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# Acute Gastrointestinal Infections

## Inflammatory Diarrhea- StEC and *Shigella*

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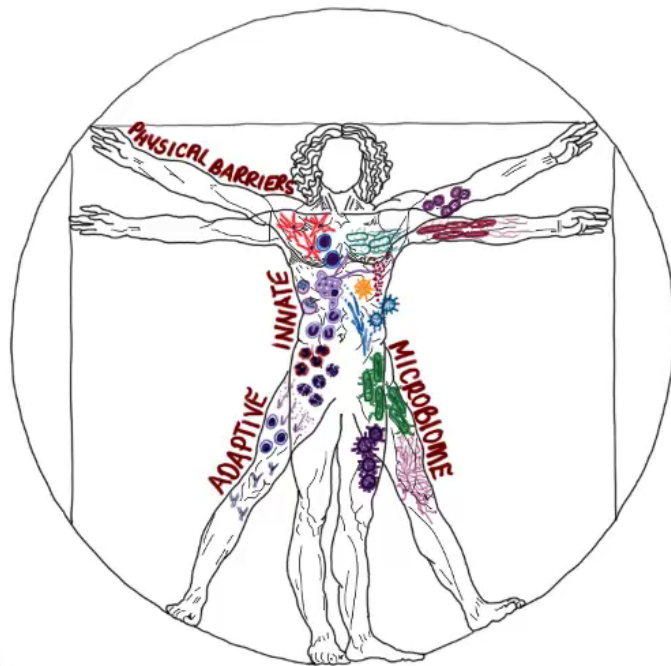
Department of Pediatrics, Infectious Diseases

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PROTECT  
DETECT/  
RECOGNIZE  
DEPLOY  
ELIMINATE/  
TOLERATE  
REMEMBER

IMMUNOLOGY



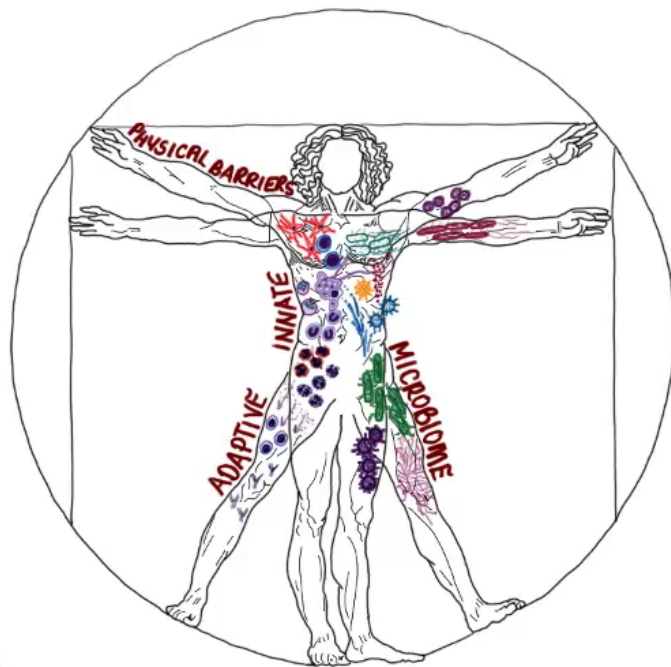
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COLONIZE  
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EVOLVE

MICROBIOLOGY

DIAGNOSIS  
THERAPY  
CLINICAL PRESENTATION  
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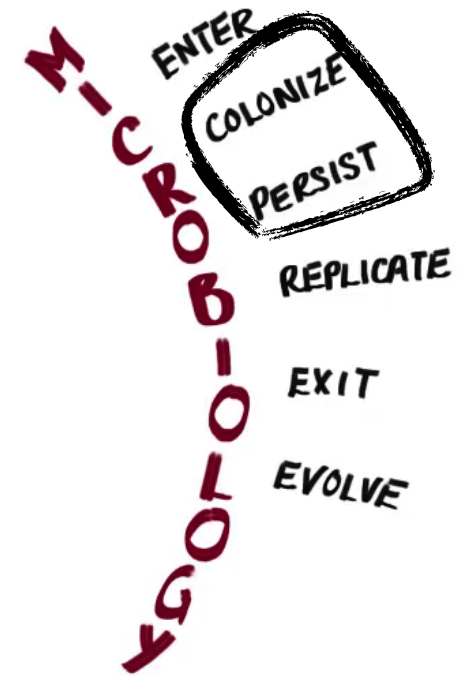
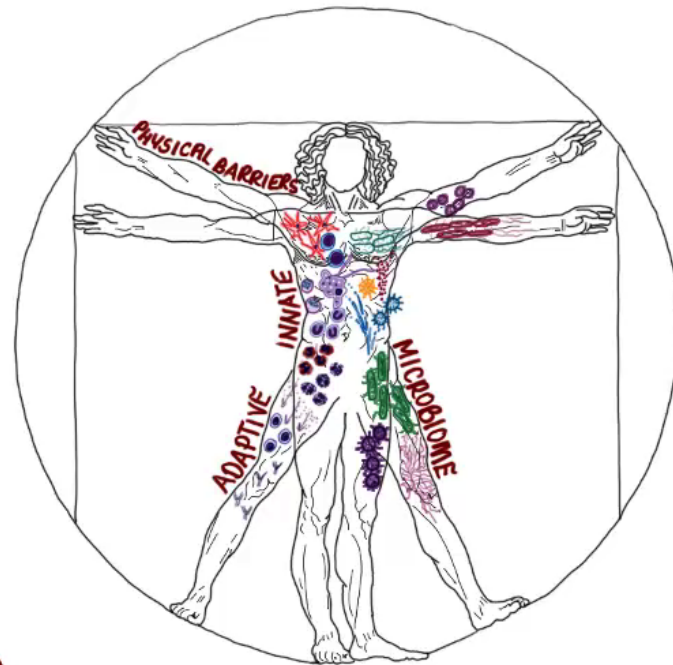
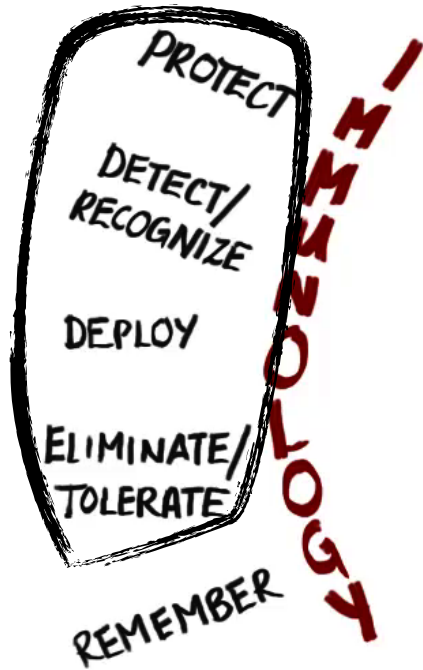


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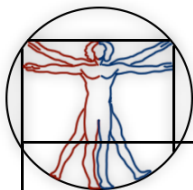


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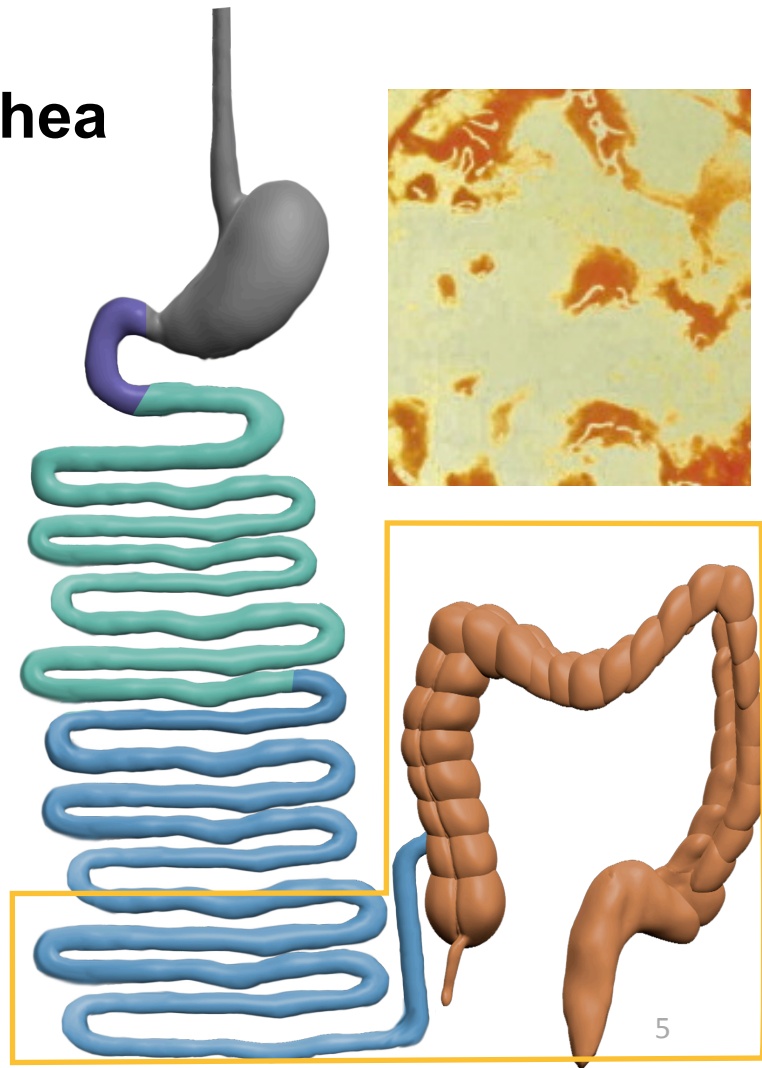
# Learning Objectives

- Describe the clinical findings, epidemiology and pathogenesis of dysentery due to Shiga-toxigenic *E. coli* (StEC) and *Shigella*.



