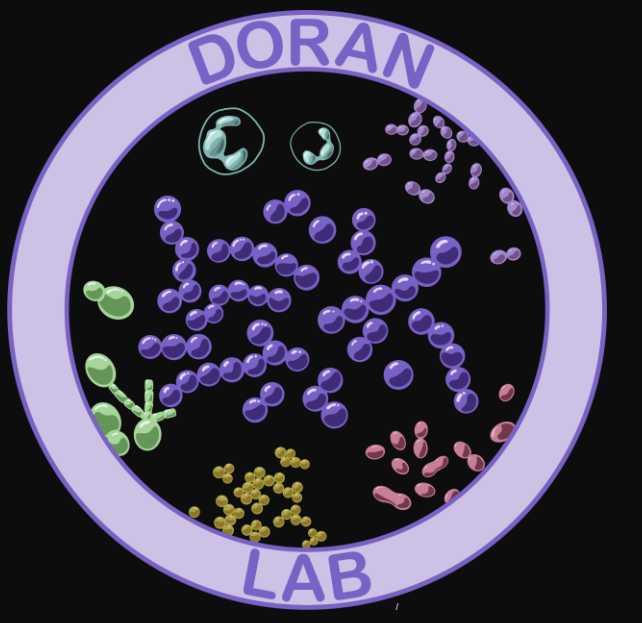


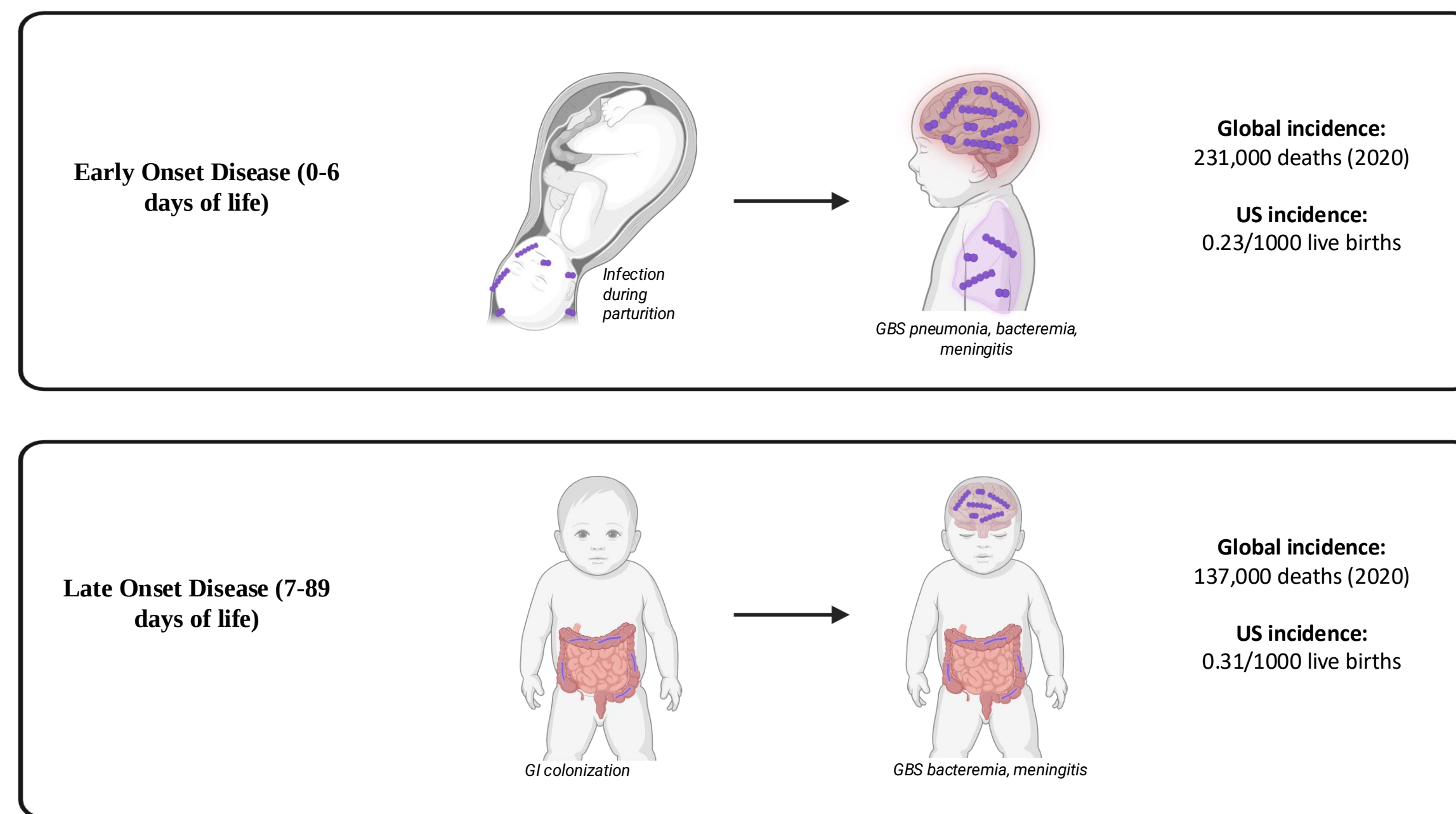
Uncovering how Group B Streptococcus in the Infant Intestinal Tract Leads to Meningitis

