





11 samples of MSKCC allo-HCT recipients. Each dot represents a fecal sample (n = 10,433). The

12 statistical test used was Spearman's correlation.



13

14 Figure S2: Estimating *Enterococcus* absolute abundance through the *Enterococcus*-to-oral

15 **bacteria relative abundance ratio.** Each data point represents a fecal sample from MSKCC

16 allo-HCT recipients. We excluded samples with zero relative abundance of *Enterococcus* or zero

17 oral bacterial fraction from both the plot and the Pearson's correlation analysis, resulting in a

18 subset of 2,765 samples. The red line represents the best linear fit, with the shading in the same

19 color indicating its $\pm 95\%$ confidence interval. The absolute abundance of *Enterococcus* on the *y*-

20 axis was calculated by multiplying its relative abundance by the total bacterial load. The

21 statistical test used was Pearson's correlation.

- 22 Table S1: Oral bacterial ASV, taxonomy, and total abundance in mouse feces. a, Sequence
- and taxonomy of all 53 oral bacterial ASVs found in mouse feces, with specific oral ASVs for
- 24 each mouse indicated in the table. **b**, Total relative and absolute abundances of oral and gut
- 25 bacteria in fecal samples. We determined the oral or gut bacterial load (absolute abundance) by
- 26 multiplying the total bacterial load by the respective oral or gut bacterial fraction (relative
- abundance). Bacterial load units for fecal and oral samples are 16S copies per gram of feces and
- 28 per swab, respectively. Samples with fewer than 1,000 reads were excluded from analysis and
- are labelled in the "Exclusion" column. DSS: Dextran Sulfate Sodium. c, FEAST-estimated oral
- 30 bacterial fractions in post-treatment fecal samples. FEAST was run ten times for each fecal
- 31 sample.
- 32
- 33 See separate Excel table

34 Table S2: Pairwise Adonis test of compositional similarity between pre- and post-treatment

35 fecal and oral microbiome samples. Adonis test is a two-sided permutation-based multivariate

36 analysis that assesses the differences in community composition between groups of microbiome

- 37 samples. In our analysis, microbiome samples were divided into four groups: pre-treatment oral
- 38 samples (group label: PreOral), pre-treatment fecal samples (group label: PreFecal), post-
- 39 treatment oral samples (group label: PostOral), and post-treatment fecal samples (group label:
- 40 PostFecal). The table below displays the R^2 values and FDR-corrected *P* values for all six pairs
- 41 of comparisons and for each mouse group. Bray-Curtis distance metric was used to measure the
- 42 similarity between microbiome samples. Notably, post-antibiotic-treatment fecal samples

43 exhibited greater similarity to pre-treatment oral samples ($R^2 = 0.15$, P = 0.055) than to pre-

- 44 treatment fecal samples ($R^2 = 0.20$, P = 0.032).
- 45

Mouse group	Sample group 1	Sample group 2	R ²	<i>P</i> value
	PreOral $(n = 4)$	PostOral $(n = 9)$	0.21	0.058
	PostOral $(n = 9)$	PostFecal $(n = 10)$	0.76	0.001
No treatment	PreFecal $(n = 4)$	PostOral $(n = 9)$	0.71	0.003
	PreOral $(n = 4)$	PostFecal $(n = 10)$	0.92	0.003
	PreOral $(n = 4)$	PreFecal $(n = 4)$	0.95	0.044
	PreFecal $(n = 4)$	PostFecal $(n = 10)$	0.09	0.305
	PreOral $(n = 8)$	PostOral $(n = 8)$	0.14	0.066
	PostOral $(n = 8)$	PostFecal $(n = 12)$	0.12	0.066
Antibiotic treatment	PreFecal $(n = 7)$	PostOral $(n = 8)$	0.42	0.002
	PreOral $(n = 8)$	PostFecal $(n = 12)$	0.15	0.055
	PreOral $(n = 8)$	PreFecal $(n = 7)$	0.33	0.004
	PreFecal $(n = 7)$	PostFecal $(n = 12)$	0.20	0.032
	PreOral $(n = 3)$	PostOral $(n = 5)$	0.41	0.086
	PostOral $(n = 5)$	PostFecal $(n = 9)$	0.10	0.273
sodium treatment	PreFecal $(n = 5)$	PostOral $(n = 5)$	0.26	0.055
	PreOral $(n = 3)$	PostFecal $(n = 9)$	0.56	0.029
	PreOral $(n = 3)$	PreFecal (n = 5)	0.86	0.033

