

Microbiology

team 436



MEDICINE  
KING SAUD UNIVERSITY

# MICROBIOLOGY

## Lecture : NORMAL FLORA

**IMPORTANT.**

DOCTORS NOTES.

NOT IMPORTANT (but it's in the  
slides)

NAMES OF BACTERIAS

# OBJECTIVES

1. Define the terms: *Normal Flora*, *Resident flora*, *Transient flora* and carrier state (3)
2. Know the origin of normal flora. (3)
3. Know the importance of normal flora **with examples**, including importance as: (4)
  - A. Source of opportunistic infection.
  - B. Immunostimulation.
  - C. Nutrition: Vitamins production.
  - D. Production of Carcinogens.
  - E. Protection against external invaders.
4. Know areas of the body with normal flora (GIT, urogenital tract, and skin) and most common types of organism and relation to pathogenicity.
5. Know sites of the body with no normal flora e.g. sterile body sites and the importance of this fact in relation to interpretation of culture results.

# Introduction, Origin & types of normal flora



- **Normal flora:** are a **population** of microorganisms that are **frequently found in the skin, mucous and other particular sites** in normal healthy individual.
- Some are found in association with humans and animals. **The Majority are bacteria.**
- Has **symbolic** relationship with the host. (تعایش سلمی)
- Subject to constant changes.
- Altered by antimicrobial agents.

Mothers flora stay with us and it's very similar to ours

## \* **Origin of normal flora:**

Newborn is **sterile** in uterus.

After birth, newborn is exposed to flora of **mother's genital tract, skin, respiratory tract flora of those handling him**, and the organisms in the environment.

# types of normal flora

## Commensals

Microorganisms that have **natural relationship with the host.**

## Transients

(nonpathogenic or potential pathogenic)

**Moves from site to another. (inhabit the skin or mucous for hours or days)**

**Establish itself briefly, excluded by host defense or competition from residents.**

Can get degenerated because of unfavorable environment it moves to.

Types of normal flora

## Residents ( مقيمة )

- Consist of relatively fixed types of microorganisms. Regularly found in a given area at **invariable period**. If disturbed promptly re-establish it self. (لها فترة معينة)  
(ليست مقيمة دائمة)

## 4. Carrier state

**potentially pathogenic**, eg.

Streptococcus pneumoniae,

Neisseria meningitidis in

throat of healthy individual. (تكون)

ممرضة إذا انتقلت عن طريق العدوى لإنسان بمناعة ضعيفة)

**NOTE**  
carrier flora potentially pathogenic and are present without any symptoms.

## Beneficial Effects About Normal Flora:

- 1- Immuno-stimulation (**antibody production & development**)
- 2- Exclusionary effect (vacuum effect) and **protection from external invaders** by either **producing toxins or compete for nutrients and oxygen with pathogens.**
- 3- **Antagonize** other bacteria through the production of substances that inhibit or kill non-indigenous bacteria. (تهاجم البكتيريا الدخيلة)
- 4- **Production of essential nutrients** (Vit. K & B) by some normal intestinal flora eg. [E.coli.](#)

### Remember:

**Normal flora** سلاح ذو حدين، تحمي الشخص صاحب المناعة القوية لكنها تنتهز ضعف المناعة وتمرض صاحبها.

## Facts About Normal Flora:

- May be a source of **opportunistic infections** (عدوى انتهازية) in patients with impaired defense mechanisms. eg. [Staphylococcus epidermidis & E.coli](#) .
- Some may **cross react with normal tissue components** ,eg. antibodies to various ABO group arise because of cross reaction between intestinal flora and the antigens of A & B blood substances.
- **Production of Carcinogens:** Some normal flora may **modify** through their enzymes chemicals in our diets into **carcinogens**. eg. artificial **sweeteners** may be enzymatically modified into bladder carcinogens.
- **Affected by** antibiotics, tissue damage, mechanical procedures and diet change.  
(مثال : تقتل البكتيريا التي تصنع بعض الفيتامينات في الأمعاء فيسبب نقص فيتامينات)

### Distribution of Normal Flora:

- Normal flora **found** on **external** body sites.
- **Internal** organs are **sterile** at health (except the **Gastrointestinal** tract).

