

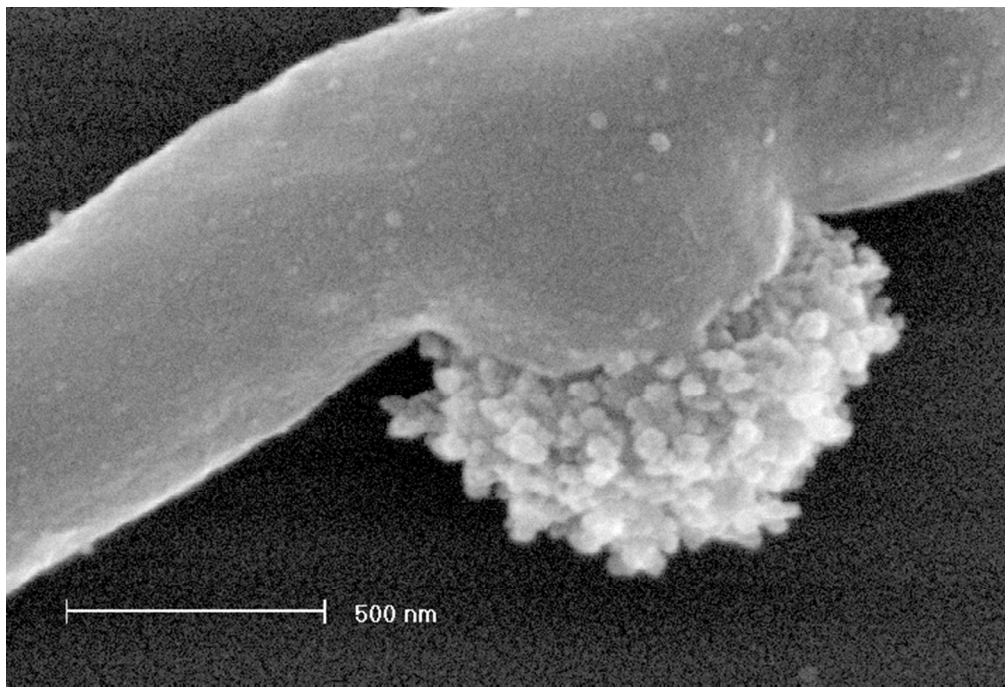
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The Role of Temperate Bacteriophages in Bacterial Infection

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Review

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3 **1 The Role of Temperate Bacteriophages in Bacterial Infection**
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40 15 **Key words:** Temperate Bacteriophage; Bacterial Pathogens; Infection; Adaptation
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21 Abstract

22 Bacteriophages are viruses that infect bacteria. There are an estimated 10^{31} phage on the
23 planet, making them the most abundant form of life. We are rapidly approaching the
24 centenary of their identification, and yet still have only a limited understanding of their role
25 in the ecology and evolution of bacterial populations. Temperate prophage carriage is often
26 associated with increased bacterial virulence. The rise in use of technologies, such as genome
27 sequencing and transcriptomics have highlighted more subtle ways in which prophages
28 contribute to pathogenicity. This review discusses the current knowledge of the multifaceted
29 effects that phage can exert on their hosts and how this may contribute to bacterial adaptation
30 during infection.

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32 Introduction: Lifestyle Choices: A good work-life balance

33 Bacteriophages (phage) are viruses that infect and replicate within bacterial hosts and
34 are ubiquitous and abundant in every niche studied so far on the planet (Roux *et al.*, 2015).

35 They are broadly divided into two categories. Virulent phage follow a strictly productive lytic
36 lifecycle whereas temperate phage switch between dormant and productive states. All phage
37 infect the host bacterium by binding to specific surface receptors and injecting their genome
38 into the cytoplasm. Virulent (lytic) phage infection immediately commandeers the bacterial
39 replicative machinery for multiplication. Phage genes encode structural head and tail proteins
40 and lytic enzymes that cause bacterial cell lyses, releasing lytic phage progeny into the
41 environment. The characteristics of lytic phage offer an attractive alternative to antibiotics.
42 Phage therapy has been widely used in the former Soviet Union (Hraiech *et al.*, 2015) and

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3 43 rapid spread of multi-drug-resistant infections has prompted renewed interest in phage-based
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5 44 therapies worldwide.
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8 45 Temperate (lysogenic) phage follow an alternative life cycle involving integration of
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10 46 their genome into the host chromosome to become a prophage. In this state the phage DNA
11
12 47 replicates along with the host cell (lysogen) and is maintained in the bacterial population.
13
14 48 Lysogenic phage can switch to a lytic lifecycle, particularly in response to environmental
15
16 49 stresses (Figure 1). Lambdoid phage employ repressor genes such as *cI*, which act as a
17
18 50 genetic switch to control the balance between lysis and lysogeny (Ptashne, 2004). Expression
19
20 51 of these repressors prevents the lytic pathway and maintains the prophage state. The CI
21
22 52 repressor also inhibits integration of any incoming phage genomes conferring immunity to
23
24 53 super-infection. There are a wide range of other phage-resistance mechanisms (reviewed in
25
26 54 (Labrie *et al.*, 2010).
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31 55 The balance between lytic and lysogenic states is thought to be largely dependent on
32
33 56 the metabolic condition of the bacterial host cell (Lieb, 1953). Temperate phage infection
34
35 57 tends towards lysogeny in starving cells and this is thought to be a phage survival tactic
36
37 58 during periods of resource limitation (Stewart & Levin, 1984). Integration into the
38
39 59 chromosome is facilitated by integrase and transposase enzymes that can act at specific sites
40
41 60 or randomly. This means that lysogenic phage can drive bacterial diversity by introducing
42
43 61 mutations with each integration event. Active prophage retain the ability to switch to a lytic
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45 62 cycle of productive replication. This occurs spontaneously in a proportion of cells within a
46
47 63 population of lysogenic bacteria. Induction of lambdoid phages into the lytic cycle has been
48
49 64 well characterised and often linked to the SOS response triggered by DNA damage. Prophage
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51 65 induction is thought to be another survival strategy to aid phage escape from a host cell at
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53 66 risk of death (Refardt & Rainey, 2010). Potent inducers of DNA damage and phage induction
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3 67 include physical and chemical mutagens such as UV, mitomycin C and reactive oxygen
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5 68 species (Aanaes *et al.*, 2011). Several antibiotics have also been shown to trigger the lytic
6
7 69 cycle, particularly those that target DNA replication (fluoroquinolones such as norfloxacin
8
9 70 and ciprofloxacin) (Matsushiro *et al.*, 1999, James *et al.*, 2001; Fothergill *et al.*, 2011;
10
11 71 Meessen-Pinard *et al.*, 2012; López *et al.*, 2014).