	PreFecal $(n = 5)$	PostFecal $(n = 9)$	0.32	0.029

- 47 Table S3: Sequence and taxonomy of 178 oral bacterial ASVs identified from healthy
- 48 human individuals involved in the HMP dataset.
- 49
- 50 See separate Excel table

- 51 Table S4: Oral bacterial ASV, taxonomy, and total abundance in human feces of MSKCC
- 52 **allo-HCT recipients. a**, Sequence and taxonomy of 127 oral bacterial ASVs. **b**, Total relative
- 53 and absolute abundances of oral and gut bacteria in fecal samples. We determined the oral or gut
- 54 bacterial load (absolute abundance) by multiplying the total bacterial load by the respective oral
- 55 or gut bacterial fraction (relative abundance). Bacterial load unit is 16S copies per gram of feces.
- 56
- 57 See separate Excel table

58 Table S5: Antibiotics associated with intestinal domination by oral bacterial ASVs in

59 MSKCC allo-HCT recipients. A total of 291 patients with at least 10 samples between day -10

- 60 and 40 relative to transplantation were included. The hazard ratios quantify the relative risk of
- 61 intestinal domination by any single oral ASV that exceeds 30% in relative abundance compared
- 62 to no domination. Oral and intravenous vancomycin were separated because vancomycin does
- 63 not reach adequate levels in human gut when given intravenously. Distinct routes of
- 64 administration were combined for all other antibiotics. *P* values were corrected for multiple
- 65 comparisons using FDR. Significant associations (P < 0.05) are highlighted in red. CI:
- 66 confidence interval. The statistical test used for data analysis was Cox proportional hazard with
- 67 time-dependent covariates.
- 68

Antibiotic	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	P value
macrolide derivatives	4.5e-8 (>0)	0.996
metronidazole	0.26 (0.04-1.93)	0.568
fluoroquinolones	0.45 (0.26-0.77)	0.022
sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim	0.52 (0.06-4.27)	0.720
aztreonam	0.63 (0.15-2.68)	0.720
cephalosporins	0.93 (0.50-1.72)	0.880
intravenous vancomycin	0.94 (0.59-1.49)	0.880
carbapenems	1.36 (0.72-2.57)	0.580
linezolid	1.57 (0.69-3.58)	0.580
oral vancomycin	1.77 (1.18-2.64)	0.022
piperacillin/tazobactam	2.24 (1.37-3.65)	0.015
aminoglycosides	2.95 (0.39-22.18)	0.580

69

- 70 Table S6. Regression slope between relative abundance of selected bacterial genera and
- 71 total bacterial load in feces of MSKCC allo-HCT recipients. Bacterial genera that dominated
- at least 100 fecal samples with a relative abundance exceeding 30% were selected for linear
- regression analysis in log-log space. In the table, we presented the mean relative abundance of
- each genus across HMP samples collected from the gastrointestinal tract, oral cavity, nasal
- 75 cavity, skin, and urogenital tract. The five genera with the highest mean relative abundance in the
- 76 gastrointestinal tract, compared to the other four body sites, are highlighted in red. Notably, they
- all exhibited positive slopes.
- 78
- 79 See separate Excel table

80 Table S7: High-quality genomes of *Streptococcus* species assembled from shotgun

- 81 metagenomics data. Metagenome-assembled genomes (MAGs) were constructed from 22 fecal
- 82 samples from MSKCC allo-HCT recipients. The iRep value is an index of replication and serves
- 83 as an indicator of bacterial replication rate¹. iRep values that did not meet all genome and
- 84 mapping quality requirements are marked as "n/a". Assembled MAGs containing *Streptococcus*
- 85 ASV_8 are highlighted in red.
- 86
- 87 See separate Excel table

