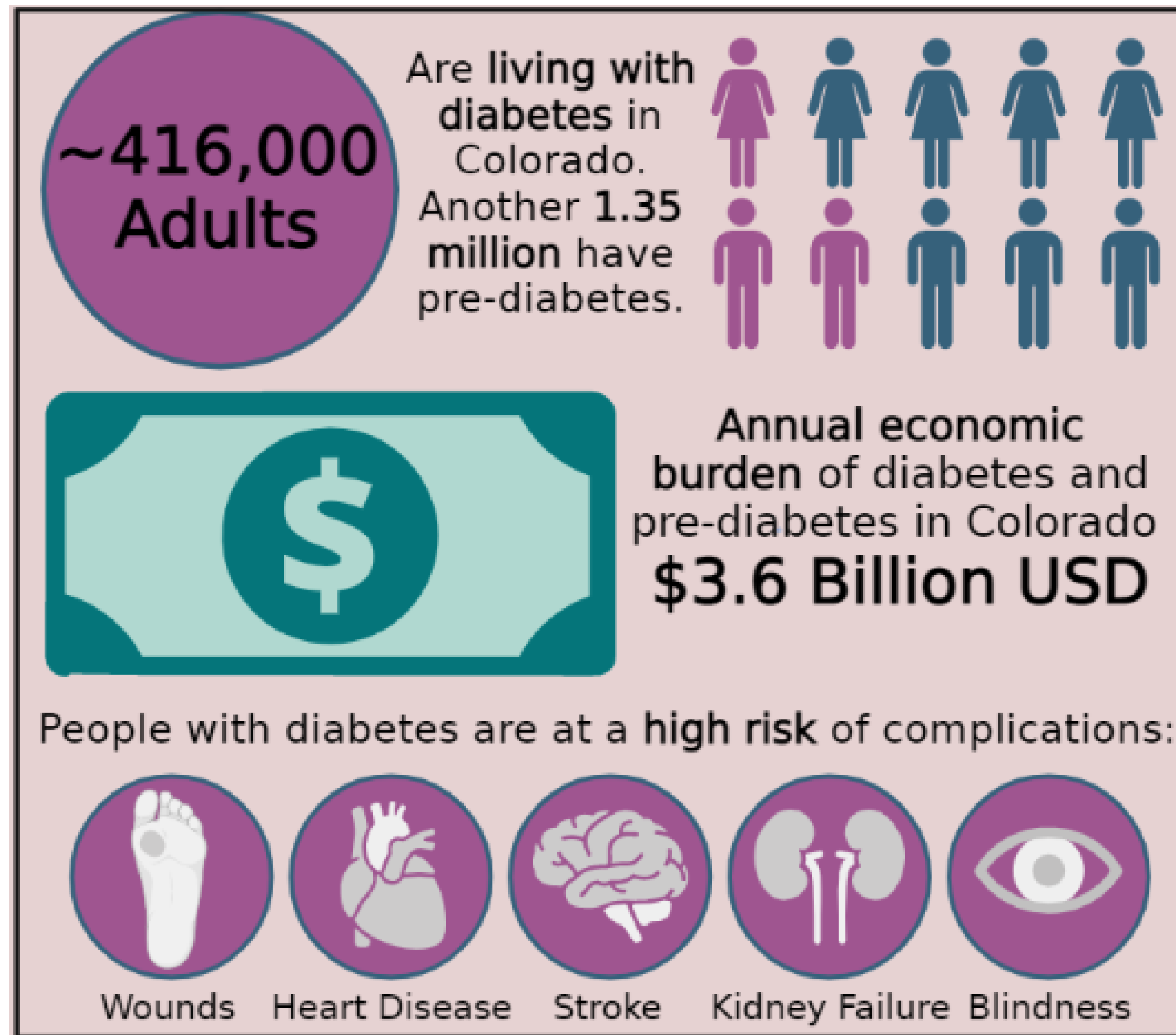


Combating Diabetic Wound Infections in Colorado

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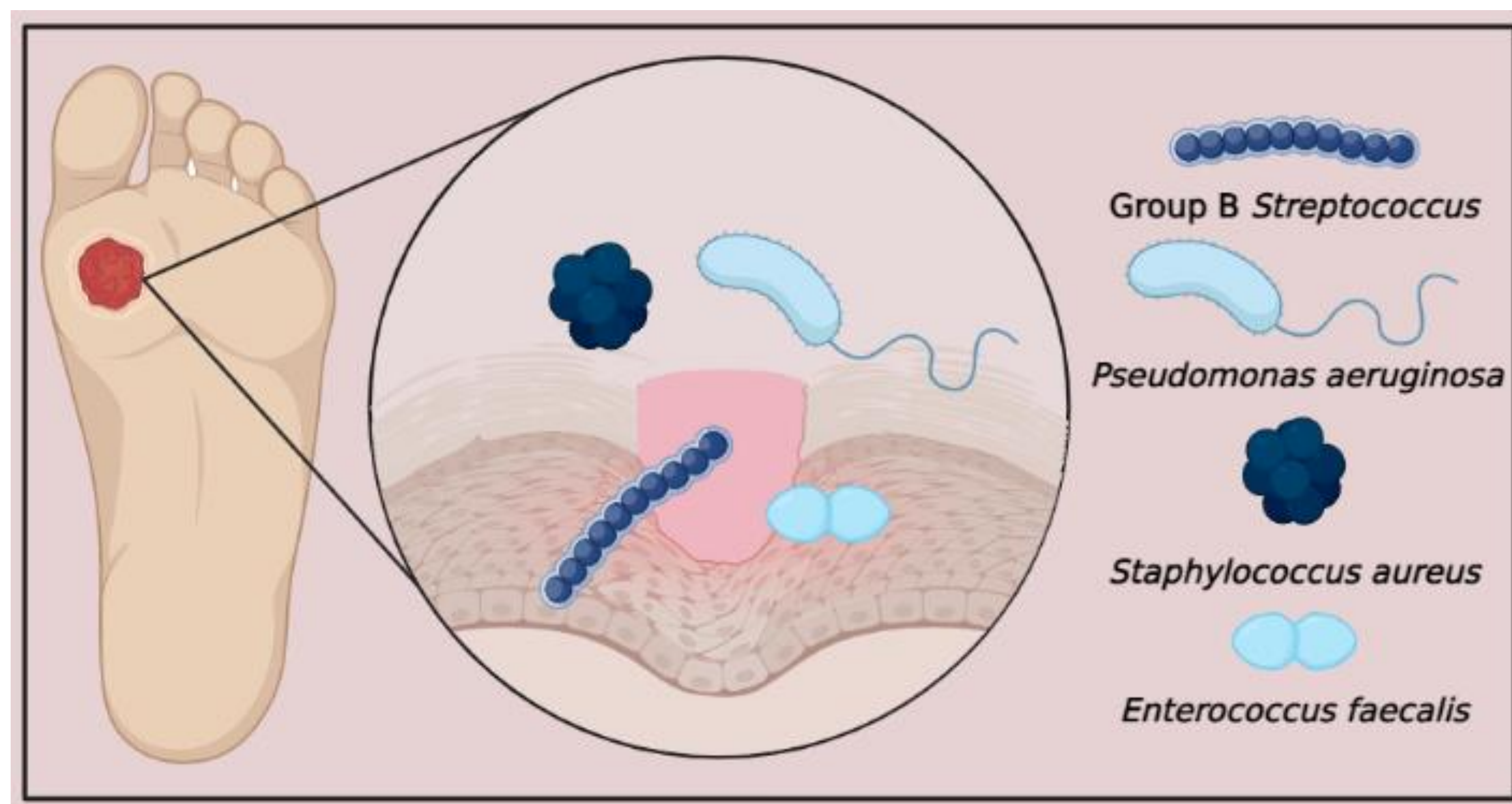
Public Health Crisis: Diabetes in Colorado



- Diabetes is a **major public health concern** in the US and Colorado.
- Individuals living with diabetes often develop **complications** such as diabetic foot ulcers.
- Diabetic foot ulcers are the **leading cause** of non-traumatic amputation across the globe.

