

**Radezolid (RX-1741),  
a novel oxazolidinone,  
is active against intracellular *S. aureus*,  
*L. monocytogenes* and *L. pneumophila*  
phagocytosed by human THP-1 macrophages**

Sandrine Lemaire, Paul M. Tulkens and Françoise Van Bambeke

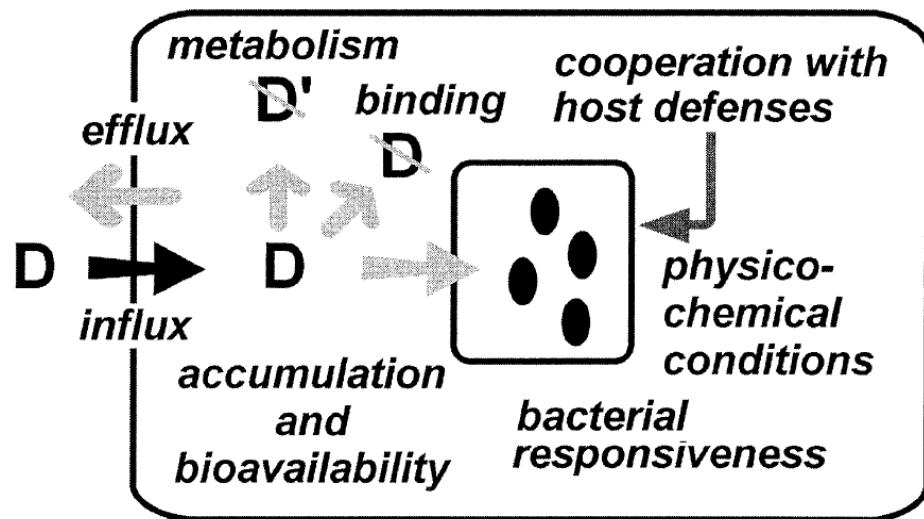
Unité de Pharmacologie cellulaire et moléculaire  
Louvain Drug Research Institute  
Université catholique de Louvain

<[www.facm.ucl.ac.be](http://www.facm.ucl.ac.be)>

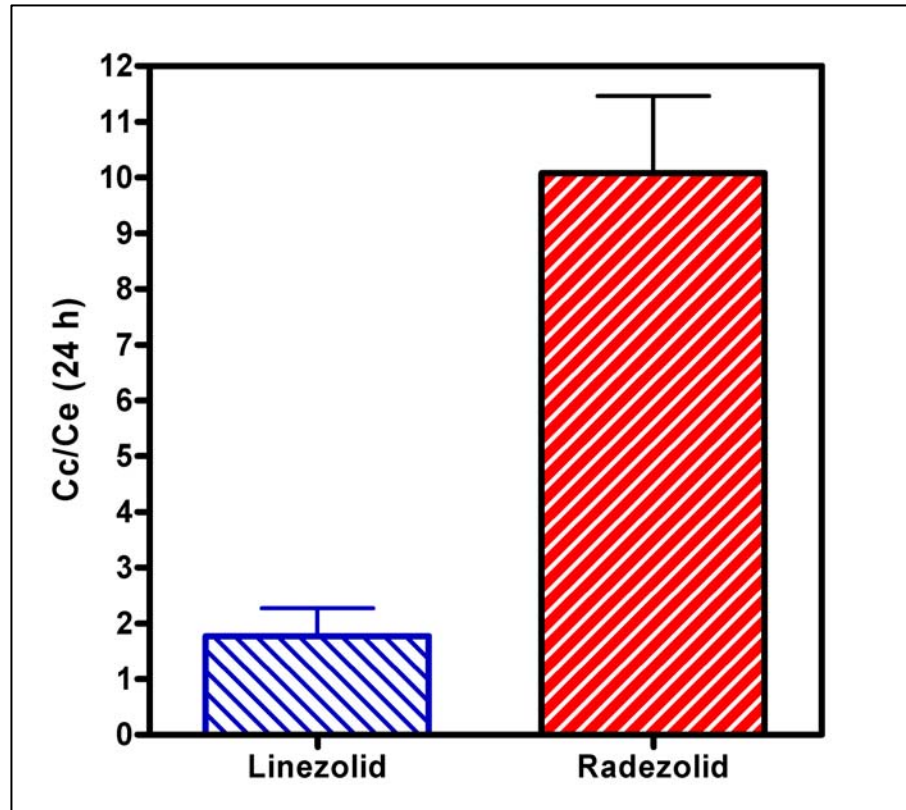


# Intracellular bacteria

- major determinant in the recurrent and relapsing character of several bacterial infections
- requires that antibiotics that:
  - efficiently accumulate within the infected intracellular compartments
  - express activity therein



# Radezolid (RX-1741)

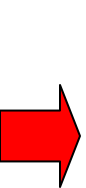


In contrast to linezolid, radezolid accumulates extensively within THP-1 macrophages

# Radezolid (RX-1741)

- Improved intrinsic activity against several organisms, including those capable of surviving within eucaryotic cells

