



The Promise of Oral Microbiota-Targeted Therapeutics for Oral Diseases

Lakshman `Sam` Samaranayake

DSc, DDS, FDSRCS (edin), FRACDS, FRCPath, FDS RCPS

Professor Emeritus and Immediate-past Dean (2004-2014)
University of Hong Kong, Faculty of Dentistry

**Oralome –
new data**

**Oralome –
functionality**

**Targeted
Therapy**

Why & what?

Approaches (5)

**Oralome –
new data**

**Targeted
Therapy**

Back to Basics



nature

THE INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

*First results
from the Human
Microbiome
Project highlight
the healthy
variation in
our microbial
selves*

PAGES 194, 207 & 215

FELLOW TRAVELLERS

MATERIALS

FEELING THE PRESSURE

*The quest for convincingly
metallic hydrogen*

PAGE 174

CLIMATE CHANGE

GET USED TO UNCERTAINTY

*Climate modelling
faces its limits*

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SOLAR SYSTEM

TITAN'S ELUSIVE METHANE

*Tropical lakes on Saturn's
enigmatic moon?*

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14 June 2012 £10

Vol. 486, No. 7402



Structure, function and diversity of the healthy human microbiome

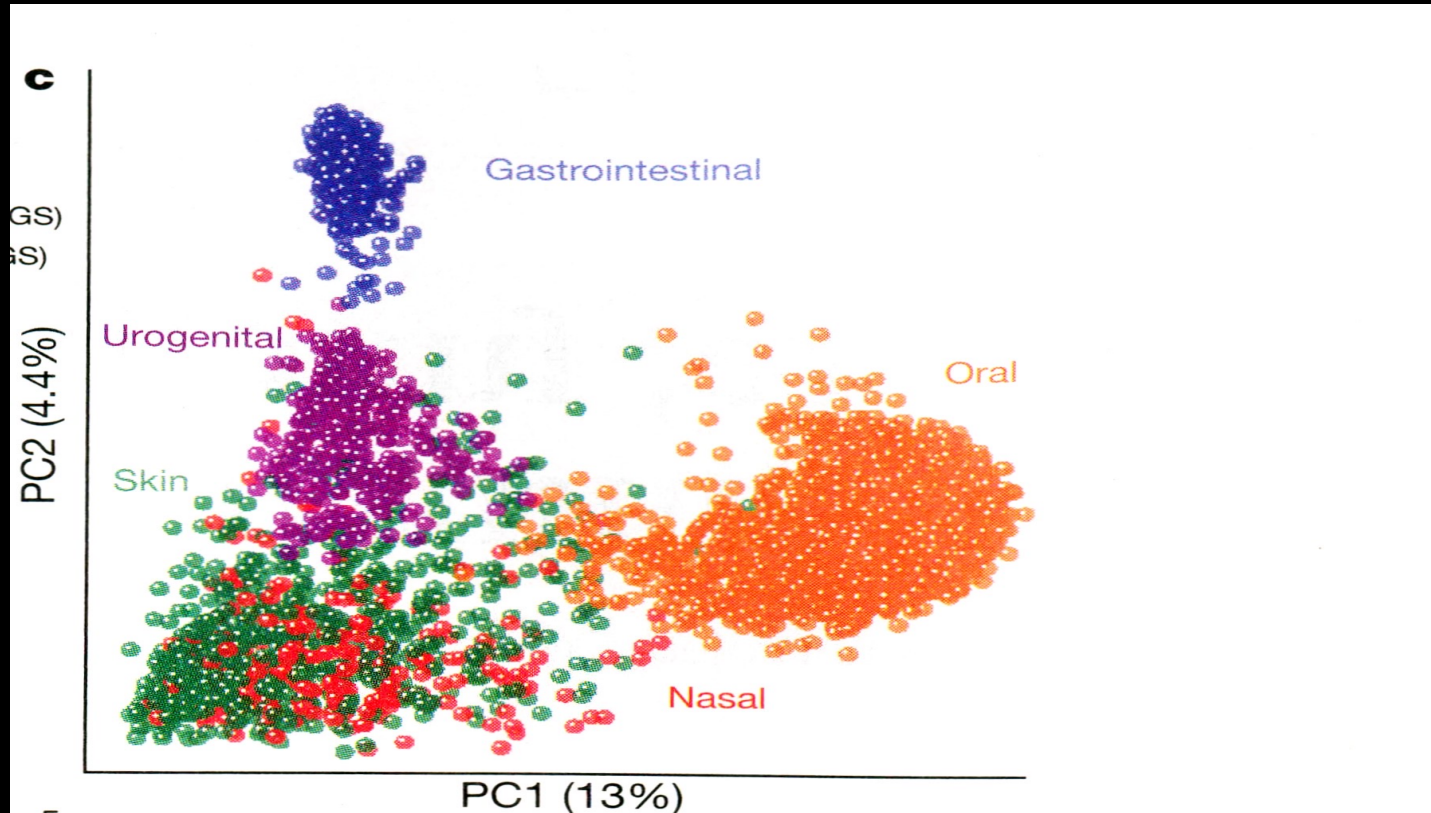
The Human Microbiome Project Consortium*

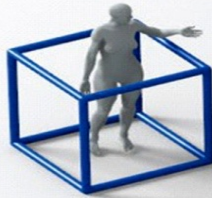
Studies of the human microbiome have revealed that even healthy individuals differ remarkably in the microbes that occupy habitats such as the gut, skin and vagina. Much of this diversity remains unexplained, although diet, environment, host genetics and early microbial exposure have all been implicated. Accordingly, to characterize the ecology of human-associated microbial communities, the Human Microbiome Project has analysed the largest cohort and set of distinct, clinically relevant body habitats so far. We found the diversity and abundance of each habitat's signature microbes to vary widely even among healthy subjects, with strong niche specialization both within and among individuals. The project encountered an estimated 81–99% of the genera, enzyme families and community configurations occupied by the healthy Western microbiome. Metagenomic carriage of metabolic pathways was stable among individuals despite variation in community structure, and ethnic/racial background proved to be one of the strongest associations of both pathways and microbes with clinical metadata. These results thus delineate the range of structural and functional configurations normal in the microbial communities of a healthy population, enabling future characterization of the epidemiology, ecology and translational applications of the human microbiome.

A total of 4,788 specimens from 242 screened and phenotyped adults¹ (129 males, 113 females) were available for this study, representing the majority of the target Human Microbiome Project (HMP) cohort of 300 individuals. Adult subjects lacking evidence of disease were recruited based on a lengthy list of exclusion criteria; we will refer to them here as 'healthy', as defined by the consortium clinical sampling criteria (K. Aagaard *et al.*, manuscript submitted). Women were sampled at 18 body habitats, men at 15 (excluding three vaginal sites), distributed among five major body areas. Nine specimens were collected from the oral cavity and oropharynx: saliva; buccal

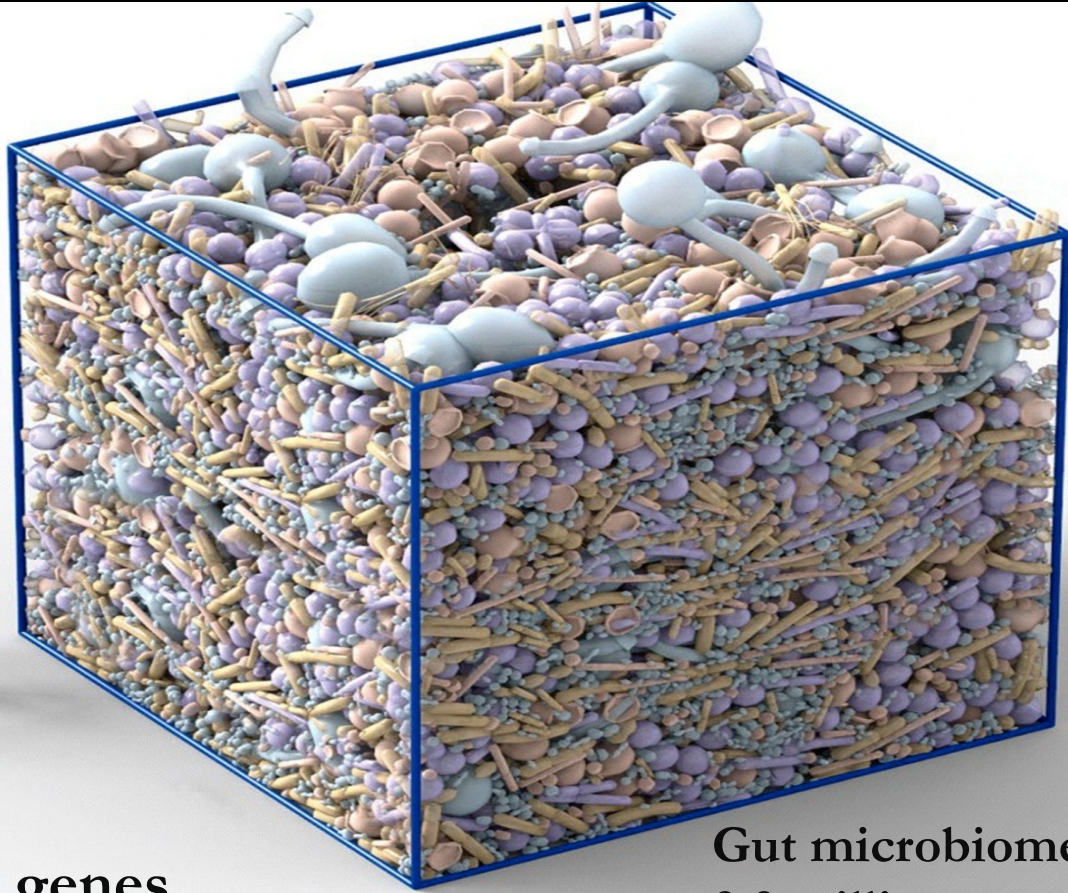
involving microbiome samples collected from healthy volunteers at two distinct geographic locations in the United States, we have defined the microbial communities at each body habitat, encountering 81–99% of predicted genera and saturating the range of overall community configurations (Fig. 1, Supplementary Fig. 1 and Supplementary Table 1; see also Fig. 4). Oral and stool communities were especially diverse in terms of community membership, expanding prior observations², and vaginal sites harboured particularly simple communities (Fig. 1a). This study established that these patterns of alpha diversity (within samples) differed markedly from comparisons between samples from the same habitat among subjects. Beta diversity

Diversity of the Oral Microbiome is Unique to individuals



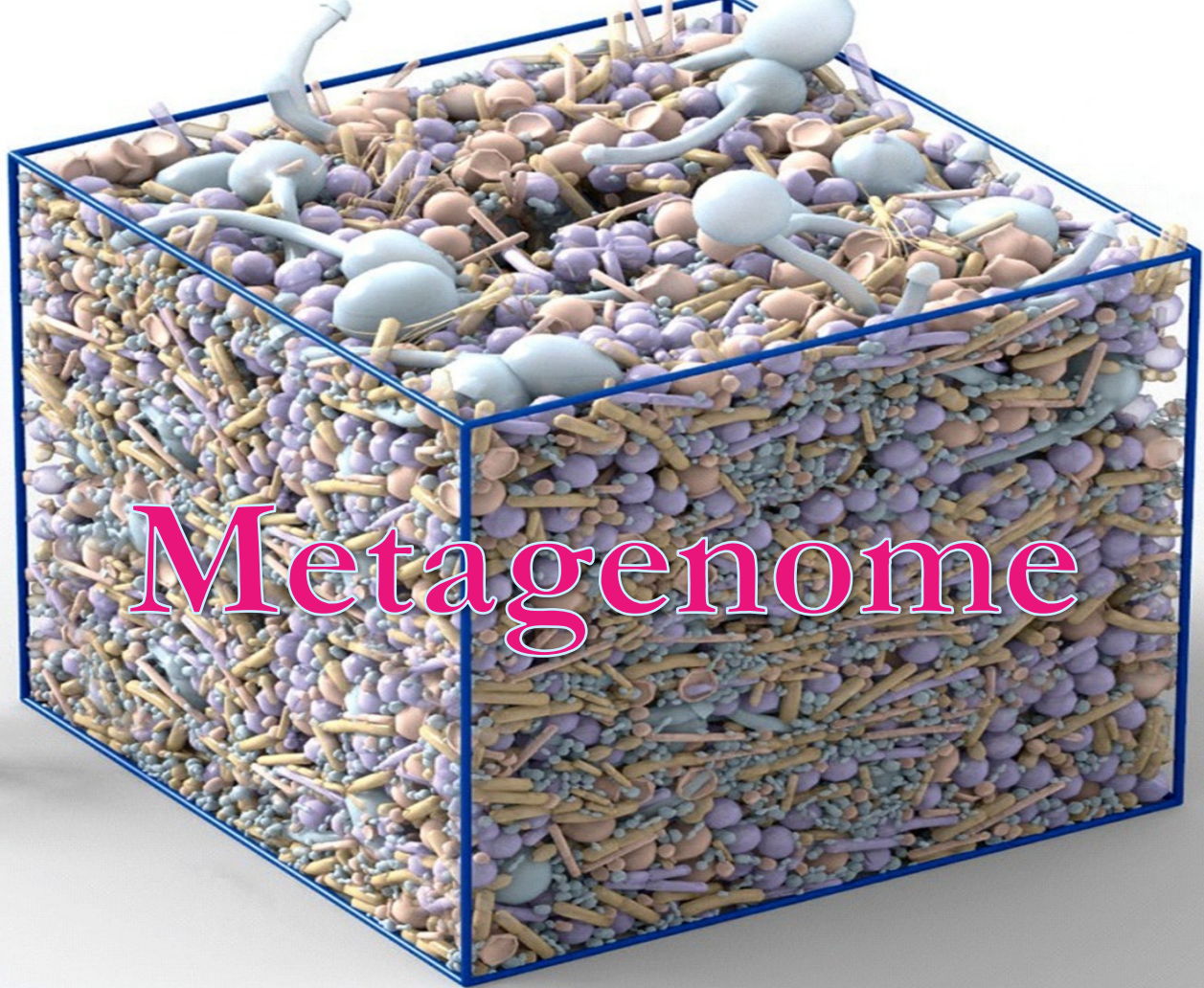
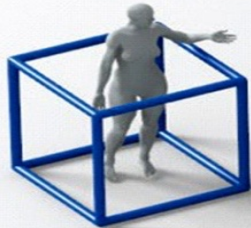


