



# The 8th International Electronic Conference on Medicinal Chemistry (ECMC 2022)

01-30 NOVEMBER 2022 | ONLINE

## Resveratrol-loaded glycosylated liposomes for targeting bacteria

Chaired by **DR. ALFREDO BERZAL-HERRANZ**;  
Co-Chaired by **PROF. DR. MARIA EMÍLIA SOUSA**



*pharmaceuticals*



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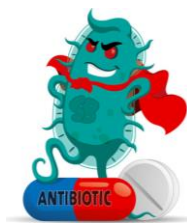
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# Introduction - Bacterial diseases: a global health problem

## Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

- bacteria no longer respond to drugs
- infections are harder to treat

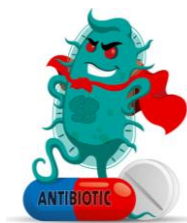


Antimicrobial resistance is a serious global public health threat, killing at least 1.27 million people worldwide and associated with nearly 5 million deaths in 2019

# Introduction - Bacterial diseases: a global health problem

## Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

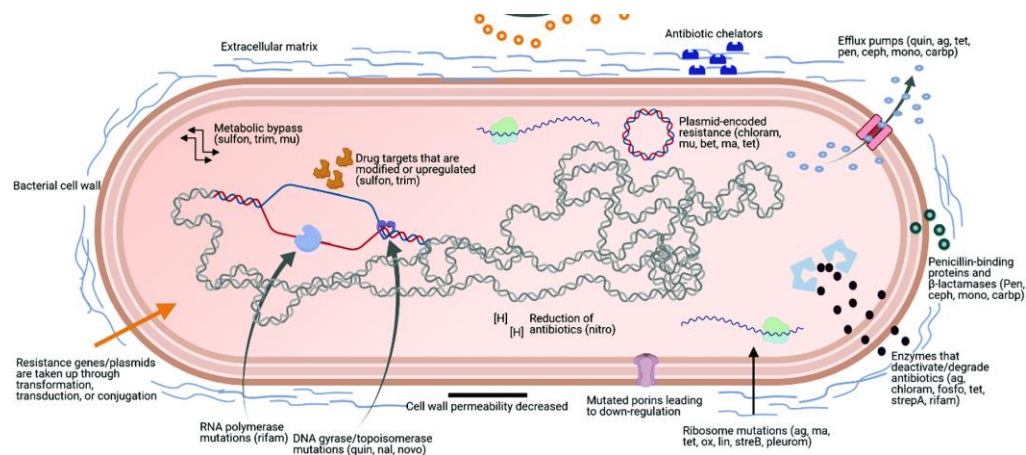
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Antimicrobial resistance is a serious global public health threat, killing at least 1.27 million people worldwide and associated with nearly 5 million deaths in 2019

## Mechanisms of bacterial resistance

- target modification
- drug inactivation
- drug transport

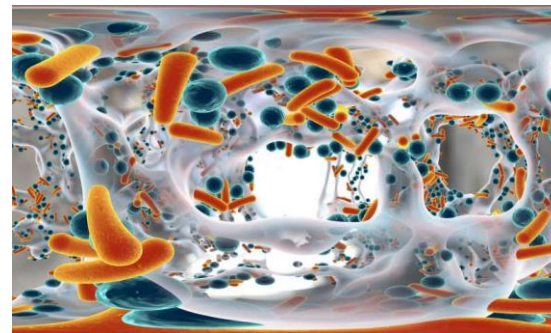


Gan, B. H., Gaynord, J., Rowe, S. M., Deingruber, T., & Spring, D. R. (2021) Chemical Society Reviews, 50(13), 7820-7880.

# Introduction - Bacterial diseases: a global health problem

## Biofilm: a contribution to AMR

*“A microbial community of cells attached to a substratum or to each other, embedded in a self-produced polymeric matrix; bacteria in the biofilm exhibit an altered phenotype with respect to growth rate and gene transcription”*



## Biofilm advantages for bacteria

- A physical barrier
- Persister cells
- Transfer of genetic material
- Quorum sensing

