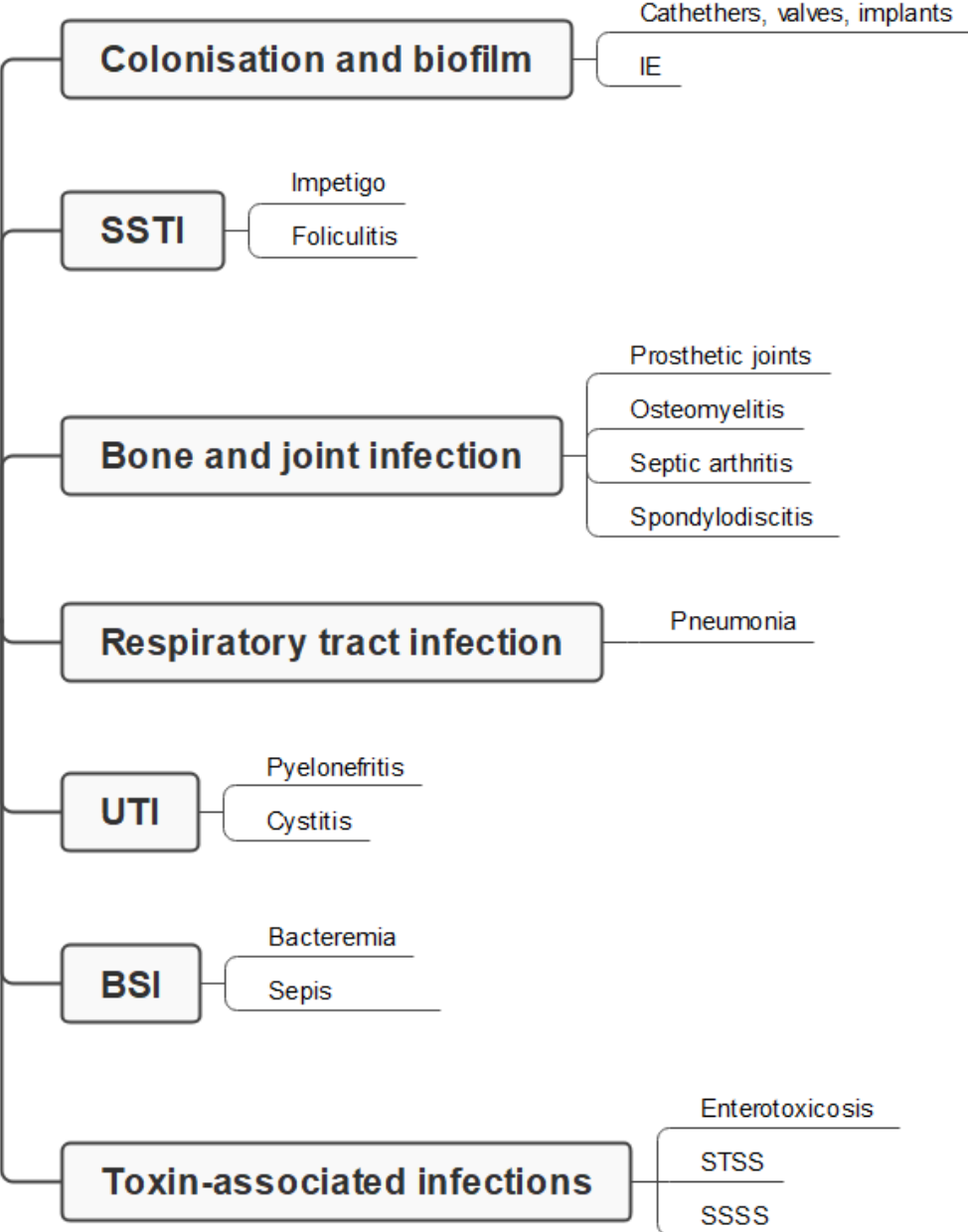
Name	Hemolysis	Patogenity	
<i>S. aureus</i>	Yes	+++	Physiologically in the nose (about 20%); Pathogenic potential: SSTI, orthopaedic infections, pneumonia (! PVL+), UTI, BCI, Enterotoxycosis, STSS, SSSS
<i>S. capitis</i>	Yes	+	Physiologically on skin; Colonization of catheters and valves
<i>S. epidermidis</i>	No	+	
<i>S. hominis</i>	No	+	
<i>S. haemolyticus</i>	Yes	+	
<i>S. lugdunensis</i>	Yes	++	Physiologically on skin; SSTI, endocarditis, orthopedic infections, BSI
<i>S. saprophpticus</i>	No	++	Physiologically on skin; UTI