### Sterility of internal organs maintained by :

1. - **Local defense mechanisms**
2. - **Chemical substances** in serum & tissues eg. Complement , antibodies.
3. -**Phagocytic activity** of Polymorphnuclear Monocytes.

### Body sites with normal flora

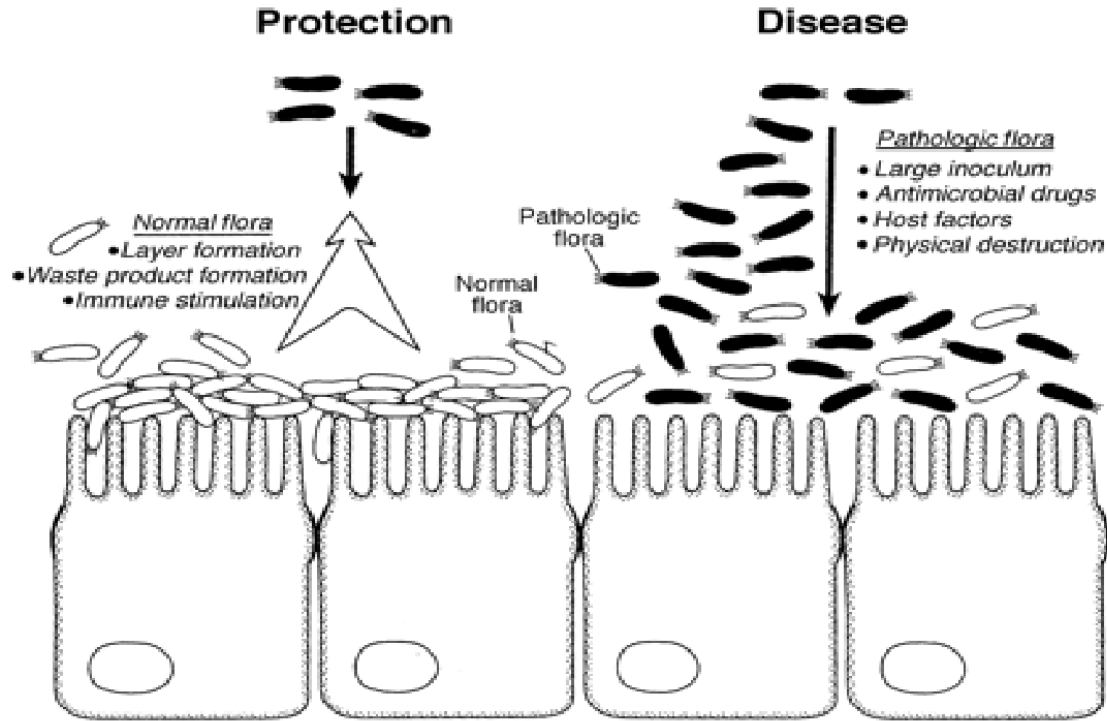
**All external body sites contain normal flora**