12
13
14 72 During lysogeny, mutations commonly lead to the formation of a defective (cryptic)
15
16 73 phage, locking the once mobile element in to the host chromosome (Fischer-Fantuzzi and
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18 74 Calef, 1964; Bobay *et al.*, 2014). The frequency of defective (domesticated) prophage may
19
20 75 be grossly underestimated. They can be hard to identify as genome degradation often results
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22 76 in deletion of recognisable phage genes (Mizutani *et al.*, 1999, Bobay *et al.*, 2014).
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28 **Prophage contribution to infection**

29
30 79 Lysogenic infection and subsequent expression by the host of phage encoded genes is
31
32 80 termed lysogenic conversion, and can have profound effects on bacterial phenotype.
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34 81 Prophages often encode “morons” that are not directly involved in viral replication and can
35
36 82 confer a benefit to their bacterial host. Such genes are independent transcriptional units of
37
38 83 DNA that are expressed whilst the phage is in the prophage state (Juhala *et al.*, 2000).
39
40 84 Morons can include genes that enhance the virulence of their bacterial host, either directly
41
42 85 (e.g. phage-encoded toxins), or indirectly, by enhancing the ecological fitness of bacteria
43
44 86 during infection (Hacker & Carniel, 2001). The role of temperate phage in disease situations
45
46 87 is thus becoming increasingly recognised.
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51 88 The recent growth in whole bacterial genome sequencing has revealed high numbers
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53 89 of integrated prophage (Hayashi *et al.*, 2001, Winstanley *et al.*, 2009, Wang *et al.*, 2010,
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55 90 Matos *et al.*, 2013). Pathogenic strains have been shown to carry a greater proportion of
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3 91 phage-related genes than non-pathogenic strains (Busby *et al.*, 2013), many maintaining
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5 92 multiple prophages in the same chromosome (Hayashi *et al.*, 2001, Winstanley *et al.*, 2009).
6
7 93 For example, the majority of the genetic difference between avirulent and virulent strains of
8
9 94 *Escherichia coli* is due to mobile genetic elements, notably phages (Hayashi *et al.*, 2001,
10
11 95 Ohnishi *et al.*, 2002). Table 1 summarises some of the major phage-encoded bacterial
12
13 96 virulence factors that have been identified.
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17 97 **Exotoxins:** The concept of lysogenic conversion was first introduced in 1927 when it
18
19 98 was demonstrated that a filterable agent (later identified as a bacteriophage) could convert
20
21 99 previously non-toxicogenic Streptococci into toxin producers (Frobisher & Brown, 1927). It
22
23 100 wasn't until the 1950s that phage transduction was shown to be responsible for toxicogenic
24
25 101 conversion of avirulent *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* to produce a potent exotoxin and
26
27 102 become highly pathogenic to the animal host (Groman, 1953, Groman, 1955). Since then
28
29 103 there have been numerous reports of phage-encoded exotoxins that enhance the virulence of
30
31 104 their bacterial hosts, including *Vibrio cholera*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Clostridium botulinum*
32
33 105 and *E. coli* (reviewed in (Casas & Maloy, 2011)). Shiga toxins (Stx), major virulence factors
34
35 106 of Shigatoxicogenic *E. coli* (STEC) are produced by a group of temperate Stx phages. The *stx*₂
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37 107 genes are located in the phage late gene region and are expressed when the prophage is
38
39 108 triggered into the lytic cycle (Wagner *et al.*, 2002).
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44 109 Phage-encoded exotoxins are likely to contribute to bacterial fitness, but the exact
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46 110 mechanism remains unclear (for a review on the evolution of bacterial virulence, see (Levin
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48 111 & Svanborg Eden, 1990)). Phage-encoded exotoxins are well characterised as they often have
49
50 112 a large impact on bacterial virulence. However, prophage can have more subtle effects on
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52 113 host phenotype, conferring a benefit to the host bacterium by enhancing colonisation or
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54 114 competitiveness in an animal host (Fortier & Sekulovic, 2013).
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3 115 **Adhesion and Invasion:** One of the crucial first stages of bacterial infection is
4
5 116 attachment to cells. Some phage-encoded shiga-toxins provide extra virulence by facilitating
6
7 117 adherence of STEC to gut epithelial cells in a murine model of infection (Robinson *et al.*,
8
9 118 2006). Several stx phages (e.g. 933W isolated from *E. coli* O157:H7) also possess a *lom* gene
10
11 119 homologue that encodes an outer membrane protein necessary for adhesion to human
12
13 120 epithelial cells (Vica Pacheco *et al.*, 1997). The prophage-encoded PblA and PblB platelet
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15 121 binding proteins of *Streptococcus mitis* strain SF100 play an important role in the
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17 122 pathogenesis, causing endocarditis (Bensing *et al.*, 2001) and homologs with similar
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19 123 functions have been identified in prophage of *Enterococcus faecalis* (Matos *et al.*, 2013).