* SSTI = skin and soft tissue infections; BSI = bloodstream infection; UTI = urinary tract infection; STSS = staphyl. toxic shock syndrome; SSSS = staphyl scalded skin syndrome; PVL = Panton-valentine's leucocidin)

Staphylococcus aureus



Infection

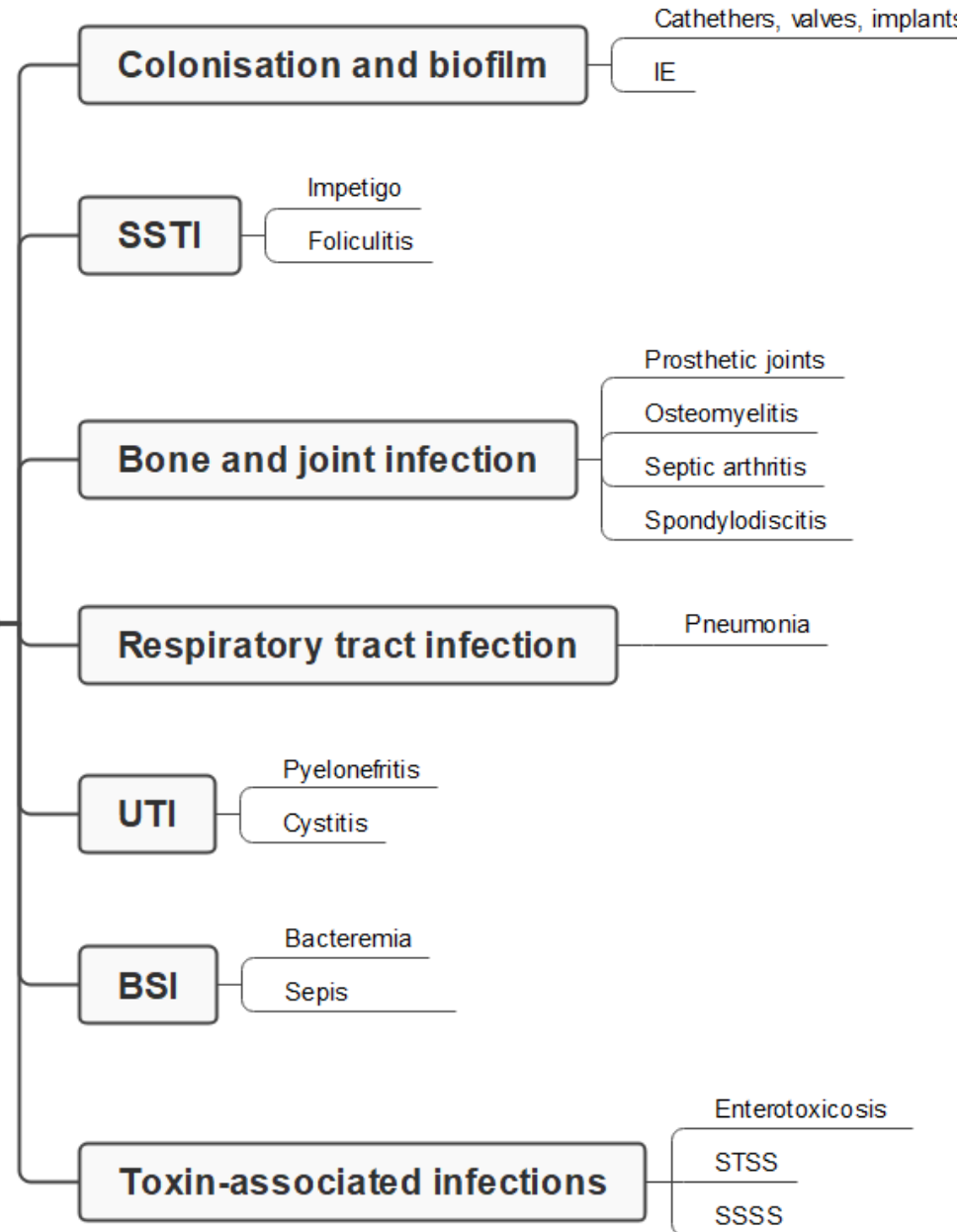


Diagnosatics of staphylococci

Samples to use

Due to the prevalence and spectrum of the disease, a large variety of materials are possible

