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FACULTY  
OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

PORTO

# Antibiotic resistant bacteria as contaminants of emerging concern

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2<sup>nd</sup> Summer School on

*Environmental Applications of Advanced Oxidation Processes*

and Training School on

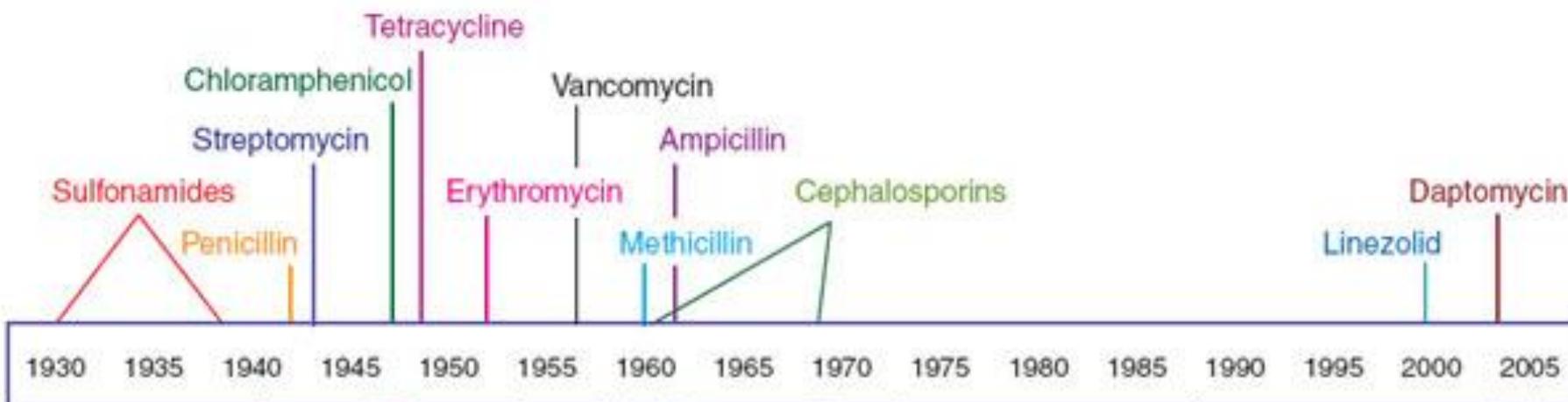
*Advanced Treatment Technologies and Contaminants of Emerging Concern*

(NEREUS COST Action ES1403)



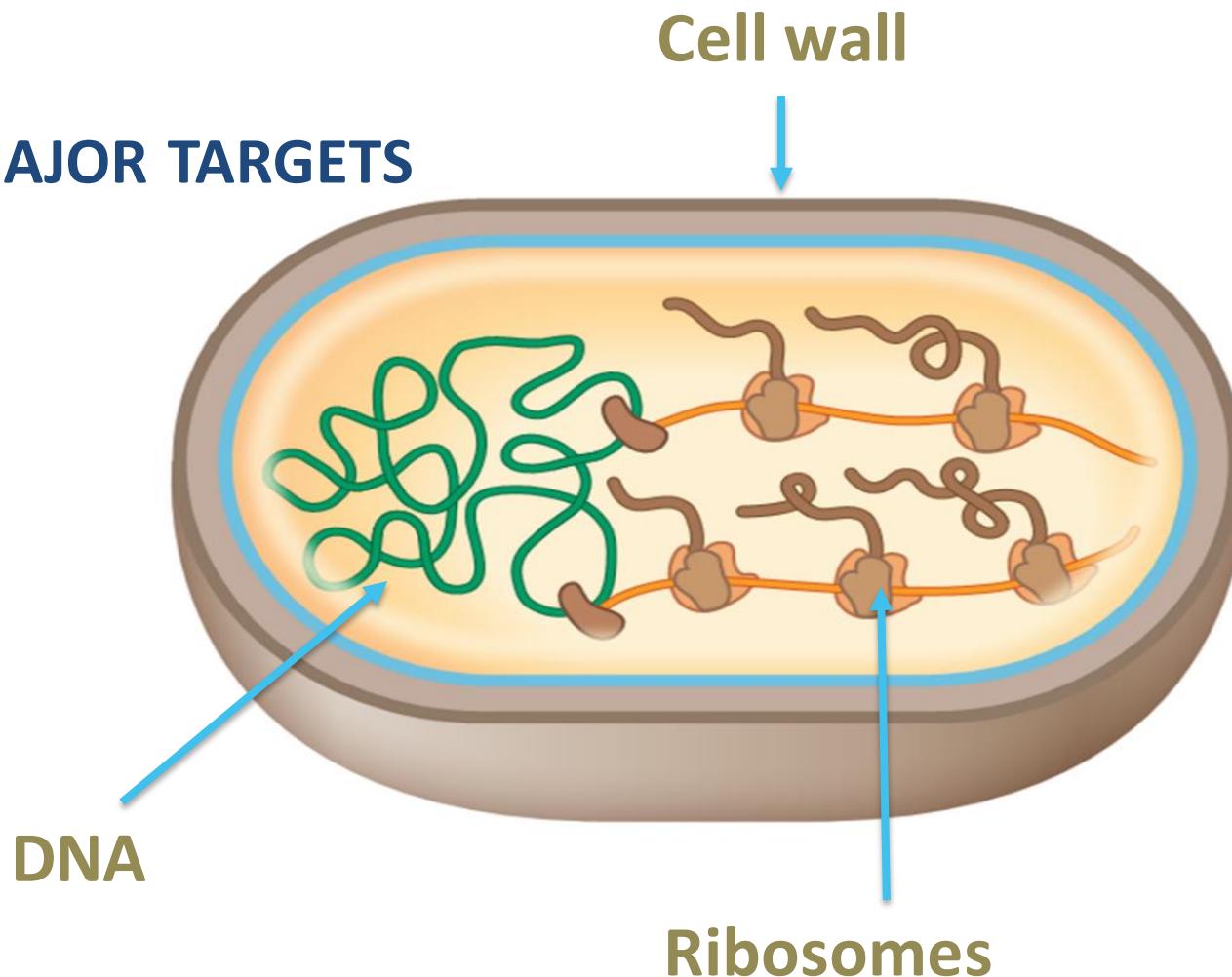
# ~75 YEARS OF ANTIBIOTHERAPY ...

Antibiotic deployment

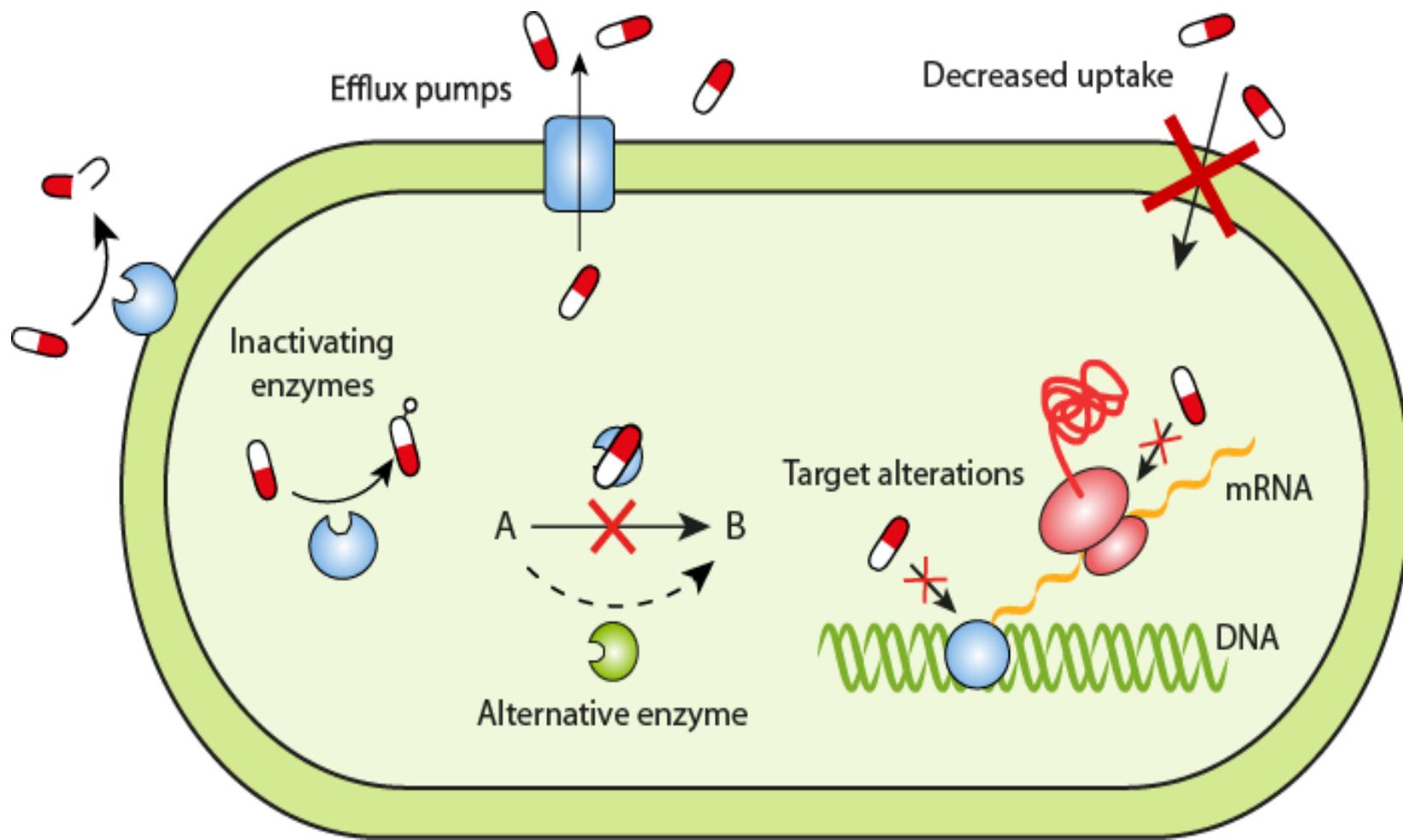


# ANTIBIOTICS TARGET SPECIFIC STRUCTURES IN THE BACTERIAL CELL

THREE MAJOR TARGETS



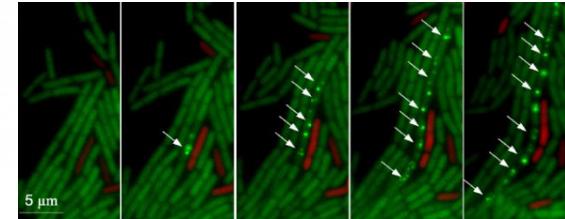
# FIVE GENERAL RESISTANCE MECHANISMS



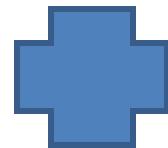
## HUNDREDS OF GENES...



