



# Where Does Sinusitis Come From?

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SOUTHERN STATES  
RHINOLOGY FOUNDATION

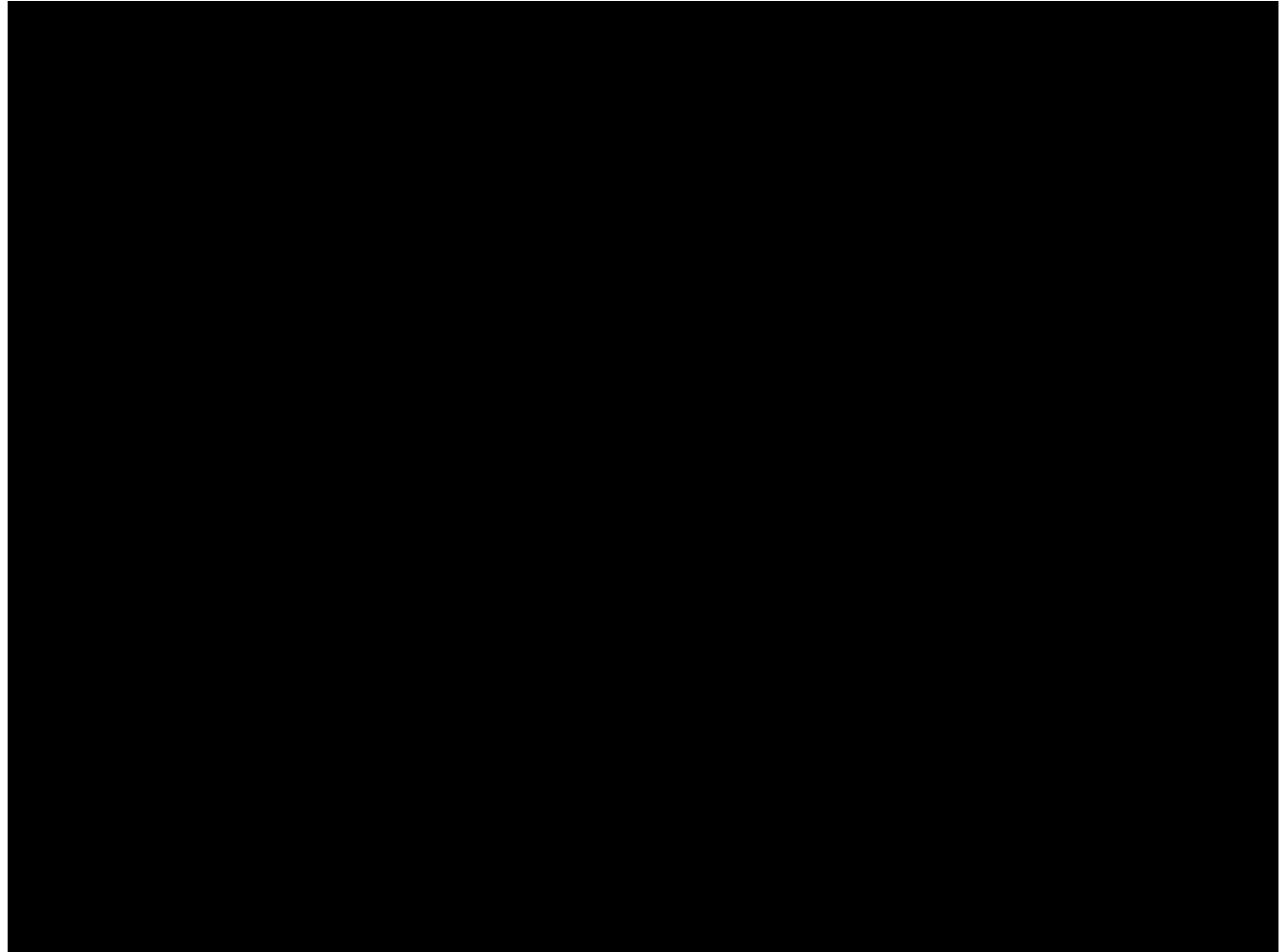
# Disclosures

- **Consultant**
  - » Sinuwave
  - » Laurimed
  - » Entrigue
  - » Nasoform
  - » Olympus Gyrus
- **Speaker**
  - » Stryker
  - » Genentech
- **Stockholder**
  - » Entrigue
  - » Remedease
  - » Nasoform

# Objectives

- To define rhinosinusitis
- To discuss several proposed **extrinsic** mechanisms of the disease
  - ◆ Mucosal infection
  - ◆ Fungal infection
  - ◆ Staph Superantigen
  - ◆ Biofilms
  - ◆ Bone inflammation
- To review **intrinsic** mechanical and immunological defects in the disease

# We Think We Know Everything...



# Factors Associated in Diagnosis of Rhinosinusitis

## MAJOR

- **Nasal obstruction/blockage**
- **Hyposmia/anosmia**
- **Purulence in nasal cavity on examination**
- **Fever\*** (in children)
- **Facial pain/pressure\*** (used in conjunction with other factors)

