



DENTAL CARIES



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DENTAL CARIES

- --Progressive bacterial damage to teeth exposed to saliva.
- --one of the most major causes of all diseases and major cause of tooth loss.
- --ultimate effect-to breakdown enamel and dentin and open a path for bacteria to reach pulp.
- Consequences-inflammation of pulp and periapical tissues.





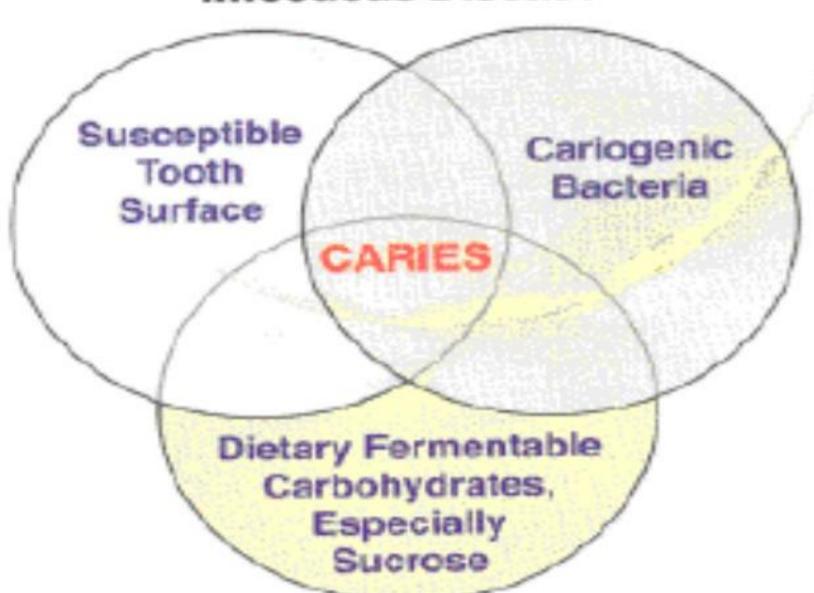
AETIOLOGY

- Four major factors involved in etiology:-
- Cariogenic bacteria
- Bacterial plaque
- Susceptible tooth surface
- Fermentable bacterial substrate (sugar)



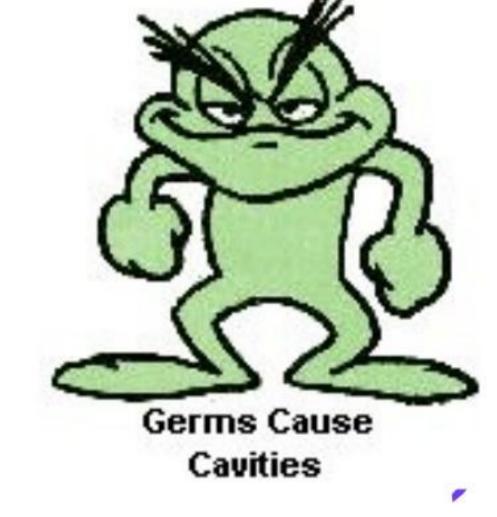


Dental Caries is a Multi-Factorial Infectious Disease

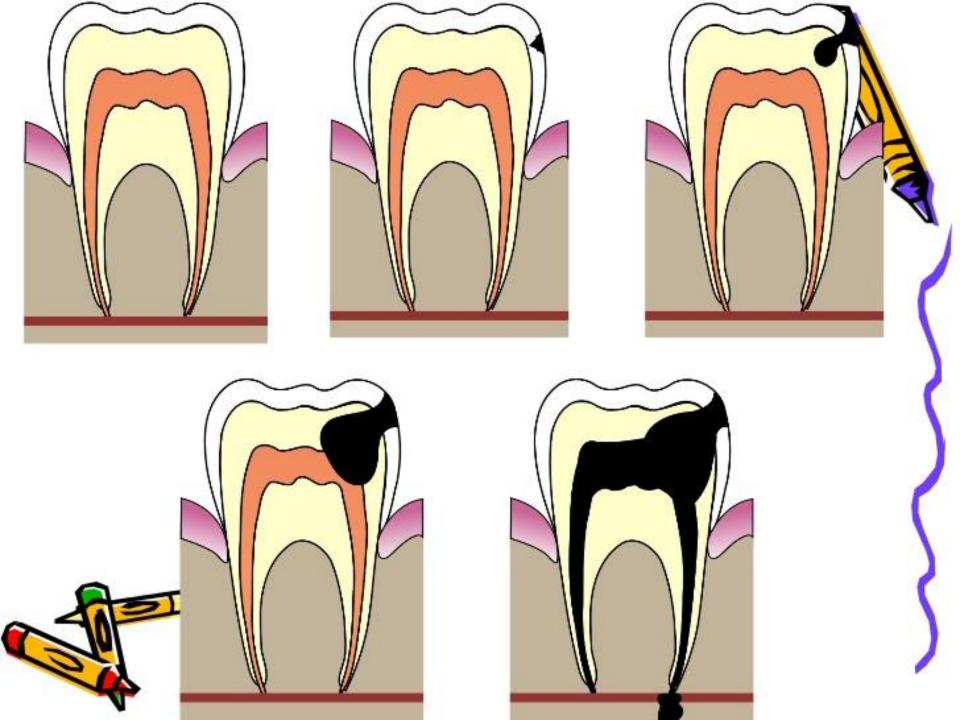


Bacteriology of Dental Caries

- Major organisms responsible for caries are:-
- Strep mutans
- Lactobacilli
- Other strains of streptocooci









CLINICAL

Symptoms and Signs

Caries initially involves only the enamel and produces no symptoms. A cavity that invades the dentin causes pain, first when hot, cold, or sweet foods or beverages contact the involved tooth, and later with chewing or percussion. Pain can be intense and persistent when the pulp is severely involved



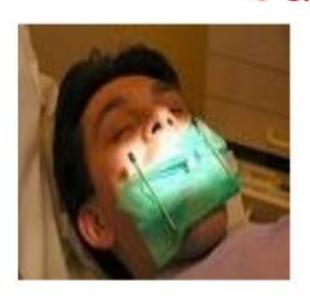


CLINICAL

- Direct inspection
- Sometimes use of x-rays or special testing instruments
- Routine, frequent (q 6 to 12 mo) clinical evaluation identifies early caries at a time when minimal intervention prevents its progression. A thin probe, sometimes special dyes, and transillumination by fiberoptic lights are used, frequently supplemented by new devices that detect caries by changes in electrical conductivity or laser reflectivity. However, x-rays are still important for detecting caries, determining the depth of involvement, and identifying caries under existing restorations



Consequences of Dental Caries









ORAL HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

- apical periodontitis,
- periapical abscess,
- cellulitis,
- and osteomyelitis of the jaw



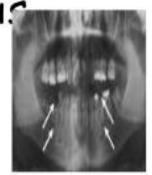




Spread from maxillary teeth

- may cause purulent sinusitis
- meningitis,
- brain abscess,
- orbital cellulitis,
- · and cavernous sinus thrombosis.





Spread from mandibular teeth may cause

- Spread from mandibular teeth may cause
- Ludwig's angina,
- parapharyngeal abscess,
- · mediastinitis, pericarditis,

thrombophlebitis.

