Correlation between *Enterococcus faecalis* and Persistent Intraradicular Infection Compared with Primary Intraradicular Infection: A Systematic Review

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**Aim**
- To conduct a review of literature comparing the presence of *E. faecalis* in primary & persistent infections.

**Materials & Methods**
- An online literature search was conducted as far back as 1966 initially included 188 articles.
- These English & Chinese articles were narrowed down to 17.

**Inclusion criteria**
1. patients with a non-contributory medical hx
2. Primary infections with either pulpal necrosis or acute/chronic apical periodontitis
3. Persistent infections of permanent teeth following RCT
4. Suitable rubber dam placement
5. Studies which found *E. faecalis* in both primary & persistent infections using the same methodology.
- Studies were divided into subgroups regarding the use of culture vs. PCR.

**Results**
- 10 studies (total of 1140 teeth) met the inclusion criteria.
- To identify bacteria:
  a. 2 studies used culture techniques only
  b. 6 used PCR only
  c. 2 used both methods.
- The studies scored between 6 and 8 points on the Newcastle-Ottawa scale.
- The bias of the studies was considered low.
- In the culture group, 3 / 4 studies found that *E. faecalis* was more prevalent in persistent infections as opposed to primary infections.
- In the PCR group, 6 / 8 studies came to a similar conclusion.

**Conclusion**
- *E. faecalis* was more prevalent in persistent radicular infection as opposed to primary infection.

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