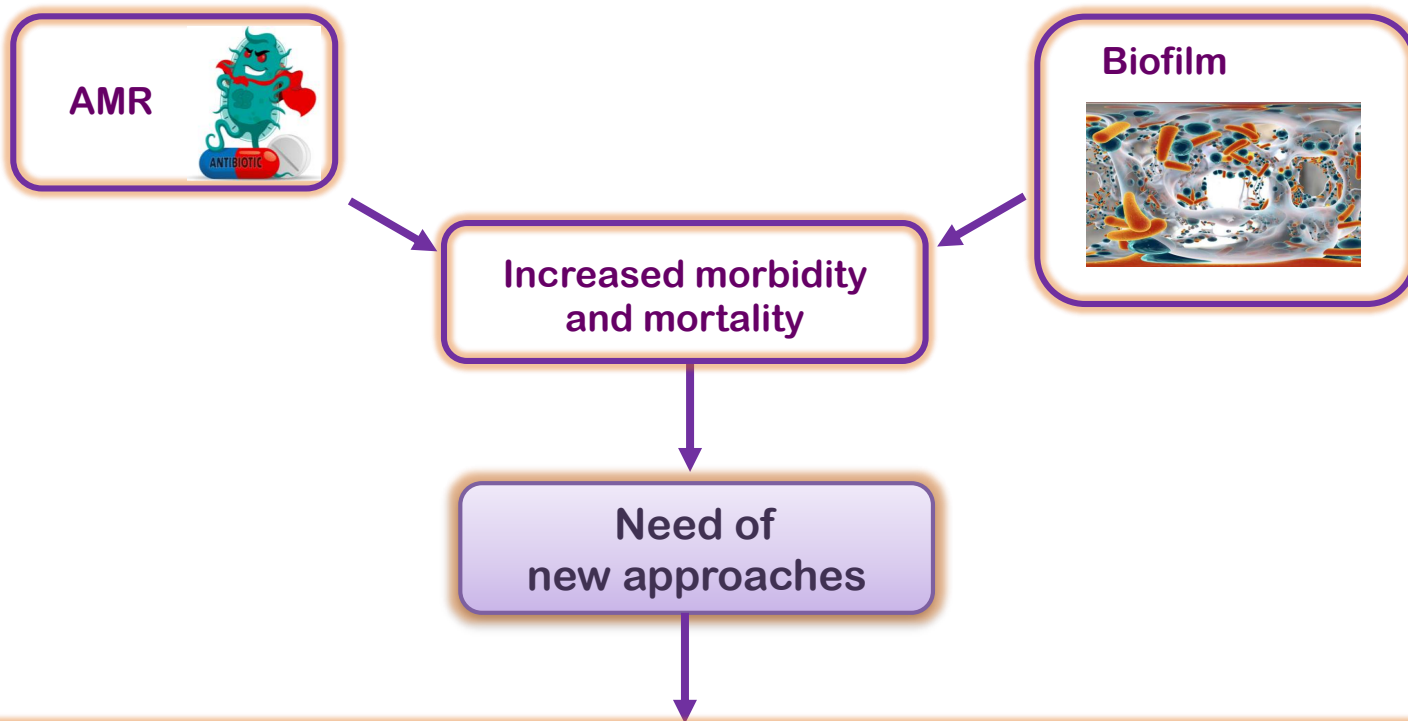


- Responsible for 60-85% of bacterial infections in west countries
- Sensibility to drugs 1000 times lower

R.M. Donlan, J.W. Costerton, Biofilm survival mechanism of clinically relevant microorganism, Clinical Microbiol. Rev. 15 (2002) 167–193