# Inflammatory or Bloody Diarrhea

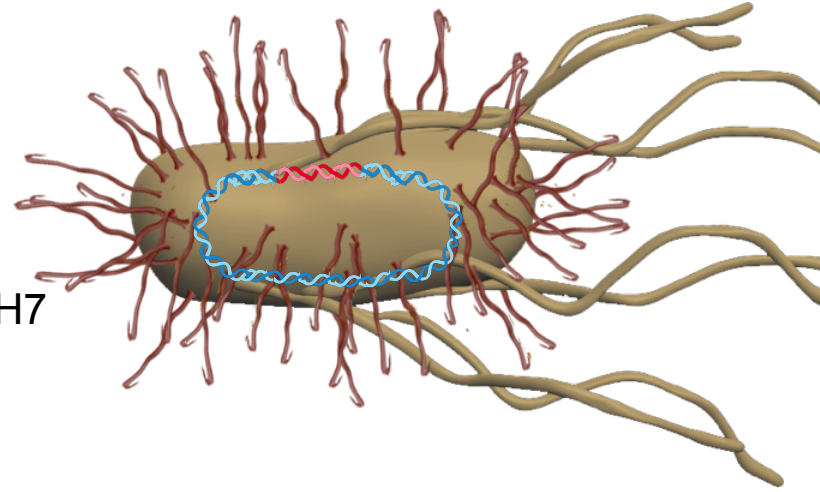
|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Clinical Features   | Frequent small volume stools. May have streaks of blood, mucosy from pus. Pain on defecation (tenesmus), ileocolitis, colitis. Fever may be present. |
| Complications       | Depend on etiology and host features- Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome, Bacteremia  |
| Management          | Consider stool cultures, antibiotics for some etiologies but may worsen others   |
| Anatomical Location | Terminal ileum and colon   |
| Pathogenesis        | Damage to enterocytes with local inflammatory responses, direct invasion and cytotoxin damage- Locally invasive                                      |
| Viruses             | none in immunocompetent  |
| Bacteria            | <b>Shiga-toxigenic <i>E. coli</i> (StEC, EHEC), <i>Shigella</i>, EIEC, <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>, non-Typhi-Salmonella, <i>Yersinia</i></b>        |
| Protozoa            | <i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>   |





## StEC- Shigatoxigenic *E. coli*

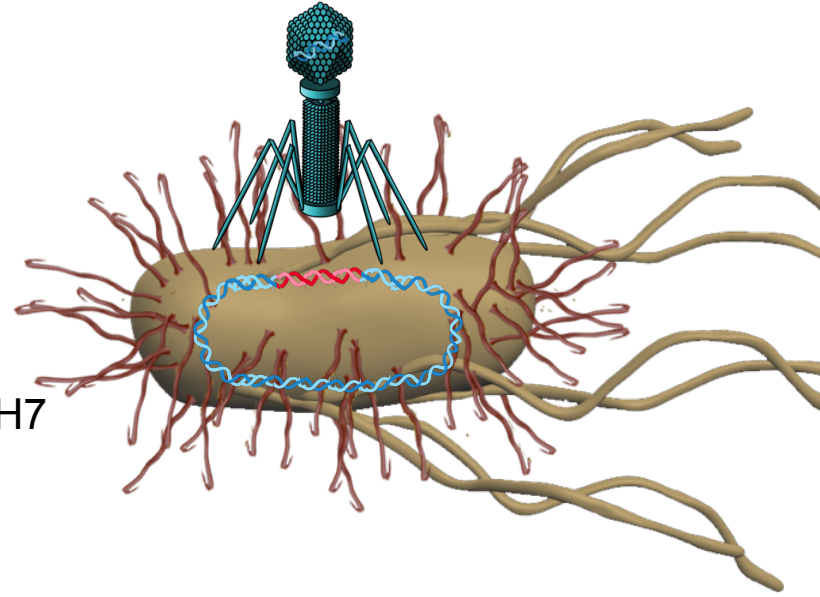
- StEC also known as EHEC- enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* causes bloody diarrhea that can be complicated by the hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS) in 5-10%.
- There are many strains that can be distinguished with antibodies to the LPS (O-antigen) or to the flagellin (H-antigen). The most common strain in the U.S. is O157:H7
- **It is an animal form of EPEC that was infected by a bacteriophage that gave it the ability to produce a toxin- Shiga toxin**
- Like EPEC it has a T3SS that injects effectors into the cell to alter its adhesion- Attachment and effacement





# StEC- Shigatoxigenic *E. coli*

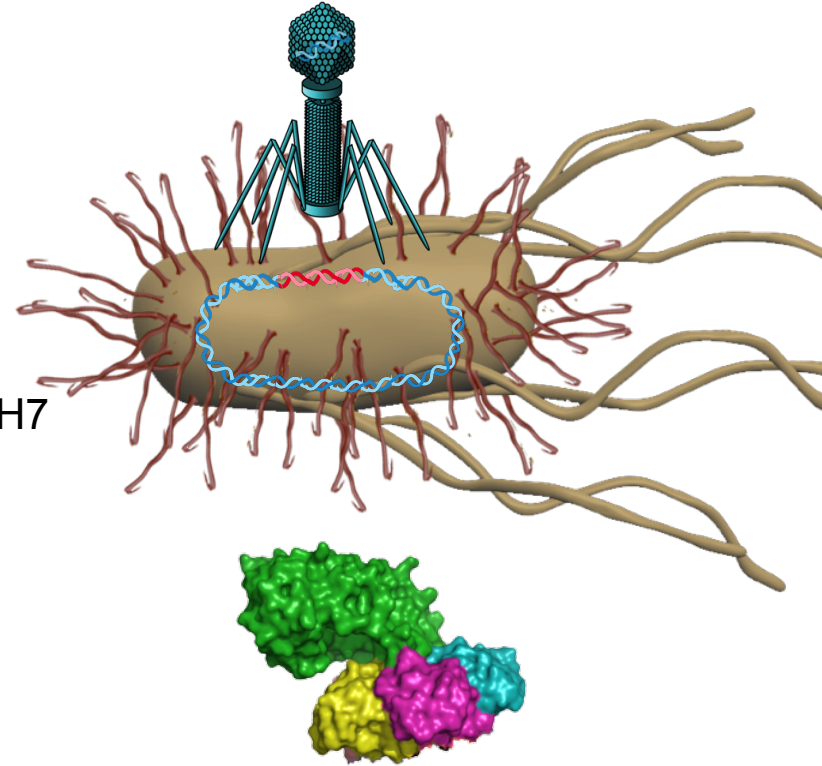
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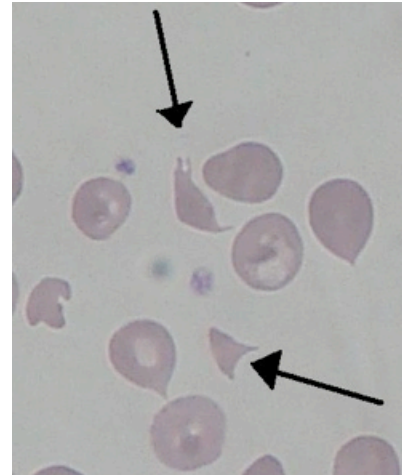
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# StEC Clinical Manifestations

- Ingestion of contaminated food.
- Incubation period 2-5 days (range 1-9)
  - Watery diarrhea followed by bloody diarrhea.
- Symptoms subside and 5-10 days later 5-10% of people will develop HUS
  - Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia,
  - Thrombocytopenia,
  - Acute renal insufficiency or failure.
  - CNS involvement in some
- About half the patients with HUS require temporary dialysis.
- Even in the U.S., HUS carries 5-10% mortality

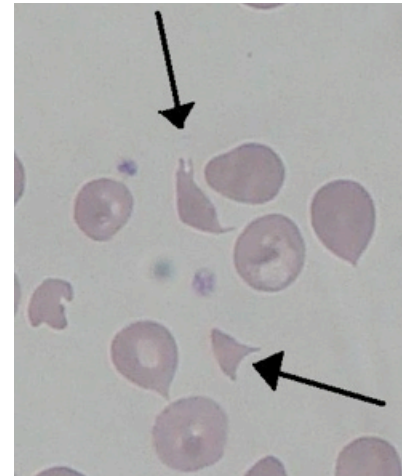
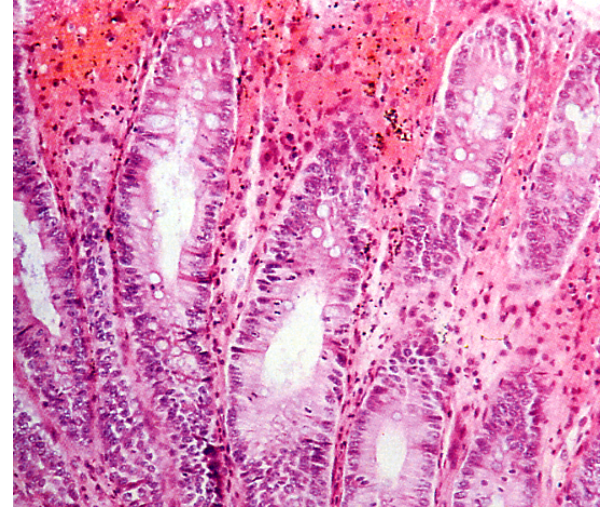