Gastrointestinal track (GIT):  
Mouth & large colon

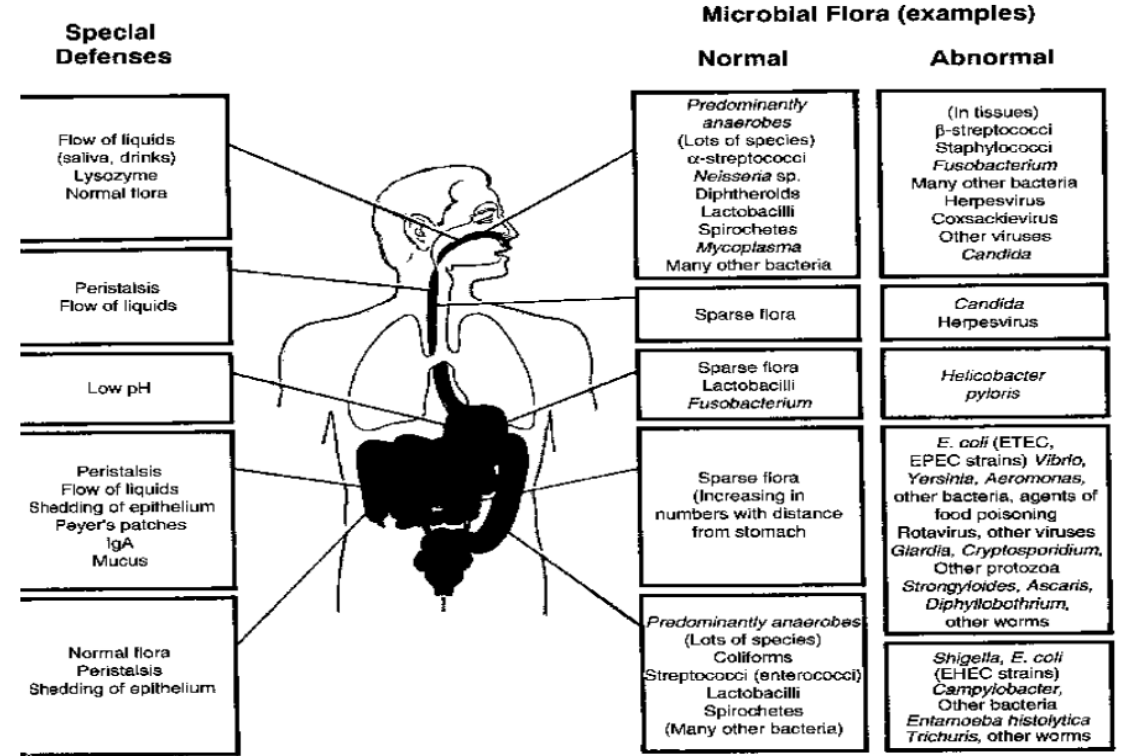
Female genital:  
**vagina.**  
(Urogenital tract):  
distal one third of the urethra

Skin ( including external ear & conjunctiva)

# NORMAL FLORA VS PATHOGENIC FLORA

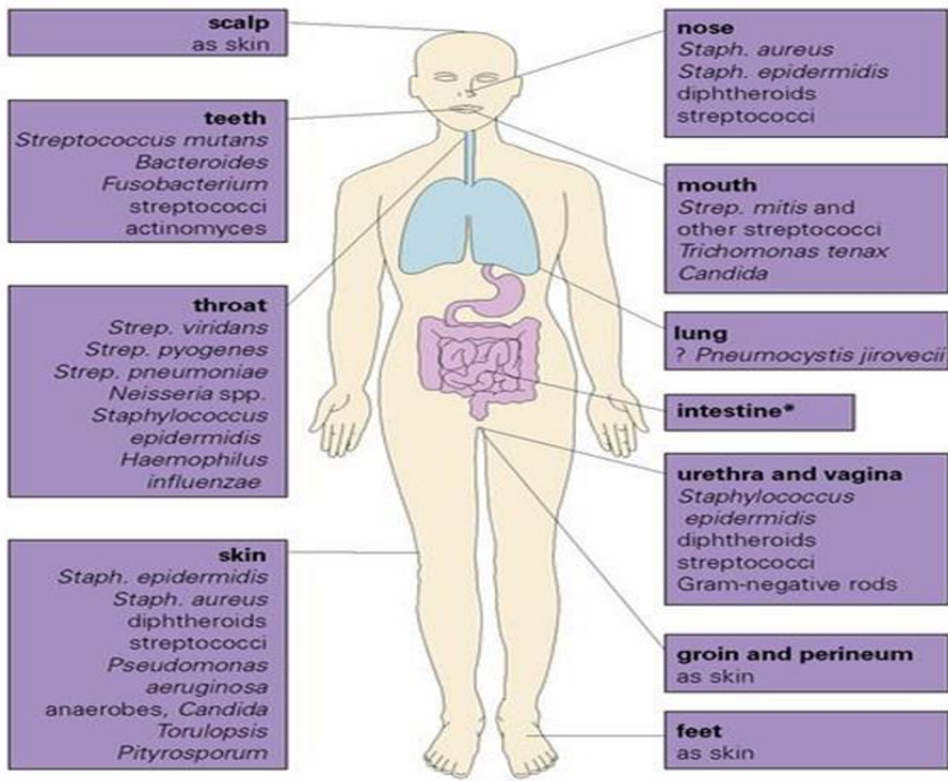


# DISTRIBUTION OF NORMAL FLORA



الصورة توضح كيفية عمل الفلورا في حالة قوة أو ضعف الجهاز المناعي، حيث أنها - كما ذكر سابقاً - سلاح ذو حدين.