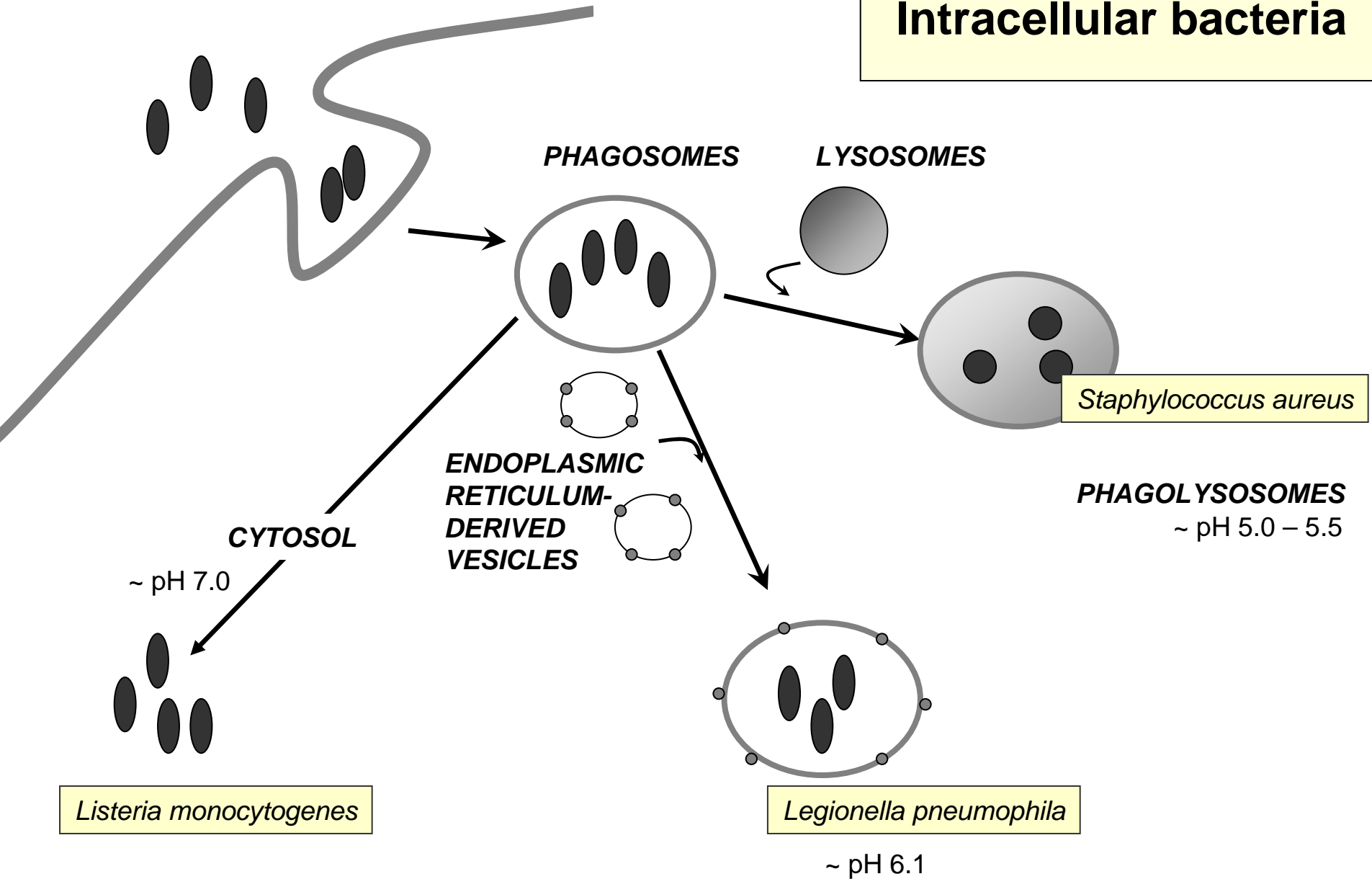
bacteria	MICs in mg/L	
	Linezolid	Radezolid
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> ErmB	0.5-2	≤ 0.25
<i>S. pyogenes</i>	2-4	0.03-0.125
<i>H. influenzae</i>	2-64	0.25-2
<i>M. catarrhalis</i>	2-16	≤ 0.25-1
<i>S. aureus</i> MSSA	2-4	0.5-4
<i>S. aureus</i> MRSA	2-8	≤ 0.25-8
<i>L. pneumophila</i>	4-16	1-4
<i>C. trachomatis</i>	8-16	0.5-1



# Aim of the study

**To compare the intracellular activity of  
radezolid and linezolid against intracellular bacteria  
sojourning in different subcellular compartments**