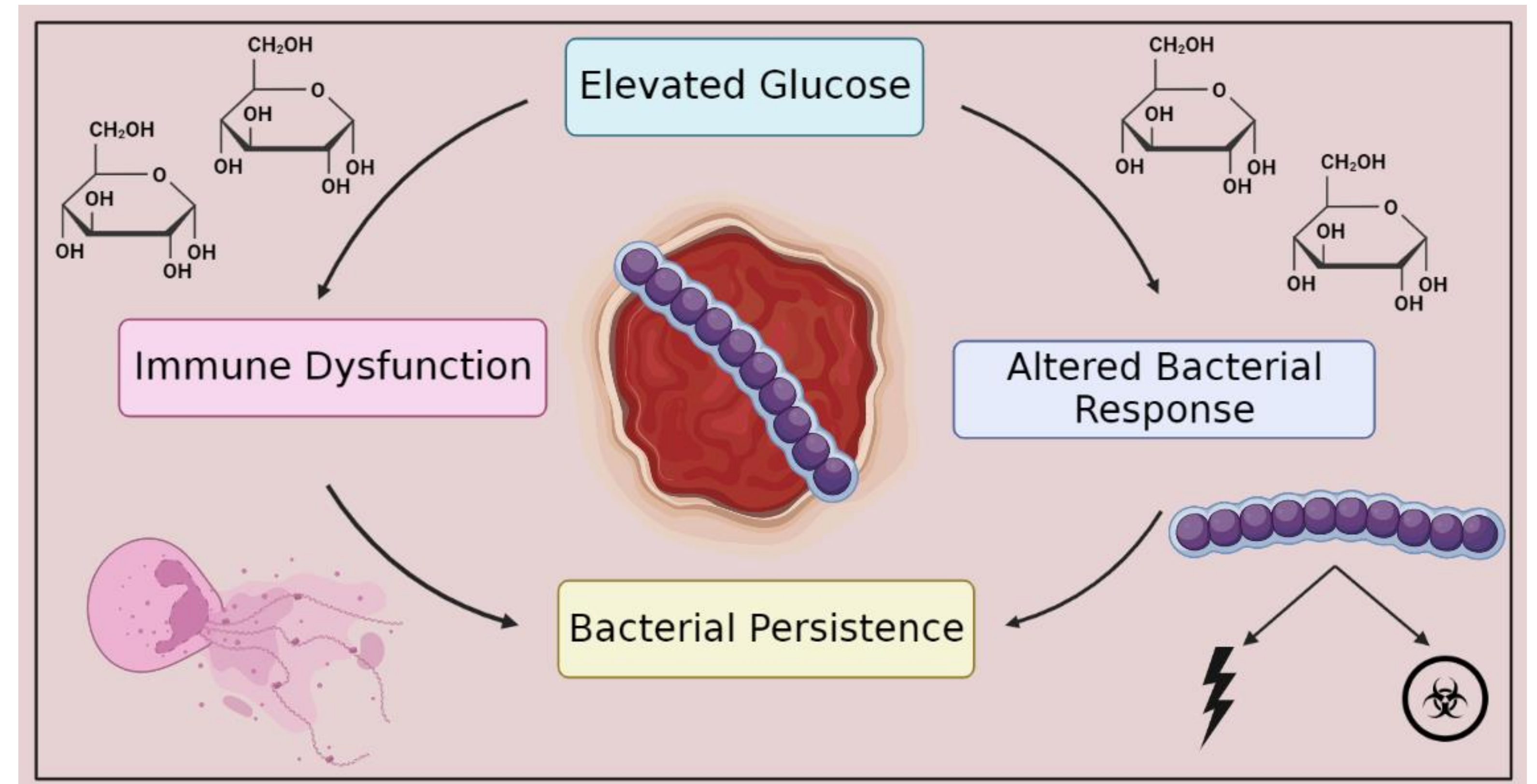
Bacteria in Diabetic Wound Infections

Research Aims: 1. Identify the **bacterial species** found in diabetic wounds in Colorado. 2. Determine how glucose affects immune function and bacterial persistence.



Why Diabetic Immune Systems Fail

Excess glucose in the environment **alters the function of our immune cells** such as neutrophils. Neutrophils are one of the first lines of defense against bacterial infection. Without them, many **bacteria** can survive, and even **adapt to be more dangerous**.



Ongoing Efforts and Acknowledgements

- Continue collecting tissues from diabetic foot ulcers in collaboration with Dr. Garrett Moore at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.
- Statistics on diabetes prevalence in Colorado from the American Diabetes Association.
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