Human:
20,000-25,000 genes



Gut microbiome:
3.3 million genes

Metagenome





Rheumatoid arthritis
Ankylosing spondylitis



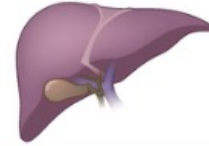
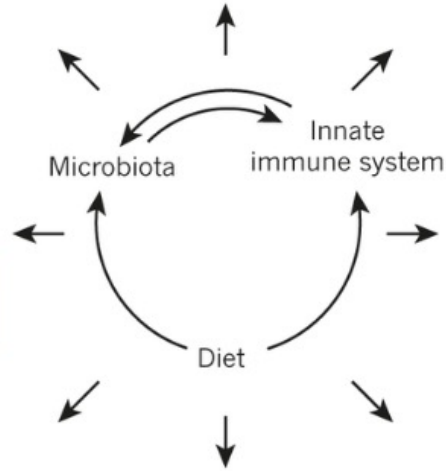
Type 1 diabetes



Inflammatory
bowel disease



Pulmonary disease
and atopy



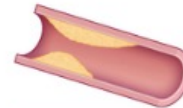
Non-alcoholic
fatty liver disease



Carcinogenesis

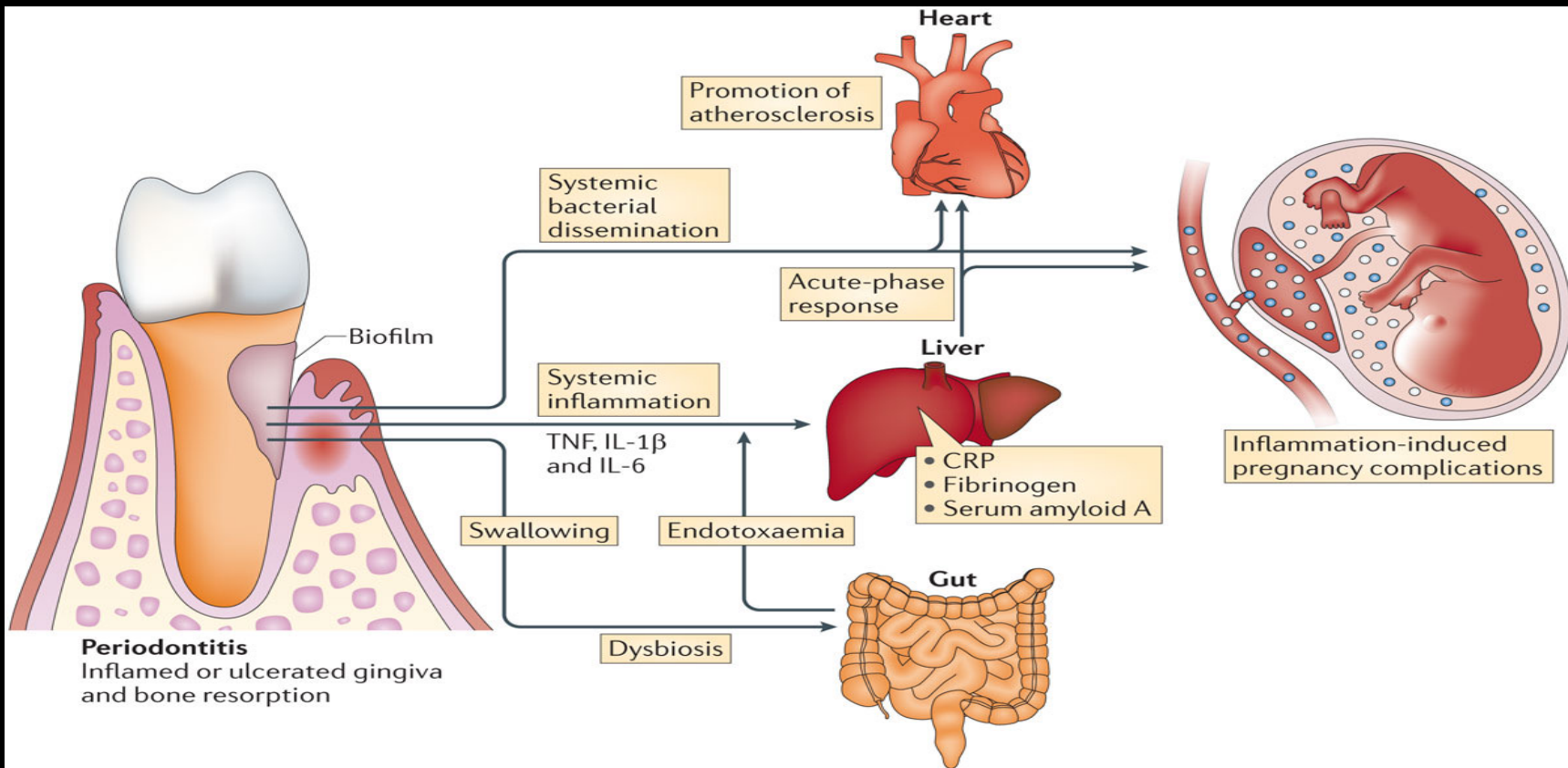


Obesity

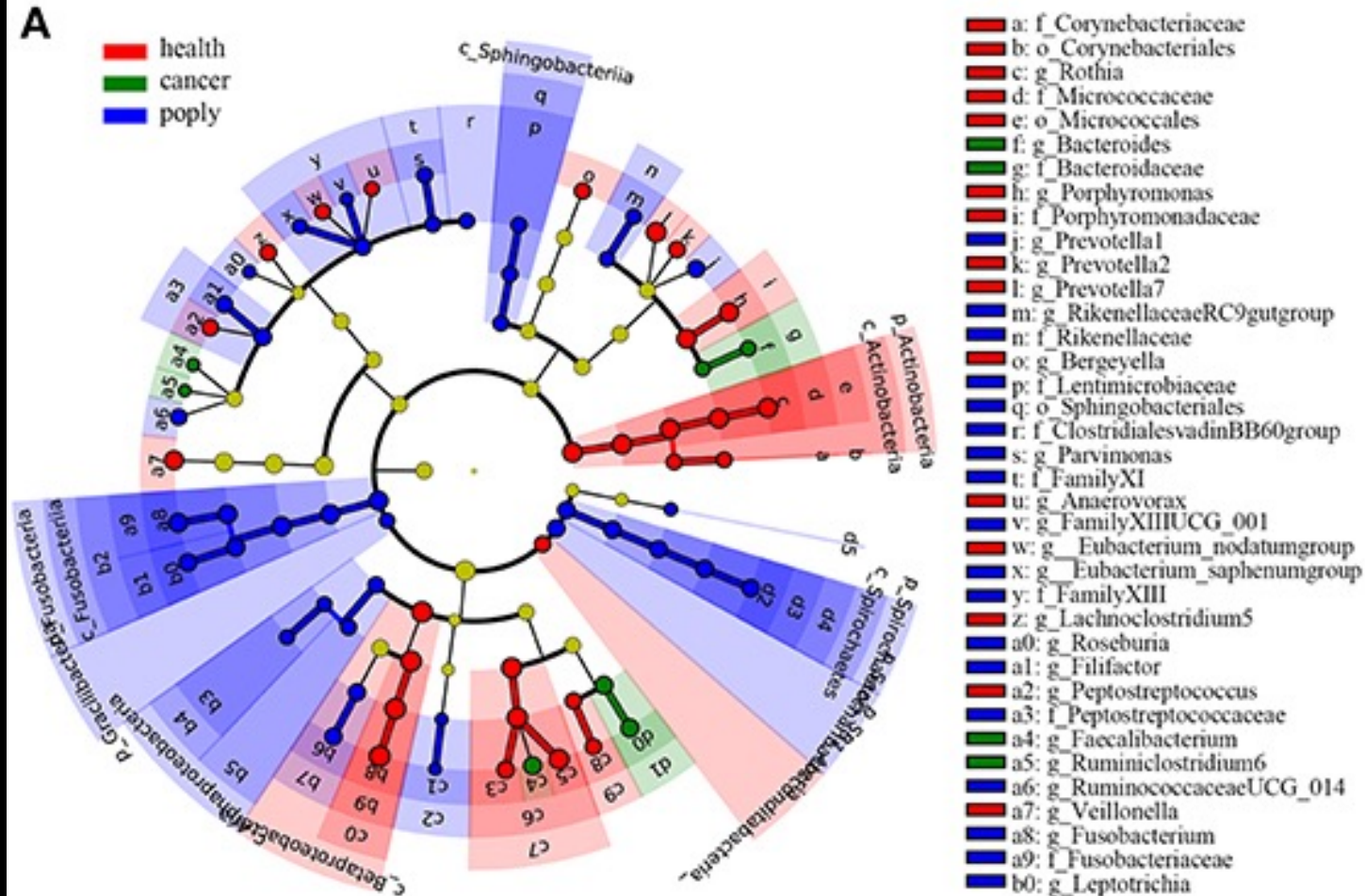


Atherosclerosis

Oral- Systemic Axis



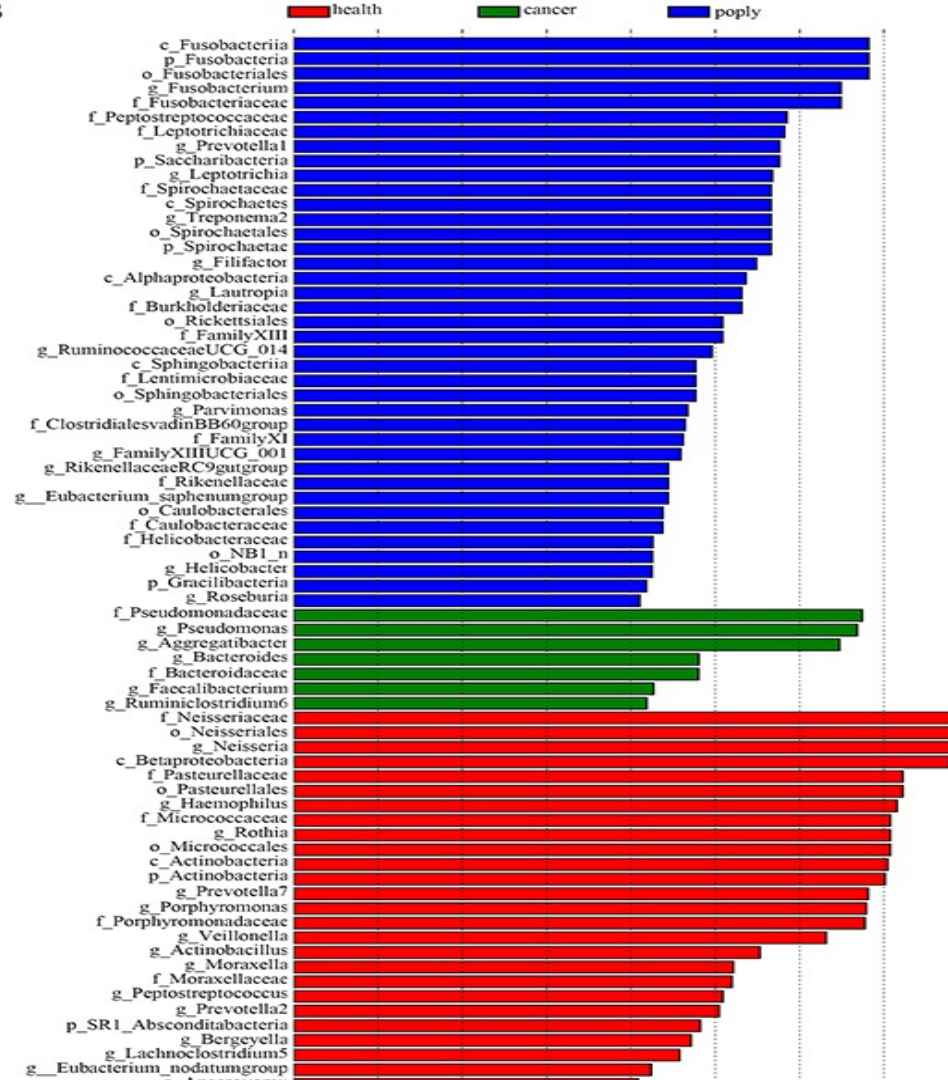
A

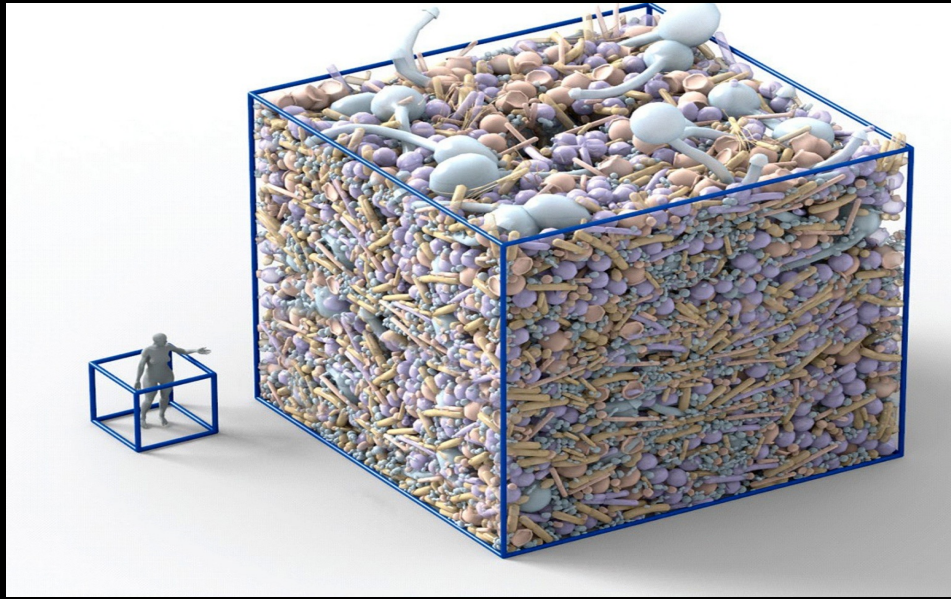


B



B





• Human Microbiome

• Oral Microbiome

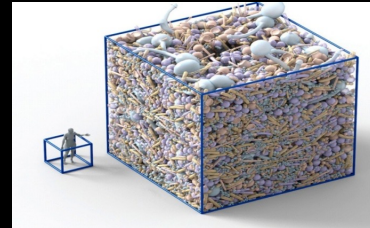
Simple Definition: Oral Microbiome

`The totality of all the organisms in the human oral cavity and their ecosystem`



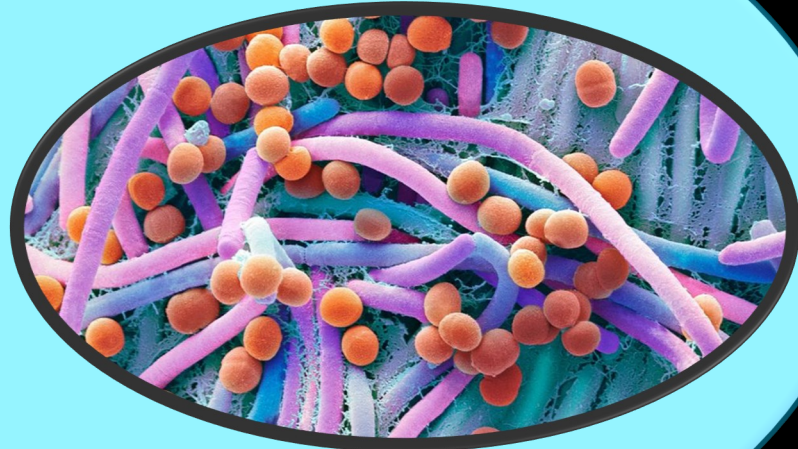
Oral Microbiota

`The totality of bacteria, archaea, fungi, viruses, phages and protozoa in the human oral cavity`