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24 124 Bacterial type III secretion systems (TTSS) are associated with attachment and
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26 125 invasion by secreting effectors directly into target host cells. There are many examples of
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28 126 prophages that contribute to these systems in several intestinal pathogens. A cryptic
29
30 127 prophage, CP-933C, has been reported to positively regulate a TTSS in *E. coli* (Flockhart *et*
31
32 128 *al.*, 2012). Deletion mutants of the cryptic phage displayed reduced colonisation and
33
34 129 persistence in an ovine model, through a reduced ability to adhere to epithelial cells
35
36 130 (Flockhart *et al.*, 2012). The *Salmonella typhimurium* prophage-encoded SopE is an effector
37
38 131 protein secreted via the TTSS into intestinal epithelial cells to promote invasion (Miroid *et*
39
40 132 *al.*, 1999). Likewise the CJIE1-like prophage, carried by some isolates of *Campylobacter*
41
42 133 *jejuni*, confers increased adherence and invasion *in vitro* (Clark *et al.*, 2012). This phage has
43
44 134 also been shown to alter host protein expression in the presence of bile salts (Clark *et al.*,
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46 135 2012).
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50 136 **Contributions to fitness *in vivo*:** Once bacteria have successfully colonised a host,
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52 137 they must reproduce and evade the host immune system. Biofilms are a key feature of many
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54 138 bacterial infections and can be described as complex microbial communities, protected by a
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3 139 secreted matrix of exopolysaccharides, proteins and DNA. Biofilm-associated bacteria
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5 140 exhibit increased resistance to immune attack and antibiotic treatment. Both active and
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7 141 cryptic prophage have been suggested to play a role in biofilm development of several
8
9 142 pathogens, including *S. pneumoniae* (Carrolo *et al.*, 2010), *Bacillus anthracis* (Schuch &
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11 143 Fischetti, 2009) and *E. coli* (Wang *et al.*, 2010). Homologs of the filamentous phage Pf4, are
12
13 144 widespread in clinical *P. aeruginosa* isolates, and play a crucial role in several stages of
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15 145 biofilm maturation. In particular Pf4 switches to a super-infective form within mature
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17 146 biofilms, aiding dispersal. This has been associated with increased virulence in a mouse
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19 147 model of infection (Rice *et al.*, 2009).
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24 148 Enhanced growth rate upon lysogenic conversion is a common phenomenon (Bondy-
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26 149 Denomy & Davidson, 2014). The prophage SMP increases both growth rate and resistance to
27
28 150 lysozyme resulting in enhanced virulence of its *Streptococcus suis* host (SS2) in a zebrafish
29
30 151 model of infection (Tang *et al.*, 2013). A reduced rate of growth has been observed when
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32 152 cryptic prophages are deleted from *E. coli* K12 compared to wild-type (Wang *et al.*, 2010).
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34 153 Mutational studies of the Liverpool Epidemic Strain (LES) of *P. aeruginosa* (isolated from
35
36 154 the lungs of patients with cystic fibrosis (CF)), revealed a significant association of prophage
37
38 155 genes with competitiveness in a rat model of chronic lung infection (Winstanley *et al.*, 2009).
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40 156 Mutations in several prophage genes exhibited up to 1000 fold reduced ability to establish
41
42 157 infection and modified the expression of multiple virulence genes, including key factors
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44 158 associated with chronic infection (Lemieux *et al.*, 2015). These studies suggest that temperate
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46 159 phage influence multiple stages of infection and alter the fitness of phage-carrying bacteria in
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48 160 the host environment.
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53 161 **Immune modulation and antimicrobial resistance:** Some prophage confer bacterial
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55 162 traits that are capable of actively modulating the immune system. Shiga toxin, produced by *E.*
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3 163 *coli* Stx-phage, is capable of inhibiting the innate immune response of human enterocytes by
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5 164 inhibiting the PI3K/Akt/NF- κ B signalling pathway. This leads to a subsequent decrease in
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7 165 chemokines CCL20 and interleukin-8, which are linked with the innate immune response
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10 166 (Gobert *et al.*, 2007). Several temperate phage of *P. aeruginosa* have been shown to convert
11
12 167 non-mucoid strains to mucoidy, a phenotype characterised by the overproduction of the
13
14 168 polysaccharide alginate (Miller & Renta Rubero, 1984). This phenotype provides bacteria
15
16 169 with a physical protectant that helps them to be refractory to both the immune system (Cabral
17
18 170 *et al.*, 1987) and to antibiotic treatment (Hentzer *et al.*, 2001).