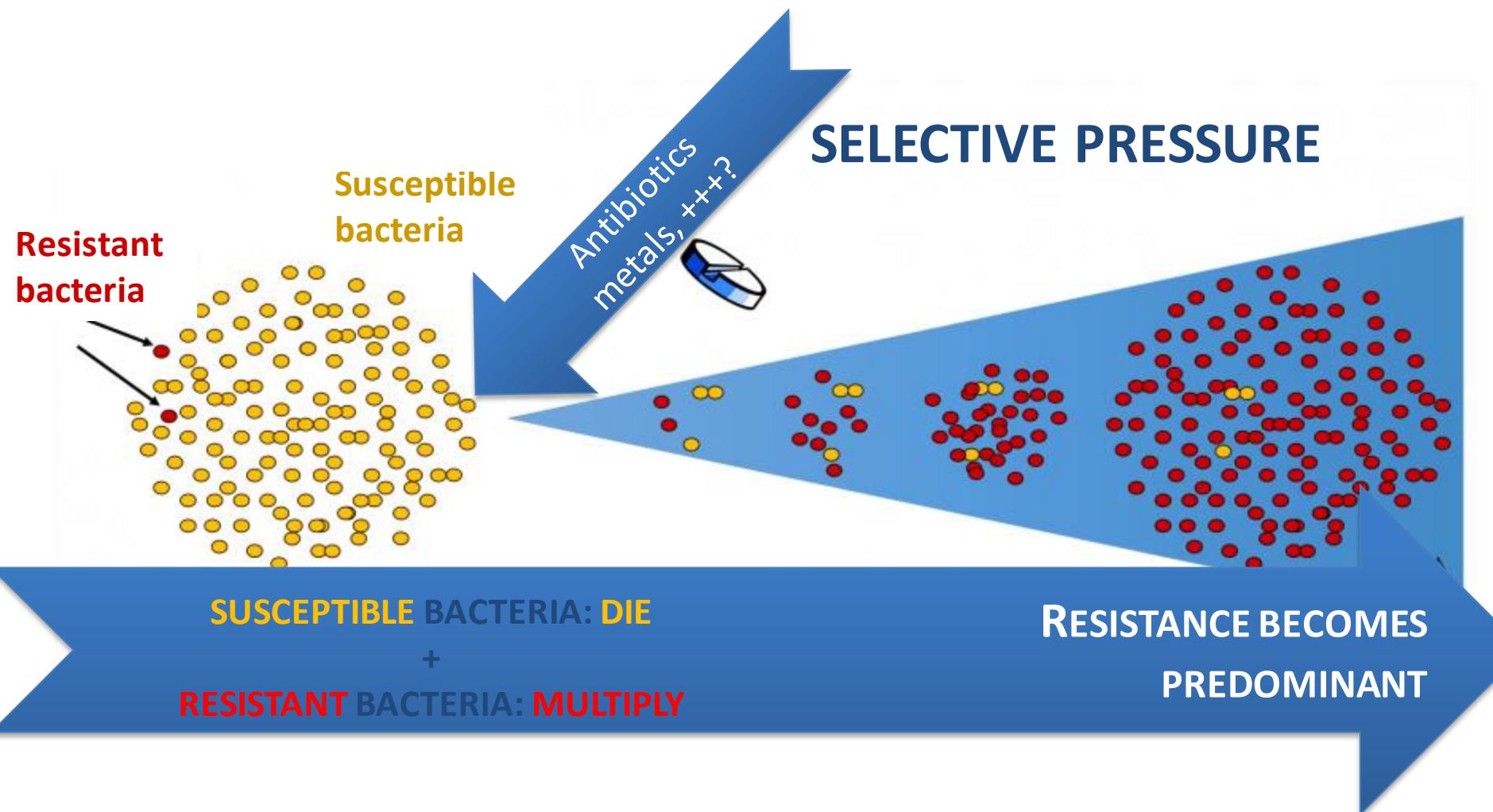
# HORIZONTAL GENE TRANSFER /MUTATION



# HORIZONTAL GENE TRANSFER MUTATION



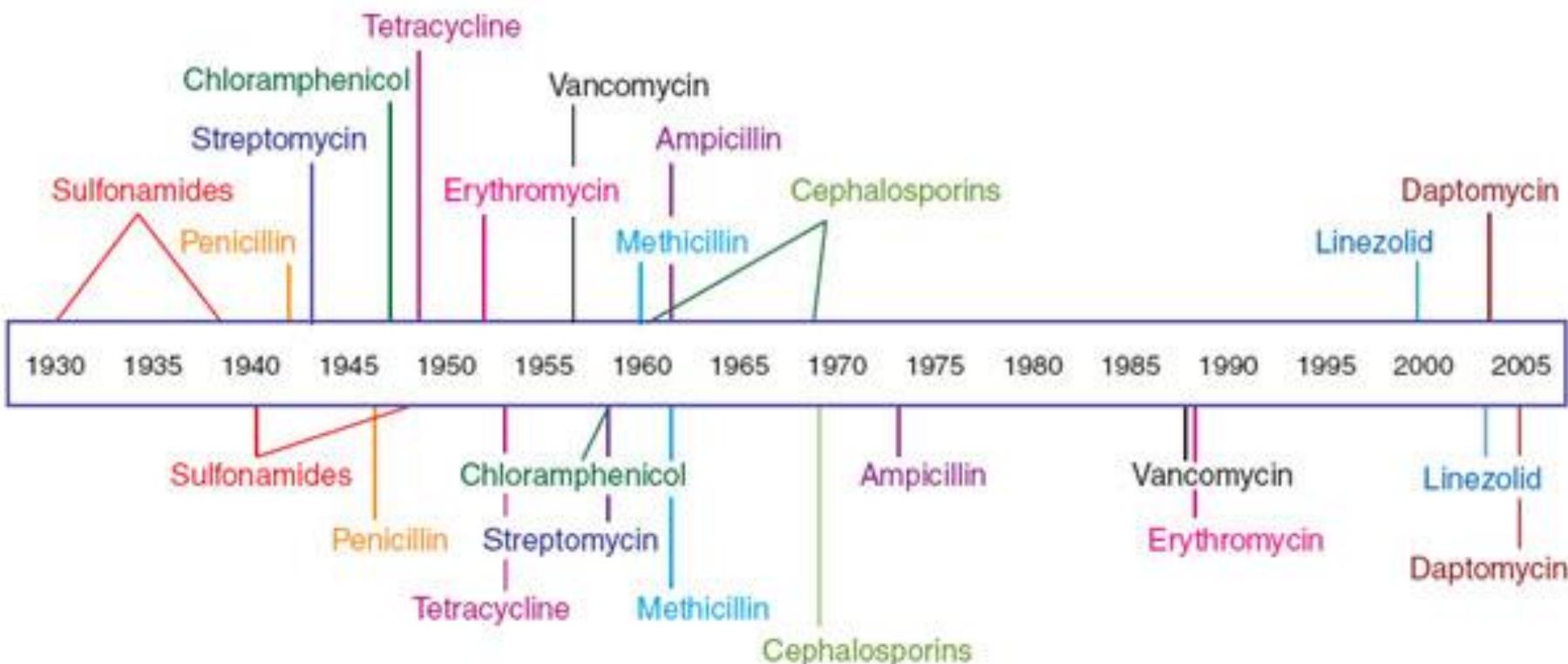
## SELECTION



# ~75 YEARS OF ANTIBIOTHERAPY ...

= 75 YEARS OF ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

Antibiotic deployment



Antibiotic resistance observed

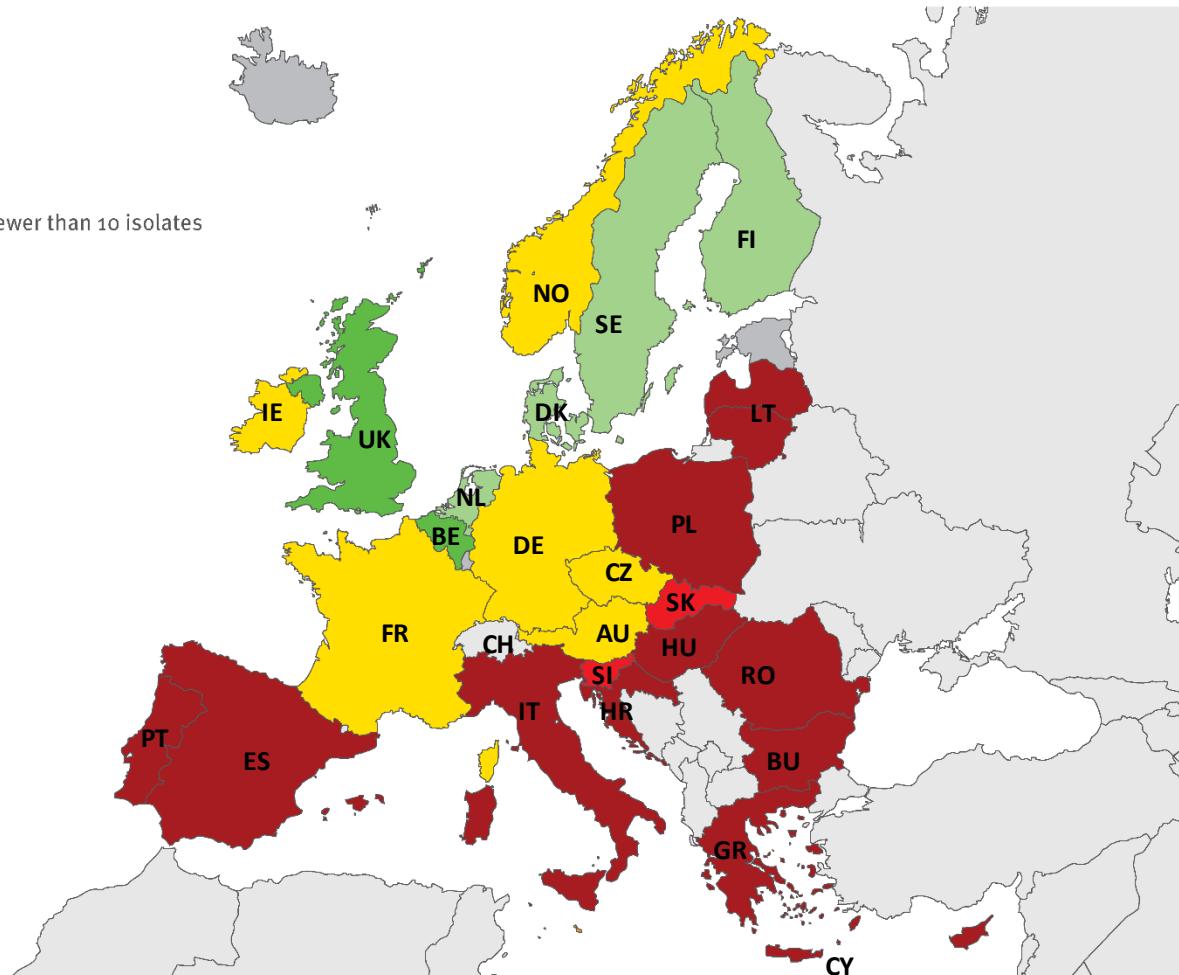


# ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE...

*Acinetobacter spp.*. Percentage (%) of invasive isolates with resistance to carbapenems, by country, EU/EEA countries, 2015



