



Oral microbiology

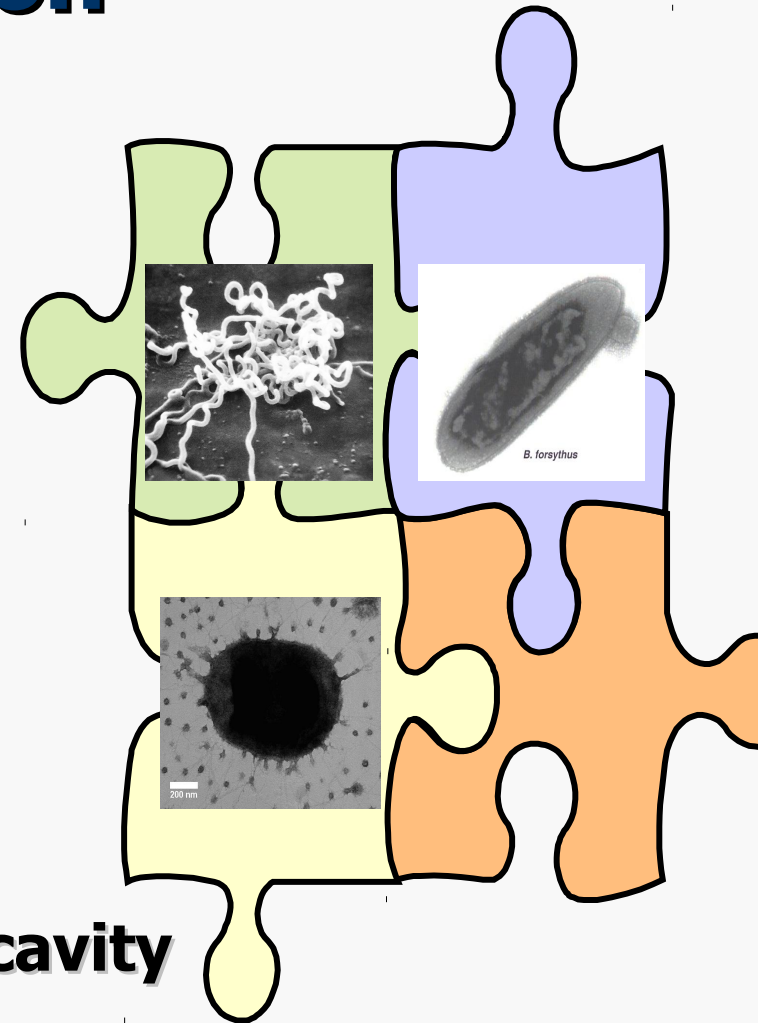
Vladana Woznicová

Dept. of Medical Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, MU Brno

Lectures - Dentistry / spring 2014

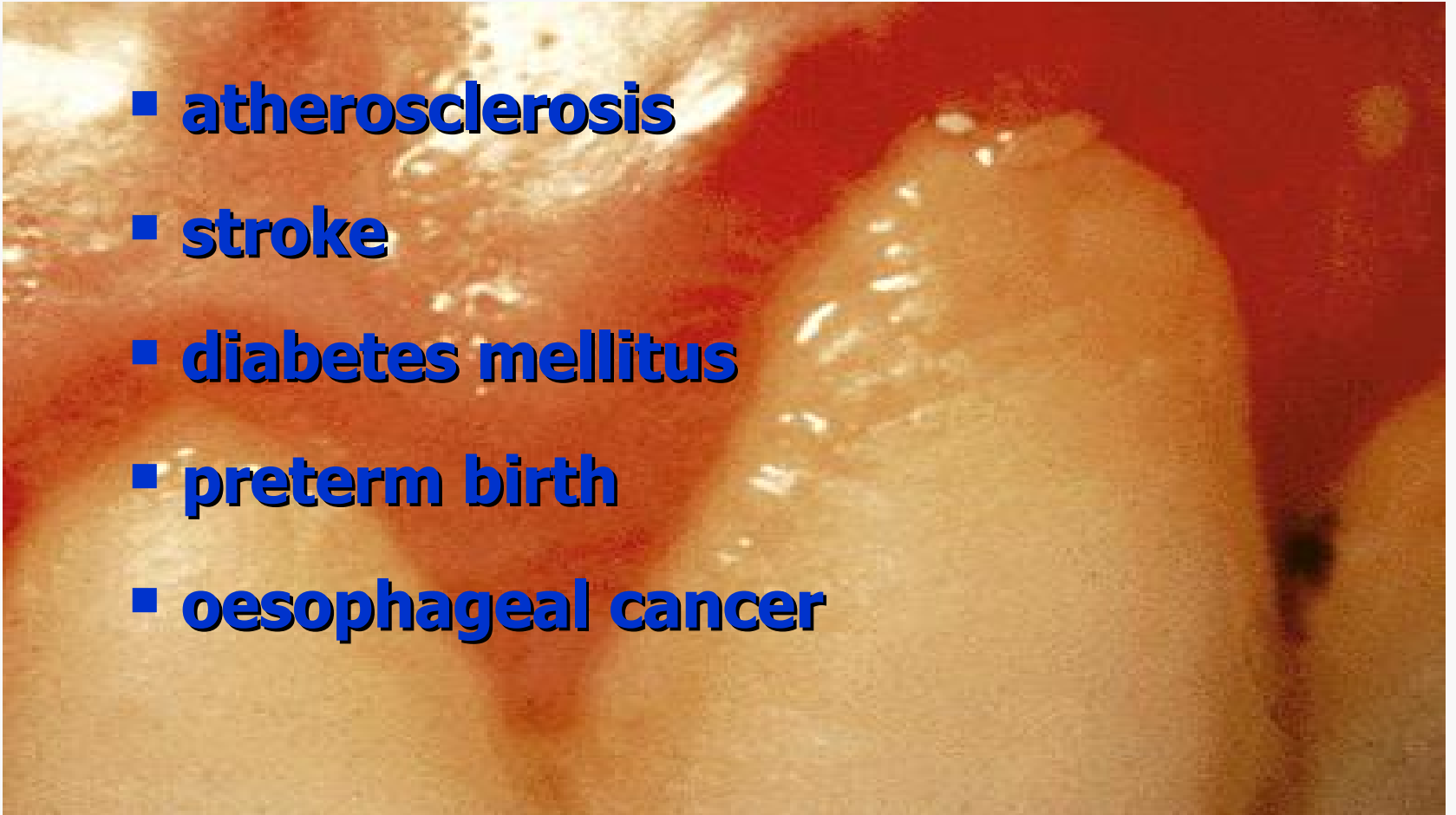
Introduction

- **The resident oral microflora**
- **Dental plaque**
- **Dental caries**
- **Periodontal diseases**
- **Infectious diseases in the oral cavity**

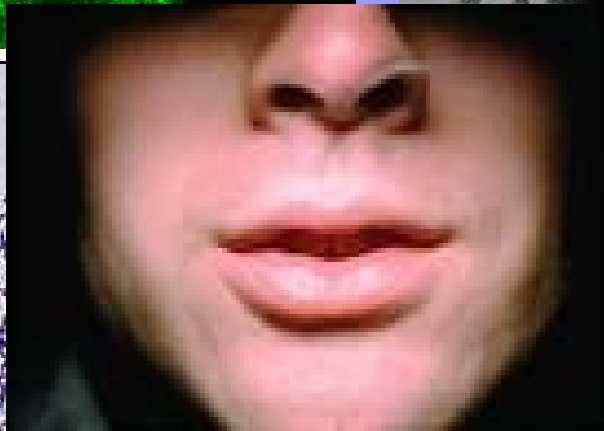
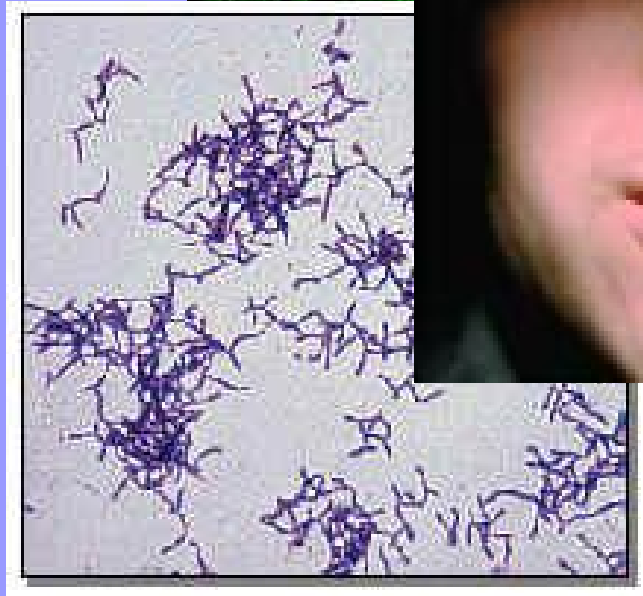
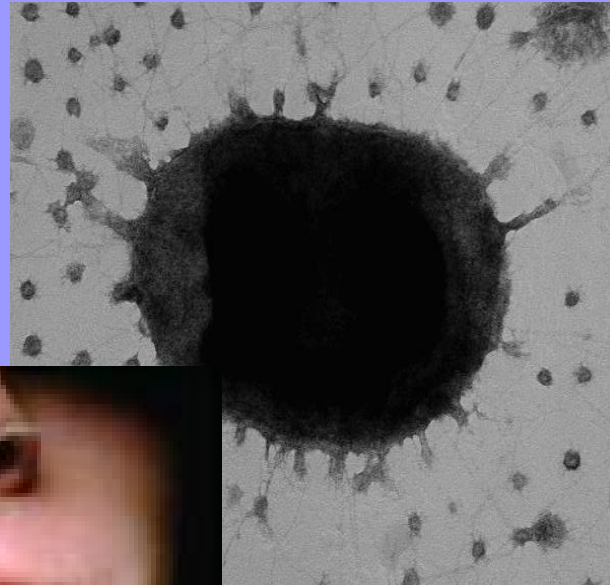
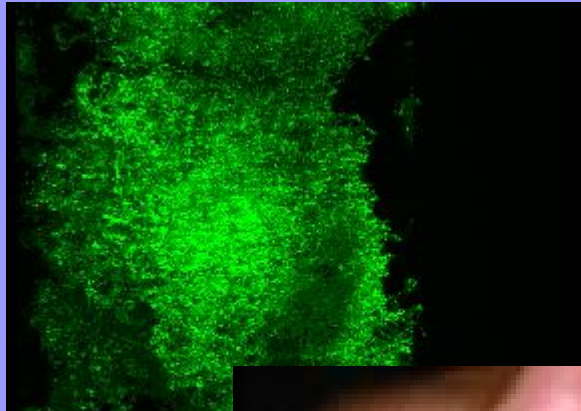


Consequences

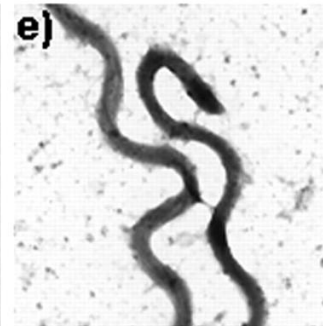
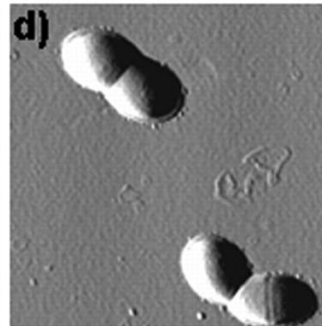
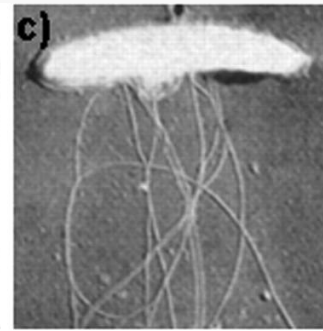
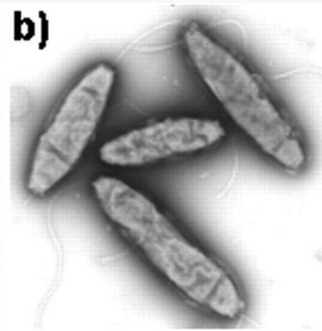
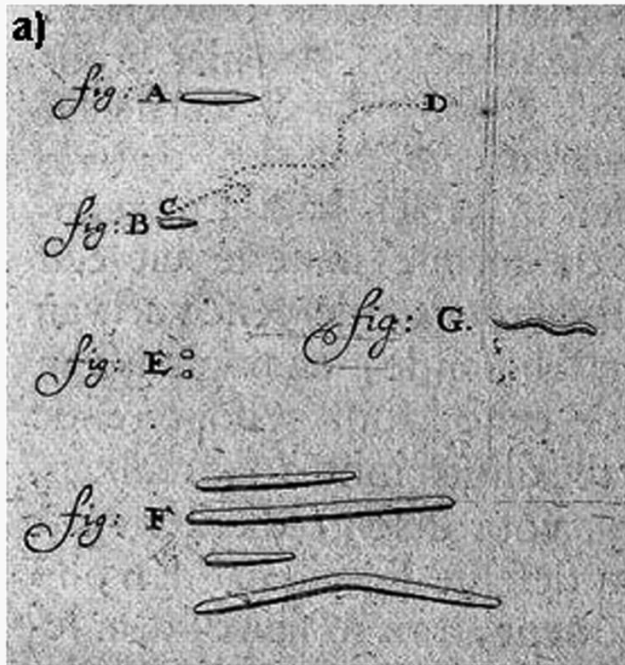
- **atherosclerosis**
- **stroke**
- **diabetes mellitus**
- **preterm birth**
- **oesophageal cancer**



I. The resident oral microflora



Leeuwenhoek 1632 – 1723



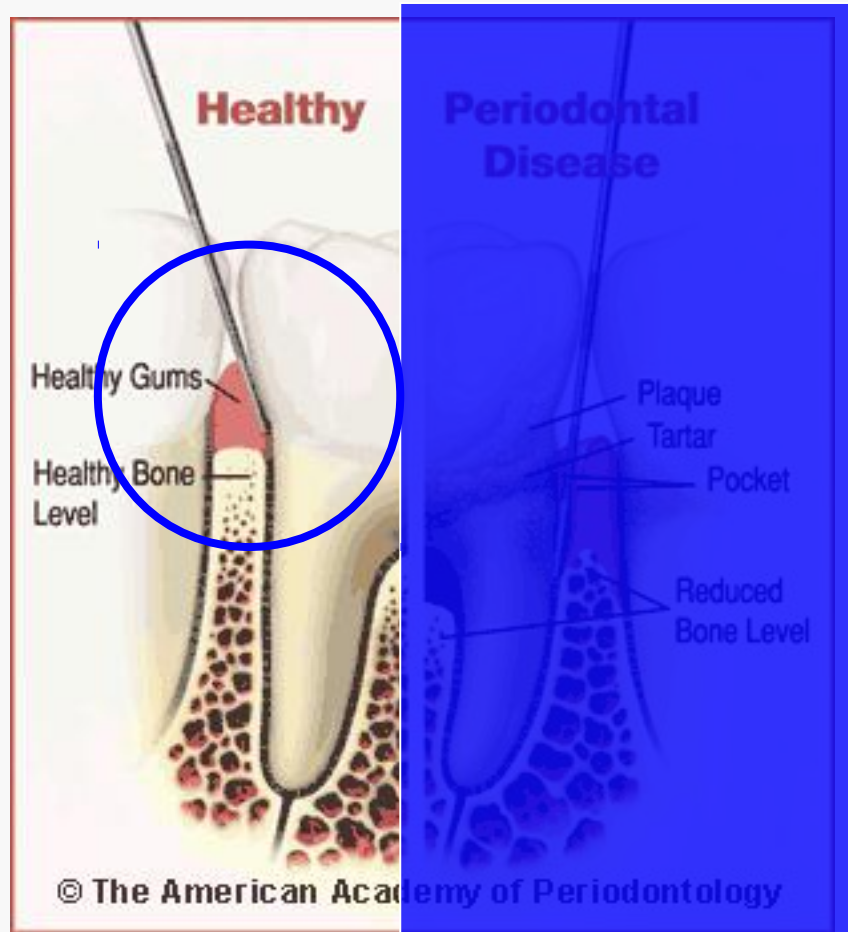
(a) Original drawing A.L., (b) *Campylobacter rectus*, (c) *Selenomonas sputigena*, (d) oral cocci (e) *Treponema denticola*, (f) *Leptotrichia buccalis*

