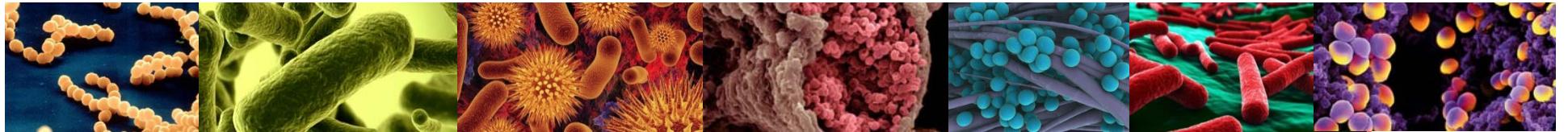




# ON THE ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITY OF METAL-EXCHANGED ZEOLITES

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Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade, Serbia*



## Antibacterial activity

- **Gram-positive**

- *Staphylococcus aureus* (Deutsche Sammlung von Microorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH- DSM 799)

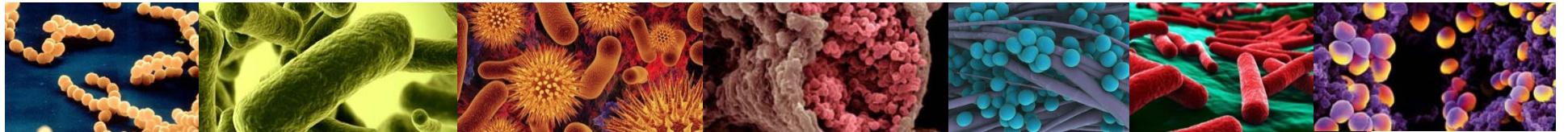
- **Gram-negative**

- *Escherichia coli*

(DSM 498 and isolates from lake water)

- *Acinetobacter baumannii*

(clinical isolates belonging to the IC I and II)



## Pathogenic microorganisms

- *E. coli*- indicator of faecal contamination of waters
- *S. aureus* and *A. baumannii*

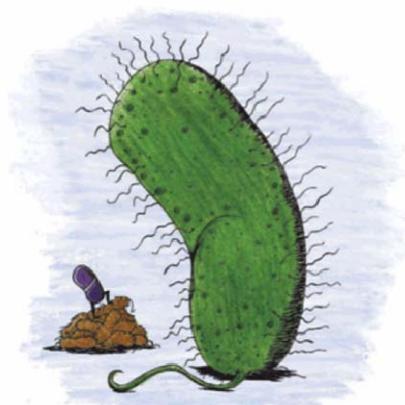
Infectious Diseases Society of America-IDSA declared „ESKAPE“ pathogens:

*E. faecium*

*E. aerogenes*

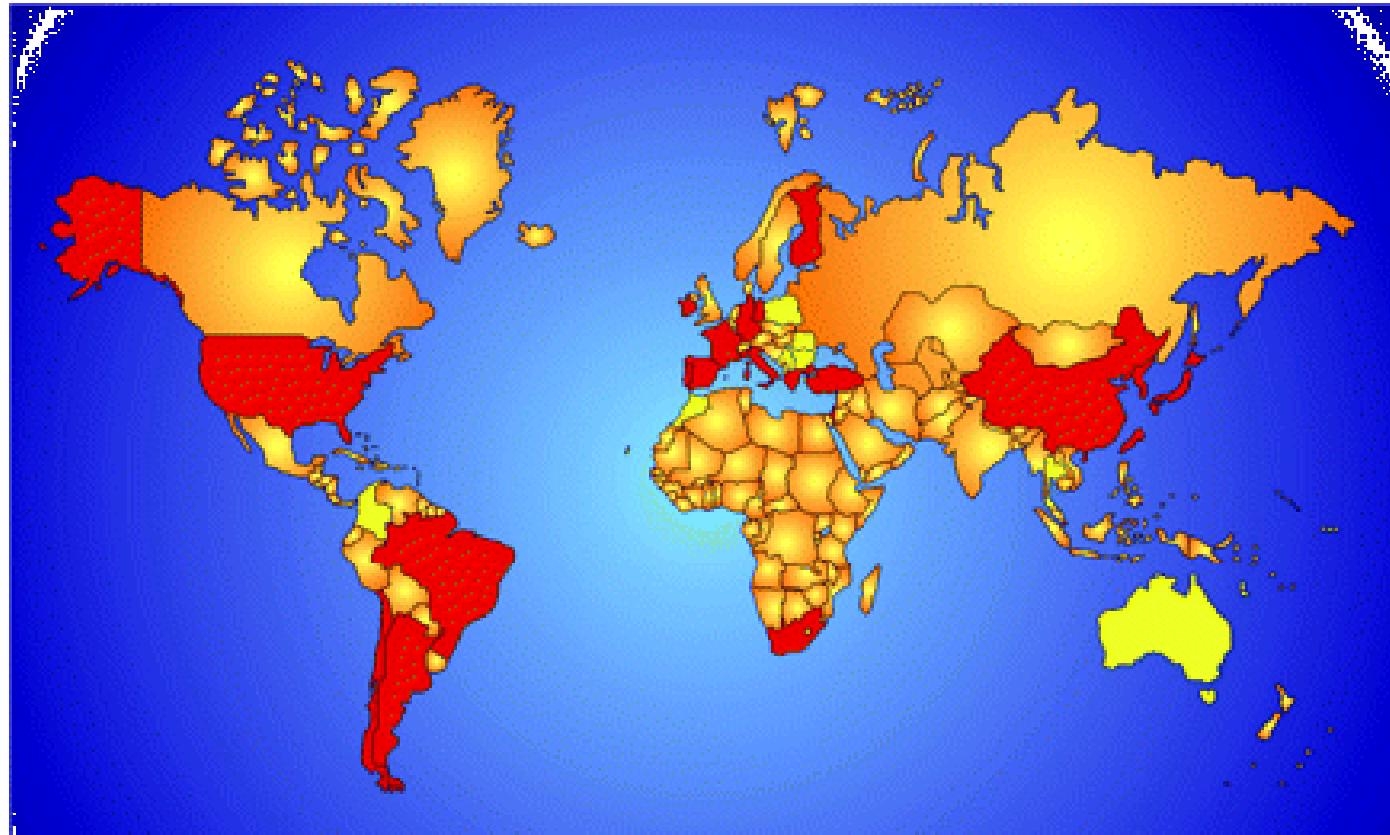
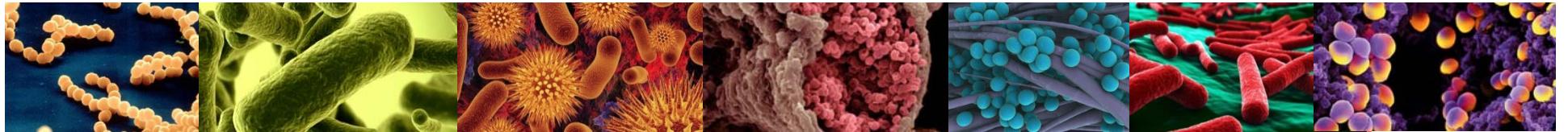
*S. aureus*

*P. aeruginosa*

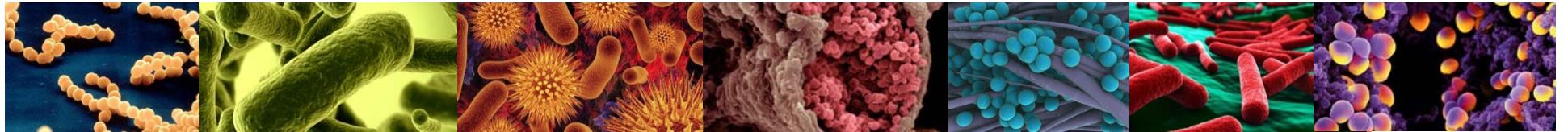


*K. pneumoniae*

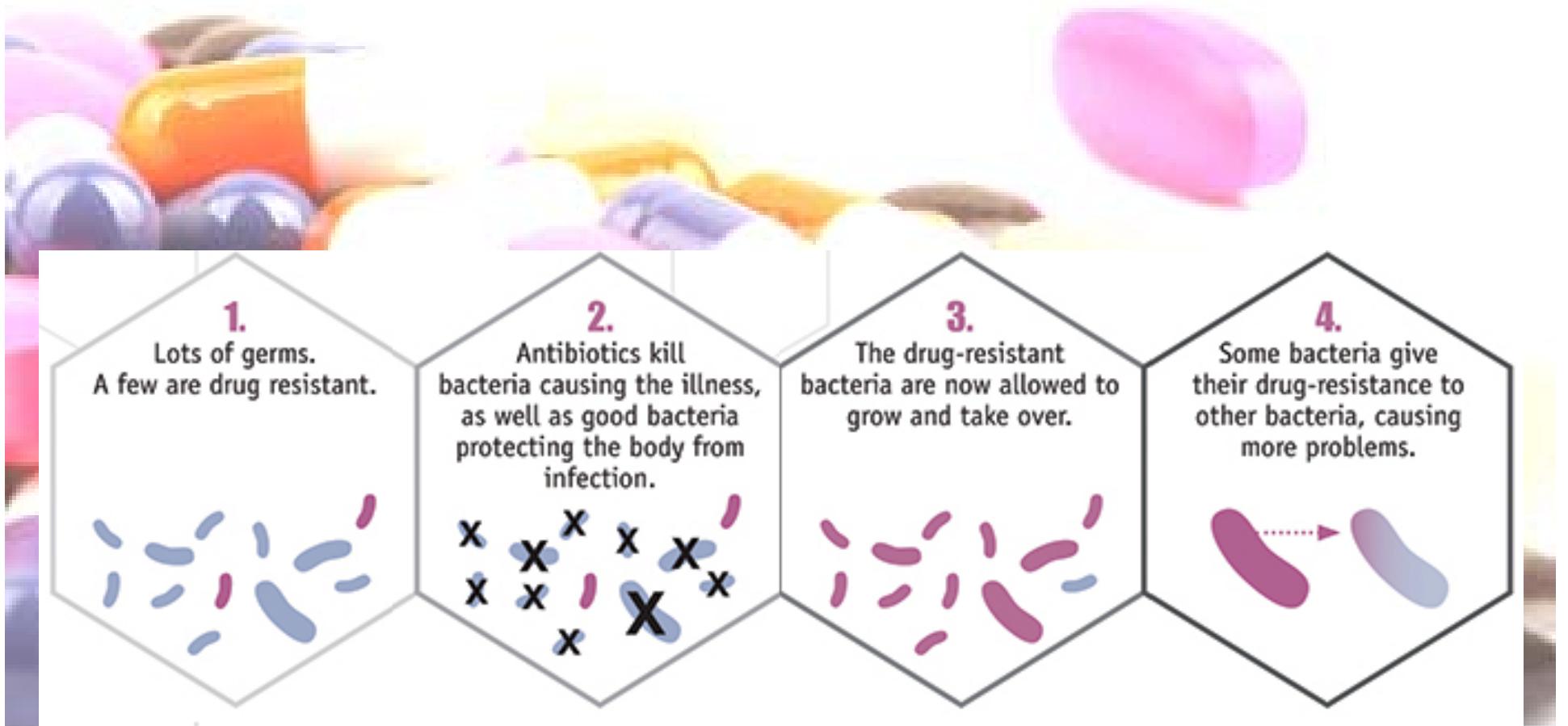
*A. baumannii*

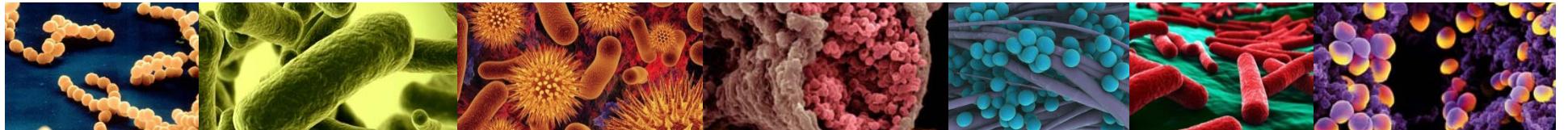


Countries that have reported an outbreak of carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii*. Red - outbreaks before 2006, yellow -outbreaks since 2006.



