ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I owe a great deal to my teacher, Professor C.I. Jhala, M.D., F.A.M.S., F.R.C.Path.(Lond.), D.P.B., B.Sc.(Med.), B.Pharm., Senior Professor and Head, Department of Pathology and Dean, C.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad, who in spite of his busy schedule of work spared time and guided me towards the successful completion of this thesis. I am extremely grateful to him for his beneficial criticism, unexhaustable patience and valuable suggestions.

I am deeply indebted to Mr. C.I. Jhala, M.B., B.S., Medical Superintendent of New Civil Hospital, Ahmedabad, who had kindly permitted me to collect the clinical materials from the patients without which this work could not have been possible.

I am grateful to Dr. C.V. Dixit, M.D.(Mod.), M.D.(Path.), Professor of Microbiology, C.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad for the working facilities he had extended to me.

I am thankful to Dr. V.V. Kollali, M.D.; Associate Professor of Microbiology, C.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad, for his kind help in set-up of anaerobic laboratory.

I gratefully acknowledge Dr. J.C. Collee, M.D.(Edinburg), for his help in providing me the reference strains of anaerobic bacteria. It is a great pleasure to thank my colleagues.
Dr. H.L. Kansagara, Dr. B.D. Sandesara, Dr. Hari Dave, Dr. Ashok Shah, for their kind help throughout this study.

The collaboration of many house officers, Registrar and P.G. students through the New Civil Hospital and B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad, were constantly helpful to me in the collection of various clinical specimens.

My special thanks are due to Dr. Hari Dave and Dr. Bhoti, who have helped me throughout the study of animal experiment.

I acknowledge the help of Mr. Kulkarni, R.C. and Dr. V. Patel, A.R.O., National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad in evaluating the statistics of this work.

I also thank all those behind the scenes for having created a pleasant atmosphere for the successful completion of this work.

The work for this thesis was supported in part, by U.G.C. grant from Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.

(C. K. Gajera)
Asstt. Prof. of Microbiology,
B.J. Medical College,
Ahmedabad.

(Handwritten Signature)