

Enhancing colistin efficacy against multidrug-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* using farnesol-loaded lipid nanoparticles

F.D. Imtiyaz¹, H. Grau¹, C. Faivre^{2,3}, S. Marchand^{1,4}, T. Henry⁵, R. Bonnin⁶, L. Dortet⁶, N. Anton³, M. Collot², J.M. Buyck¹, F. Tewes¹

¹Université de Poitiers, INSERM U1070, Poitiers, France

⁴CHU de Poitiers, Laboratoire de Toxicologie et de Pharmacocinétique, Poitiers, France

²Université de Strasbourg, CNRS U7021, Strasbourg, France

⁵Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, INSERM U1111, CNRS U5308, Lyon, France

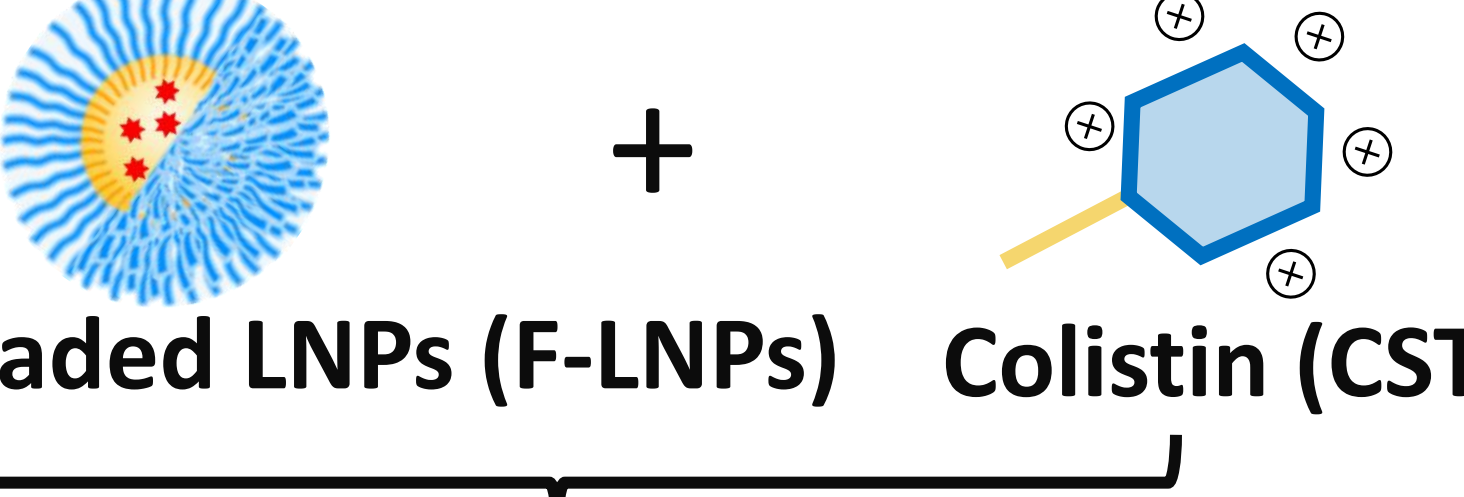
³Université de Strasbourg, INSERM U1260, Strasbourg, France

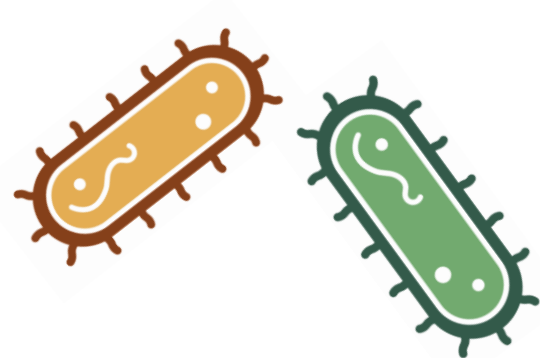
⁶Université Paris-Saclay, INSERM U1184, Le Kremlin Bicêtre, France