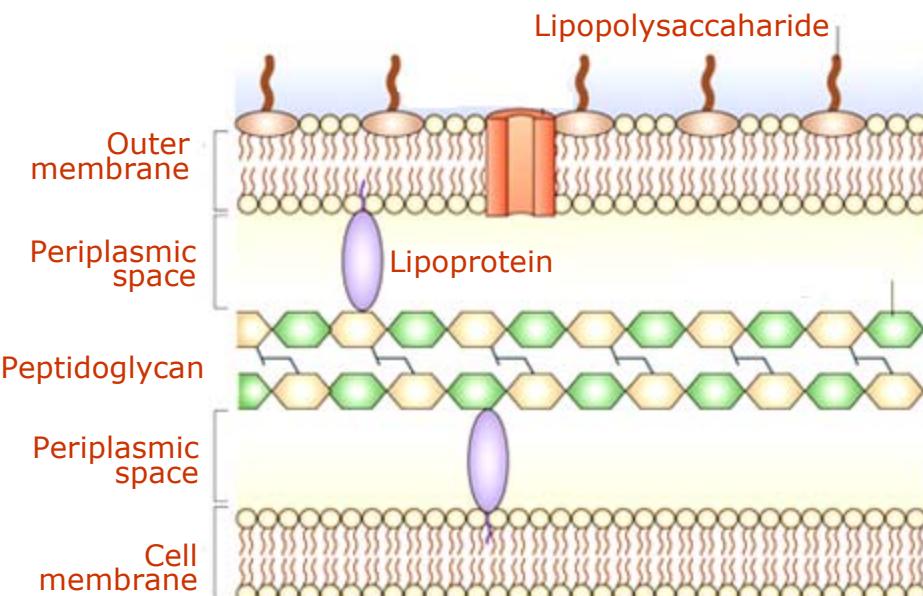
## Multidrug resistance



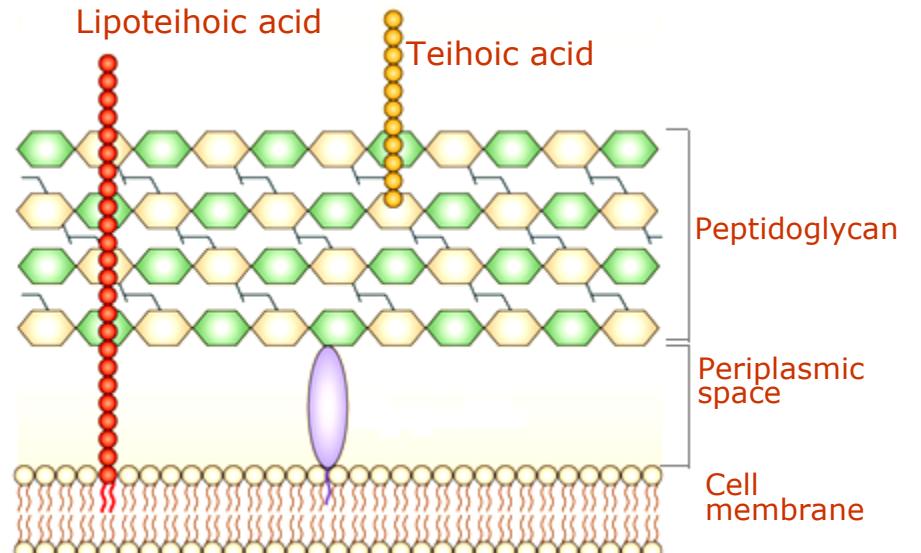


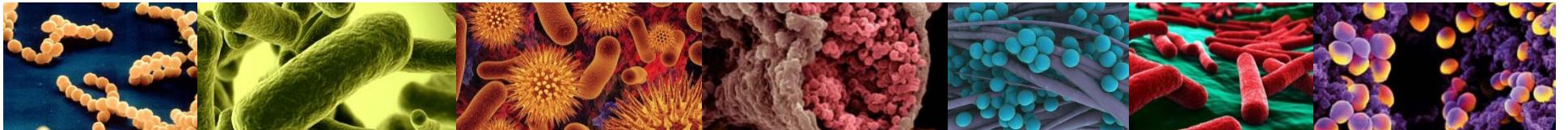
# Bacterial cell wall

## Gram negative bacteria



## Gram positive bacteria





# Disinfection of waters

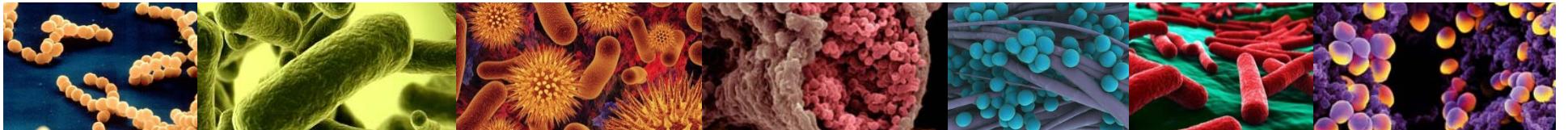
## ■ Physical

- Heating
  - UV
  - Membrane processes  
(ultrafiltration, reverse osmosis)
- } Expensive

## ■ Chemical

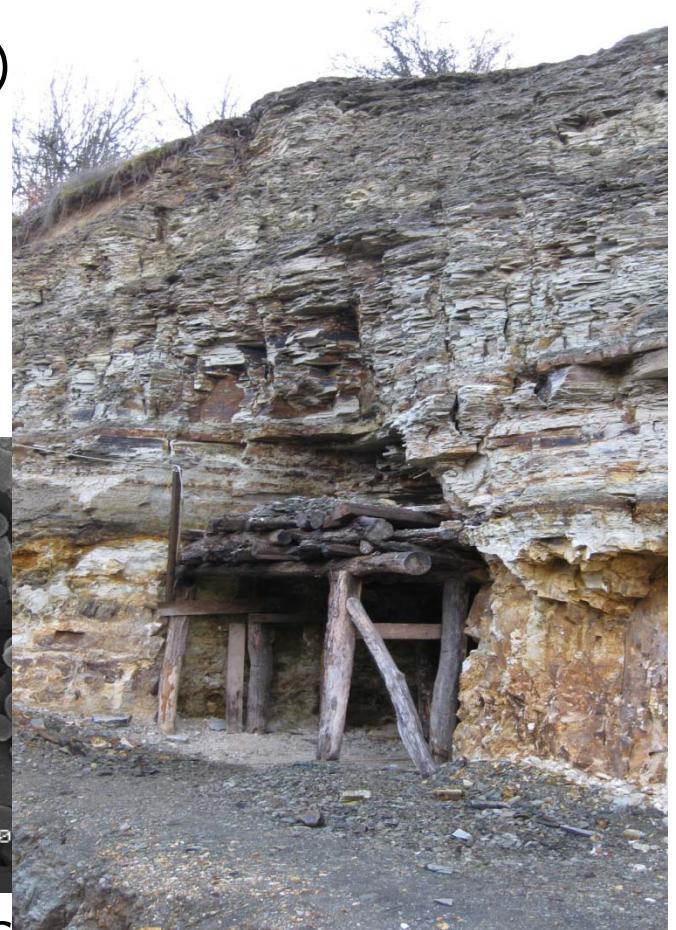
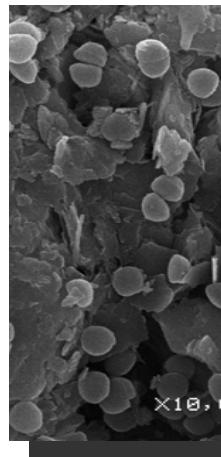
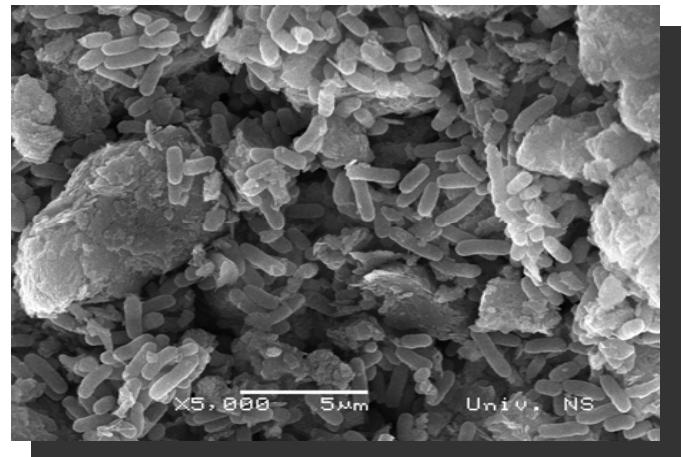
- Chlorination
  - O<sub>3</sub>
- } Expensive,  
Formation of cancerogenic by-products



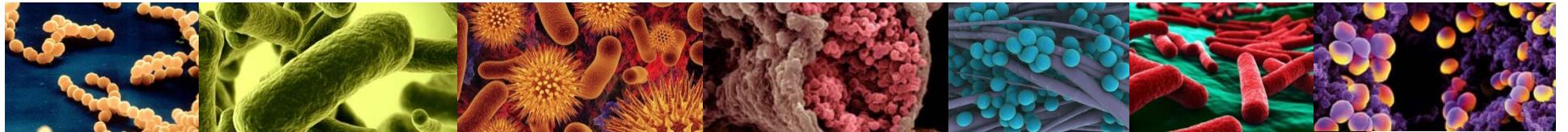


## Novel types of disinfectants

- Nano-particles ( $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{Ag}$ ,  $\text{ZnO}$ )
- Carbon nanotubes
- Chitozan
- Clays and clay minerals
- **Zeolites**



Immobilization of *E. coli* and *S. aureus* on natural zeolite  
Zlatokop mine, Vranjska banja deposit, Serbia