Arianne J Crossen, Haider Manzer, PhD, Shirli Cohen, Artemis Gogos MD PhD, and Kelly S Doran PhD.



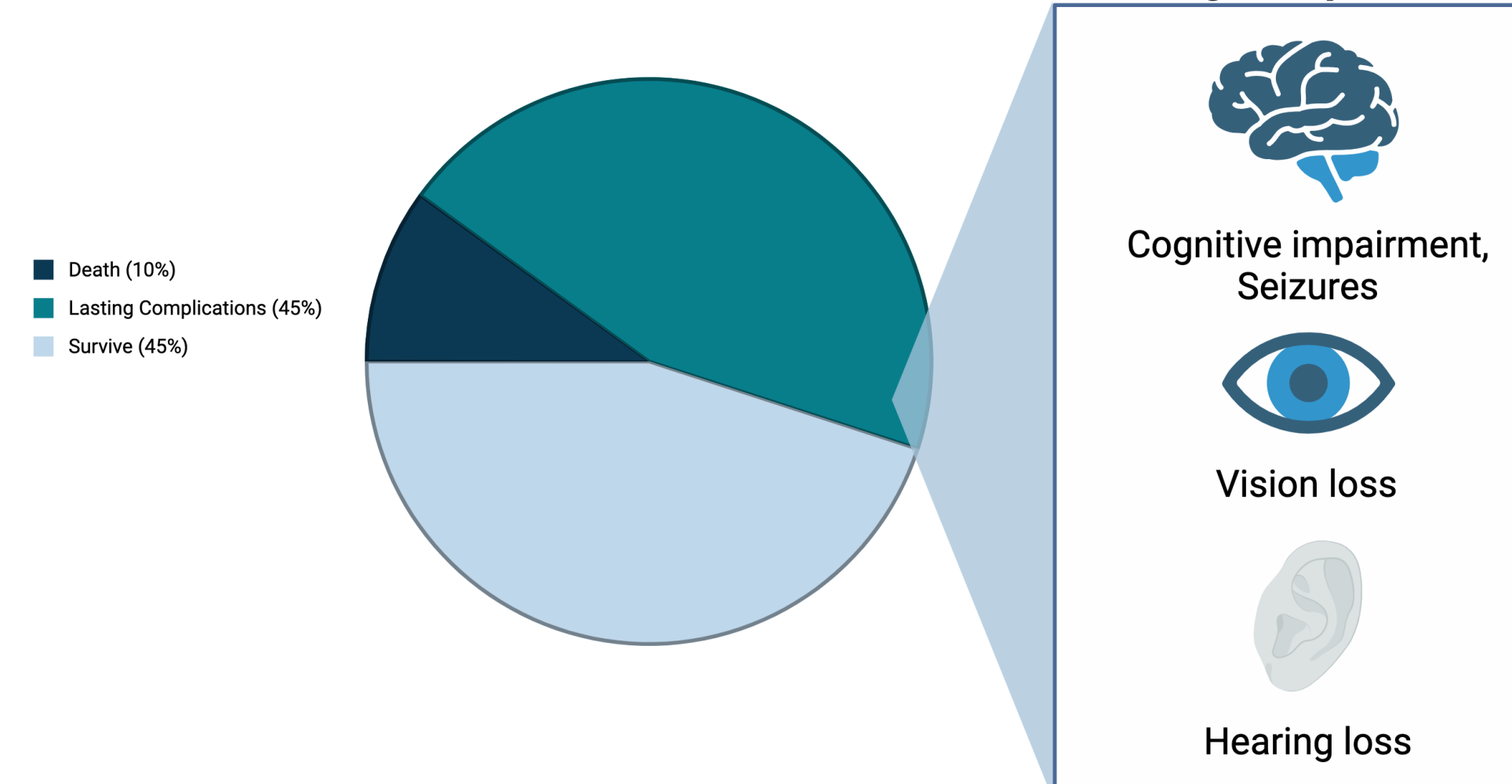
Group B *Streptococcus* in Neonatal Meningitis