Infection



Sample

Tissue / catheter / valve

Skin swab / abscess contents

Punctate / aspirate / tissue

Sputum / BAL / PCR for PVL toxin

Urine

BSI

Toxin test:
agglutination / PCR for TSST-1, exfoliatin

Methods

Urine

Punctate / aspirate / tissue

Skin swab / abscess contents

Tissue / catheter / valve

Toxin test:
agglutination / PCR on
TSST-1, exfoliatin

Sputum / BAL / PCR for PVL
toxin

BSI

Sample

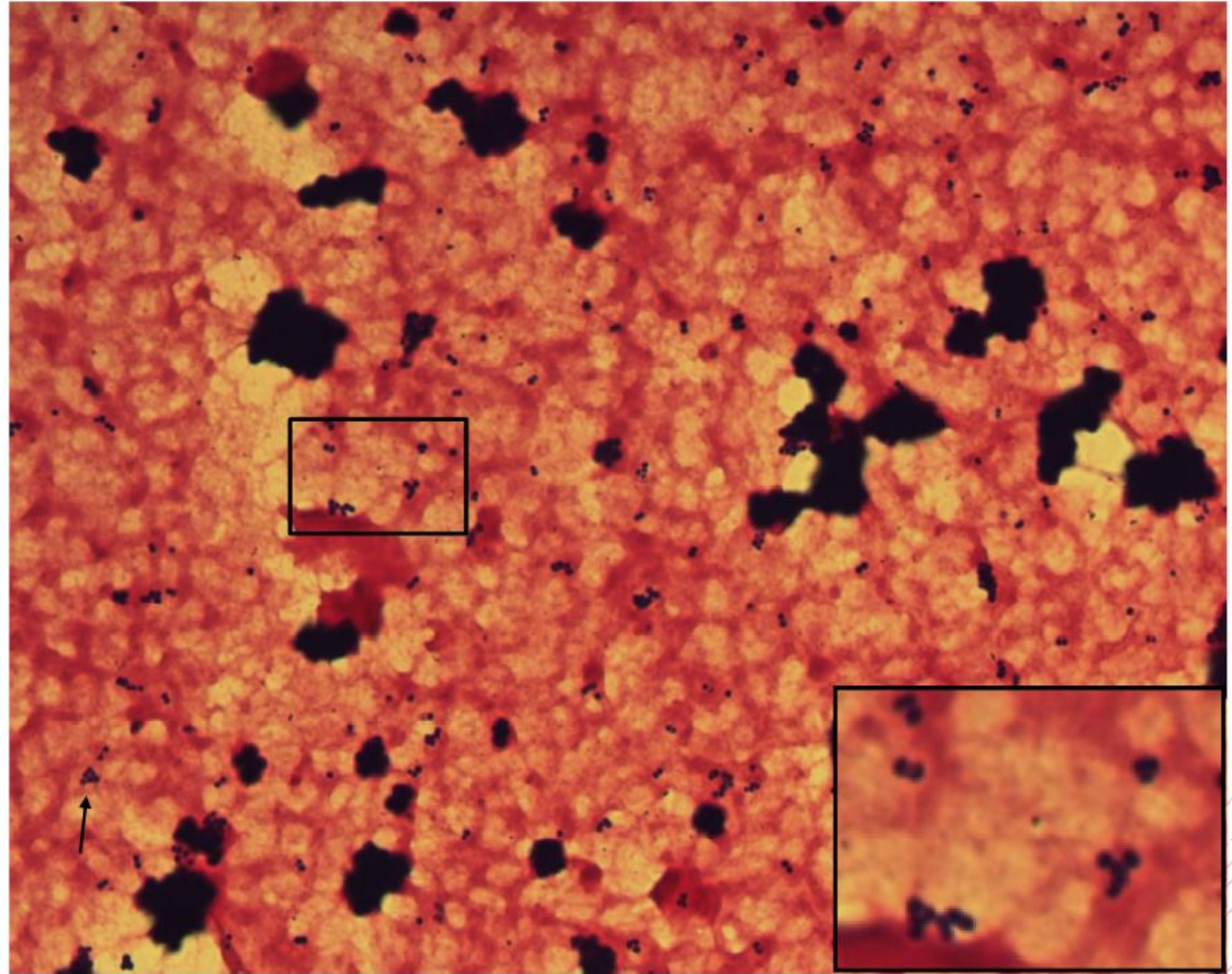
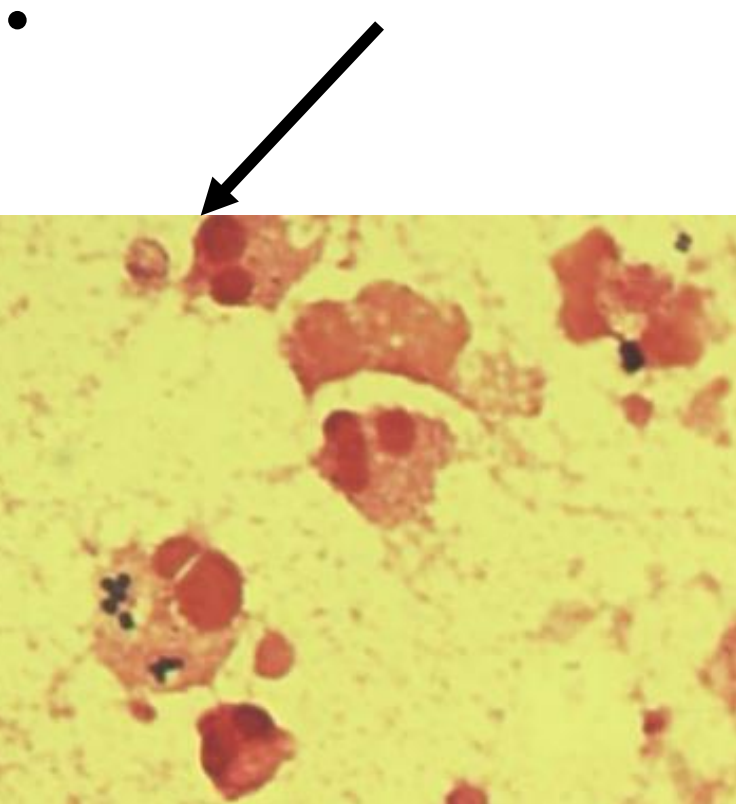
Microscopy

Cultures

PCR / Ag

Microscopy

- G+ cocci in clusters



Cultures

Solid medium :

- blood agar
- chocolate agar

How long?

- 18-24 hours

What conditions?

