



Residual periopathogens after access flap and two different antibiotic therapies: 1 year clinical results

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OBJECTIVES

The efficacy of adjunctive antibiotic treatment in periodontal surgery has not been sufficiently examined¹. Re-colonisation by certain bacteria and PD \geq 5 mm after periodontal therapy may represent risk factors for disease progression^{2,3}. The present retrospective study examined associations between presence of periodontopathogenic bacteria and clinical outcomes one year after surgery by the adjunctive use of systemic antimicrobials.

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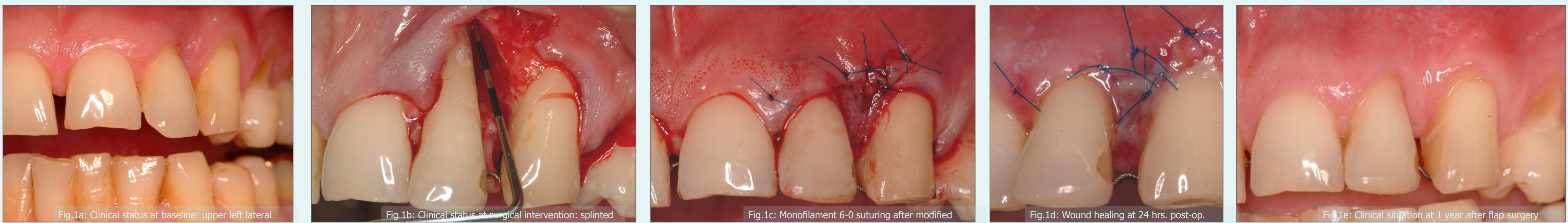


METHODS

56 patients with periodontitis (27 women; mean age: 53 \pm 8.5 yrs.) received flap-surgery in combination with antibiotics after oral hygiene-instructions and subgingival scaling and rootplaning. The adjunctive antibiotic therapy followed two different modalities. Either a combination of Amoxicillin and Metronidazole or Ciprofloxacin and Metronidazole (AM group; n = 27) or alternative single antibiotics (other-AB group; n = 29: Metronidazole, Amoxicillin, Doxycyclin, Clindamycin, Ciprofloxacin, Levofloxacin) were prescribed. The prescription was based on microbiological testing and followed the recommendation of van Winkelhoff and Winkel (2005)⁴. All patients were clinically monitored at baseline, before and up to 1 year after surgery. Before and 3 months after surgery subgingival plaque samples were harvested and evaluated by a PCR-based test (micro-Ident[®]Test, Hain Lifescience GmbH, Germany) for detection of *Aggregatibacter actinomycetemcomitans* (Aa), *Porphyromonas gingivalis* (Pg), *Prevotella intermedia* (Pi), *Tannerella forsythia* (Tf) and *Treponema denticola* (Td) (level of detection: 10³ resp. 10⁴ copies). Relative amounts of residual pockets \geq 4mm (RP \geq 4mm) resp. \geq 5mm (RP \geq 5mm) as well as bleeding on probing (BOP) after 1 year were correlated with microbiological findings after 3 months.

RESULTS

Differences from baseline to 1 year showed a significant clinical improvements in both groups (Figure 2 a&b, p<0.000): RP \geq 4 mm (AM group: 50% (\pm 23) at baseline vs. 8% (\pm 8) post-operative; other-AB group: 41% (\pm 25)) at baseline vs. 8% (\pm 9) post-op; RP \geq 5mm (AM group: 28% (\pm 14) vs. 3% (\pm 4); other-AB group: 20% (\pm 18) vs. 3% (\pm 3)) and BOP (AM group: 72% (\pm 28) at baseline vs. 2% (\pm 3) post-op; other-AB group: 50% (\pm 35) vs. 4% (\pm 6)). There was no significant difference between the groups (p>0.184). Detection frequency of bacteria was decreased in both groups (Figure 3, 4). Significant correlations (Spearman) were found for the other-AB group concerning the amount of RP \geq 4mm after 1 year and presence of *Pg*, *Pi* and *Td* after 3 months (p<0.05) as well as concerning the amount of RP \geq 5mm after 1 year and *Pg*, *Pi*, *Tf* and *Td* after 3 months (p<0.03). In the AM group correlations between RP \geq 4mm resp. RP \geq 5mm after 1 year and *Td* were found (Table 2, p<0.005). Preoperatively, no significant correlations were found between target species and clinical parameters. No statistical correlations were found at any time between BOP and the five analyzed bacteria.