## Metals: ancient antibacterial agents

### 1. Protein dysfunction

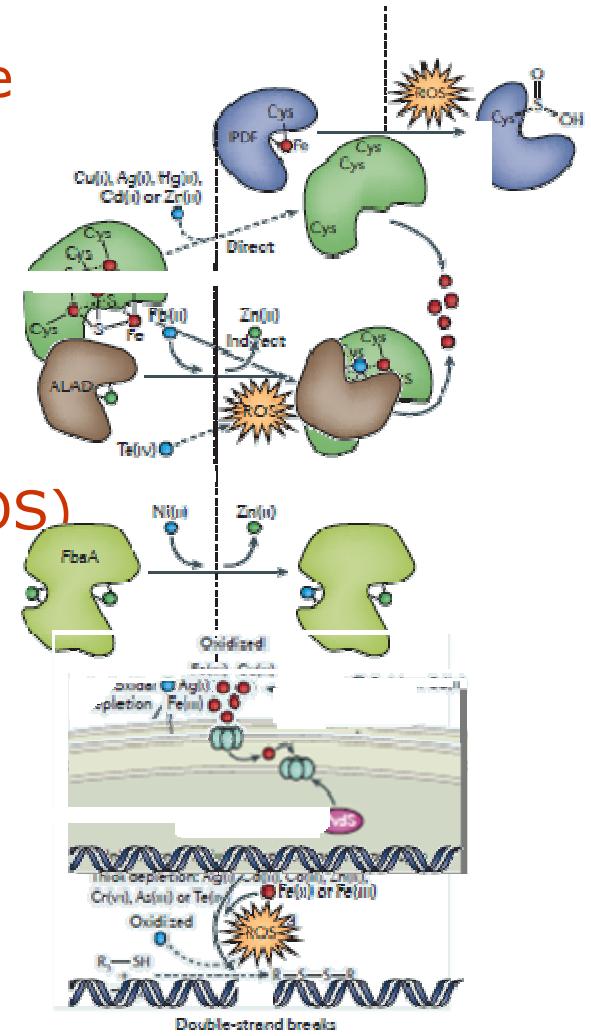
- Oxidation of cysteine in Fe-binding site
- Destruction of Fe-S cluster
- Exchange of catalytic metal
- Exchange of structural metal

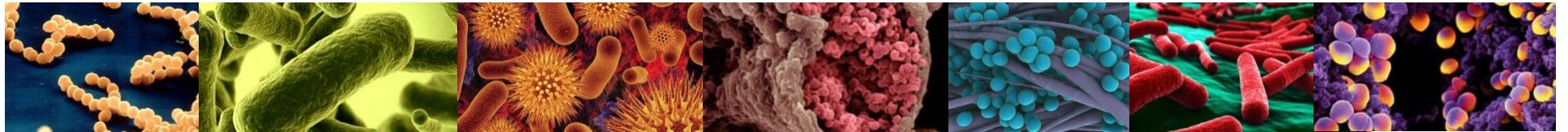
### 2. Production of reactive oxygen species (ROS)

### 3. Impaired membrane function

### 4. Interference with nutrient uptake

### 5. Genotoxicity

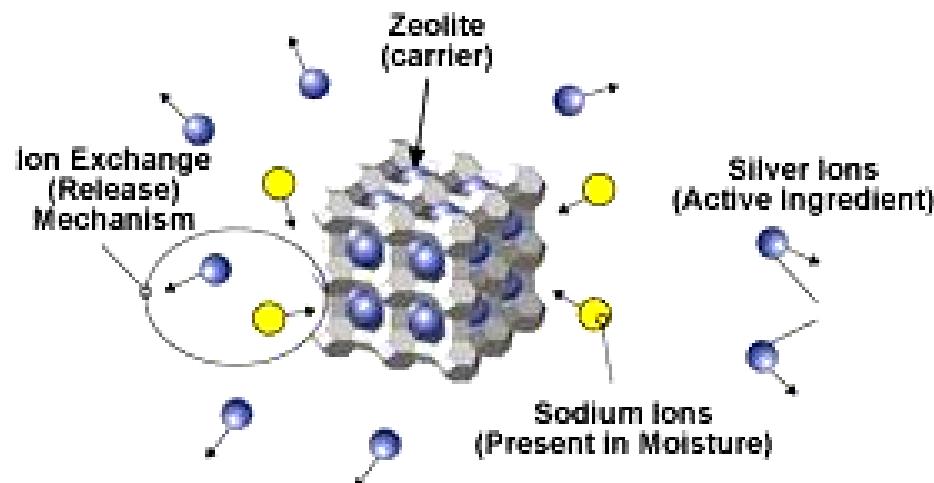


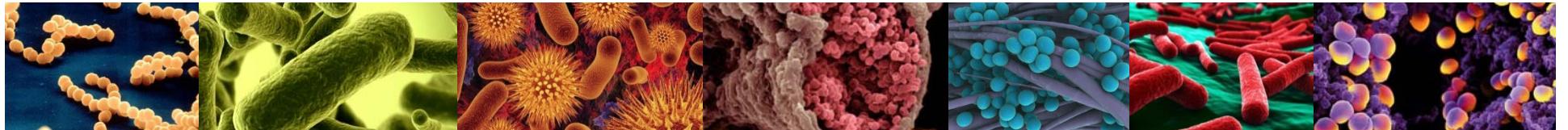


# Mechanism of the antibacterial activity of metal-exchanged zeolites

Two assumptions:

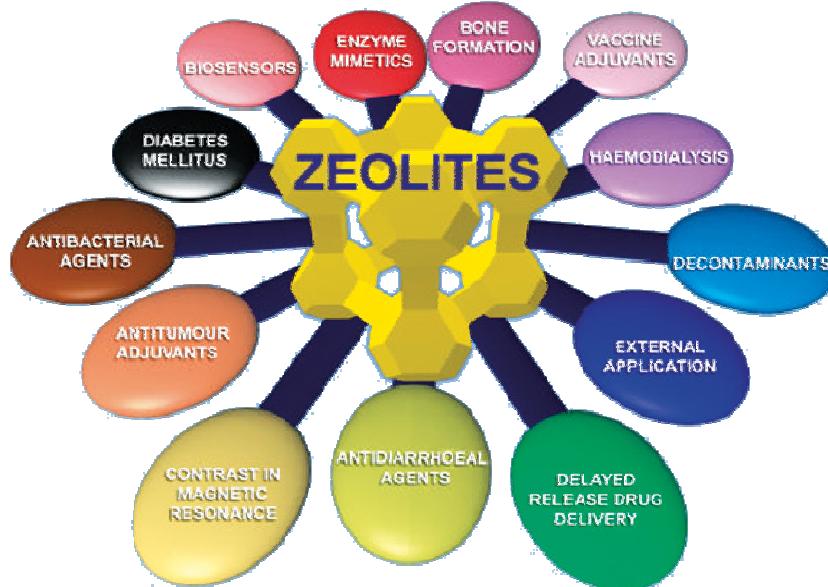
- Metal-exchanged zeolites generate the production of ROS;
- Ions leached from the zeolite.

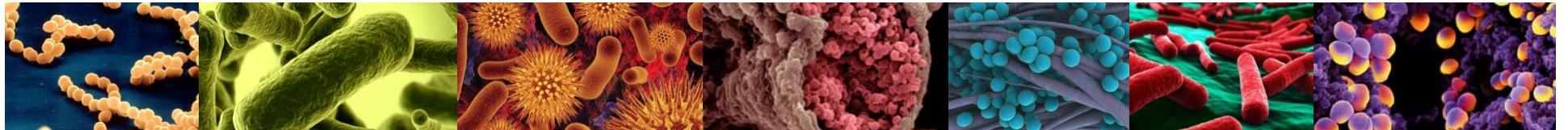




## Review of research highlights

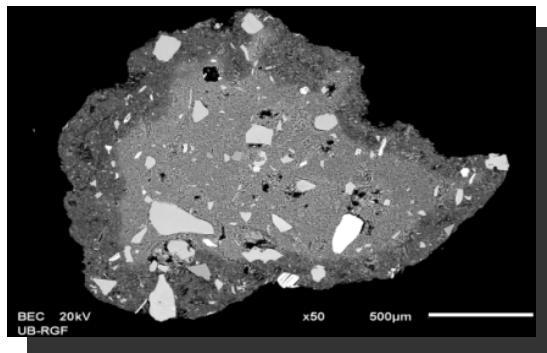
- Study of antibacterial efficiency of two types of zeolites
- Study of antibacterial mechanism
- Application of zeolite-based disinfectants



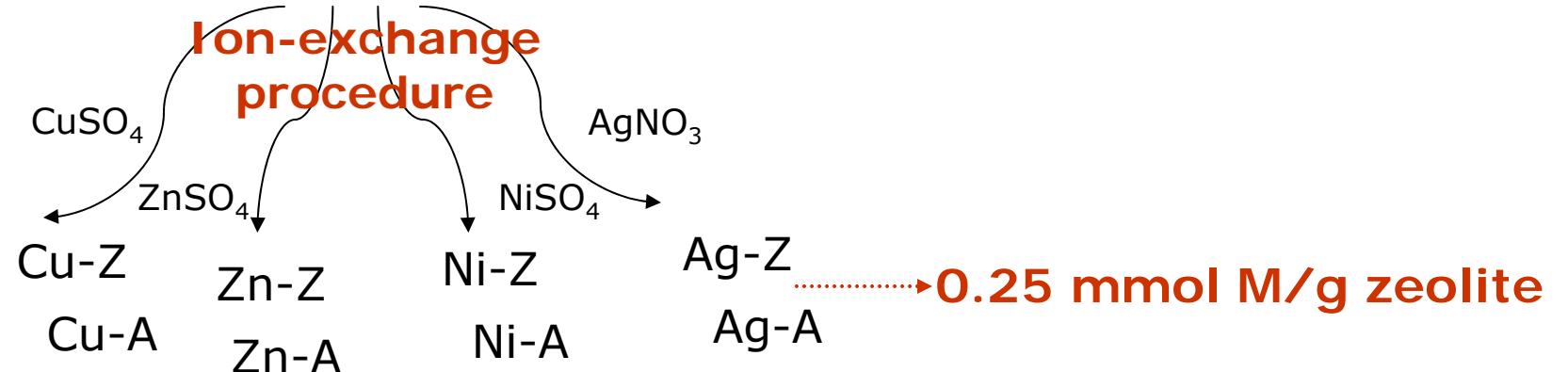
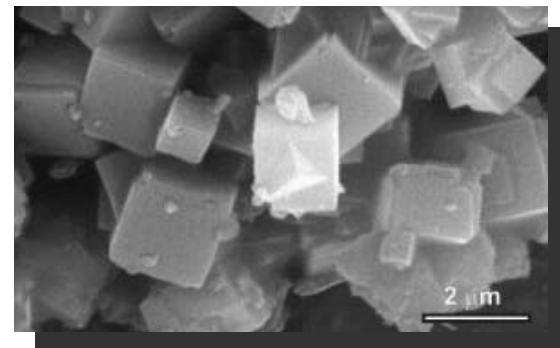


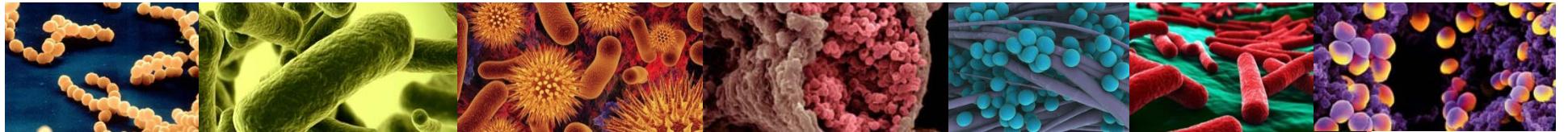
# Experimental

Natural zeolite (Z)