The resident oral microflora

- One of the broadest microbial communities, over **700 genera**, some were not still described
- Resident – commensal, or transient
- Ecological system
- **Biofilm formation**
- Influential factor of human health (both local and in general)
- Etiology of **dental caries and parodontitis**

Sulcus gingivalis

Colonizing bacteria – the key factor in development of parodontal diseases, **anaerobic environment**



Sulcus gingivalis - microflora

ANAEROBES

Aggregatibacter (Actinobacillus) actinomycetemcomitans

Actinomyces – *A. gerencseriae*, *A. georgiae*

Fusobacterium – *F. nucleatum*, *F. alocis*, *F. sulci*

Prevotella nigrescens

Porphyromonas gingivalis, *P. endodontalis*

Treponema denticola, *T. vincentii*, *pectinovarum*, *socranskii*

Tannerella forsythia

Wolinella succinogenes

Selenomonas sputigena

AEROBES

Streptococcus anginosus, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp.

constellatus, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis*,

Streptococcus intermedius

Streptococcus

- α -hemolytic streptococci, divided into the following groups:

- **S. mutans group:**

S. mutans - the MOST FREQUENT, less often *S. sobrinus*, *S. cricetus*, and *S. rattus* (rare), make acids from saccharides

- **S. salivarius group:**

S. salivarius, *S. vestibularis* - in saliva and on the tongue surface, growth in mucous colonies, can cause endocarditis.

- **S. mitis group:**

Subacute bacterial endocarditis (SBE)

S. mitis, *S. oralis* a *S. peroris* – on mucous membranes and dental **plaque** - the causative agent of **SBE** (*S. mitis* exemption)

S. sanguinis and *S. gordonii* – the **tongue**, buccal mucous membranes, dental **plaque**. *S. sanguinis* cleaves secretorial IgA.

- **S. anginosus group** - growing in tiny colonies -

Dentoalveolar and endodontal infections

S. anginosus (*S. milleri* in British texts), *S. constellatus* and *S. Intermedius*, in nasopharynx, sulci gingivales

Bacterial communities in periodontitis

A. naeslundii 2
(*A. viscosus*)

V. parvula
A. odontolyticus

S. mutans
S. oralis
S. sanguis

Streptococcus sp.
S. gordonii
S. intermedius

C. gracilis

C. rectus

P. intermedia
P. nigrescens
P. micros
F. nuc. nucleatum
F. nuc. vincentii
F. nuc. polymorphum
F. periodontium

P. gingivalis
T. forsythia
T. denticola

E. corrodens
C. gingivalis
C. sputigena
C. ochracea
A. actinomyc.

S. constellatus

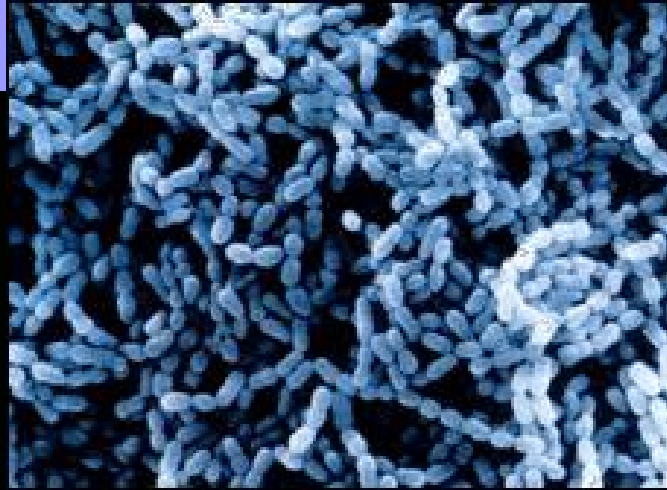
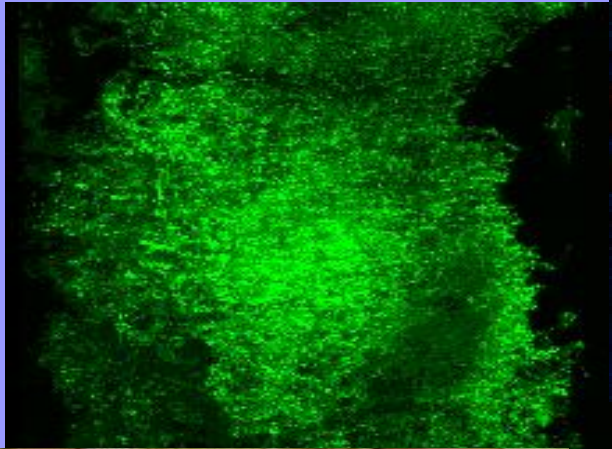
E. nodatum

C. showae

A. actino. b

S. noxia

II. Dental plaque



Dental plaque - biofilm

- **Adherent microbial layer on the tooth surface = live and dead bacteria + their products + host compounds (from saliva)**
- It can NOT be washed, can be removed only mechanically (tooth brushing)
- Composition dependent on its location and age

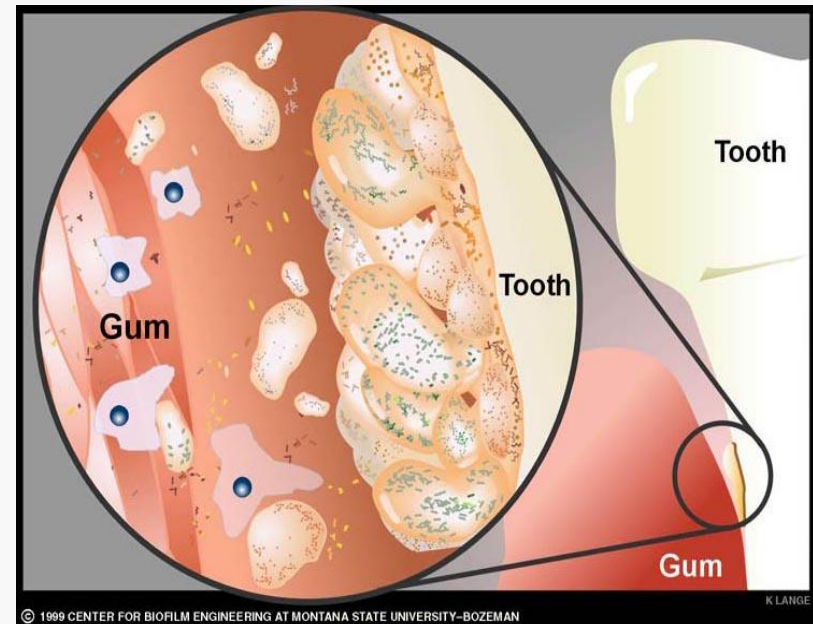
Location:

- **Supragingival plaque**
- **Subgingival plaque**



Subgingival plaque

- **Plaque of two types** - adherent and non-adherent one
- **Adherent plaque** – adherent to the dental root, similar to supragingival plaque = i.e. G+ rods, filaments (actinomycetes), and G+ cocci
- **Non-adherent plaque** – between adherent plaque and gingival surface = G- motile anerobes



Distribution of microorganisms

- **Actinomyces sp.** is the most frequent genus in both supra- and subgingival plaque
- **Supragingival plaque** – significantly higher amount of some actinomyces sp., neisseriae, streptococci, and bacteria of "**green**" and "**purple**" complex
- Periodontal pathogens can be occasionally found in supragingival plaque
- Supragingival plaque – reservoir of infection in the subgingival area
- **Subgingival plaque** - significantly higher amount of *Prevotella* sp., *Tannerella forsythia* and *P. gingivalis*, i.e. the "**red**" a "**orange**" complex
(Ximénez-Fivye et al., 2000)

Bacterial communities in periodontitis

A. naeslundii 2
(*A. viscosus*)

V. parvula
A. odontolyticus

S. mutans
S. oralis
S. sanguis

Streptococcus sp.
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S. intermedius

C. gracilis

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P. intermedia
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F. nuc. nucleatum
F. nuc. vincentii
F. nuc. polymorphum
F. periodontium

P. gingivalis
T. forsythia
T. denticola

E. corrodens
C. gingivalis
C. sputigena
C. ochracea
A. actinomyc.

S. constellatus

E. nodatum

C. showae

A. actino. b

S. noxia

Development of dental plaque

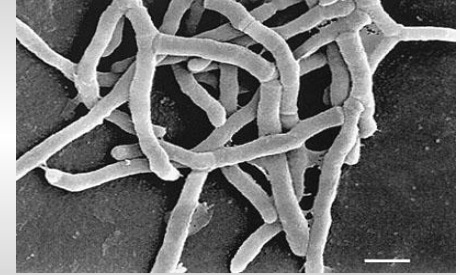
Less
than 24
hours

Streptococci of *mutans*, *sanguis*, and *mitis* groups are prevalent in suprag. plaque



Days

G+ rods and filamentous microorganisms (lactobacilli, actinomycetes) accumulate

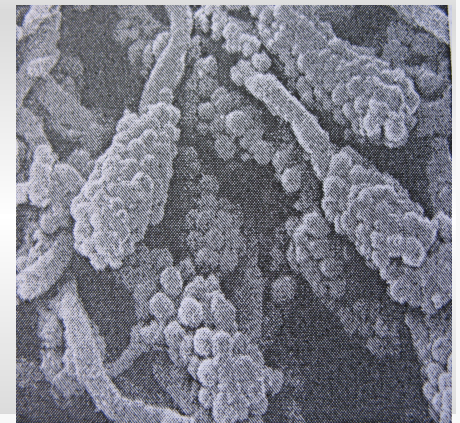


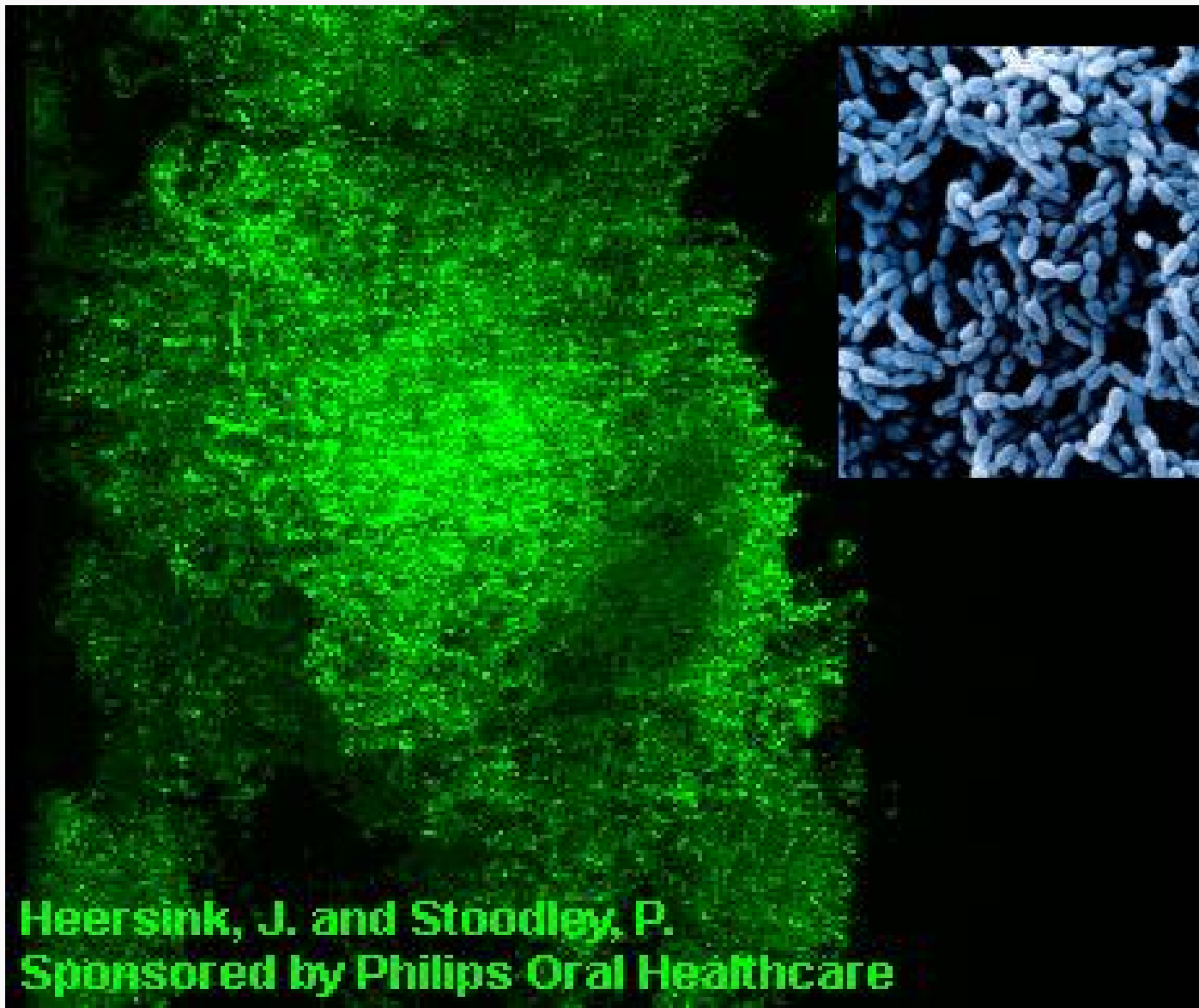
Week

Columns/microcolonies of coccoid microbes – rods and filamentous microbes get attached on their surface

