

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



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**Title:** Towards an explanation for the success of *Acinetobacter baumannii* in the human host

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## Stellingen

behorende bij het proefschrift

'Towards an explanation for the success of *Acinetobacter baumannii* in the human host'

1. Although *A. baumannii* strains can express a wide array of virulence factors, the outcome of infection depends on the condition of the host. (*this thesis*)
2. Virulence features of one *Acinetobacter* strain cannot be generalized to the species-level. (*this thesis*)
3. The *csu* operon plays an important role in the clinical success of *A. baumannii*. (*this thesis*)
4. Further to virulence factors, metabolic versatility is a major factor allowing *A. baumannii* to survive under diverse conditions, both outside and inside the host. (*this thesis*)
5. Membrane vesicles generated during extensive purification are not representative for naturally occurring membrane vesicles. (*this thesis*)
6. Organotypic culture systems should be preferred above monolayer cell cultures for *in vitro* pathogen-host interaction studies.
7. Systems biology approaches should be based on a clear hypothesis rather than driven by technology and computing. (*based on 'A systems biology approach to infectious disease research: innovating the pathogen-host research paradigm', A. Aderem, mBio 2011*)
8. Given the high incidence of biofilm-associated infections, the assessment of anti-biofilm activity should have a prominent role in the development of novel antimicrobial agents.
9. Results of a well-designed experiment should be published, no matter the outcome. (*based on 'Negative results need airing too', N. Gupta & M. Stopfer, Nature 470, 2011*)
10. The key to everything is patience. You get the chicken by hatching the egg, not by smashing it. (*A.H. Glasgow, psychologist*)

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