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22 171 Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) genes have been identified on phage isolated from
23
24 172 water (Colomer-Lluch *et al.*, 2011), activated sludge (Parsley *et al.*, 2010), faecal samples
25
26 173 (Quirós *et al.*, 2014), and the lungs of individuals with CF (Fancello *et al.*, 2011). These
27
28 174 genes can be transduced, changing the antimicrobial susceptibility profile of their host
29
30 175 (Zhang & LeJeune, 2008, Mazaheri Nezhad Fard *et al.*, 2011). An important example of this
31
32 176 includes the transfer of the Staphylococcal cassette chromosome *mec* (SCC*mec*), a defining
33
34 177 feature of Methicillin Resistance *S. aureus* (MRSA). This pathogenicity island can harbour
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36 178 several AMR determinants that are transferable by phage (Maslanova *et al.*, 2013). Phage of
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38 179 bovine Salmonellae have been shown to transduce the *bla*_{CMY-2} gene, encoding resistance to
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40 180 third-generation cephalosporins (Zhang & LeJeune, 2008) and the Staphylococcal phage,
41
42 181 TEM123 (isolated from food), was shown to confer beta-lactam resistance via a metallo- β -
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44 182 lactamase gene (Lee and Park, 2015). In this way, phage have been described as “vehicles of
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46 183 the resistome” and metagenomic analysis of DNA from the respiratory tract of CF patients
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48 184 has revealed the presence of phage-associated AMR genes (Rolain *et al.*, 2011). Modi *et al.*,
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50 185 (2013) observed an increase in phage-associated AMR genes *in vivo* following antibiotic
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52 186 treatment of mice. Interestingly, they detected enrichment of disparate mechanisms to resist
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3 187 both the administered drug and un-related antibiotics. Furthermore, the evolved phage were
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5 188 shown to transfer AMR to naïve cultures from mouse microbiota. These findings suggest that
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7 189 phages play an important role in driving the evolution and spread of resistance and should be
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9 190 considered in control measures.
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13 14 15 16 192 **Phage abundance in the human environment**

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19 193 A phenomenal diversity of phage has been described in the natural environment, in
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21 194 the region of 50 viral species per litre of sea water, and up to 1 million species in 1 kg of
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23 195 marine sediment (Rohwer & Thurber, 2009). Prophages have been identified in ~ 60% of
24
25 196 sequenced bacterial genomes (Roux et al 2015). The influence of bacteriophages on the life
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27 197 histories and evolution of their hosts in these environments is multi-faceted. In addition to
28
29 198 the selective pressures of predation, horizontal transfer of important genes (e.g. those
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31 199 involved in stress response, chemotaxis and metabolic pathways) aid niche adaptation
32
33 200 (Rohwer & Thurber, 2009). There is less known about the density of natural bacteriophage
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35 201 populations *in vivo*, and particularly during bacterial infections. Phage virions have been
36
37 202 detected in human sputa and faeces by electron microscopy (Ojeniyi *et al.*, 1991) and isolated
38
39 203 using plaque assays (Furuse *et al.*, 1983, Fothergill *et al.*, 2011). These studies report *E. coli*
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41 204 phage (coliphage) titres of up to 10^5 p.f.u. g^{-1} human faeces (Dhillon *et al.*, 1976) and an
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43 205 association has been identified between high coliphage densities ($>1 \times 10^5$ p.f.u. g^{-1}) and
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45 206 disease (Furuse *et al.*, 1983). Others have observed a shift from predominantly temperate, to
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47 207 virulent phages associated with human diarrhoeal disease; a reflection of modified intestinal
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49 208 microflora.
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3 209 Metagenomic studies have begun to describe the human virome and have indicated
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5 210 that phage far out-weigh eukaryotic viruses both in number and diversity (Willner *et al.*,
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7 211 2011, Reyes *et al.*, 2012). Sequencing techniques are not dependent on plaque assays to
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9
10 212 detect phages and can thus enumerate total phage abundance without the need for a
11
12 213 susceptible bacterial host. An estimated 10^8 – 10^9 bacteriophage particles per gram of human
13
14 214 faeces (Kim *et al.*, 2011), and approximately 10^3 virotypes (mainly temperate) have been
15
16 215 identified (Breitbart *et al.*, 2003). 236 and 175 viral species have been identified in the oral
17
18 216 cavity and the respiratory tract respectively (Willner *et al.*, 2009, Willner *et al.*, 2011).
19
20 217 Temporal, spatial and inter-individual variation in virome diversity has been observed in the
21
22 218 gastro-intestinal tract (Kim *et al.*, 2011), oral cavity (Pride *et al.*, 2012) and respiratory tract
23
24 219 (Willner *et al.*, 2009). However, there is little known about the balance between active phage
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26 220 virion densities and prophages *in vivo*. The development of new bio-informatic tools, such as
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28 221 VirSorter (Roux *et al.*, 2015) that can assemble viral genomes from metagenomic and single-
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30 222 cell amplified genome data, hold promise for the elucidation of this dynamic phage-host
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33 223 relationship in complex communities.

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35
36 224 **Effects of antibiotic treatment:** It is well established that some antibiotics can
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38 225 trigger the switch between lysogenic and lytic phage lifecycles; particularly the
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40 226 fluoroquinolones, that affect DNA replication. Production of *Clostridium difficile* phages,
41
42 227 isolated from human faeces, has been shown to increase by 4-5 logs in response to
43
44 228 fluoroquinolone treatment (Meessen-Pinard *et al.*, 2012). Ciprofloxacin has been
45
46 229 demonstrated to trigger the V583 phage lytic cycle in *E. faecalis*. This antibiotic is routinely
47
48 230 used in therapeutic regimes including in the management of *P. aeruginosa* infection in (CF)
49
50 231 (Fothergill *et al.*, 2011, Matos *et al.*, 2013). This has been linked with both upregulation of
51
52 232 phage-related genes (Cirz *et al.*, 2006) and increased production of phage virions (Fothergill
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54 233 *et al.*, 2011). Free *P. aeruginosa* phage have been detected at high levels in CF patient sputa,
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3 234 most likely as a result of induction by antibiotics and oxidative stress (James *et al.*, 2012,
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5 235 James *et al.*, 2015). Norfloxacin is a well-known inducer of stx-phage from STEC, resulting
6
7 236 in increased toxin production (Matsushiro *et al.*, 1999). Clinicians are therefore advised to
8
9
10 237 avoid treatment of suspected STEC infection with fluoroquinolones (Nassar *et al.*, 2013).