## MINOR

- Headache
- Fever (all nonacute)
- Halitosis
- Fatigue
- Dental pain
- Cough
- Ear Pain /pressure/fullness

Lanza, DC, Kennedy, DW, Adult Rhinosinusitis Defined Otolaryng Head Neck Surg 117; S1-7, 1997

Rhinosinusitis Task Force, AAO/HNS, 1995

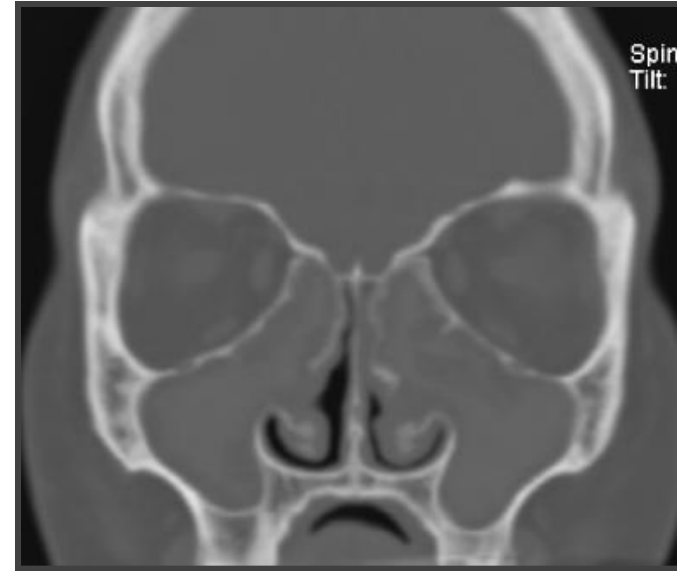
- **Diagnosis: 2 Major or 1 Major and 2 Minor**

# Is This Really Right???

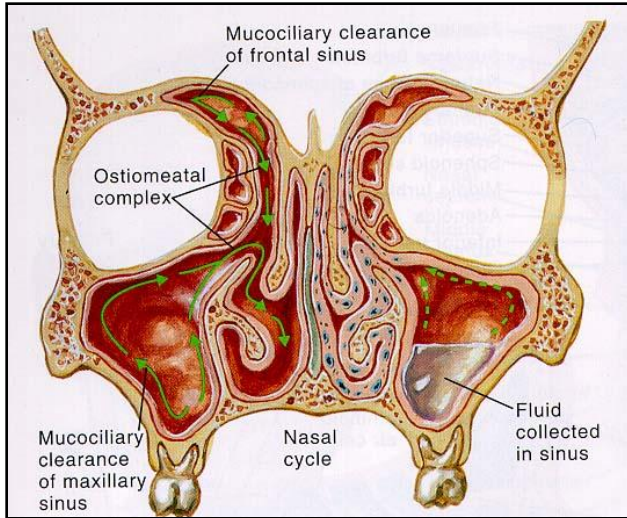
- “A Diagnostic Dilemma for Chronic Rhinosinusitis: Definition Accuracy and Validity”

- ◆ *Stankiewicz and Chow, AJR 16(4): 199-202, Jul-Aug 2002*

- ☞ 78 patients prospectively evaluated and meeting criteria
- ☞ Only 37/78 with positive CT-No correlation between CT and severity of symptoms