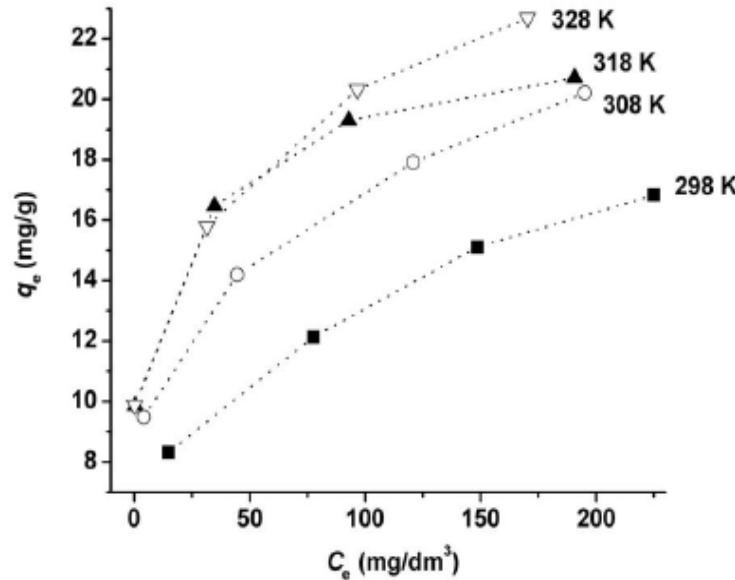


Zeolite A



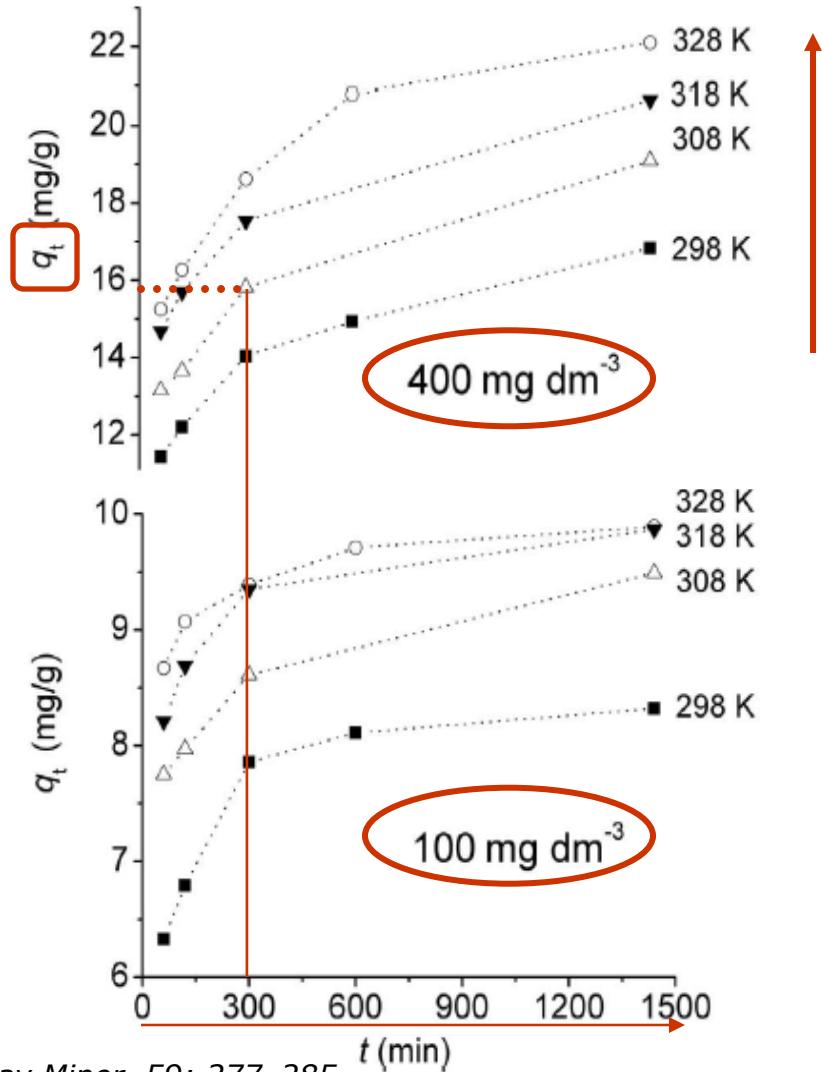


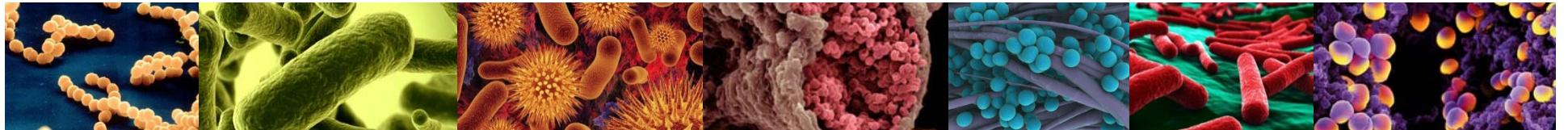
## Adsorption isotherms and kinetics study of Cu<sup>2+</sup>



Pseudo-second order model:

$$\frac{t}{q_t} = \frac{1}{k_2 q_e^2} + \frac{1}{q_e} t$$

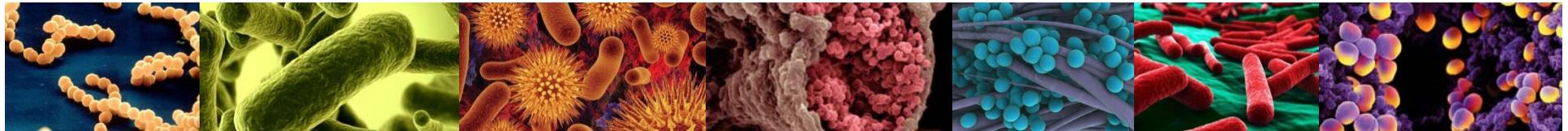




## Antibacterial tests

- Treated urban wastewater of the city of Zagreb, Croatia
- Water from the Sava lake in Belgrade, Serbia
- Synthetic wastewater
- Commercial spring water
- Phosphate buffer solution (PBS)

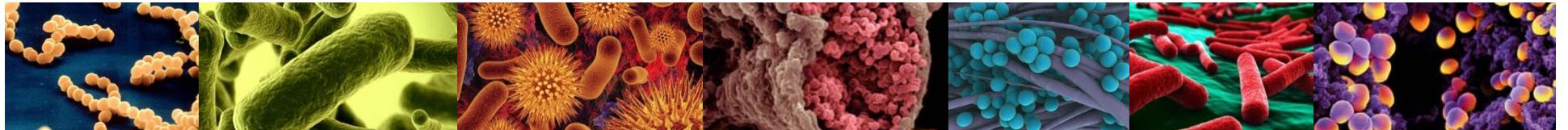




## Reduction in the numbers of *E. coli* and *S. aureus*

Bacteria	Medium	Reduction (%) for different time (1-24 h)							
		Cu-Z	Zn-Z	Ni-Z	1	24	1	24	1
<i>E. coli</i>	Real effluent	40.1	93.5	8.09	95.1	1.74	18.5		
	Synthetic water	19.4	94.9	6.27	93.9	1.38	19.3		
<i>S. aureus</i>	Real effluent	55.7	86.8	2.79	82.1	1.18	9.74		
	Synthetic water	42.8	87.3	3.31	82.3	1.28	10.13		

$t_o (E. coli) = 1.1 \times 10^7 \text{ CFU cm}^{-3}$ ,  $t_o (S. aureus) = 9.9 \times 10^6 \text{ CFU cm}^{-3}$

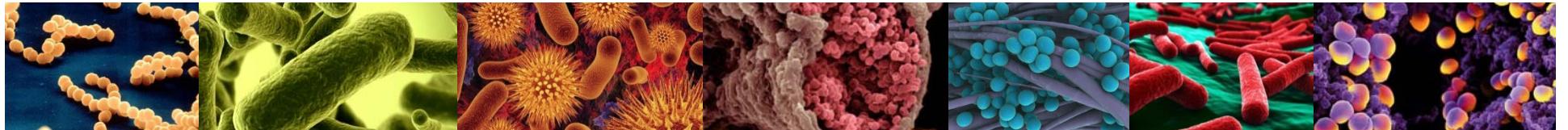


# Metal leaching from zeolite lattices

Sample	Bacteria		
	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	
	Leached metal (mg dm <sup>-3</sup> )	Final pH	Leached metal (mg dm <sup>-3</sup> )
Cu-Z	0.0	7.14	0.0
Zn-Z	2.36	7.18	1.58
Ni-Z	1.79	7.97	4.75

Maximum allowable concentration in drinking water:

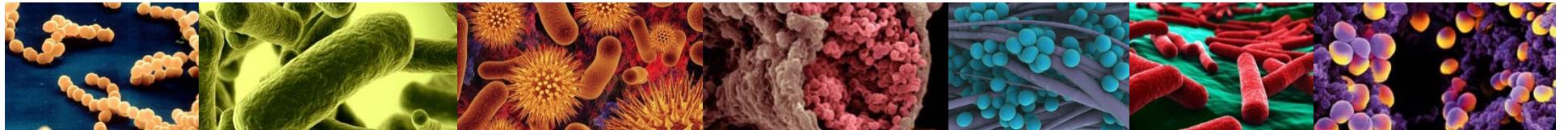
- Cu - 2 mg dm<sup>-3</sup>
- Zn - 3 mg dm<sup>-3</sup>
- Ni - 0.02 mg dm<sup>-3</sup>



## Reduction in the numbers of *E. coli*

E. coli	Medium	Reduction (%) for different times (1-24 h)							
		Cu-Z		Zn-Z		Cu-A		Zn-A	
		1	24	1	24	1	24	1	24
Isolate 1	Real effluent	73.6		40.3		60.7		1.37	1.68
	Commercial water	84.5	100	82.1	100	83.6	100	0.31	26.4
Isolate 2	Real effluent	60.2		10.0		51.1		3.09	6.68
	Commercial water	64.0		26.7		62.0		1.95	14.0

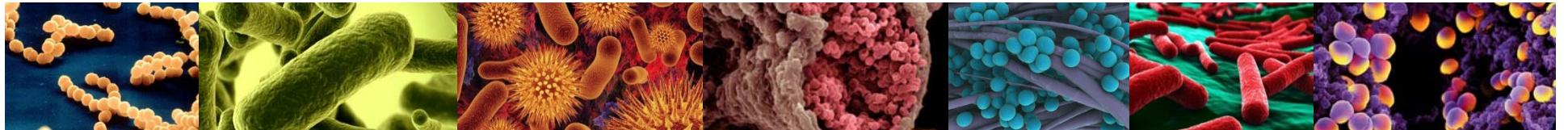
$t_0$ (Isolate 1) =  $2.0 \times 10^7$  CFU cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $t_0$  (Isolate 2)=  $2.2 \times 10^7$  CFU cm<sup>-3</sup>



# Metal leaching from zeolite lattices

Isolates of *E. coli*

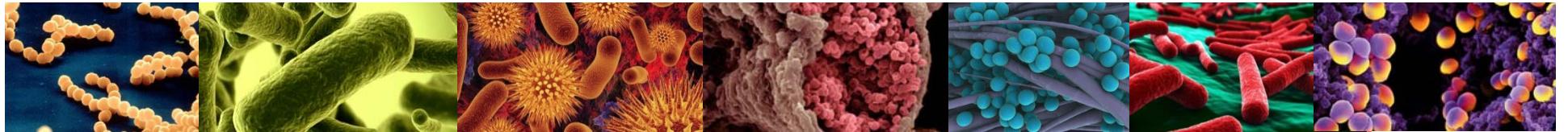
Sample	Isolate 1		Isolate 2	
	Leached metal (mg dm <sup>-3</sup> )	Final pH	Leached metal (mg dm <sup>-3</sup> )	Final pH
Cu-Z	0.30	6.80	0.08	6.78
Zn-Z	0.36	6.85	0.47	6.84
Cu-A	0.06	9.08	0.33	8.82
Zn-A	0.01	9.80	0.01	8.81