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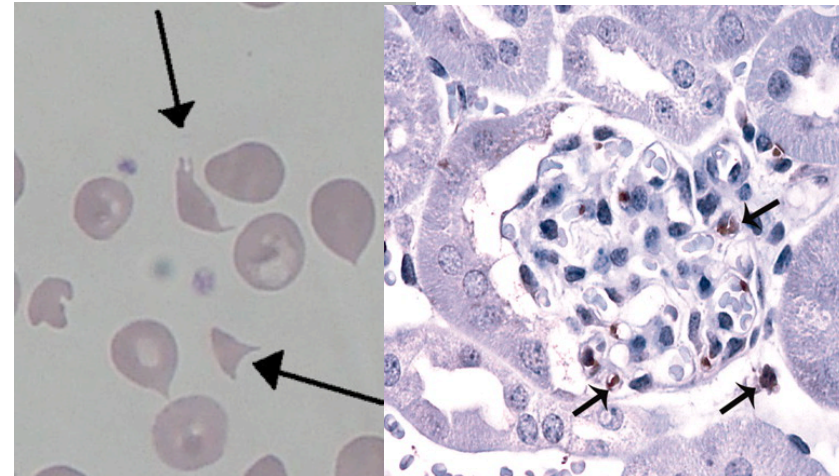
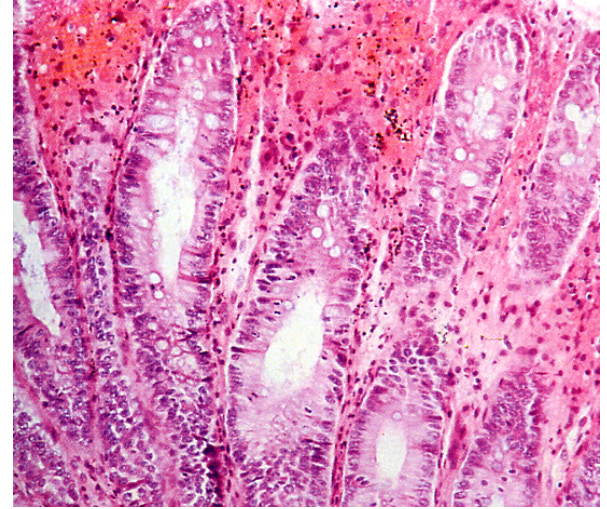
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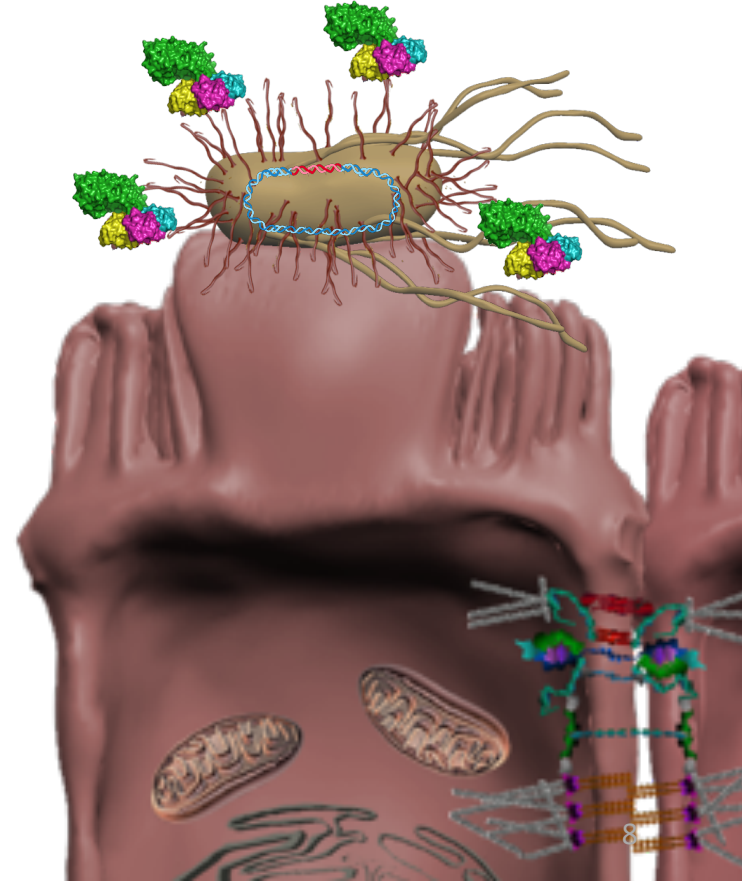
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# StEC pathogenesis

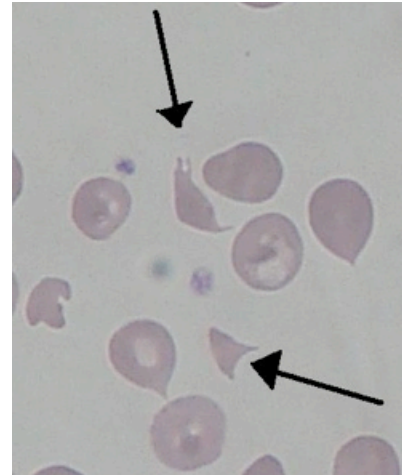
- After attachment and effacement, StEC produces Shiga toxins
- Shiga Toxin is an A-B toxin with 5 B subunits arranged in a ring around the A subunit
  - The B subunit binds the sugar decorated lipid, globotriosyl ceramide (Gb3) on the cell surface and initiates uptake.
    - susceptible cells include glomerular, colonic, and cerebral epithelial and microvascular endothelial cells, monocytes and platelets
  - The A subunit is an enzyme that inactivates the ribosomes in the cytosol
    - Protein synthesis stops
    - intoxicated cells undergo apoptosis
    - proinflammatory cytokines (IL-8) and chemokines released





# StEC pathogenesis

- Local blood vessels are affected
  - endothelial intoxication-
    - promotes platelet adhesion and vascular damage
  - Microthrombi lead to local ischemia
  - Bloody diarrhea
- Toxin can be distributed systemically
  - microthrombi and vascular damage cause shearing of red blood cells- i.e. hemolysis
  - Glomerular endothelial cells secrete multimers of VW Factor after toxin stimulation.
  - renal microthrombi lead to renal failure

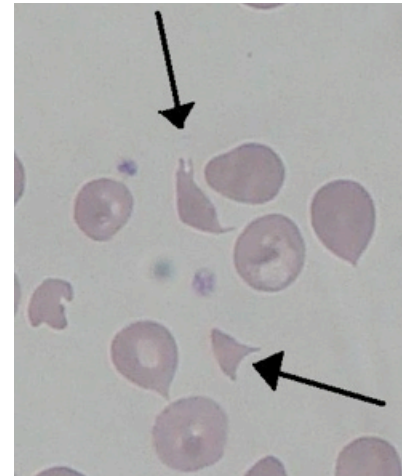
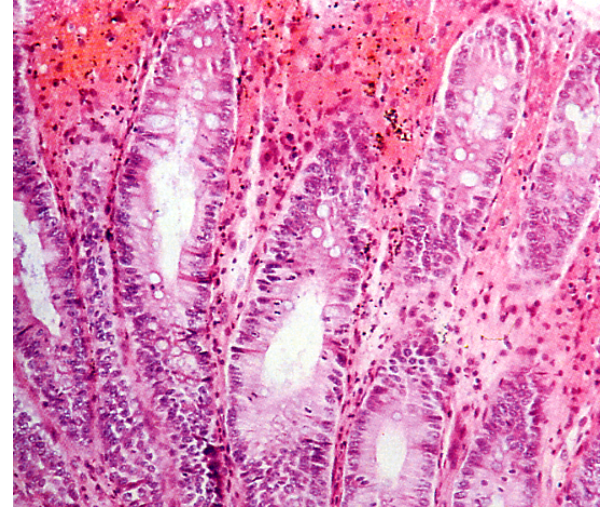






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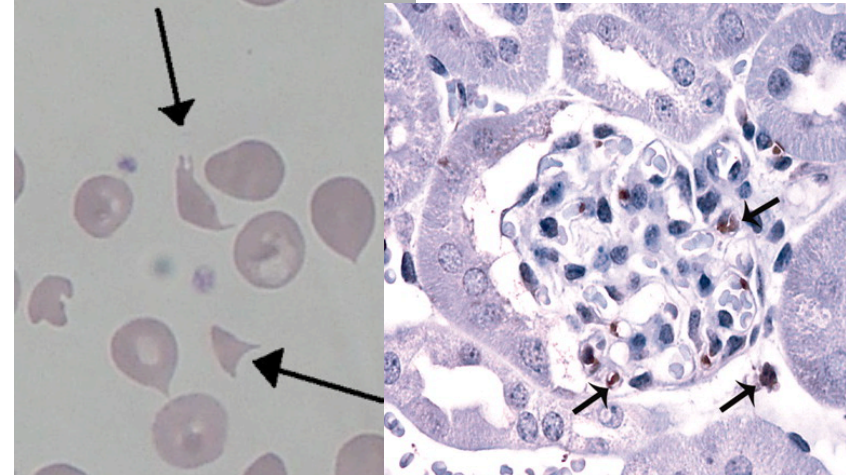
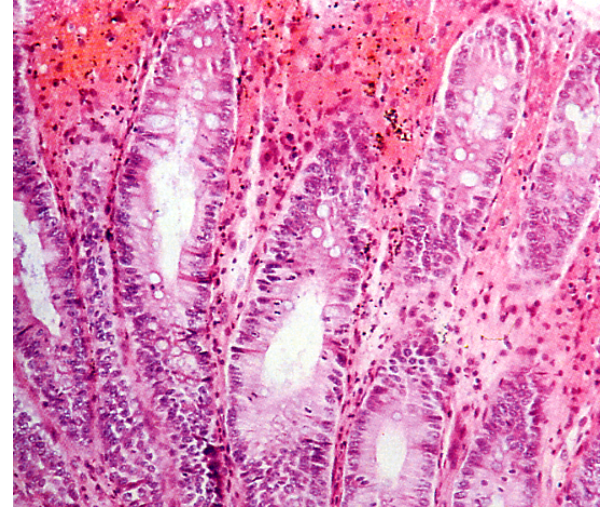
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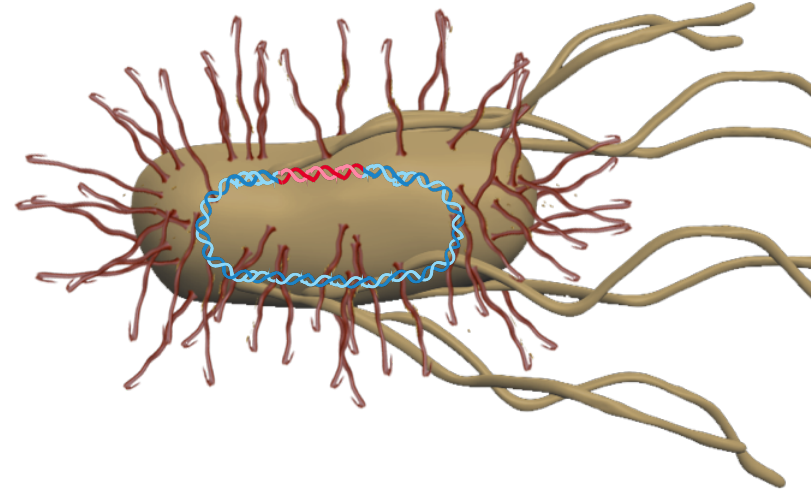
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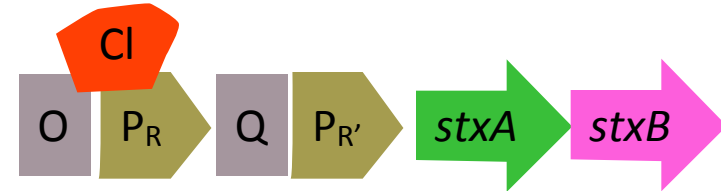