# Intracellular bacteria

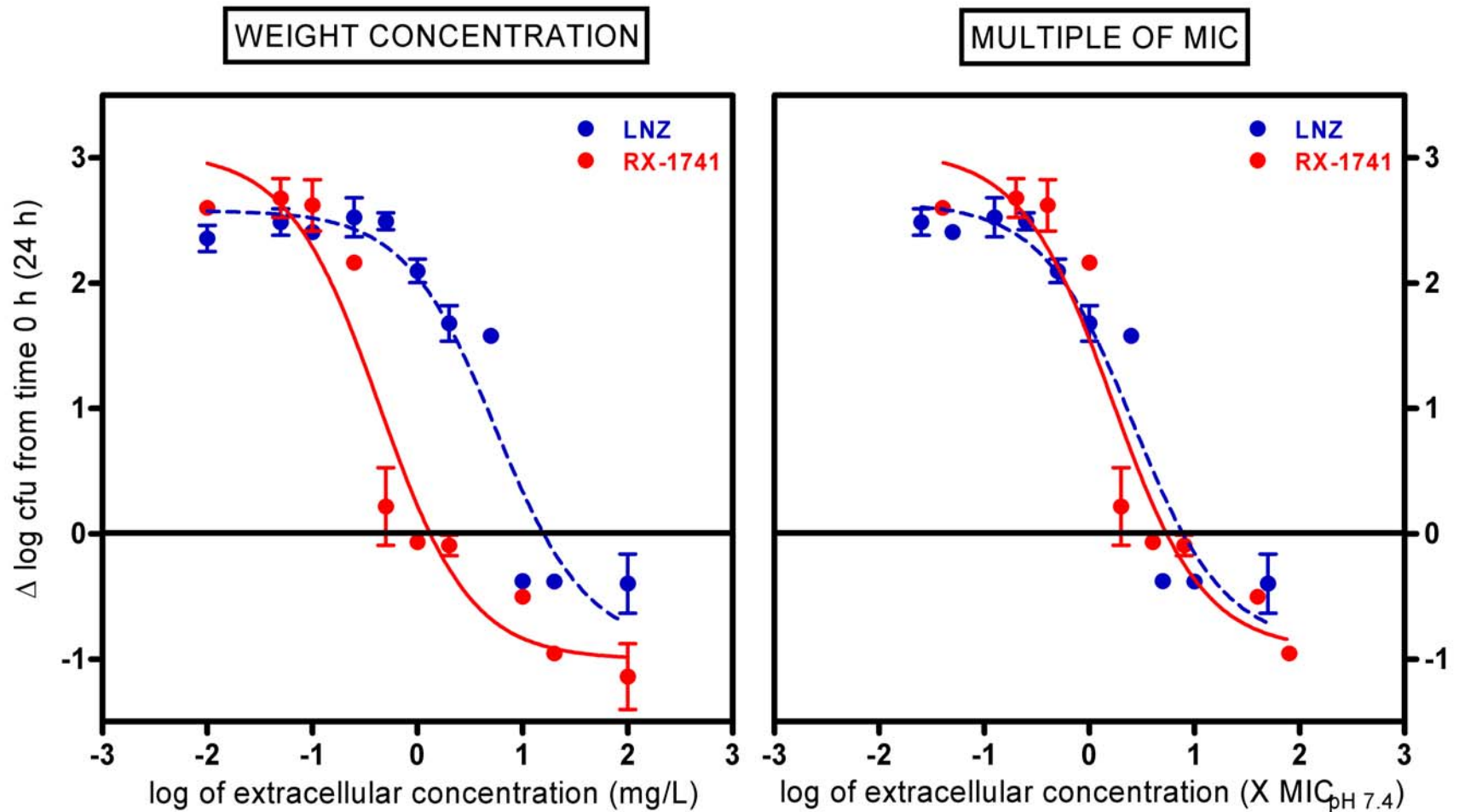


# Intrinsic activities

Organisms	MICs (mg/L)	
	Linezolid	Radezolid (RX-1741)
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> (strain EGD)	1-2	0.03-0.06
<i>Legionella pneumophila</i> (strain ATCC 33153)	4-8	0.5-1
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (strain ATCC 25923)	2	0.25-0.5

Radezolid shows lower MICs values  
against all tested bacteria

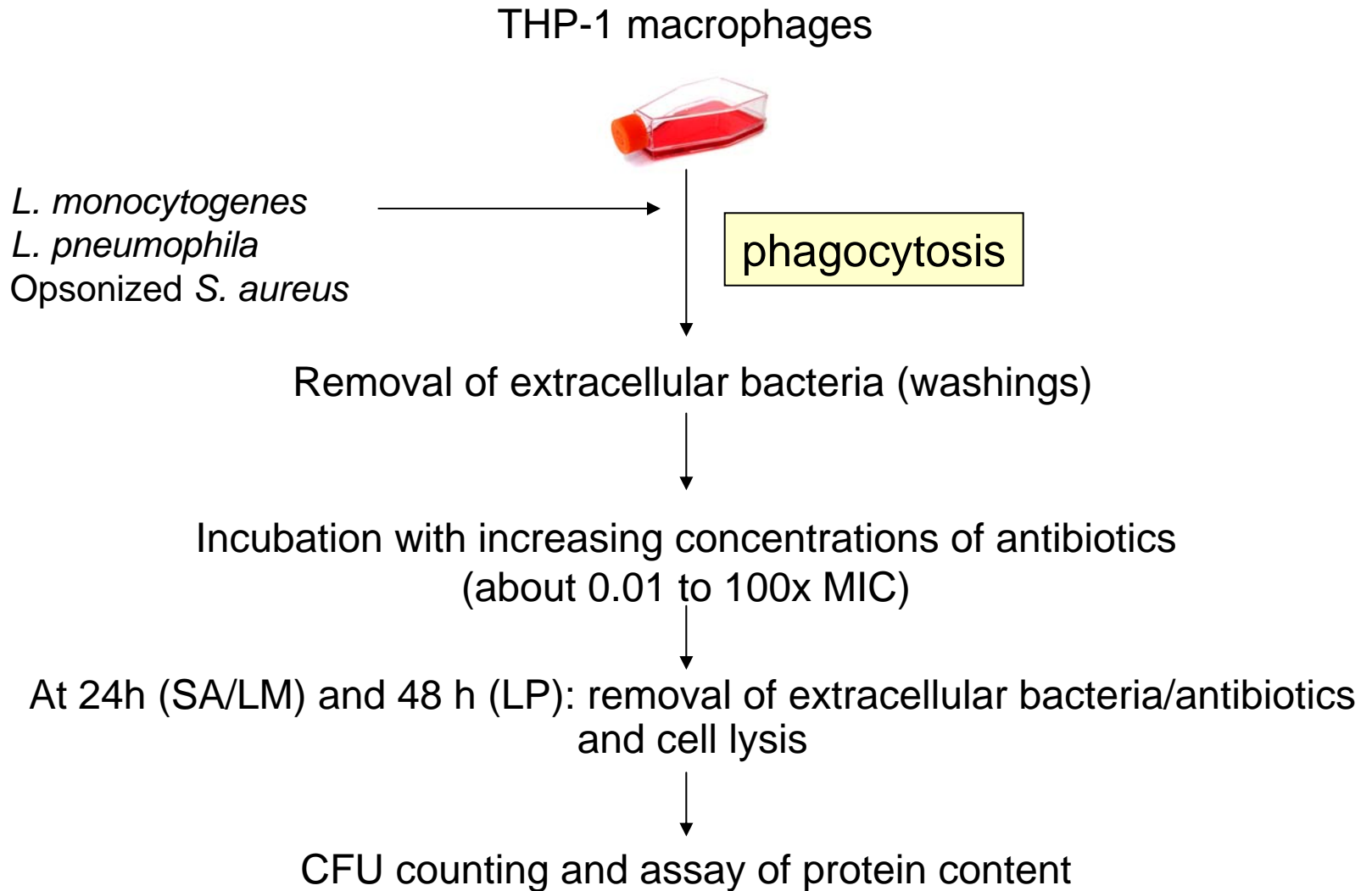
# Conc. effects relationship in broth (*S. aureus* ATCC 25923)