Three
weeks

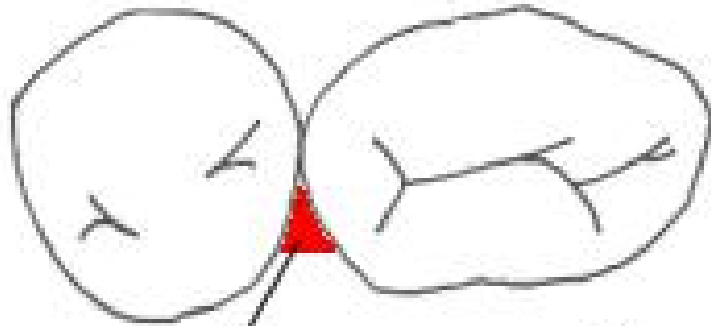
filamentous microbes are prevalent, „corn-cob“ formation: a central filament (*Eubacterium yurii*) is encompassed by G+ cocci





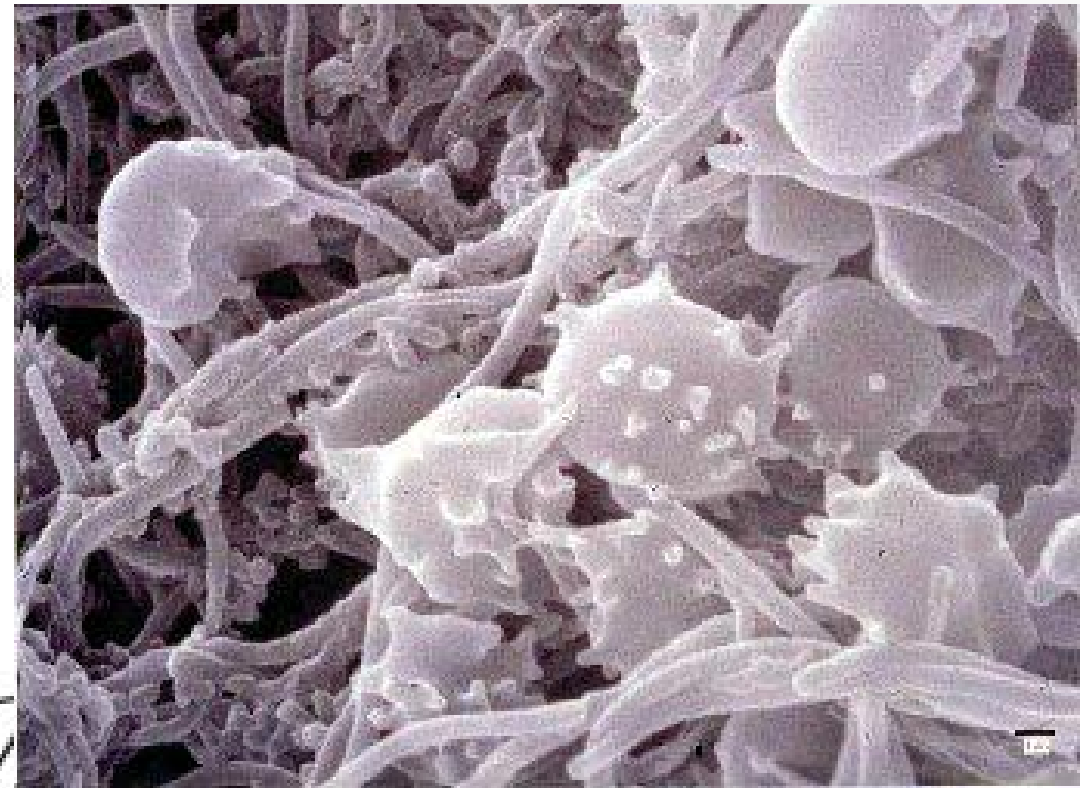
**Heersink, J. and Stoodley, P.
Sponsored by Philips Oral Healthcare**

Occlusal aspect

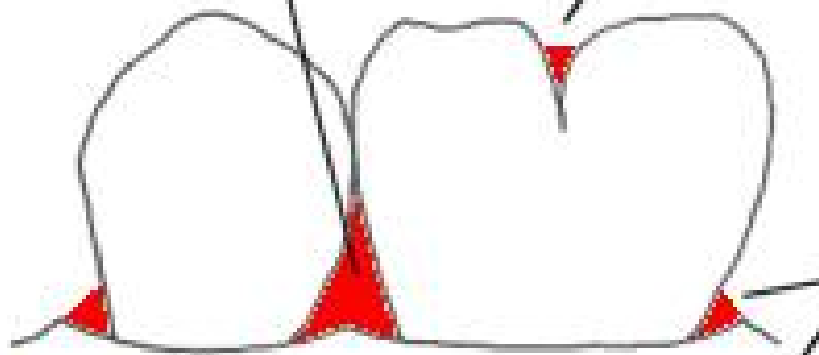


Approximal plaque

Fissure plaque

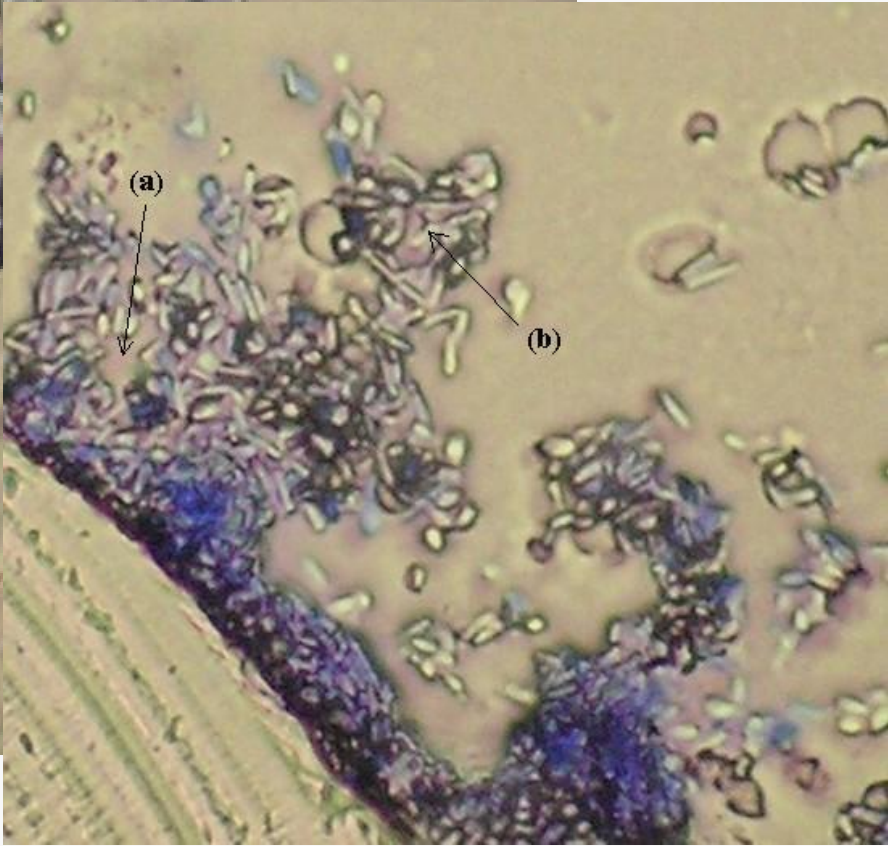
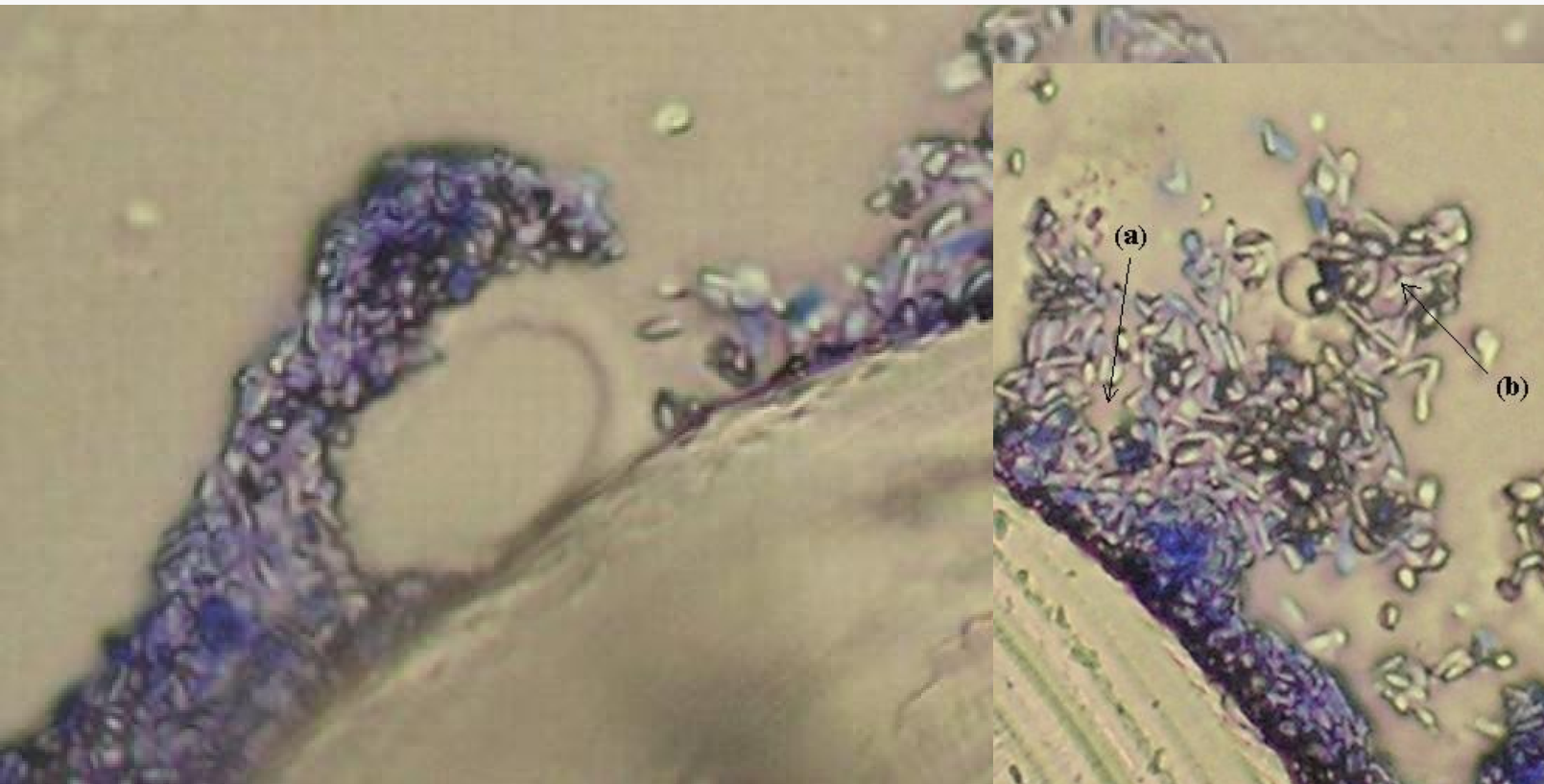


Buccal lingual aspect



Gingival crevice plaque

Source: www.bact.wisc.edu
www.ncl.ac.uk



Biofilm on a catheter (stafylococci and candida):

a) - canaliculus, b) - porous structure

Photo: Dr. Veronika Holá, MÚ

Dental plaque development

- ❖ Glykoproteins – **pellicula** – receptores for G+ cocci and rods
- ❖ **Exopolysacharid** production – the main part of the intercellular matrix
- ❖ Bacterial metabolism in plaque – other species involvement, development quicker in a presence of **sacharose**
- ❖ In bottom layers **calculus (tartar)** is being formed– calcified dental plaque - 80 % minerals
- ❖ **pH** decreases as a result of bacterial metabolism to < 5.5 – enamel demineralisation
- ❖ **Subgingival calculus** - G - mikroorganisms
- ❖ Calculus is porous – filamentous bacteria on the surface – deposits of microbial compounds - **toxic for parodontal tissues**



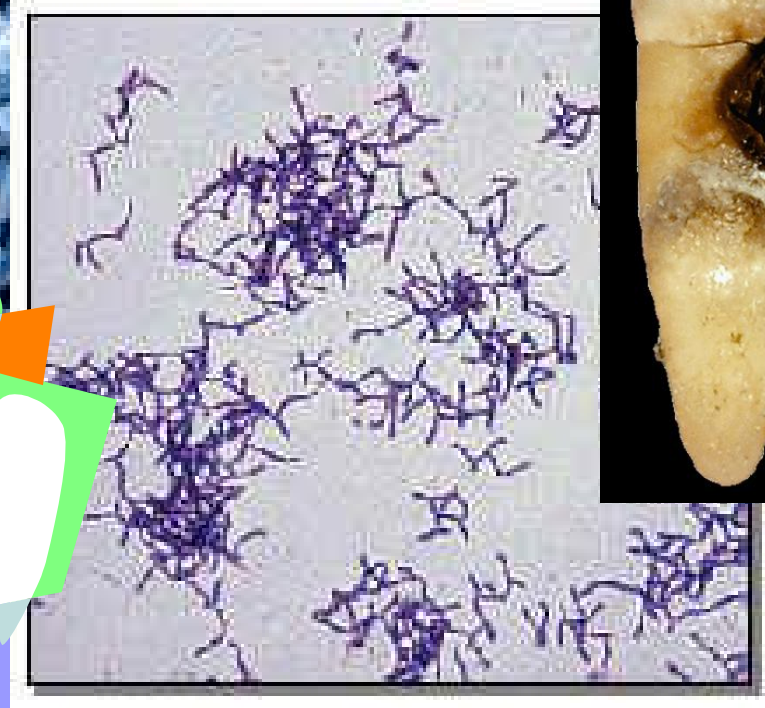


Dental plaque on dental plates

- Area close to the mucous membranes - streptococci *mutans* and *sanguinis* prevalent + *Candida sp.* found very often
- Anaerobes - G+ rods *Actinomyces israelii* and *veillonelae*
- often staphylococci, especially *Staphylococcus aureus*



III. Dental caries



History

- Archeological findings conclude that dental caries is very old disease
- Increase in number of caries lesions during neolite was a result of increasing volume of saccharides in a diet
- In the beginning of rice-growing in South Asia as a results dental caries increase was reported
- Sumerian texts about 5000 years B.C. describe „dental worms“ causing dental caries



(wikipedia.org)

Microbiology of caries

- Dental caries – the most frequent current disease
- Definition - local destruction of the tooth tissue
- Microbiological point of view – **chronic infection caused by normal oral flora**
- Destruction is a result of demineralisation of the tooth caused by acids producted by microorganisms in the dental plaque during metabolism of saccharides from food



Course of caries

- Primary lesion of enamel (whitish spot) is reversible, it can remineralise
- After destruction of enamel, the process spreads to dentin and causes inflammation and necrosis
- Also development of periapical acute or chronic inflammation

Dental caries = multifactorial disease

- 1. endogenous factors**
- 2. food**
- 3. microbes in the dental plaque**





Endogenous factors:

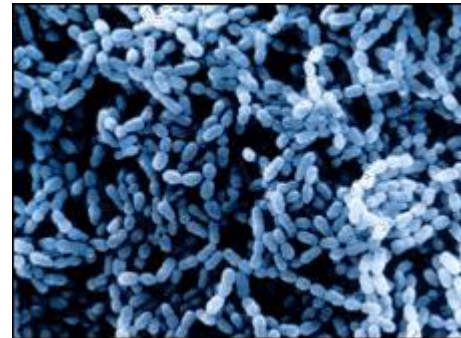
- Tooth shape
- Enamel structure
- Saliva – volume, flow and composition (buffer)

Nutritious factors:

- saccharides intake
- **Saccharose is the most cariogenic sugar**
 - Excellent solubility, **diffund to the plaque easily** - cariogenic streptococci change it to insoluble glucan
 - **glucan** enables initial **adhesion** of microbes on the tooth surface, is a source of nutrients and takes place in intercellular matrix development

Role of microbes

- almost all microbes in the dental plaque have cariogenic effect thanks to their biochemical features
- the most important in caries development - streptococci of the **mutans group, lactobacilli, and actinomyces**
- also combination of other microbes can start the cariogenic process



Streptococcus

- α -hemolytic streptococci, divided into the following groups:
- **S. mutans group:**
S. mutans - the MOST FREQUENT, less often *S. sobrinus*,
S. cricetus, and *S. rattus* rarely, produce acids from
saccharides
- **S. salivarius group:**
S. salivarius, *S. vestibularis* - in saliva and on the tongue,
growth in mucous colonies, can cause endocarditis

- **S. mitis group**: *S. mitis*, *S. oralis* a *S. peroris* – on mucous membranes and in the dental plaque - the causative agent of **sepsis lenta** (*S. mitis* is an exemption)

S. sanguinis and *S. gordonii* – on the tongue, buccal musous membranes, dental plaque. *S. sanguinis* cleaves secretorial IgA

Both species are important cause of **subacute bacterial endocarditis** (*sepsis lenta*)

- **S. anginosus group** - tiny colonies - *S. anginosus* (*S. milleri* in British texts), *S. constellatus* with two subspecies, *constellatus* and *pharyngis*, and *S. intermedius*.
- In nasopharynx, sulci gingivales, dentoalveolar and endodontal infections

Caries and *mutans* group streptococci I

In man usually: *S. mutans* (serotypes c, e, and f)
S. sobrinus (serotypes d and g)

Some strains seems to be more cariogenic.

