



UWTASP
tele-antimicrobial stewardship program



Anaerobic Coverage: *Use Just What You Need*

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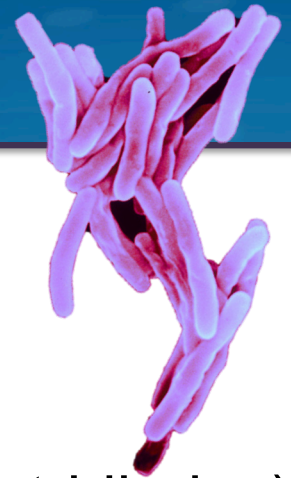
Disclosures

- No financial conflicts of interest
- Everything we discuss is QI, thus protected from legal discovery under WA State Code



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Anaerobes: *Our Helpful Friends*



Bacteria that thrive in low oxygen tension

1. “Strict”

Must live in absence of oxygen (Bacteroides, Clostridioides)

2. “Capnophilic”

Tolerate oxygen but prefer only small amounts (Oral strep)

3. “Facultative”

Groove on oxygen, can go anaerobic if they must (E.coli)

Anaerobes: *Our Helpful Friends*



Vital Part of the Human Microbiota

Benefits...

1. Digestion of food
2. Repel candidiasis
3. Reduce UTI risk
4. Reduce *C.difficile* risk
5. ?Autoimmune reduction?



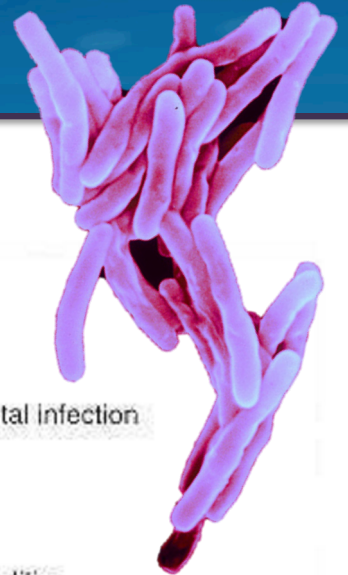
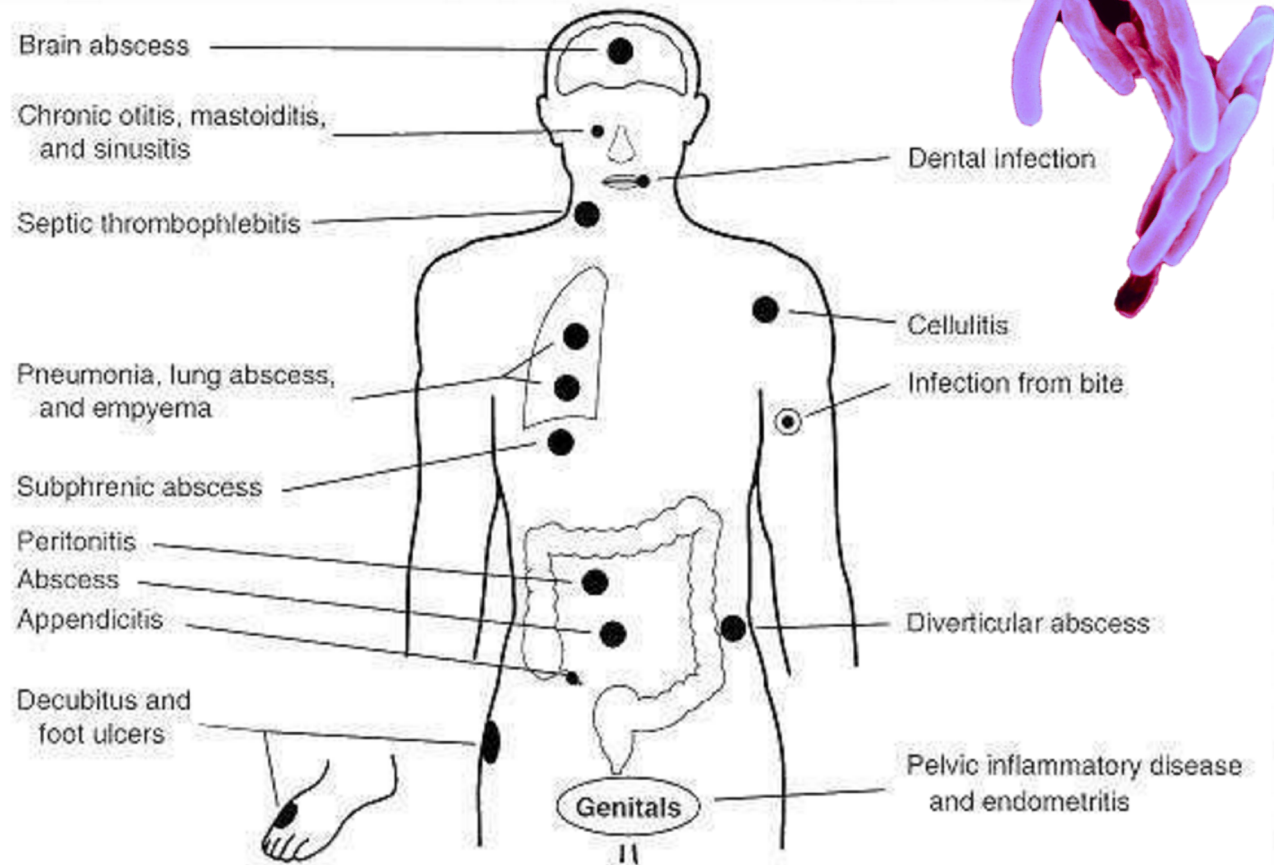
Abx Collateral Damage?

