

Epidemiology and Pathogenesis of *Moraxella catarrhalis* Colonization and Infection

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1. Crowding is an important risk factor for early (and frequent) *Moraxella catarrhalis* colonization of infants in The Netherlands. (This thesis)
2. The peak level of *Moraxella catarrhalis* colonization and the moment when children have an elevated susceptibility to *Moraxella catarrhalis* infections coincide with the age where the levels of *Moraxella catarrhalis* IgG antibodies are low. (This thesis)
3. The significant role of *Moraxella catarrhalis* in otitis media and in COPD emphasizes the need for a multivalent vaccine, which will provide broader protection against *Moraxella catarrhalis*-mediated diseases in children and in adults. (This thesis)
4. Genotypic variation and co-colonization with *Haemophilus influenzae* are key factors contributing to successful *Moraxella catarrhalis* colonization. (This thesis)
5. Targeting bacterial communication could be a novel treatment methodology, as polymicrobial interaction and biofilm production contribute to the development of otitis media. (This thesis)
6. The number of elderly international travelers is steadily increasing; therefore more studies are needed into the efficacy of travel vaccines in older populations. (Infectious Disease Clinics of North America. 2001. 15(1):231-51.)
7. *Moraxella* likely evolved from *Psychrobacter* species (a close relative found in penguin feces), thereby proving that our ice age ancestors did not know the importance of the '5 meter rule' and washing their hands. (International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology. 1996. 46(4):841-8.)
8. Many researchers take advantage of only a fraction of their resources due to the complexity of integrated genome databases, their associated data querying software and visualization interfaces. (Genomics. 2009. 93(3):187-95.)
9. 'Everything is genetically determined, except otherwise proven'. (Prof. André Uitterlinden, Erasmus MC, The Netherlands).
Het ongelimiteerd eten van appeltaart is een verworven eigenschap, en behoeft zeker geen excuus.
10. 'Hobbybeest' als benaming voor een micro-organisme geeft dan wel de passie weer van een microbioloog voor zijn/haar vak, maar zal weinig begrip vinden bij geïnfecteerde patiënten.
11. Het slordig gelukkig zijn in de privésfeer is omgekeerd evenredig met het perfect gestrest zijn in de werksfeer.

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