المهم في الصورة هو أن نعرف توزيع الفلورا في الجسم وكيف أنها تختلف كمية ونوعاً في كل منطقة، فمنطقة الفم والمرئ مليئة بالفلورا، بينما المعدة شبه معقمة، والأمعاء تتواجد فيها الفلورا لكن بشكل أقل من الجزء العلوي من الجهاز الهضمي.



## BODY SITES WITH NORMAL FLORA

As we've mentioned in the previous slide, the GIT full of normal flora.

The pictures are only to understand the previous point.

DISTRIBUTION AND FREQUENCY OF BACTERIA IN THE INTESTINE		
density	frequency of occurrence in population	
oesophagus	lactobacilli	
stomach		
small bowel duodenum	lactobacilli streptococci	
jejunum	Enterobacteria <i>Bacteroides</i> spp.	
ileum		
large bowel	<i>Bacteroides</i> spp. <i>Fusobacterium</i> spp. <i>E. faecalis</i> <i>Escherichia coli</i>	Enterobacteria <i>Klebsiella</i> spp. Eubacteria Bifidobacteria
	Lactobacillus <i>Staph. aureus</i> <i>Clostridium</i> spp	Streptococci <i>Pseudomonas</i> <i>Salmonella</i>
faecal material	<i>Bacteroides</i> spp. Bifidobacteria Eubacteria	Coliforms <i>E. faecalis</i>

Upper digestive track  
(more flora)

Stomach  
(sterile)

Lower digestive track  
(less flora)



- GIT flora **similar** with the oral cavity with **2** types of bacteria
- Oral cavity **differ** then GIT with **one** type bacteria
- GIT **differ** with Oral cavity by **4** different types