 *Sneathia/Leptotrichia* spp.
 Other



Anaerobes: *Frenemies*?

Problems may arise...



Anaerobes: *When to Kill Them?*

“Only when you must”

1. Guided Therapy

Proven anaerobic infection
(culture-positive from sterile site)

2. Empiric Therapy

Suspected anaerobic infection
(e.g. abdominal source of sepsis)



1. Above Diaphragm

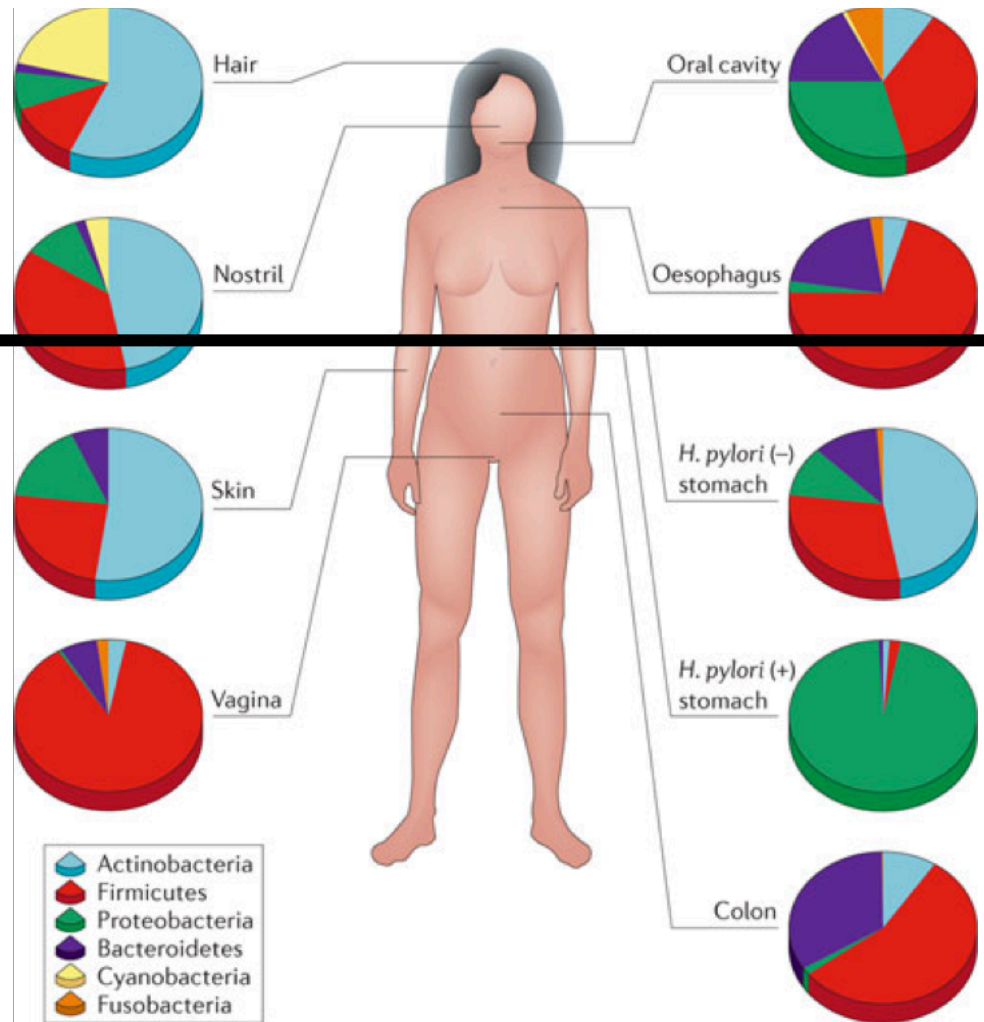
Oral, Respiratory
(Strep, Eikenella,
Fusobacterium)