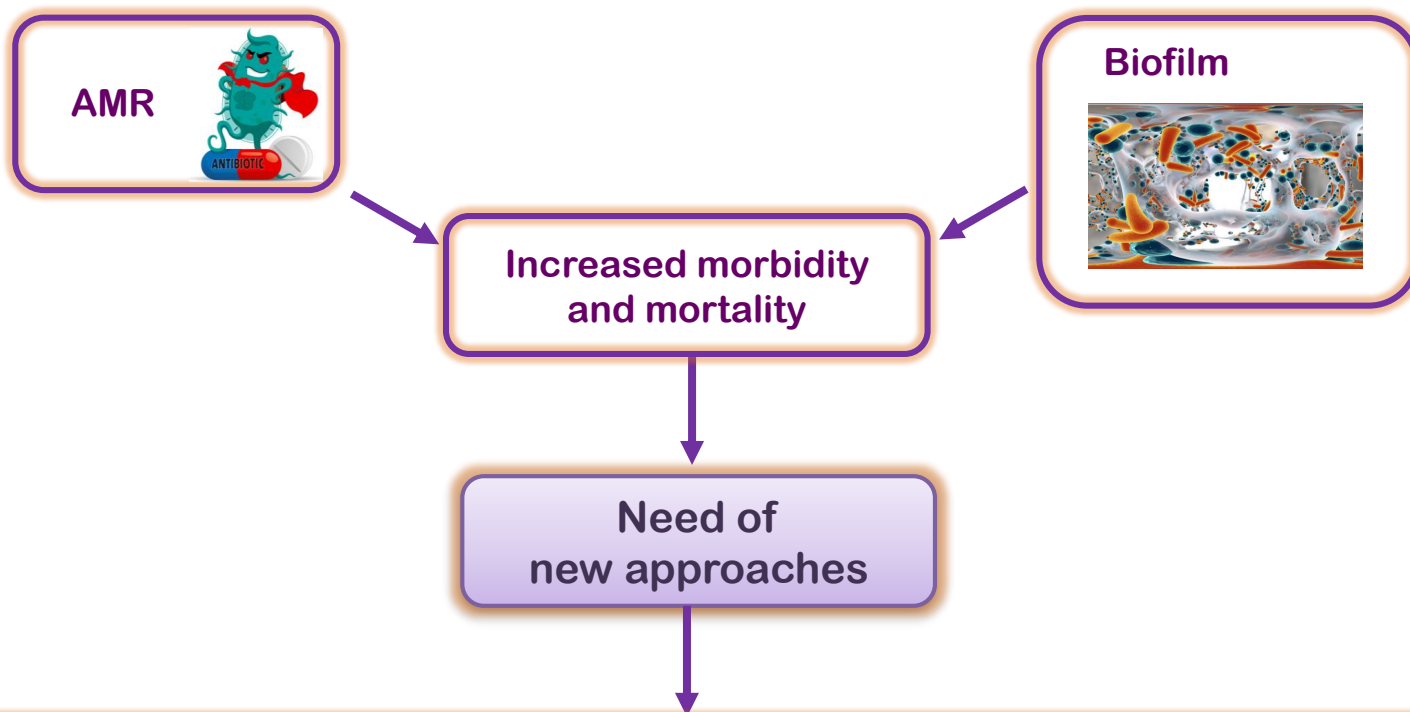


# Introduction - Bacterial diseases: a global health problem



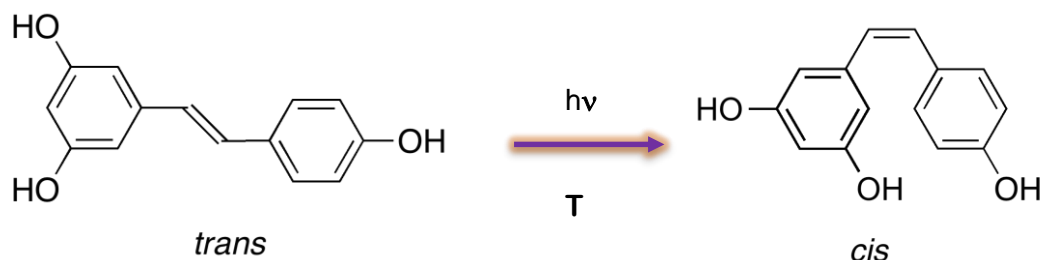
- Search for new drugs
- Modification of conventional drugs
- Natural bioactive molecules
- Quorum sensing inhibition
- Matrix disruptive drugs
- Biofilm formation prevention
- Mechanical removal of biofilm
- Use of nanotechnology

# Introduction - Bacterial diseases: a global health problem



- Search for new drugs
- Modification of conventional drugs
- **Natural bioactive compounds**
- Quorum sensing inhibition
- Matrix disruptive drugs
- Biofilm formation prevention
- Mechanical removal of biofilm
- **Use of nanotechnology**

# Introduction – Natural bioactive compounds: Resveratrol



## Biological activities:

- Antitumoral
- Cardioprotective
- Antioxidant
- **Antimicrobial**

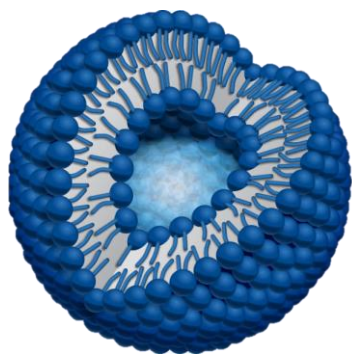
## Limitation for *in vivo* administration:

- Low bioavailability
- Low solubility
- Fast metabolization
- Low specificity for bacteria
- Chemical instability (isomerization)



Drug Delivery System

## Introduction – Liposomes to target bacteria



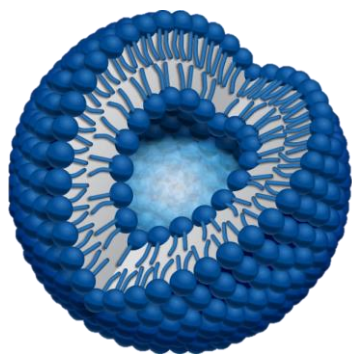
Diameter: 50 nm – 10  $\mu$ m

- Tunable physico-chemical properties
- Loading of both hydrophilic and lipophilic compounds
- Circumventing some of the mechanisms of AMR
- Protection of the drug from degradation
- Controlled and sustained release
- Prolonged plasma circulation
- Reduced toxicity
- Functionalizable surface (targeting)

Ferreira M. et al. "Liposomes as antibiotic delivery systems: A promising nanotechnological strategy against antimicrobial resistance." *Molecules* (2021): 2047

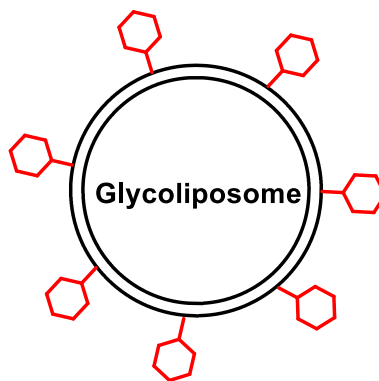


# Aim of the work – Liposomes to target bacteria

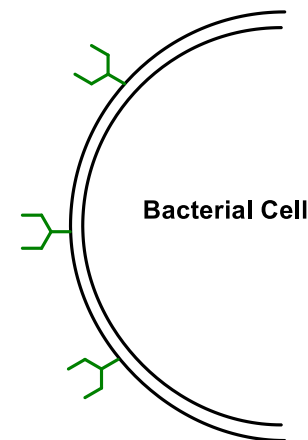


Diameter: 50 nm – 10 µm

- Tunable physico-chemical properties
- Loading of both hydrophilic and lipophilic compounds
- Circumventing some of the mechanisms of AMR
- Protection of the drug from degradation
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- **Functionalizable surface (targeting)**