Radezolid shows increased potency (lower static concentrations) in broth

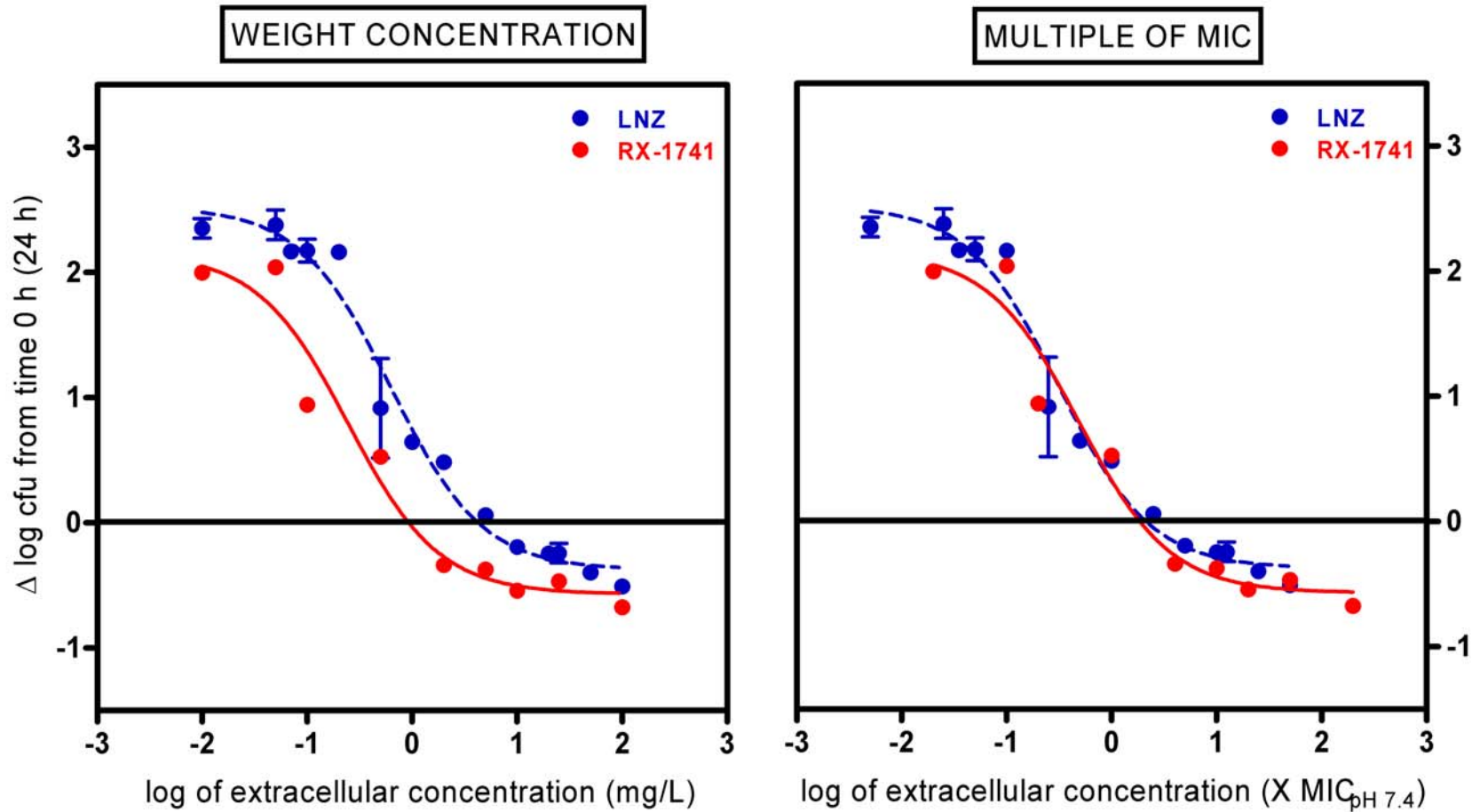


# Methods



*Lemaire et al, JAC, 2005; Barcia-Macay et al, AAC, 2006*

# Intracellular *S. aureus*

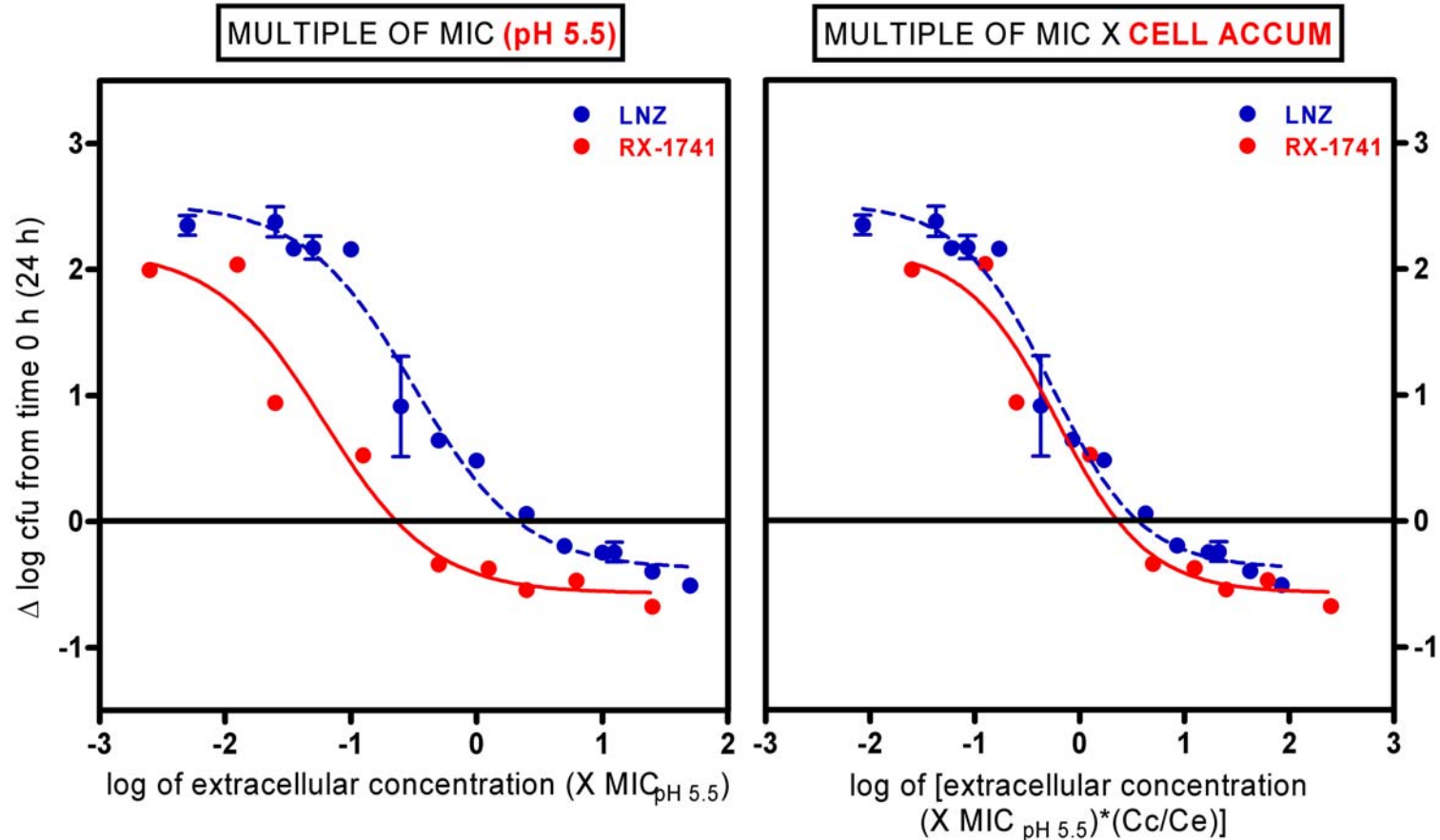


Against phagolysosomal *S. aureus*, the intracellular potency (in mg/L) of radezolid (RX-1741) is superior to linezolid

S. A. (MHB)	LNZ	RX-1741
MICs (mg/L)	2	0.25-0.5

# Intracellular *S. aureus*

*S. aureus* is found in phagolysosomes, where pH is acidic (pH 5.5)