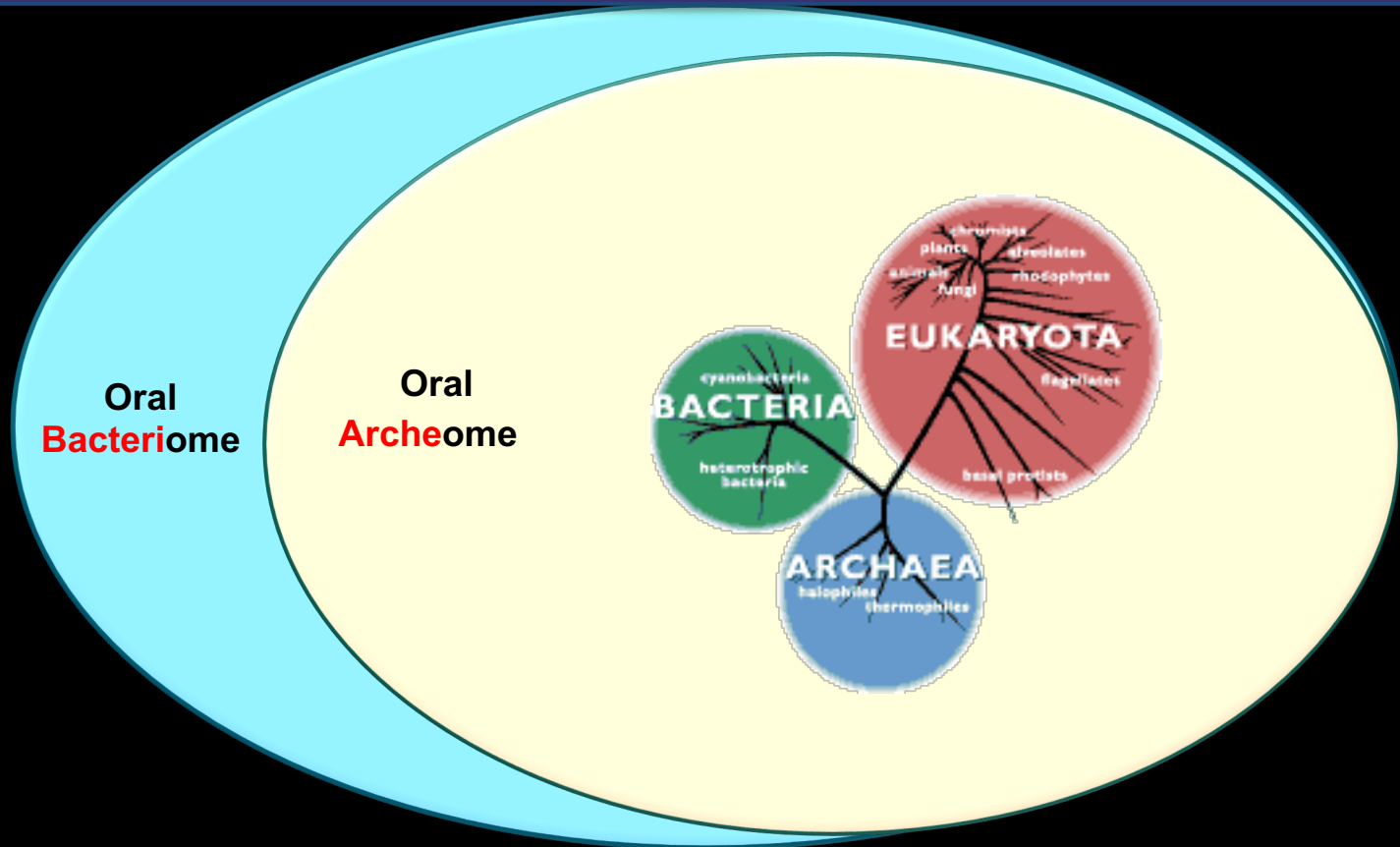


Oral Microbiome

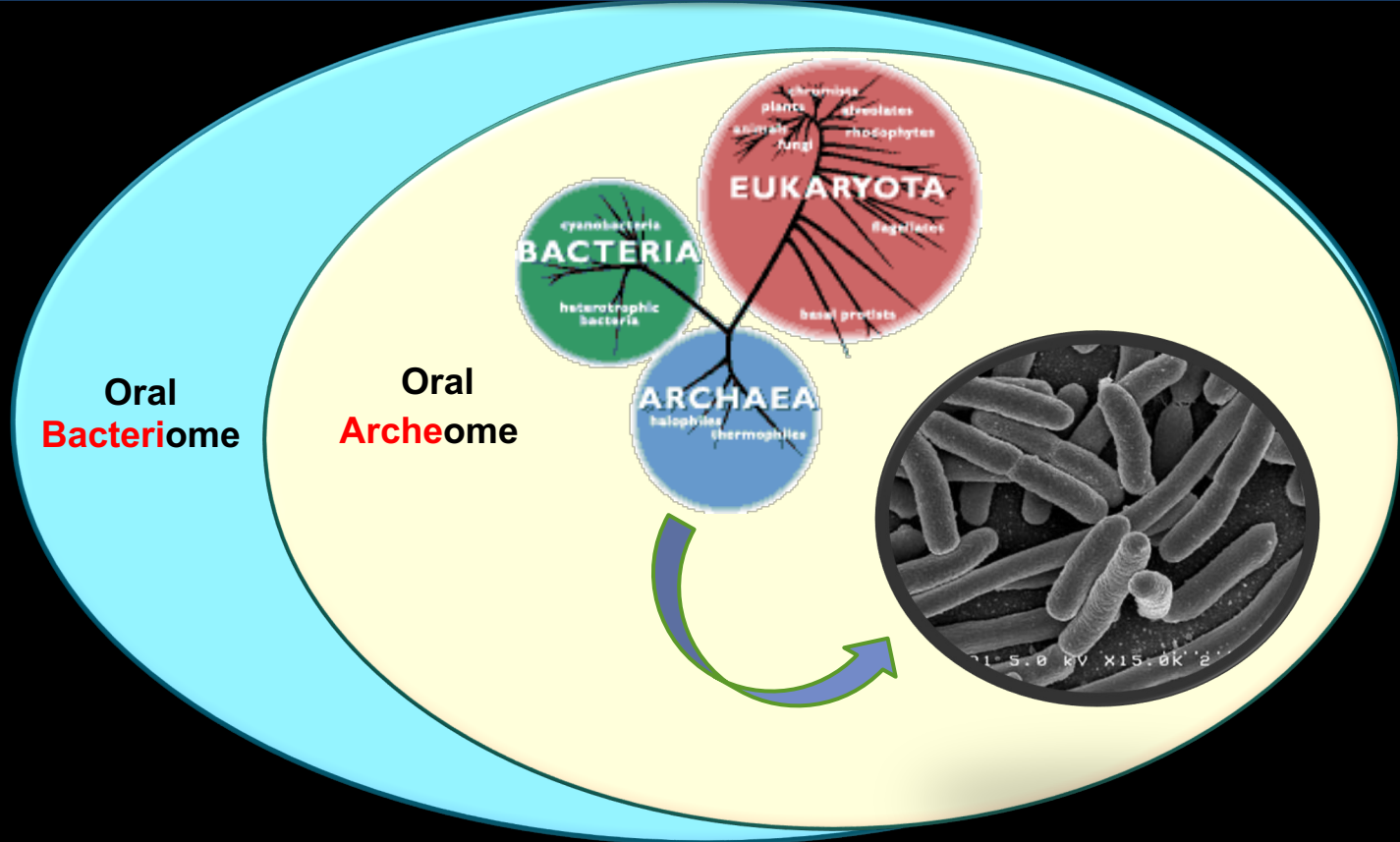
Oral
Bacteriome



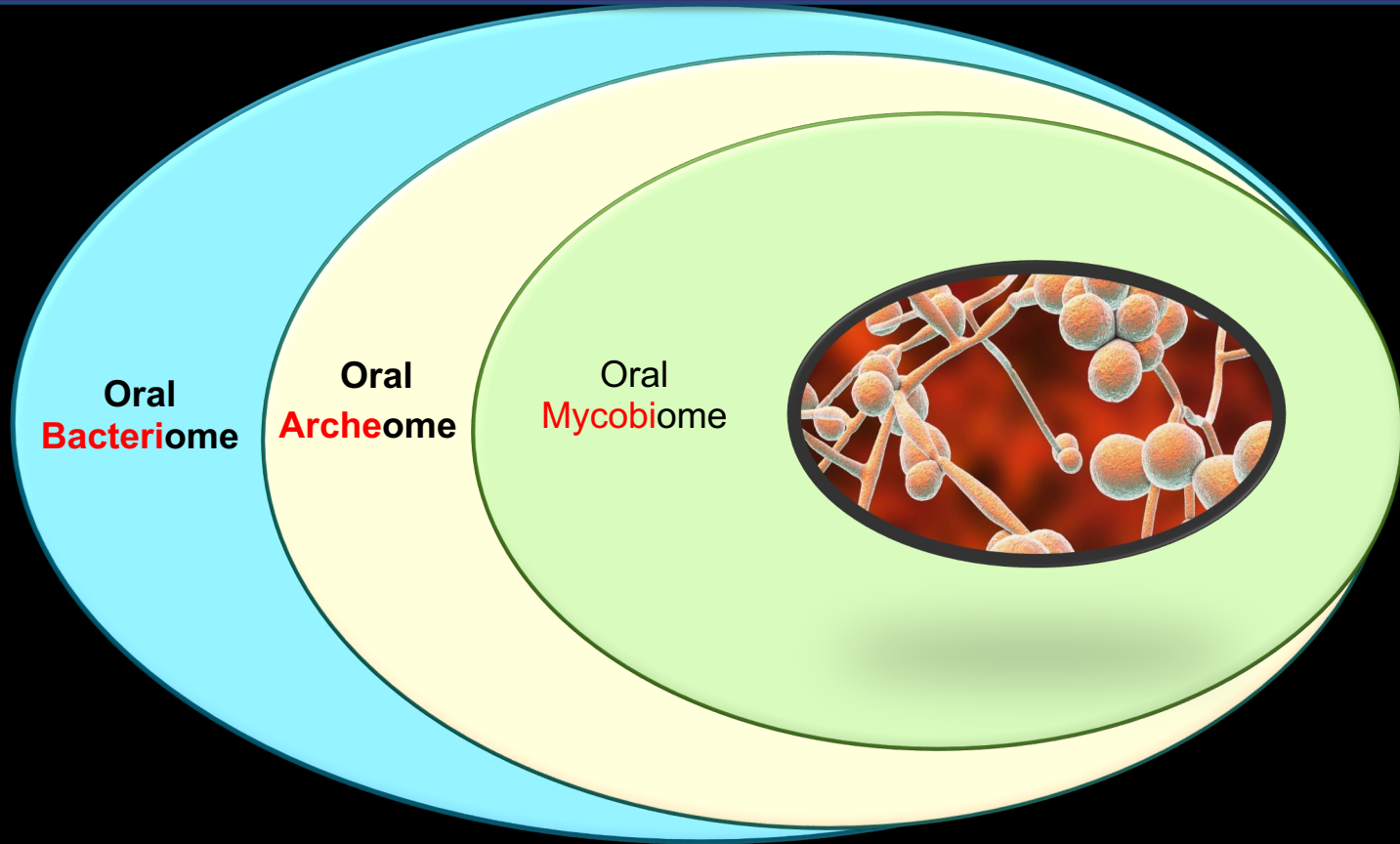
Oral Mircrobiome

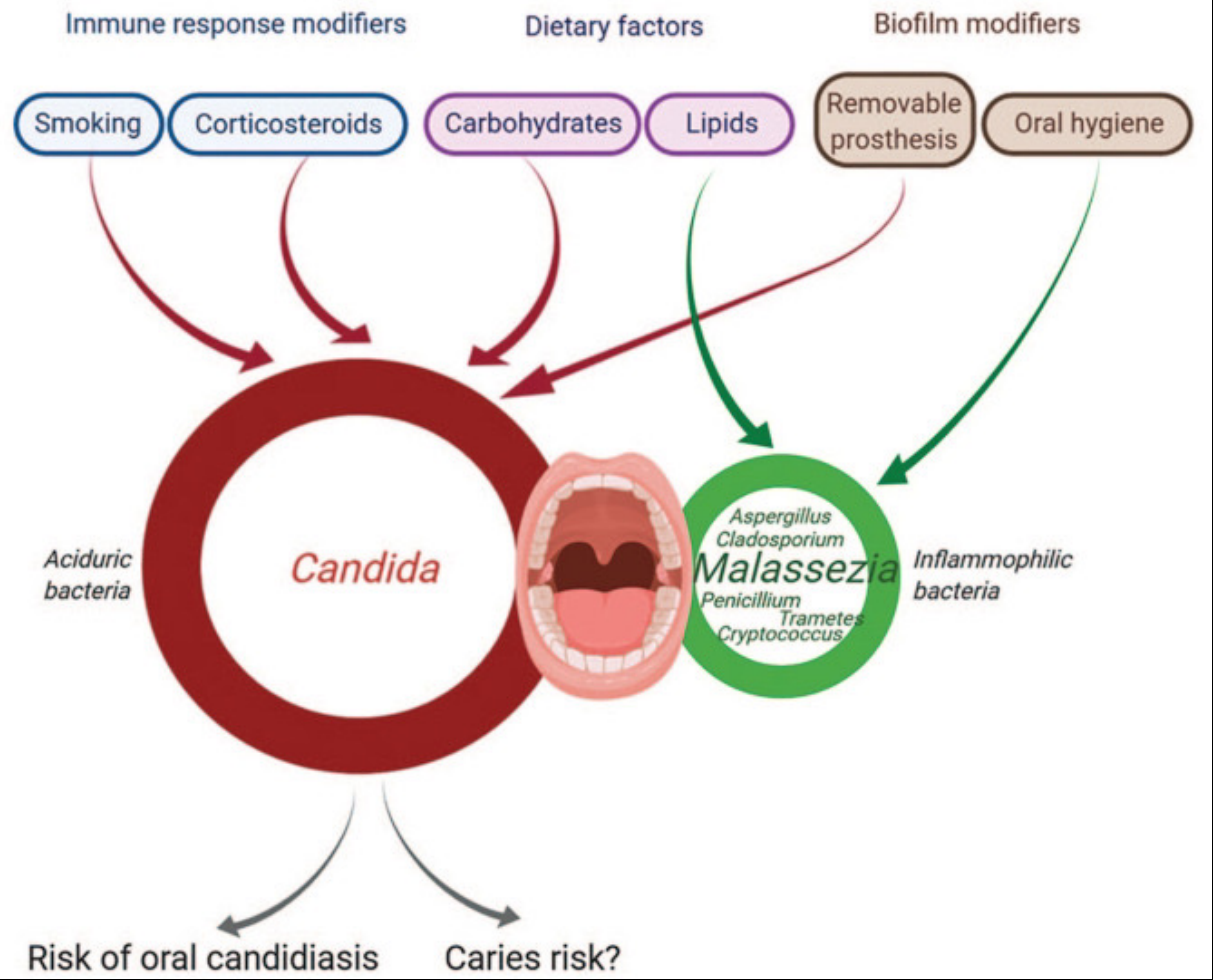


Oral Microbiome

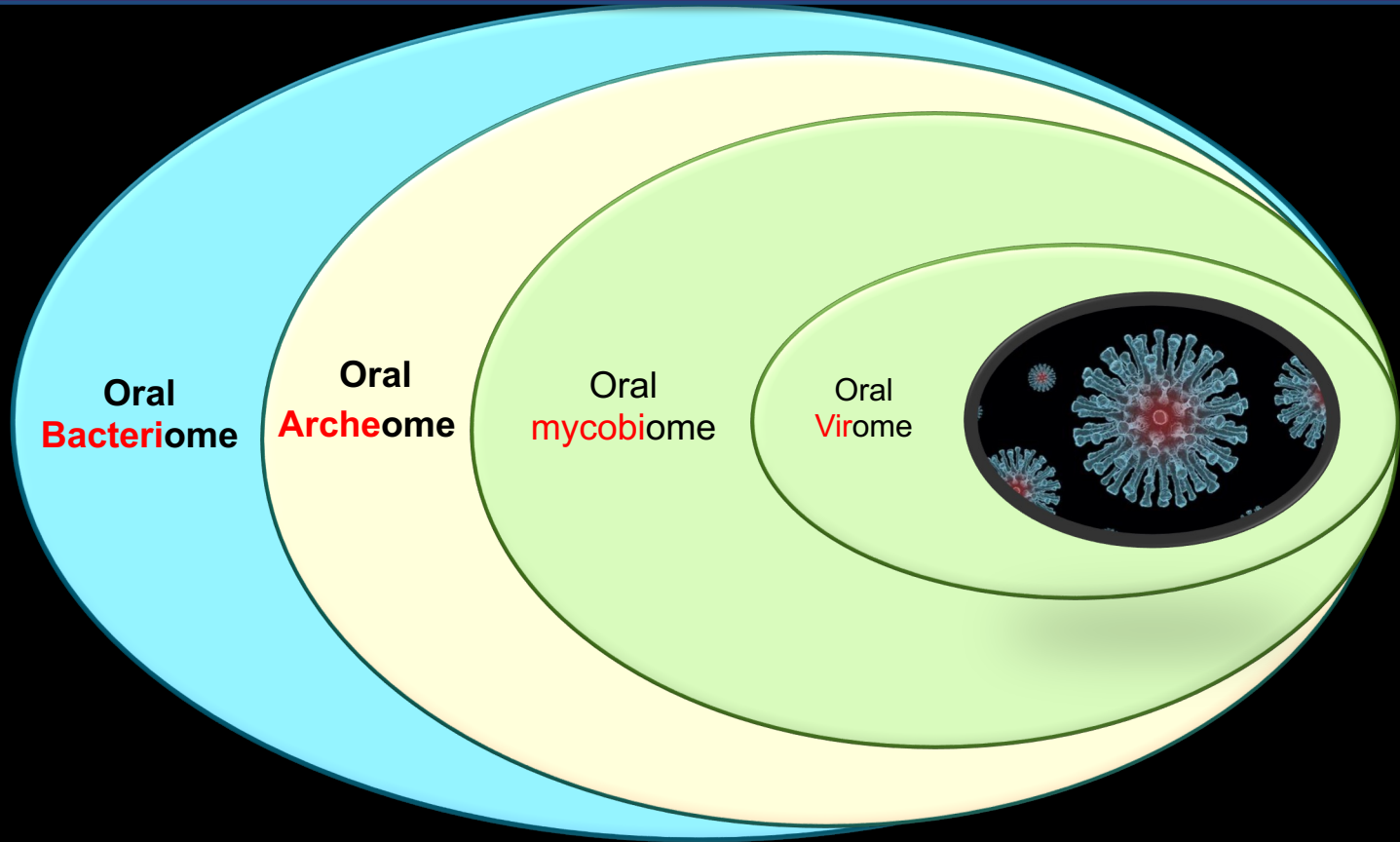


Oral Microbiome