 Carbohydrate Mojeity

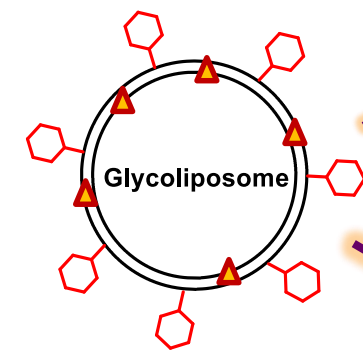
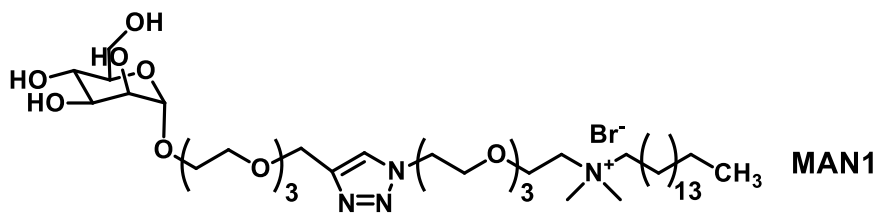
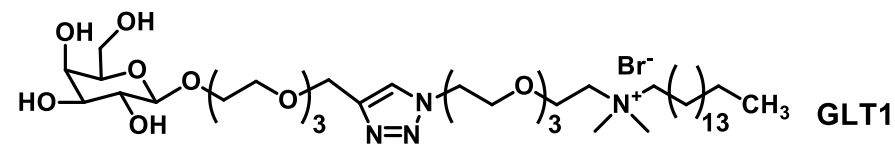
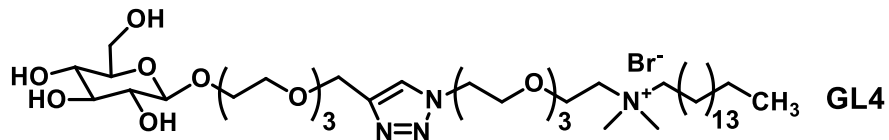


 Carbohydrate Receptors (Lectins)

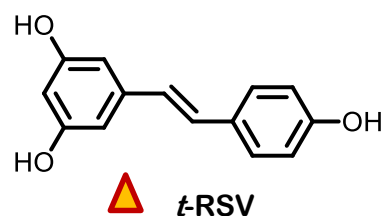
Ferreira M. et al. "Liposomes as antibiotic delivery systems: A promising nanotechnological strategy against antimicrobial resistance." *Molecules* (2021): 2047

## Aim of the work – Liposomes to target bacteria

Development of **glycoliposomes** loaded with resveratrol for the treatment of biofilm enhanced bacterial infections



Carbohydrate Mojety

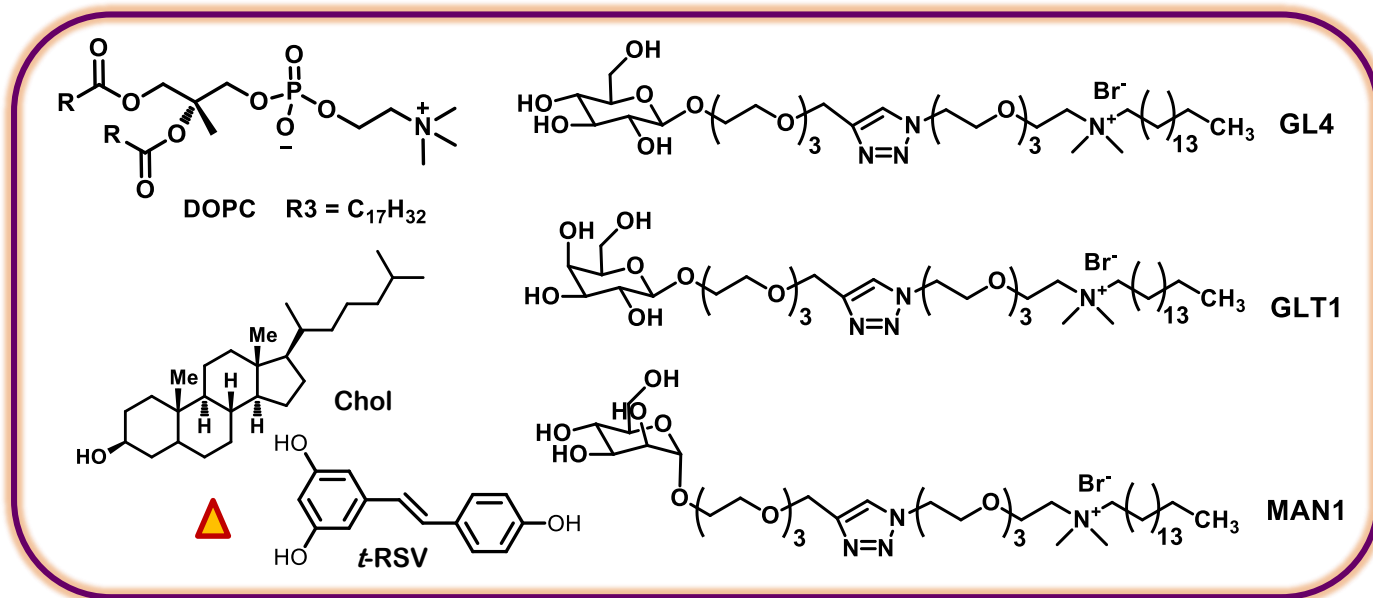


Biofilm disruption experiments on *methicillin resistant S. Aureus (MRSA)*

Growth Inhibition Experiments on two strains of *S. epidermidis* Slime+/-

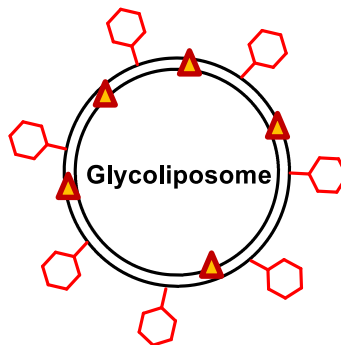
Aiello, S., et al. 2021. Mannosyl, glucosyl or galactosyl liposomes to improve resveratrol efficacy against Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus biofilm. Colloids Surfaces A Physicochem. Eng. Asp. 617, 126321 and reference therein.