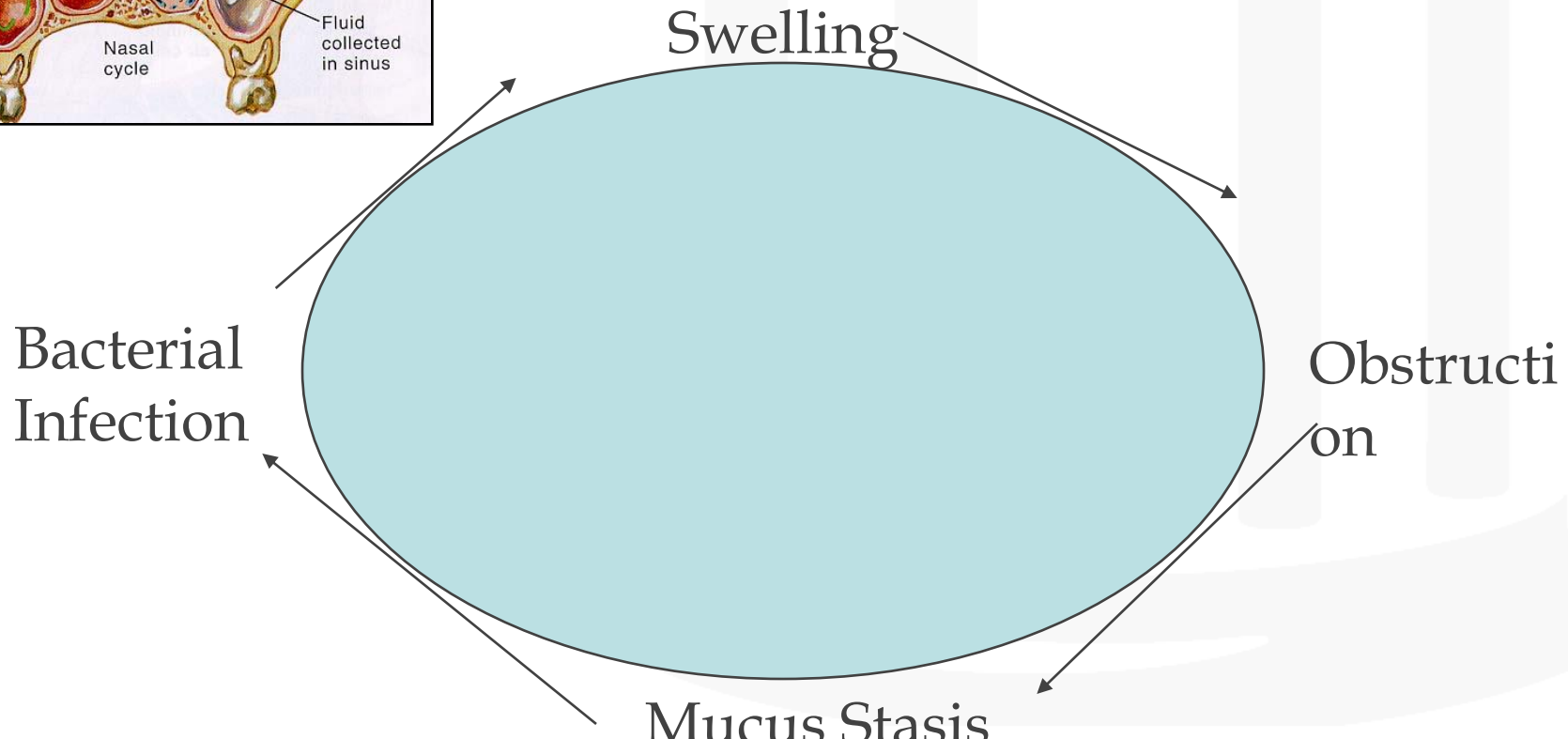


# What is Chronic Rhinosinusitis?



- Old Paradigm

- » Chronic Rhinosinusitis is a mucosal infectious disease
- » A “plumbing problem”





## ■ New Paradigm

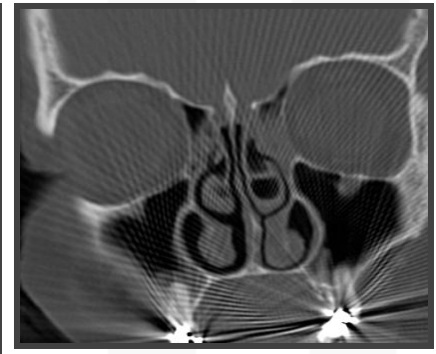
◆ Rhinosinusitis is mucosal ***inflammation***

◆ CRS Defined By

- 12 or more weeks in duration
- Physical findings on endoscopy or anterior rhinoscopy
- CT helpful, but not necessary

» Otolaryngol HNS,  
120(3), Sept 2003

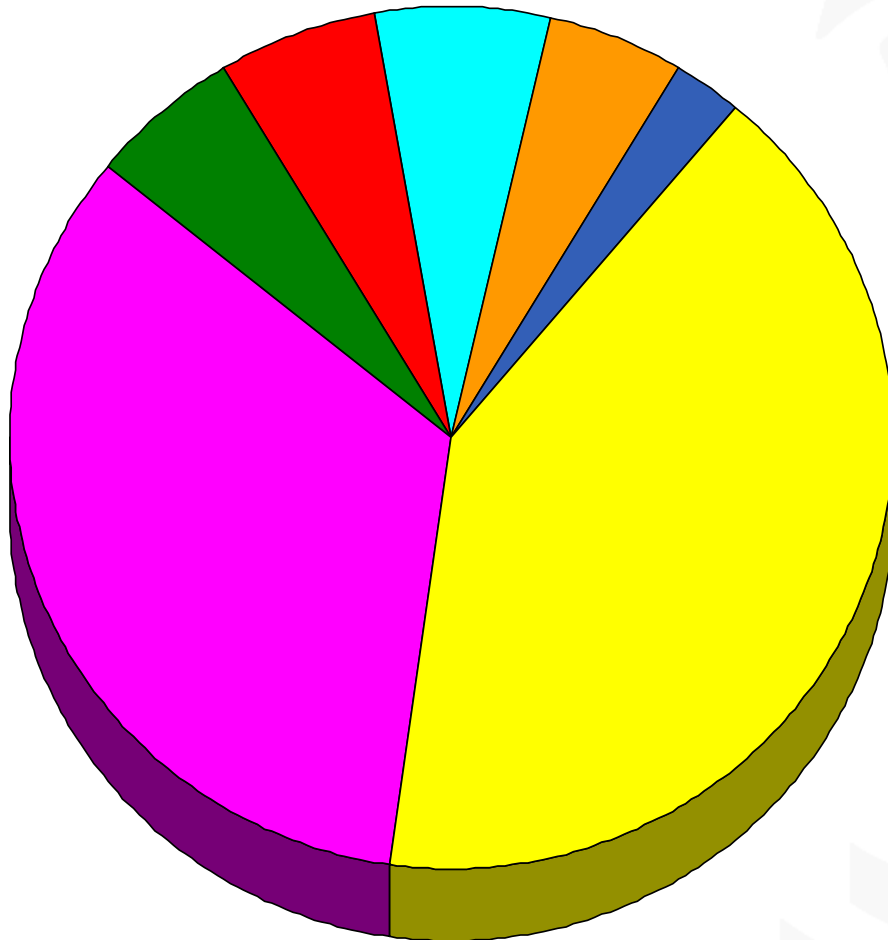
» ***Where does the inflammation arise from?***