Ethiological role - facts:

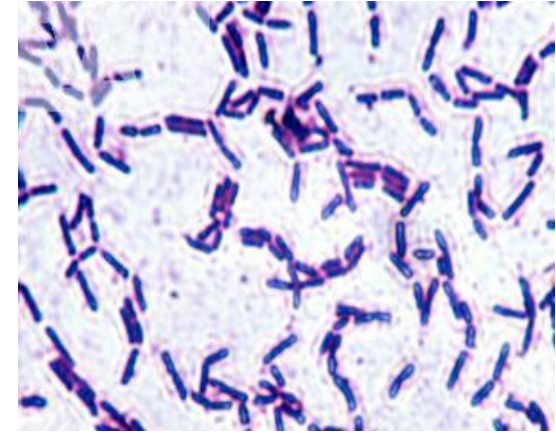
- Numberes in the plaque and saliva **correlates with caries prevalence** and incidence
- **Isolated from the tooth surface** immediately before caries
- Immunisation of animals with *S. mutans* specif. serotypes decreases caries incidence

Caries and *mutans* group streptococci II

- lesion progression and *S.mutans* numbers correlates
- are attached to the tooth surface and together by glucanes formed from saccharose
- are the most efficient microbes in making caries in lab animals
- able to form acids and multiply in low pH
- reach pH needed to enamel demineralization quicker than other bacteria
- form reserves e.g. glycogen (in case of low levels of saccharides in food)

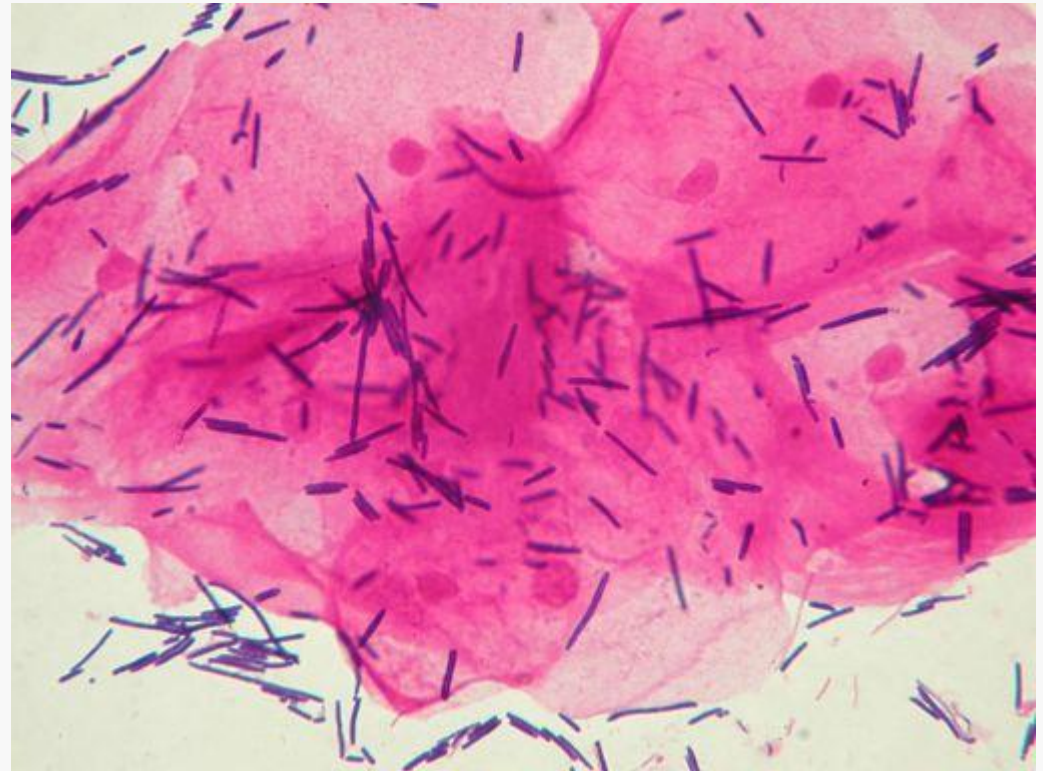
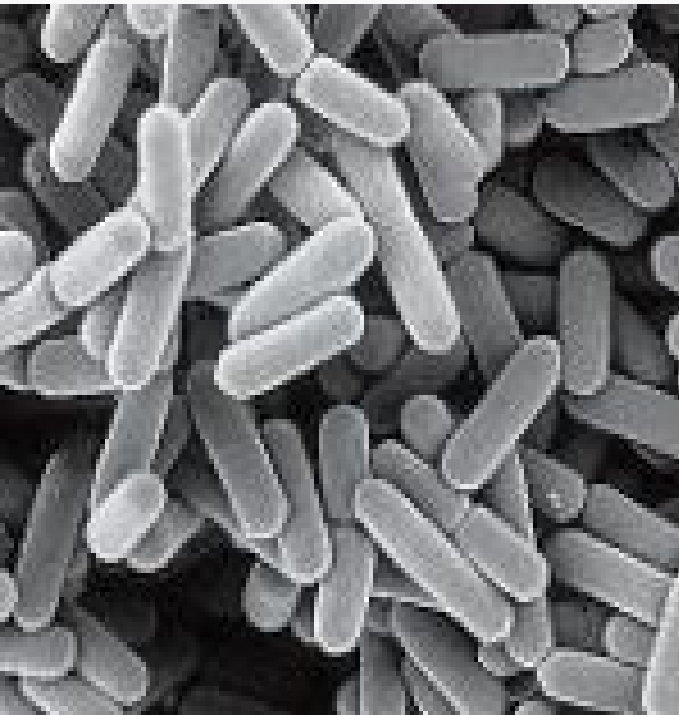
Dental caries and other microbes I

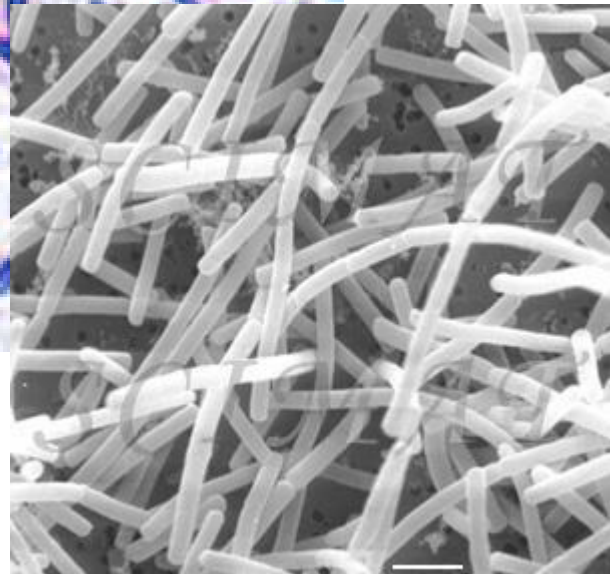
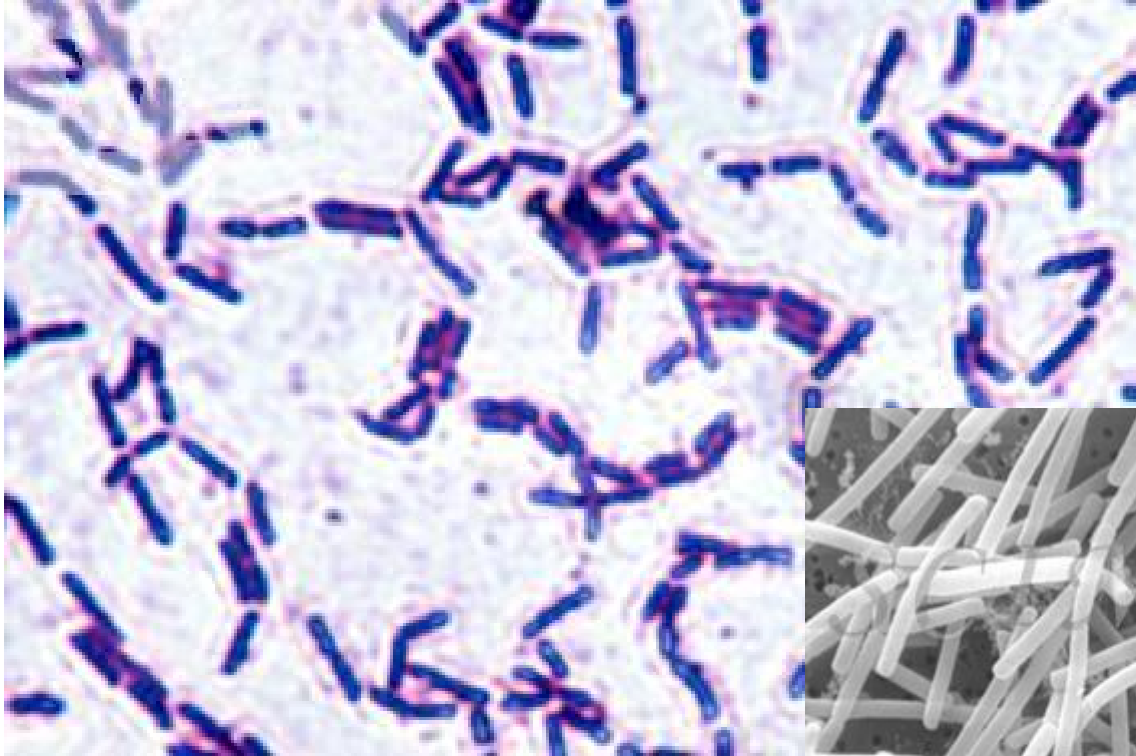
Lactobacilli



- in high numbers in dental caries
- their numbers in saliva (and dental plaque) and caries activity correlate
- growth in pH lower than 5 + develop lactate
- biochemically active - extracellular and intracellular polysaccharides from saccharose
- some strains cause caries in microbe-free animals
- in healthy teeth – low numbers of lactobacilli

Lactobacilli



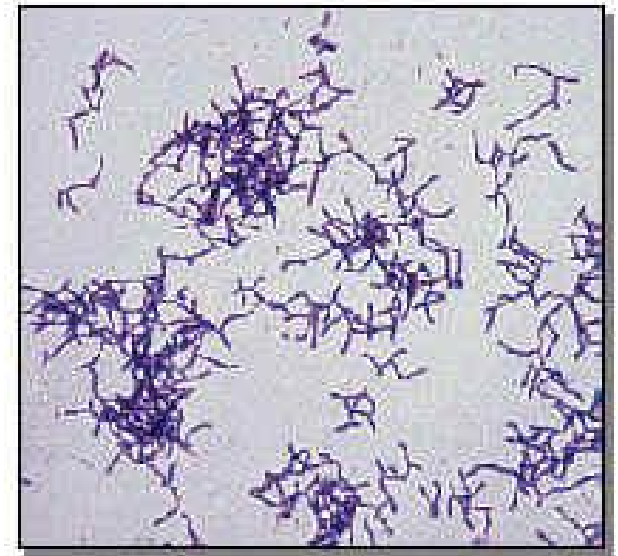


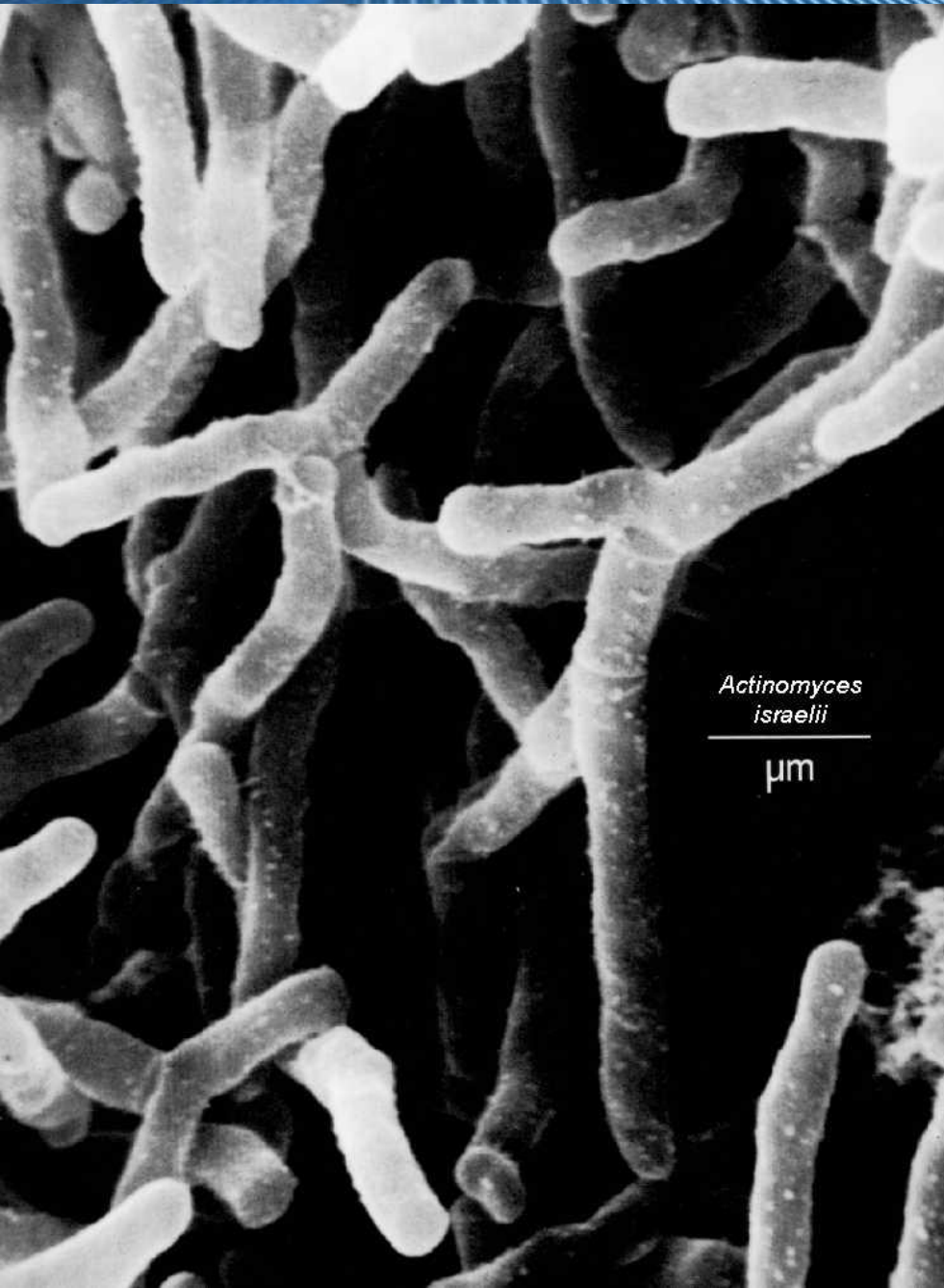
Lactobacilli

Dental caries and other microbes II

Actinomycetes

- Related to **root caries** – especially *Actinomyces viscosus*
- The role of actinomycetes in caries development is not elucidated completely