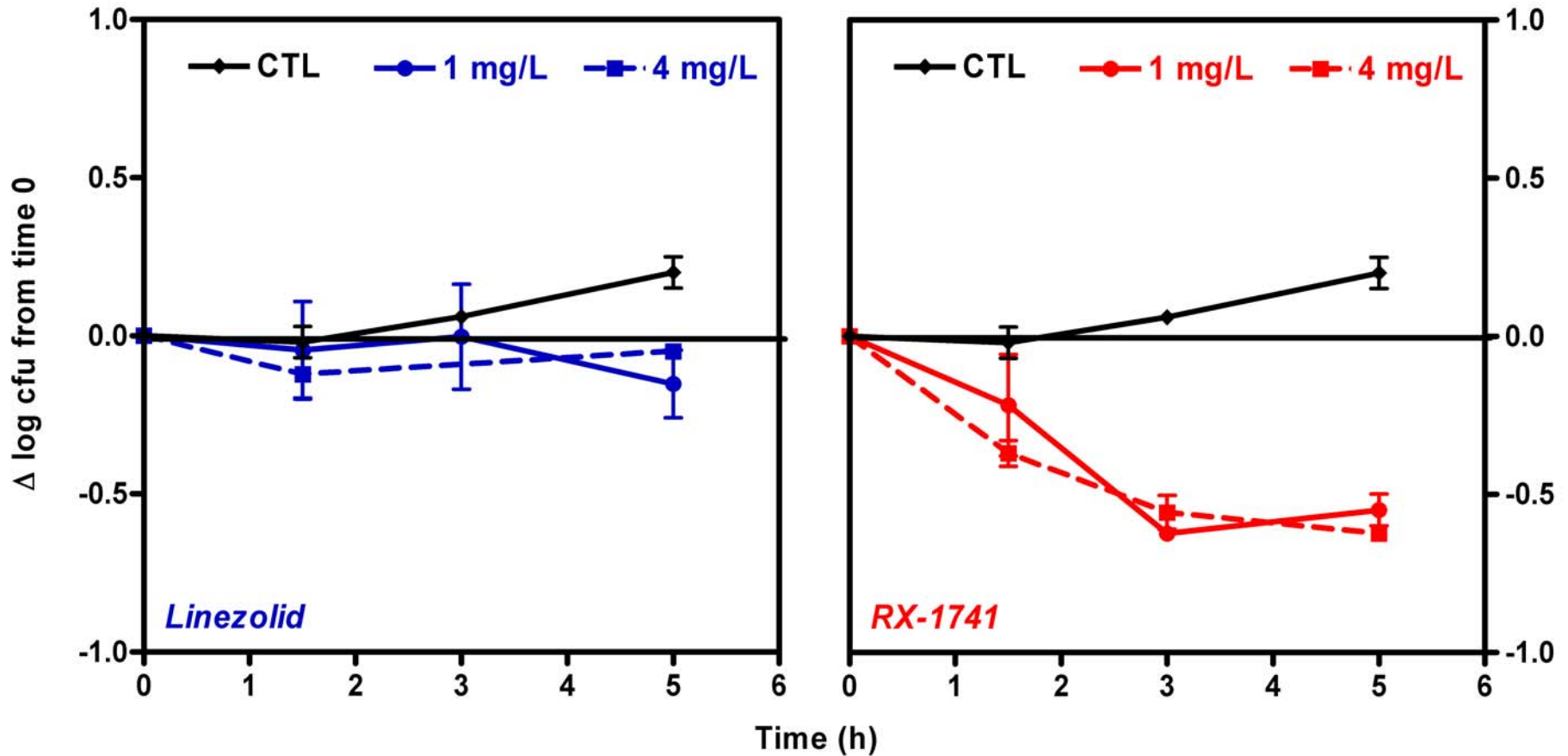


Higher levels of cellular accumulation give radezolid an advantage over linezolid, despite the similar potency of the two molecules at low pH