# Results and discussion – glycoliposomes for MRSA biofilm



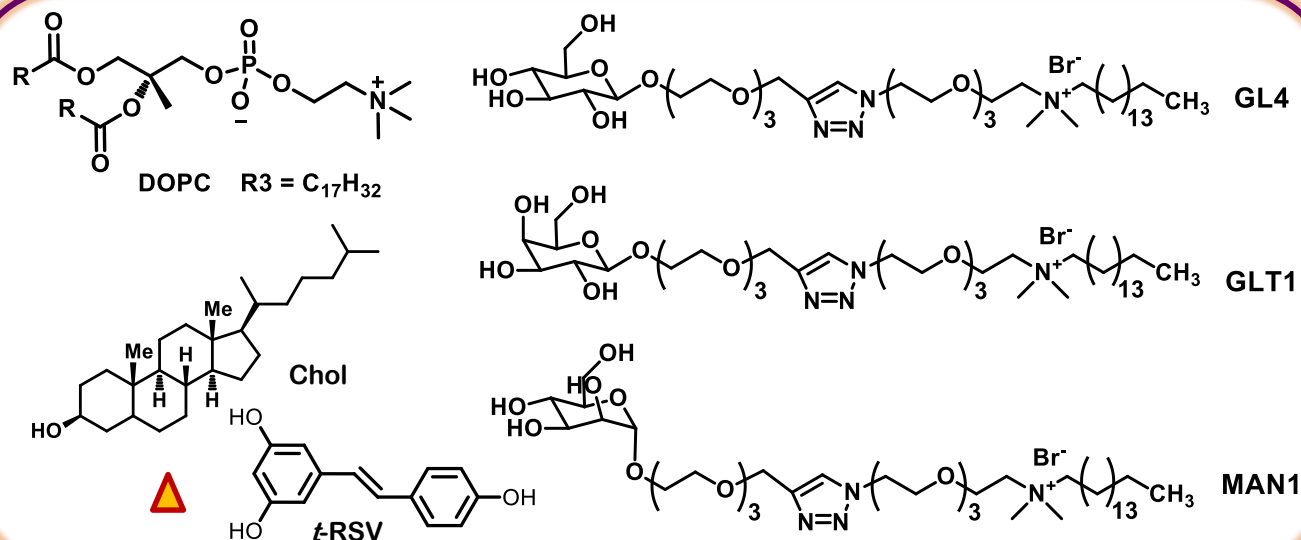
[total lipids]=20 mM  
 RSV/lipids =1:8  
 [Glycolipid] = 5% of total lipids  
 PBS buffer

RSV passive loading  
(extrusion technique)



Liposomes characterization	
size	DLS
ζ- Potential	Electrophoretic mobility
RSV EE%	HPLC
RSV stability	UV (ABTS)
Disruption of MRSA Biofilm	CV, SEM

# Results and discussion – glycoliposomes for MRSA biofilm

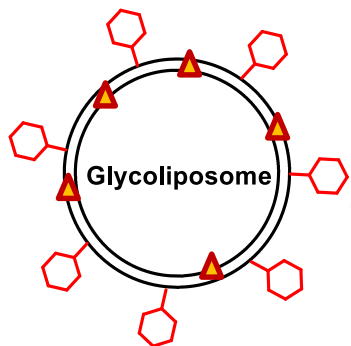


[total lipids]=20 mM  
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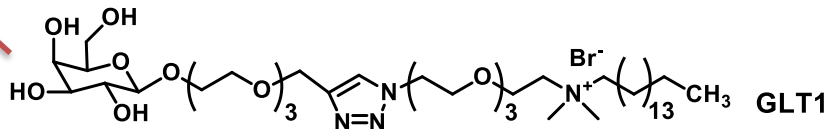
Formulation	Lipid ratio	D <sub>H</sub> (nm)	ζ-Potential (mV)	EE (%)	RSV (mM)
DOPC/Chol	80:20	106±1	-14.8±1.2	65	1.17±0.01
DOPC/Chol/GL4	75:20:5	91±2	19.5±1.8	89	2.27±0.04
DOPC/Chol/MAN1	75:20:5	101±6	26.2±1.6	79	2.08±0.04
DOPC/Chol/GLT1	75:20:5	98±3	27.1±3.3	90	2.03±0.043



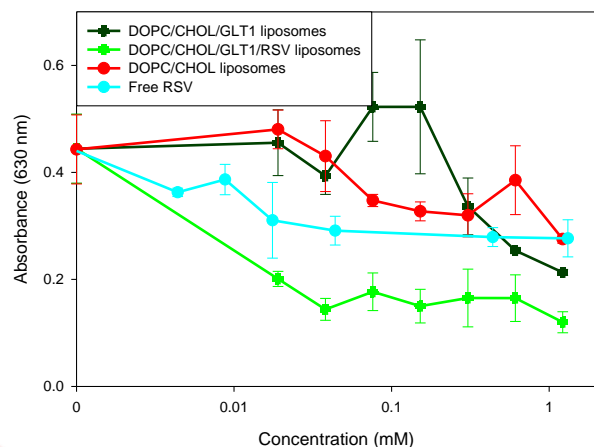
# Results and discussion – glycoliposomes for MRSA biofilm