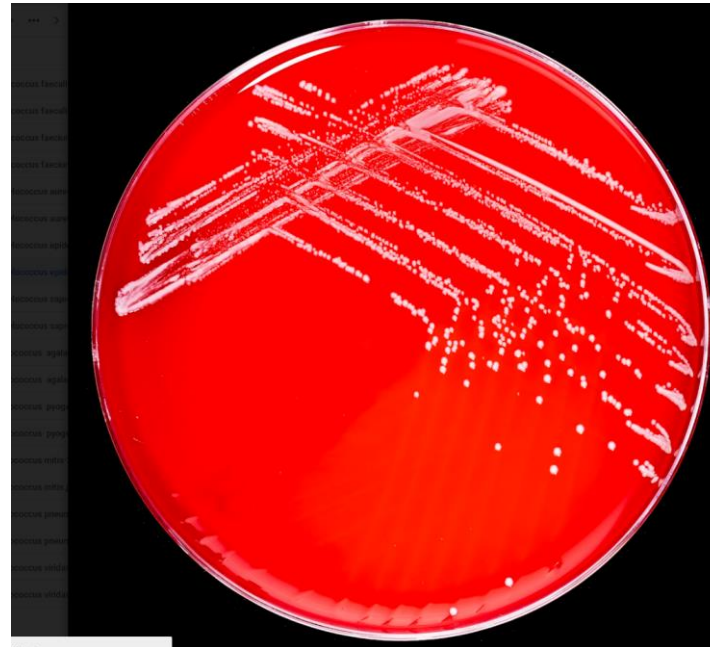
- 37°C, in normal atmosphere

Evaluation:

- Colony, size,
- Pigment formation
- Haemolysis

Identification

- MALDI TOF MS
- Biochemical tests