	gender		age	smokers
	male	female		
AM (n=27)	16	11	49.8	4
other-AB (n=29)	13	16	49.5	3

Table 1: Demographic data of patients in study groups

AM: Amoxicillin/Metronidazole group
other-AB: Alternative antibiotics group

Bacteria	Aa		Pg		Pi		Tf		Td	
	RP \geq 4mm	RP \geq 5mm	RP \geq 4mm	RP \geq 5mm	RP \geq 4mm	RP \geq 5mm	RP \geq 4mm	RP \geq 5mm	RP \geq 4mm	RP \geq 5mm
AM (n=27)	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	0.005	0.003
other-AB (n=29)	ns	ns	0.054	0.026	0.045	0.032	ns	0.025	0.036	0.006

Table 2: p-values of correlations (Spearman). Presence of *T. denticola* as found 3 months after surgery was associated with less favourable clinical outcomes 12 months after surgery (* in both groups)

AM: Amoxicillin/Metronidazole group **other-AB:** Alternative antibiotics group ns: not significant

Fig. 2 a: AM group

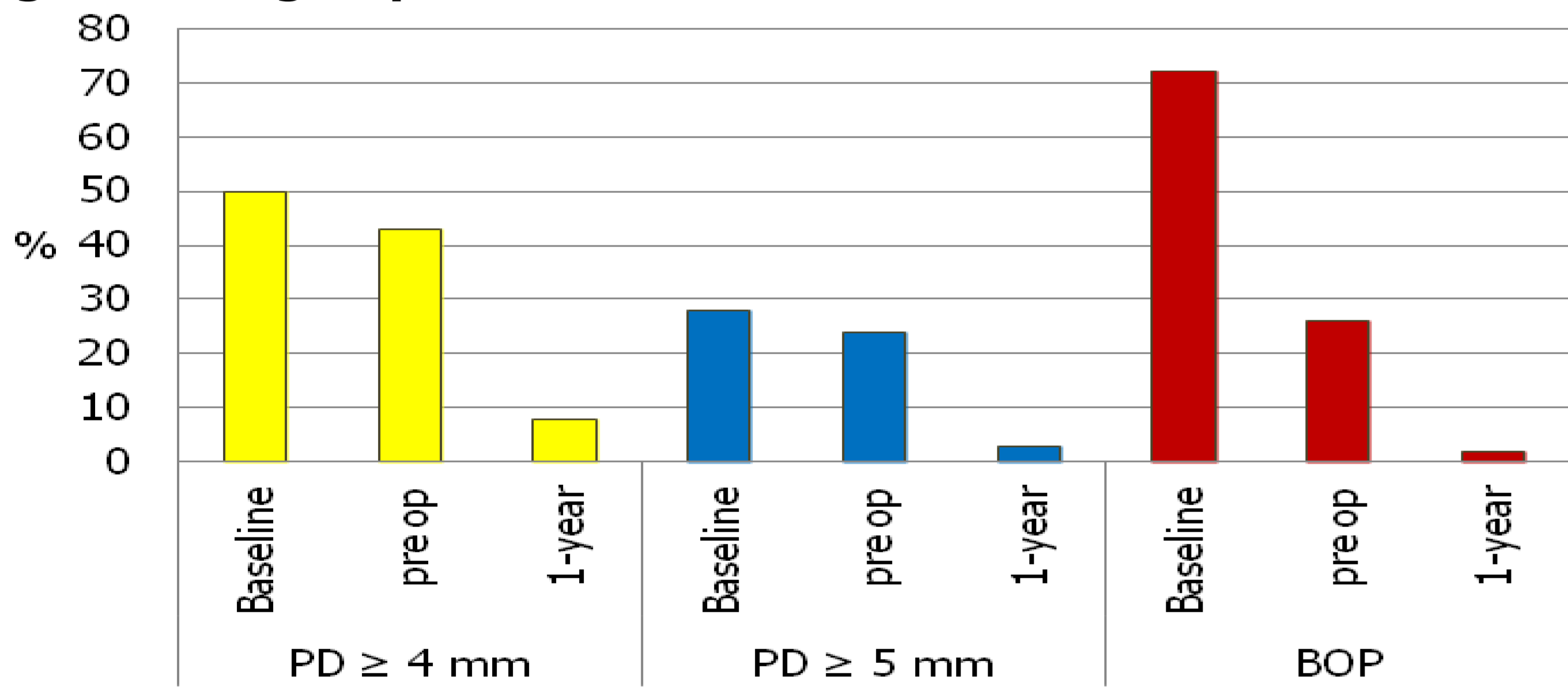


Fig. 2 b: other- AB group

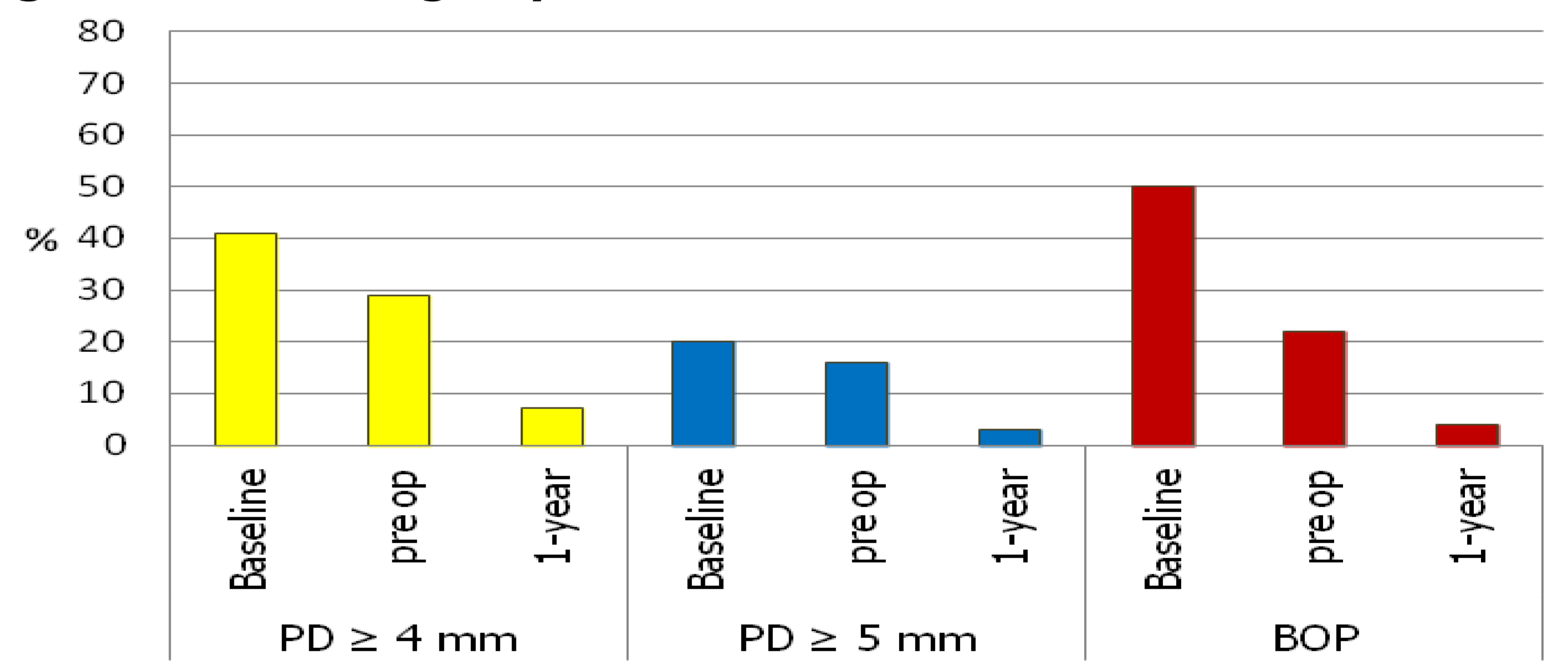


Fig. 2a and 2b: Relative change of clinical parameters during therapy according to the antibiotal treatment (mean-value)

