

Now, the really interesting thing from this study is that they showed that successful antibiotic therapy did not eliminate the staphylococci. What it did was push the microbiome more towards the normal state of being much more diverse, rich, and even. So at visit one-- and we saw this graph earlier, you can see that there is a loss of diversity in the atopic group compared to the control group.

And that matches across to here, where you can see that that loss of diversity is associated with this skewing towards the staphylococci, the pink bars here. And then as these dogs progressed through treatment-- this was at the three-week point, you can see that the antibiotic therapy resulted in a change where the microbiome in the atopic skin started to approach the normal diversity we would see in the healthy skin. And again, you can see that this is associated with a reduction, but not elimination, of the commensal staphylococci there.