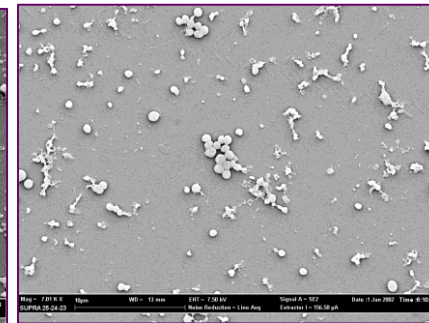
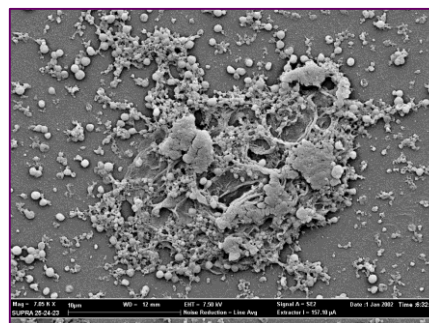
Mature biofilm of a clinical isolate of di MRSA  
 MIC RSV 1.2 mM  
 RSV= 0.018 mM - 1.2 mM (free and liposome-loaded)  
 Incubation: 12h at 37°C



## Crystal Violet test



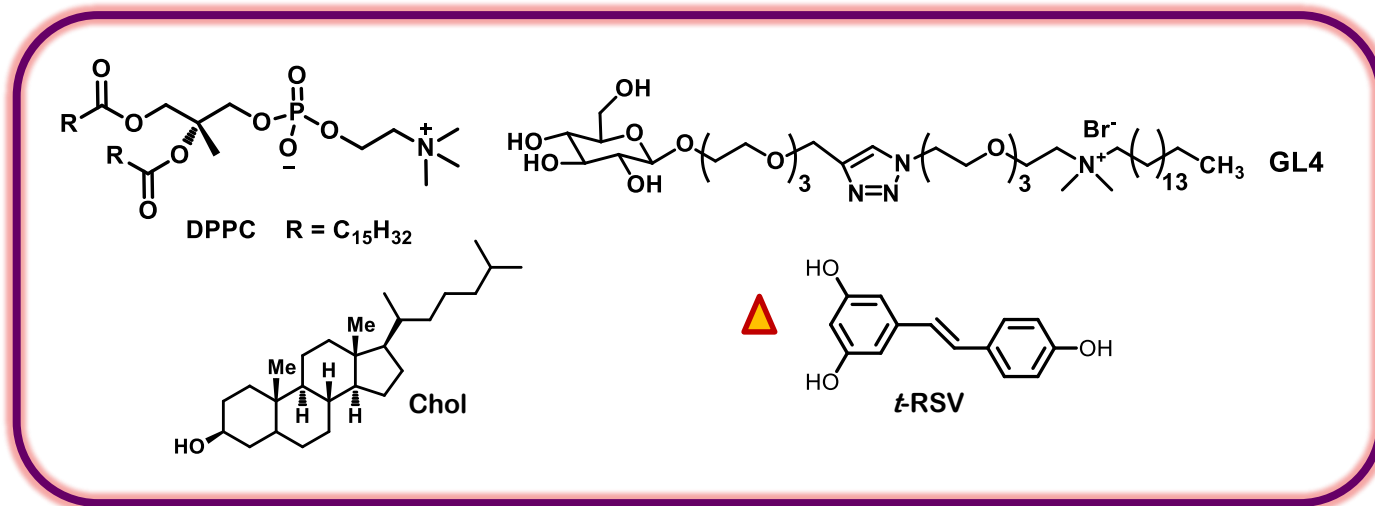
## SEM



Aiello, S., et al. 2021. Mannosyl, glucosyl or galactosyl liposomes to improve resveratrol efficacy against Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus biofilm. Colloids Surfaces A Physicochem. Eng. Asp. 617, 126321

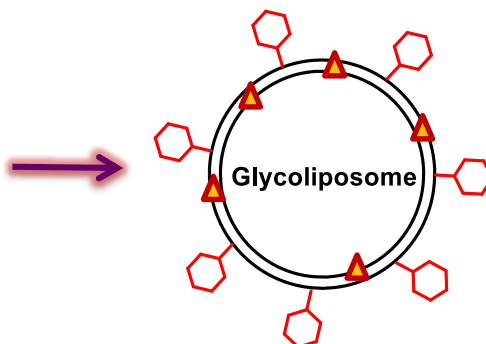


# Results and discussion – glycoliposomes for *S. epidermidis*



[total lipids]=10-20-40 mM  
 RSV/lipids =1:8  
 [Glycolipid] = 5% of total lipids  
 PBS buffer

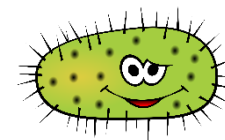
Passive loading  
 extrusion vs sonication