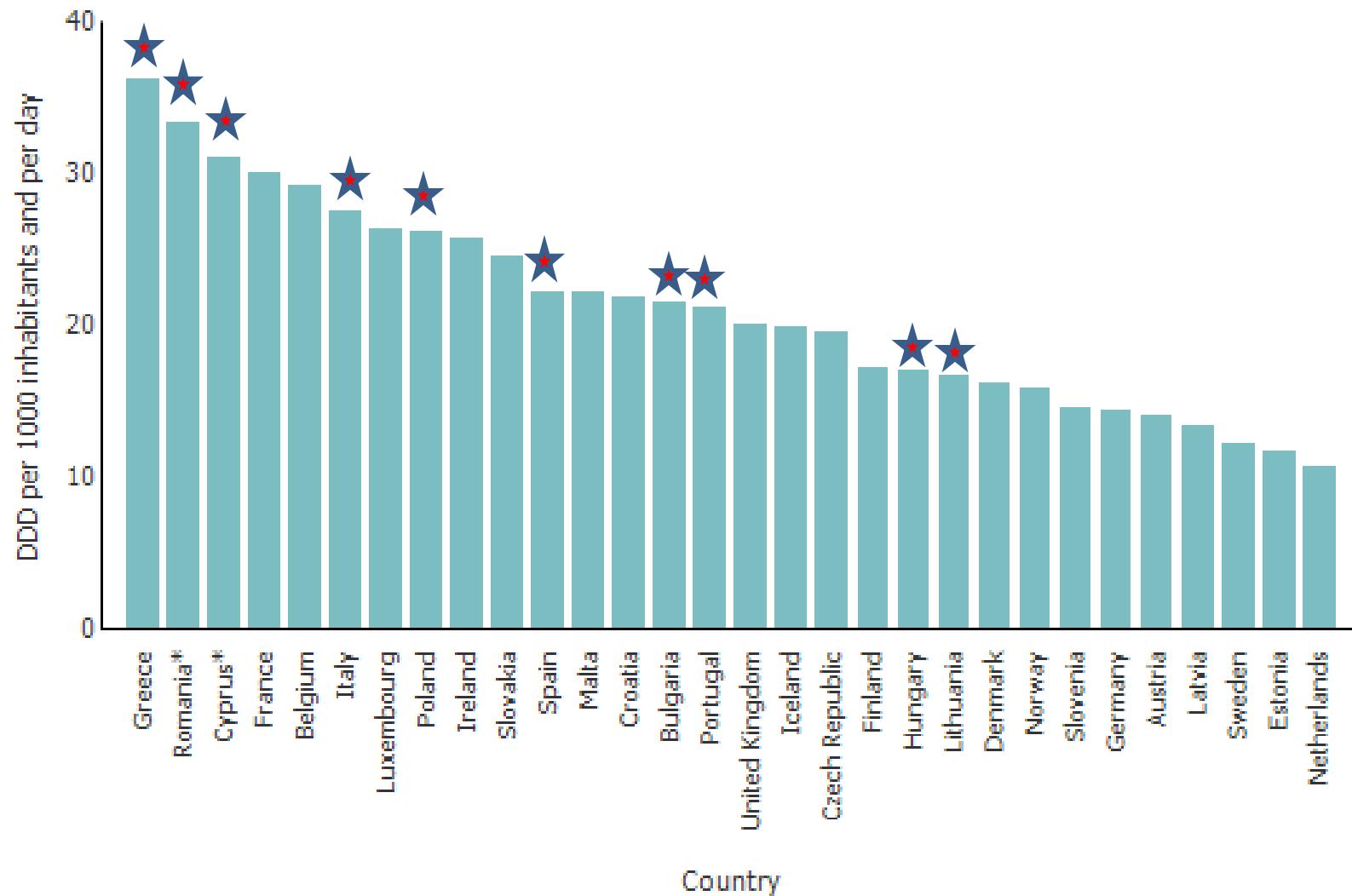
- < 1%
- 1% to < 5%
- 5% to < 10%
- 10% to < 25%
- 25% to < 50%
- ≥ 50%
- No data reported or fewer than 10 isolates
- Not included



Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Antimicrobial resistance surveillance in Europe 2015. Stockholm: ECDC, 2017  
© European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, 2017

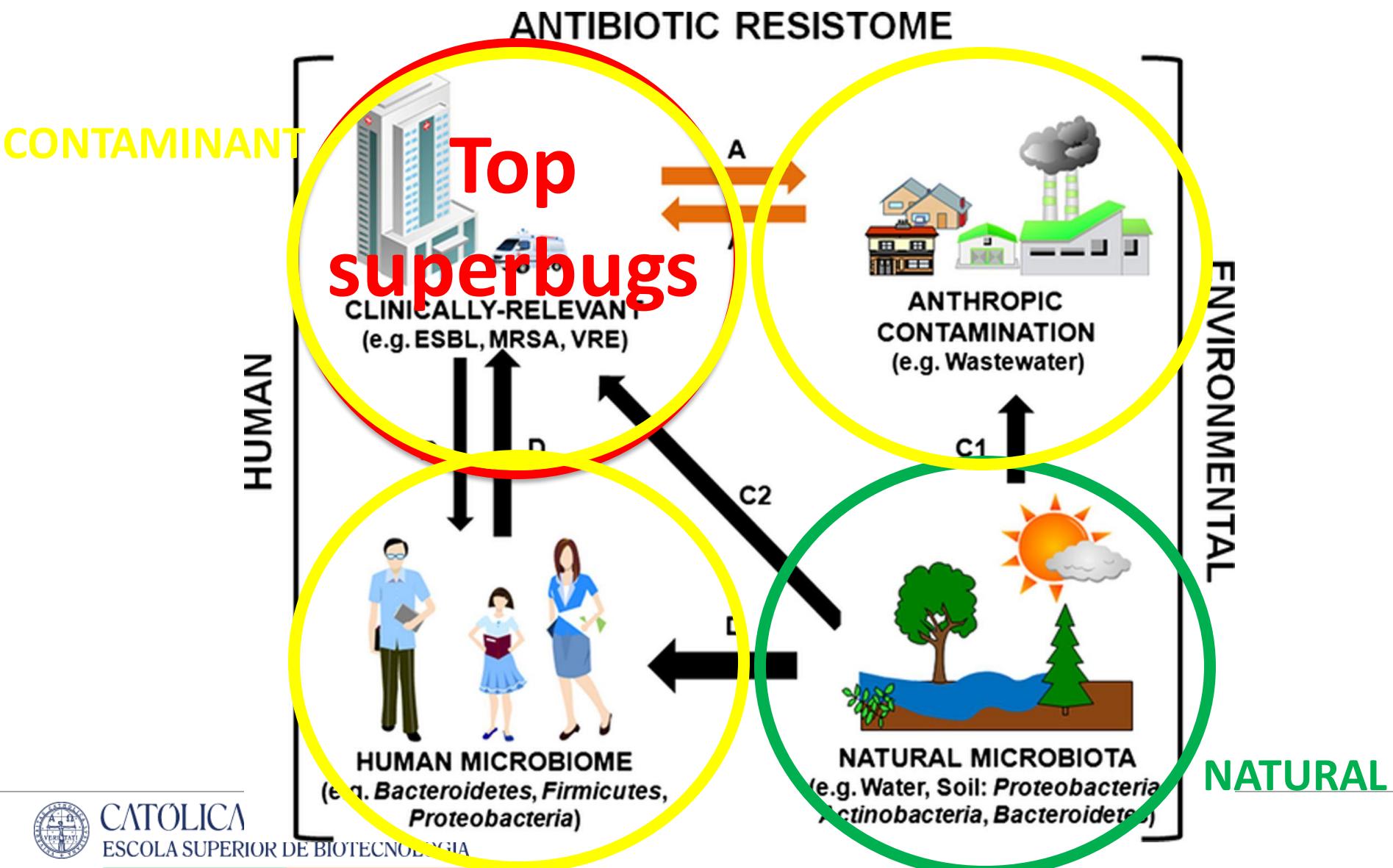
# ANTIBIOTIC CONSUMPTION...

Consumption of Antibacterials For Systemic Use (ATC group J01) in the community (primary care sector) in Europe, reporting year 2015



# ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE IS NATURAL...

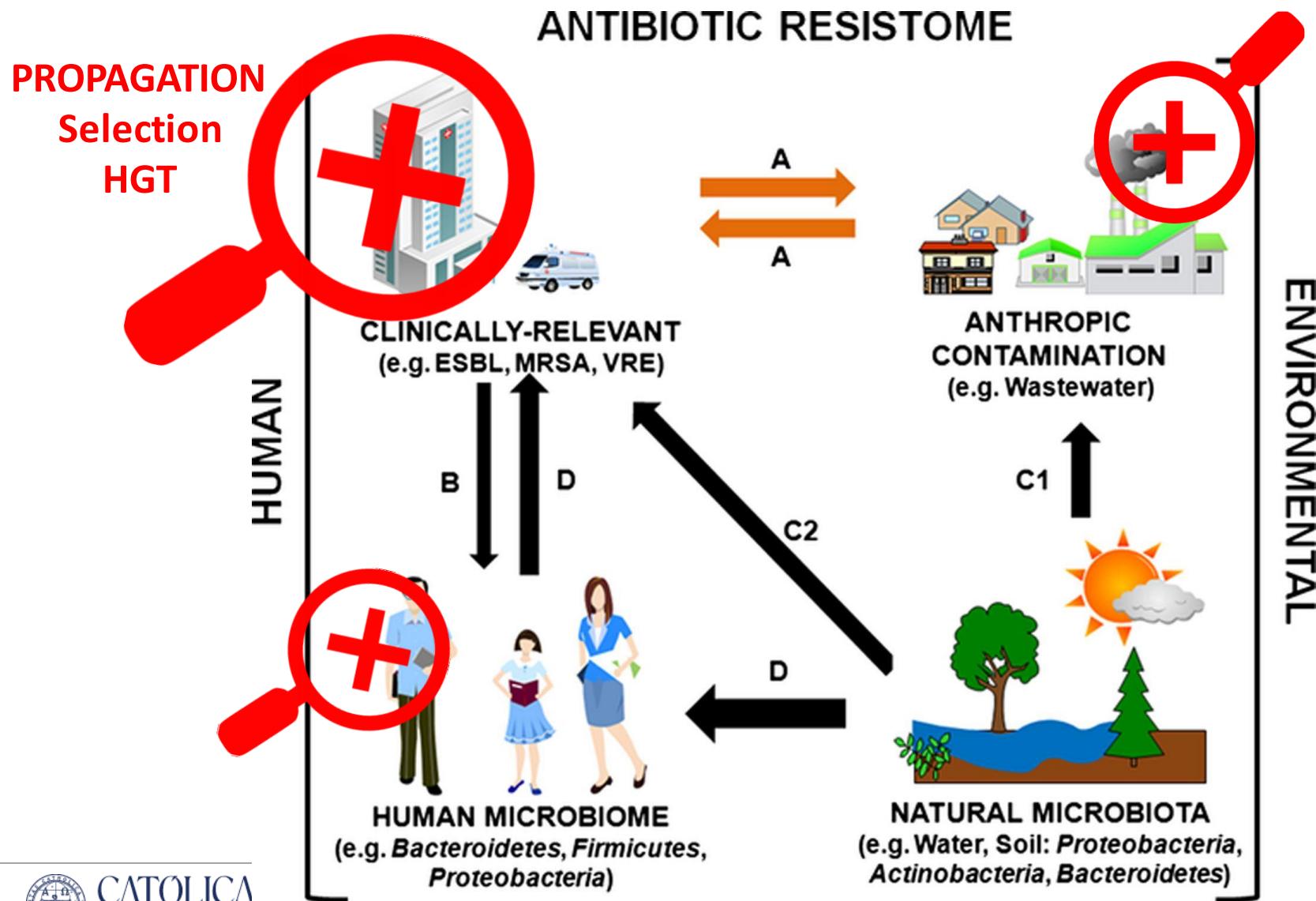
AND ALSO... CONTAMINANT



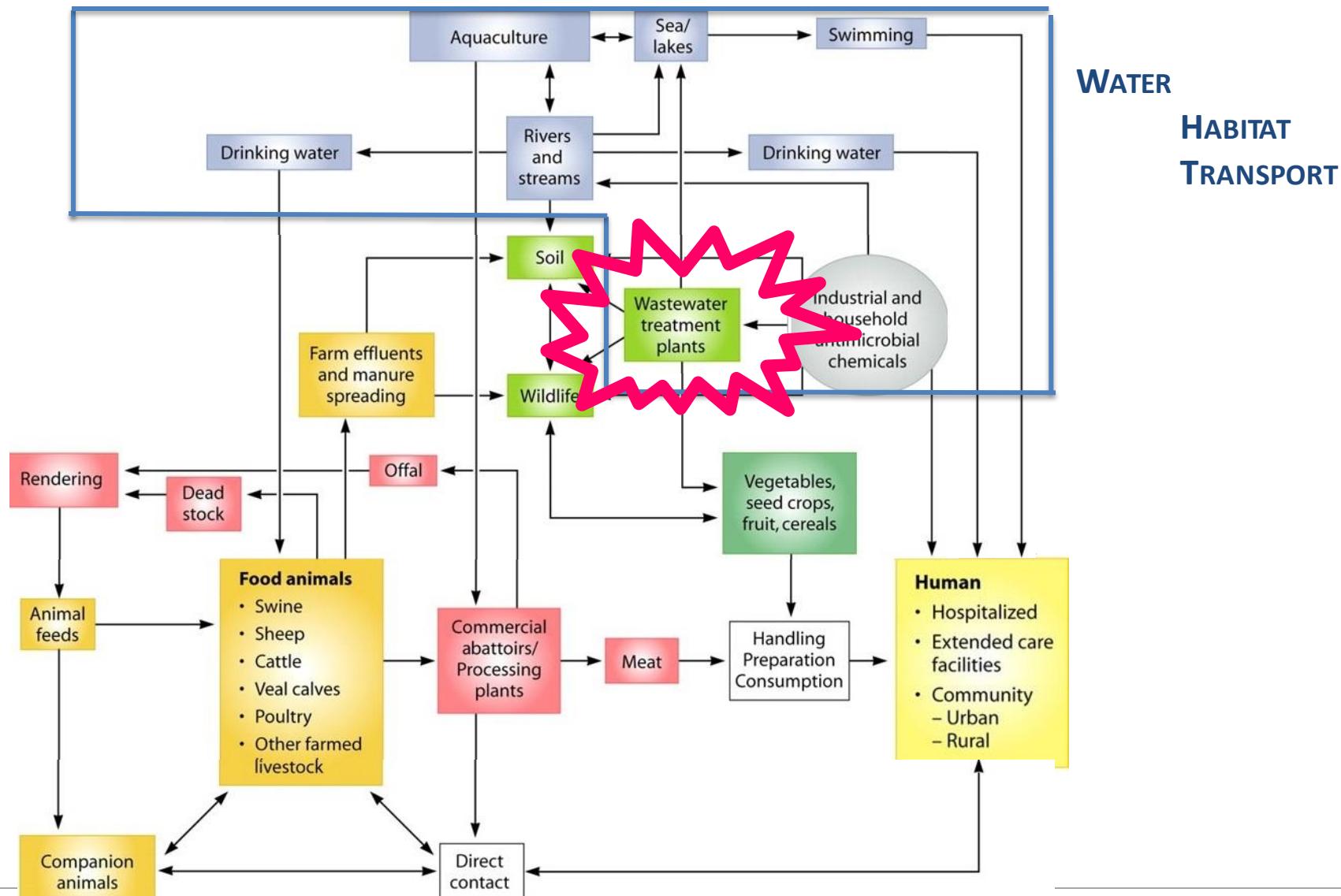
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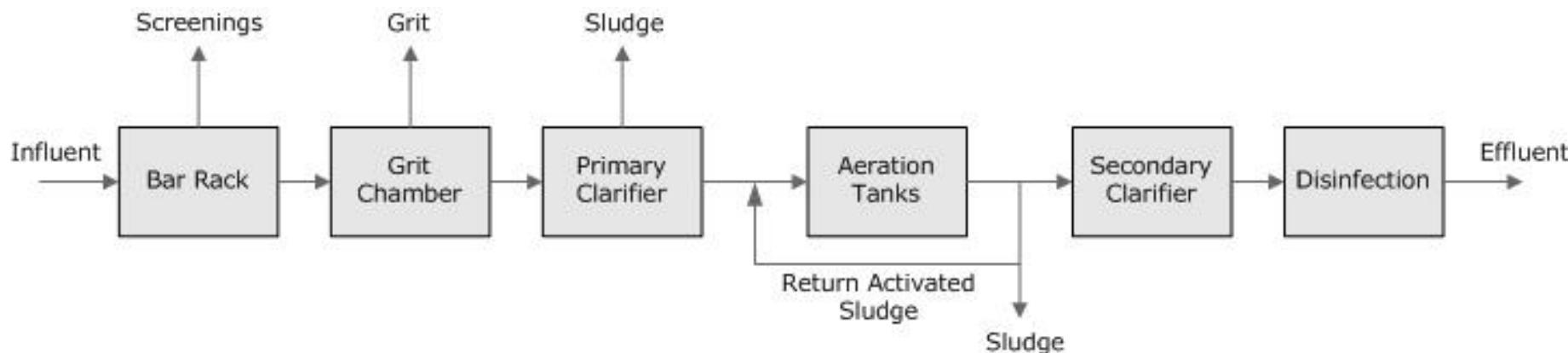
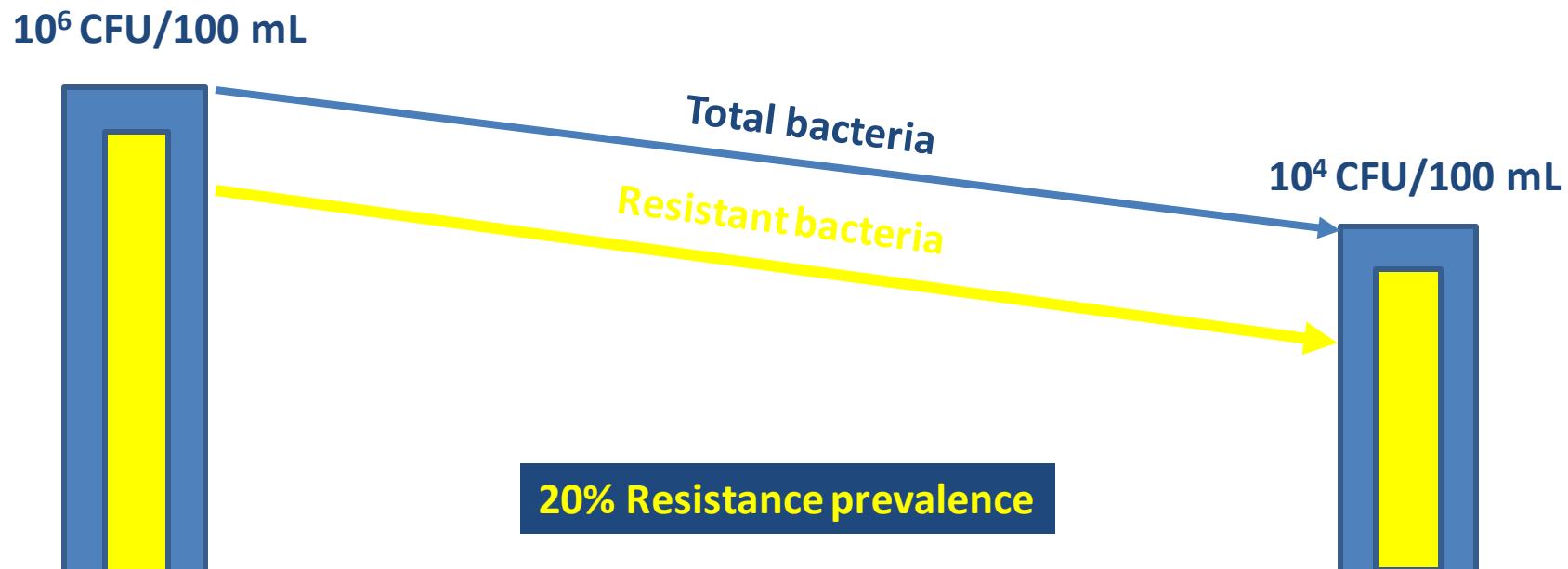
# CONTAMINANTS OF (SPECIAL) EMERGING CONCERN



# WATER AS A MAJOR ROUTE OF PROPAGATION



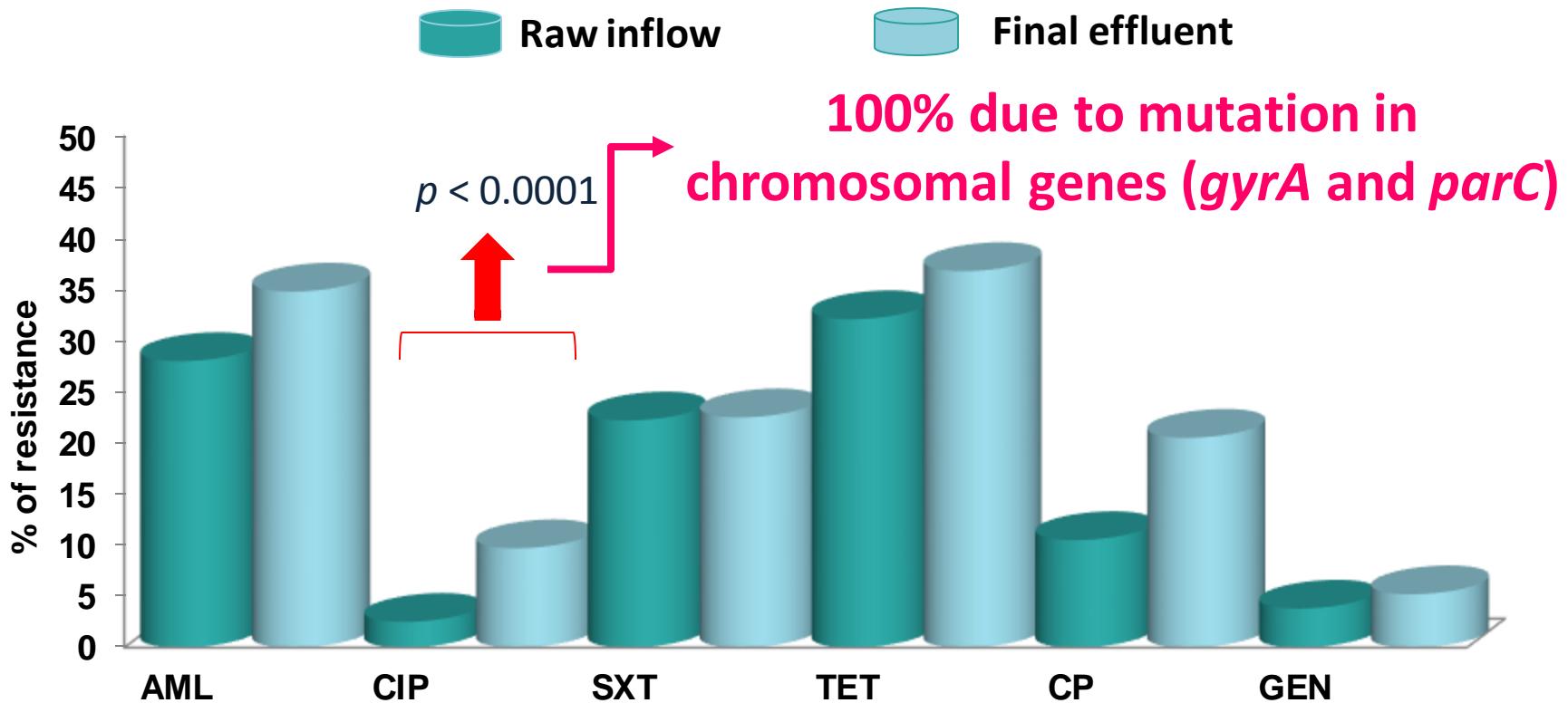
# WASTEWATER TREATMENT IS ESSENTIAL TO REMOVE ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE



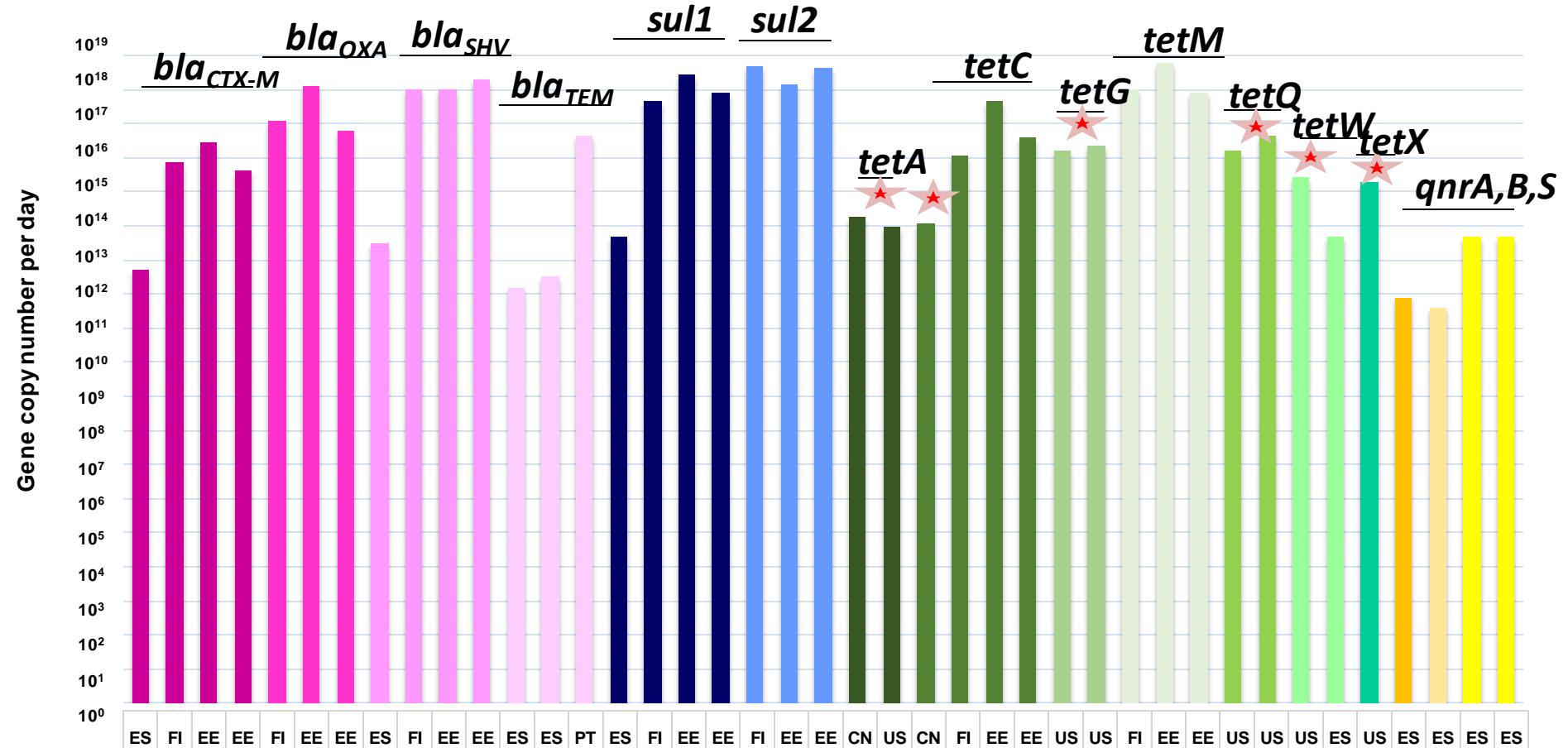
# *Escherichia coli*

## Quinolone-resistant

### Raw and treated wastewater



**It is estimated that more than  $10^{10}$  to  $10^{14}$  copies of genes encoding for tetracycline or beta-lactam resistance are released per minute to the surrounding environment**

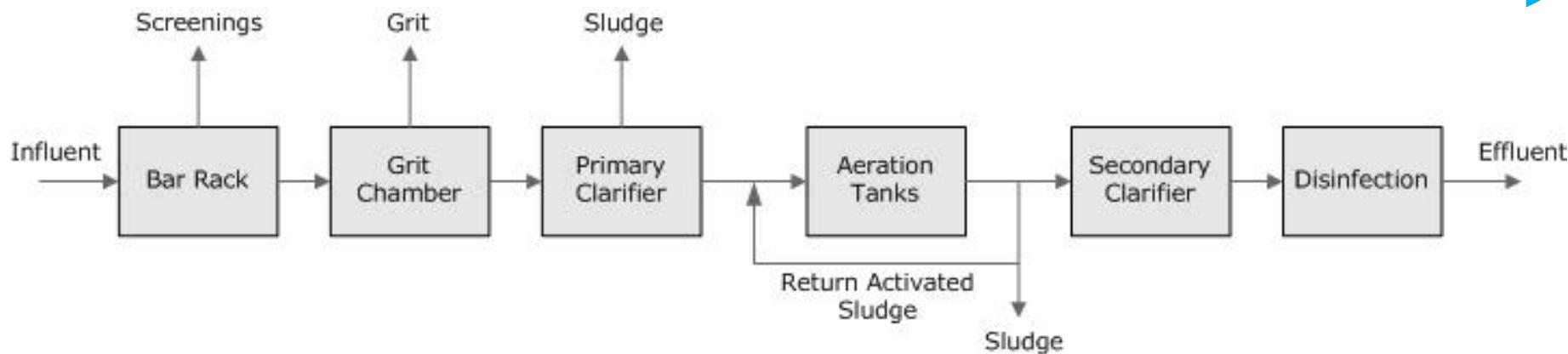


# WASTEWATER TREATMENT IS ESSENTIAL TO REMOVE ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS (oxygen, organic matter, sludge age, etc)

SELECTIVE PRESSURES (antibiotic residues, metals, nanoparticles, etc)

INFLUENT QUALITY (hospital, animal production, etc)