2. Below Diaphragm

Colon (Bacteroides)



Anatomic Diversity of Anaerobes



1. Above Diaphragm

Oral, Respiratory
(Strep, Eikenella,
Fusobacterium)

PO

Amox-Clav

Clindamycin

+/- Moxiflox

IV

Amp-Sulbact

Clindamycin

+/- Moxiflox

IV

Pip-Tazo

Ertapenem

Imipenem

Meropenem

Doripenem

2. Below Diaphragm

Colon (Bacteroides)

Metronidazole

Metronidazole



Anaerobes: Coverage Reliability?

“Almost Perfect Reliability”

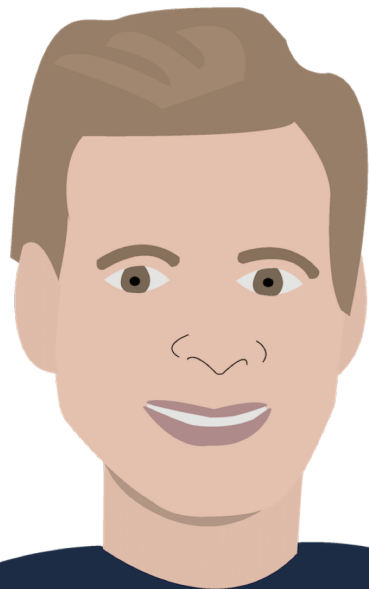
- Oral anaerobes “virtually always” susceptible to clindamycin or amox-clav.
- *B.fragilis* “virtually always” susceptible to metro, pipo-tazo, carbapenems.



Pan-Resistant
Organism: *B.fragilis*



That ain't right...



Paul Pottinger MD

Multidrug-Resistant *Bacteroides fragilis* — Seattle, Washington, 2013

The *Bacteroides fragilis* group consists of species of obligate anaerobic bacteria that inhabit the human gut. They are among the leading pathogens isolated in the setting of intra-abdominal infections. *B. fragilis* strains, especially in the United States, are virtually always susceptible to metronidazole, carbapenems, and beta-lactam antibiotics (1). Although isolated cases of resistance to single agents have been reported, multidrug-resistant (MDR) *B. fragilis* strains are exceptionally rare (1,2). In May 2013, an MDR *B. fragilis* strain was isolated from the bloodstream and intra-abdominal abscesses of a patient who had recently received health care in India. This is only the second published case of MDR *B. fragilis* in the United States. This report summarizes the case and highlights the need for awareness of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in returning travelers who have received inpatient medical care outside the United States, both for timely implementation of proper infection control measures and to ensure administration of appropriate antimicrobials.

count of 25,000/ μ L. Blood cultures were obtained but yielded no growth. A CT scan of the abdomen revealed multiple fluid collections suggesting abscesses. Vancomycin and piperacillin/tazobactam were initiated, and the patient underwent radiographically guided percutaneous drainage. The fluid grew a pan-susceptible *Escherichia coli*, and antibiotics were narrowed to ceftriaxone. The leukocyte count improved initially, but then increased again several days later. Repeat blood cultures drawn through a central catheter showed anaerobic gram-negative rods, and piperacillin/tazobactam coverage was restarted. Follow-up blood cultures drawn 2 days later demonstrated no growth. A repeat CT scan for persistent fever, 10 days after drain placement, demonstrated a ring-enhancing fluid collection in the abdomen and right flank and pelvic fluid collections. Vancomycin was added to the patient's antimicrobial regimen, and an additional percutaneous drain was placed. Fluid was sent immediately for microbiologic testing. Gram stain of the fluid revealed 4+ polymorphonuclear cells and 3+ gram-negative bacilli, with a pure culture of anaerobic