# StEC Evolution & Treatment

- StEC acquired the Shiga-toxin genes through infection by a bacteriophage
  - Toxin genes are near other phage genes
- Toxin production and release increases when the bacteria are stressed-
  - induces bacteriophage lytic cycle
- Some antibiotics induce toxin production and release
- Antibiotic treatment increased rates of HUS in some studies



Repressor

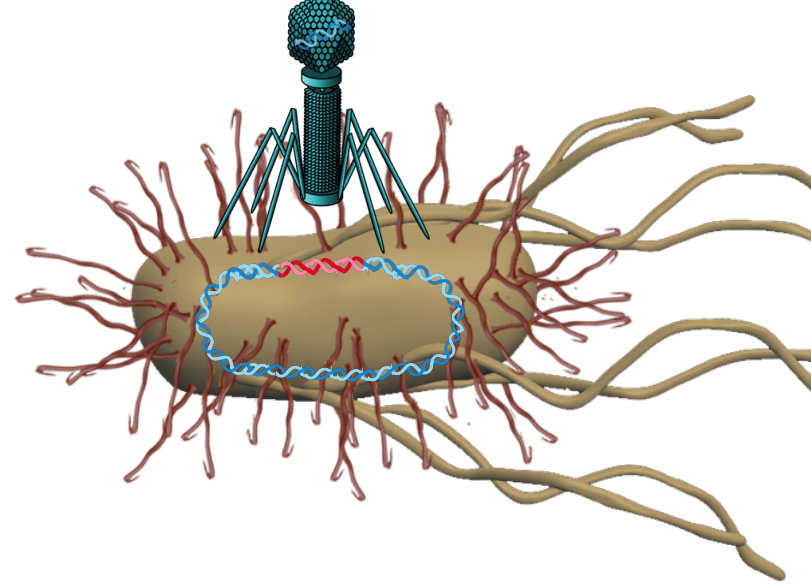




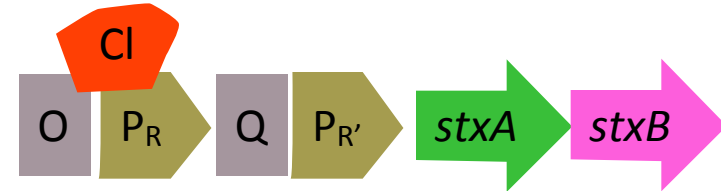


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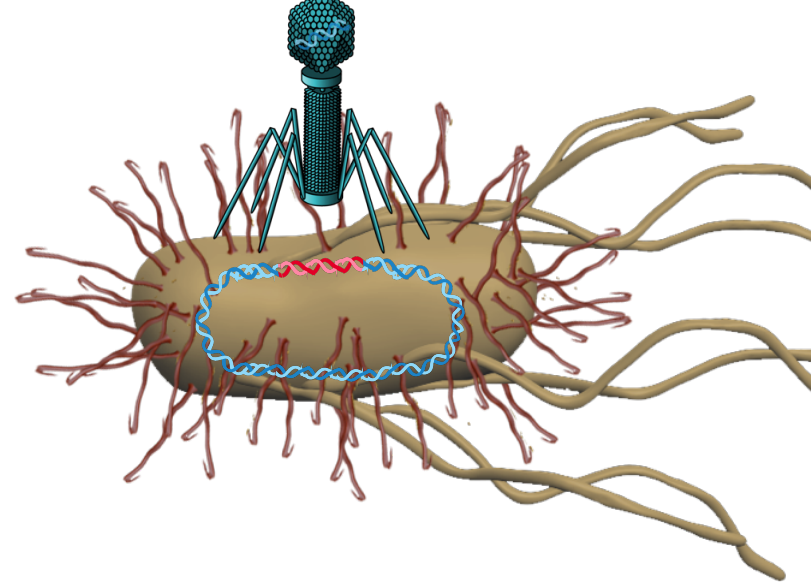
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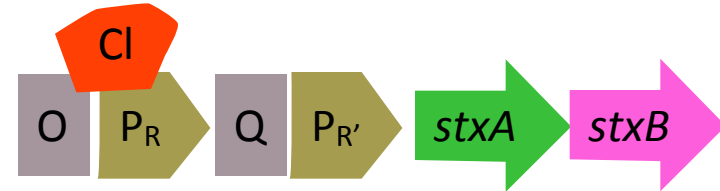
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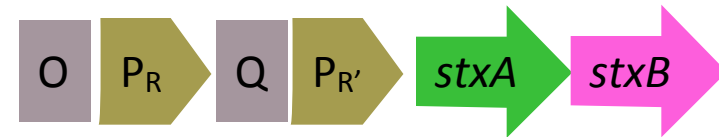
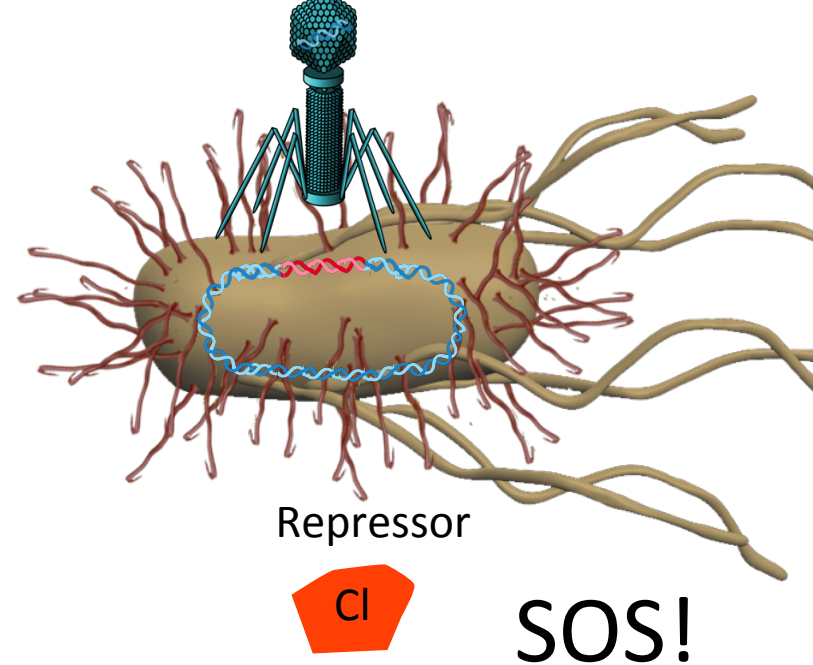