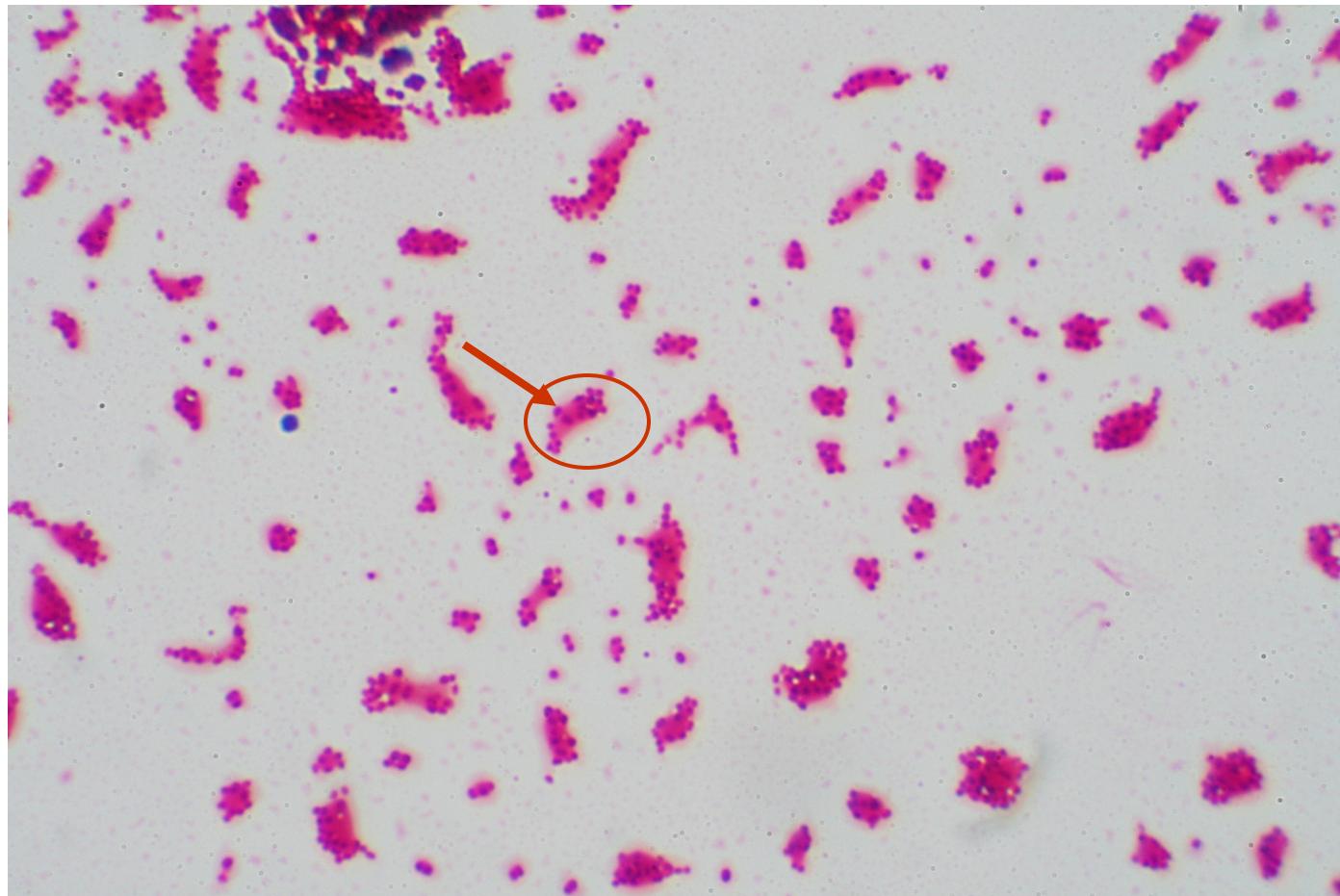
## Reduction in the numbers of *A. baumannii*

Types	Sample	Reduction (%) for different time (h)		MBC (mg dm <sup>-3</sup> )	Leached metal (mg dm <sup>-3</sup> )
		1	24		
IC I	Cu-Z	100	100	250	→ 0.403
	Zn-Z	13.0	28.5	>1000	
	Ag-Z	100	100	500	→ 0.090
IC II	Cu-Z	100	100	125	→ 0.103
	Zn-Z	10.5	22.0	>1000	
	Ag-Z	100	100	62.5	→ 0.130

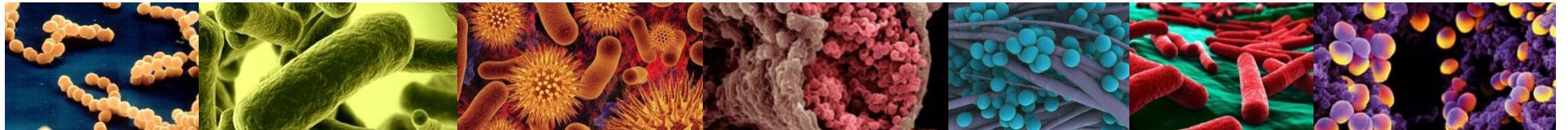
$t_0$  (IC I)= $8.8 \times 10^6$  CFU cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $t_0$  (IC II)= $1.4 \times 10^7$  CFU cm<sup>-3</sup>



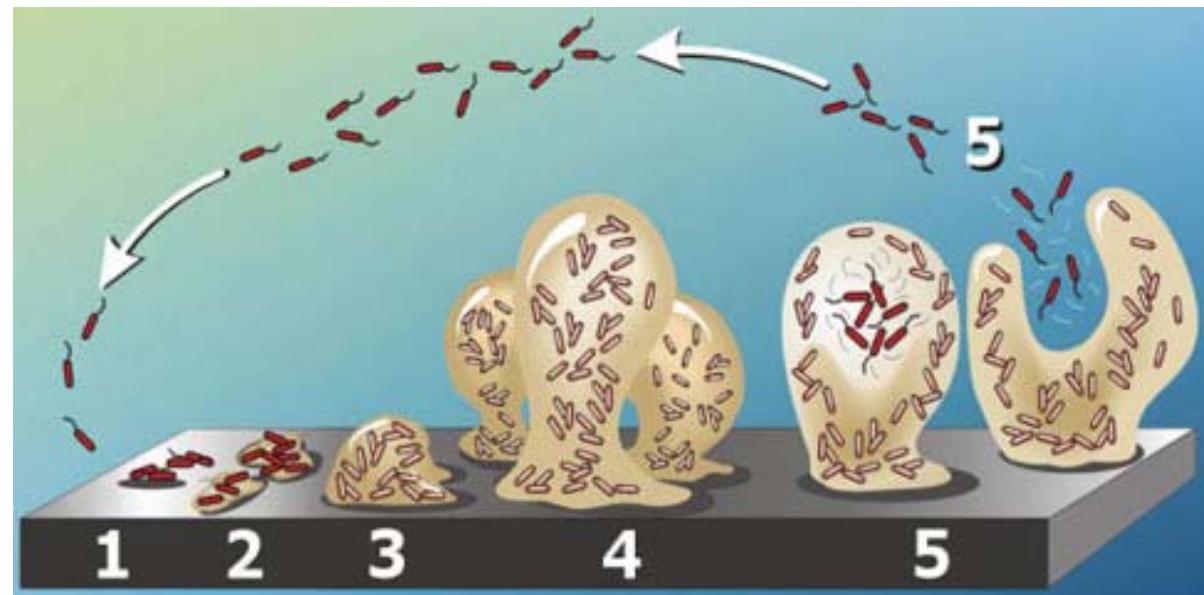
# Biofilm



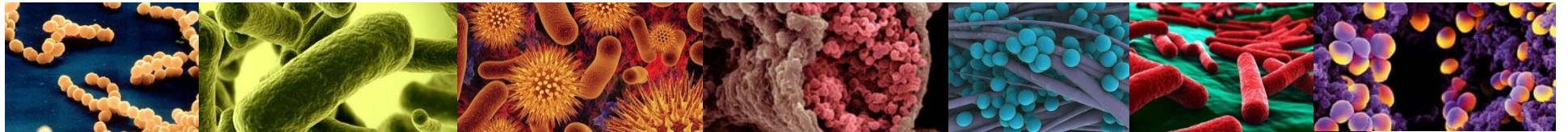
Biofilm of the *A. baumannii*



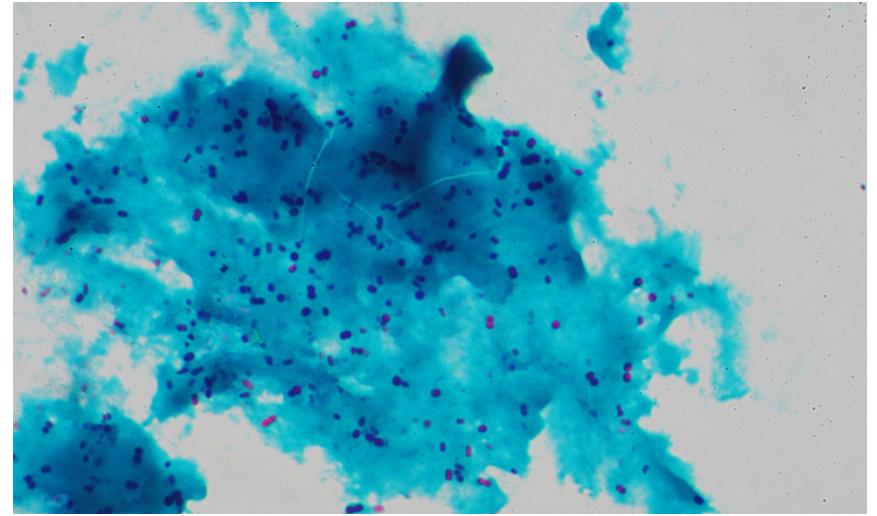
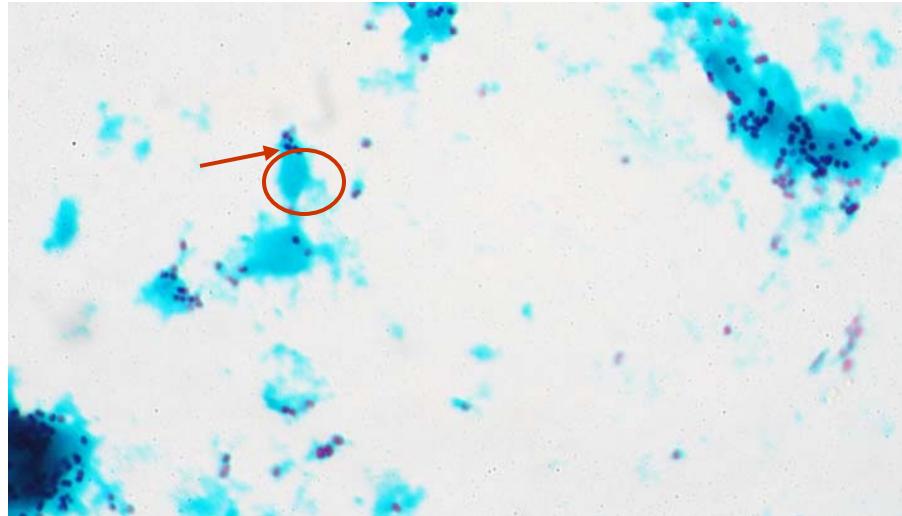
## Formation of biofilm



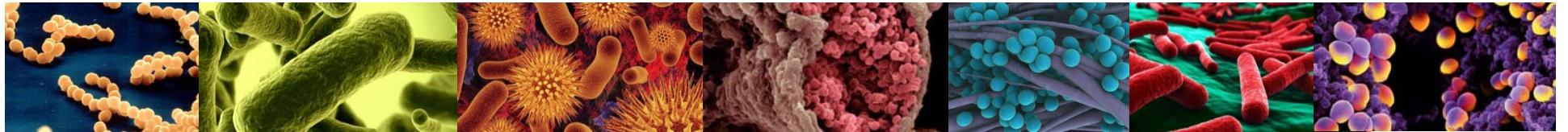
1. Bonding of bacteria cells onto the surface
2. Production of extracellular polymer substance
3. Multiplication of bacteria cell inside the biofilm
4. Biofilm “maturation”
5. Rupturing of the biofilm and releasing of bacteria.



