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## Similarities in the microfloras of root canals and deep periodontal pockets.

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Although not universally accepted, retrospective histological, roentgenological and microbiological studies have indicated that cross-infection can occur between infected pulps and deep periodontal pockets. This review provides examples of similarities in the microfloras of these adjacent oral sites, supporting the idea that infection spreads from one site to the other. The organisms most often involved are probably bacteroides, fusobacteria, eubacteria, spirochetes, wolinelias, selenomonas, campylobacter, and peptostreptococci. Important qualities of cross-infecting organisms may be the ability to survive in highly reduced environments and motility. Precautions should be taken to prevent in vivo seeding of such micro-organisms, particularly in compromised teeth and hosts.

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