Introduction

1

Farnesol

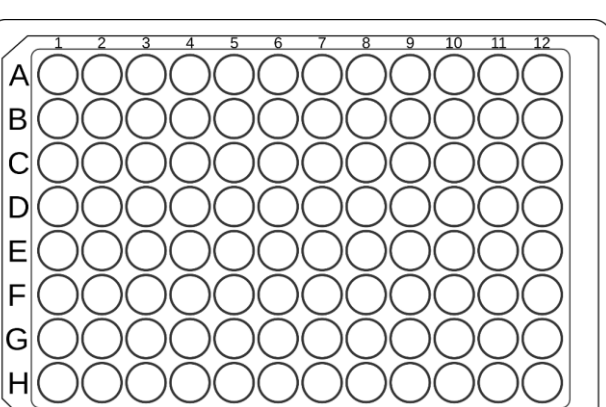
2

Farnesol-loaded LNP (F-LNP) + **Colistin (CST)**
↑ CST efficacy in *E. coli*¹ and *A. baumannii*²

3

Tested the combination against *K. pneumoniae* isolates
17 CST-resistant and 1 susceptible *K. pneumoniae* isolate(s)

Can be used as CST adjuvant, but too hydrophobic for administration as a solution, then formulated as lipid nanoparticles (F-LNPs).

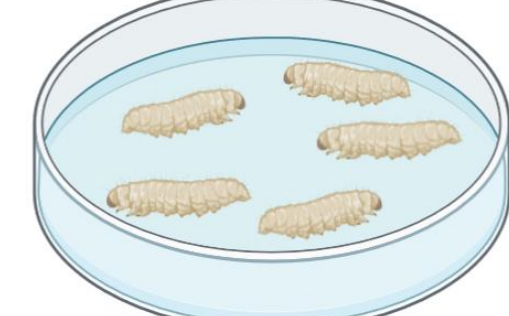
This study evaluated F-LNPs as a CST adjuvant, their membrane effects, and their role in preventing CST resistance

Materials and Methods

1. Checkerboard MICs
18 isolates


2. Resistance acquisition
Against R2292 B (*mcr1*) strain
Serial MICs

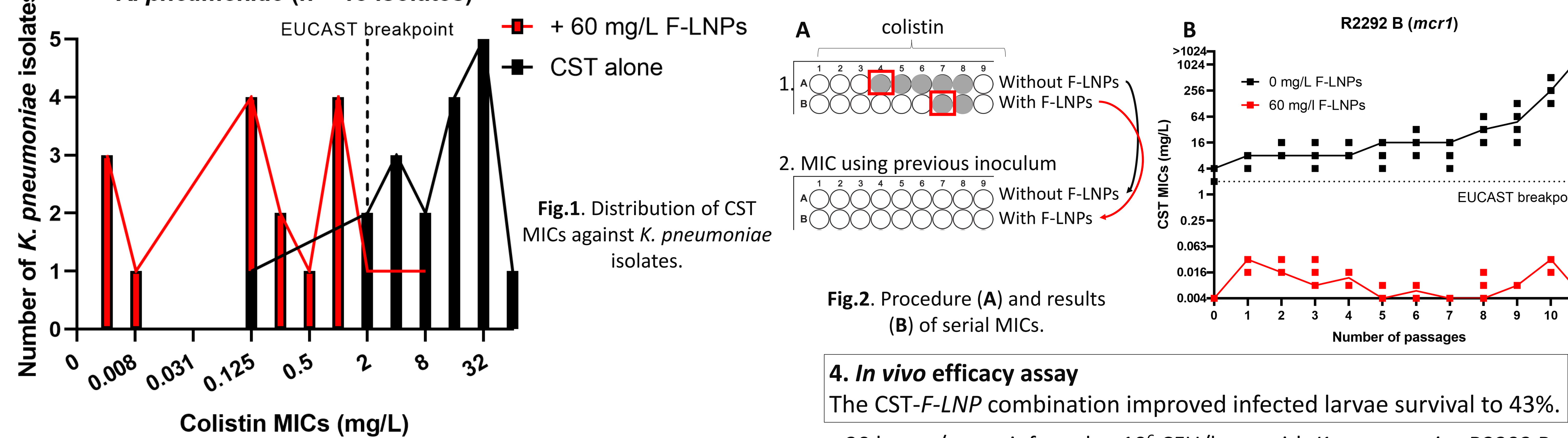
3. Outer (OM) and inner membrane (IM) permeabilities
Against R2292 B (*mcr1*) strain
Nitrocefin for OM permeability
Propidium iodide (PI) for IM permeability