Biochemical tests

- **Catalase**

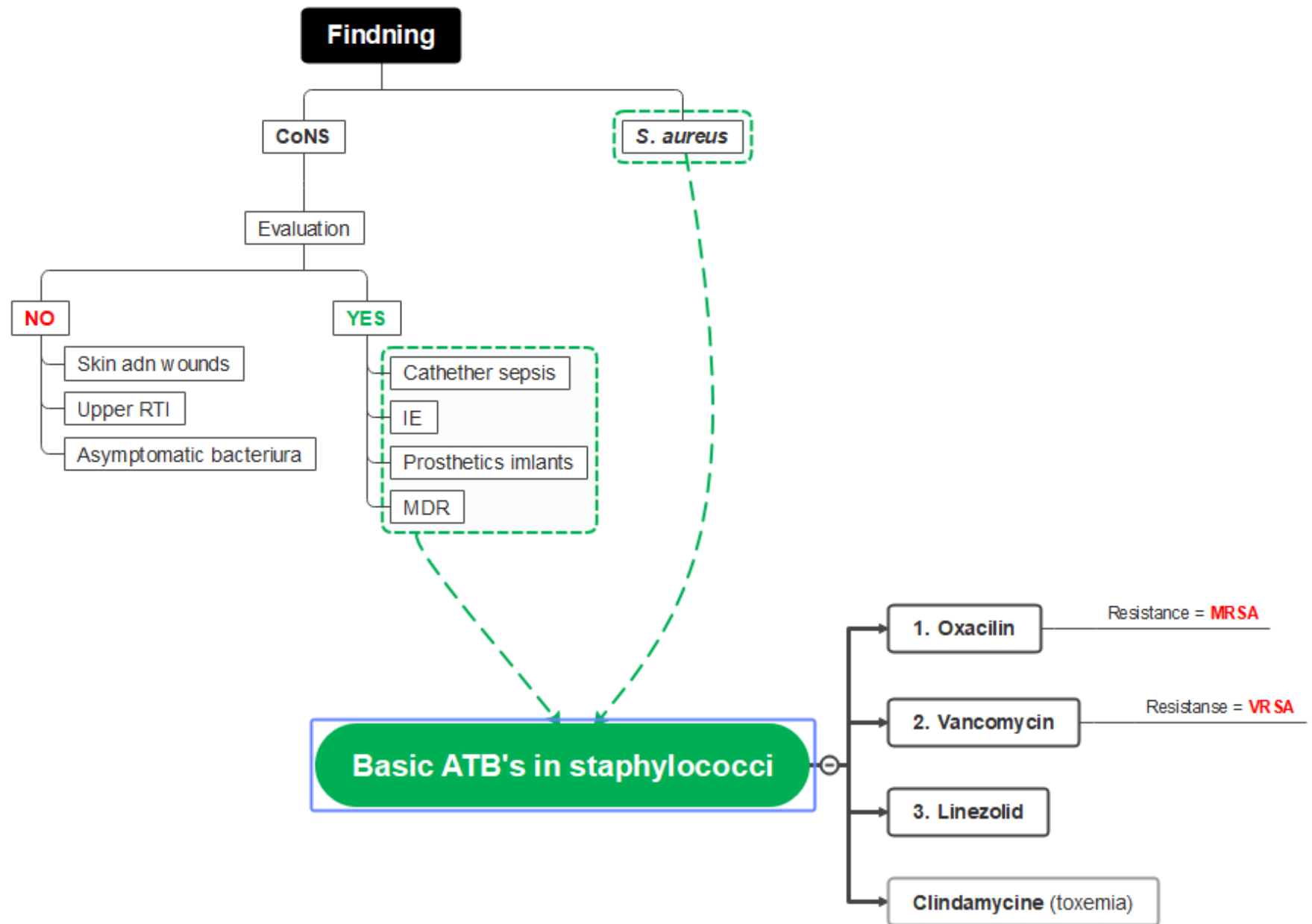
- Positive for all staphylococci
- Using hydrogen peroxide – on a slide or in a test tube (video)