**GIT** = most contaminated with **6** types of bacteria

**Female genital** = least contaminated (only one type)

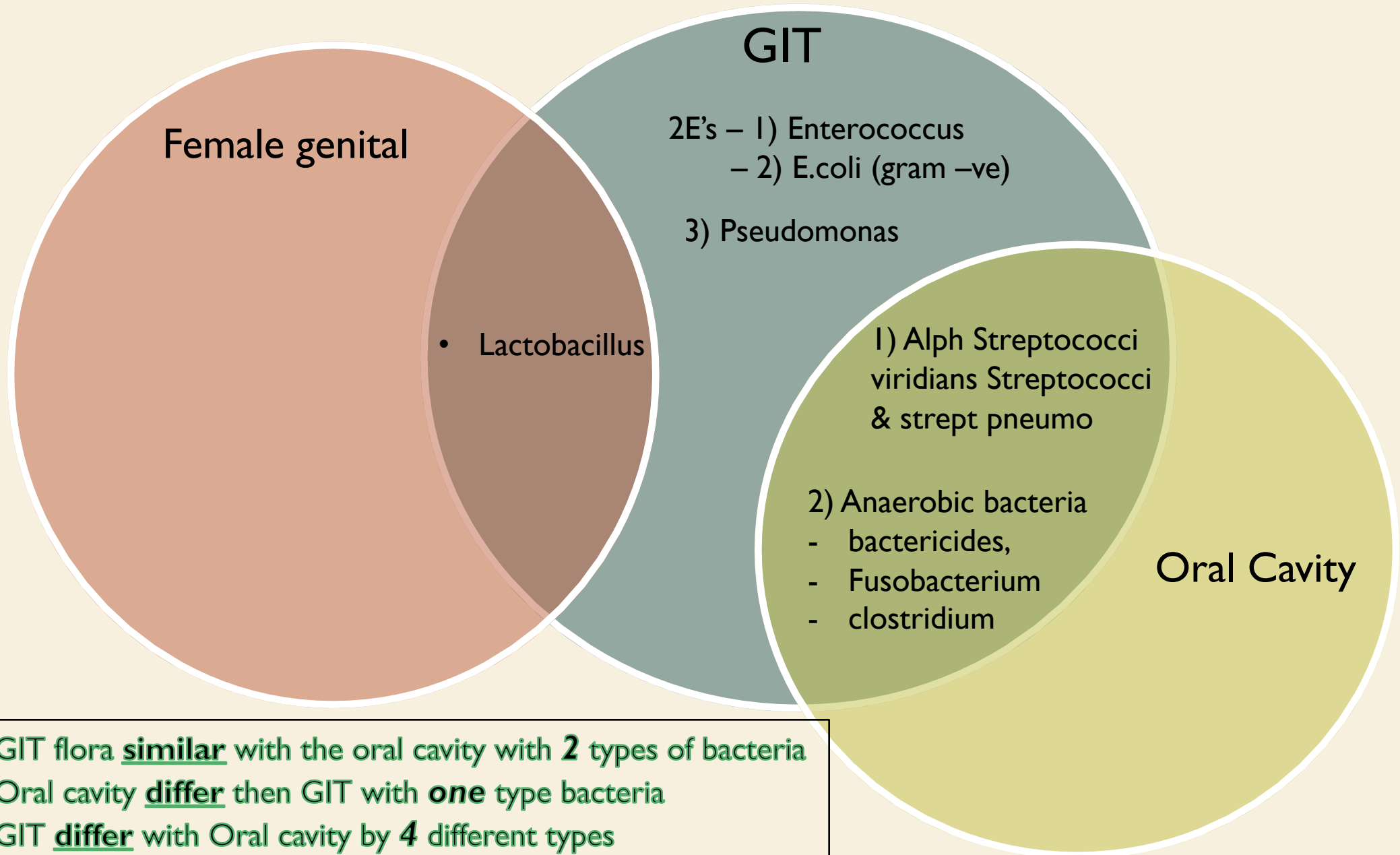
**THIS SLIDE IS VERY IMPORTANT**  
This is all normal flora's name that you have to **memorize**

	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (Coagulase +)	<i>Other Staph</i> (Coagulase -)	<i>Alph Hemolytic Streptococci</i> ( <i>viridians Streptococci</i> and <i>strept pneumo</i> )	<i>Enterococcus</i>	<i>Neisseria ,Moraxella</i> and <i>Heaomophilus</i>	<i>Corynebacteria</i> ( <i>diphtheroid</i> )	<i>Popionibacterium acnes</i>	<i>Lactobacillus</i>	<i>Gram Negative Bacteria</i> ( <i>coliform ie E.coli</i> ) <i>Pseudomonas</i>	<i>Anaerobic bacteria</i> ( <i>Bactericides, fusobacterium</i> and <i>clostridium</i> )
Oral Cavity			+++		+++					+++
Skin		+++				+++				
Eye and eye		+++				+++				
Axilla, Groin and nose	+++	+++				+++				
GIT			+++	+++			+++	++ +	+++	+++
female Genital							+++			