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13 238 Long-term antibiotic treatment is likely to play a crucial role in the dynamics between
14
15 239 prophage and their hosts *in vivo*. A longitudinal study of CF patient sputa tracked the density
16
17 240 of six *P. aeruginosa* phage that are all maintained as active prophages in the same LES
18
19 241 chromosome. A consistently high density of DNA from LES phage virions (10^4 –
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21 242 10^9 copies μl^{-1}) was observed that correlated positively with LES host numbers over a 2 year
22
23 243 period. Free-phage density exceeded specific bacterial host density (11-90-fold), consistent
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25 244 with ongoing lytic activity. This was expected as CF patients are often treated with high
26
27 245 doses of intravenous antibiotics during exacerbation of symptoms. Surprisingly, there was no
28
29 246 correlation between LES phage density and treatment of exacerbated symptoms. These
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31 247 patients were subject to variable cocktails of different antibiotic classes over several years
32
33 248 irrespective of exacerbations (James *et al.*, 2015). Not all antibiotics induce the phage lytic
34
35 249 cycle; in fact some are known to suppress lytic activity (Fothergill *et al.*, 2011). As next
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37 250 generation sequencing technologies advance, the interaction between antibiotics, phage and
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39 251 their hosts during chronic infections can be teased apart in further longitudinal studies.
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253 **Role of phage in bacterial adaptation**

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49
50 254 It is no surprise that phage can be intimately involved in the adaptation and evolution
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52 255 of their bacterial hosts to drive bacterial diversification through numerous mechanisms. Lytic
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54 256 bacteriophages obligately kill their hosts placing a strong antagonistic selective pressure on
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3 257 bacteria to avoid infection. The “kill the winner” hypothesis posits that the competition
4
5 258 specialists in a bacterial population become targets of bacteriophages. The subsequent
6
7 259 reduction in the “winners” selects for diversity in the population (Winter *et al.*, 2010). The
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9
10 260 obvious effects of lysogenic conversion of bacterial hosts have been well documented. The
11
12 261 carriage of additional genes during lysogeny can increase bacterial population diversity
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14 262 through a less antagonistic selection pressure than lytic infection. However, the more subtle
15
16 263 effects of temperate phage on the adaptation of bacterial populations require further
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18 264 exploration. Temperate bacteriophages can also drive host genome evolution through gene
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20 265 disruption, **duplication**, transduction or by acting as anchor points for major chromosomal
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23 266 rearrangements.

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26 267 **Gene Disruption** frequently occurs through insertional inactivation. As an example
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28 268 of negative lysogenic conversion, Staphylococcal phage L54a has been shown to integrate
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30 269 into the lipase-encoding gene (*geh*) resulting in a loss of phenotype (Lee & Iandolo, 1986).
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32 270 Another *S. aureus* phage, $\phi 13$, has integrated into the 5' end of the *hly* gene, causing a loss of
33
34 271 beta-toxin expression (Coleman *et al.*, 1991). *E. coli* phage Mu (mutator) was the first
35
36 272 identified example of a bacteriophage causing mutations in the host chromosome. Mu
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38 273 lysogens were observed to display differences in their nutritional requirements through
39
40 274 phage-mediated disruption of gene function (Taylor, 1963). Phage Mu is transposable,
41
42 275 meaning it can integrate into random sites of the host chromosome (Bukhari & Zipser, 1972)
43
44 276 unlike many other phage, including λ and $\phi 13$ which only integrate at specific sites.
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46 277 Transposable *P. aeruginosa* phage are commonplace, and include D3112 (Wang *et al.*, 2004)
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48 278 B3 (Braid *et al.*, 2004) and LES $\phi 4$ (Winstanley *et al.*, 2009). D3112 has been shown to
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50 279 cause mutations in PAO1 through insertional inactivation (Rehmat & Shapiro, 1983).
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3 280 However, the true extent of the impact of phage-mediated gene disruption on bacterial
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5 281 evolution remains poorly understood.
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8 **Transduction:** Horizontal transfer of genetic material between bacterial genomes by
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10 283 a bacteriophage can occur by two different mechanisms. Both virulent and temperate phage
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12 284 types are capable of generalised transduction, which occurs during the lytic cycle of
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14
15 285 infection. Prior to cell lysis, phage heads are packaged with newly replicated phage genomes,
16
17 286 but bacterial DNA can be mistakenly incorporated in place of the phage nucleic acid. Upon
18
19 287 infection of another cell, the DNA is released into the cell cytoplasm and can potentially
20
21 288 recombine with the host chromosome. 90% of temperate phage of the *S. Typhimurium*
22
23 289 complex have been shown to perform generalised transduction in host bacterial populations
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25
26 290 (Ebel-Tsipis *et al.*, 1972, Schicklmaier & Schmieger, 1995). Generalised transduction of
27
28 291 AMR genes has been observed during induction of a multi-drug resistant strain of *S.*
29
30 292 *Typhimurium* using the veterinary antibiotic, carbadox (Bearson *et al.*, 2014). The recently
31
32 293 characterised *P. aeruginosa* phage ϕ PA3, originally isolated from sewage, is capable of
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34 294 infecting clinical CF isolates. It has been shown to transduce mutations in quorum sensing
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36 295 genes (*las* and *rhl*) in cultures of the lab strain PAO1 (Monson *et al.*, 2011).
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40 Specialised transduction is mediated only by temperate phage, and occurs during
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42 297 imprecise excision of prophage from the bacterial genome, taking with it adjacent bacterial
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44 298 gene(s), which are transferred to another bacterial host upon lysogenic infection. Specialised
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47 299 transducing λ phage have been shown to transduce several important genes (Kirschbaum &
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49 300 Konrad, 1973, Jaskunas *et al.*, 1975, McEntee & Epstein, 1977, Hansen & von Meyenburg,
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51 301 1979). Other examples of specialised transduction have been identified in *S. Typhimurium*
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53 302 (Chan *et al.*, 1972), *Bacillus subtilis* (Zahler *et al.*, 1977) and *P. aeruginosa* (Cavenagh &
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55 303 Miller, 1986).
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3 304 **Anchors for Chromosomal Rearrangements:** Prophage can act as anchor points for
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5 305 chromosomal inversions and other major genomic rearrangements. Sequencing of a
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7 306 pathogenic *S. pyogenes* isolate identified two major chromosomal inversions, one of which
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9 307 was caused by homologous recombination between two related prophages, and the other was
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11 308 suggested to occur after a phage integration event which caused an “unbalancing” of the
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13 309 genome (Nakagawa *et al.*, 2003). There is evidence of a prophage-mediated chromosomal
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15 310 inversion in *E. faecium*, but despite the notion that major chromosomal rearrangements would
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17 311 have a negative impact on fitness, no such effect was detected (Lam *et al.*, 2012).
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24 313 **Polylysogeny**

