Abstract:
Oral microbiome is the new term given to the totality of organisms in the oral cavity. Biofilms are an integral component of the oral microbiome. The two commonest human affictions and the primary diseases of the oral cavity, caries and periodontal disease, are caused by oral biofilms – traditionally called dental plaque. There is a growing body of data that periodontal biofilms related diseases, can have profound effects on total health and longevity causing atherosclerotic vascular disease (ASVD) including heart disease and stroke, adverse pregnancy outcomes, diabetes and, pulmonary disease. New data indicate that kidney disease and pancreatic cancer too may have associations with oral biofilms. For instance the data just released form United States indicates that salivary biofilm flora is of extreme value in predicting pancreatic cancer.

This presentation will provide a state-of–the art overview of the oral microbiome in health and disease and how these usually friendly microbial consortia becomes foe under elusive circumstances, possibly leading to disease and pathology at distant sites thus affecting the overall human morbidity and mortality. The clinical relevance of the new data for the patient and the practitioner will also be discussed.