## SELECTIVE PRESSURES

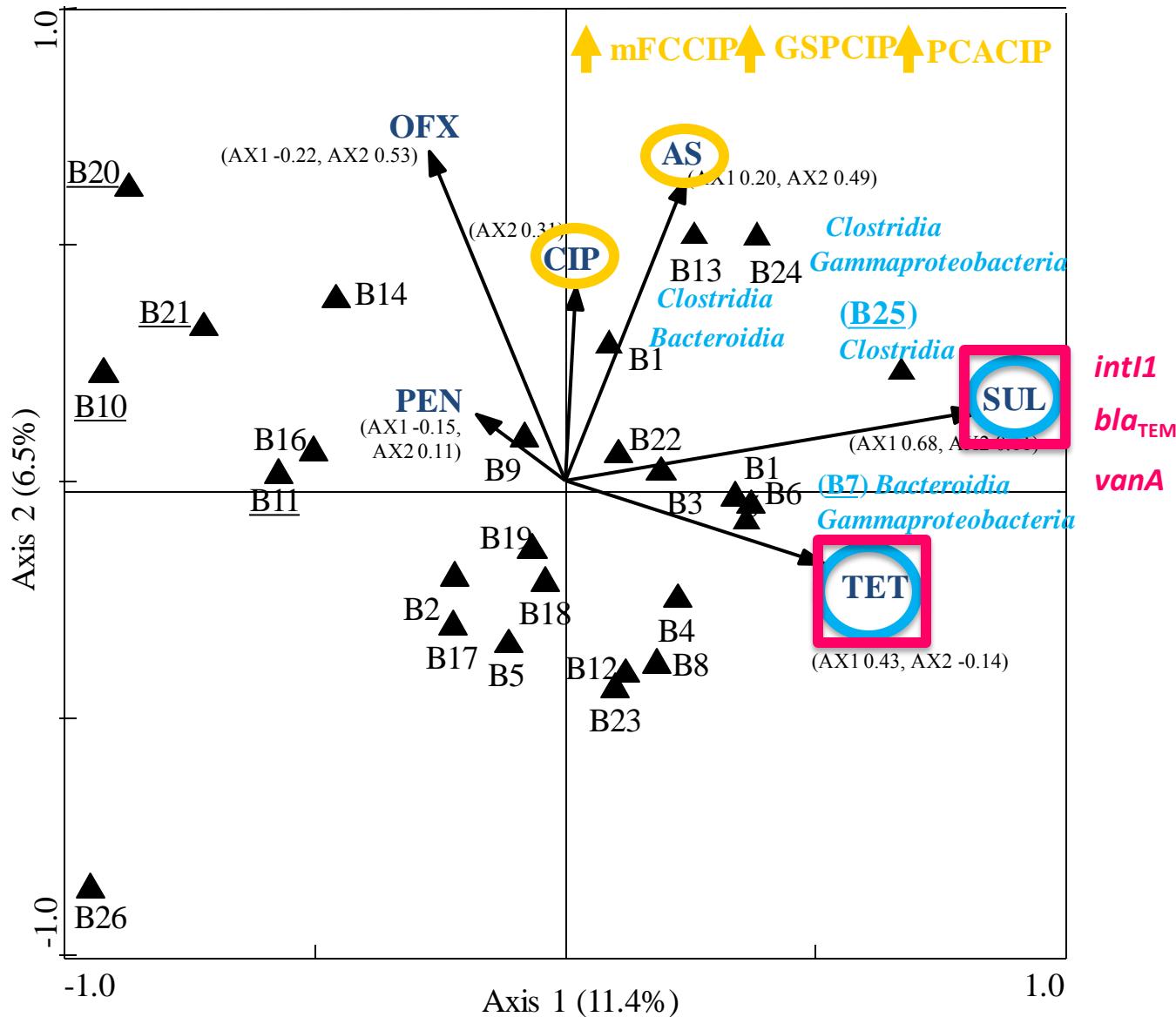
Antimicrobial  
Residues

Bacterial  
Communities

Antibiotic  
Resistant  
Bacteria

Antibiotic  
Resistance  
Genes

# Total bacteria vs. Antimicrobial residues vs. ARG vs. ARB



INFLUENT  
QUALITY

# HOSPITAL EFFLUENT VS. THE MUNICIPAL WWTP

*intI1/marA/bla<sub>TEM</sub>/vanA - Prevalence / 16S rRNA*



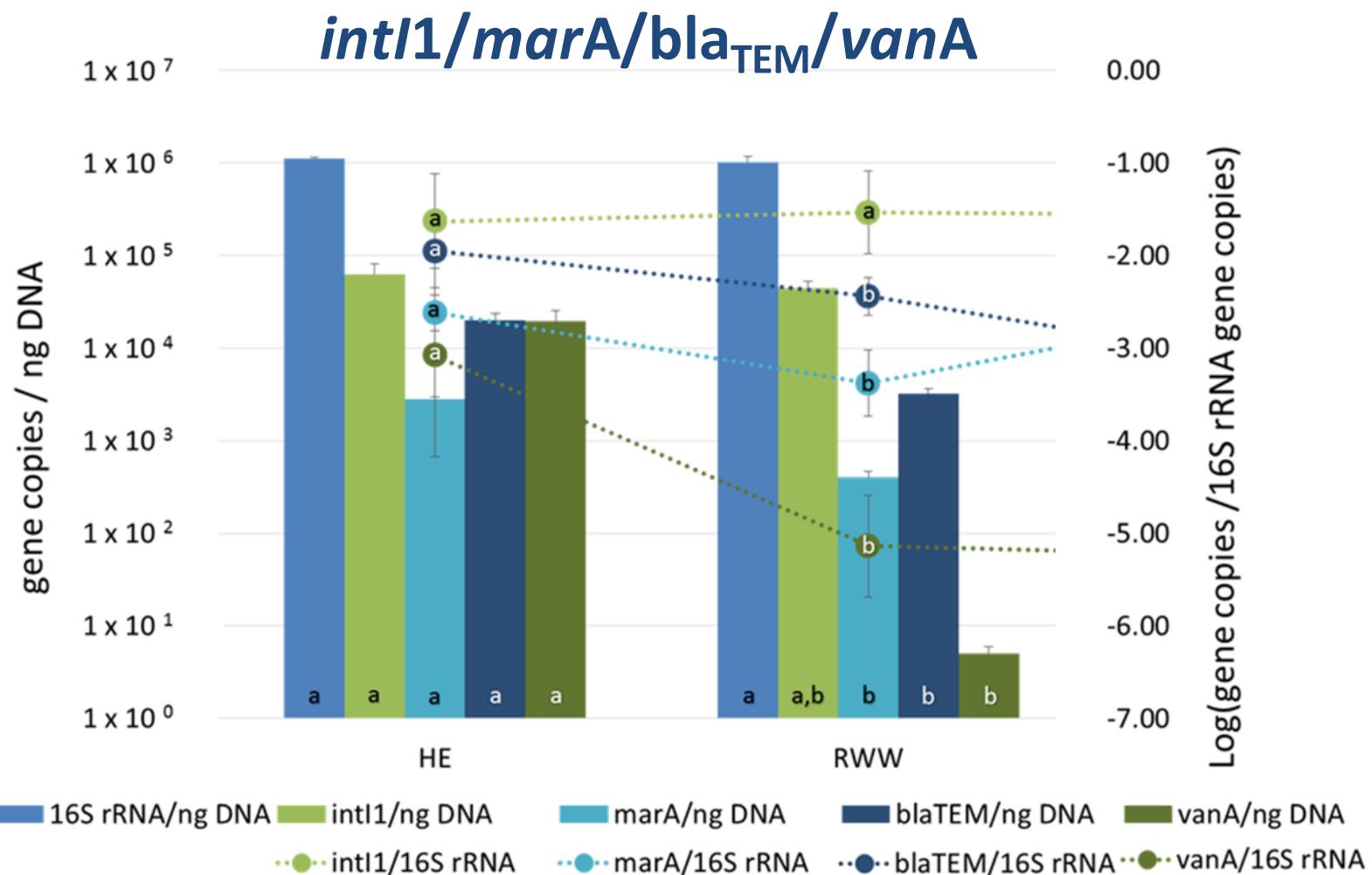
1 000 m<sup>3</sup>/day

(~2%)



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# HOSPITAL EFFLUENT VS. THE MUNICIPAL WWTP

