

# Making donated milk more accessible through improved processing techniques

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# Current infant feeding modes (regulated)

## Breastfeeding



Exclusive feeding rate  
is 40%

## Donated milk



Contamination risk, but is  
antimicrobial  
Premature hospitalised  
infants

## Infant formula



Accessible  
Lacks protective components  
Direct contamination risk

# Risks of not receiving breastmilk in the first 6 months

	Low income countries	High income countries
<b>Formula fed infants</b>	6-10 times more likely to die from diarrhoeal or respiratory disease (WHO)	3 times more likely to be hospitalised for respiratory disease (UNICEF)



# Current processing techniques of donated milk

## Holder Pasteurisation



62.5 ° C for 30 minutes

### Problems:

- uneven heat transfer
- Difficult to pasteurise large batches
- Degrades many immune components

## Storage: Frozen



### Problems

- Limits capacity
- Expensive
- Short-shelf life
- Limits ability to ship

# Aims

**1. Establishment of reference data using a range of accepted analytical techniques to characterise human raw human milk.**

- Physicochemical properties
- Functional properties

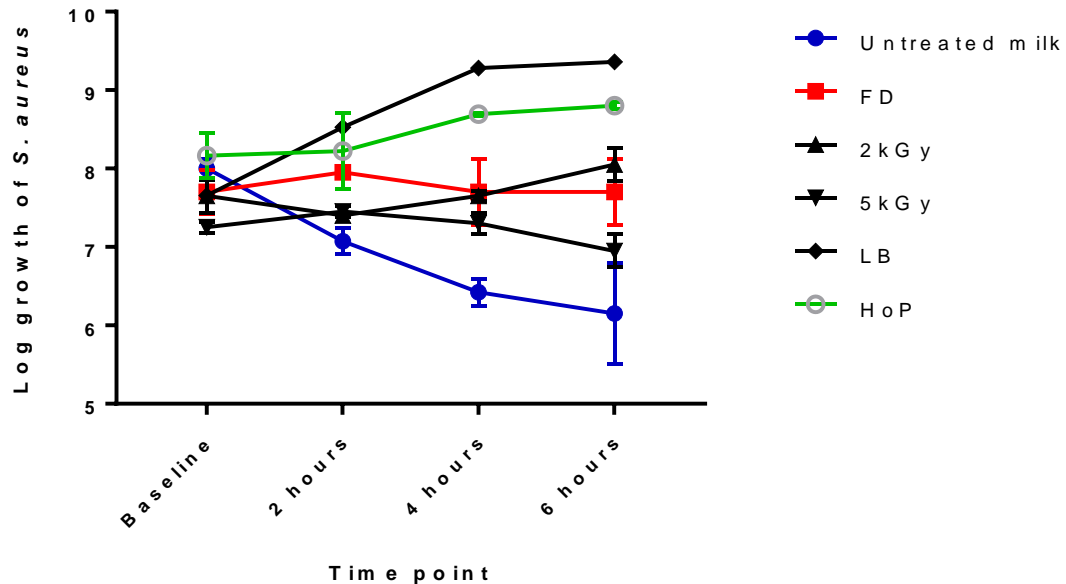
**2. Study of the impact of treatment of different milk processing methods (freeze-drying and spray-drying, irradiation and heat)**



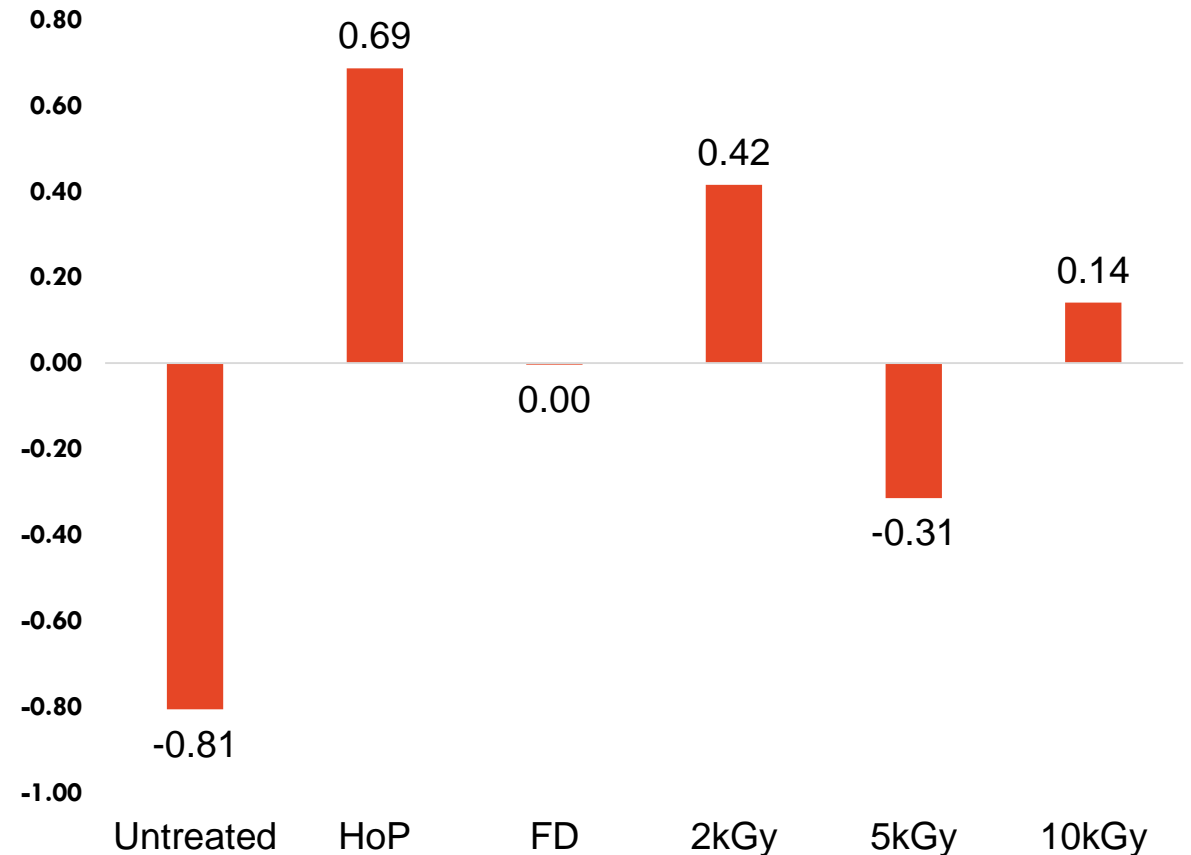
# Antimicrobial capacity

## Test pathogen: Staph aureus

Log growth of *S. aureus* in irradiated freeze-dried human milk (0-5 kGy)



Log growth of *S. aureus* after 6 hours



# Acknowledgements

## **Supervisors:**

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