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27 314 Polylysogeny, the carriage of multiple prophages, is a common feature of bacterial
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29 315 pathogens. The genomes of a wide range of *C. difficile* strains are highly plastic; carrying
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31 316 multiple prophages (Hargreaves *et al.*, 2015). Similarly, 18 co-existing prophages and 6
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33 317 prophage-like elements have been identified in the chromosome of *E. coli* O157:H7 strain
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35 318 RIMD0509952 (Hayashi *et al.*, 2001). STEC are known to harbour several stx-encoding
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37 319 phage in the same chromosome, some of which exist in multiple copies, going against the
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39 320 classic lambdoid mechanisms of phage immunity. In this way, the expression of phage-
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41 321 encoded genes can be enhanced. For example multiple isogenic infections of *E. coli* by stx-
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43 322 phages have been shown to have a cumulative effect on the expression of Shiga toxin (Fogg
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45 323 *et al.*, 2012). There are several reports of polylysogenic *E. faecalis* that have been isolated
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47 324 from clinical samples. Strain V583 harbours seven different prophage-like elements, six of
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49 325 which constitute fully active, inducible, prophages that encode clear virulence traits and
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51 326 interact with each-other (Matos *et al.*, 2013). Similarly, the infection dynamics of multiple
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53 327 active LES prophages of *P. aeruginosa* have been described (Table 2). As with other
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3 328 polylysogenic systems, the LES prophage sequences are mosaic in nature; LES ϕ 3 is largely a
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5 329 hybrid of LES ϕ 2 and LES ϕ 5 (Figure 2). Of five active prophages, three exhibit productive
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7 330 infection of other *P. aeruginosa* strains. There is an interesting relationship between these
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9 331 prophages as LES ϕ 2 confers immunity to infection by LES ϕ 3 and LES ϕ 4, which do not
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11 332 prevent infection by LES ϕ 2. The LES prophages are also inducible with fluoroquinolone
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13 333 antibiotics and exhibit a hierarchical nature, with LES ϕ 2 density being consistently higher
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15 334 than the other LES phage *in vivo* and *in vitro* (James *et al.*, 2012).
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20 335 Experimental evolution experiments have begun to explore the cost/benefits of
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22 336 polylysogeny and the interactions between co-habiting prophages. Carriage of two LES
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24 337 prophages has been shown to confer a competitive advantage over single lysogens during
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26 338 mixed infection in wax moth larvae (Burns *et al.*, 2015). Within host competition of 11
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28 339 different *E. coli* prophages has also suggested a hierarchical relationship during stressful
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30 340 conditions. In these experiments, double lysogens were exposed to the potent inducing agent,
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32 341 mitomycin C. In most cases, the prophage with the fastest response to induce the lytic cycle
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34 342 showed a competitive advantage (Refardt, 2011). These studies suggest that interactions
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36 343 between prophages and diversity in phage immunity mechanisms can also alter the course of
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38 344 bacterial adaptation.
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43 345 **CRISPR Immunity to temperate phage**

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46 346 Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR) are widespread
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48 347 in bacterial genomes and act as an active defence mechanism to protect against bacteriophage
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50 348 infection (Barrangou *et al.*, 2007). This mechanism of protection against virulent phage has
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52 349 been well documented. However, the relationship between CRISPR and temperate phage is
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54 350 less clear. Several reports suggest that CRISPR systems are negatively correlated with
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3 351 lysogeny and there is evidence that *E. coli* CRISPRs prevent both lysogenic infection and
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5 352 induction of prophages (Fogg *et al.*, 2010). Others have demonstrated an interaction between
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7 353 CRISPR and the prophage DMS3. The presence of both together has been shown to inhibit
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10 354 biofilm formation and swarming in *P. aeruginosa* (Zegans *et al.*, 2009). CRISPR spacers
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12 355 with 100% identity to temperate phage sequences are widespread amongst clinical isolates of
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14 356 *P. aeruginosa*, including the LES (Cady *et al.*, 2011). The overall effects of CRISPR
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16 357 evolution, in response to temperate bacteriophages, on bacterial adaptation require further
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18 358 exploration.
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24 **Outlook**

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26 361 The contribution of prophage to the success of their bacterial hosts during infection
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28 362 has been under studied, especially in the case of prophage that do not contribute a clear
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30 363 phenotype such as toxin production. A wealth of readily available whole-genome sequence
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32 364 data has now enabled the identification of previously un-discovered prophages and cryptic
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34 365 prophage elements, revealing their abundance in an array of different environments.
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36 366 However, biological understanding of the roles of the many “unknown” proteins harboured
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38 367 by the prophages remains some way behind the generation of these sequence data. In addition
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40 368 to this, there is a lack of functional studies into the mechanistic contributions of these phage
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42 369 to the host. Since temperate phage can switch between lysis and lysogeny, they are
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44 370 particularly important in the evolutionary dynamics of bacterial populations, leading to a
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46 371 complex interplay between symbiotic and competitive relationships of multiple interacting
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48 372 phage and their hosts. The additional influence of lysis-inducing antibiotic treatments can
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50 373 potentially change the trajectory of bacterial adaptation in the host environment. An
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3 374 understanding of these infection dynamics *in vivo* is needed to develop novel strategies for
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5 375 managing chronic bacterial infection.
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12
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Figures and Tables

