

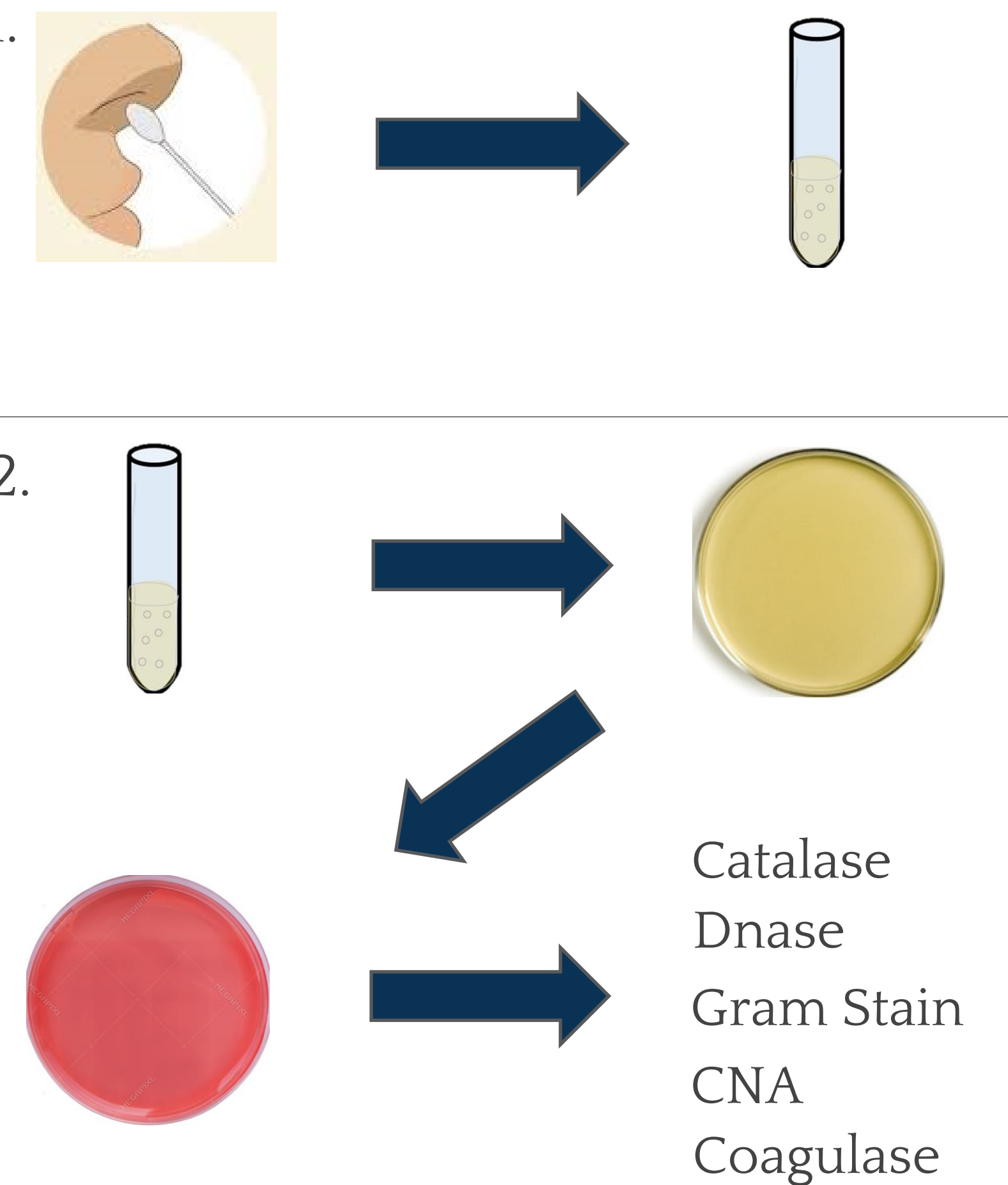
Identifying *Staphylococcus aureus* in nasal swabs from CSP students

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Abstract

The Staph Study at CSP aims to identify bacteria from voluntary students. Swabs of bacteria were collected and cultured. Then, a series of tests were performed to identify the type of bacteria present. It was found that 8 of 12 strains collected were *Staphylococcus aureus* because of the presence of bubbles, light halos, purple clustered bacteria, dark purple halos, and agglutination.