- **Plasmacoagulase**

- On the surface of staphylococcus – agglutination – on the slide (video)
- Sensitized plasma + staphylococcus → evaluated within 30s → we observe agglutinates

AST testing

- In CoNS, evaluate the importance – always in catheter sepsis, endocarditis, infections of artificial materials, etc., multidrug-resistant strains
- Key in *S.aureus* – occurrence of resistant strains
- MRSA – resistance to methicillin (oxacillin variant in the Czech Republic), also screening → susceptibility to oxacillin and ceftazidime
 - Resistance indicates reduced sensitivity to other preparations
 - Dispensarization

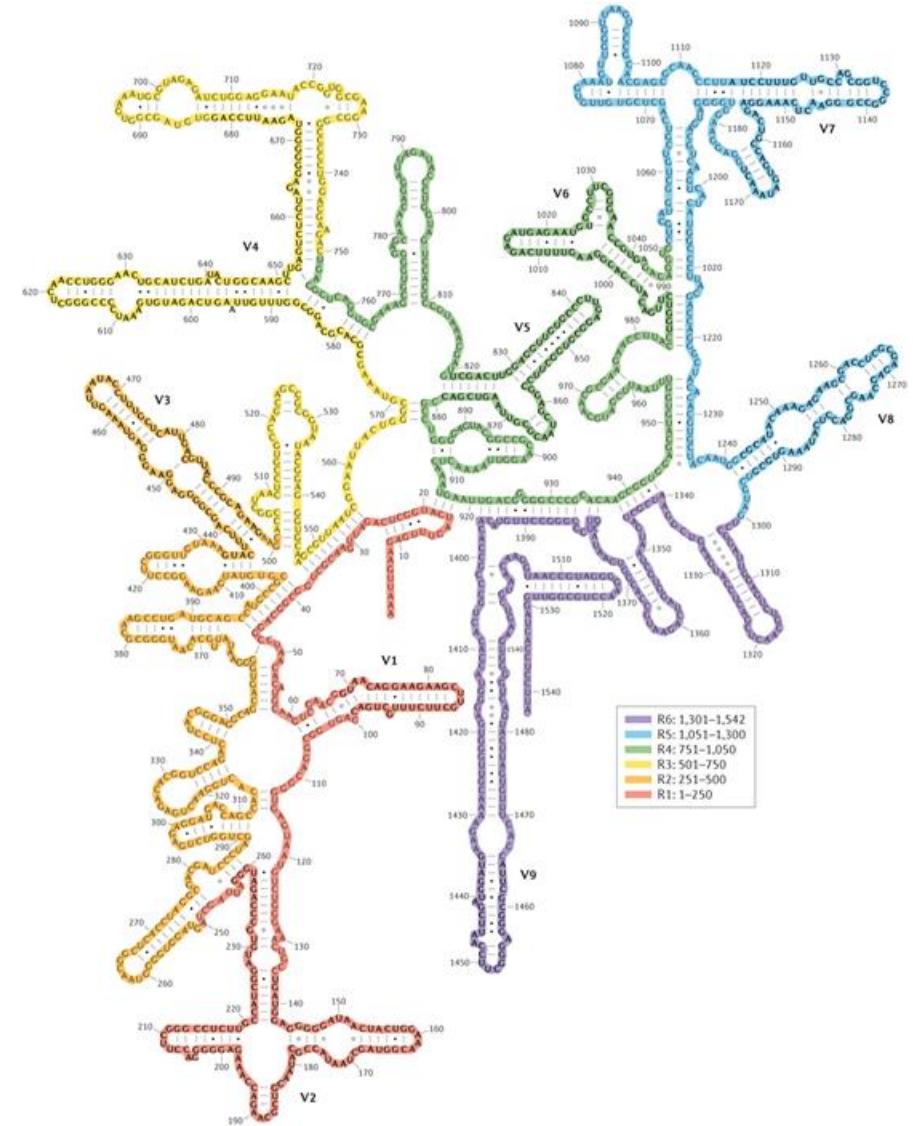


Toxiny

- Some strains produce significant toxins:
- Superantigens
 - Exfoliatins
 - TST
 - Enterotoxins
- **PVL**
- **Gene detection by PCR**
- **Add clindamycin to the therapy**
-

What if cultivation fails?

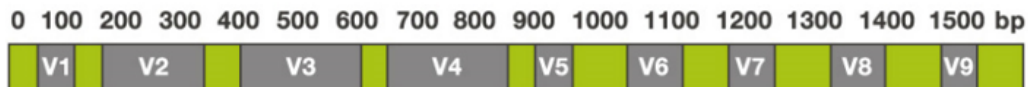
- Clear suspicion of infection, but microscopically negative and culture as well.
- How to help yourself?



Panbacterial PCR

- **Gene for 16S rRNA**
 - Gen size: 1542 bp
 - Structure: conservative regions (where the primers attach) and nine hypervariable regions V1-V9 (mostly V3-V4)
- **Methods**
 1. PCR 16S rDNA
 2. Sequencing the amplicons
 3. Comparing with the reference database (BLAST, GreenGenes, RDP, Silva)

16S rDNA is a linear structure - > transcribes into a linear rRNA, and folds.