## Formation of biofilm of *A. baumannii*



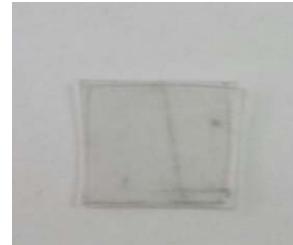
Thick layer of extracellular substances with embedded cells of *A. baumannii* isolates (IC I and II)



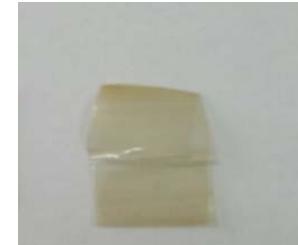
# Novel antibiofouling composite



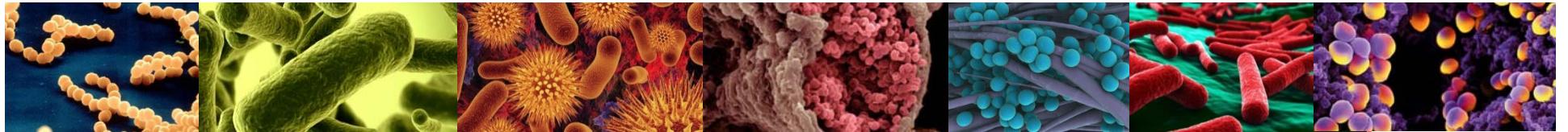
Two series of composites:  
PVC/Ag-Z  
PVC/Ag-Z + D-Tyrosine



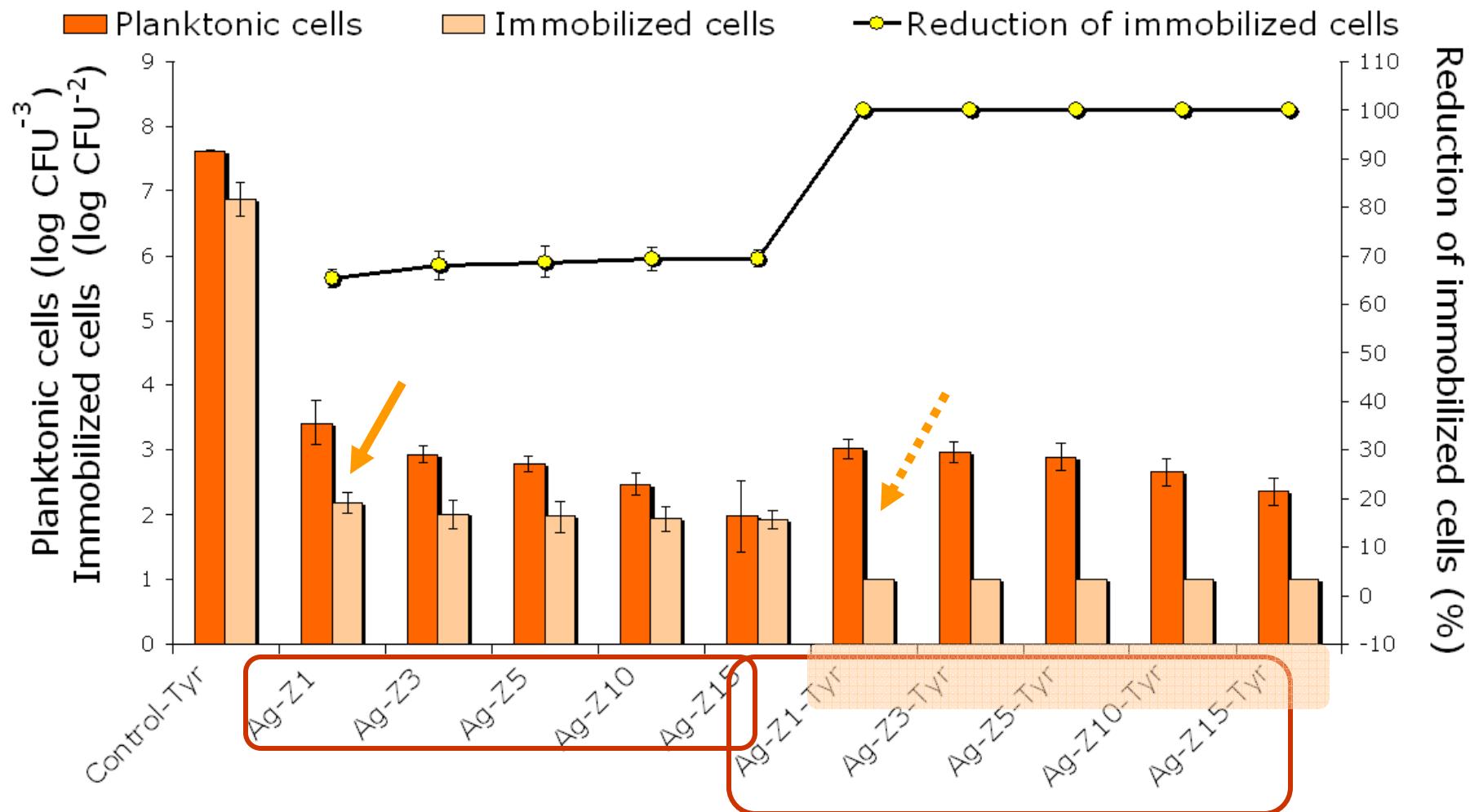
Control sample  
pure PVC

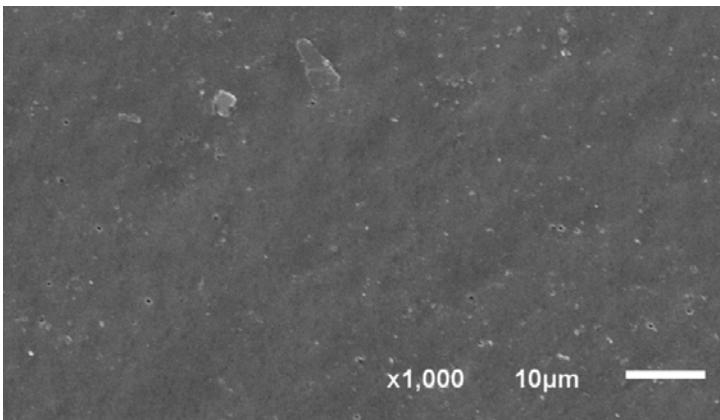
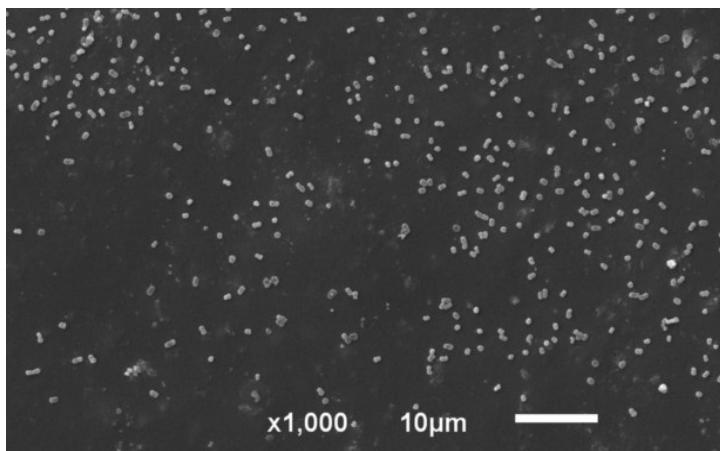
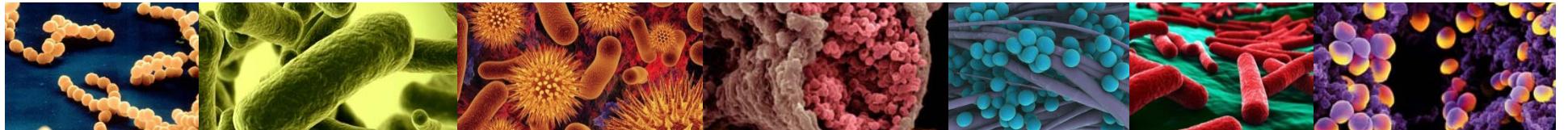


Composite  
containing max.  
15 wt.% of Ag-Z



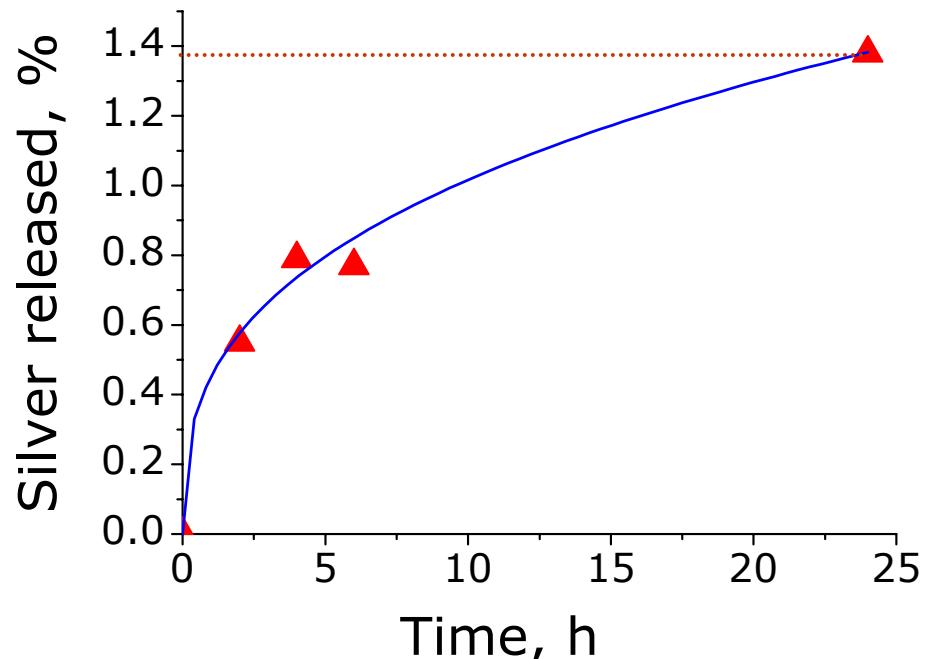
## Reduction of *A. baumannii*



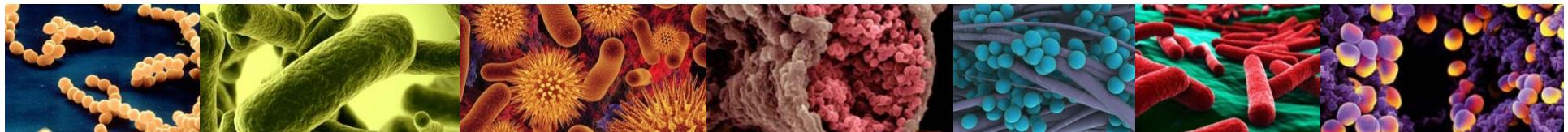


SEM image of immobilized *A. baumannii* on the control surface and the absence of the bacteria on the Ag-Z1/PVC/D-Tyr