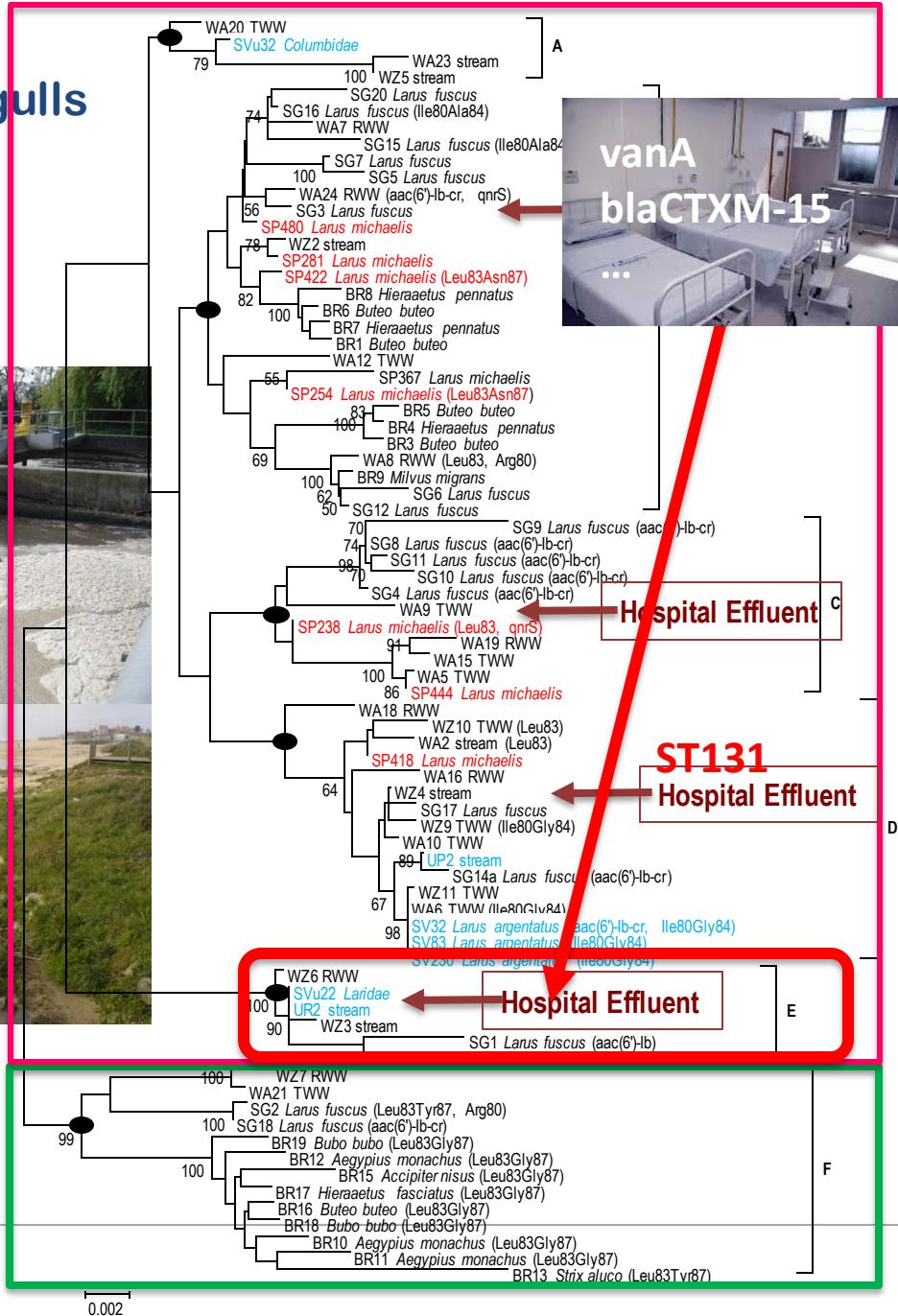


# Quinolone resistant *Escherichia coli* birds of prey, water environments and gulls Portugal, Spain and Sweden

Gulls →  
Wastewater  
Surface water



Birds of prey  
Natural reserve



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# Mitigation measures



# I. ASSESS THE RISKS OF TRANSMISSION FROM ENVIRONMENT TO HUMANS

METHODS HARMONIZATION

LOWER THE QUANTIFICATION LIMITS

EXPAND ARG DATABASES

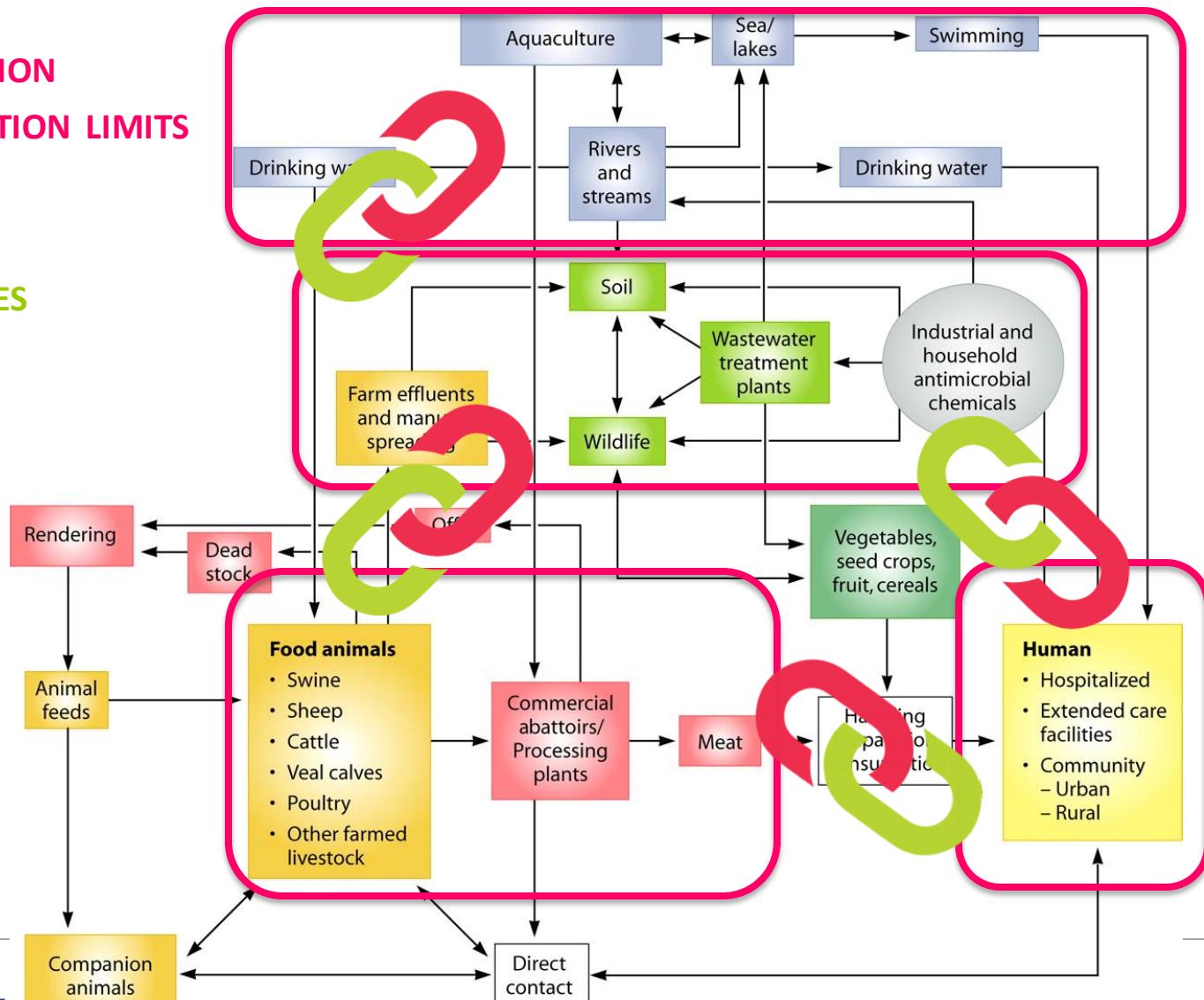
ENVIRONMENT

+

ANIMAL

+

HUMAN



## II. IDENTIFICATION OF CRITICAL CONTROL POINTS

INCOME OF ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT BACTERIA

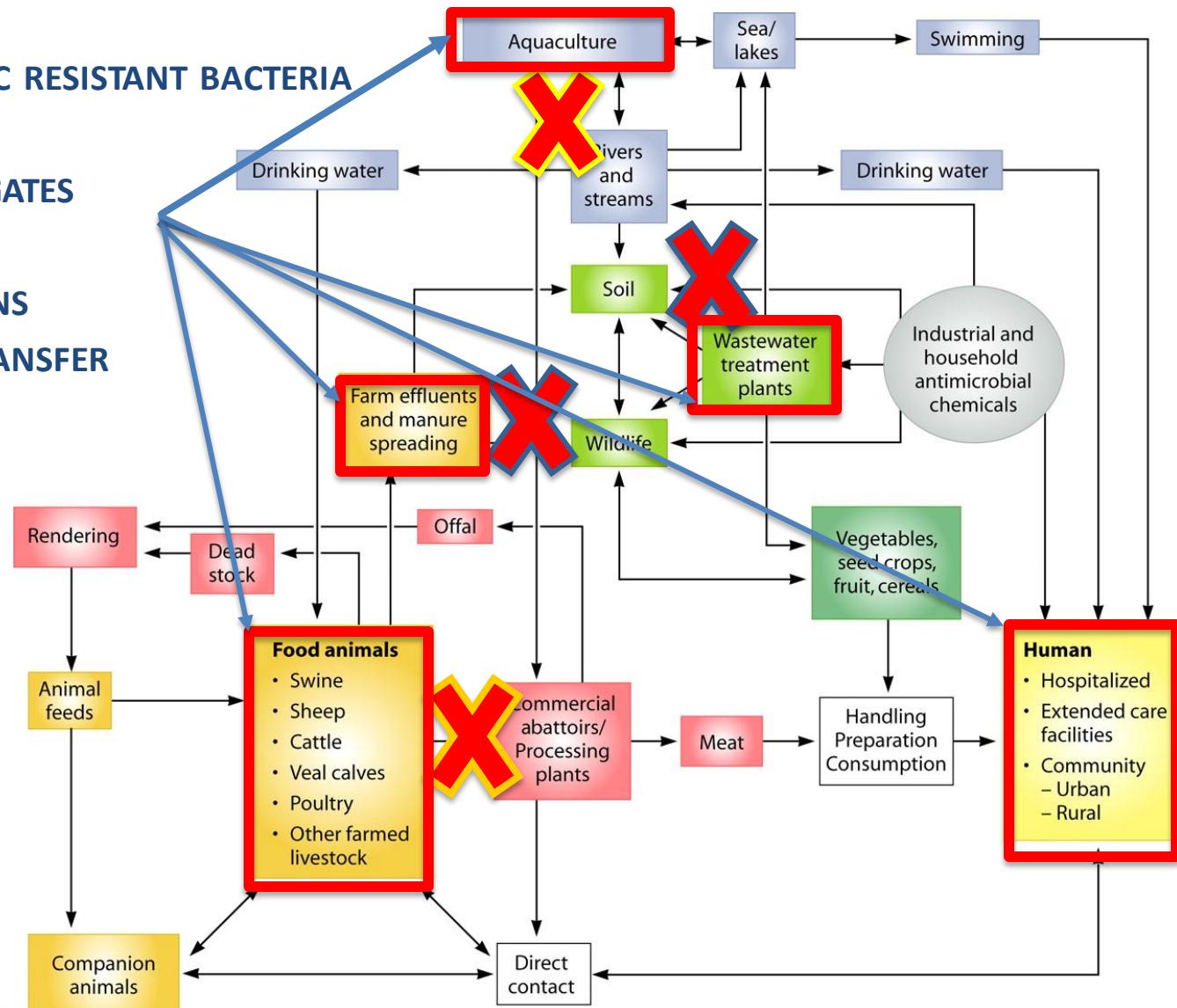
BACTERIAL GROWTH

BIOFILM/CELL AGGREGATES

SELECTIVE PRESSURES

ADAPTATIVE MUTATIONS

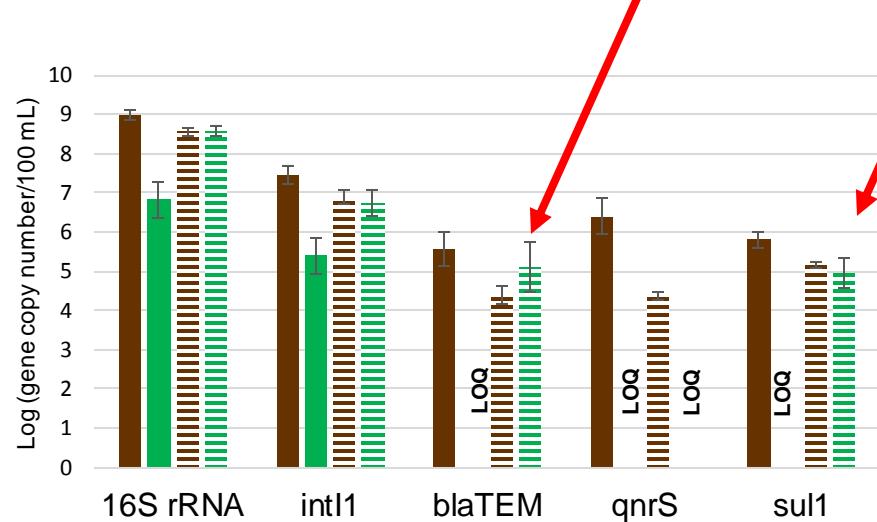
HORIZONTAL GENE TRANSFER



# WASTEWATER DISINFECTION

## Antibiotic resistance genes

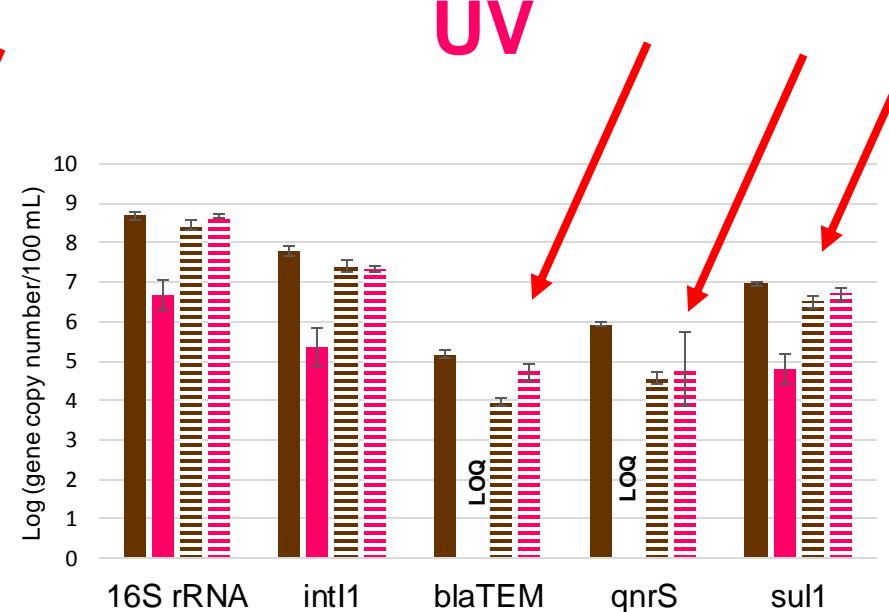
### Ozonation



■ Untreated control

■ Treated  
■ Three days storage

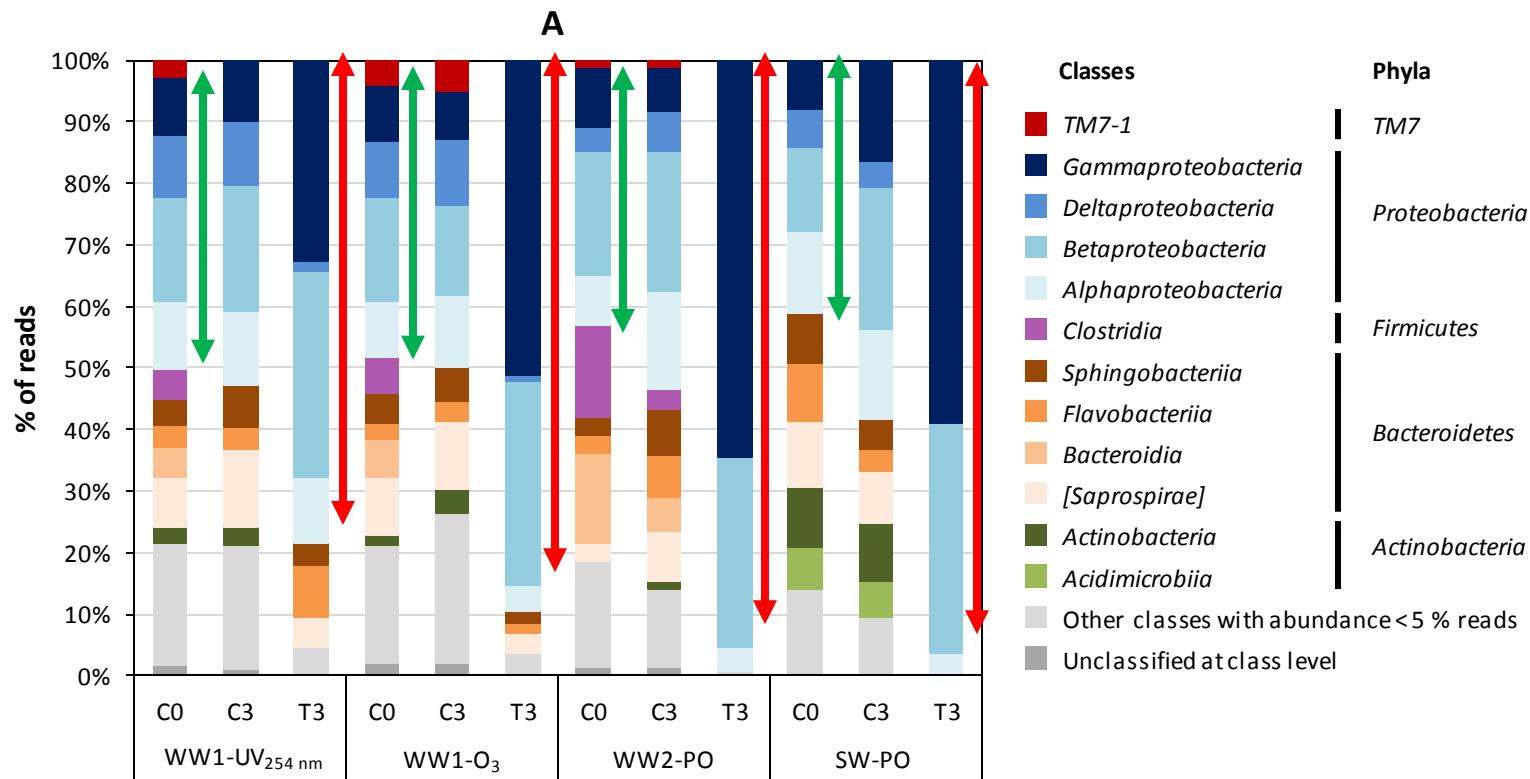
### UV



■ Untreated control  
■ Treated  
■ Three days storage



# REGROWTH AFTER DISINFECTION



*Besides treatment, also storage and transport  
are key issues in wastewater reuse*