Fig. 3

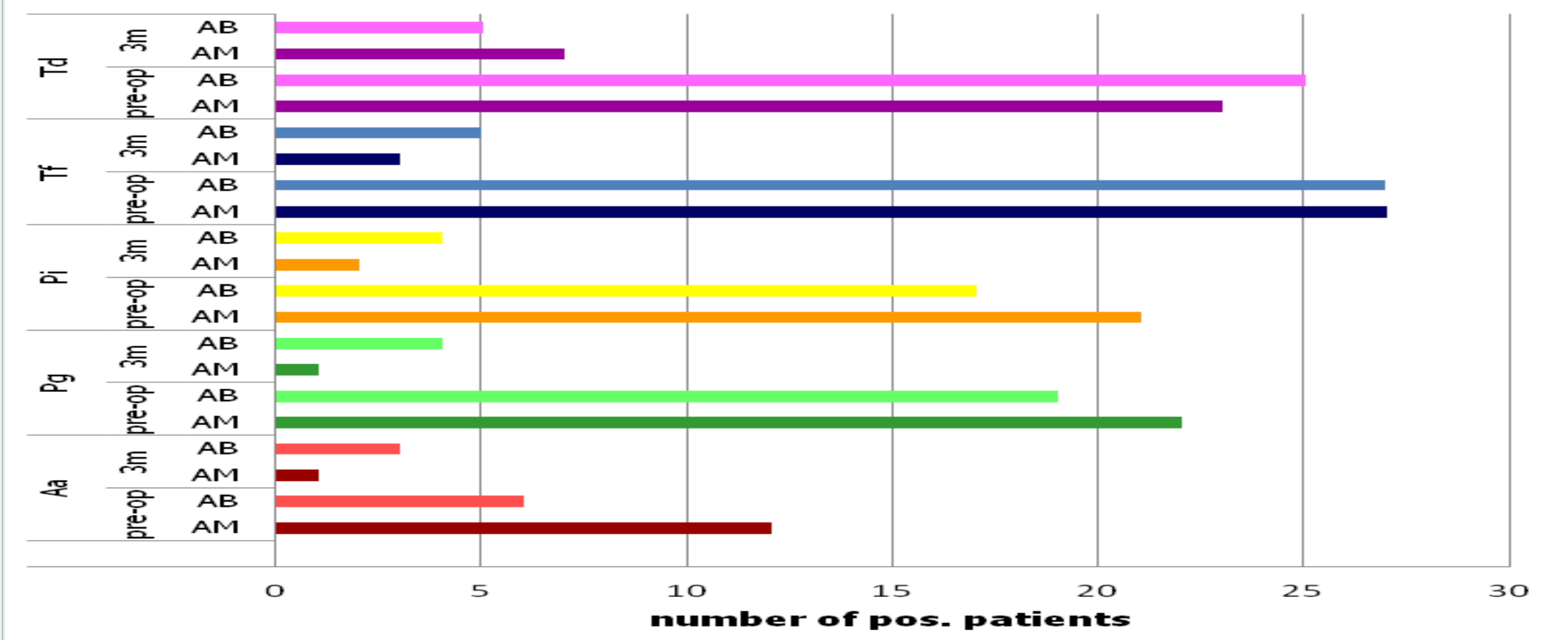


Fig. 3: Detection frequency of the five target bacteria

Fig. 4

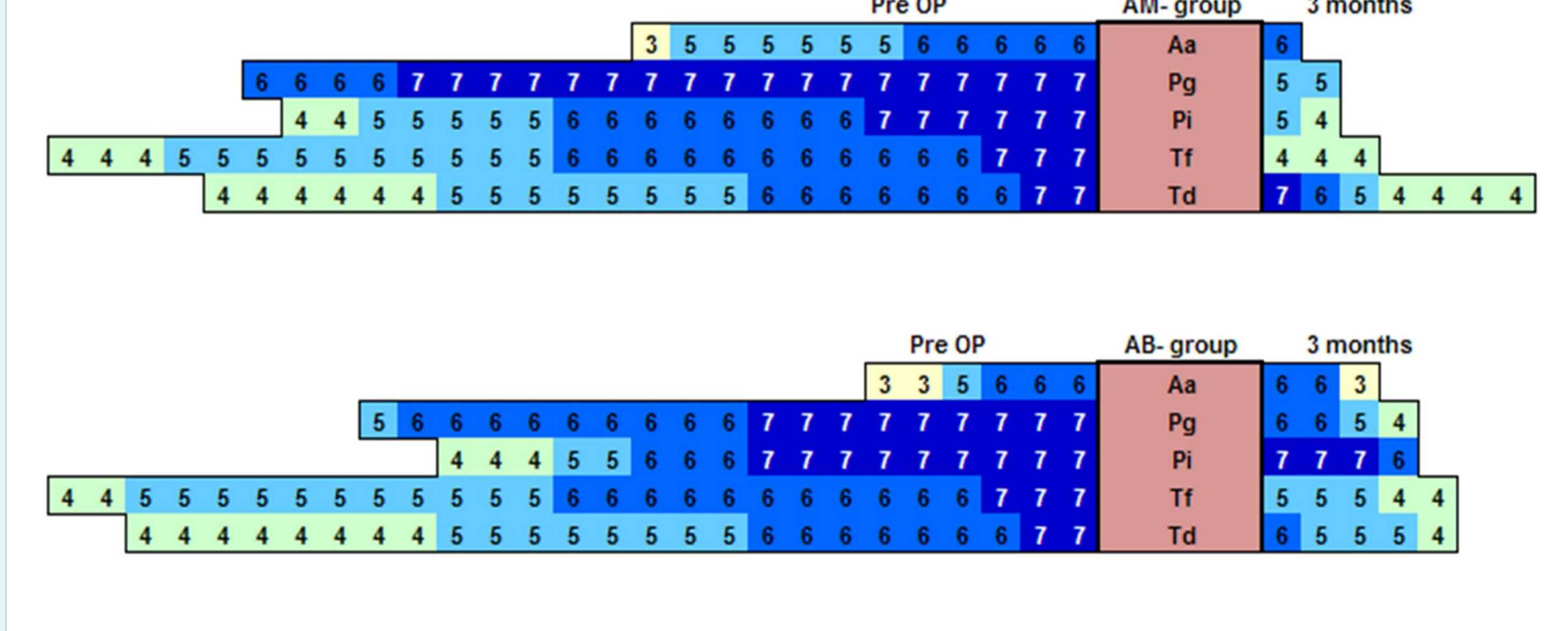


Fig. 4: Detection frequency of target bacteria in subgingival plaque samples before surgery compared to 3 months after surgery, each score representing one positive pooled sample. Score 3 – 7 indicate the order of bacterial counts. The data are not linked to any specific site:
3 indicating a range $\geq 10^3$ but $< 10^4$ bacteria / plaque sample, 4 indicating a range $\geq 10^4$ but $< 10^5$ bacteria / plaque sample, 5 indicating a range $\geq 10^5$ but $< 10^6$ bacteria / plaque sample, 6 indicating a range $\geq 10^6$ but $< 10^7$ bacteria / plaque sample and 7 indicating a range $\geq 10^7$ bacteria / plaque sample (data presentation adapted from Mombelli et al. 1995)⁵

CONCLUSION

The results of the present study indicate similar clinical and microbiological outcomes following different antibiotic therapy modalities. Residual bacteria after flap surgery + antibiotics were correlated with a less favourable clinical outcome.

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- Clinical Photographs: Dr. C. Tietmann, Aachen
- Surgery (all documented cases): Dr. F. Bröseler & Dr. C. Tietmann, Aachen