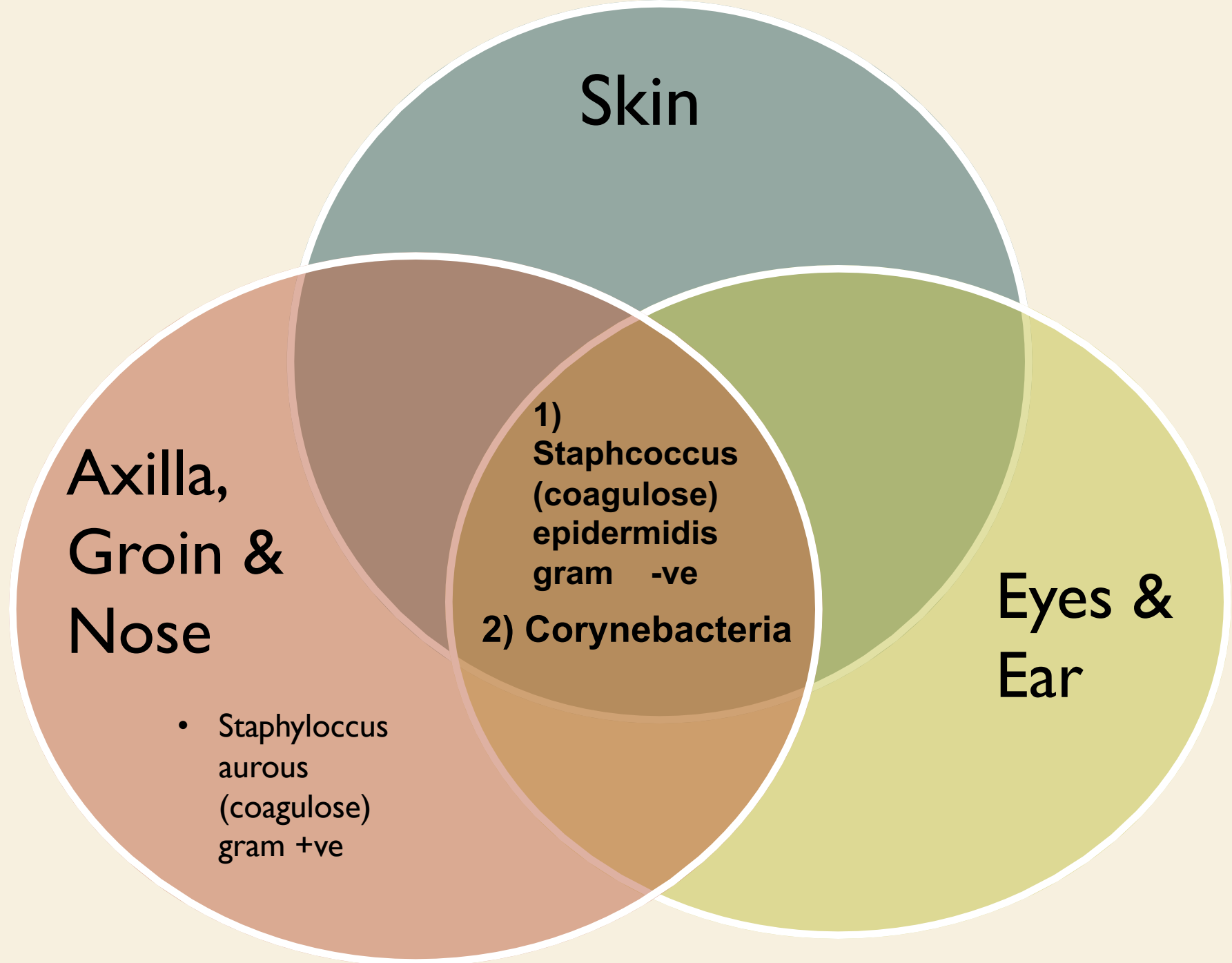
Warm & wet

(This table is simplified in the next slides)

Found in **Sexually active** i.e. 15-45yrs



- GIT flora **similar** with the oral cavity with **2** types of bacteria
- Oral cavity **differ** then GIT with **one** type bacteria
- GIT **differ** with Oral cavity by **4** different types



# Normal FLORA of ...

What 's In grey is for reading

## (GIT) The Gastrointestinal Tract

## The Oropharynx (البلعوم)

## The Respiratory Tract

- Mouth:**
  - Saliva contains  $10^8$  bacteria/ml
  - **Gingival** margin debris & dental Plaque continually colonized by bacteria.
- Oesophagus:**
  - oesophagus (المرئ) has normal flora similar to pharyngeal (بلعوم) flora.
- Stomach:**
  - Empty stomach sterile due to gastric acid.
- Small intestine:**
  - Duodenum, jejunum & upper ileum have scanty flora (few)
- Large intestine:**
  - heavily colonized by bacteria.
  - **Important:** GIT contain mainly Anaerobic, gram -ve and enterococcus bacteria. (but it has 6 types we need to know)

- Non Pathogens**
- Potential Pathogens**

- Viridance streptococci
- Commensal neisseriae & Moraxella
- Corynebacteria
- Bacteroides
- Fusobacteria
- Veillonella
- Actinomyces
- Spirochaetes.