# Microbiology of Acute Bacterial Rhinosinusitis (Adults)



- *S. pneum* (20-43%)
- *H. influenzae* (22-35%)
- Strep spp. (3-9%)
- Anaerobes (0-9%)
- *M. catarrhalis* (2-10%)
- *S. aureus* (0-8%)
- Other (4%)

# Microbiology of Chronic Sinusitis

- Prospective evaluation of 174 adults with CRS requiring surgery had cultures of maxillary sinus.

- Most common isolates:

|                   |      |
|-------------------|------|
| ■ Coag-neg staph  | 36%  |
| ■ S aureus        | 25%  |
| ■ Strep viridans  | 8.3% |
| ■ Corynebacterium | 4.6% |
| ■ Anaerobes       | 1.4% |



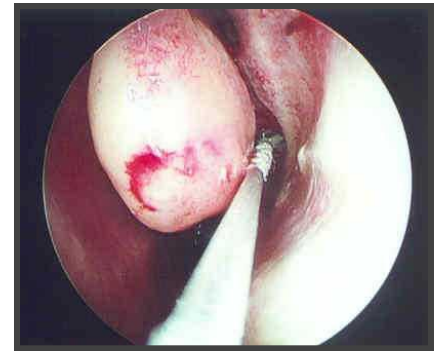
Biel MA, et al

Ann Otol Rhinol  
Laryngol  
1998;107:942-5

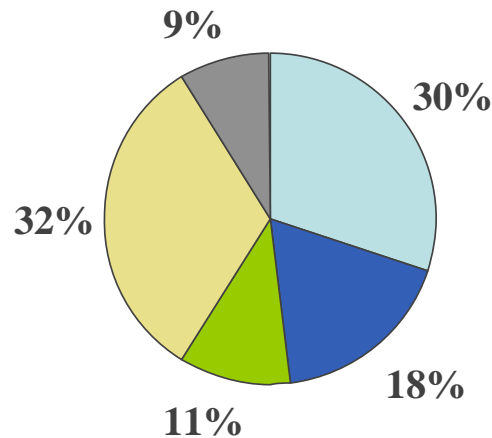
# Theory 1: Mucosal Infectious Disease

## Microbiology of Chronic Sinusitis- Post-op

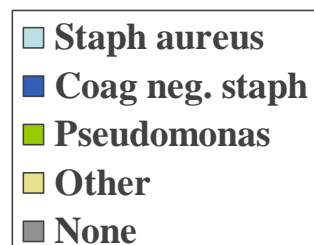
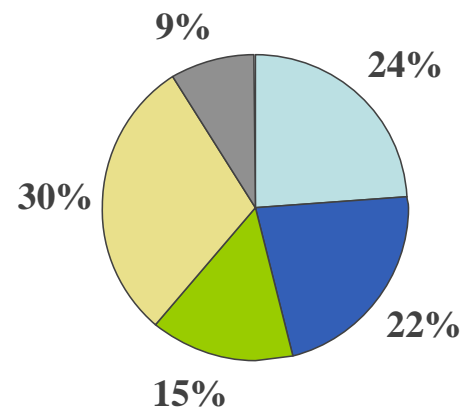
Am J Rhinol. 2006 Jan-Feb;20(1):72-6



Single Culture Performed N = 48

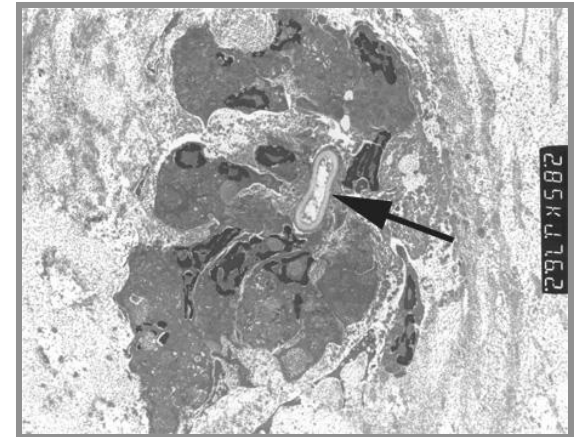


> 3 Cultures Performed N = 17



## Theory 2: Fungal Involvement in Chronic Rhinosinusitis

- Fungal cultures were positive in 202/210 consecutive CRS patients
- Allergic mucin was found in 97/101 consecutive surgical cases
- Therefore “all CRS is fungal sinusitis”
  - ◆ Ponikau, et al. Mayo Clin Proc 1999; 74: 877-884
    - ☞ But, 14/14 controls were also fungus positive with the identical fungal organisms seen in the CRS group.