88 Table S8: Oral bacterial fraction in feces is associated with survival of MSKCC allo-HCT

- 89 recipients. All-cause mortality and GVHD-related mortality were analyzed by a Cox
- 90 proportional hazard model and a Fine-Gray subdistribution hazard model, respectively. Both
- 91 models were adjusted for *Enterococcus* absolute abundance, age, underlying disease, graft
- 92 source, and intensity of conditioning regime. *P* values were FDR-corrected for multiple
- 93 comparisons. Abbreviations: CI (confidence interval), AML (Acute Myeloid Leukemia), ALL
- 94 (Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia), MDS (Myelodysplastic syndrome), MPN (Myeloproliferative
- 95 neoplasm). The statistical test used for data analysis was Cox proportional hazard with time-
- 96 dependent covariates.
- 97

Endpoint event	Covariate	Hazard ratio	95% CI	P value	
	Oral bacterial fraction	4.02	2.11-7.68	6.3e-5	
	log(Enterococcus absolute				
	abundance)	1.19	1.13-1.25	3.5e-11	
	Age	1.03	1.02-1.04	1.0e-12	
		Disease			
	AML/ALL/MDS/MPN	Reference category			
	Others	1.30	1.02-1.65	0.053	
All-cause mortality	Graft source				
	T-cell depletion	Reference category			
	Unmodified	1.21	0.92-1.58	0.193	
	Cord	1.33	0.89-1.99	0.193	
	Conditioning intensity				
	Ablative	Reference category			
	Non-ablative	0.46	0.30-0.72	0.001	
	Reduced intensity	0.90	0.67-1.21	0.491	
	Oral bacterial fraction	4.23	1.69-10.6	0.006	
GVHD-related mortality	log(Enterococcus absolute				
	abundance)	1.22	1.13-1.32	1.5e-6	
	Age	1.03	1.01-1.04	2.3e-4	

	Disease		
AML/ALL/MDS/MPN	Reference category		
Others	1.31	0.90-1.91	0.319
	Graft source		
T-cell depletion	Reference category		
Unmodified	1.07	0.67-1.70	0.777
Cord	1.43	0.76-2.70	0.420
Con	ditioning intensity		
Ablative	Reference category		
Non-ablative	0.90	0.47-1.72	0.777
Reduced intensity	1.14	0.71-1.84	0.777

- 99 Table S9: Microbiome datasets used in this study.
- 100
- 101 See separate Excel table

Supplementary Note 1: Discussion on the discrepancy between our approach and FEAST for estimating oral bacterial fraction

As shown in Extended Data Fig. 2, our approach and FEAST show quantitative agreement in estimating oral bacterial fractions when the fraction, as estimated by our approach, exceeds 0.0001. However, for fractions smaller than 0.0001, our approach yields much smaller estimated values than FEAST. Specifically, in five samples (F Day 7 DSS E,

211 F_Day_3_Abx_D, F_Day_3_Control_E, F_Day_7_Control_E, F_Day_3_DSS_E), substantial

212 differences arise between FEAST and our approach, with the ratio of FEAST to our approach

213 exceeding 10 (i.e., different magnitudes).

214 This discrepancy can be largely attributed to two reasons. In the case of samples

215 F_Day_7_DSS_E and F_Day_3_Abx_D, where our approach estimated a zero oral bacterial

216 fraction, the values estimated by FEAST show considerable variability across different runs. In

217 the case of sample F_Day_7_DSS_E, FEAST provided a range between 4.4e-31 and 1.2e-3 for

218 the minimum and maximum oral bacterial fractions in different runs. Similarly, for sample

219 F_Day_3_Abx_D, FEAST estimates span from 2.5e-255 to 6.7e-3. Even for samples where the

average FEAST estimation agrees with the oral bacterial fraction estimated by our approach,

221 notable variations exist from run to run. For example, in the case of sample

222 F_Day_7_Control_C, the FEAST-estimated oral bacterial fractions vary between 7.6e-19 and

223 7.7e-4. Another example, F_Day_3_Control_A, exhibits variations ranging from 8.5e-7 to 9.1e-

4. Overall, the large variability underscores the inherent difficulty in accurately quantifying oral

bacterial transmission using FEAST when such transmission events are infrequent. For a detailed
 table of all FEAST estimates in each individual run, refer to Table S1c.