- GBS bacteria emerged in the 1970s as the most common cause of sepsis in newborns.
- Lives safely in the intestines and female reproductive tract in up to 1/3 of adults.



- Early onset disease has been well controlled with screening of pregnant mothers for GBS and treatment with antibiotics during birth.
- Very little is understood about late onset disease and there are currently NO preventative measures.

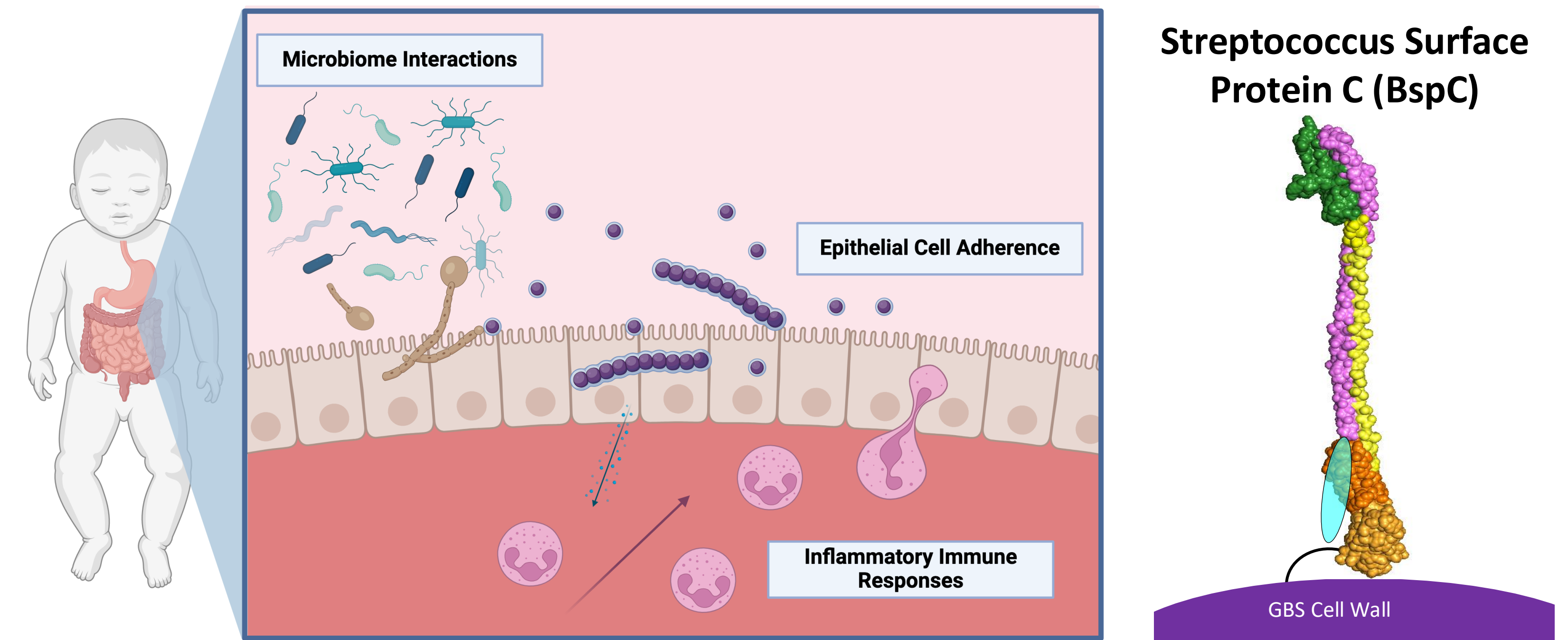
Late Onset Neonatal Meningitis Outlook



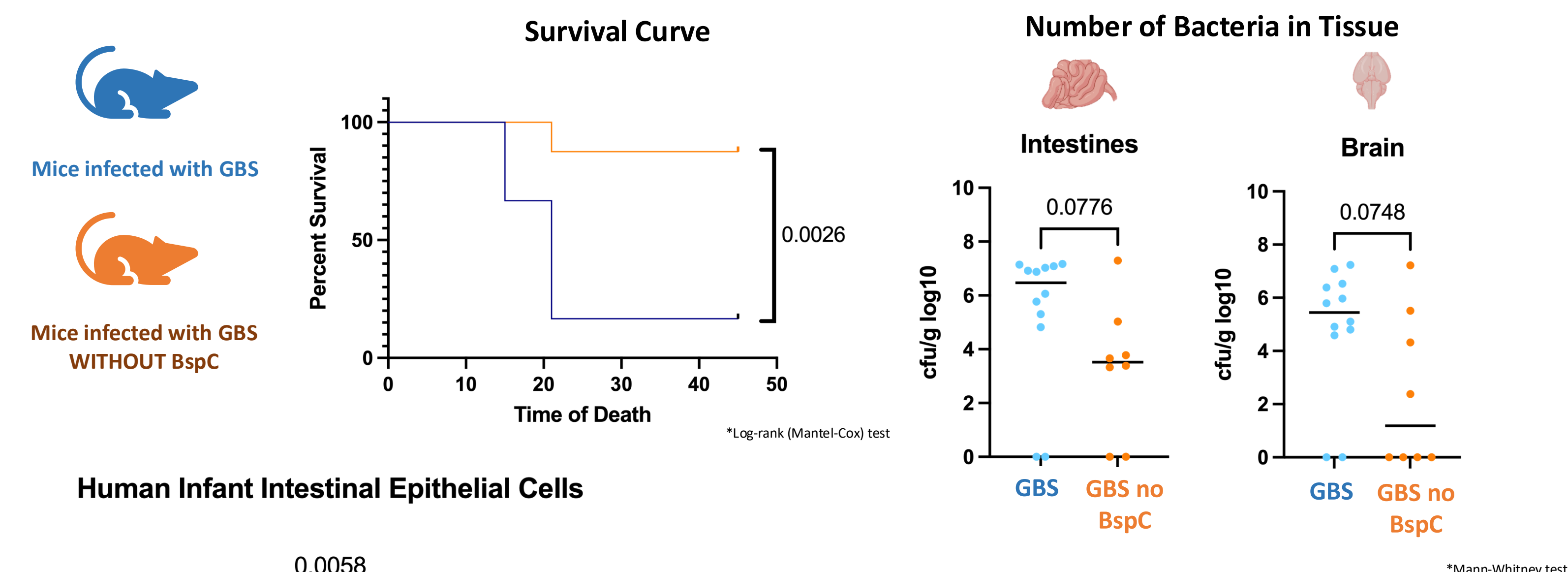
AIMS:

- HOW is GBS sticking around in the infant intestinal tract? What can we target on the bacteria to therapeutically inhibit this?
- HOW is GBS escaping from the intestines to get the the bloodstream and the brain?

Which Factors are we Investigating?



Findings So Far and Future Directions



Next steps:

- Screen of database of FDA-approved drugs yielded possible drug matches to bind BspC.
- We want to know: Does treatment with these drugs stop GBS from colonizing the intestine and escaping to cause meningitis?