

Two years later the French physician Felix d'Herelle noticed that a bacteria-free filtrate prepared from the stools of French troops who were recovering from dysentery had the ability to kill the bacteria that cause dysentery. For example, the food industry is currently exploring the use of bacteriophages to disinfect foods, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved a physician-initiated trial to determine whether a bacteriophage cocktail can effectively destroy *Staphylococcus*, *Pseudomonas*, and *Escherichia coli* in skin wounds and burns. Now that so many bacterial pathogens have become antibiotic-resistant there is renewed interest in the potential of bacteriophages to prevent or treat bacterial diseases. Although initial clinical trials appeared to offer some support for this idea, more extensive clinical studies did not produce reproducible cures.