- More common :
- Haemophilus influenzae
  - Pneumococcus

- less common :
- Streptococcus pyogenes
  - Neisseria meningitidis

- Upper respiratory tract**
- Lower respiratory tract**
- Is colonized by normal flora as in
- مثل الرئتان is sterile
- Mouth
- Nasopharynx

- Nose Flora :**
- Staphylococcus epidermidis
  - Staphylococcus aureus
  - Corynebacteria

**Note:** GIT has Mostly Anaerobic bacteria (highest) because No oxygen in GIT

# Normal FLORA of ...

## The skin

- Skin has rich **resident** bacterial flora.  $10^4$  /  $\text{cm}^2$
- Exist as microcolonies.
- **Anaerobic** organisms predominate in areas with **sebaceous** (دهنية) **glands** (فروة الرأس)
- Moist skin often colonized by **coliforms** **gram negative** .

### Main skin flora :

- **Staphylococcus epidermidis**
- **Corynebacteria**\*

- *Propionibacterium acnes*
- *Anaerobic cocci*
- *Coliforms*
- **Staphylococcus aureus** (potential pathogen)

Saph. Epidermidis and corynebacteria are the main skin flora and important because they can present +ve in blood culture because of contaminated blood due to wrong skin cleaning when blood sample is taking .

Meddle and inner ear  
Eye  
Empty Stomach  
Lungs  
**ARE STERILE**

Note:  
Grey: not important  
Green : what the doctor say

# Normal FLORA of ...

إعادة تنبيه:  
الأحمر مهم  
الرمادي غير مهم

## The External Auditory Meatus

External ear

Middle and inner ear

are sterile

has the following normal flora:

- S. Epidermidis
- Corynebacteria
- Acid fast bacilli (AFB)  
(occasionally in wax).

## The Conjunctival Sac

Conjunctiva

Internal eye

is sterile

has normal flora:

- Corynebacterium xerosis
- Staphylococcus epidermidis

أي شيء يكتب بالأخضر  
هو كلام الدكتور

# Normal FLORA of ...

## (GIT) The Gastrointestinal Tract

**Feces (stool)**

**Aerobes**

**Anaerobes**

Less common aerobics:

- **E.coli**
- **Proteus**
- ....etc.

- **99% anaerobes**
- **Bacteroides fragilis** group is the dominant anaerobes
- Other example : bifidobacteria , Lactobacilli...etc.

- **1/3 of feces weight is bacteria.**
- **mainly dead.**
- **Living bacteria about  $10^{10}/gm$**
- **Anaerobic environment maintained by aerobic bacteria utilizing free O<sub>2</sub>.**

**\*\*This slide is NOT important but you may look at it for general Knowledge!!!!\*\***

Because it is short compared to the male genital tract. Also the bacteria from the colon will come to colonize it. This is why we find that the flora in the genital tract is the same as in the colon.

## The Genital Tract

**In female Genital Tract**

**In both sexes (male & female)**

**Female genital tract heavily colonized , why ?**

**Vagina**

**Vulva**

- **$10^8/ml$  flora in normal vaginal secretion.**
- **Example :**
- **Lactobacillus (Doderlein's bacilli)**
- **Bacteroides melaninogenicus**
- **E.faecalis**
- **Corynebacteria**
- **Mycoplasma**
- **Yeasts.**

- **S.epidermidis**
- **Corynebacteria**
- **E.coli**
- **coliforms**
- **enterococcus faecalis.**

- **In both sexes Mycobacterium smegmatis in secretions which contaminate urine and leads to confusion /misdiagnosis.**
- **Male & Female distal urethra:**
- **S.epidermidis**
- **Corynebacteria**
- **Mycoplasma species**

# For help

بعض التشبيهات

NF of oropharynx (potential pathogens):