## Theory 2:

# Fungal Involvement in Chronic Rhinosinusitis

### ■ Similar findings reported in Austria

- ◆ Positive fungal cultures in 84/92 patients

- ◆ Controls positive in 21/23

  - ☞ Braun H, et al. Laryngoscope 113(2): 254-9, 2/2003

### ■ Nasal mucosa of neonates

- ◆ 5 days-40%; 4 months-94%

### ■ Conventional fungal isolation not as successful

- ◆ 45 random CRS specimens: 56% positive

  - ☞ Lebowitz R, et al. Laryngo112: 2189-91, 2002



# Effect of Antifungal Treatment on Inflammation in CRS

■ Ampho B BID in the nose for 13 weeks and levels of proinflammatory cytokines, chemokines, and growth factors

- ◆ IL-1beta, IL-1RA, IL-2, IL-2R, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, etc. TNF-alpha, IFN-gamma, RANTES, eotaxin, etc.
- ◆ No effect on any marker of inflammation

☞ Laryngoscope 2009  
Feb;119(2):401-8

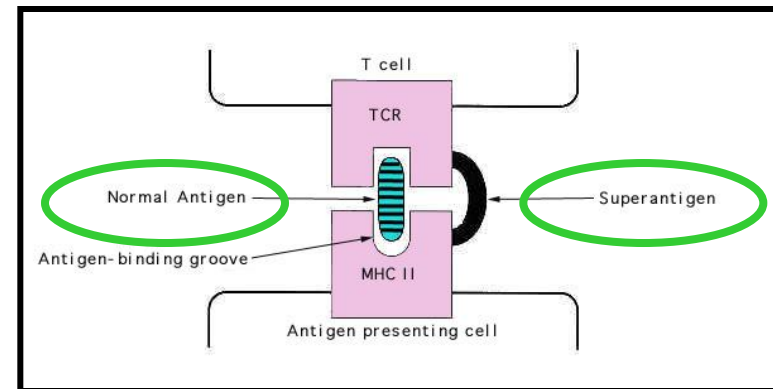
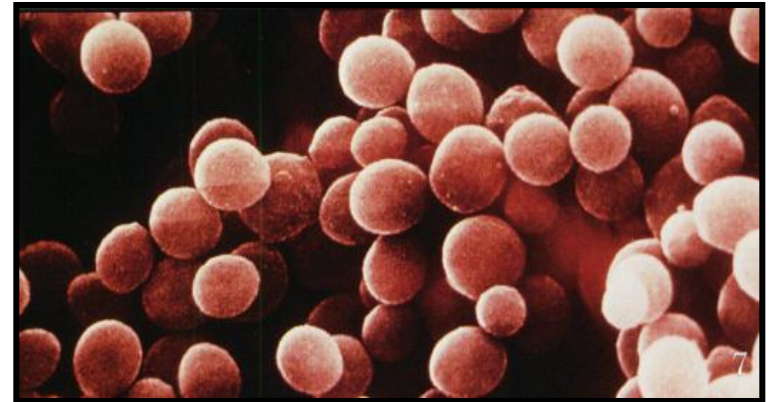


## Theory 3:

# Staphylococcus Aureus Superantigen

## Staph Super-antigen

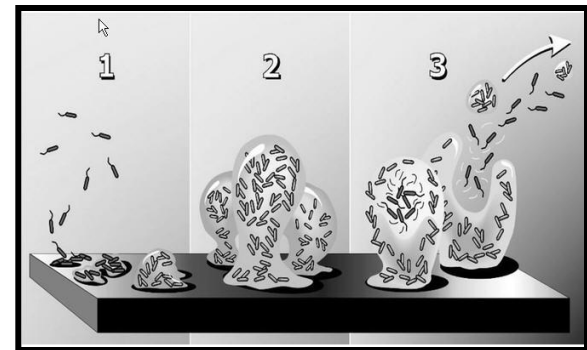
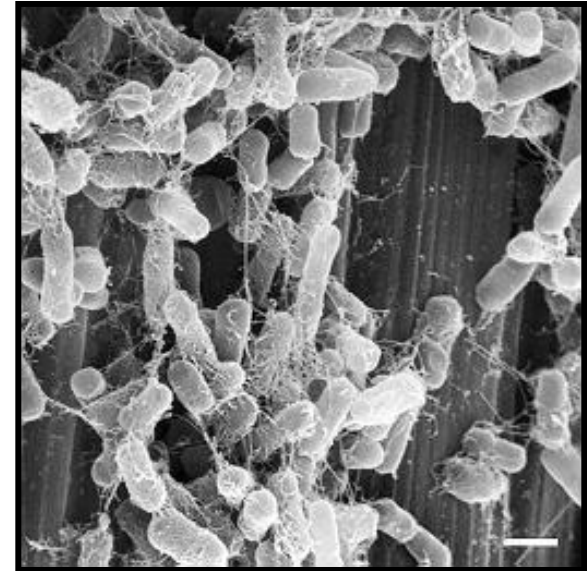
- ◆ 25% of the population are carriers of staphylococcus aureus
- ◆ Enterotoxin and TSS toxin both exhibit **super-antigen activity**
  - ☞ Less specific Cross-linking T cell receptor with the MHCII on APC
  - ☞ May cause **20-25% of all T Cells** to be activated
    - ☞ normal stimulation will result in 1/10,000
  - ☞ Has a role in atopic dermatitis, Kawasaki's disease, TSS, and rheumatoid arthritis
- ◆ Bachert, et al. Curr Allergy Asthma Rep. 2002; May;2(3):252-8