4. In vivo efficacy in *Galleria* larvae
Against R2292 B (*mcr1*) strain


Results

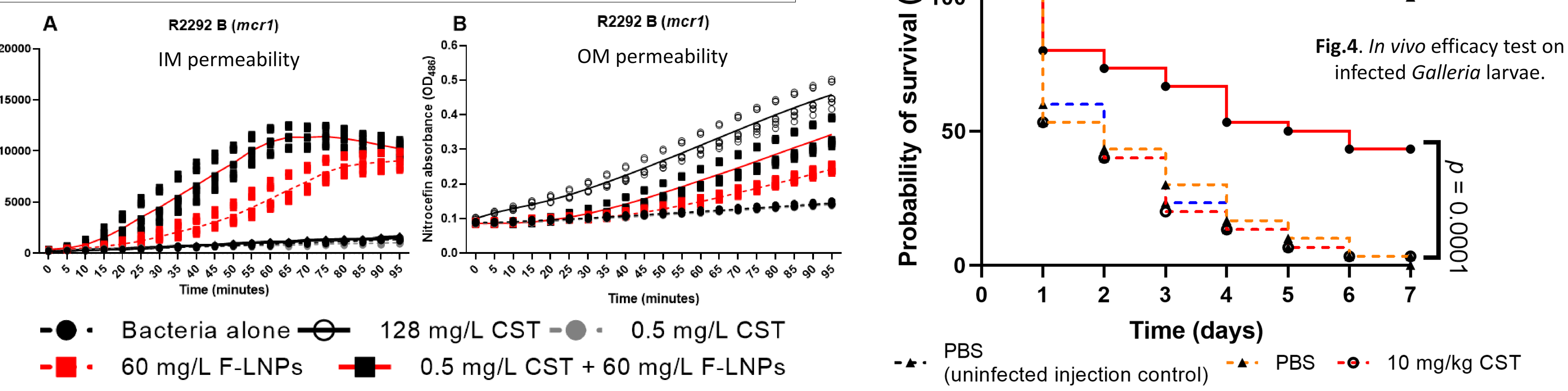
1. MICs
F-LNPs enhanced CST efficacy by 4- to 512-fold in *K. pneumoniae* (Fig. 1)

2. Resistance prevention study
After 12 serial MIC measurements, *F-LNPs* combined with CST minimized CST resistance (Fig. 2).



3. Outer and inner membrane study
F-LNPs permeabilised both membranes with CST at 1/8 MIC (Fig. 3A-B).

4. In vivo efficacy assay
The CST-*F-LNP* combination improved infected larvae survival to 43%.
30 larvae/group infected at 10⁶ CFU/larva with *K. pneumoniae* R2292 B (*mcr1*) 30 min before treatment



Conclusion

Acknowledgement

References

Our results highlight the potential of the CST-*F-LNP* combination to overcome *K. pneumoniae* CST resistance in 18 clinical isolates by enhancing membrane permeabilisation and minimising resistance development.

The French Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), under grant ANR-21-CE18-0054 (project PAANIC).

1) 10.1016/j.ijpharm.2024.124907
2) 10.3390/pharmaceutics13111849