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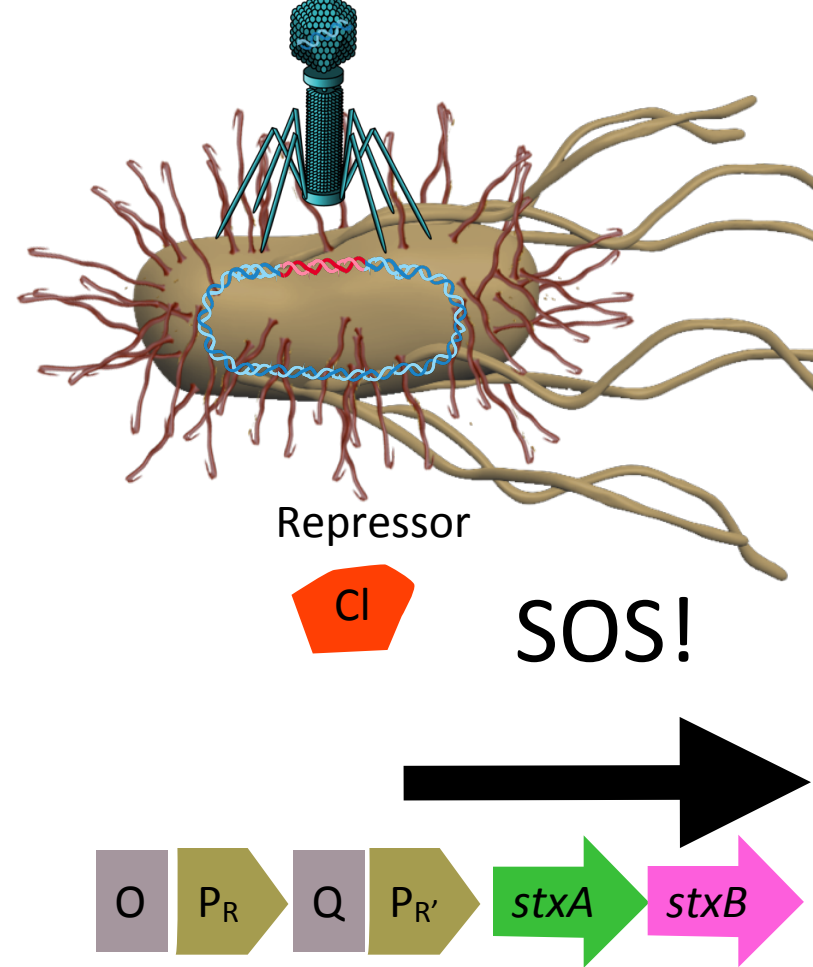
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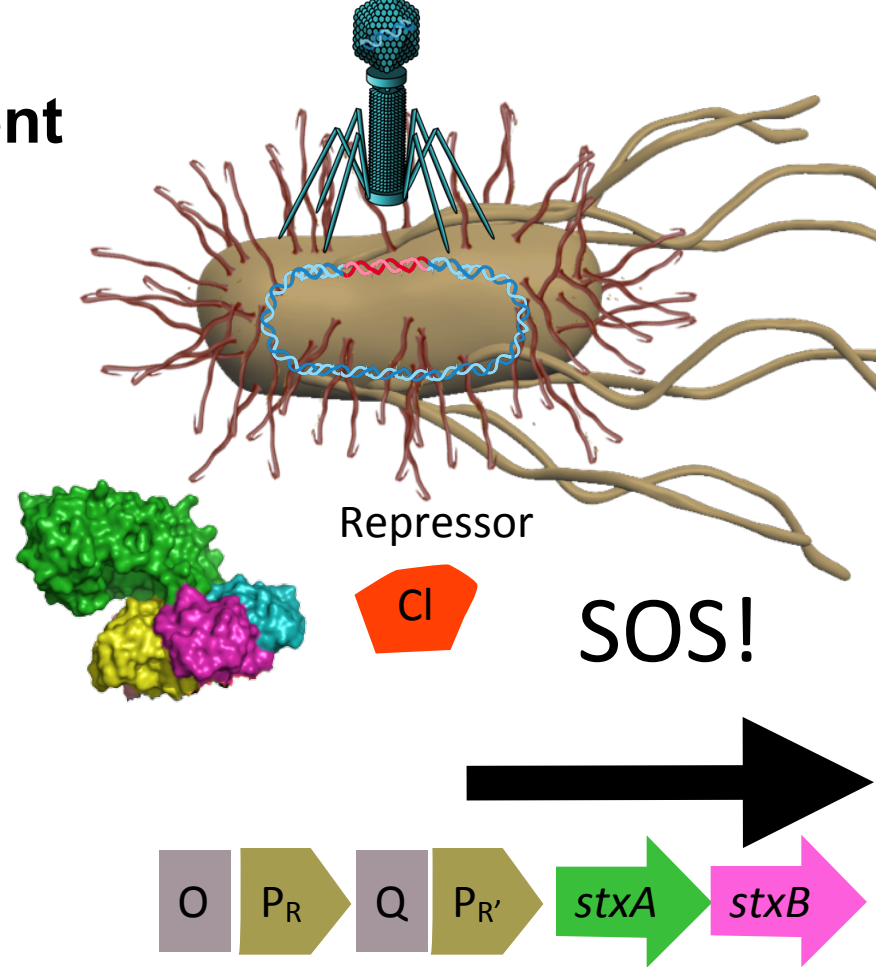
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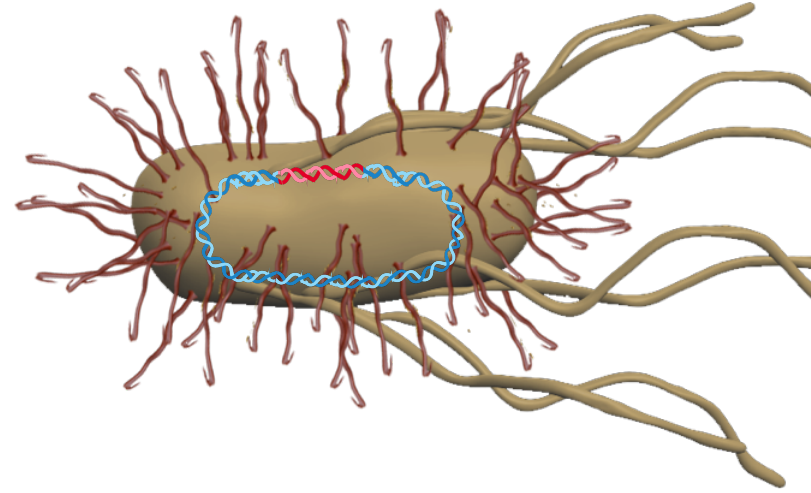
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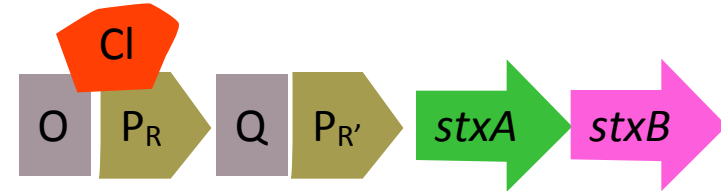


# StEC Evolution & Treatment

- Treatment is thus supportive
  - intravenous volume expansion
  - RBC and platelet transfusions
  - Dialysis
- New ideas being tested- but narrow therapeutic window
  - StEC vaccines
  - anti-toxin monoclonal antibodies
  - receptor mimics



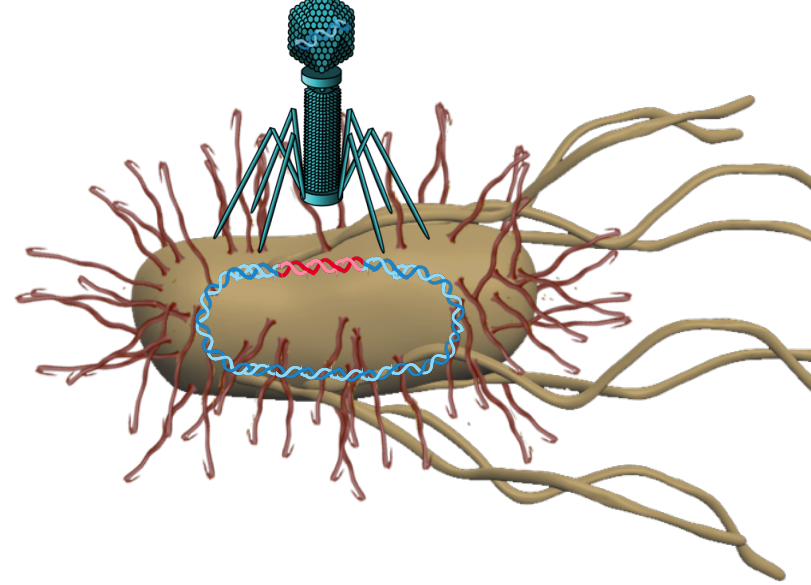
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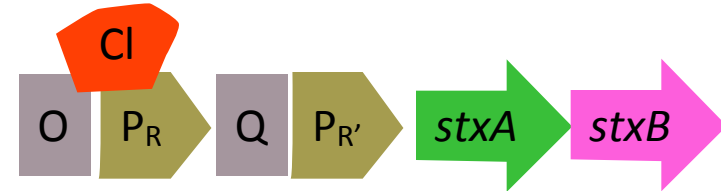


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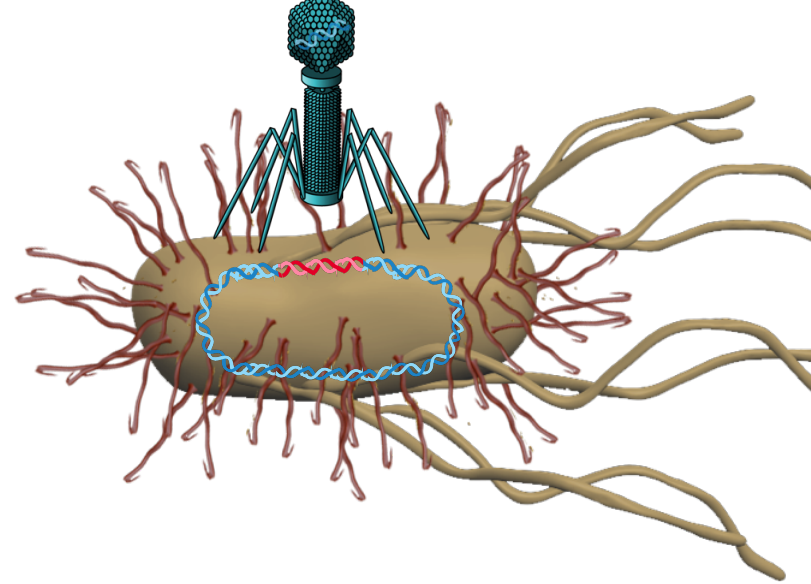