## Theory 4:

# Biofilms

- “an assemblage of microbial cells enclosed in a self-produced polymeric matrix that is irreversibly associated (not removed by gentle rinsing) with an inert or living surface”
  - ◆ Reduced oxygen and nutrient state
  - ◆ Increased antibiotic resistance
  - ◆ 99% of all bacteria are believed to exist in biofilms and only 1% in planktonic state
  - ◆ CDC: 65% of all human bacterial infectious processes involve biofilms
  - ◆ First noted by Van Leeuwenhoek
  - ◆ Reemerged in 1970s

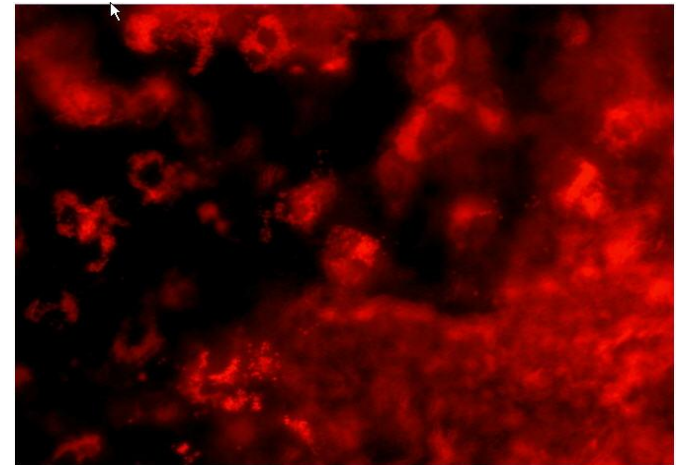
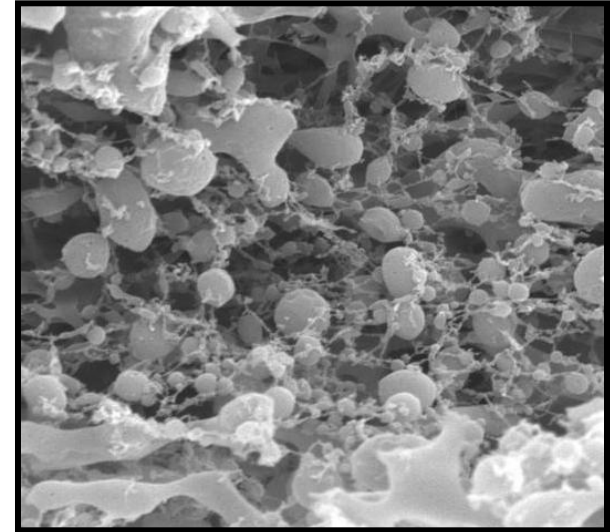




## Theory 4:

# Biofilms

- 24/30 (80%) of pts with CRS demonstrated biofilm by SEM.
- 4 controls were normal
- *Bacteria ided using TEM*
  - ◆ Sanclement, et al.  
Laryngoscope  
2005;115:578-82
- Using fluorescent in situ hybridization (FISH), specific bacteria can be ided in the biofilm
  - ◆ 14/18 (78%) with biofilms.  
2/5 controls were positive
  - ◆ H flu, S pneumo, SA all ided.  
*PA not identified*
  - ◆ *Intraop cultures did not correlate with biofilms ided*
  - ◆ Sanderson, et al.  
Laryngoscope  
2006;116:1121-6

