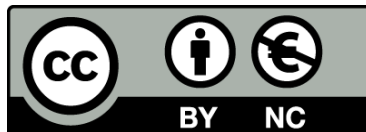




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Impact of molecular methods in the analysis of the invasiveness of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*

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WORK HYPOTHESIS

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- The use of PCV7 has led to a change in the main serotypes causing invasive pneumococcal disease in the geographical area of Catalonia, Spain, making necessary an update of the invasive disease potential of pneumococcal serotypes in the post vaccine era.
- The detection of some pneumococcal serotypes is being underestimated due to the use of techniques based only on culture, which affects the calculation of their invasive disease potential.
- Molecular techniques improve the identification of pneumococcal serotypes because of a higher sensibility and the possibility of detecting multiple colonization.
- The clonal composition of pneumococcal serotypes influences the invasive disease potential of the serotypes.