227 Moreover, FEAST calculates the fraction of oral bacteria in fecal samples on an 228 individual mouse basis. In contrast, our approach defines oral ASVs using predefined thresholds 229 for mean relative abundance and prevalence across both oral and fecal samples collected from all 230 mice (refer to Methods in the main text, Section: Identification of oral ASVs in fecal samples). 231 Consequently, oral sequences identified by our approach must exhibit a sufficiently high relative 232 abundance in the oral cavity and a correspondingly low relative abundance in the gut across the 233 majority of mice. This stringent criterion ensures a more conservative approach, enhancing 234 confidence that oral ASVs detected in fecal samples genuinely originate from bacteria colonizing 235 the oral cavity rather than the gut. By incorporating both oral and fecal samples from all mice, 236 our methodology aims for a robust quantification of transmitted oral bacteria in the gut. Due to

this conservative nature, it is understandable that our approach consistently generated lower

- estimated oral bacterial fractions for the five samples compared to those estimated by FEAST.
 For the two reasons mentioned above, we believe it may not be suitable to compare our
 approach against FEAST when fecal samples contain extremely low fraction (<0.0001 in our
 method) of oral bacteria
- 241 method) of oral bacteria.

242 Supplementary Note 2: Theoretical relationship between oral bacterial fraction and total bacterial load in fecal samples 243 244 By definition, the relative and absolute abundance of oral and gut bacteria in a fecal sample are related through the following equation: 245 $F_{total} = \frac{F_{oral}}{f_{oral}} = \frac{F_{gut}}{1 - f_{oral}}$ 246 Eq. S1 247 Here, f_{oral} represents the relative abundance of oral bacteria, F_{oral} and F_{qut} represent the absolute abundance of oral and gut bacteria respectively, and $F_{total} (= F_{oral} + F_{gut})$ is the total 248 249 bacterial load. 250 251 <u>Pure Marker hypothesis</u>: When an increase in f_{oral} is solely driven by gut bacterial depletion, 252 F_{oral} remains constant (let the constant be K_1). In this scenario, Eq. S1 can be rewritten as $F_{total} = \frac{K_1}{f_{orgl}}$ 253 Eq. S2 254 or on the log-log scale (base *b*) $log_b F_{total} = log_b K_1 - log_b f_{oral}$ 255 Eq. S3 256 Eq. S3 indicates that the derivative of log-transformed total bacterial load with respect to log-257 transformed oral bacterial fraction is -1: $\frac{d \log_b F_{total}}{d \log_b f_{oral}} = -1 \quad (pure Marker hypothesis)$ 258 Eq.S4 259 <u>Pure Expansion hypothesis</u>: When an increase in f_{oral} is solely driven by absolute expansion of 260 oral bacterial population, F_{gut} remains constant (let the constant be K_2). In this scenario, Eq. S1 261 262 can be rewritten as $F_{total} = \frac{K_2}{1 - f_{orgl}}$ 263 Eq. S5 or on the log-log scale (base *b*) 264 $log_b F_{total} = log_b K_2 - log_b (1 - f_{oral})$ 265 Eq. S6 266 From Eq. S6, we found that the derivative of log-transformed total bacterial load with respect to log-transformed oral bacterial fraction is positive: 267 $\frac{d \log_{b} F_{total}}{d \log_{b} f_{oral}} = \frac{f_{oral}}{1 - f_{oral}} > 0 \quad (pure \ Expansion \ hypothesis)$ 268 Eq. S7 269

270 Supplementary Note 3: Validation of oral bacterial ASVs identified from healthy

271 individuals in patients with inflammatory bowel disease

272 Since human microbiota composition is body site-specific, we hypothesized that the 273 reference set of 178 oral ASVs identified from a large cohort of healthy individuals recruited by 274 the Human Microbiome Project (HMP) can be applied to other healthy individuals and patients 275 for the detection of oral bacteria in their gut. To test this hypothesis, we analyzed a publicly 276 available dataset from patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and their healthy 277 controls². This dataset includes paired fecal and saliva samples from a total of 43 healthy 278 controls (HC), 16 patients with Crohn's disease (CD), and 42 patients with ulcerative colitis 279 (UC).