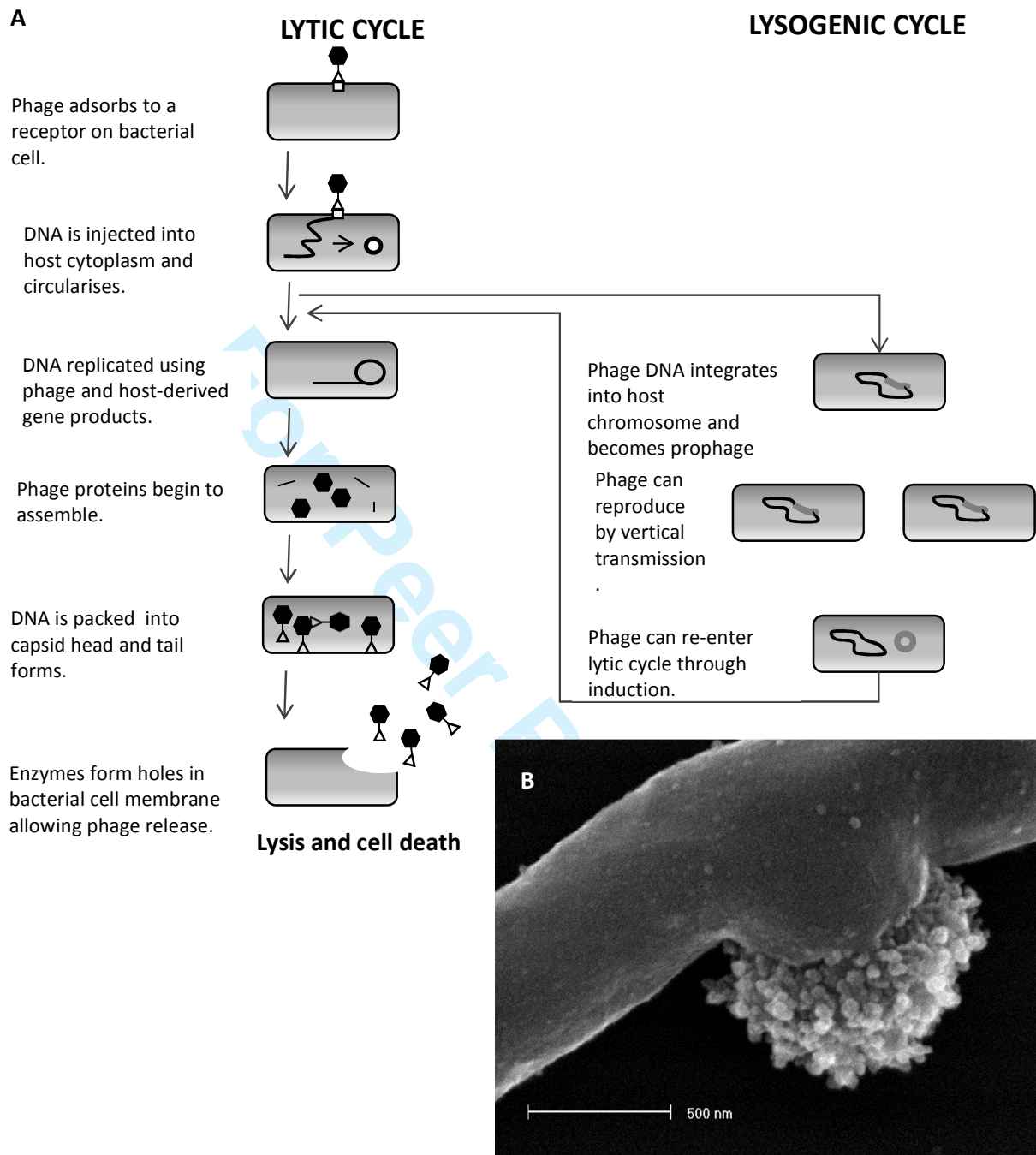


Figure 1. The temperate phage lifecycle.

A: Lysogeny occurs when the phage DNA integrates into the bacterial genome. Here it is described as a prophage. Prophages replicate along with the bacterial cell. Cell stress such as DNA damage can result in the prophage entering the lytic cycle leading to phage replication and release following bacterial cell lysis. **B:** Scanning electron microscope image of an *E. coli* cell under-going lysis triggered by the stx-phage $\Phi 24B$ (James C. E. un-published).

Table 1: Prophage associated-genes involved in bacterial virulence.

