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Periodontal-medicine and an indigenous twist to host modulation: A new horizon**Shabeer Mohamed Madani**
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Periodontitis is one of the most common immuno-inflammatory conditions afflicting man. It is characterized by the destruction of the tissues surrounding the teeth. There are various factors which may affect and modify the disease expression namely, systemic, environmental, psychological and social factors. However, emerging evidence in the last decade has shed light on the powerful influence of an individual's oral health to the patient's systemic health. Periodontal medicine is a rapidly emerging branch of Periodontology which studies the complex relationship of periodontal disease on various organ systems of the human body. Research has established that periodontal disease, especially severe periodontitis in early life, is a significant risk factor for a plethora of diseases like coronary heart disease, myocardial infarction, diabetes mellitus, preterm labor, low birth weight infants, dementia, endometriosis, erectile dysfunction, metabolic syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, cancer and so on. Thus, oral health plays a pivotal role in the maintenance of systemic health. Consequently, conventional therapy had been focused on reduction of the bacterial load around the tooth via non-surgical or surgical methods. However, it is now understood that, although pathogenic bacteria are necessary for the initiation of the periodontal disease, they alone are not sufficient to cause the disease and a susceptible host is also imperative for the progression of the disease. Thus, there has been a paradigm shift from the conventional treatment modalities of reduction of bacterial load alone to newer techniques focusing on modulating the host response towards the disease. In this presentation, the author would be familiarizing the audience with the pathogenesis of periodontal disease and its effects on various systemic conditions, author also briefly explain about different treatment approaches and give an insight into host modulatory therapy, their modes of delivery and the latest researches on various indigenous substances that have been used.

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