280 By varying three cutoff parameters used to identify oral ASVs from HMP, we showed that the estimated oral fraction in the fecal samples of the IBD cohort participants is largely 281 282 robust against variations in these parameter values (Extended Data Fig. 4a). Among the three 283 cutoffs, the cutoff for mean relative abundance (θ_a , see Methods in the main text for details) has 284 the strongest impact. Across all healthy individuals, the mean oral bacterial fraction in feces was 285 found to be 1.2%, which closely aligns with a previously reported estimate of $2\%^3$. This fraction 286 exhibited a nearly three-fold increase to 4.2% and 4.3% in CD and UC patients respectively, 287 supporting the notion that IBD is associated with an enrichment of oral bacteria in the gut⁴. Most 288 importantly, more than 84% (mean values: 92.2% for HC, 89.8% for CD, and 84.1% for UC) of 289 the oral ASVs detected in the fecal samples from the reference set were also found in their 290 corresponding saliva samples (Extended Data Fig. 4b). In addition, these oral ASVs accounted 291 for over 87% (mean values: 93.4% for HC, 94.6% for CD, and 87.8% for UC) of the estimated 292 total relative abundance of oral bacteria in the feces (Extended Data Fig. 4c). In summary, we 293 validated that the reference set of oral ASVs identified from the HMP dataset can be used to infer 294 oral ASVs in the fecal samples from other non-HMP healthy individuals and patients even in the 295 absence of paired oral samples.

296 Supplementary Note 4: Discussion on associations between biofilm-forming capacity of

297 Streptococcus, Actinomyces and Abiotrophia and their fecal relative abundance in MSKCC 298 allo-HCT recipients

All three bacterial genera have the ability to form biofilm in the oral cavity^{5,6}. However, it remains uncertain if they can form biofilms in the lower gastrointestinal tract. *Streptococcus*

301 *thermophilus*, the most dominant *Streptococcus* species in the MSKCC allo-HCT cohort (see

Table S7), is a poor biofilm producer due to its inability to firmly attach to surfaces⁷.

303 Consistently, exopolysaccharides derived from *S. thermophilus* do not interact with mucin⁸,

304 indicating that this species may be unable to form biofilm in colonic mucus.

Furthermore, we used PICRUSt2⁹ to predict KEGG¹⁰ pathway abundances from 16S
 amplicon sequencing data (10,433 samples). The biofilm-forming potential of intestinal

307 microbiota was quantified by the sum of relative abundance of three KEGG pathways containing

308 the keyword "biofilm" (ko05111, ko02025, ko02026). We observed a positive, but statistically

309 insignificant, Spearman correlation between this biofilm index and the relative abundance of oral

310 *Streptococcus* (Spearman's rho = 0.004, P = 0.661). For oral *Actinomyces* and *Abiotrophia*, the

311 correlations were statistically significant but negative (Spearman's rho = -0.075 and -0.056, P =

312 9.1e-14 and 2.7e-8, respectively). Using a subset of 3,108 samples with 16S qPCR data, we

found that the biofilm-forming capacity is positively associated with the total bacterial load

314 (Spearman's rho = 0.073, P = 6.3e-5). Here, all P values have been adjusted for multiple

315 comparisons.

Taken together, although we cannot entirely rule out the possibility, both literature studies and our findings do not provide evidence for a link between intestinal dominations by the three

318 oral genera and their biofilm-forming capacity.