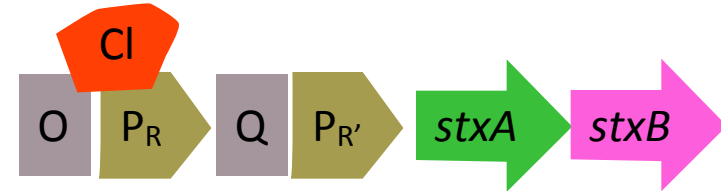
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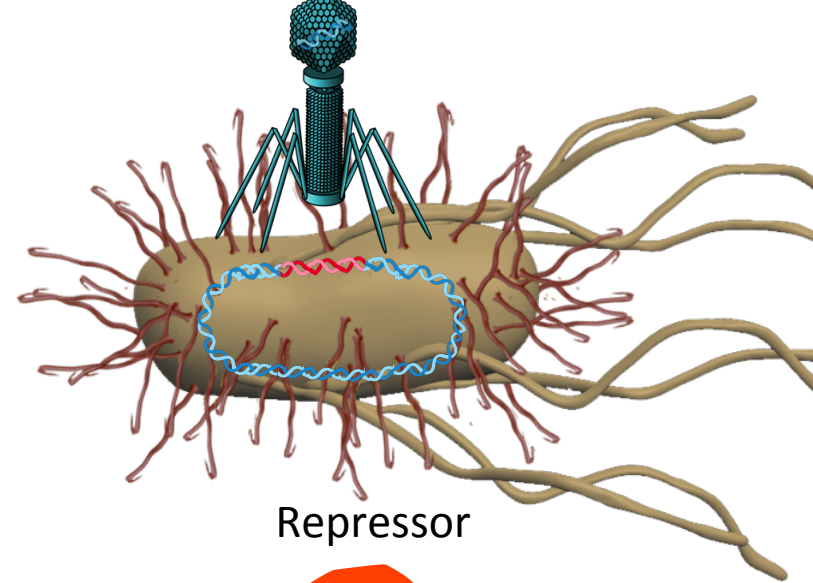
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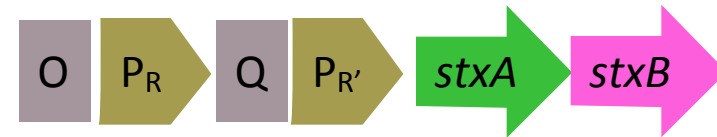
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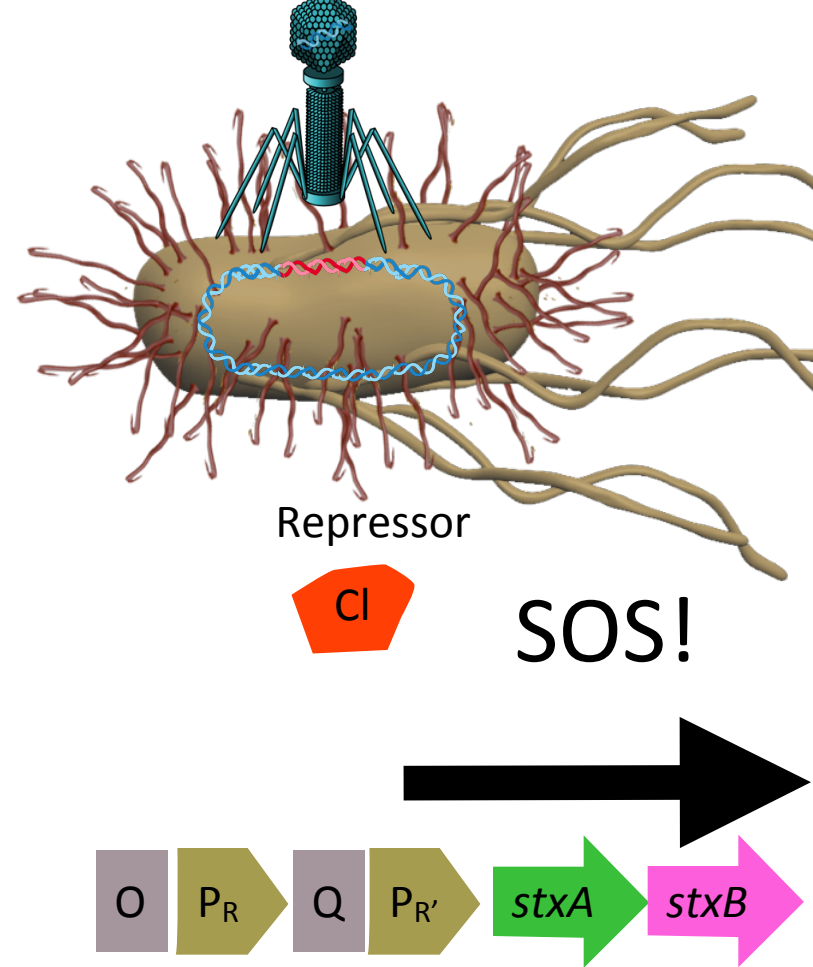
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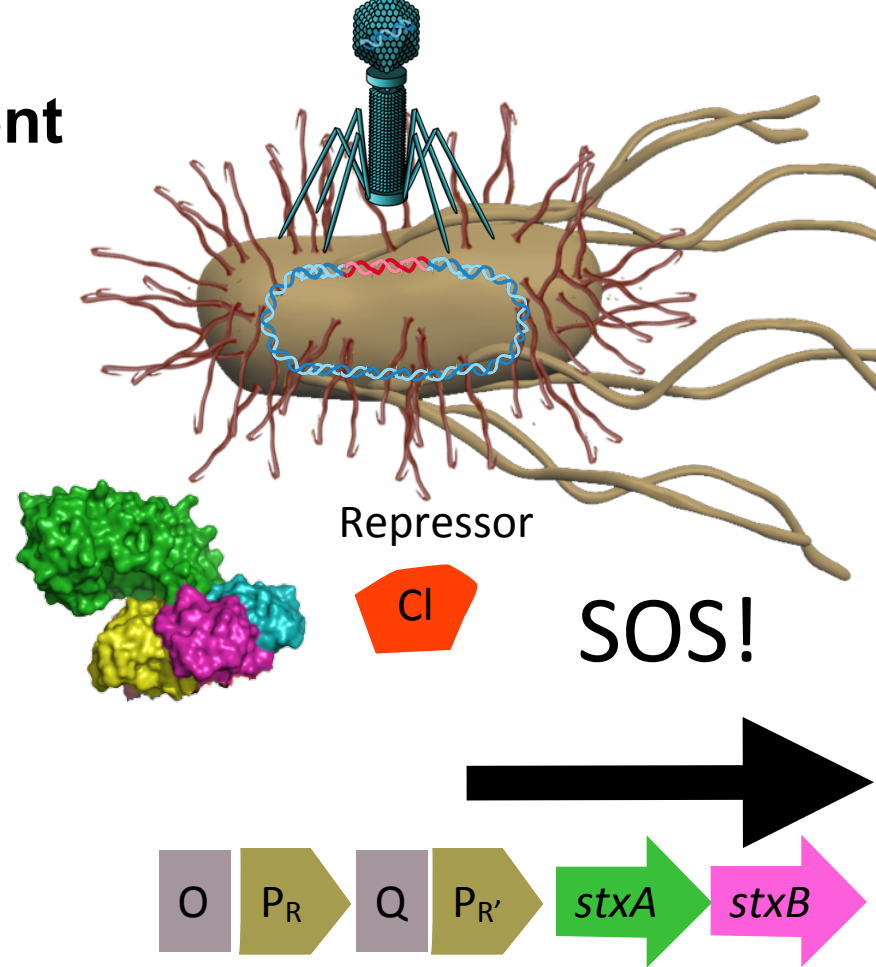
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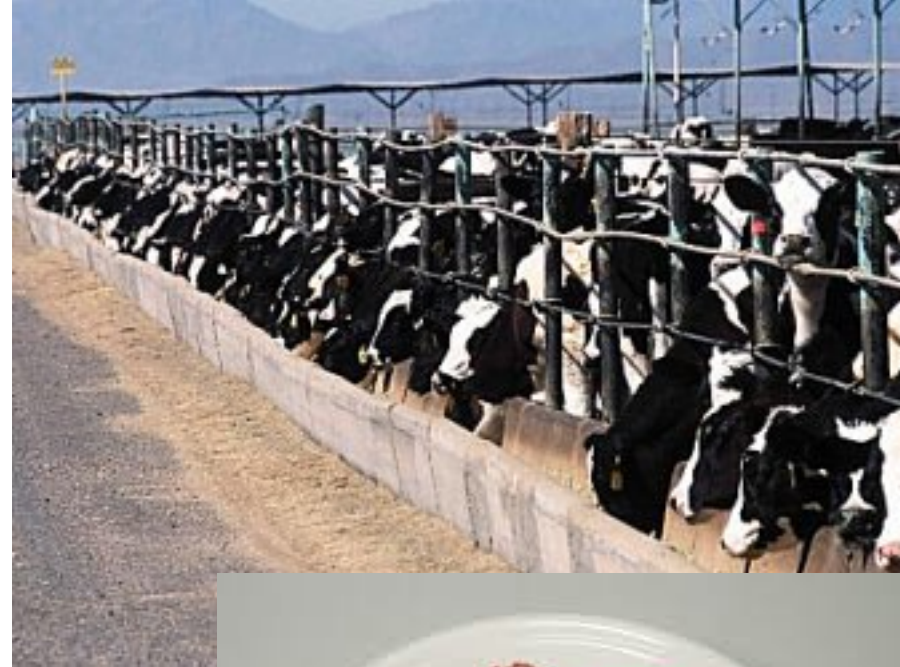
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# StEC Transmission