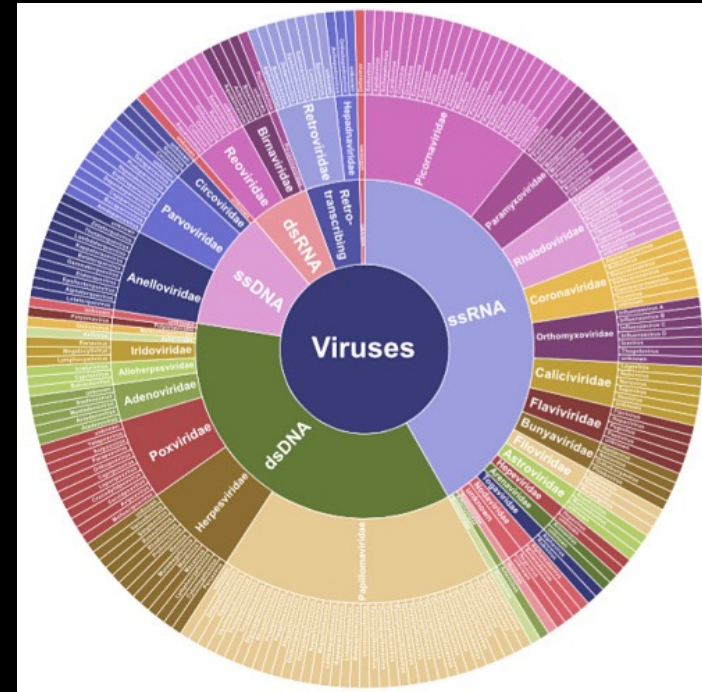
Oral Microbiome



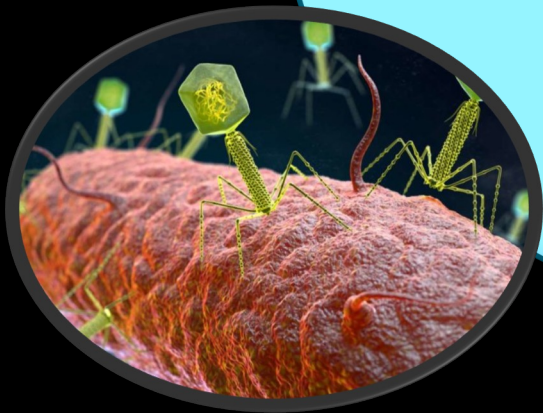
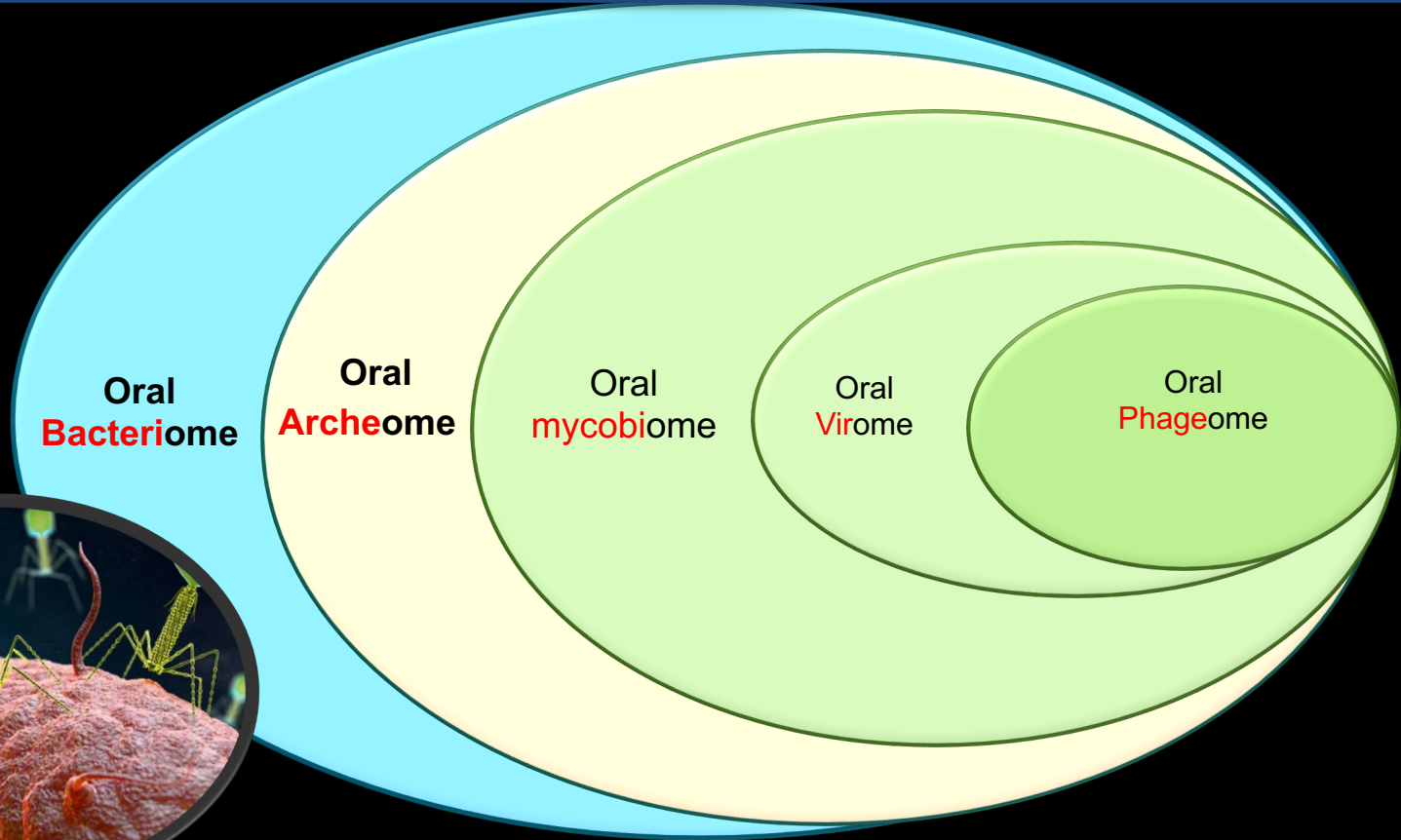
Oral Virome

- ▣ Members of the human **herpesvirus** and **human papillomavirus** families cause the most common primary viral infections of the oral cavity