*Actinomyces
israelii*
μm



Source: www.bact.wisc.edu

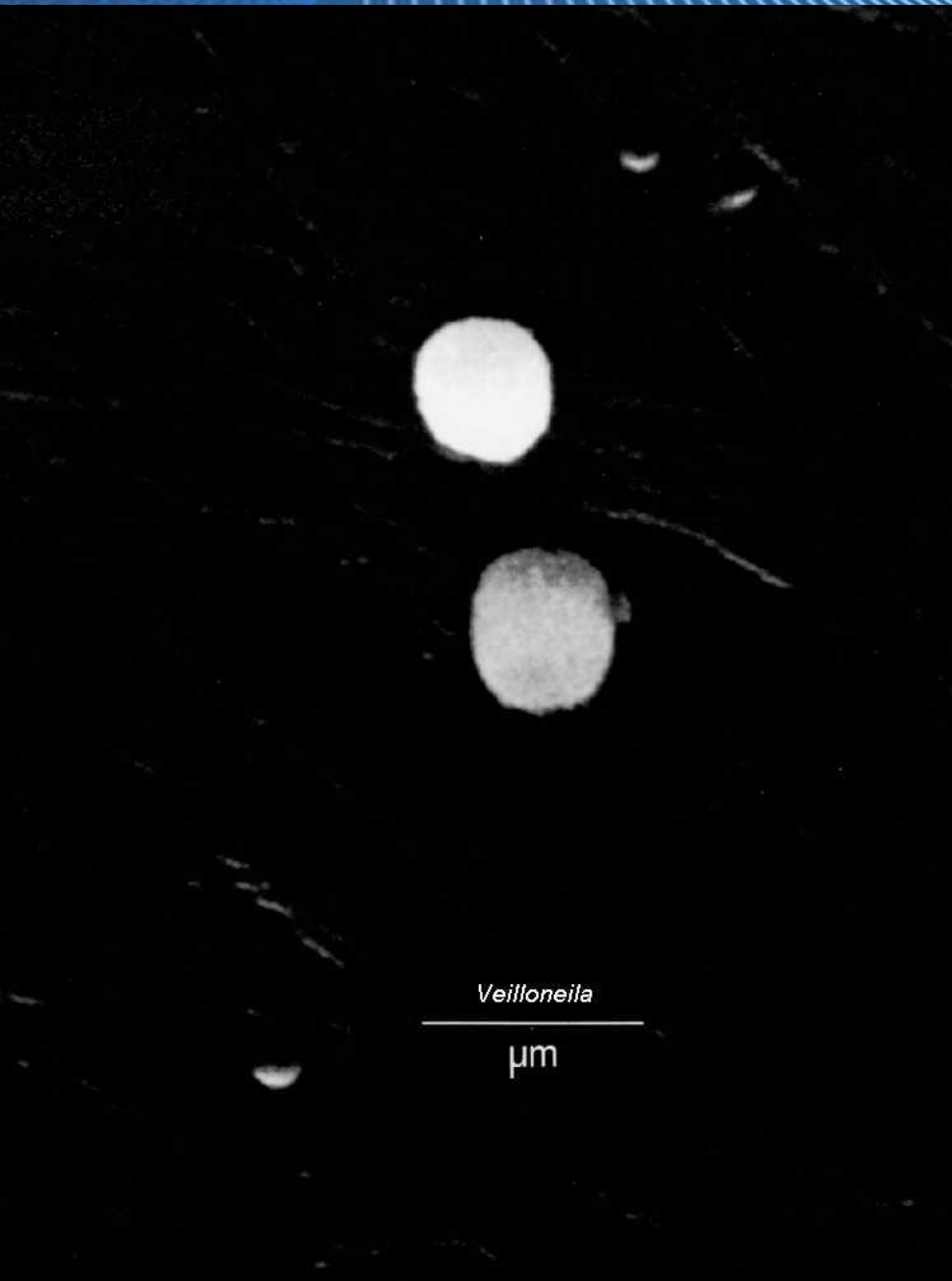
Caries and other microbes

Veillonella sp.

- in high numbers in supragingival plaque of most people
- need **lactate**, are NOT able to use saccharides and use lactate developed by other microbes – transform it to less cariogenic organic acids

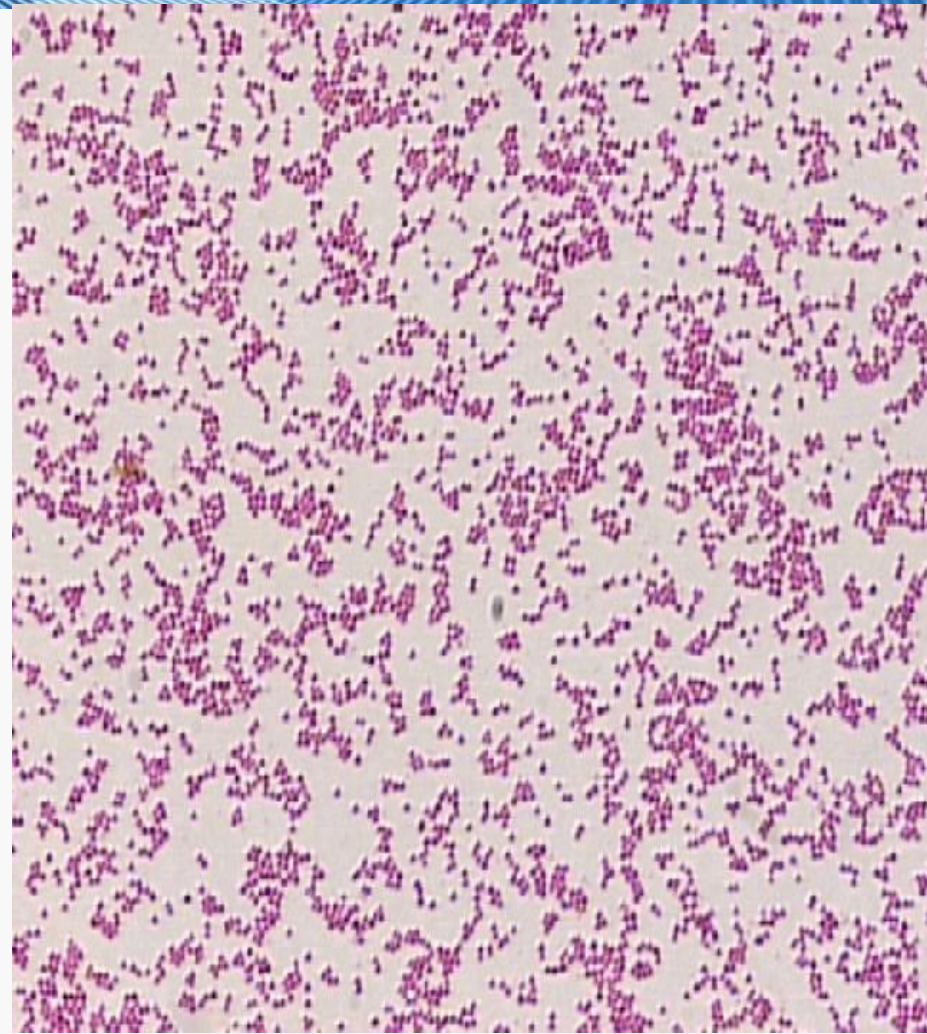
..... **positive outcomes.....?**

Ecological plaque hypothesis



Veillonella

μm



Veillonellae in people with (A) and without (B) dental caries

- similar numbers (unsignificant differences), BUT:
- veillonellae in **A less diverse**, in B more diverse
- *V. parvula*, *V. dispar*, *V. atypica* in both groups
- *V. denticariosa* only in caries lesions
- ***V. rogosae*** only in people without dental caries
- in A highly probable finding of one predominant *V.* species
- average number of genotypes in lesions lower than in fissurs or buccal location

(Source: Arif, J Dent Res, 2008)

Dental plaque development

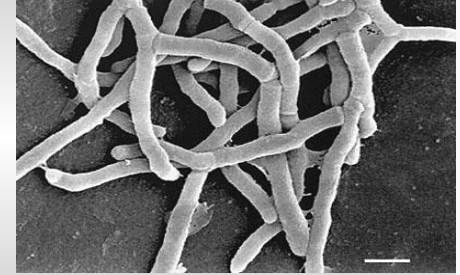
Less
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Streptococci of *mutans*, *sanguis*, and *mitis* groups are prevalent in suprag. plaque



Days

G+ rods and filamentous microorganisms (lactobacilli, actinomycetes) accumulate

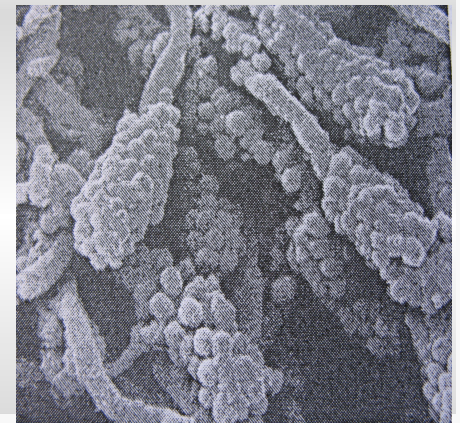


Week

Columns/microcolonies of coccoid microbes – rods and filamentous microbes get attached on their surface

Three
weeks

filamentous microbes are prevalent, „corn-cob“ formation: a central filament (*Eubacterium yurii*) is encompassed by G+ cocci



Microbiological testing of people at risk

- Saliva sample is taken
- *S.mutans* a Lactobacillus sp. numbers assessed by cultivation
- **High risk** patients $> 10^6$ S.m. or/and L. 10^5
- Low risk patients $< 10^5$ S.m. or/and L. 10^4

Preventive factors



- **Milk, dairy products, milk proteins** - buffer, increase of pH thanks to decarboxylation of aminoacids from casein
- **Milk casein** – adsorbtion on the tooth surface, casein layer prevents *S.mutans* adhesion
- **Calcium phosphate** from casein boost enamel remineralization
- **Fluorides** – boost tooth mineralization, diminish glykolyse, impair CM, and inactivate enzymes
- **Xylitol** – inhibition of bacterial growth

Treatment and prevention

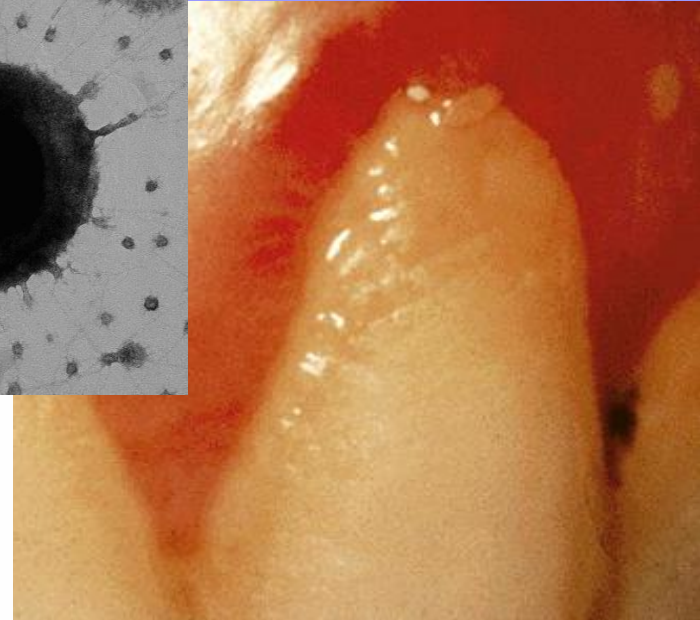
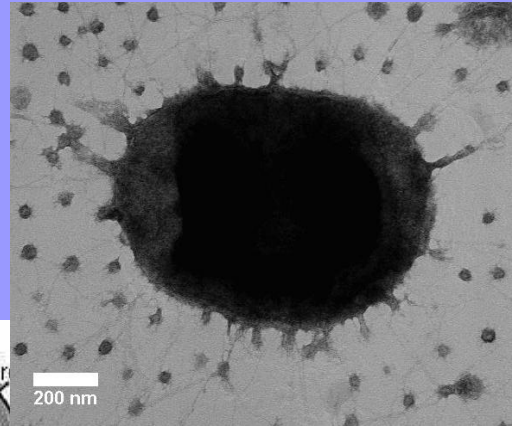
- Standard treatment =
ablation of impaired tooth tissue, preparation of cavity and filling
- Preventive measures =
change of diet (low-carbohydrate diet),
application of fluorides and proper dental care
- Ozone – low efficiency, Müller, Eur J Oral Sci, 2007



Review:

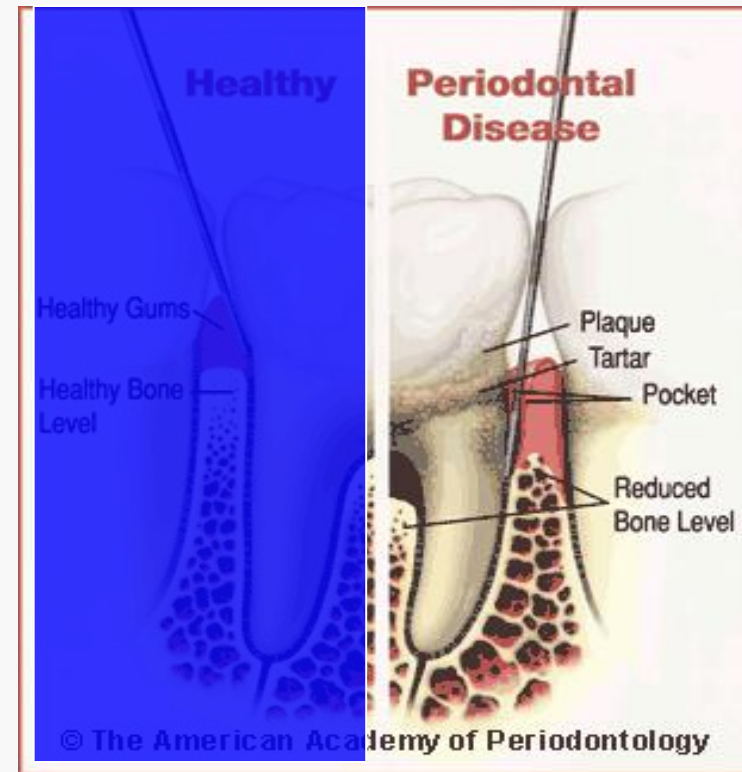
Azarpazhooh A, Limeback H. The application of ozone in dentistry: A systematic review of literature. J Dent. 2008 Feb;36(2):104-16.