Supplementary Note 5: Discussion on associations between antibiotic exposure and oral bacterial domination in the fecal samples from MSKCC allo-HCT recipients

321 During allo-HCT, most patients received multiple antibiotics for prophylactic and 322 treatment purposes for different periods. Due to different spectra of antibiotics, their 323 administration led to diverse dynamics of oral bacteria translocated to the intestine, as observed 324 in fecal samples by 16S rRNA amplicon sequencing (Fig. 4a). To isolate the individual effect of each antibiotic, we used a time-dependent Cox proportional hazards model (see Methods in the 325 326 main text for details). The Cox model revealed that piperacillin-tazobactam, a combination of β-327 lactam and β-lactamase inhibitor with a broad spectrum of antibacterial activity, had the most 328 significant positive influence on intestinal domination by any single oral ASV with a relative 329 abundance that exceeds 30% (Table S5; Hazard ratio = 2.24; 95% confidence interval, 1.37-3.65; 330 P = 0.015). This association aligns with a previous finding showing that piperacillin-tazobactam 331 caused the most pronounced depletion of anaerobic gut commensals in the same patient cohort¹¹.

To validate the anaerobe-depleting effect of piperacillin-tazobactam, we reanalyzed a previous study¹² that investigated the dynamics of gut microbiota during and after total gut decontamination (using oral piperacillin-tazobactam) and selective gut decontamination (using oral polymyxin-neomycin) in children undergoing allo-HCT at the Leiden University Medical Center in the Netherlands. Indeed, the children who received piperacillin-tazobactam exhibited significantly higher total fraction of oral bacteria in their feces compared to those who received oral polymyxin-neomycin across all transplantation stages (Extended Data Fig. 5).

339 Our analysis also revealed a significant negative association between fluoroquinolone 340 antibiotics with oral bacterial domination (Table S5; Hazard ratio = 0.45; 95% confidence interval, 0.26-0.77; P = 0.022). Fluoroquinolones are commonly used as prophylactic agents to 341 reduce the incidence of gram-negative bacterial infections, including Pseudomonas and 342 *Enterobacteriaceae*, in patients with neutropenia¹³. One possible explanation for this negative 343 344 association is that fluoroquinolones are generally more effective against aerobic and facultative anaerobic bacteria, such as those found in the oral flora, than against anaerobic bacteria¹⁴. 345 346 Another potential explanation is that all allo-HCT recipients were initially prescribed 347 fluoroquinolone prophylaxis but may be switched to other agents, such as piperacillin-348 tazobactam, when fevers or bloodstream infections occur. As a result, fecal samples exposed only 349 to fluoroquinolones may be enriched for samples collected before acute febrile episodes or from 350 patients with more benign treatment courses who never got a fever and thus remained on 351 fluoroquinolone prophylaxis.

352 Supplementary Note 6: Slow growth of *Streptococcus* ASV_8 in fecal samples from

353 MSKCC allo-HCT recipients

Among all identified oral ASVs, *Streptococcus* ASV_8 had the highest mean relative

abundance among all fecal samples of the MSKCC allo-HCT recipients. We previously

356 published shotgun metagenomics data¹⁵ for 395 fecal samples from these patients. Among the

357 395 samples, 19 contains at least 10% *Streptococcus* ASV_8, as indicated by the paired 16S

- 358 rRNA sequencing. Using a published bioinformatic pipeline (see Methods in the main text for
- details), we obtained 22 high-quality metagenome-assembled genomes (MAGs) of *Streptococcus*
- *spp.* from these 19 metagenomic samples. Among the 22 MAGs, four contains ASV_8, and all
- 361 were annotated as *S. thermophilus*. We then calculated the replicate rate of these MAGs through
- iRep¹. The iRep index can accurately estimate the ratio between the coverage at the origin and
- terminus of replication, which is proportional to replication rate. We found an averaged iRep
- index of 1.35 (Table S7), indicating that, on average, only 35% cells are replicating. This iRep-
- based estimation suggests that bacteria containing *Streptococcus* ASV_8 grew slowly in the
- 366 intestine of MSKCC allo-HCT recipients.

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