Methods



Staphylococcus aureus isolates from people that use antibacterial soap have a higher percentage of penicillin resistance.

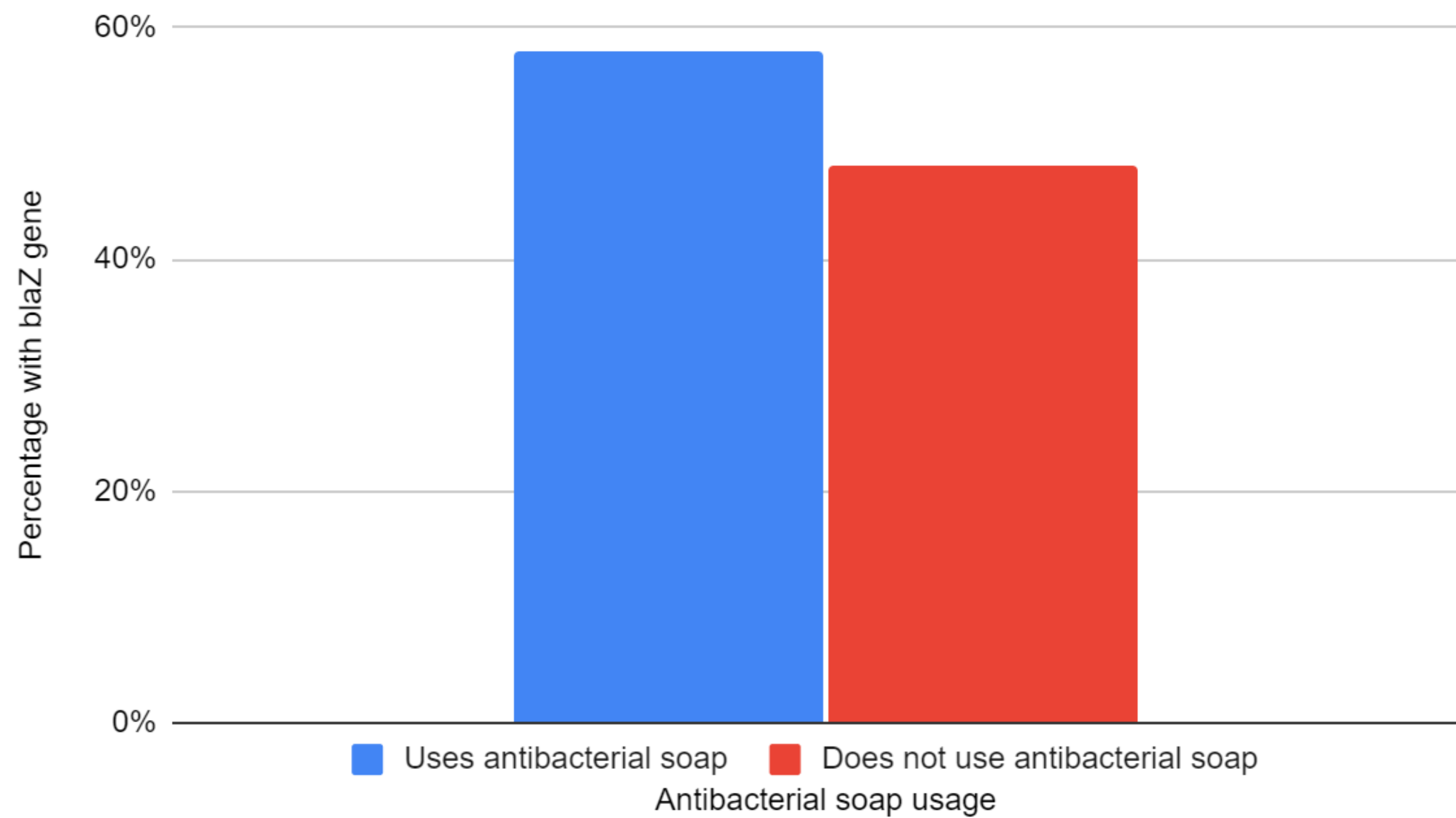
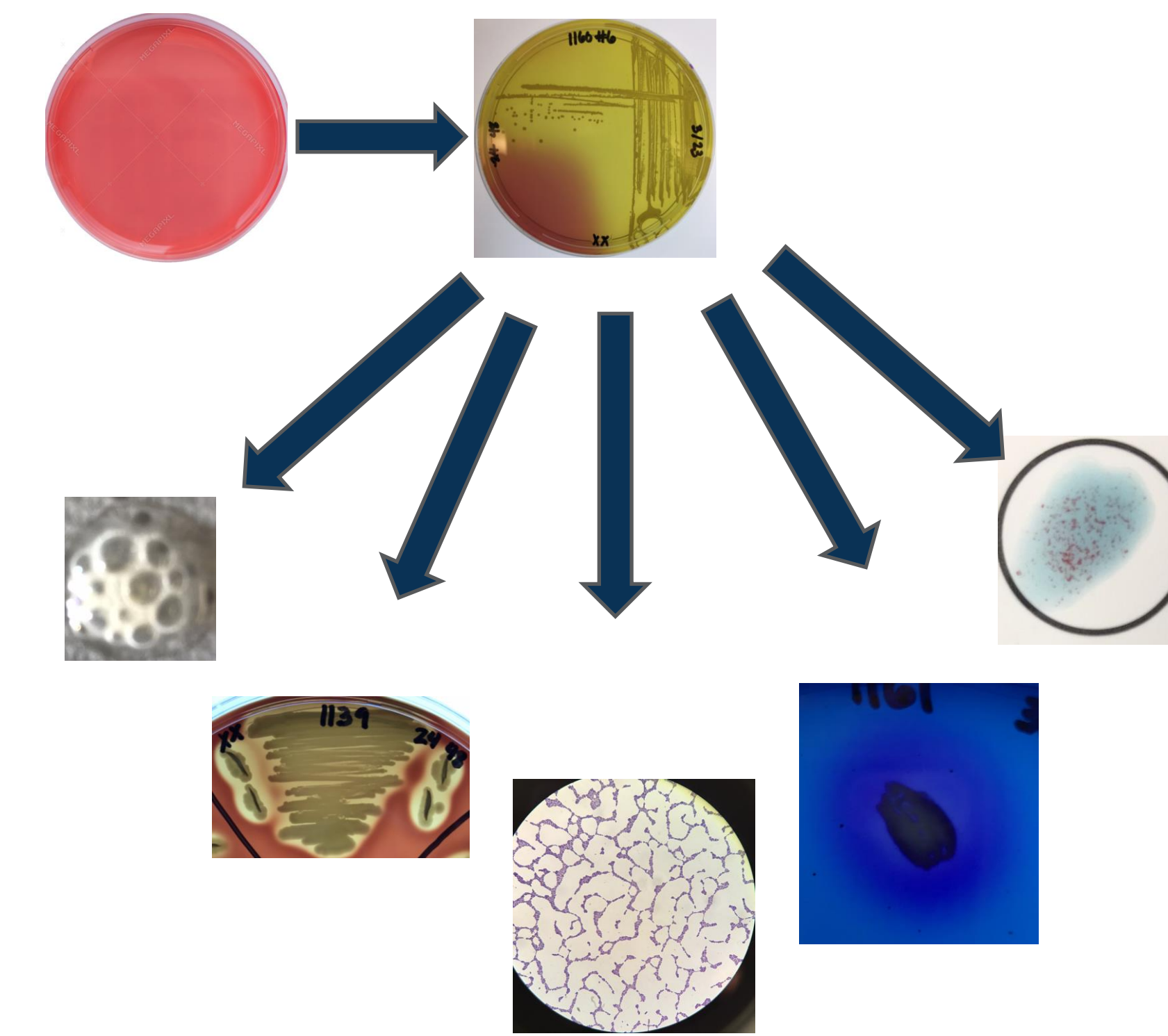