S. A. (MHB)	LNZ	RX-1741
MICs (mg/L)	2	4

# Intracellular *S. aureus* (ATCC 25923)

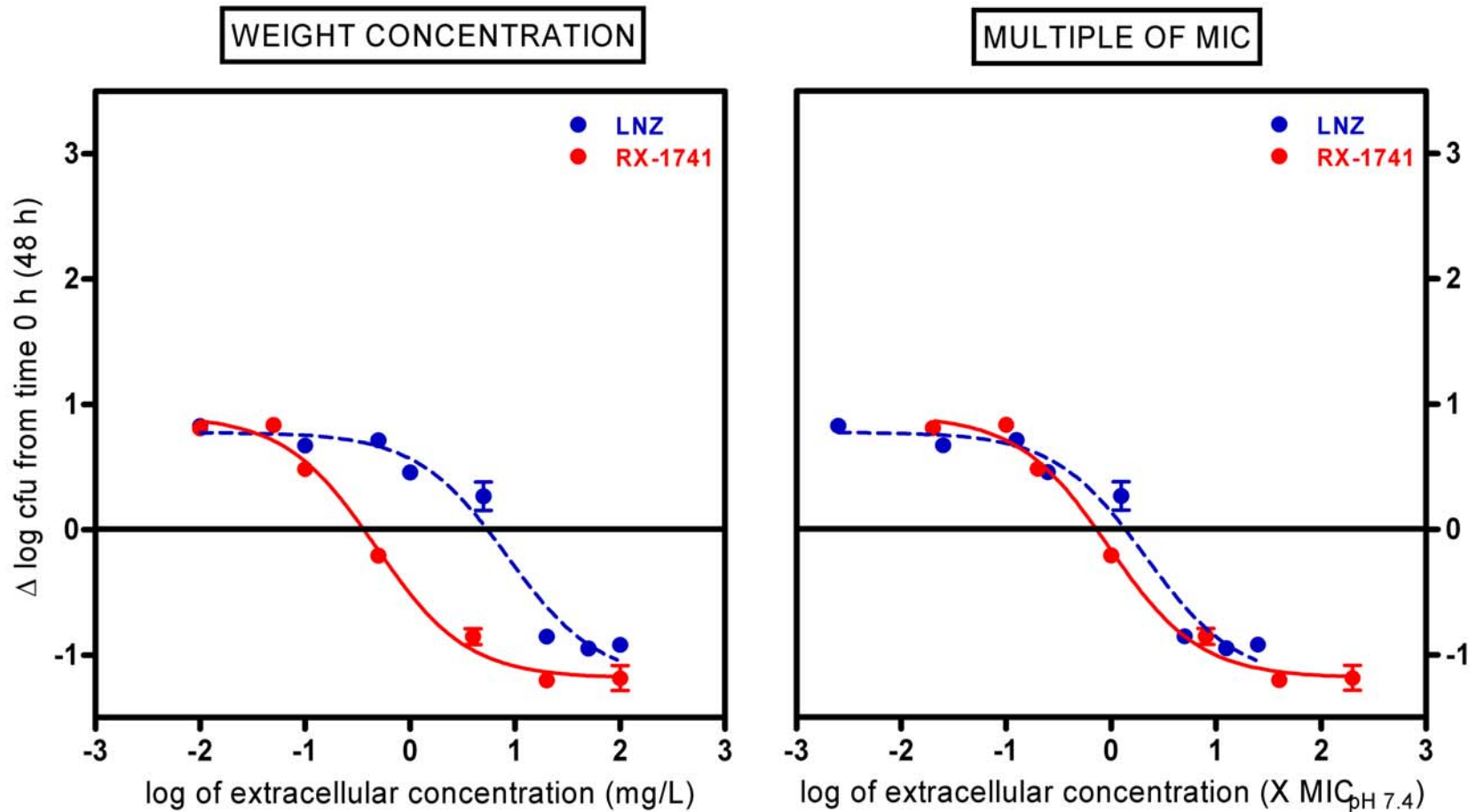
## Influence of time



Radezolid reaches its maximal effect against intraphagocytic *S. aureus* after only 3 h drug exposure, while linezolid remained static during this period

S. A. (MHB)	LNZ	<b>RX-1741</b>
MICs (mg/L)	2	<b>0.25-0.5</b>

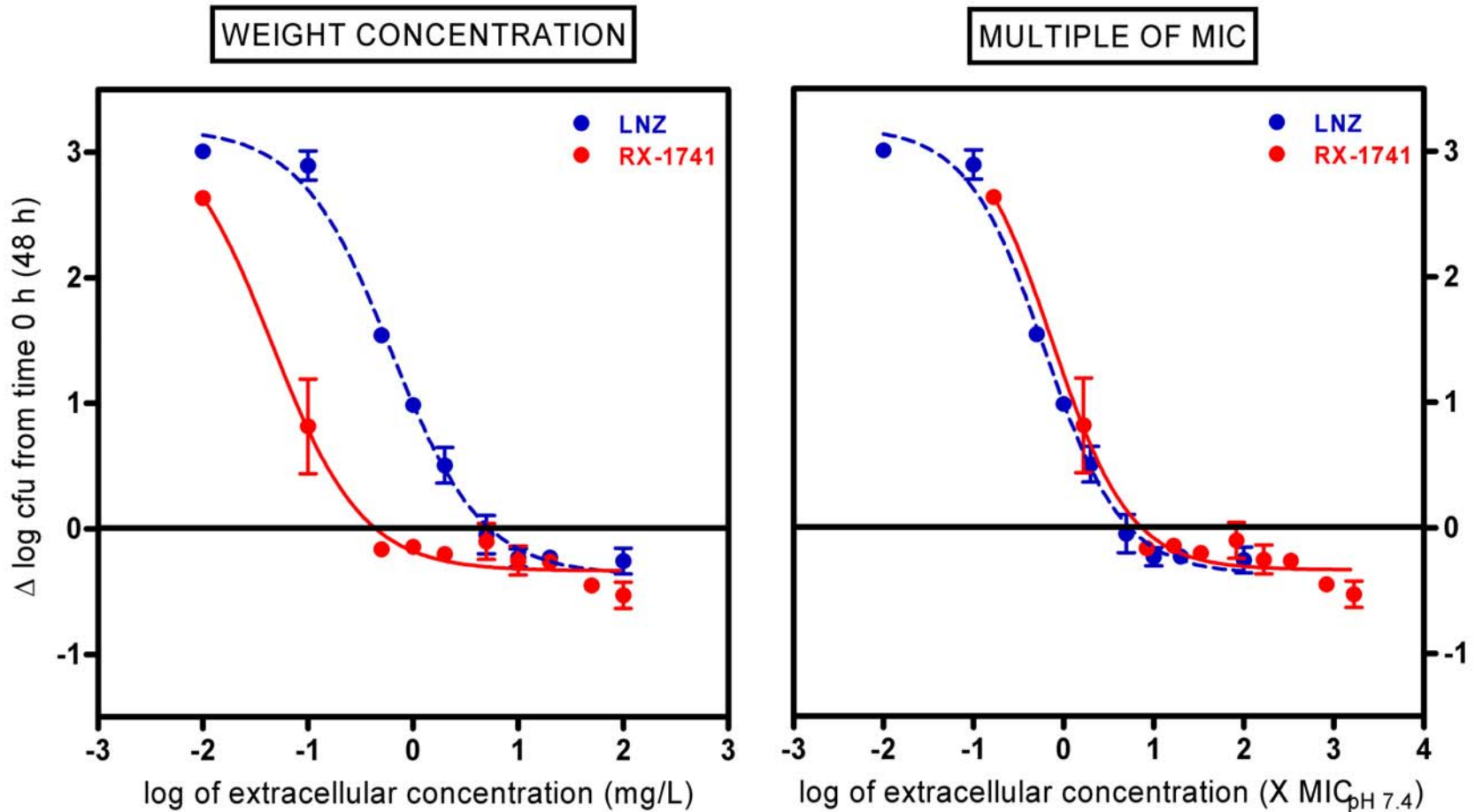
# Intracellular *L. pneumophila* (ATCC 33153)