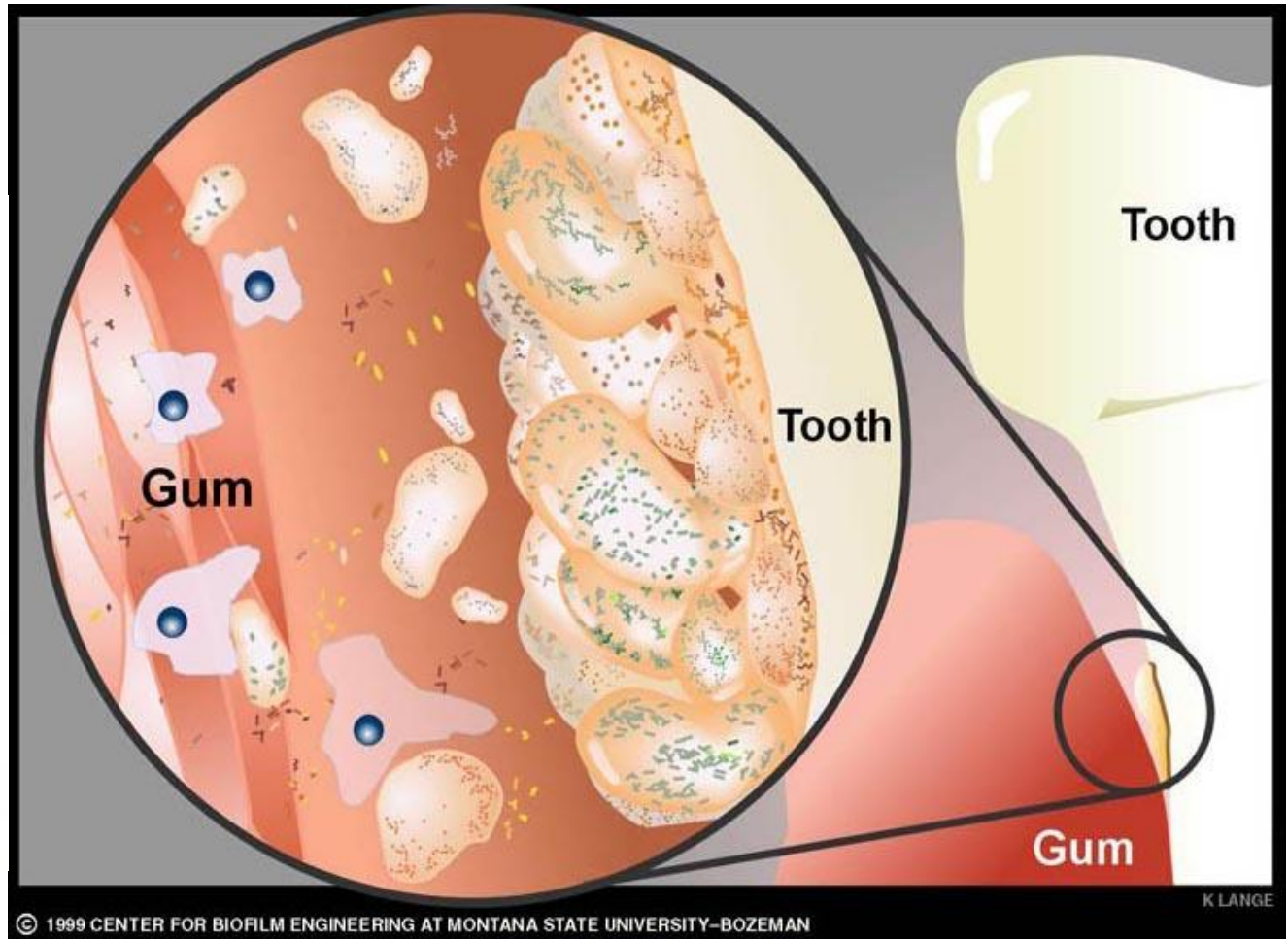
IV. Periodontitis



Periodontitis

- Almost 80 % adults
- Inflammation of gums, **scarcement of dentogingival junction**
- **Resorption of alveolar bone tissue**
- A periodontal pocket develops in the place of gingival sulci, **there is bleeding on probing**, purulent content
- Dental plaque and calculus sediment on the cervical **surface**
- A teeth starts to move





© 1999 CENTER FOR BIOFILM ENGINEERING AT MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN

K LANGE

Source: www.zahnarzt-hilpoltstein.de

Source: Center for biofilm engineering at MSU-Bozeman

Gum reaction

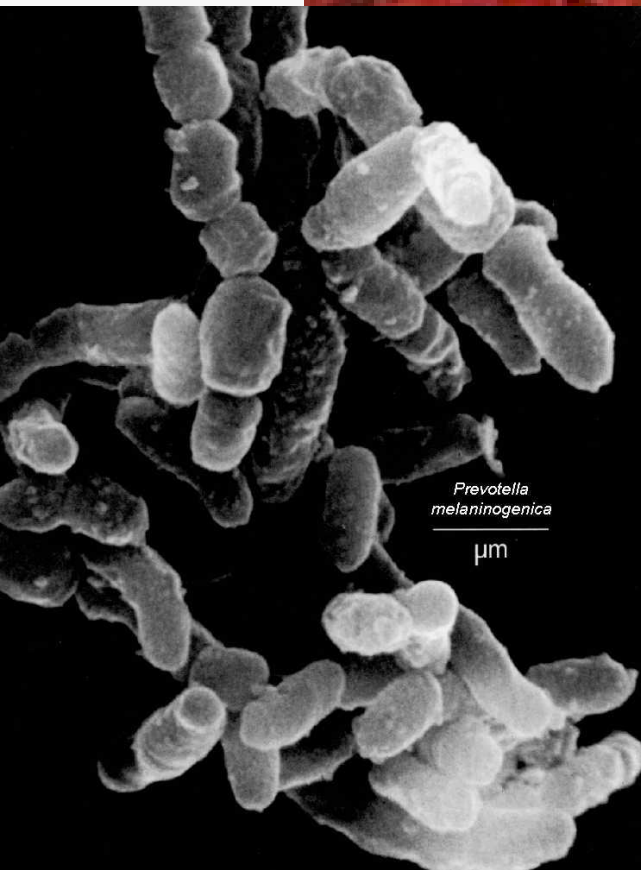
- ❖ Dental plaque in the gum margine - chronic inflammation of the tissue around sulcus gingivalis = **marginal gingivitis**
- ❖ Exsudation – chemotaxis of anaerobic and proteolytic bacteria
- ❖ Increasing migration of leucocytes
- ❖ Inflammation breaks function of the junctional epithel, **plaque spreads apically to subgingival area**
- ❖ Symptoms much more intensive with older and thicker plaque

Microbiology of chronic marginal gingivitis

- Clinical symptoms - occasional gum bleeding - inflamed, hurtfulness is minimal
- **Early stage** – after a one week course - **number of capnophile and strictly anaerobic microbes is growing** (especially *Actinomyces* sp. and anaerobic G- rods)
- **Late stage** – more microbes, **anaerobes are prevalent** (in black colonies growing e.g. *Porphyromonas gingivalis* and *Prevotella intermedia*, oral spirochetes)
- **Bleeding from gums** lead to multiplication of black-pigmented anaerobic rods, blood is a source of **haemin**

***Prevotella melaninogenica* (black pigment)**

<http://pharmacie.univ-lille2.fr>



Changes in the periodontal pocket

Redox potential

DECREASE

Pockets / liquid

INCREASE = nutrient medium for the growth of anaerobes releasing proteolytic enzymes, proteins are cleaved by proteolytic bacteria

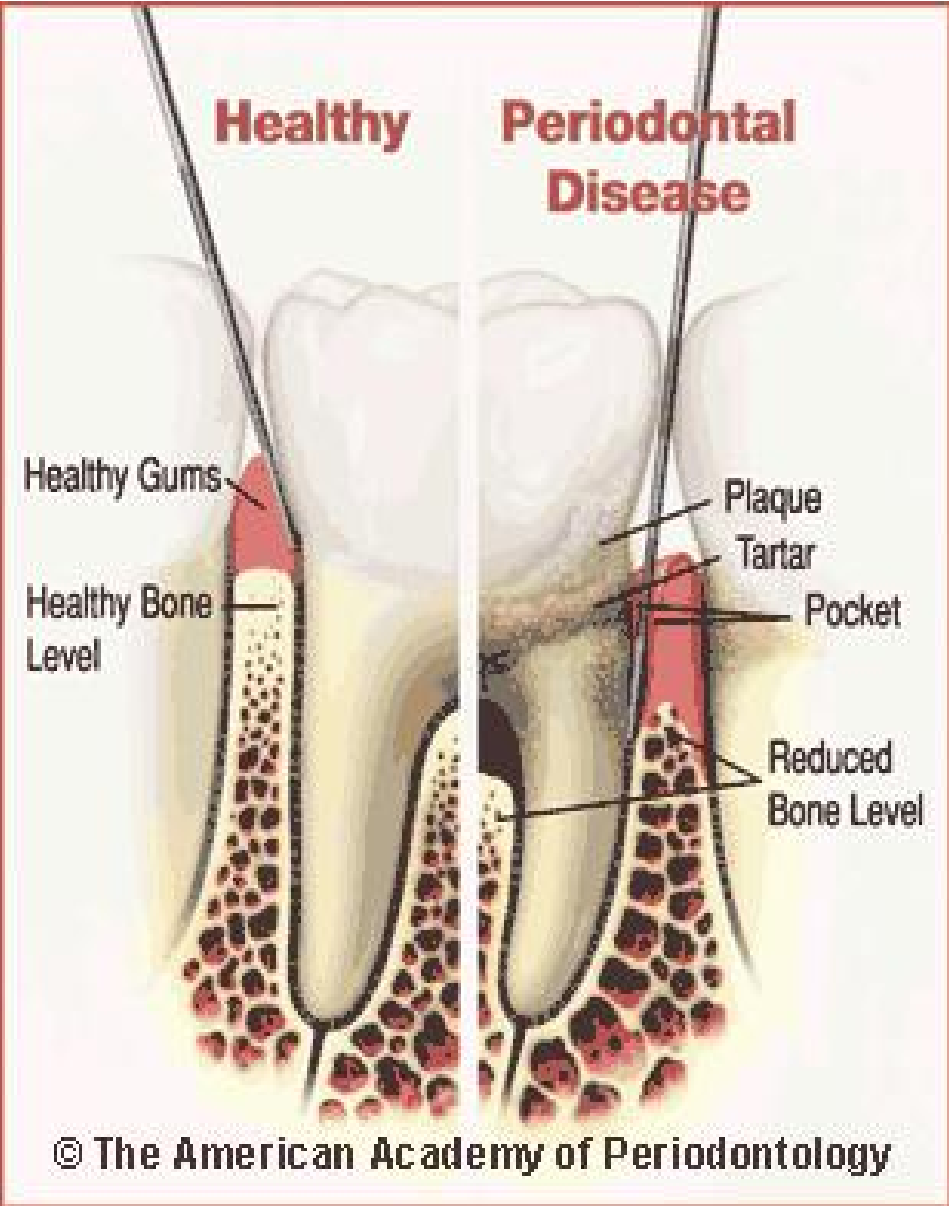
pH

INCREASE from normal neutral values to 7,4 – 7,8 - it enhances bacterial growth (e.g. *Porphyromonas gingivalis*)

Microflora

INCREASE

G- anaerobic rods = *P. gingivalis*, *P. intermedia*, *F. nucleatum*, *T. denticola*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, and *C. sputigena*



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This may hurt, so I'm going to sedate your wallet.

