

MOUTH MICROORGANISMS:

- Eukaryotic → Protozoa & Fungi
- Prokaryotic → Bacteria (facultative, microaerophilic, or anaerobic... few obligate aerobes)
- Archaea → perio pockets & infected pulp chambers

* Mouth Niches $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{plaque} \\ \text{tongue crypts} \end{array} \right\}$ microorganism communities!! → protected from $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1) \text{ SALIVA FLUSHING} \\ 2) \text{ EPITHELIAL SHEDDING} \end{array} \right.$

SUPRA-G

- * facultative & microaerophilic Bacteria
- * Gram + Strep, Lactobacillus, Actinomyces
- ↳ cause caries
- * NRG = CRBS
- * firmly adherent to plaque
- * pH = slightly acidic

SUB-G

- * facultative & Aerobic Bacteria
- * Gram - rods & spirochetes; Treponema, Fusobacterium
- ↳ cause perio disease & endo infections
- * NRG = proteins
- * many motile forms
- * pH = slightly basic

- deep perio pockets = ↑↑ strict ANAEROBES
- gingivitis = plaque biofilm overgrowth
- ↳ Gram + & Gram -

BIOFILMS

- firmly attached cells (to each other & surfaces)
- embedded in ECM
- Altered phenotype to growth rate & gene transcription

PROPERTIES:

- complex, cooperating & competing multi-microorganism communities ⇒ MICROCOLONY ARRANGEMENT
- SURROUNDED & ATTACHED VIA protective matrix
- simple quorum sensing communication
- Biofilms resistant to: Antibiotics, Antimicrobials & host response

- As PLAQUE ↑, O₂ & SALIVA permeability ↓ & WASHING ↓
- ↳ higher conc. of toxins, acids & inflammatory bacterial components
- ↳ less aerobic = more Gram - bacteria = ↑ gingivitis, caries, pseudopockets, periodontitis, LOA

- * TRANSIENT FLORA = MICROORGS BROUGHT TO AREA FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE
- ↳ difficult time COLONIZING so GONE IN HOURS to DAYS

FLORA review:

- ① NORMAL: do not cause disease
- ② OPPORTUNISTS: disease under conditions
- ③ PATHOGENS: generally cause disease

INITIAL COLONIZATION

- fetus in sterile environment → oral cavity exposed @ BIRTH to VAGINAL MICROORGANISMS
- first weeks of life: soft tissues colonized via kisses
- teeth erupt = 4 new niches!!

↳ candida
↳ Lactobacillus

1) pits & fissures

2) interproximal surfaces

3) smooth surfaces

4) gingival tooth interfaces

↳ dental plaque must form first & initial colonizers must adhere well to tooth surface / pellicle

↳ STREP MUTANS colonizes when 2nd molars erupt

• stable by 2y. But still changes w/ major life changes

↳ S. salivarius
(not enamel dependent)

S. sanguinis &
S. mitis =
pioneer species

provide sites
for secondary
colonizers