هيمو (اسم دلع) فيلز (Feels) انفلنزا = *heamophilus influenzae*

## بعض الربط للأسماء ☺

• (Viridance streptococci in Oropharynx)  
نقدر نعني ونطلع الصوت بالبلعوم *Oropharynx* والبكتيريا  
بجسمنا تتراص *streptococci* وتتراقص *viridance*

• ( *Mycobacterium smegmatis* in urine )  
أبشرك ماكو *myco* بكتريا *bacterium* تحاليل *urine*

• ( *Bacteroides fragilis* in feces )  
هذي الجرثومه *bacteroid* شخصيتها ضعيفة وهشه *fragilis*  
عشان كذا انطردت من *feces* - *intetine*

• ( (Doderlein's bacilli) *Lactobacillus* )

دودي *Doderlein's* بوصي لي *bacili* لك *Lac* تو ٢ *to* اص *bacillus*

## Some notes ..

- In GIT : the full stomach with food maybe is not sterile and there is some bacteria.
- Sebaceous glands. = a small gland in the skin which secretes a lubricating oily matter (sebum) into the hair follicles to lubricate the skin and hair.
- Any skin has Staph epidrmidis & Corynebacteria



Name	Location	Information
<b><i>S. Epidermidis</i></b> ( <i>Staphylococcus Epidermidis</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oropharynx</li> <li>The External Auditory Meatus ( External ear )</li> <li>Genital tract</li> <li>The female genital tract ( vulva )</li> <li>The Conjunctival Sac</li> <li>The Respiratory Tract ( Nose flora)</li> <li>Skin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be a source of <b>opportunistic infections</b> in patients with <b>impaired defense mechanisms</b>.</li> <li><b>Potential pathogens.</b></li> </ul>
<b><i>E. coli</i></b> ( <i>Escherichia coli</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feces ( stool )</li> <li>The female genital tract ( vulva )</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Production of essential nutrients</b> (Vitamin K &amp; B) by some normal <b>intestinal flora</b></li> <li>May be a source of <b>opportunistic infections</b> in patients with <b>impaired defense mechanisms</b>.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>N. Meningitidis</i></b> (<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>)</li> <li><b><i>Haemophilus influenzae</i></b></li> <li><b><i>Pneumococcus</i></b></li> </ul>	Oropharynx	<b>potential pathogens.</b>
<b><i>Proteus</i></b>	Feces ( stool )	<b>Aerobics</b>
<b><i>Corynebacteria</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Respiratory Tract ( nose flora),</li> <li>The External Auditory Meatus ( External ear)</li> <li>The female genital tract ( vagina )</li> <li>The female genital tract ( vulva )</li> <li>Skin</li> </ul>	
<b><i>Staph. Aureus</i></b> ( <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Respiratory Tract ( nose flora)</li> <li>Skin</li> </ul>	<b>potential pathogens.</b>
<b><i>Corynebacterium xerosis</i></b>	The Conjunctival Sac	
<b>Acid fast bacilli (AFB)</b>	The External Auditory Meatus ( External_ear ).	
<b><i>E. Faecalis</i></b> ( <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The female genital tract ( vagina )</li> <li>The female genital tract ( vulva )</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Yeasts</b></li> <li><b>Mycoplasma</b></li> <li><b>Lactobacillus (Doderlein's bacilli)</b></li> <li><b>Bacteroides melaninogenicus</b></li> </ul>	The female genital tract( vagina ).	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Propionibacterium acnes</b></li> <li><b>Anaerobic acnes</b></li> <li><b>Corynebacteria</b></li> <li><b>Coliforms</b></li> </ul>	Skin	

Location	Group	Information
<b>Oropharynx</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Viridance streptococci</li><li>•Commensal neisseriae</li><li>•Corynebacteria</li><li>•Bacteroides</li><li>•Fusobacteria , Veillonella, Actinomyces, Spirochaetes.</li></ul>	
<b>Feces (Stool)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Bacteroides fragilis</li><li>•Anaerobes, bifidobacteria</li><li>•Lactobacilli</li></ul>	
<b>Genital Tract</b>	Mycobacterium	In both sexes Smegmatis (Mycobacterium smegmatis) in secretions which contaminate urine and leads to confusion /misdiagnosis.

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