# WASTEWATER TREATMENT IS ESSENTIAL TO REMOVE ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

## Improved wastewater treatment processes

- ✓ Bacterial removal (disinfection)
- ✓ Environmental friendly (*low impact on the environment in particular on the microbiota*)
- ✓ Cost effective
- ✓ Wastewater plumbing/storage





## StARE Stopping Antibiotic Resistance Evolution

2013 Water JPI Pilot Call focused on "Emerging water contaminants-anthropogenic pollutants and pathogens"

December 2014 – December 2017



Coordinator: Célia M. Manaia

National Funding Agencies  
Portugal  
Spain  
Cyprus  
Germany  
Ireland  
Norway  
Finland

Total budget  
1 789 300 €

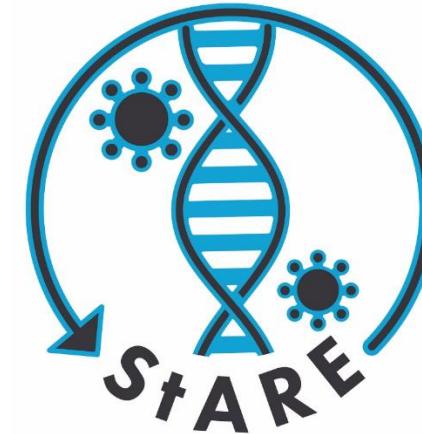
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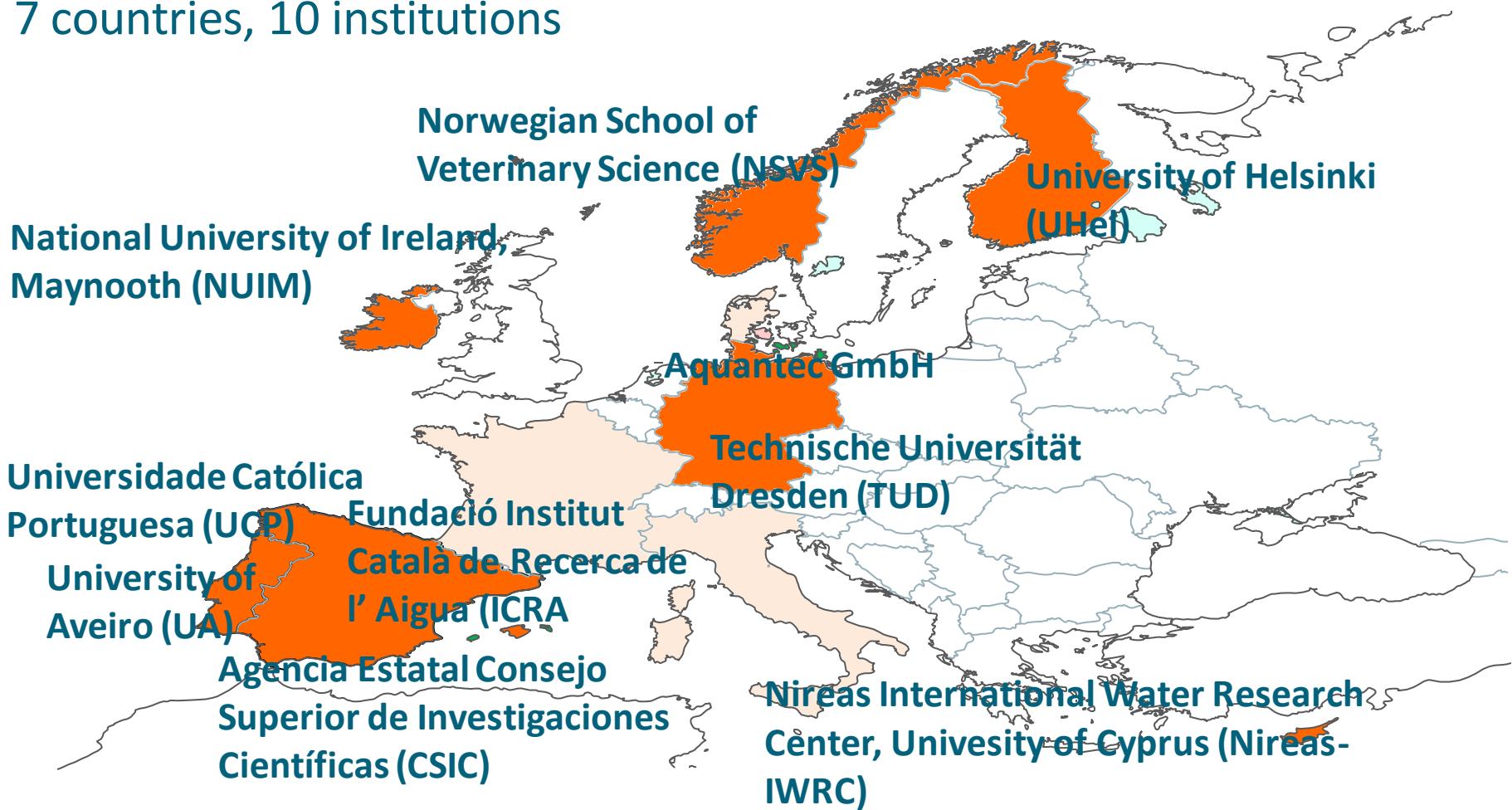
December 2014 – December 2017



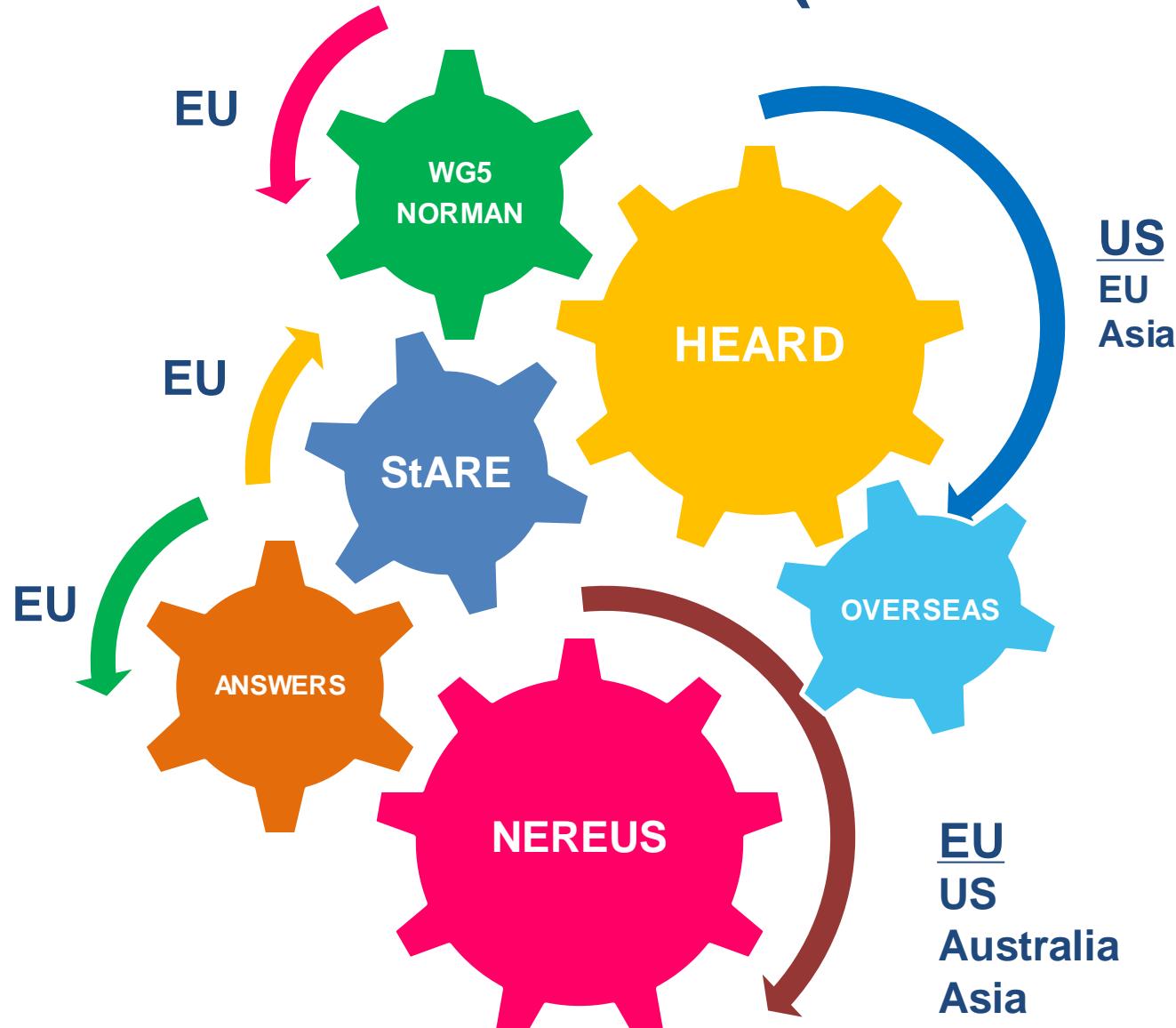
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# Partners

7 countries, 10 institutions



# On-going projects on antibiotic resistance in wastewater (and its reuse)



## Partners (EU)

Olga Nunes (Portugal)

Paulo Costa (Portugal)

Manuela Caniça (Portugal)

Adrian Silva (Portugal)

Sérgio Silva (Portugal)

Isabel Henriques (Portugal)

Despo Fatta-Kassinios (Cyprus)

Thomas Berendonk (Germany)

Thomas Schwartz (Germany)

José Luis Martinez (Spain)

Sara Rodriguez (Spain)

Marko Virta (Finland)

Fiona Walsh (Ireland)

Henning Sörum (Norway)

Eddie Cytryn (Israel)

Christophe Merlin (France)

Luigi Rizzo (Italy)

Norbert Kreuzinger (Austria)

## FCT Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia

MINISTÉRIO DA EDUCAÇÃO E CIÊNCIA



UID/Multi/50016/2013-CBQF

Stopping Antibiotic Resistance Evolution

<https://stareeurope.wordpress.com/>



COST-European Cooperation in Science and Technology, to the COST Action ES1403: New and emerging challenges and opportunities in wastewater reuse (NEREUS) - <http://www.nereus-cost.eu>



ANTibioticS and mobile resistance elements in WastEwater Reuse applications: risks and innovative solutions – ANSWERS. European Commission Horizon 2020 - MSCA-ITN-2015-ETN: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks (ITN-ETN)

OVERSEAS (FLAD 298/2015)

FUNDAÇÃO



LUSO-AMERICANA  
PARA O DESENVOLVIMENTO

Network of reference laboratories, research centres and related organisations for monitoring of emerging environmental substances - <http://www.norman-network.net/?q=node/19>



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# Bacterial diversity group

## ESB-UCP, Porto, Portugal