- The source of StEC is contaminated food.
- Zoonotic- commensals in animals
  - Healthy cattle
  - Not spread human to human like ETEC and EPEC
- Used to be called “hamburger disease” from consumption of contaminated undercooked meat
- Now leafy greens are the food most commonly associated with foodborne outbreaks
- U.S. Estimates: over one ton of animal manure per person per year.
- 40 times more than the amount of human waste



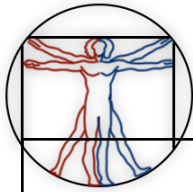


## Emerging pathogens....

- In 2011 an foodborne outbreak of bloody diarrhea and HUS started in Germany and affected 4000 people in several countries
- 25% developed HUS- worse than others
- New strain of StEC found to be an EAEC with Shiga toxin
- Source was Fenugreek Sprouts imported from Egypt into Germany- Health Foods

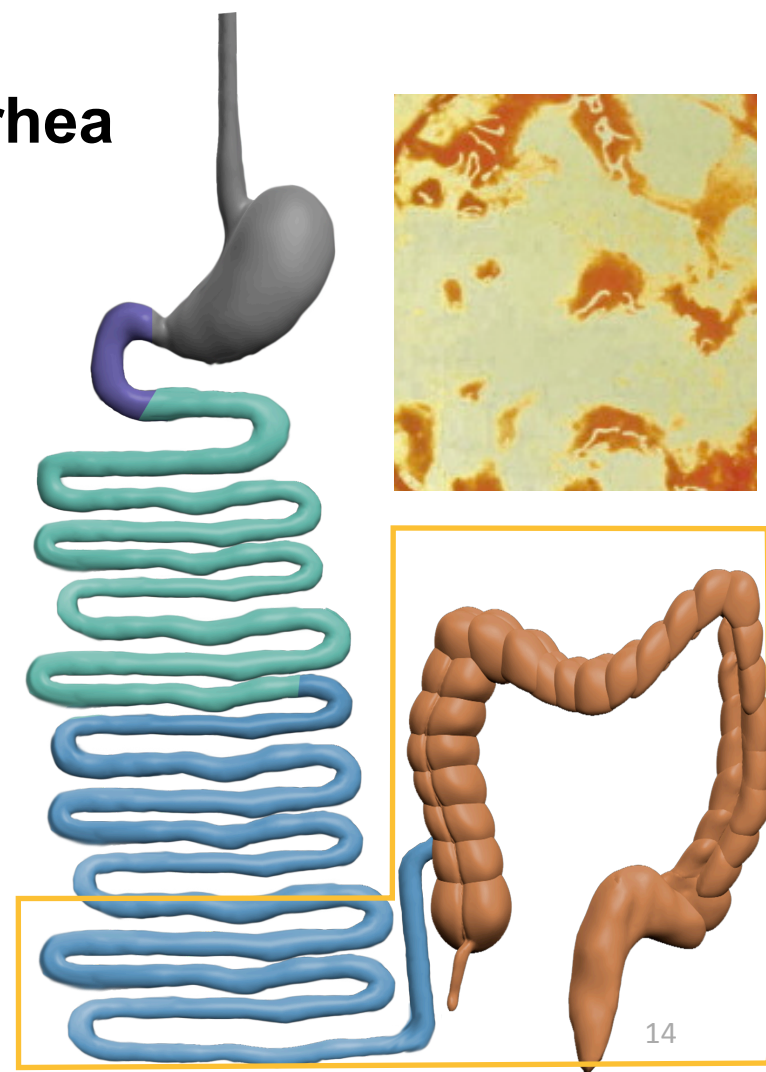






# Inflammatory or Bloody Diarrhea

|                     |  |
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| Clinical Features   | Frequent small volume stools. May have streaks of blood, mucosy from pus. Pain on defecation (tenesmus), ileocolitis, colitis. Fever may be present. |
| Complications       | Depend on etiology and host features- Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome, Bacteremia  |
| Management          | Consider stool cultures, antibiotics for some etiologies but may worsen others   |
| Anatomical Location | Proximal Small Intestine   |
| Pathogenesis        | Damage to enterocytes with local inflammatory responses, direct invasion and cytotoxin damage- Locally invasive                                      |
| Viruses             | none in immunocompetent  |
| Bacteria            | <b><i>Shigella</i>, Shiga-toxigenic <i>E. coli</i> (EHEC, StEC), EIEC, <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>, non-Typhi-<i>Salmonella</i>, <i>Yersinia</i></b> |
| Protozoa            | <i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>   |







# ***Shigella***

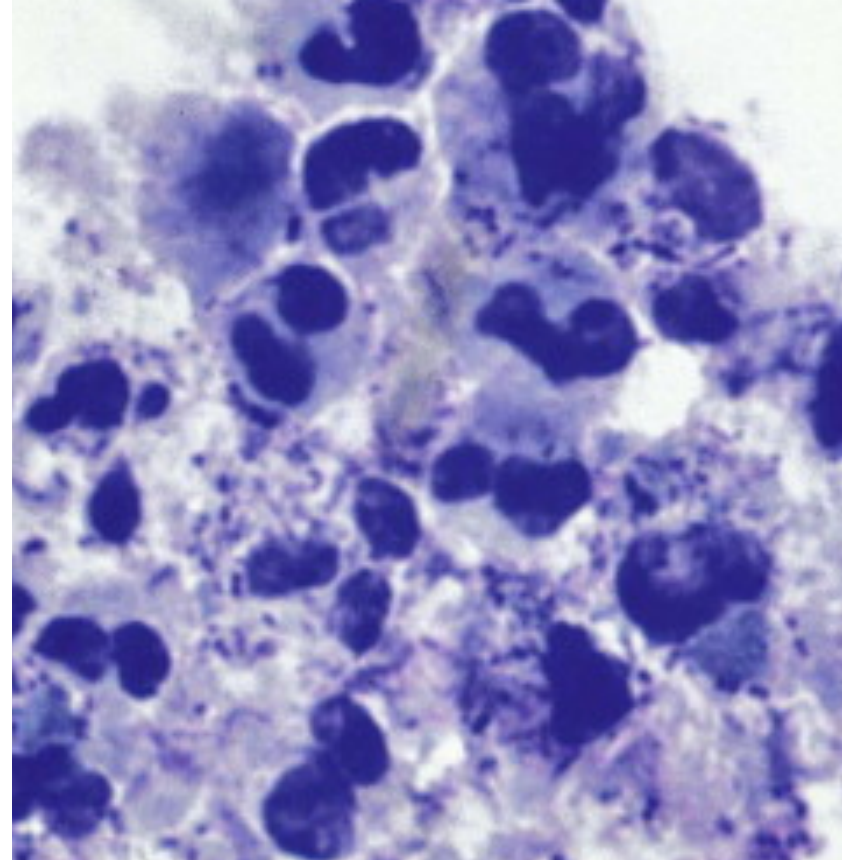
- *Shigella* is a variant of *E. coli*
- Acquired a plasmid with virulence genes for invasion into epithelial cells and macrophages.
  - Can replicate intracellularly
- They only infect humans (primates)
- Fecal-oral transmission
- Very low infectious dose (10-100)
  - Food, feces, fingers, flies





# Shigellosis- dysentery

- Incubation period of 1- 7 days
- Fever, anorexia followed by abdominal cramping and watery diarrhea that becomes bloody with mucus and neutrophils in the stool
- Frequent, low volume stools (up to 50-100 per day) with a sense of urgency and pain on defecation (tenesmus)
- Treatment with antibiotics is recommended





# Shigella pathogenesis

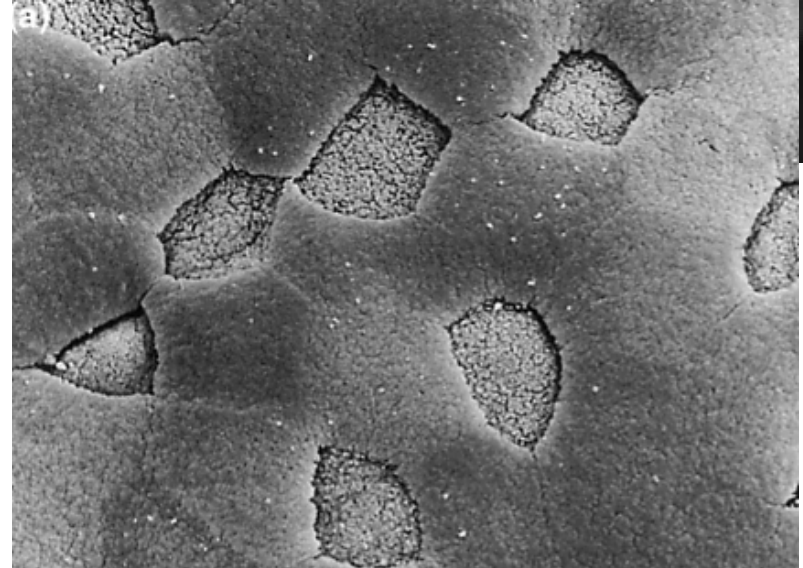
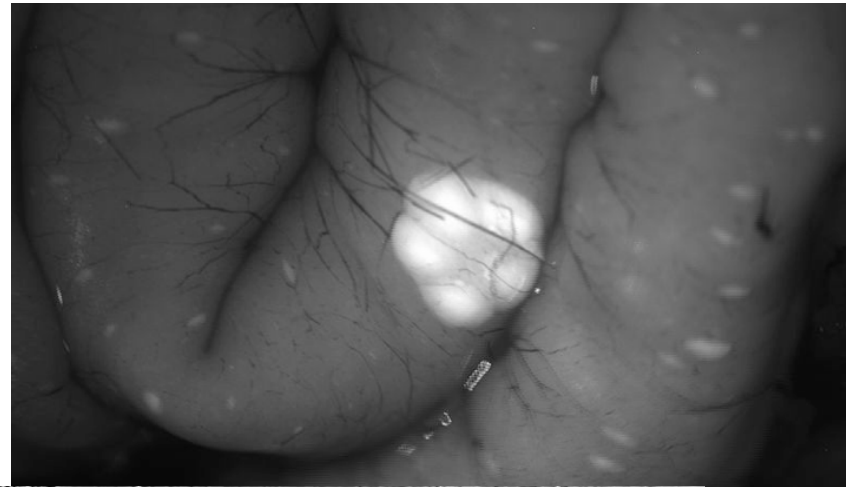
- Invade through M-cells in the terminal ileum and colon
- Like EPEC and StEC they have a T3SS which they use to inject cells
- T3SS effectors induce their uptake into the cells
- Intracellular *Shigella* escape into cytosol and use actin to move inside the cell
- Intracellular Shigella spread from cell to cell
- Infected cells secrete cytokines that cause inflammation