<i>t</i> -Resveratrol EE % (HPLC)		
<i>Loading technique</i>	<i>EE(%)</i>	<i>RSV/lipids</i>
extrusion	50-98	1:16-1:8
sonication	6-66	1:9-1:8

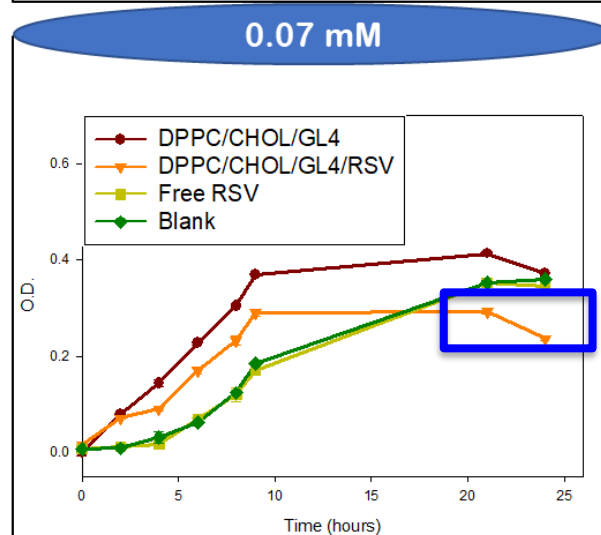
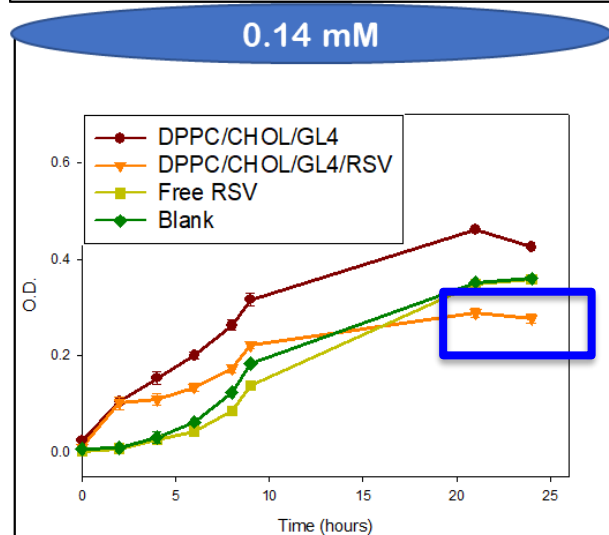
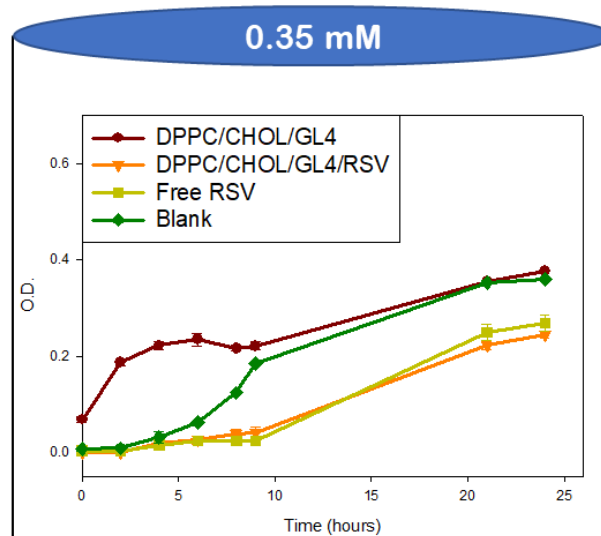
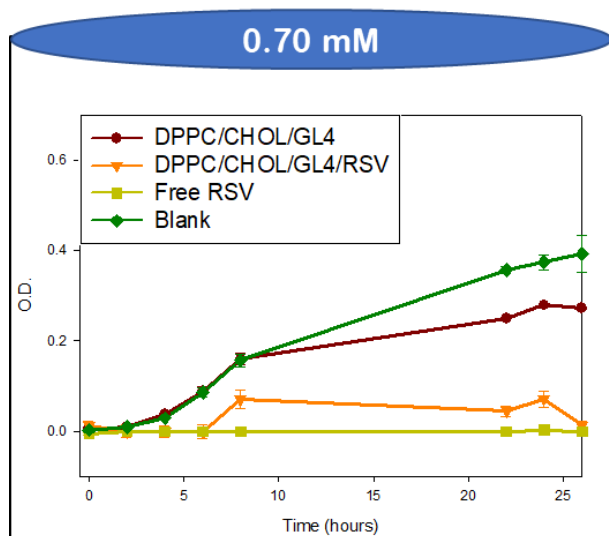
Pagano L. et al. Chemistry and Physics of Lipids 243 (2022) 105174