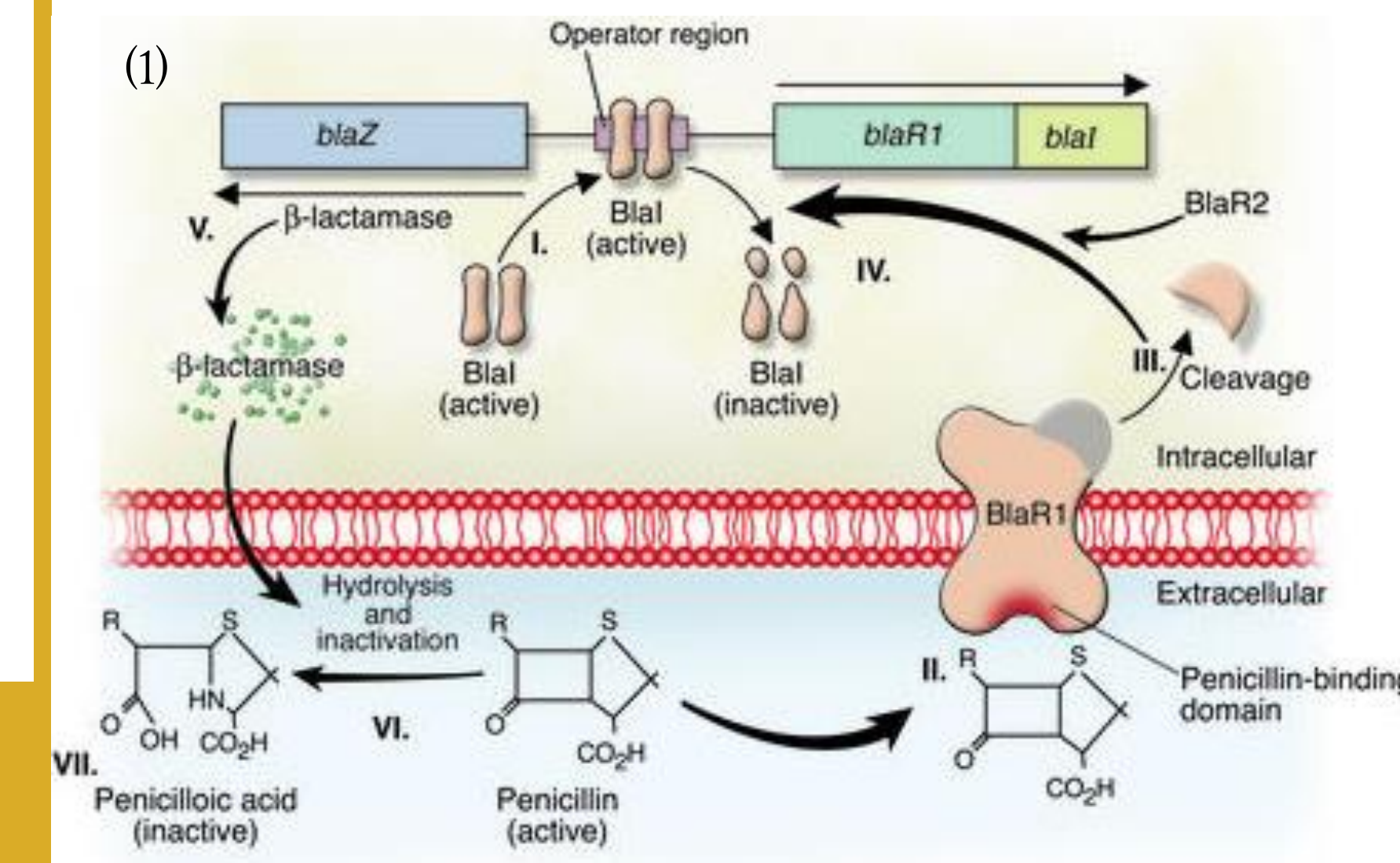
Figure 1 Antibacterial Soap Usage vs Percent of Students Positive for blaZ Gene. CSP students volunteered to swab their noses and answer questions related to lifestyle choices. The swabs were cultured and ran through a series of tests to identify the bacteria. Eighty-eight students used antimicrobial soap and 50 students did not use antimicrobial soap. Of those who used antimicrobial soap, 51 students (58%) tested positive for the blaZ gene. Among students who did not use antimicrobial soap, 24 (48%) students tested positive for the blaZ gene.



Results



- It is *S. aureus* if the tests show bubbles, light halos, purple clustered bacteria, dark purple halos, and agglutination
- Of 12 strains tested, 8 are confirmed to be *S. aureus*



Acknowledgements and References

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1. F. D. Lowy, Antimicrobial resistance: the example of *Staphylococcus aureus*. *J Clin Invest.* 111, 1265-1273, (2003).