Influence of subgingival plaque - studies

- Strong correlation between plaque volume and prevalence and severity of periodontal diseases
- **Volunteers studies** – poor dental hygiene = plaque growth and gingivitis – after plaque removal gingivitis heals
- Local application e.g. chlorhexidine diminish plaque and prevent gingivitis
- **Microbe-free animal models** - bacteria of „red complex“ from human plaque lead to periodontal infection and immunoinflammatory bone resorption (Kesavalu 2007)

Etiology of periodontitis

- Specific plaque hypothesis
- Non-specific plaque hypothesis
- Ecological plaque hypothesis



Specific plaque hypothesis

- **Etiology of parodontitis = specific microorganisms**
- Necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis – key agents fusobacteria and spirochetes
- Therapeutic success with antimicrobials inhibiting anaerobes – e.g. metronidazole
- Rapidly progressing juvenile parodontitis - *Aggregatibacter actinomycetemcomitans* – sensitive to tetracycline – treatment

Ecological plaque hypothesis

- **Endogenous infection is caused by opportunist species** = parodontitis caused by change in sulcar microflora based on changes of environment
- In the beginning, there is **plaque development and spreading to sulcus gingivalis** = macroorganism reacts by inflammation
- Increasing **production of sulcar fluid increases supply of proteins** - catabolised by proteolytic G- anaerobes easily
- **Změna in zastoupení bacterial species:**
number of G- anaerobes is growing, whereas facultative G+ anaerobes not – the first ones produce sufficient amount of virulence factors and break host immunity – destruction is a result

Therapeutic strategies

- **Specific plaque hypothesis** – therapy focused on specific pathogen removal, e.g. **antibiotics administration**
- **Non- specific and ecological hypotheses** - parodontal disease can be treated by measurments aimed at **reduction of plaque volume**

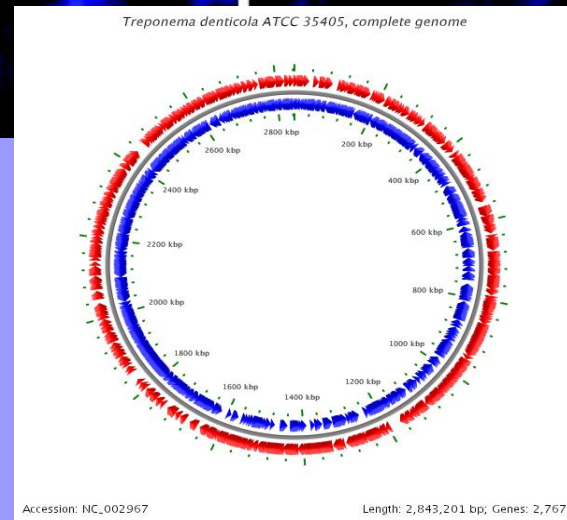
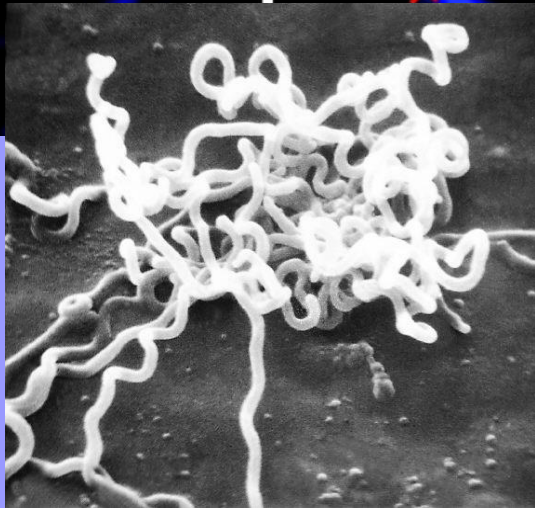
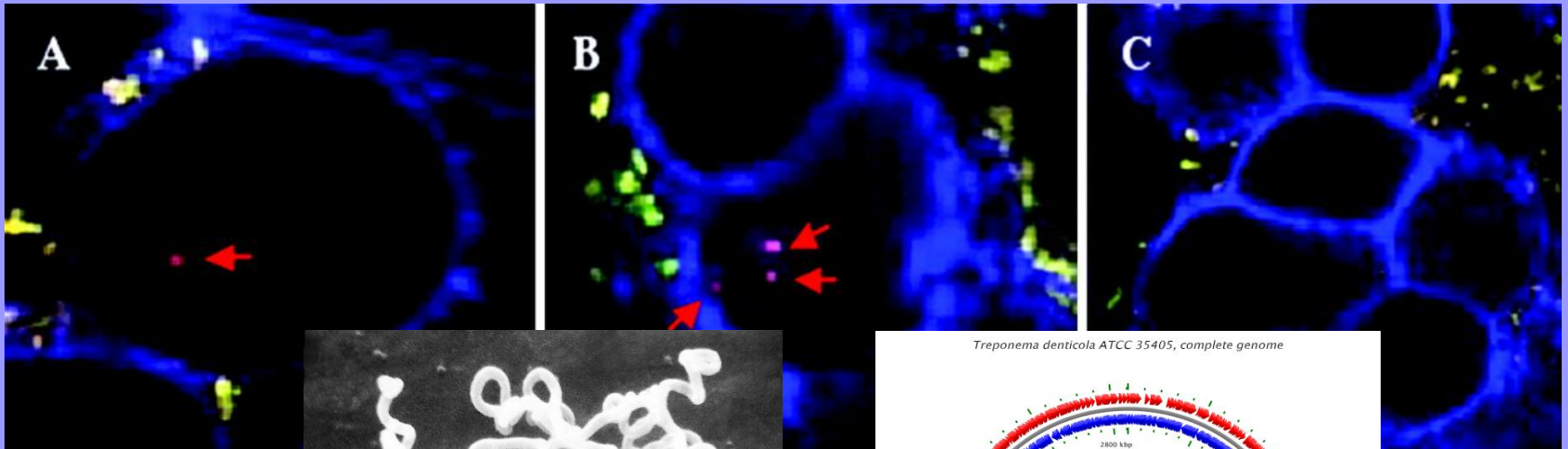


Prevention



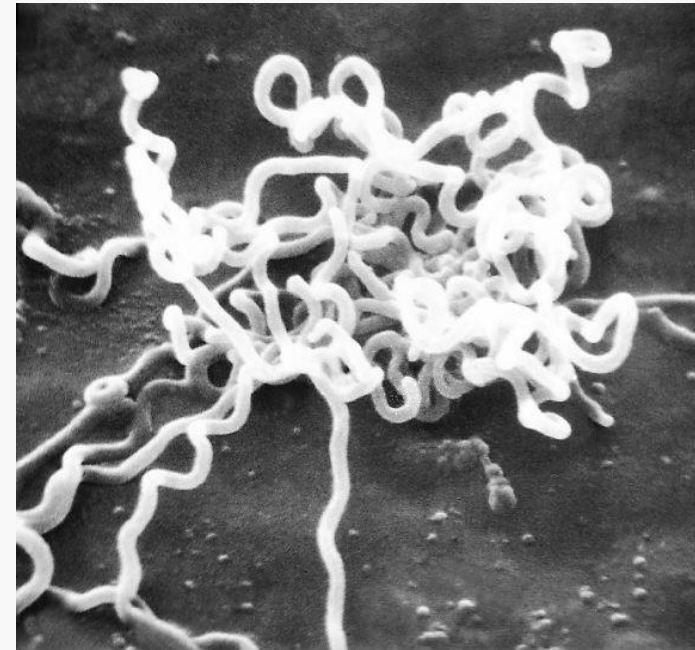
- **Regular removal of dental plaque** by proper cleaning of the teeth
- **Perfect removal of calculus**
- **Improvement of exogenous factors** (... impaired prothetic devices etc.)

Key pathogens



Treponema denticola

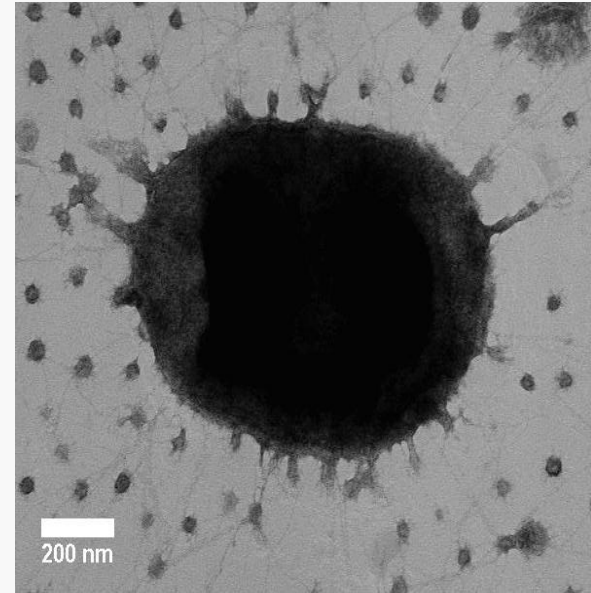
- Spirochete (a close cousin of *T. pallidum*)
- Proteolytic
- Colonizing older children (6 – 12 let 50 %, but 0,5 % microb. population) and adults
- Close relationship to *P. gingivalis* – growth factors



Zdroj: fr. wikipedia.org/wiki/Treponema

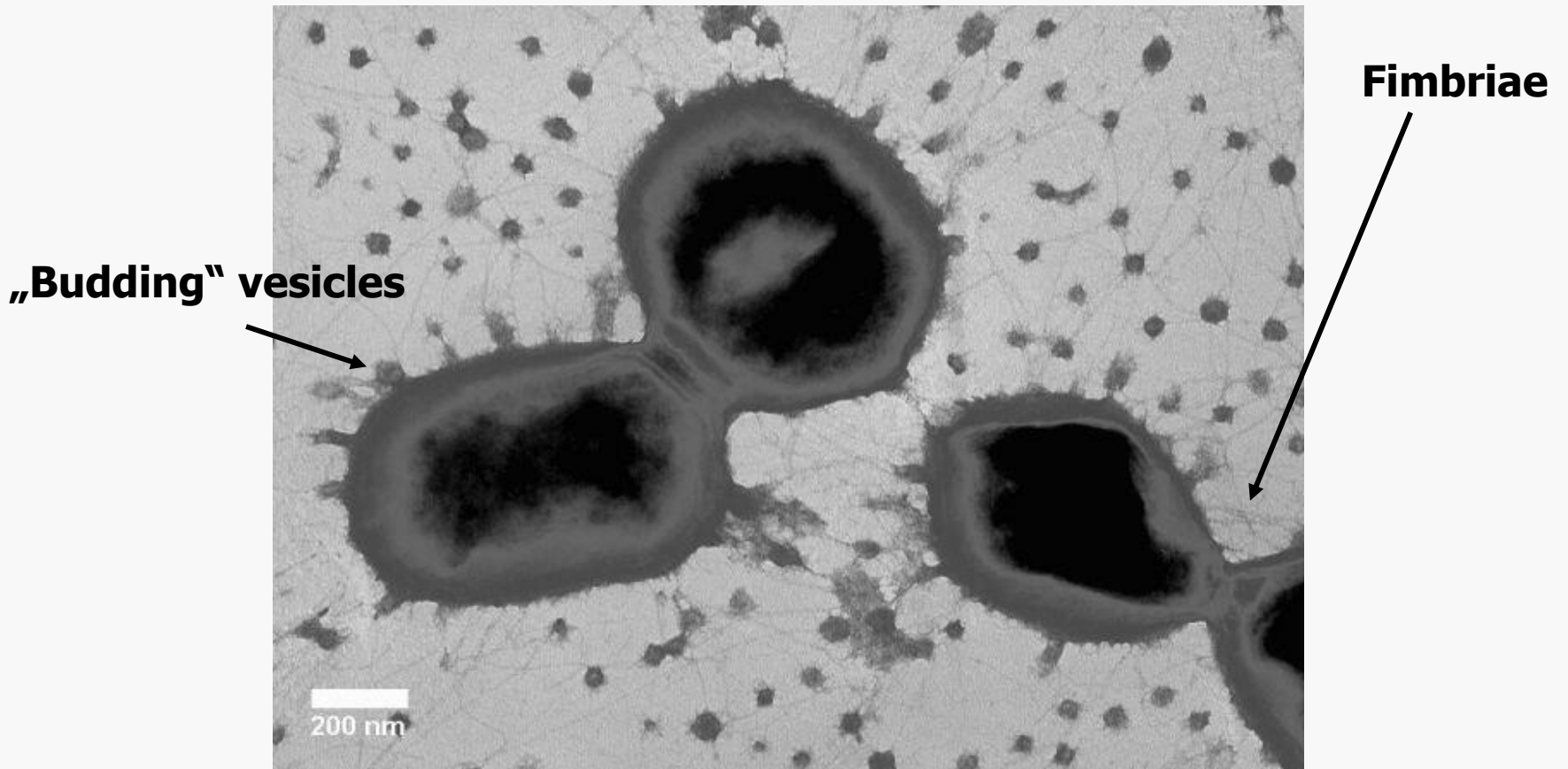
Porphyromonas gingivalis

- **Highly proteolytic**
- **Fimbriae** – adhesion and colonisation
- Releases **vesicles** containing parts of outer membranes - proteins, LPS, capsule etc.
- Vesicles - transport of toxins and enzymes, bacterial adhesion and aggregation, adhesion of thrombocytes
- Black pigment = accumulated hemin – a source of iron (a growth factor)



Zdroj: www.pgingivalis.org

P.gingivalis

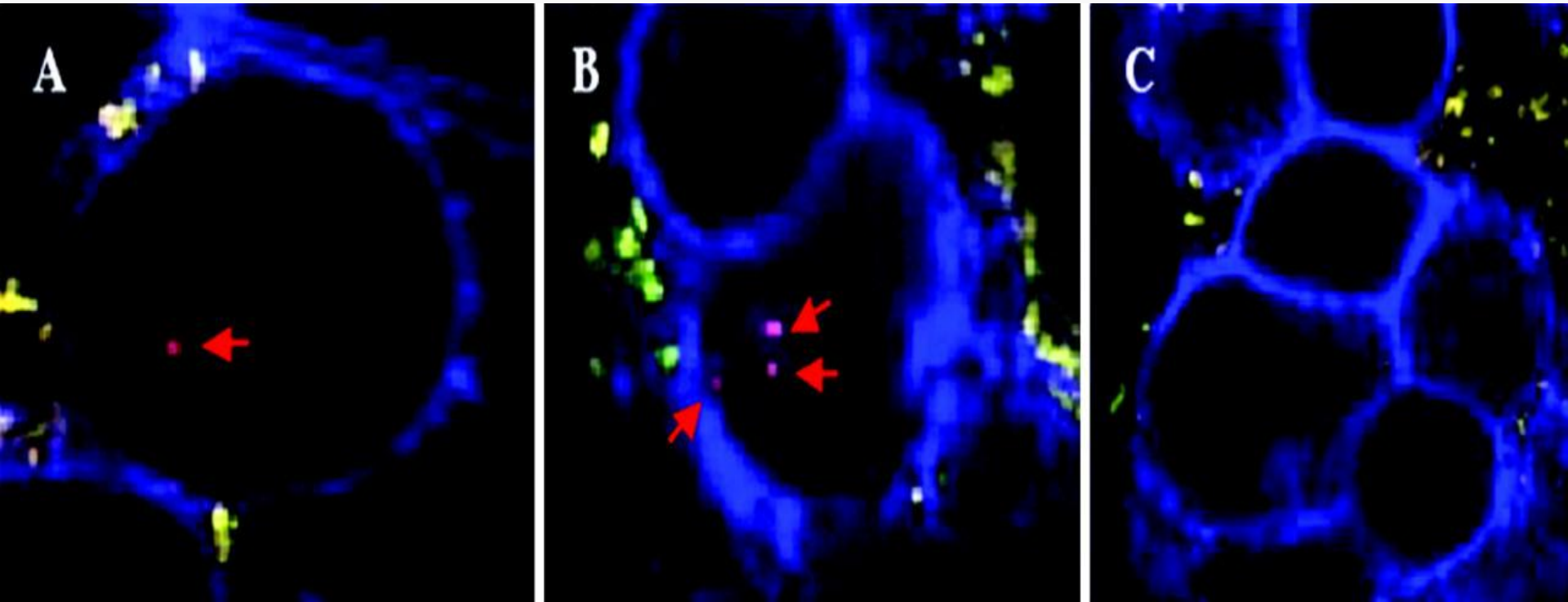


Tannerella forsythia

- **Interaction between *T. forsythia* and *P. gingivalis***
- *P. gingivalis* supports **adhesion to host cells and invasion**
- **Epithelia with** invading bacteria are the source of **recurrent infection**