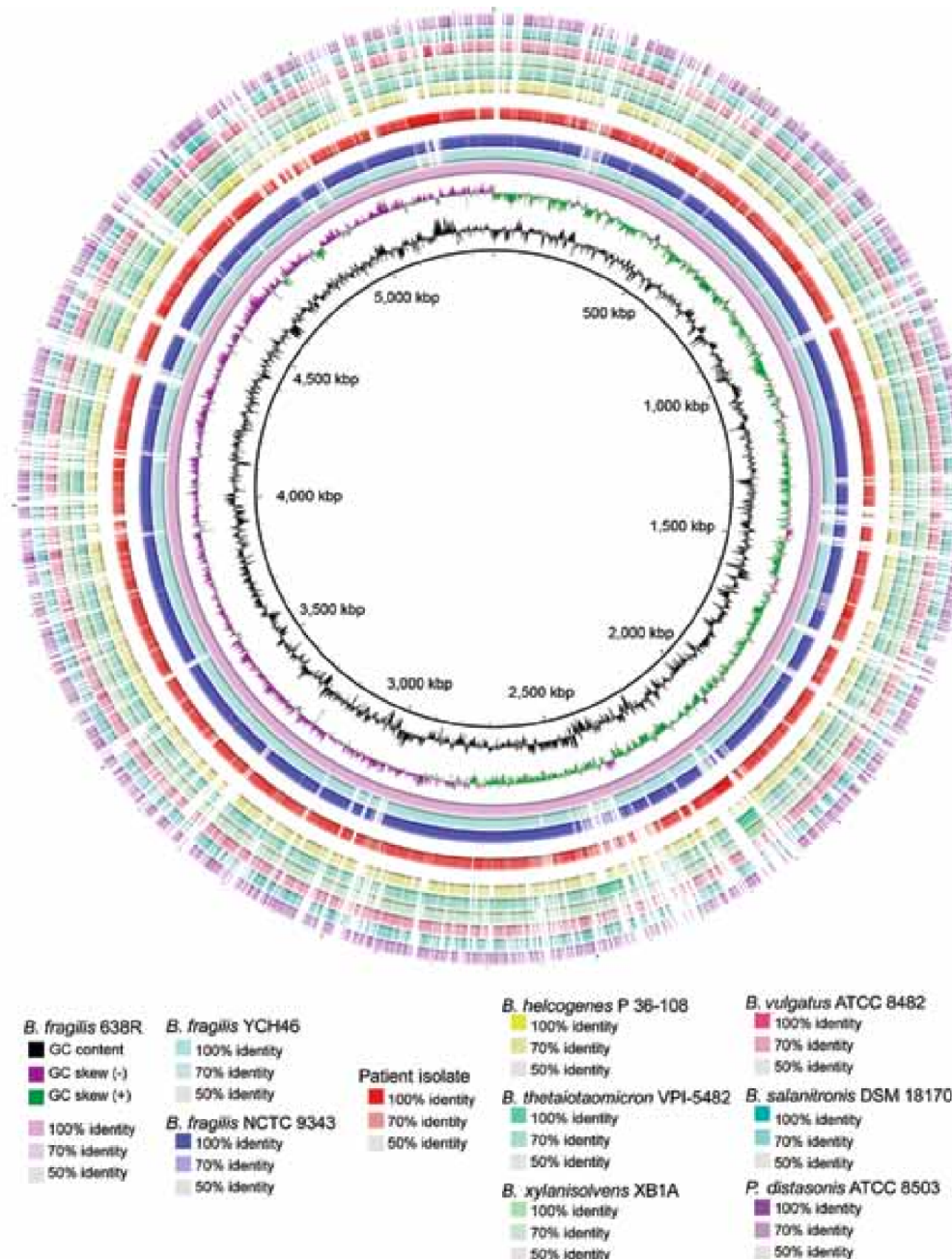
Stephen J. Salipante,¹ Aley K Paul S. Pottinger, Daniel R. Ho Lisa Cummings, Jeffrey S. I Dhruba J. Sengupta, Steven A Brad T. Cookson, and Susan M.

Metronidazole- and carbapenem-resistant *Bacteroides fragilis* are rare in the United States. We drug-resistant anaerobe from the blood of a patient who had Whole-genome sequencing identified the novel *Bacteroides* genomes. Phys aware of the possibility for concomitant (metronidazole-resistant *Bacteroides* infec

We previously reported a 2013 case of abscesses and bacteremia caused resistant anaerobe identified as *Bacteroides fragilis*. Brief, unremitting abdominal pain developed in an old man who had been traveling in India. The man was hospitalized locally and subsequent diagnosis of metastatic colon adenocarcinoma to Seattle, Washington, USA, for treatment cycles of chemotherapy, followed by right and left hepatectomy. On postoperative day 1, he showed marked leukocytosis, and abdominal pain was noted on computed tomographic scan. Percutaneous drainage fluid grew that was resistant to ampicillin, trimethoprim, azole, and fluoroquinolones. Therapy with ceftriaxone, and the patient's leukocyte count rose and fever returned. Blood culture gram-negative rods identified as *B. fragilis* TOF (matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization) mass spectrometry and 16S rRNA sequencing. Fluid collections in the abscess were noted on computed tomographic scan. Percutaneous drainage fluid from these 3+ (moderate) quantities of *B. fragilis*. Isolates from culture and abscess fluid were resistant to