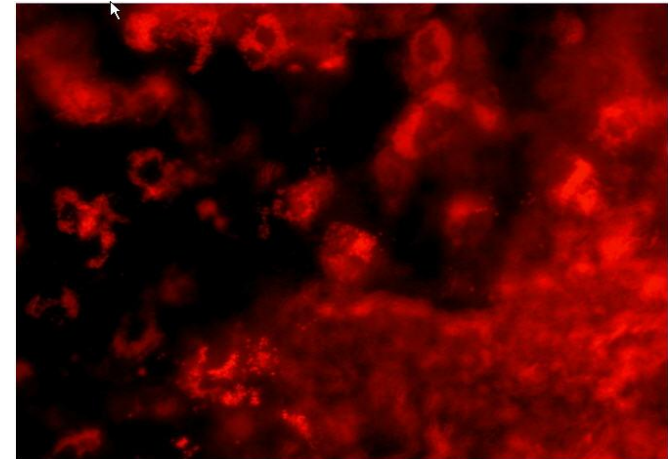
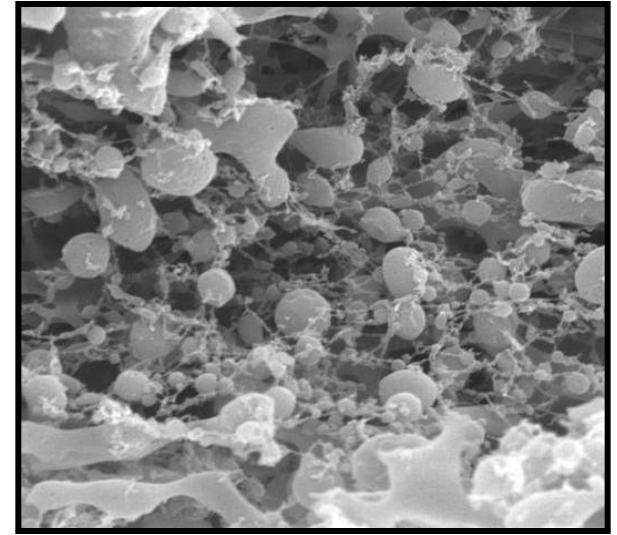


## Theory 4:

# Biofilms

40 patients retrospectively followed with CRS undergoing FESS

- ◆ 50% with biofilms by confocal scanning laser microscopy
- ◆ Patients with biofilms had significantly worse
  - ☞ Preoperative symptom scores
  - ☞ Preoperative radiologic scores
  - ☞ Postoperative symptom scores
  - ☞ Postop mucosal appearance
- ◆ Presence of polyps, eosinophilic mucin, or pus did not result in poor outcomes
- ◆ Psaltis et al. AJR 22, 1-6, 2008



## Theory 5:

# Bone

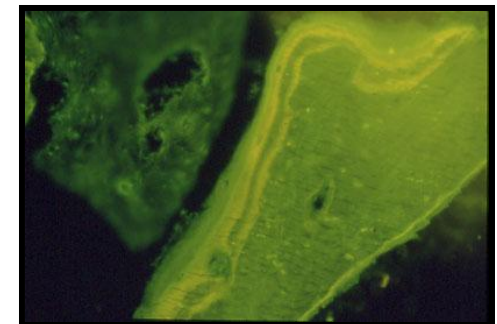
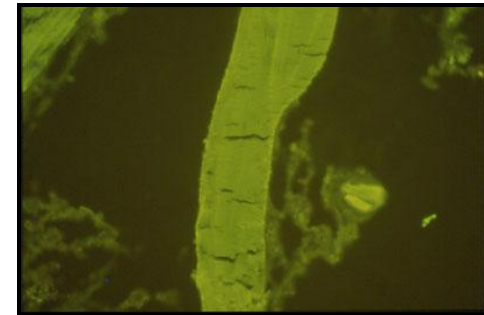
## Inflammation

### ➤ Clinical Evidence

- CT scan findings of thickened bone in paranasal sinuses
- particularly in individuals with recalcitrant disease

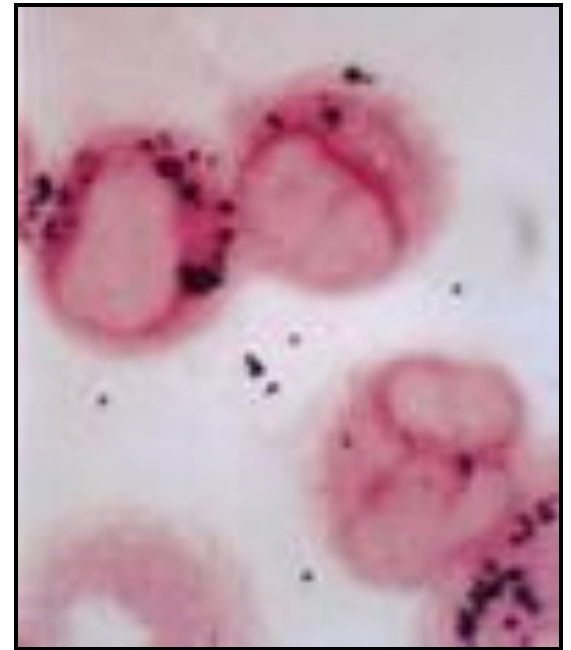
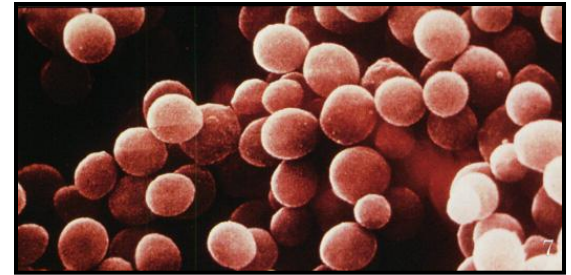
### ➤ Quantitative Histomorphometry

- Results: significant increase in bone activity seen in chronic rhinosinusitis
  - 70% of CRS showing moderate to marked activity
  - 70% of controls showed no activity
- *Similar to chronic osteomyelitis*
- Kennedy, Senior, et al.  
Laryngoscope 1998;108:502-7