# Shigella pathogenesis

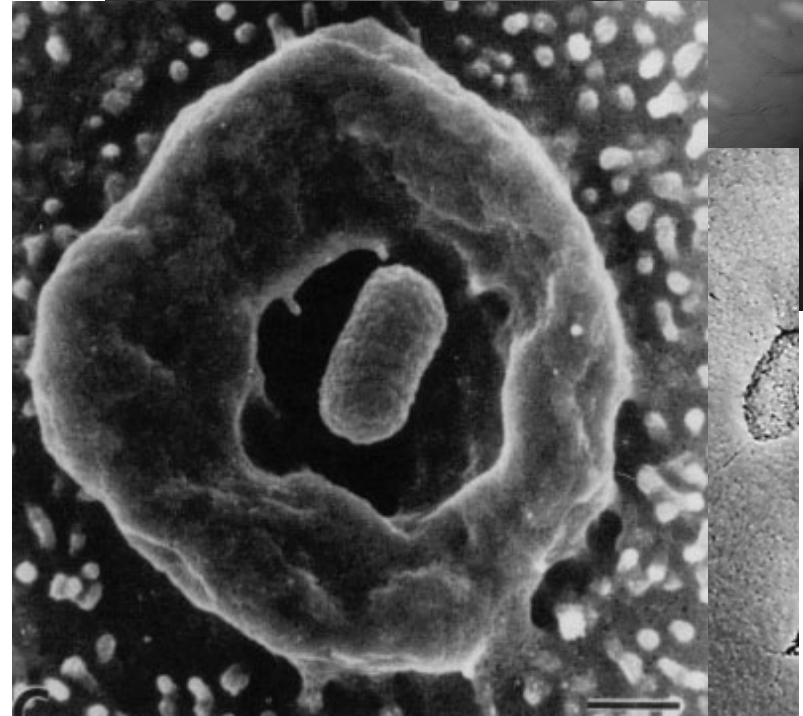
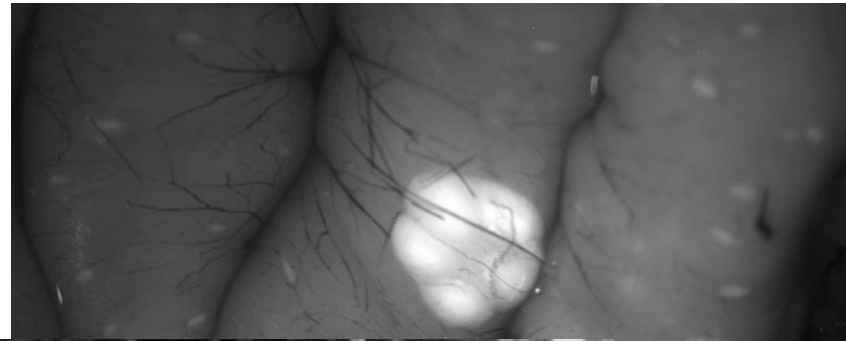
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# Shigella pathogenesis

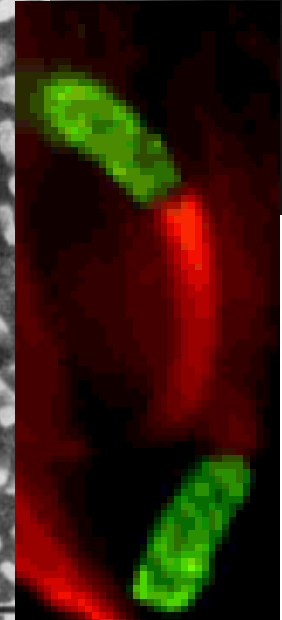
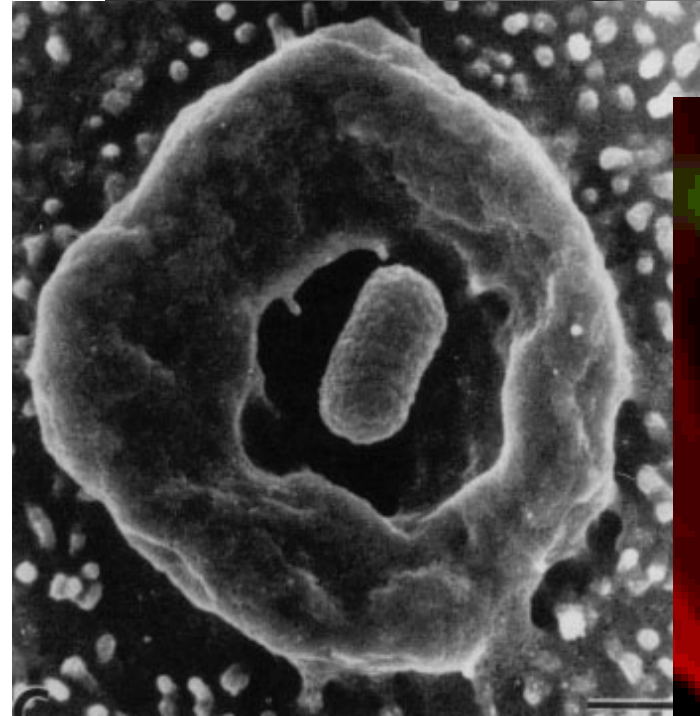
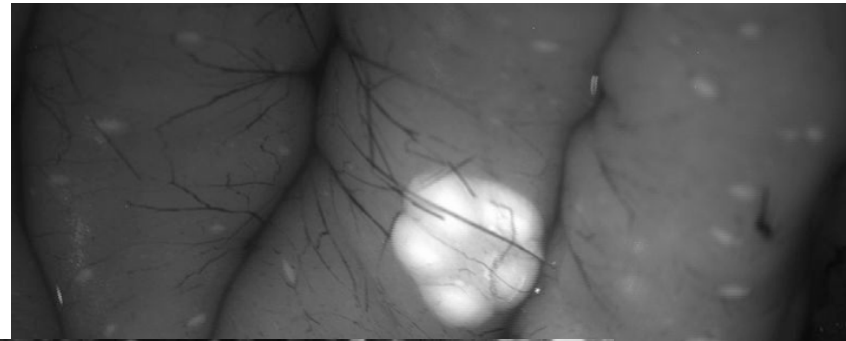
- Invade through M-cells in the terminal ileum and colon
- Like EPEC and StEC they have a T3SS which they use to inject cells
- T3SS effectors induce their uptake into the cells
- Intracellular *Shigella* escape into cytosol and use actin to move inside the cell
- Intracellular Shigella spread from cell to cell
- Infected cells secrete cytokines that cause inflammation





# Shigella pathogenesis

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## Credits: Inflammatory Diarrhea- StEC and Shigella

**Slide 5:** Dysenteric stool. Figure 18.6 Typical dysenteric stool is a small-volume mix of blood and pus. Such stools may be passed 30 or more times per day, often with increased pain (tenesmus). From: Shigellosis. Tropical Infectious Diseases: Principles, Pathogens and Practice. Keusch, Gerald T.; Salam, Mohammed A.; Kopecko, Dennis J. January 1, 2011. Pages 137-144. © 2011.

<https://www.clinicalkey.com>

**Slide 7:** Haemolytic microangiopathy

[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Schizocyte\\_smear\\_2009-12-22.JPG](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Schizocyte_smear_2009-12-22.JPG)

**Slide 12:** Concentrated Animal feeding operation.

<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Confined-animal-feeding-operation.jpg>

Hamburger meat

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ground\\_beef/](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ground_beef/)

**Slide 13:** Fenugreek sprouts.

<http://www.herbsarespecial.com.au/free-sprout-information/fenugreek.html>

**Slide 16:** Fecal leukocytes taken from patient with diffuse colitis (methylene blue stain). In Bacillary Dysentery : Shigella and Enteroinvasive Escherichia coli in Mandell, Douglas, and Bennett's Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases. DuPont, Herbert L.. Published December 31, 2014. Volume 138, Issue 5. Pages 2569-2574.e1. © 2015.

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**Slide 17:** Peyer's patch (two large bright structures) in mouse guts. Transgenic mouse expressing MHCII-GFP protein, as seen by fluorescent stereomicroscope. MHC class II gene is expressed in antigen-presenting cells (APCs), such as B cells, dendritic cells and macrophages

[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Peyer\\_patches\\_MHCII-GFP\\_mouse.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Peyer_patches_MHCII-GFP_mouse.jpg)

## **Credits: Inflammatory Diarrhea- StEC and Shigella**

**Slide 17:** M-cell and cell with actin membrane rearrangement being invaded by shigella courtesy of Stanley Falkow  
Shigella

[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Peyer\\_patches\\_MHCII-GFP\\_mouse.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Peyer_patches_MHCII-GFP_mouse.jpg)

**Slide 18:** Animation of Shigella invading the gut courtesy of Professor Chihiro Sasakawa University of Tokyo, Japan