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The WHO priority list

PRIORITY: CRITICAL

- ◆ **Acinetobacter baumannii**
carbapenem-resistant
- ◆ **Pseudomonas aeruginosa**
carbapenem-resistant
- ◆ **Enterobacteriaceae**
carbapenem-resistant,
ESBL-producing

PRIORITY 2: HIGH

- ◆ **Enterococcus faecium**
vancomycin-resistant
- ◆ **Staphylococcus aureus**
methicillin-resistant
vancomycin-intermediate
and resistant
- ◆ **Helicobacter pylori**
clarithromycin-resistant
- ◆ **Campylobacter spp.**
fluoroquinolone-resistant
- ◆ **Salmonellae**
fluoroquinolone-resistant
- ◆ **Neisseria gonorrhoeae**
cephalosporin-resistant
fluoroquinolone-resistant

PRIORITY 3: MEDIUM

- ◆ **Streptococcus pneumoniae**
penicillin-non-susceptible
- ◆ **Haemophilus influenzae**
ampicillin-resistant
- ◆ **Shigella spp.**
fluoroquinolone-resistant

Source: WHO

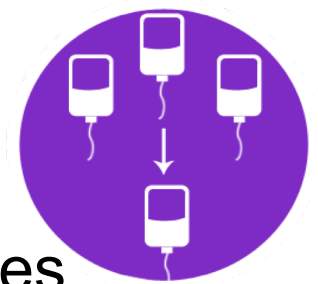


WHO's list of the 12 most threatening pathogens includes (from left) *Staphylococcus aureus* (causing skin infections, pneumonia and bloodstream infections), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (causing blood infections, pneumonia, infections after surgery) and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (causing the sexually transmitted disease gonorrhea).

NIAID, NIH Image Gallery/Flickr

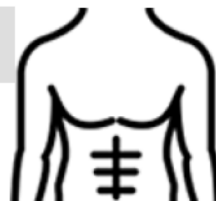
Anaerobes: *De-Escalation Opportunities*

“One and Done”



- Very rarely necessary to “double cover” anaerobes
Pip-Tazo + Metro is one drug too many!
- Exotic, rare exceptions aside, please consider stopping one (or both!) drugs
- Reduce risk of diarrhea!
- Reduce risk of metro-induced neuropathy & nausea!

INTRA-ABDOMINAL



A. Community-acquired, mild-moderate (Enteric Gram-negative rods, anaerobes)

- **HMC only:** Ertapenem 1g IV q24h
- **UWMC only:** Ceftriaxone 2g IV q24h **PLUS** Metronidazole 500mg PO/IV q8h
- For uncomplicated ***biliary*** infections, anaerobic coverage usually not necessary, use Ceftriaxone alone

Typical Duration: 4 days following source control

B. Hospital-acquired, severe physiological disturbance, advanced age, immunocompromised

- Vancomycin** **PLUS**
- Piperacillin-tazobactam 4.5gm X 1, then 4 hours later, start 3.375gm IV q8h infused over 4 hours

Typical Duration: 4-7 days from source control; if source control is not attained, then duration is variable.

C. Intra-abdominal infections:

- ⇒ Double anaerobic coverage is not required (i.e. metronidazole + piperacillin/tazobactam)
- ⇒ Abdominal Transplant patients: Same as above and consult Transplant Infectious Diseases

osyn?

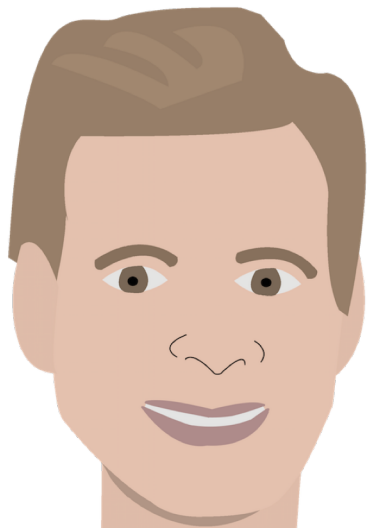


n a short course
(metronidazole)
(ceftriaxone for
ss)

infection

Conclusions

1. Anaerobes come in 2 flavors (above & below diaphragm)
2. Only kill them when necessary
3. Only kill them with one drug at a time
4. Low(ish) hanging fruit



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References

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