- ▣ Herpes viruses
 - Alpha
 - Beta
 - gamma

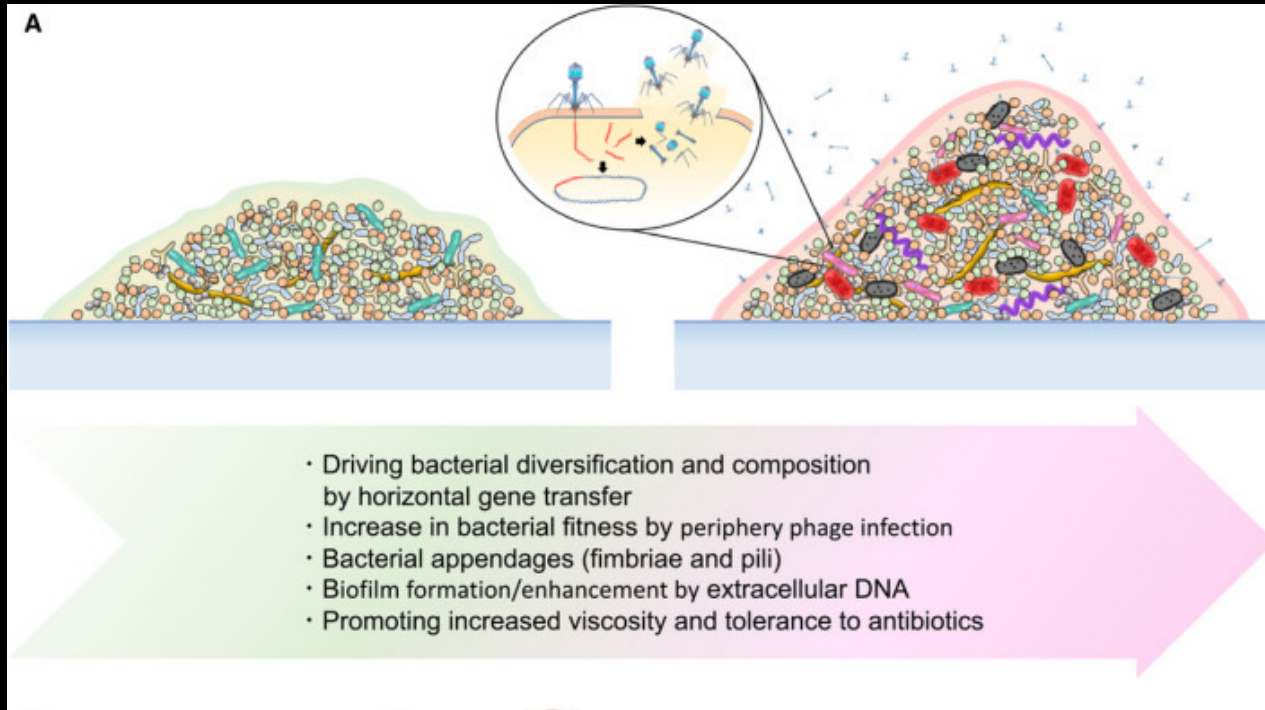
Martínez A, Kuraji R, Kapila YL. The human oral virome: Shedding light on the dark matter. *Periodontol* 2000. 2021 Oct;87(1):282-298. doi: 10.1111/prd.12396. PMID: 34463988; PMCID: PMC8457075.



