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## Enterococcus faecium: from evolutionary insights to practical interventions

Zhou, Xue Wei

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Stellingen  
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*Enterococcus faecium*: from evolutionary insights to practical interventions

1. Through the continuous acquisitions and refinements of successful adaptive traits, *E. faecium* has become a highly proficient nosocomial pathogen. (This thesis)
2. Innovations in the fields of diagnostics, treatment, and eradication are required to tackle the ongoing success of *E. faecium*. (This thesis)
3. Cross-border collaboration and continuous monitoring using highly discriminatory typing methods are necessary to keep the epidemiology of resistant microorganisms updated and to control their spread. (This thesis)
4. Antibiotic stewardship, especially the prudent use of vancomycin might be helpful in reducing the emergence of VRE. (This thesis)
5. Diagnostic evasion by VRE comes with diagnostic challenges and may play an important role in an ongoing but unnoticeable spread of the bacteria. (This thesis)
6. A combined arsenal of both phenotypic and genotypic diagnostic methods are needed for the accurate and rapid detection of VRE. (This thesis)
7. Combined typing methods investigating both clonal spread as well as spread of mobile genetic elements (MGEs) will lead to a better insight into and understanding of the highly complex transmission routes of VRE during in-hospital and regional outbreaks. (This thesis)
8. The immunocompromised patient is the ultimate host in which *E. faecium* can continue its parasitic and ultimate evolutionary lifestyle. (This thesis)
9. "Now, here, you see, it takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that!" (This thesis/Lewis Carroll: Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There)
10. "To remain indifferent to the challenges we face is indefensible. If the goal is noble, whether or not it is realized within our lifetime is largely irrelevant. What we must do therefore is to strive and persevere and never give up." (Dalai Lama)