# Results and discussion – glycoliposomes for *S. epidermidis*



**SLIME+**  
ATCC 35984

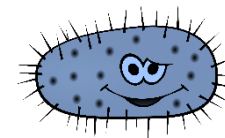
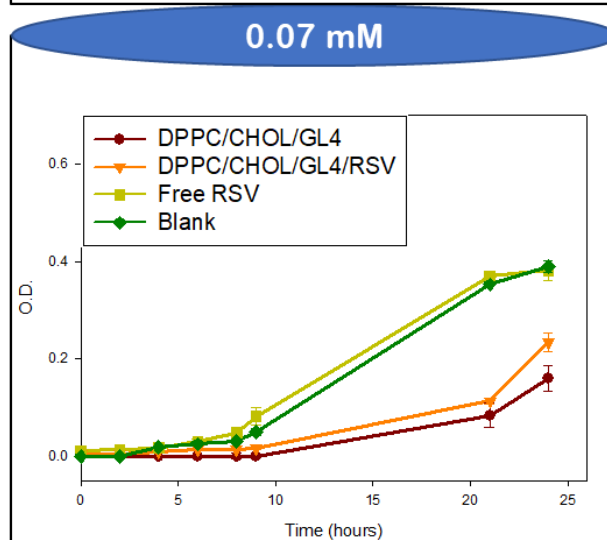
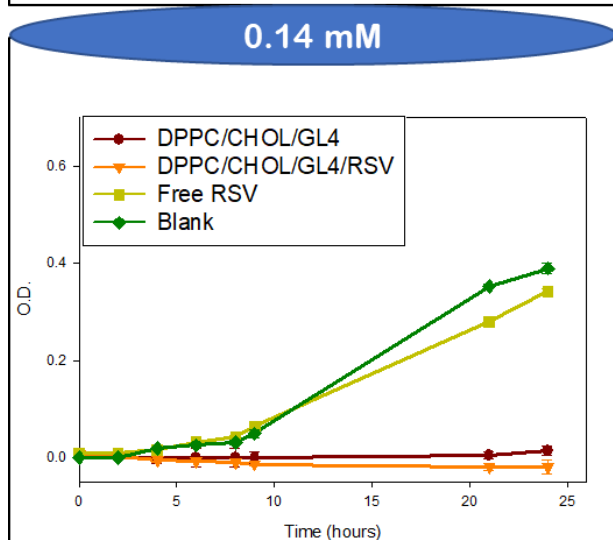
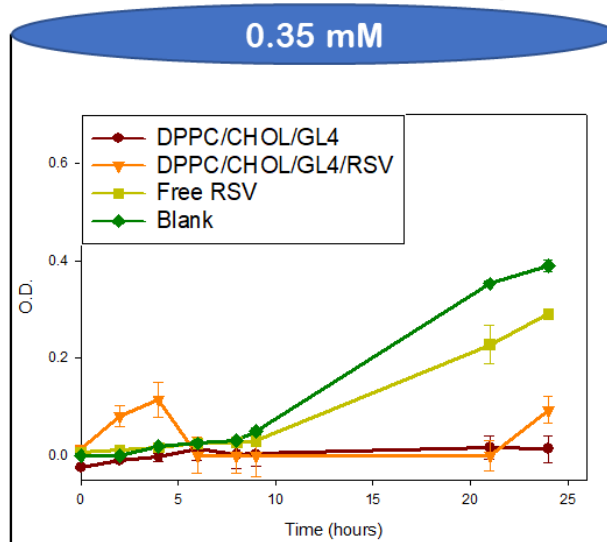
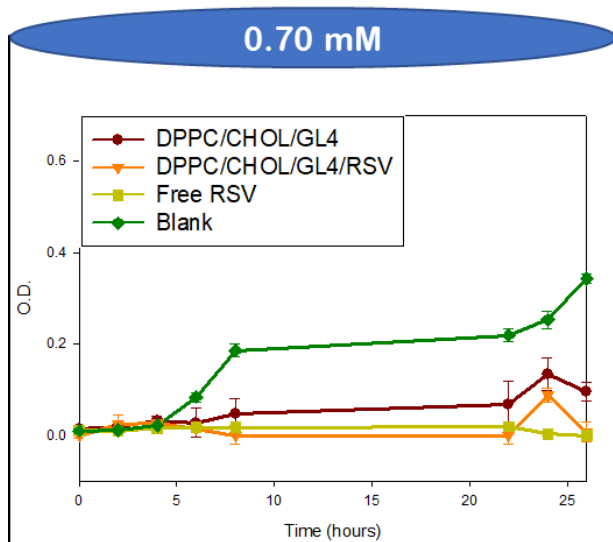
MIC RSV 0.7 mM  
O.D. at 590 nm every 2 h  
Incubation at 37 °C



[RSV] << MIC



# Results and discussion – glycoliposomes for *S. epidermidis*



**SLIME –**  
ATCC 12228

MIC RSV 0.7 mM  
O.D. at 590 nm every 2 h  
Incubation at 37 °C

Antibacterial activity  
of empty liposomes

## Conclusions

- Several resveratrol-loaded liposomal formulations were prepared using glycosylated amphiphiles and characterized in terms of size, polydispersity, stability over time and RSV entrapment efficiency
- The resveratrol-loaded formulation containing amphiphile GLT1 was able to disrupt preformed **MRSA biofilm** better than free resveratrol even at very low concentration
- Biological evaluation of resveratrol-loaded liposomal formulations shows that the formulation containing amphiphile GL4 was able to inhibit the growth of *S. epidermidis* even at concentration equal to 1/10 of RSV MIC.

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Maurizio Sanguinetti  
Cecilia Martini**



**SAPIENZA**  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

**Stefano Aiello  
Alessia Ciogli  
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Beatrice Simonis**



**ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΠΑΤΡΩΝ**  
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**Sofia G. Antimisiaris  
Iris Spiliopoulou  
Foteini Gkartziou  
Spyridon Mourtas**

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