CONSERVED REGIONS: unspecific applications

VARIABLE REGIONS: group or species-specific applications

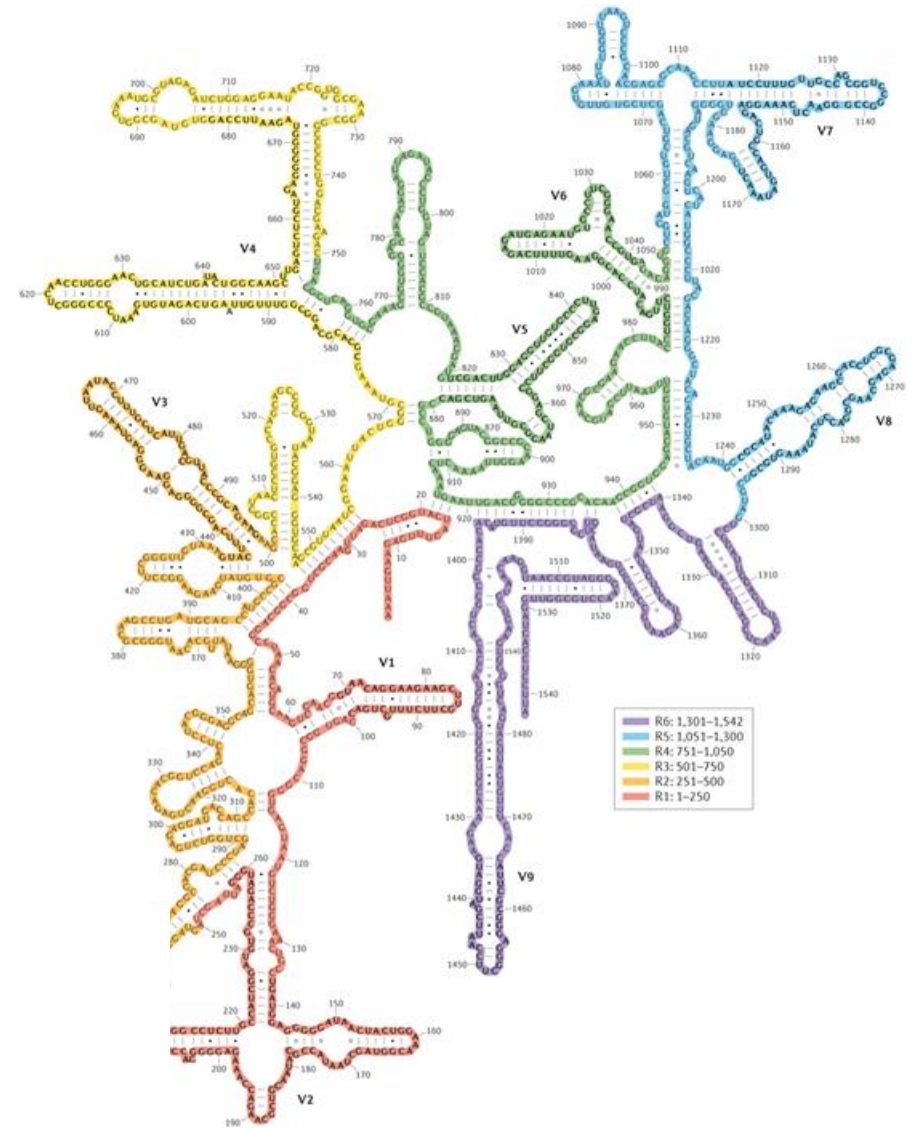


Figure 1: An example of a 16S rRNA gene. The regions in green are conserved in all microorganisms. These are the sites that are targeted by primers for PCR amplification so that all the 16S rRNA genes in a sample are amplified. The grey regions are the species-specific regions that-- when sequenced-- allow for scientists to see which species are present in a community. Image courtesy of: <http://www.alimetrics.net/en/index.php/dna-sequence-analysis>

Panbacterial PCR

Primarily sterile materials

Heart valves

Aspirates

CSF

Very rarely from whole blood, BAL

Even more rarely from the cultures

Case reports

Case 3 – use special instructions

Case 1

- Beware of bacterial infections (incl. S.aureus) after viral pneumonia
- In severe courses, always think about PVL and adapt to it terpaii – add ATB inhibiting protein synthesis (Clindamycin / linezolid)
-

Case 2

- Coagulase-negative staphylococci (CoNS) are not always contaminated! A relevant find wherever it can form a biofilm.
- There are more than two CoNS - not just *S. epidermidis* and *S. saprophyticus* (*S. hominis*, *S. capitis*, *S. warneri*, *S. haemolyticus*, *S. lugdunensis* and 100 others).

-

Case 3

- A culture-negative finding does not necessarily mean sterility and termination of the investigation.
- With clear clinical suspicion and prompting the laboratory, it is possible to investigate panbacterial PCR from primarily sterile materials.

-

Case 4

- Not all CoNS are contamination of urine collection. (S.saphrophyticus is a relevant pathogen.)
-
- Specific sensitivities are examined according to the microbe and material (urinary staphylo, sensitivity)
-

Case 5

- *S. aureus* is a common cause of IE in IV drug addicts.
 - Treatment according to antibiogram
 - Empirically vancomycin – due to possible MRSA, depending on susceptibility - de-escalation to oxacillin
 - Always in combination, usually gentamicin (synergistic effect) and rifampicin (penetration into biofilm)

When you can't keep going,
go faster!

[YouTube od 2:07](#)