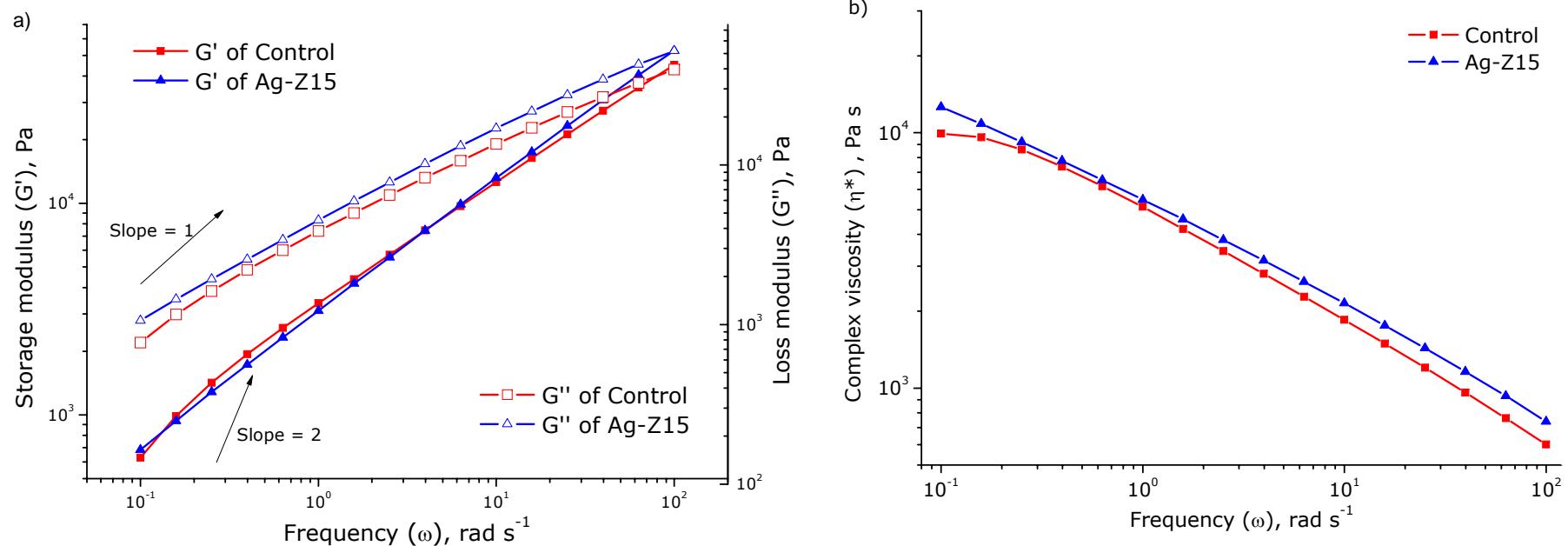
## Metal leaching from the composites



Percentage of the Ag released from the composite containing max. amount of Ag-Z over time



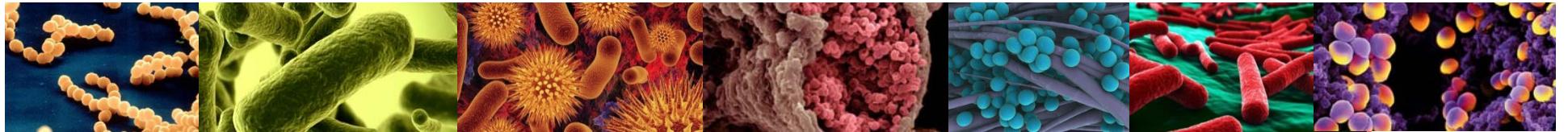
# Rheological studies of composites



Frequency dependences of (a) the storage and loss modulus, and  
(b) the complex viscosity of the control material and Ag-Z15.

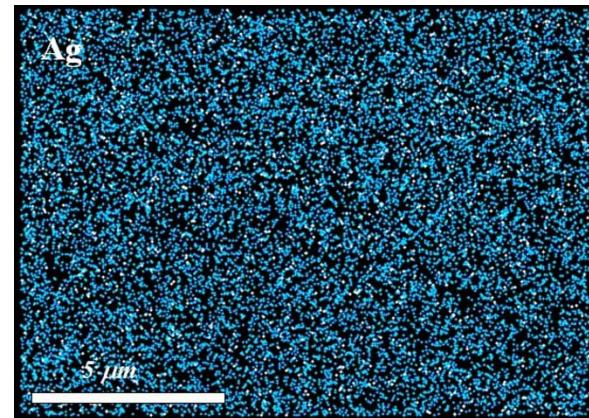
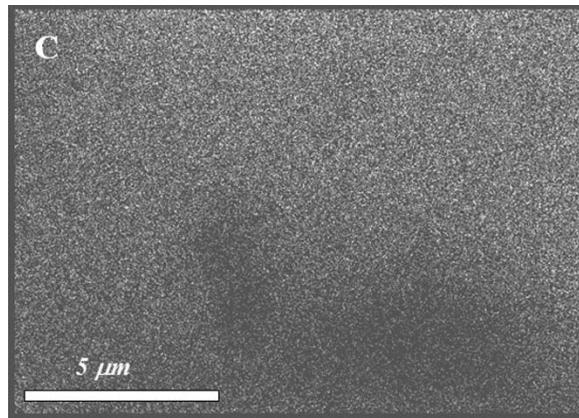
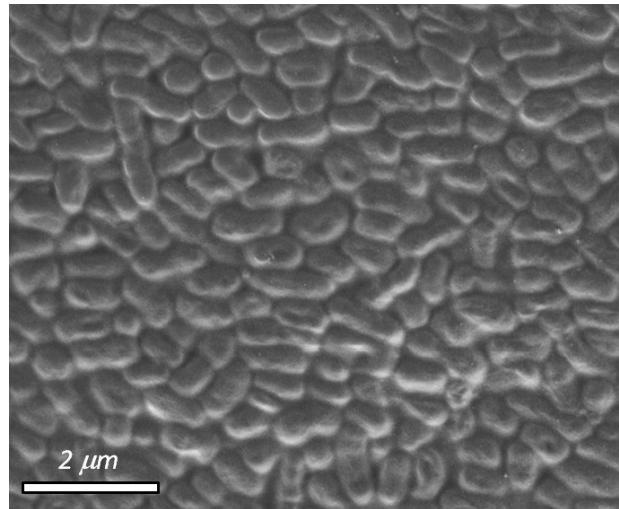
\*Milenković J, Hrenović J, Goić-Barišić I, Tomić M, Đonlagić J, Rajić N, (2014) *Biofouling* 30:965-973

\*Milenković J, Hrenović J, Goić-Barišić I, Tomić M, Rajić N, (2015) *J Serb Chem Soc*(2015) 80: 819-826

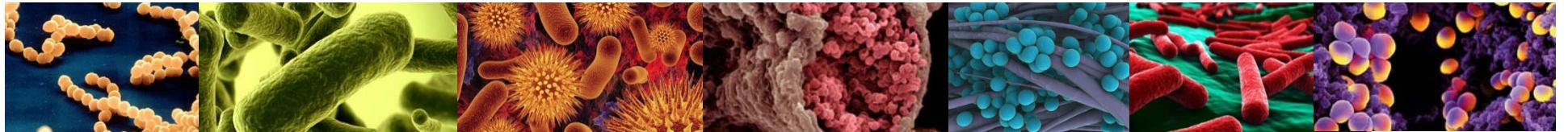


## Mechanism of bactericidal activity of Ag<sup>+</sup> toward *A. baumannii*

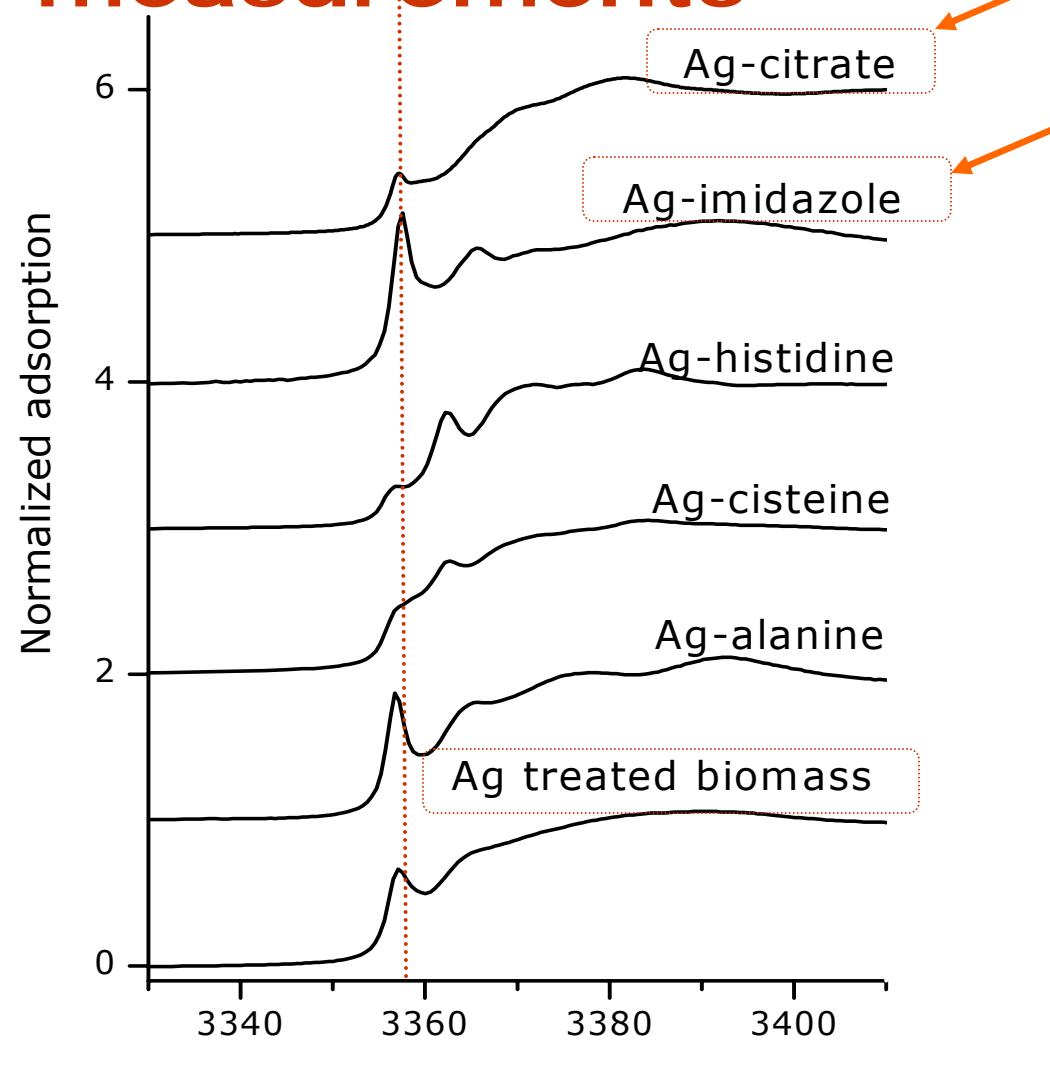
Typical SEM micrograph of the bacterial sample

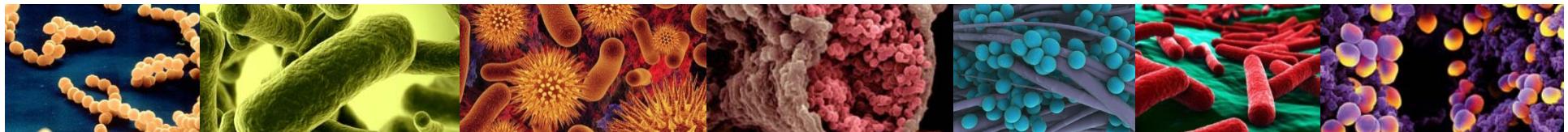


EDAX elemental mapping of the sample showing C(left) and Ag distribution (right).