Bacteria	Phage	Phage-encoded virulence gene(s)	Reference
<i>C. diphtheriae</i>	Beta	Diphtheria toxin (<i>tox</i>) Cytotoxin	(Holmes and Barksdale 1969)
<i>E. coli</i>	Stx	Shiga toxin (<i>stx</i> ₁ , <i>stx</i> ₂), cytotoxins <i>stk</i> - Affects signal transduction TTSS Effectors <i>cif</i> , <i>espI/nleA</i> , <i>espI</i> , <i>espK</i> , <i>espEU/tccP</i> , <i>nleI</i>	(Wagner et al. 2001) (Plunkett et al. 1999) (Lavigne and Blanc-Potard 2008)
	λ	<i>lom</i> - binding to epithelial cells <i>bor</i> - Outer membrane protein that aids bacterial immune evasion.	(Vica Pacheco et al. 1997) (Barondess and Beckwith 1995)
	CP-933C	Cryptic phage regulates TTSS	(Flockhart et al. 2012)
<i>S. enterica</i>	ϕ SopE	TTSS effector (<i>sopE</i>) promotes invasion of epithelial cells.	(Miold et al. 1999)
	Gifsy-1	<i>gipA</i> , <i>gogB</i> - survival and growth in Peyer's patches.	(Stanley et al. 2000)
	Gifsy-2	<i>sodCI</i> , <i>SseI</i> - survival in macrophages	(Figueroa-Bossi et al. 2001)
	Gifsy-3	<i>sspHI</i> - TTSS effector	(Ehrbar and Hardt 2005)
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	D3	Altered outer membrane properties reduces phagocytosis	(Holloway and Cooper 1962)
<i>S. mitis</i>	SM1	<i>pblA</i> and <i>pblB</i> - Platelet binding	(Bensing et al. 2001)
<i>C. jejuni</i>	CJIE1	Increased adherence and invasion	(Clark et al. 2012)
<i>V. cholerae</i>	CTX	<i>ctx</i> - Cytotoxin	(Faruque et al. 1998)

Table 2. Characteristics of LES prophage

LES prophage	Characteristics	N ^o of genes	Related phages in reference strain PAO1	Known related phages	Interaction with other LES phages
φ1	Defective prophage, predicted to encode pyocin R2	19	Defective prophage gene cluster encoding pyocin R2	Pyocin gene clusters predicted to have evolved from phage tail genes	Unknown
φ2	Active inducible prophage, encodes integrase for site-specific integration	44	None	None	Confers resistance to infection by φ3 and φ4
φ3	Active inducible prophage, encodes integrase for site-specific integration	53	None	Homologous regions in LESφ2 and LESφ5	Shares same cI gene region as φ2
φ4	Active inducible prophage, encodes transposase. Capable of random integration.	48	None	D3112	Present in 100% LES isolates
φ5	Active inducible prophage, encodes integrase	65	None	D3	Present in only a small proportion of LES isolates
φ6	Active inducible prophage, encodes integrase	12	Pf4 filamentous phage implicated in biofilm dispersal	Filamentous phage Pf1 (Family <i>Inoviridae</i>)	Unknown

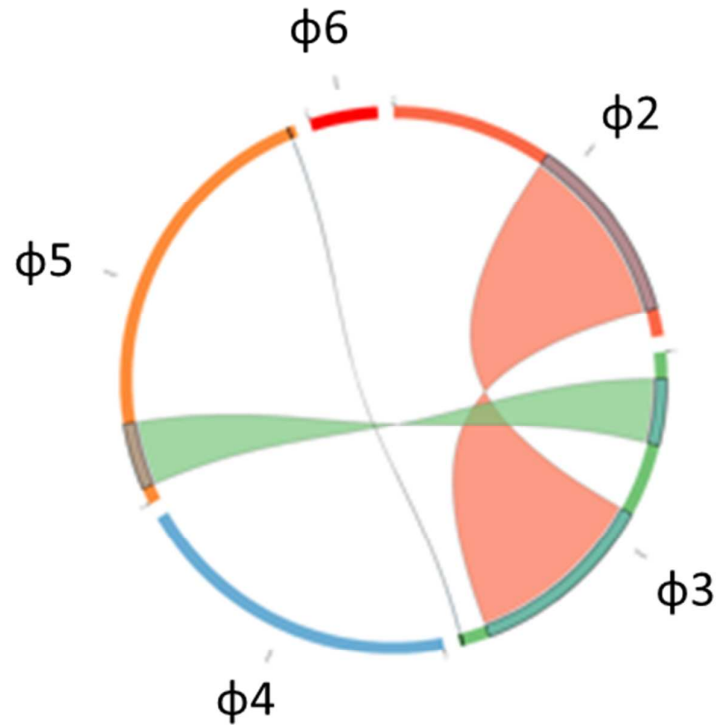
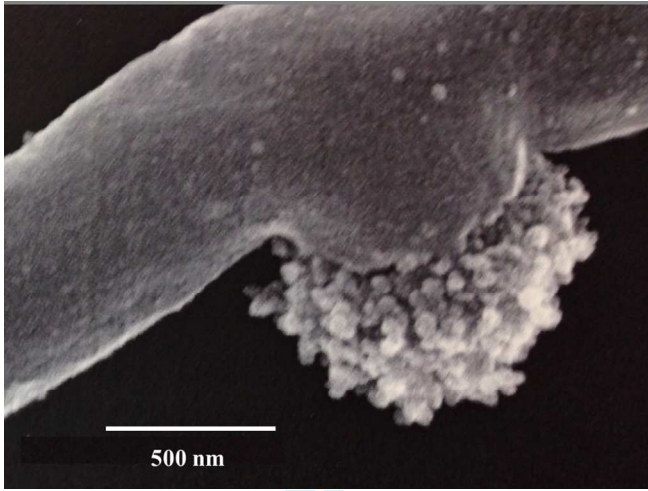


Figure 2. Mosaicism of LES prophages.

Circos map (Krzywinski et al. 2009) depicting an alignment of five prophage sequences from the Liverpool Epidemic Strain of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (EMBL accession number FM209186) using the Artemis Comparison Tool (Carver et al. 2005). Each coloured segment of the circumference represents a LES prophage genome. Ribbons that link prophage regions show regions of sequence homology.

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The Role of Temperate Bacteriophages in Bacterial Infection

Temperate bacterial viruses can lyse bacterial cells (shown) or incorporate into their genomes, often providing key adaptations that are important for infection.

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