Against phagosomal *L. pneumophila*, radezolid shows higher intracellular potency (in mg/L) compared to linezolid

L.P. (BYE $\alpha$ )	LNZ	<b>RX-1741</b>
MICs (mg/L)	4-8	<b>0.5-1</b>

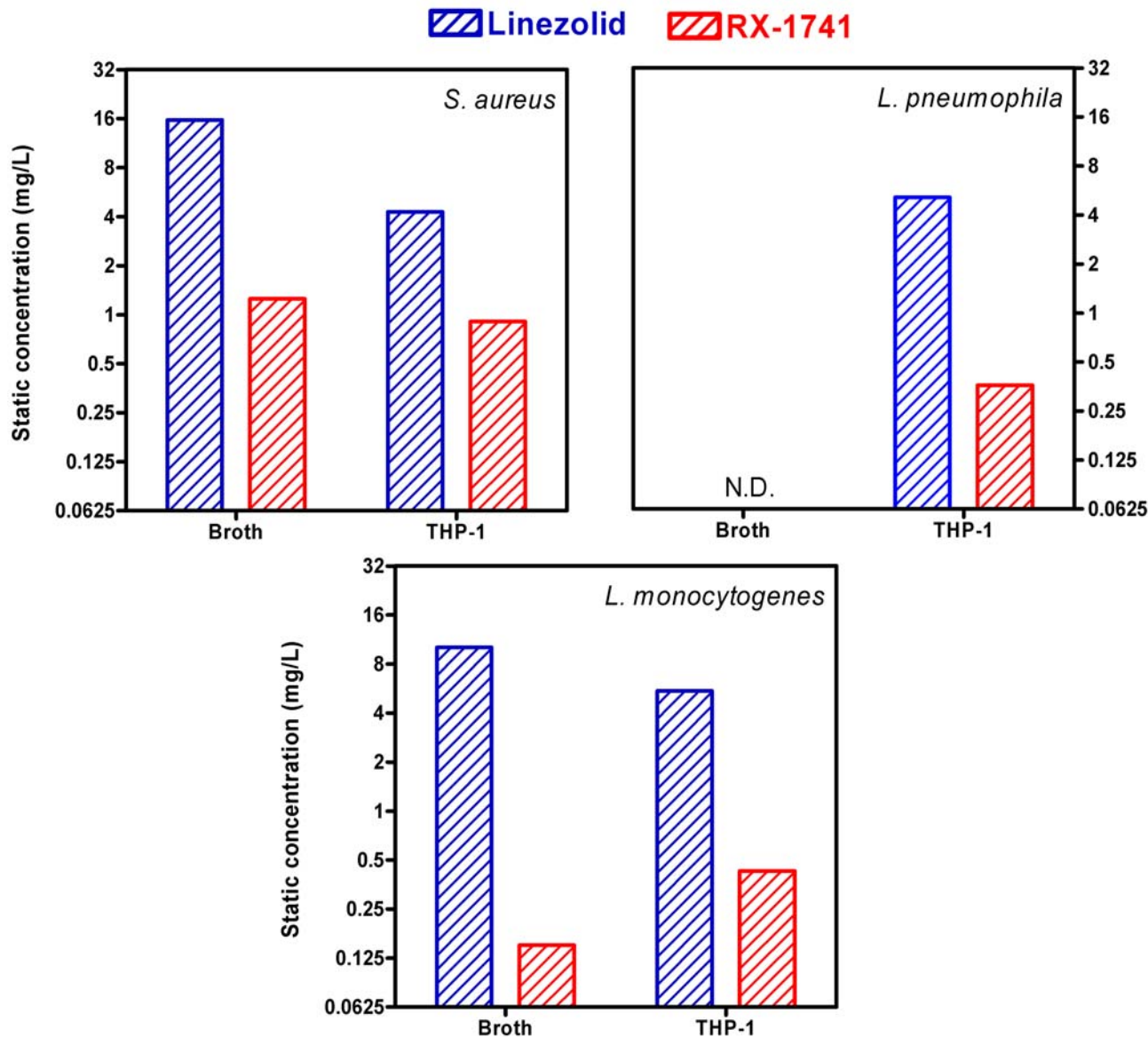
# Intracellular *L. monocytogenes* (strain EGD)



Against cytosolic *L. monocytogenes*, radezolid shows higher intracellular potency (in mg/L) compared to linezolid

L.M. (TSB)	LNZ	RX-1741
MICs (mg/L)	1-2	0.03-0.06

# Comparative static concentrations



Static concentration (mg/L)

In all cases, the concentration of **radezolid** required to inhibit bacterial growth is **lower** than **linezolid**



# Conclusions

- Compared to the linezolid, radezolid (RX-1741) shows increased potency towards both extracellular and intracellular *S. aureus*, *L. pneumophila* and *L. monocytogenes*



The higher intracellular activity of radezolid is probably due to :

- its higher intrinsic activity (lower MICs values)
- its higher cellular accumulation as compared to linezolid