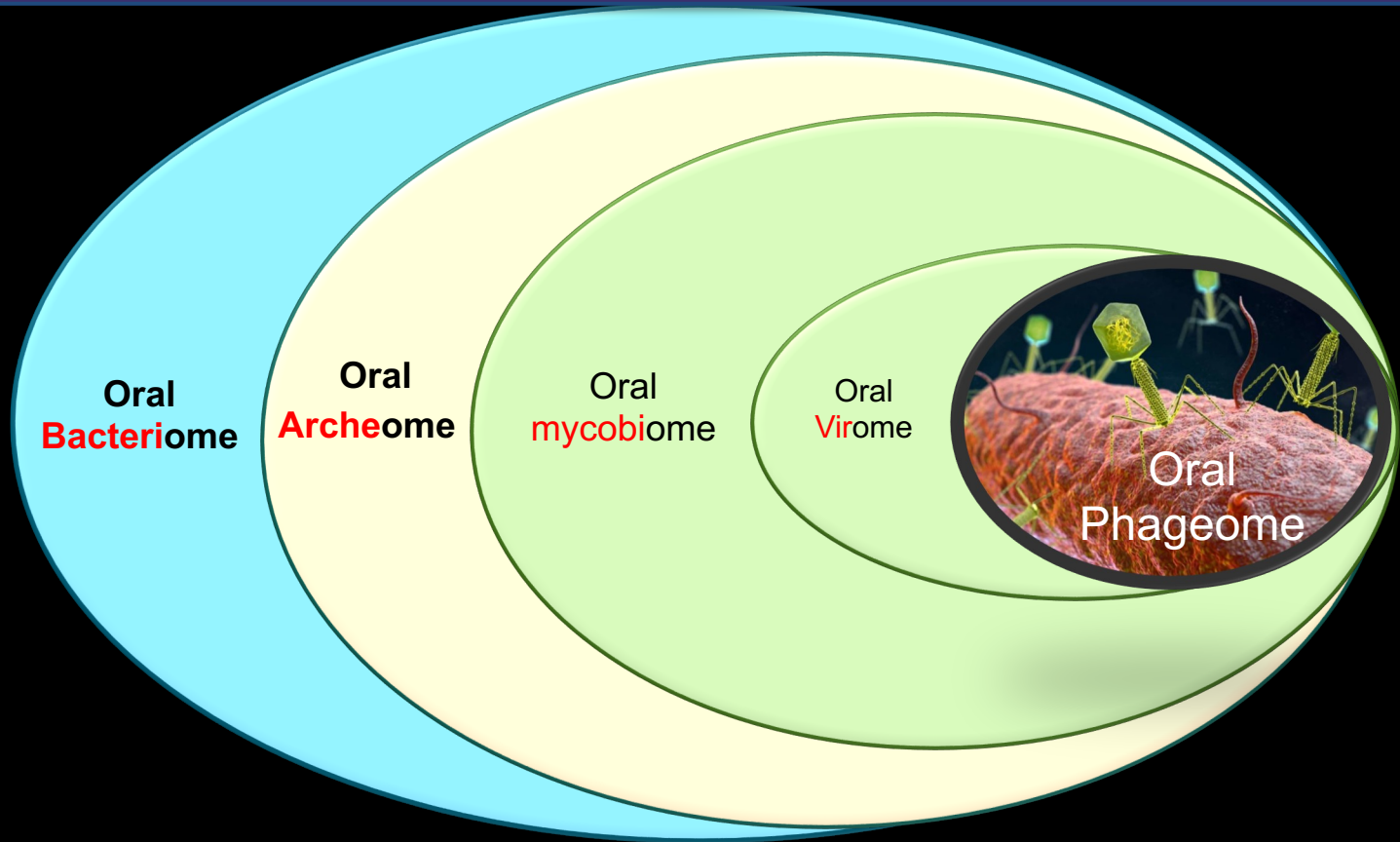
Oral Microbiome



Phageome of the Oral Cavity



Oral Microbiome



Note: Oral protozome not included

**Oralome –
new data**

**Oralome –
functionality**

**Targeted
Therapy**



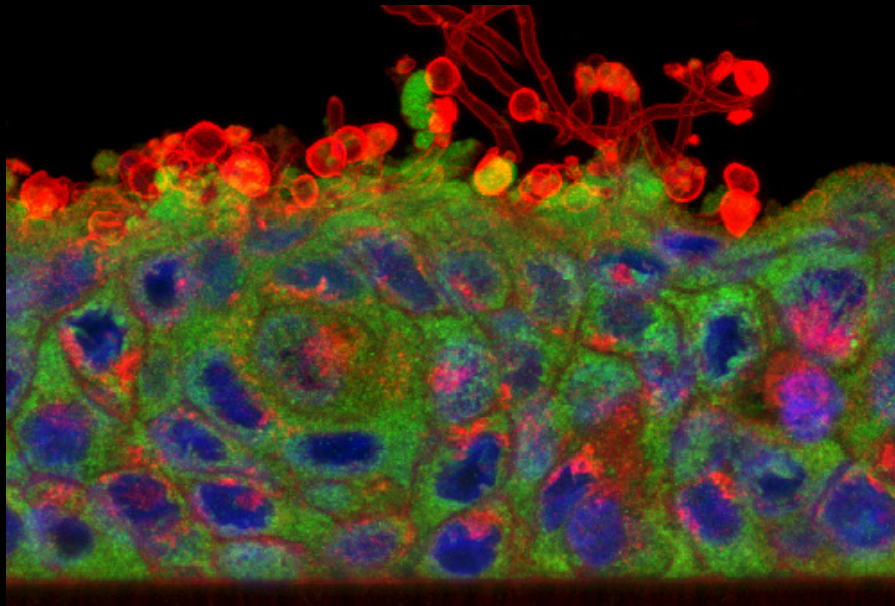
- Human Microbiome

- Oral Microbiome

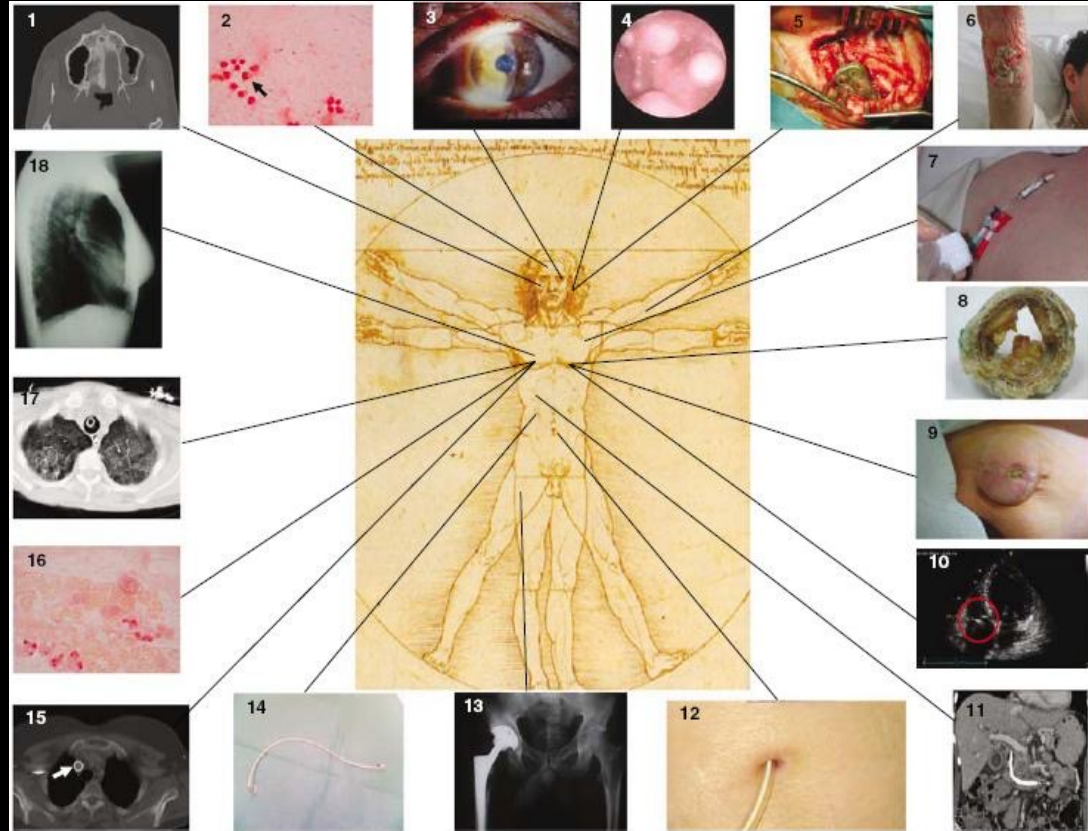
- Oral Biofilms

Microbiome Existence and Functionality

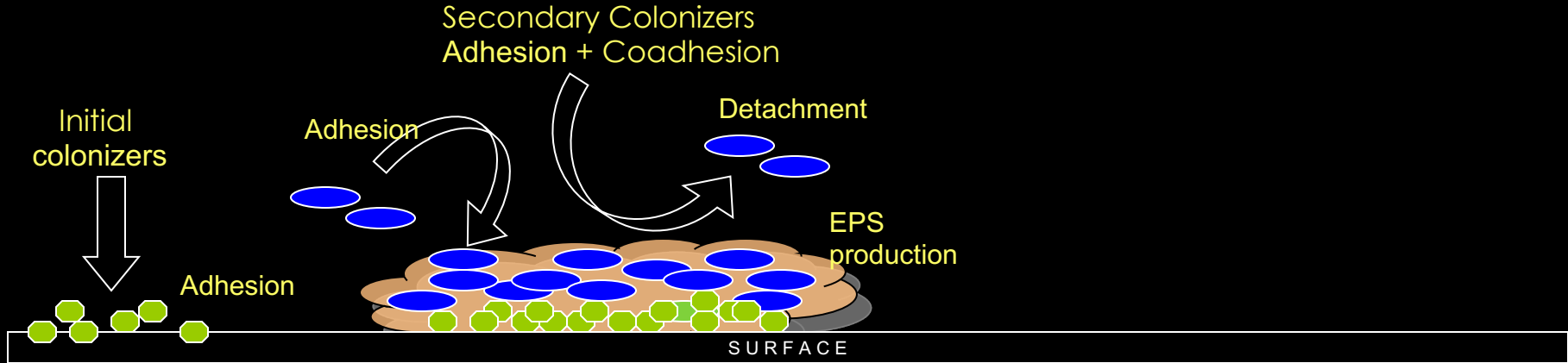
Predominant constituent of the oral microbiome is **oral biofilms** as opposed to the suspended/planktonic phase organisms



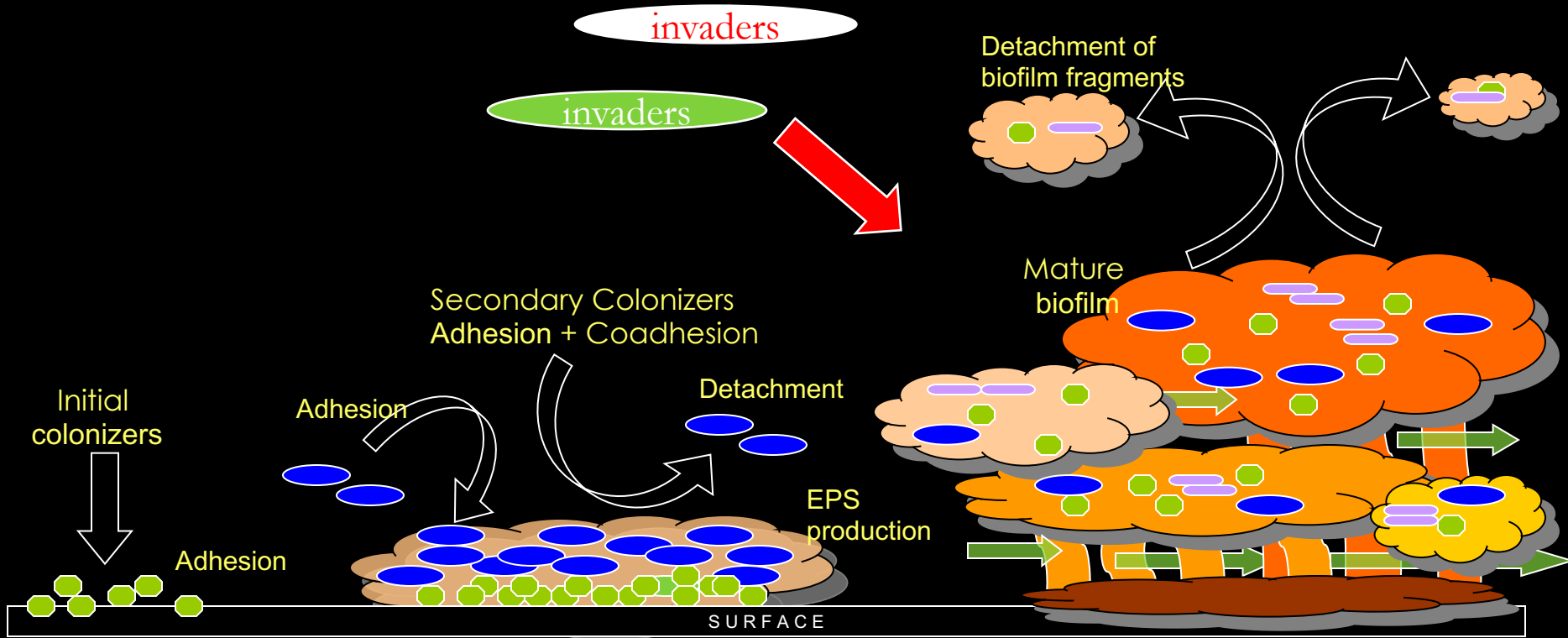
65% of all infections are related to biofilms



Biofilm Formation on Surfaces



Biofilm Formation on Surfaces





The surface of the tongue hosts a complex microbial biofilm made up of distinct clusters of bacterial species (coloured dots). Credit: S. A. Wilbert *et al. Cell Rep.* **30**, 4003–4015 (2020)