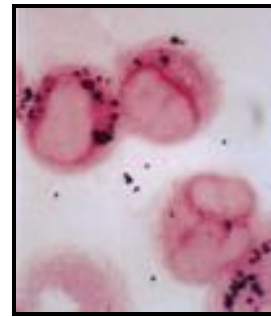


# Etiology of Chronic Osteomyelitis in Long Bones

- 80% of Osteo is caused by staph aureus
  - ◆ Despite effective antibiotics for sa, infections tend to be persistent and recurrent
- One Theory: intracellular staph aureus
  - ◆ Other bacteria had long been known to invade “non-professional phagocyte” cells
    - ☞ Salmonella, tuberculosis, shigella, and listeria
  - ◆ Recently suggested as the etiology of endocarditis by SA invasion of endothelial cells
    - ☞ Thromb Hemostasis 2005;94:266-77
  - ◆ Also now implicated in prostatitis, cystic fibrosis, Darier’s disease

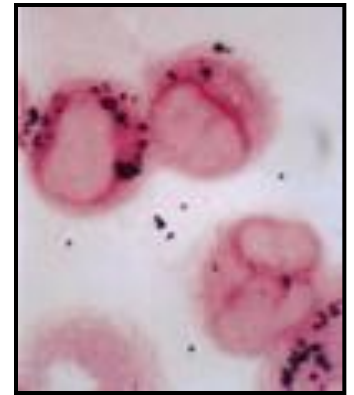


# Yes, But Does This Have any Relation to the Nose?



- ICSA now identified in nasal epithelium, glandular, and myofibroblastic cells in patients with SA cultured from MM
  - ◆ Inverted confocal laser scan fluorescence and TEM from biopsies following abx treatment
    - ☞ Clement, et al. J Infect Dis 2005;192:1023-1028
- Follow-up study 27 pts who underwent surgery with one year follow-up
  - ◆ 17/27 (65%) had ICSA
    - ☞ 11/17 with ICSA relapsed over the ensuing year
    - ☞ 9/17 (>50%) had SA on MM cx
    - ☞ 2/12 (16%) without ICSA had SA on MM cx
    - ☞ “presence of ICSA in nasal epithelial cells is a significant risk factor for recurrent RS”
    - ☞ Plovin-Gaudon, et al. Rhinology 2006;44:249-54

# So A Relationship Exists, But...



- ICSA is probably pathogenic, but maybe a protective response by the cells?
- About 30% of cultures in CRS are SA (vs 80% in chronic osteo), what about the rest?
  - ◆ About 30% is coag neg staph—could this also go intracellular? Other bugs?
- What about the bone?

# What about the **Immune System?**

- CRS occurs at the interface of the nasal mucosa and the world
  - » Is the immune system **hypo-, hyper-, or dysfunctional** in CRS?
  - » Much of the pathology in CRS is collateral damage



# Normal Immune Function

- Innate Immunity
  - » Inborn resistance that is present *before the first pathogen exposure*
  - » Initiated by membrane-bound and cytoplasmic
    - **pattern recognition receptors (PRRs)** that recognize
      - » **pathogen associated molecular patterns (PAMPs)** in viruses, bacteria, mycobacteria, yeast, parasites= *danger signal*
      - » cellular damage through detection of debris from necrotic cells= *damage signal*





# Cytoplasmic PRRs

- ***Toll-like Receptors (TLR)***
  - » Transmembrane receptor on many cell types including respiratory epithelial cells
  - » Subtypes respond to gram positive bacteria (including staph), fungal PAMPs, viral replication, etc.
- ***NOD-like Receptor Family***
  - » Recognize bacterial cell wall products including staphylococci
- ***Recognition of PAMPs by Cytoplasmic PRRs results in secretion of cytokines and stimulation of APCs and chemokines that attract cellular components of the immune response***



# Acquired Immune System

- Dendritic cells (APCs) become activated after stimulation by PRRs, migrate to LNs and present antigen to Th cells
  - » **IL6** is the key cytokine mediating the transition from innate to acquired response
  - » **TH1 response**—IL12 and IFN gamma facilitate defense against intracellular pathogens (ie, bacteria)
  - » **TH2 response**— IL4, IL5, and IL13 facilitate defense against parasites and are assoc with allergy and asthma



# But wait, there's more!!



- TH 17 and T reg are 2 other Th subsets
  - » TH 17 is more akin to TH 2 with IL 17 in CRSwNP
- Modulation
  - » TH 1 and 2 inhibit one another
  - » TGF beta 1 promotes T reg, except in the presence of IL6
  - » T reg response is inactivated in situ by strong PRR stimulation, mostly TLR2



# Summary

- Sinusitis is first and foremost medical disease and requires aggressive medical therapy
- Appropriate treatments must be aimed at presumed etiologies
- Multiple etiologies probably exist for rhinosinusitis
  - Extrinsic Contributors
  - Intrinsic Immune Barrier Problems
    - Innate
    - Acquired



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*"The Lord God ... breathed into his  
nostrils the breath of life, and the man  
became a living being."*

*Genesis 2:7*



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