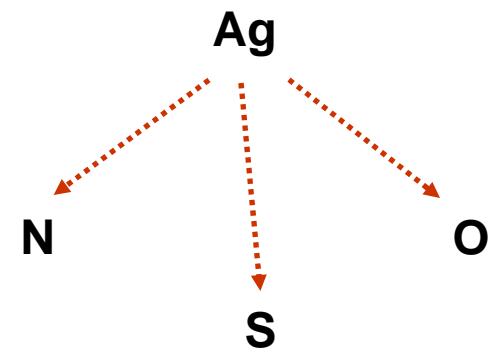
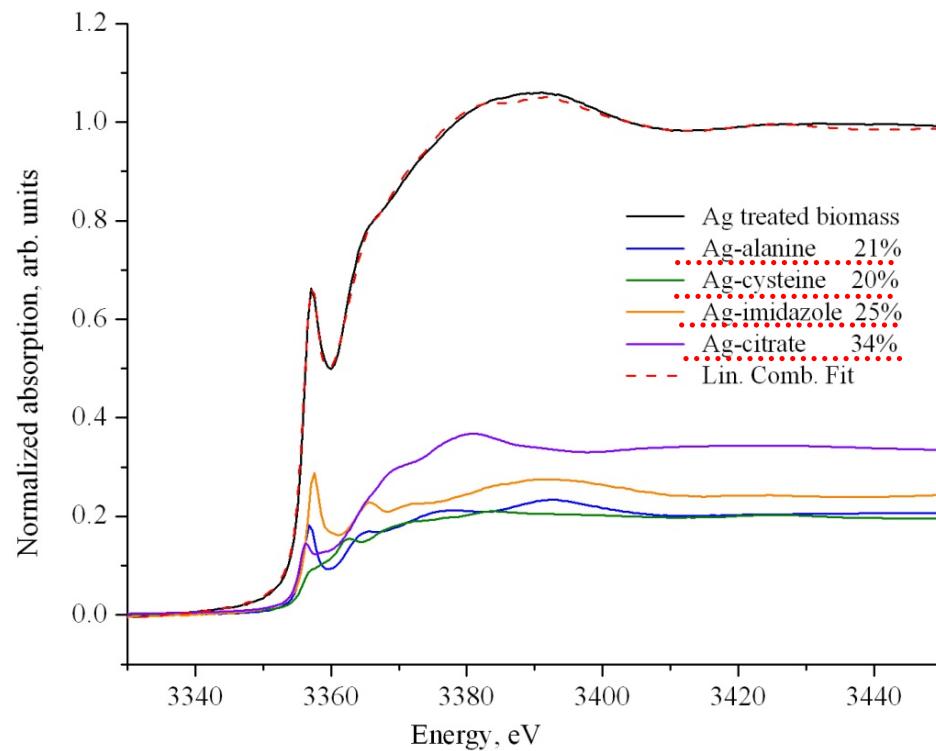


# XANES measurements

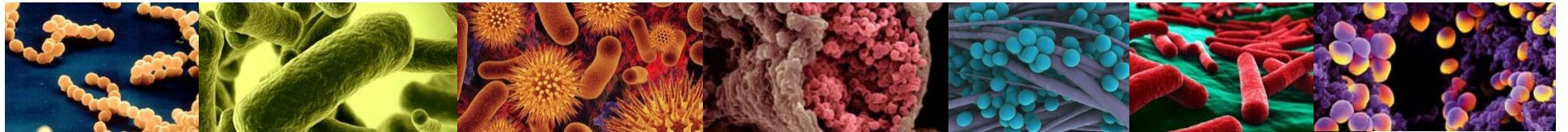




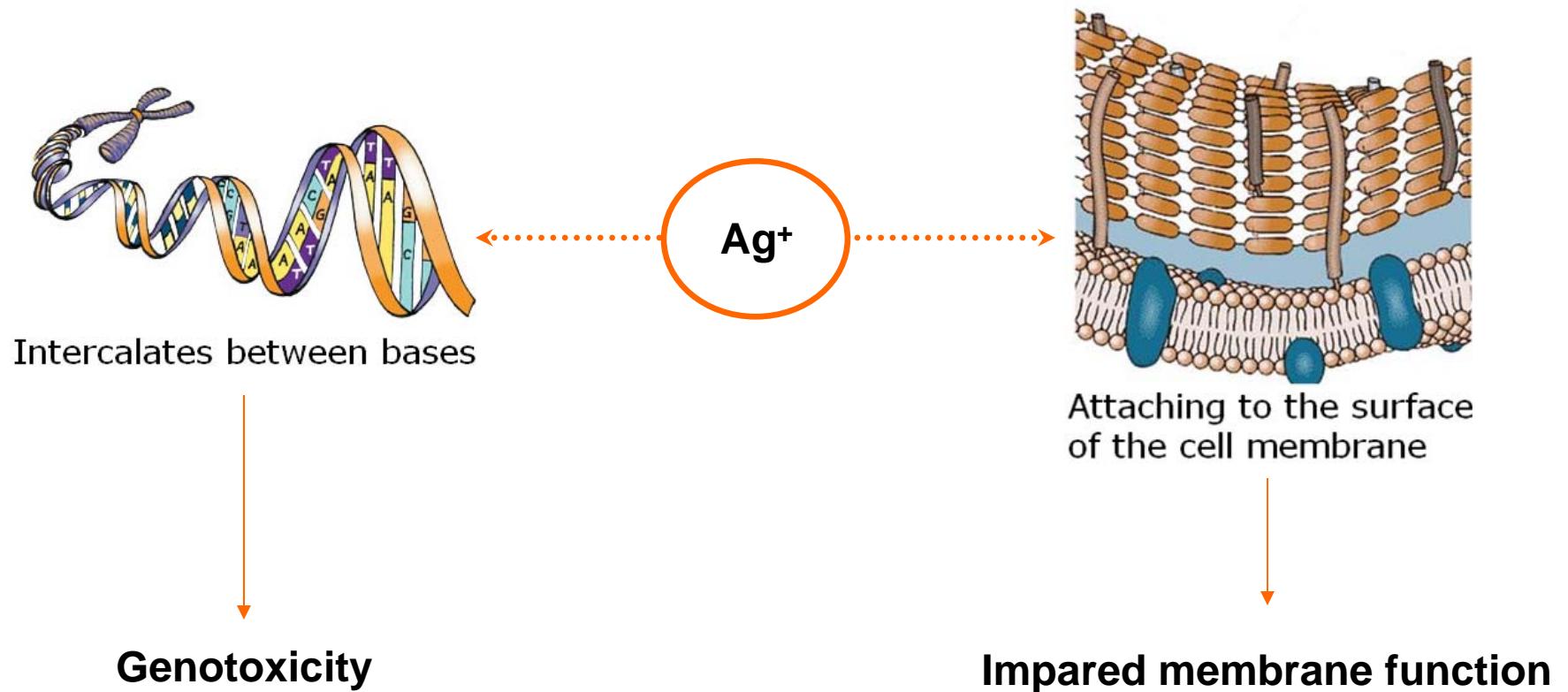
## XANES measurements

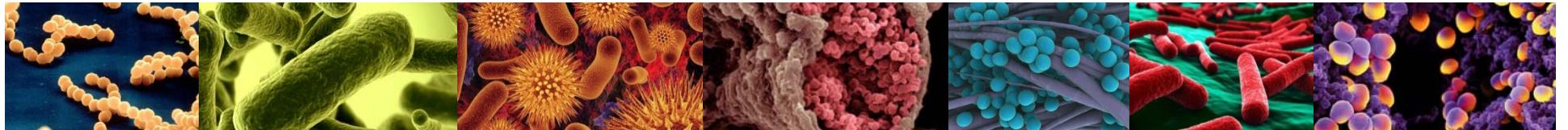


Ag L<sub>3</sub>-edge XANES spectrum of Ag-biomass: the best linear combination fit obtained by the reference compounds: Ag-alanine, Ag-cysteine, Ag-imidazole and Ag-citrate



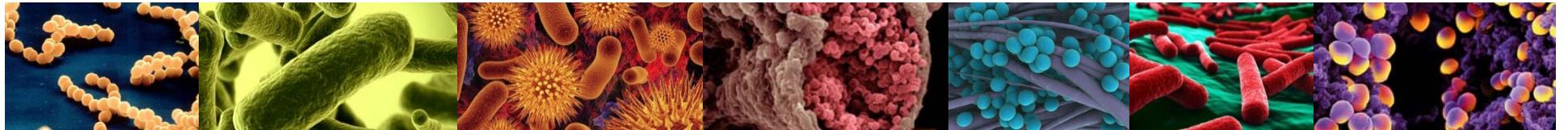
## Mechanism of bactericidal activity of $\text{Ag}^+$ toward *A. baumannii*





# Conclusions

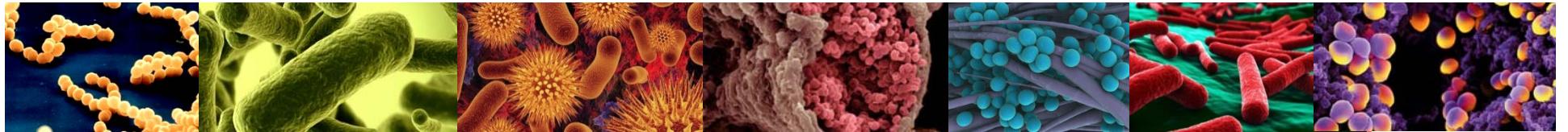
- Metal-exchanged zeolites show good antibacterial activity towards the studied bacterial species.
- Natural clinoptilolite can be used alone or in composites for removal of pathogenic bacteria.
- Ag-clinoptilolite is perspective antibacterial material for control of multidrug-resistant bacteria.



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