# INVASION AND INTOXICATION

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# Definition

"Invasion" is the term commonly used to describe the entry of bacteria into host cells, implying an active role for the organisms and a passive role for the host cells. In many infections, the bacteria produce virulence factors that influence the host cells, causing them to engulf (ingest) the bacteria.





#### Listeria monocytogenes

from the monocytogenes L environment is ingested in food. Presumably, the bacteria adhere to and invade the intestinal mucosa, reach the bloodstream, and disseminate. A protein, internalin, has a primary role in this process. The engulfment process, movement within a cell and movement between cells, requires actin polymerization to propel the bacteria



#### Legionella pneumophila

infects pneumophila Legionella macrophages pulmonary and causes pneumonia. Adherence of the legionellae to the macrophage induces formation of a long, thin pseudopod which then coils around the bacteria, forming a vesicle (coiling phagocytosis). The vesicle remains intact, phagolysosome fusion is inhibited, and the bacteria multiply within the vesicle.



#### Neisseria Gonorrhea

*N gonorrhoeae* uses pili as primary adhesins and **opacity associated proteins (Opa)** as secondary adhesins to host cells. Certain Opa proteins mediate adherence to polymorphonuclear cells. Some gonococci survive after phagocytosis by these cells.



# Toxins

Property	Exotoxin	Endotoxin
Source	Certain G+ and G-	Cell wall of G-
Secreted from Bacteria	Yes	No
Chemistry	Polypeptide	Lipopolysaccharides
Location of Genes	Plasmid or bacteriophage	Bacterial chromosome
Toxicity	High (fatal dosage at 1ug)	Low (fatal dose at >100ug)
Clinical Effects	Various	Fever shock
Mode of Action	Various	TNF and IL-1
Antigenicity _	Induces high-titer antibodies called antitoxins	Poorly antigenic
Vaccines	Toxoids used as vaccines	No toxoids, no vaccines
Heat Stability	Destroyed rapidly at 60C (except	Stable at 100C for 1 hr
1	staphylococcal enterotoxin)	
Typical Diseases	Tetanus, botulism, diphtheria	Meningococcemia, Sepsis by G- rods

#### Corynebacterium diphtheria

*C diphtheriae* is a gram-positive rod that can grow on the mucous membranes of the upper respiratory tract or in minor skin wounds. Strains of *C diphtheriae* that carry a temperate bacteriophage with the structural gene for the toxin are toxigenic and produce **diphtheria toxin** and cause **diphtheria**.



## clostridium tetani toxin



### Staphylococcus aureus toxin

S aureus strains growing on mucous membranes (eg, the vagina in association with menstruation), or in wounds, elaborate toxic shock syndrome toxin-1 (TSST-1), which causes toxic shock syndrome. The illness is characterized by shock, high fever, and a diffuse red rash that later desquamates; multiple other organ systems are involved as well. TSST-1 is a super antigen and stimulates lymphocytes to produce large amounts of IL-1 and TNF.