A Major Theoretical Construct

Beneficial Biofilms

VS

Pathogenic Biofilms

A Major Theoretical Construct

Beneficial Biofilms

Symbiosis

VS

Pathogenic Biofilms

A Major Theoretical Construct

Beneficial Biofilms

Symbiosis

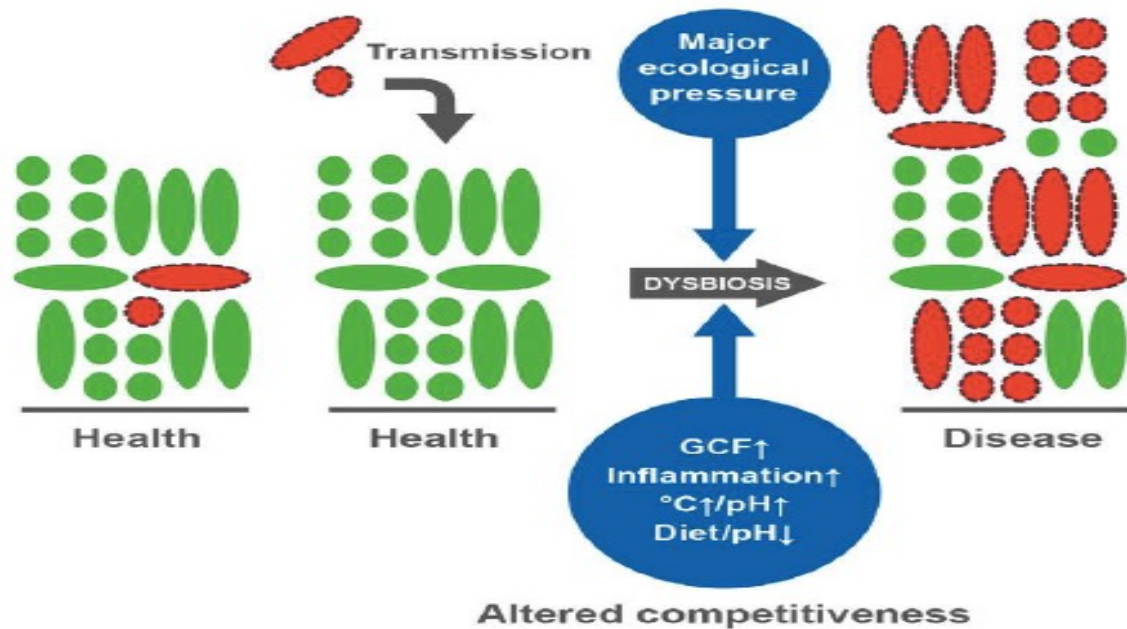
VS

Pathogenic Biofilms

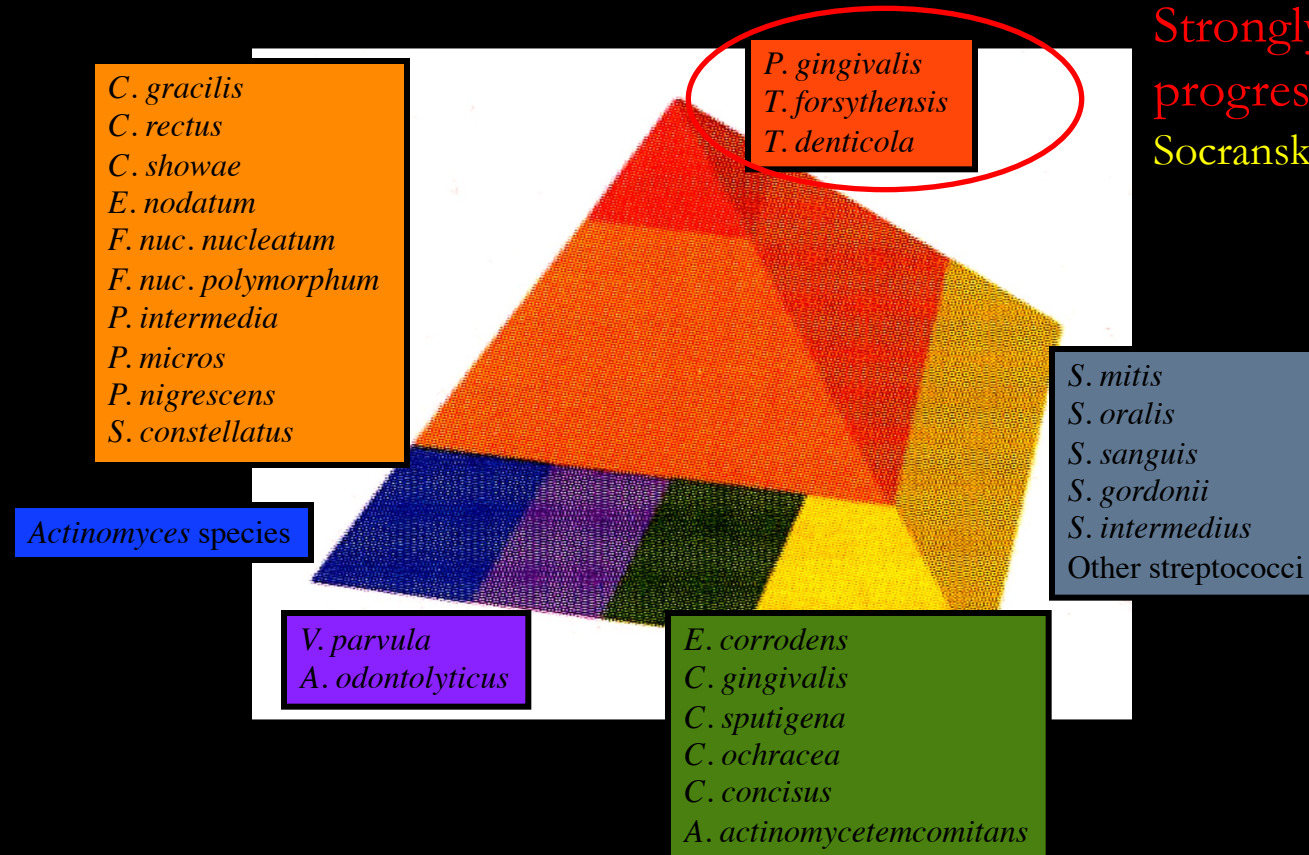
Dysbiosis

Health to Disease





Transformation from 'beneficial biofilms' to 'pathogenic biofilm'



Strongly associated with progressing periodontitis.
Socransky & Haffajee. 2002

**Oralome –
new data**

**Oralome –
functionality**

**Targeted
Therapy**

Why & what?

Why targeted therapy?

- ▣ Antibiotics `carpet bomb` the commensals as well as pathogens
- ▣ Targeting a specific pathogen will tip the balance in favor of eubiosis, from dysbiosis



**Oralome –
new data**

**Oralome –
functionality**

**Targeted
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Why & what?

Approaches (5)

Oral Microbiota Targeted Therapeutics

Current and Novel Techniques to Modulate Dysbiotic Oralome



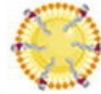
Antimicrobial
peptides



Prebiotics



Probiotics



Nano-sized
Drug Delivery
Systems

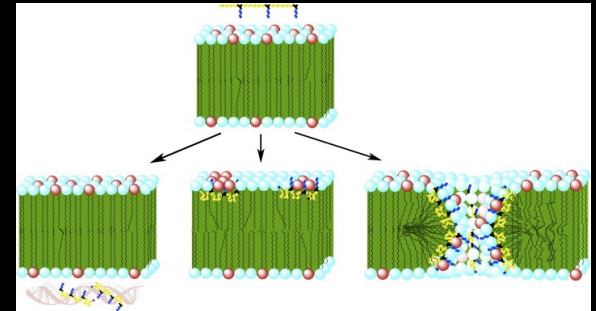


Extracellular
Matrix
Disruption



I Antimicrobial Peptides (Amps)

- ▣ Amps as opposed to antibiotics targets bacterial groups
- ▣ Membrane active molecules

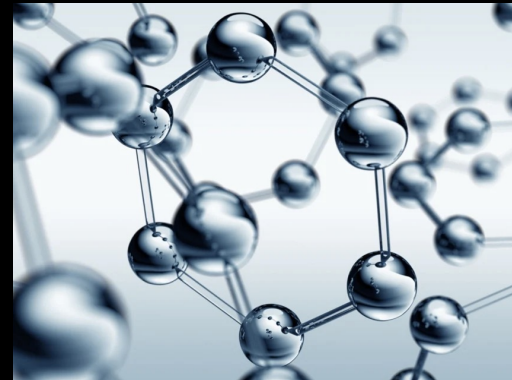


I Antimicrobial Peptides (Amps)

▣ Nisin

- Bacteriocins like Amp produced by *Lactococcus lactis*
- Active against both gram positive & negatives

Antimicrobial
peptides



I Antimicrobial Peptides (Amps)

▣ Nisin - activity

- Disrupts oral biofilms – Inhibits planktonic growth
- No cytotoxicity
- Retards development of multi-species biofilms
- Disrupts biofilm biomass and thickness in a dose-dependent manner.
- Approved by FDA



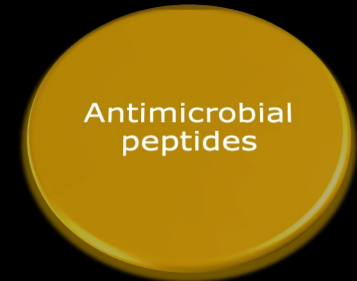
Antimicrobial
peptides

I Antimicrobial Peptides (Amps)

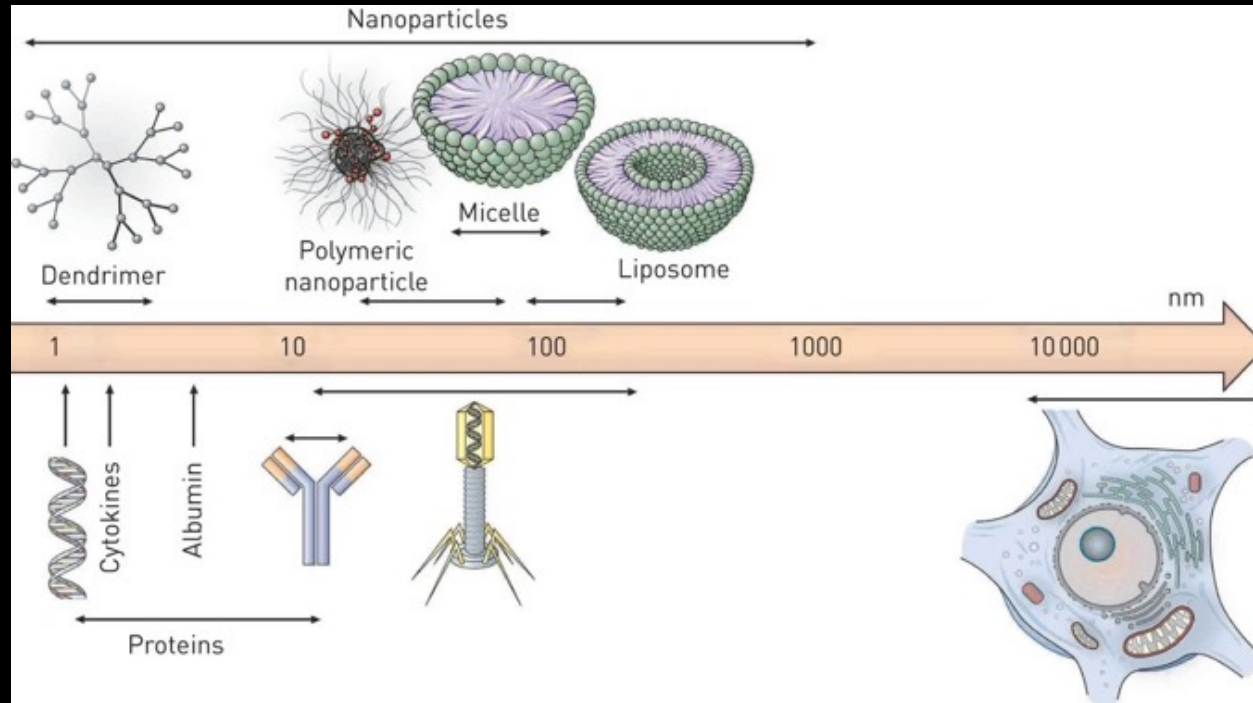
- ❖ **K4-S4** Among AMPs found in amphibians, showed bactericidal effects against *S. mutans*, *AA* and *F. nucleatum*
- ❖ **Peptoids**
- ❖ **Arylamide oligomers**
- ❖ **Beta- peptides**

Challenges

- ❖ Resistance development
- ❖ Act as host sensitizers/allergens,

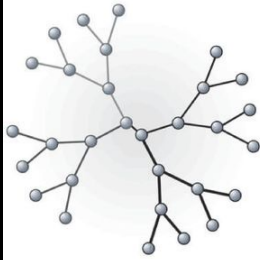


II Nanosized-drug Delivery Systems

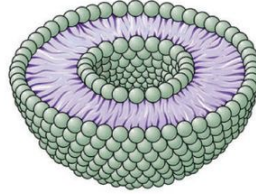


Colloidal particles sizes between 1 and 1000 nm ; Smaller the size better the activity

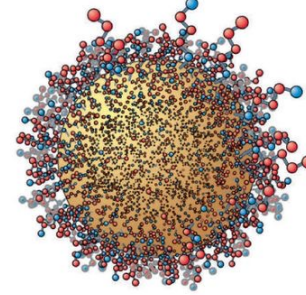
II Nanosized-drug Delivery Systems



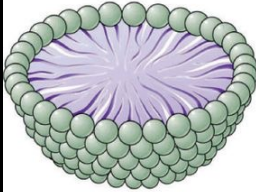
Dendrimer



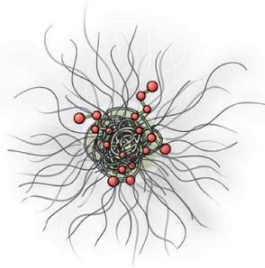
Liposome



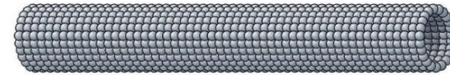
Functionalised gold nanoparticle



Micelle



Polymeric nanoparticle



Carbon nanotube

II Nanosized-drug Delivery Systems

- Nanoparticles of Ag, Cu, TiO_2 , ZnO incorporated into polymer matrices
- A polymeric nano-DDS capable of releasing quorum sensing chemical - farnesol releasing the drug only at acidic pHs
- This disrupt only the aciduric dysbiotic biofilm. (Horev et al.)
- Potential in caries reduction



Nano drug
delivery

II Nanosized-drug Delivery Systems

- ▣ Nano-DDS disrupt *S. mutans* biofilms 4-fold more effectively than the free drug *in vitro*
- ▣ Reduces both the number and severity of carious lesions *in vivo*, compared to free farnesol
- ▣ Nano-DDS protect AMPs from degradative enzymes and help evade the host response



Nano drug
delivery

III Prebiotics

- ▣ **Definition:** Natural or synthetic food ingredients or supplements that modulate the microbiome to benefit the host
- ▣ Common in managing gut microbiome but recently applied to oral microbiome
- ▣ Common Prebiotics
 - Arginine
 - Nitrate
 - Mannosamines



III Prebiotics

- **ARGININE**

- Prevent caries by buffering the acids produced by a dysbiosis (Agnello et al.)

