







The Bacterium Listeria Monocytogenes: a Unique Model in Infection Biology by Professor Pascale Cossart

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Abstract:

Diseases due to intracellular bacterial pathogens (e.g. tuberculosis, legionellosis, salmonellosis etc.) remain very important public health problems mainly because of the general appearance of antibiotic resistance. Thus new therapeutics are avidly searched. Their generation requires a deep knowledge of infectious processes in order to identify new targets. We have used the food-borne pathogen *Listeria monocytogenes*, as a model to analyze in great details the molecular mechanisms underlying the establishment and the persistence of an infectious process and address the various strategies used by bacteria to adapt to its host and counteract its main defenses. Our research has impact in infection biology but also in fundamental microbiology and in cell biology.