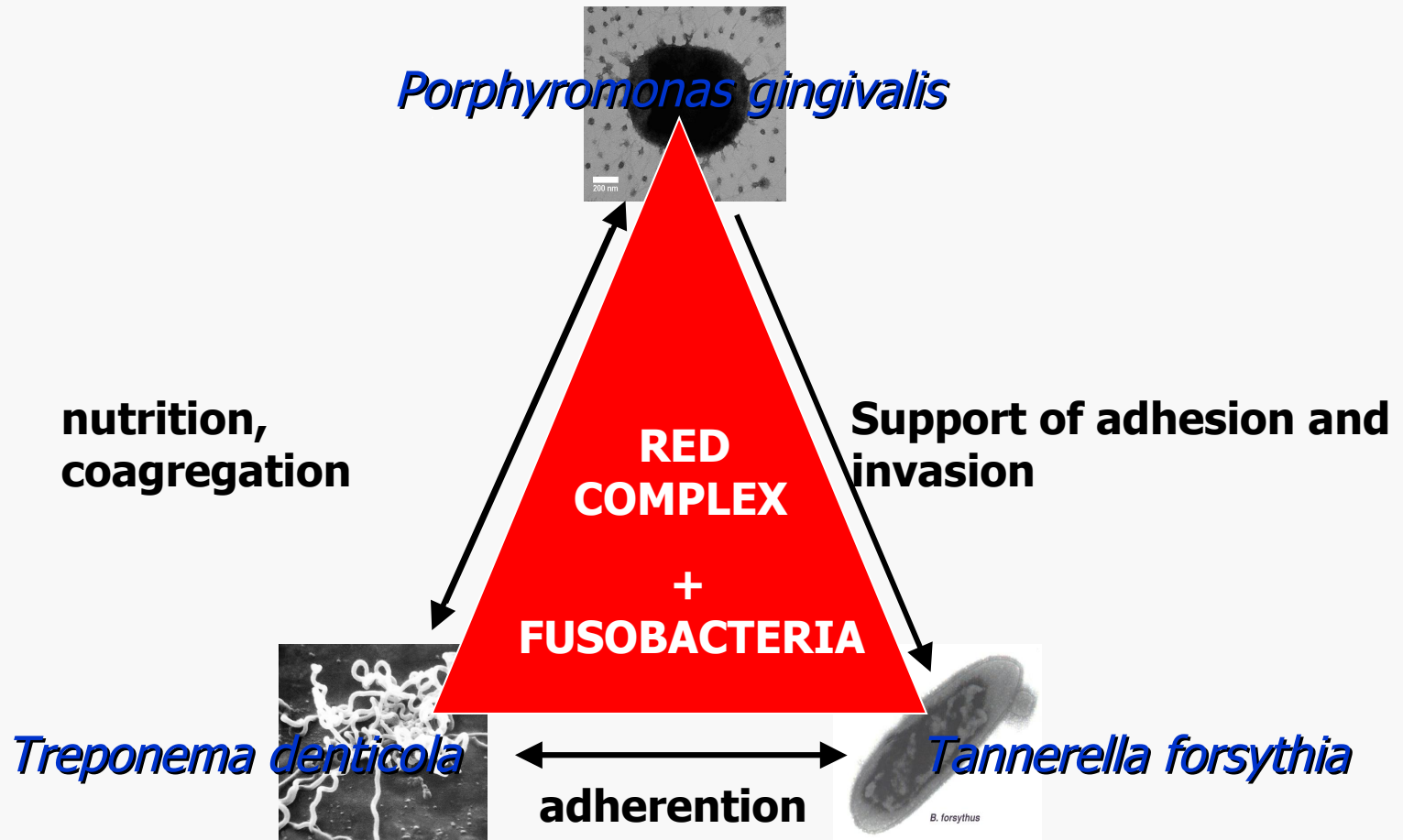


Zdroj: www.acsu.buffalo.edu



Invasion of *T. forsythia* into cells (arrows), Inagaki 2006, confocal laser microscopy

Mutual relationships in „the red complex“



Oral microflora in systemic diseases

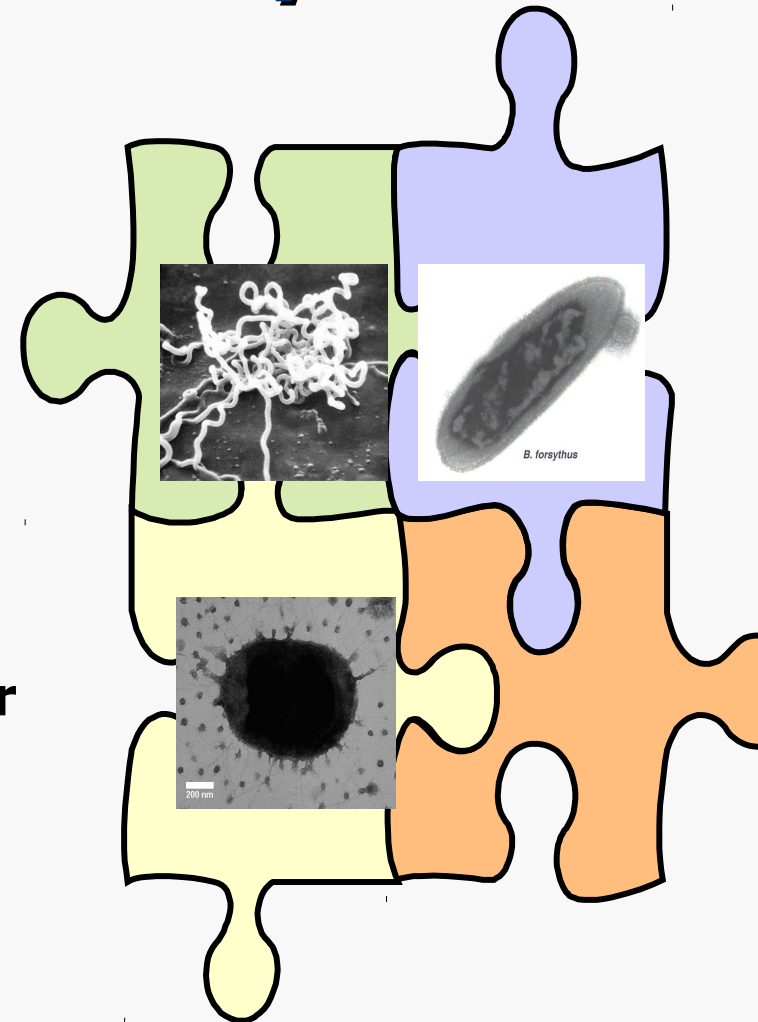
- **Cardiovascular diseases** - bacterial endocarditis, atherosclerosis - esp. coronary arterias (Gotsman et al. 2007)
- **Strokes** (Pussinen et al. 2004)
- **Pneumonias**
- **Diabetes mellitus** (Mealey, Rethman 2003)
- **Preterm births and low birth weight** (Lin et al. 2007)
- **Oesophageal carcinoma** (Narikiyo et al. 2004)

Mechanisms

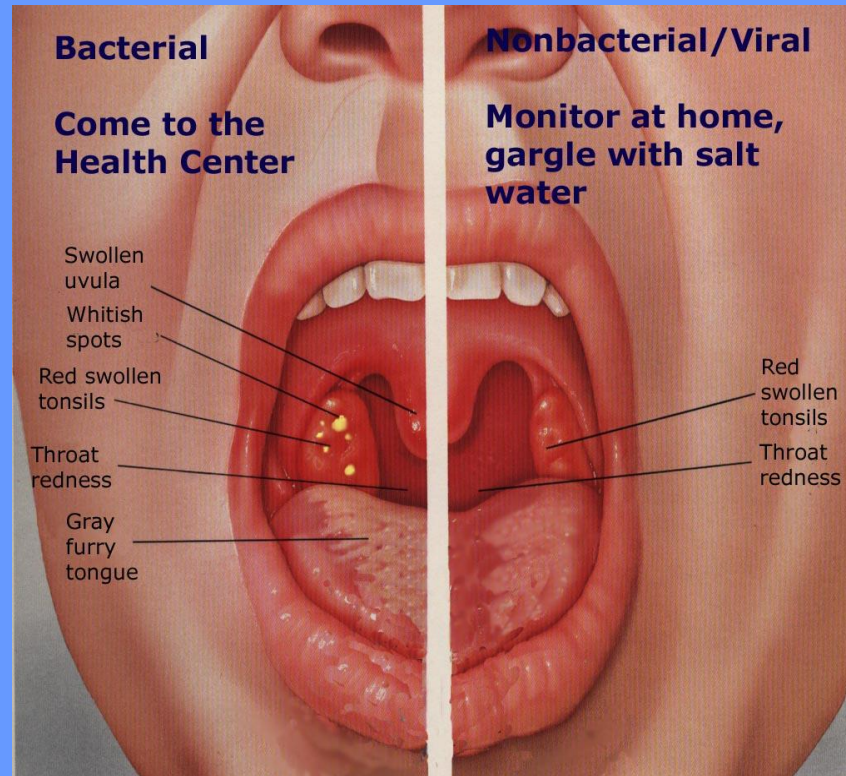
- **Microbes from the mouth** = metastatic infections (bacteremia after tooth extraction - bacterial endocarditis)
- **Bacterial enzymes and toxins from** parodontal focuses = metastatic damage (e.g. endotoxin G- bacteria from subgingival biofilm)
- **Antigens of oral bacteria and pro-inflammatory cytokines** from inflamed parodont = metastatic inflammation (reaction Ag-Ab where immunocomplexes)

Periodontitis - summary

- Model polymicrobial disease
- Oral biofilm and bacterial interactions
- *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, *Tannerella forsythia*, *Treponema denticola*
- Influencing human health in a broader sense



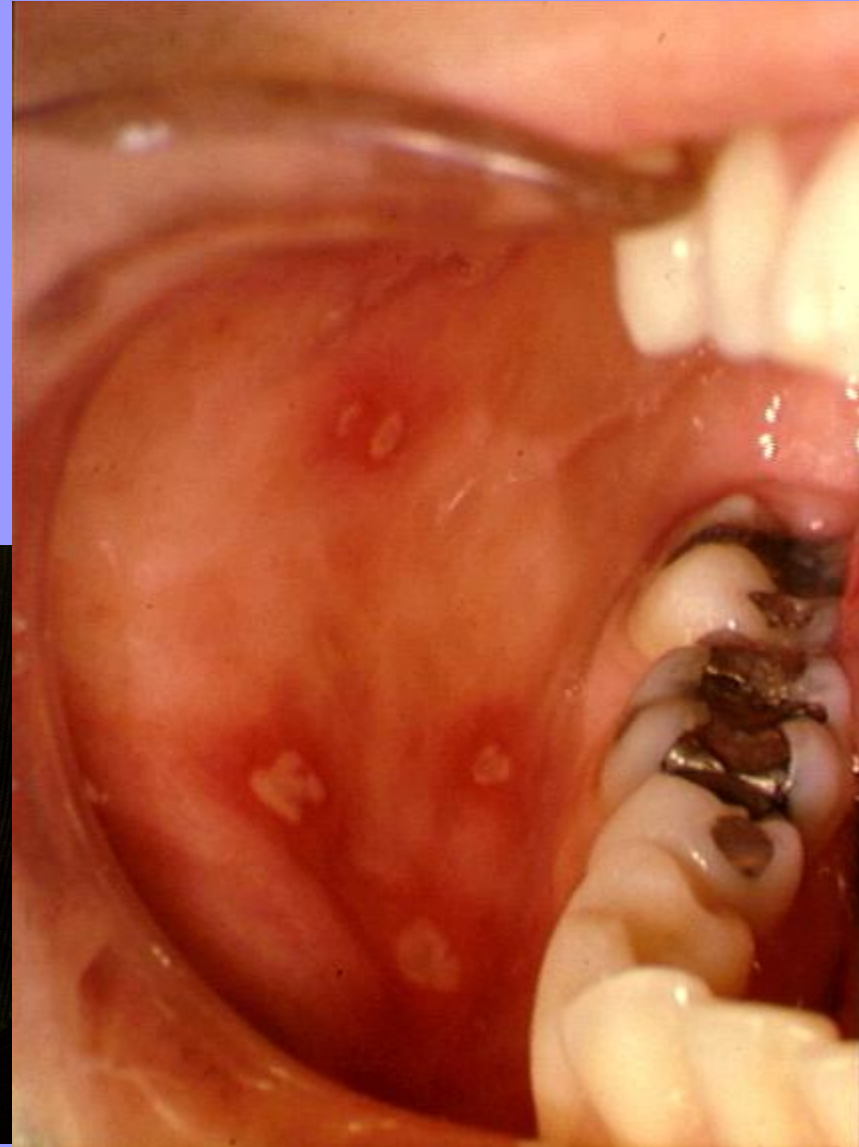
MICROBIAL DISEASES IN THE MOUTH

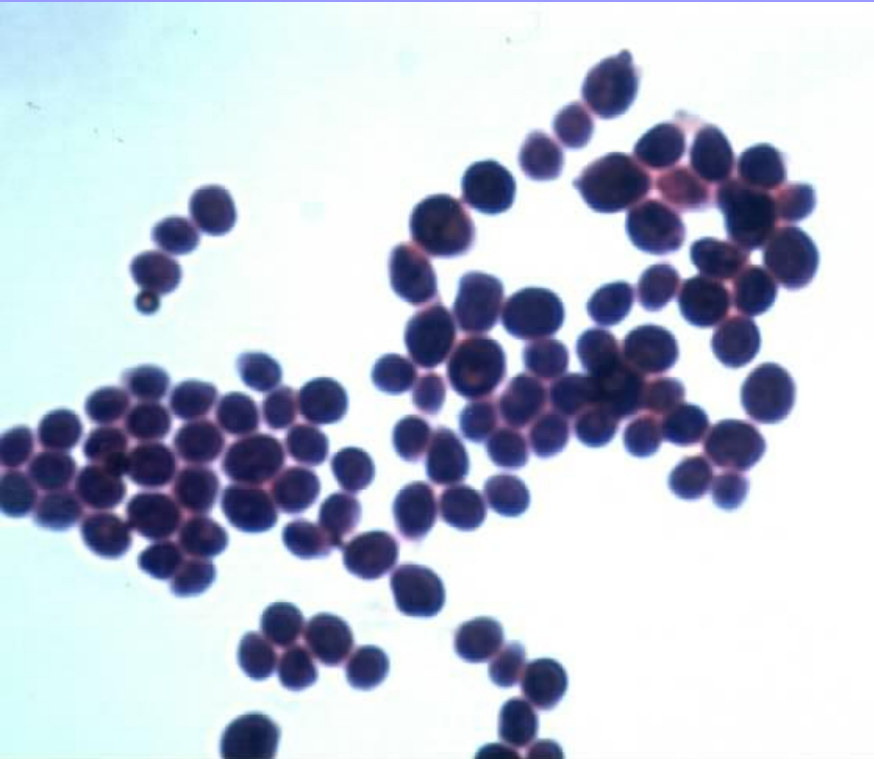




Hand-foot-mouth disease

Koplik's spots / measles







Hutchinson's teeth



Moon's molar



Zdroj: Wikipedia



Thank you