- **NITRATE**

- Useful against both caries and periodontitis by increasing ammonium production and increasing pH (Rosier et al.)

- **MANNOSAMINE**

- Selectively triggered the growth of commensal oral bacteria and shifts biofilm communities towards a eubiosis in vitro (Slomka et al.)



Prebiotics

Many more additional studies needed!

IV Probiotics

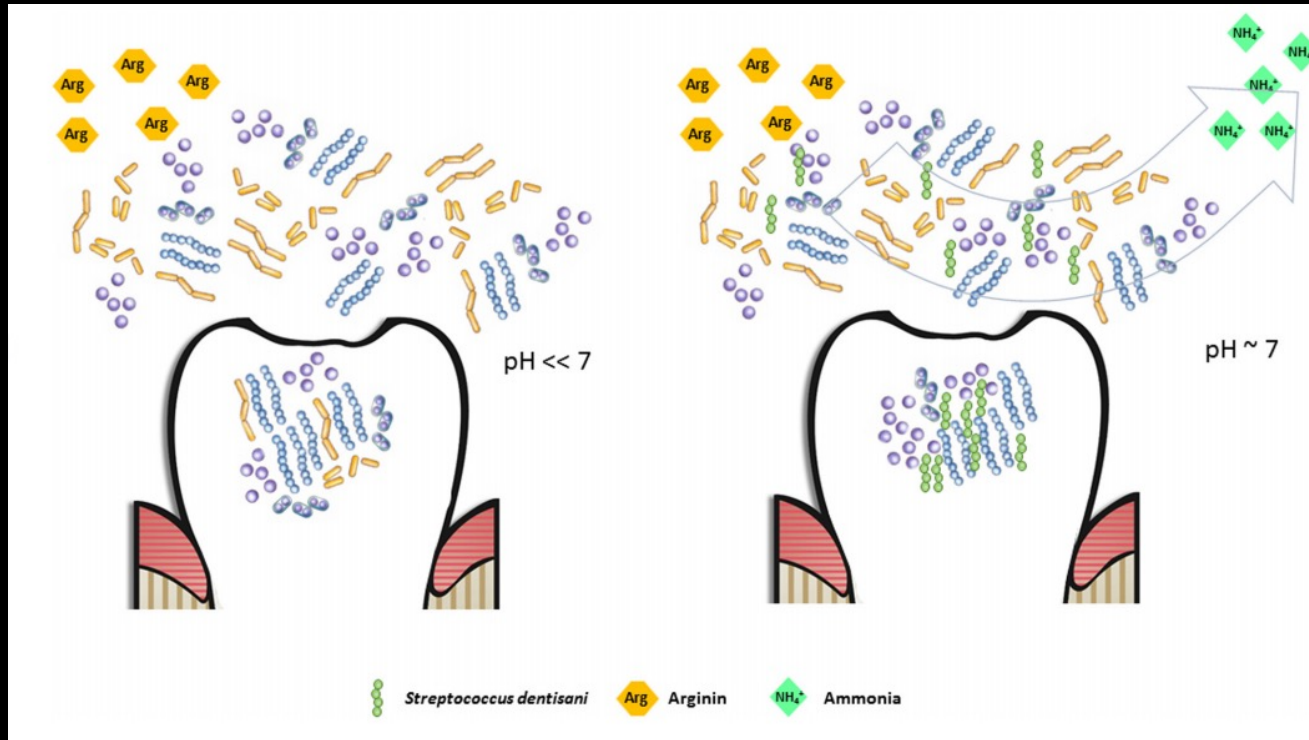
- ❖ **Definition:** Live microbes which, when administered in adequate amounts, confer a health benefit for the host
- ❖ Lactobacilli and streptococci from healthy oral cavities have antibacterial activity against :
 - ❖ *P. gingivalis*,
 - ❖ *P. intermedia*,
 - ❖ *A. actinomycetemcomitans*
 - ❖ *F. nucleatum*



IV Probiotics

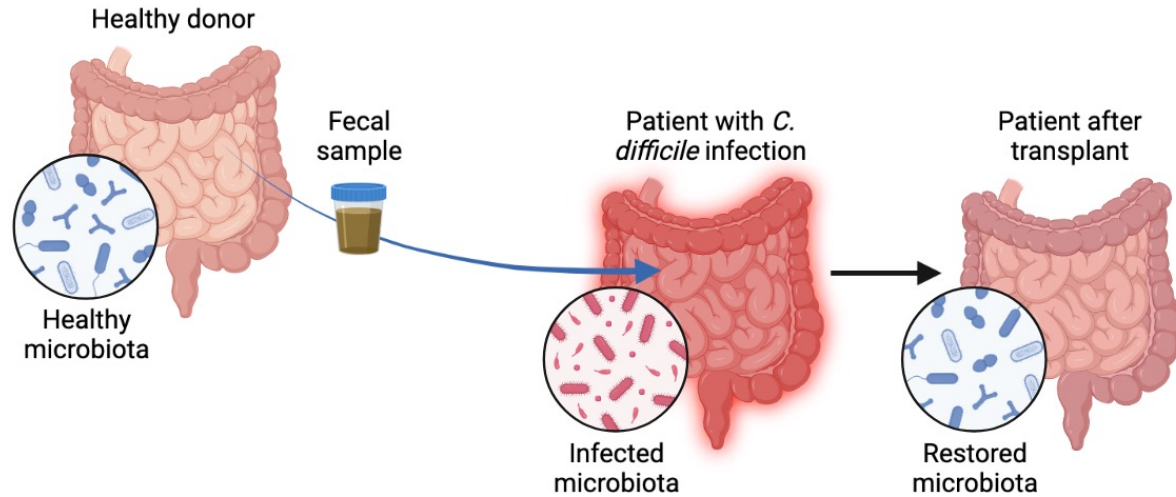
- Pre-clinical and clinical studies indicate that probiotics reduce
 - Gingivitis
 - Plaque
 - Alveolar bone loss
 - Modulate pro-inflammatory effects
- Specifically, chewing gum with *Lactobacillus reuteri* led to reduction in gingivitis and plaque in patients with moderate to severe gingivitis
- *Bacillus subtilis* reduced bone loss and attachment loss in rats with ligature-induced periodontitis

Case of *Strep. dentisani*



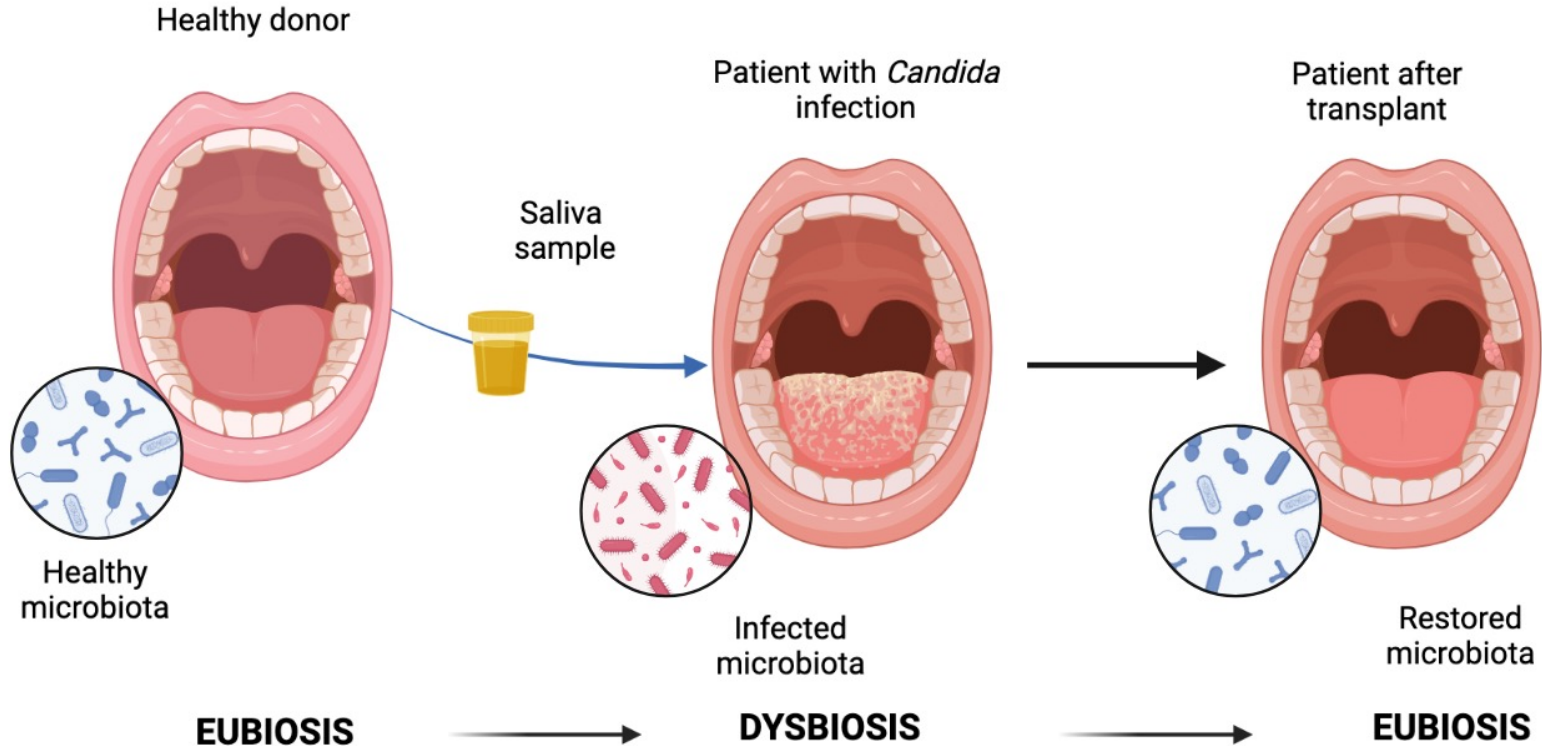
López-López, Arantx.; *et al.* Health-Associated Niche Inhabitants as Oral Probiotics: The Case of *Streptococcus dentisani*. *Frontiers in Microbiology*. 2017, 8(119).

Gut Microbiota Restoration in Diseased Patients



Prepared with BioRender.com

Oral Microbiota Restoration in Diseased Patients



IV Probiotics - drawbacks

- ▣ A large number of probiotic cells needed for a prolonged periods in target site
- ▣ Transport in viable form is difficult due to survival issues
- ▣ Thus, encapsulation of probiotics in micro- and nano-sized drug delivery systems (nano-DDS) may be an alternative (Koo et al.)



Probiotics

V Extracellular polymeric matrix (EPM) disruption

- ▣ EPM is the matrix of the oral biofilm
- ▣ Two main strategies to disrupt EPM
 - Disrupting EPS synthesis
 - Disrupting secretion and targeting its composition and structure



Matrix disruptors

V Extracellular polymeric matrix (EPM) disruption

- Disrupting EPS synthesis and secretion has been achieved by
 - cyclic-di-GMP or cyclic -di-AMP (Karaolis et al., Yan et al.)
- Disrupting EPS composition/structure achieved by the use of exopolysaccharide-degrading enzymes
 - Dextranase
 - Mutanase
 - Dispersin B



Matrix disruptors

Top five

Take Home Messages

Top 5 Messages

- ▣ Oralome is far more complex than we thought!
- ▣ **Multi-drug resistance antibiotics** increase the urgency for development of targeted therapy
- ▣ Multitude of approaches for targeted disruption of pathogens to convert **dysbiosis to eubiosis**
- ▣ Targeted disruption of microbes can be used to **replace antibiotics** in future
- ▣ Caries and POD are likely to be amenable to targeted therapy

Good Luck & Thank You!

Please send comments/queries to:
lakshman@hku.hk

