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THE PLACE FOR SCIENTIFIC DEBATE

The Gut Microbiota For Health Newsletter **#71**

November 26, 2015

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Edito

Dear Friends,

How well do you know your lactobacilli? In this newsletter, Prof. Paul O'Toole describes a resource that can help you gain a better understanding of these bacteria: a recently published genomic encyclopedia for lactobacilli. O'Toole explains how he took on this ambitious project with international collaborators, and forecasts some of the benefits that will come of this work.

Also in Newsletter #71, Mary Ellen Sanders reports on the Pharmabiotics Conference 2015 in France. The GMFH editorial team brings you two selections as well: one systematic review of probiotics to treat irritable bowel syndrome, and another selection on the impact of a recent Cell Metabolism paper about interactions between microbial genes and diet.

Registration is open for the Gut Summit 2016 in Miami! With the list of top tier speakers lined up for March, you won't want to miss this event.

The GMFH publishing team

**#GMFH2016:
Registration now open!**



**GUT MICROBIOTA
FOR HEALTH**
World Summit 2016

5-6 March 2016
Hilton Miami Downtown, Miami, FL, USA



Read the editorial from Gail Hecht, Chair of the Scientific Committee of the 2016 Gut Microbiota for Health World Summit.

Visit the [Summit Registration website](#) for information and registration!

#GMFH2015: Download the Summit Report!



**GUT MICROBIOTA
FOR HEALTH**
World Summit 2015

Summit Report
Barcelona, Spain
World Summit "Gut Microbiota for Health" 14-15 March 2015



Paul O'Toole explains benefits of new genomic encyclopedia for lactobacilli

Lactobacilli are a diverse group of bacteria that include over 200 species. Famous for their use in fermented foods like yogurt, *Lactobacillus* species also occupy niches in dolphins, pigeons, and even sludge.

In a recent open access *Nature Communications* paper, an international team led by Prof. Paul O'Toole from the APC Microbiome Institute at University College Cork (Ireland) reported the genome sequences of 213 strains of lactobacilli and associated genera, including their encoded genetic catalogue for carbohydrate and protein metabolism.



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Written by K. Campbell



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Pharmabiotics Conference 2015 report

With the Eiffel Tower overhead, the second annual Pharmabiotics Conference was held in Paris on October 29-30, 2015. The focus of the Pharmabiotic Research Institute (PRI), which hosted the event, is medicinal probiotics – pharmabiotics.

One of their current goals is to develop, along with the European Medicines Authority (EMA), a protocol for the evaluation of probiotics.



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Written by ME. Sanders



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A call for quality studies on probiotics for IBS

Currently, there is no scientific consensus on the efficacy of probiotics to treat irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). Mazurak, *et al.* attempted a meta-analysis of 56 studies on single-strain and multi-strain probiotics for the treatment of IBS, but trials were so heterogeneous when it came to probiotic concentration, duration of treatment, and methodology, that the meta-analysis was abandoned.

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Written by P. Enck



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Dynamic interactions between microbial genes and diet

A recent *Cell Metabolism* article critiques a study by Wu, *et al.* on how microbial genes determine gut microbiota adaptations to environmental changes such as diet. Which microbial genes are involved in building stable, resilient communities?

Authors developed a new method able to track genetic changes in gut bacteria and how selective pressure is introduced by diet.

[Read more](#)

Written by K. Campbell



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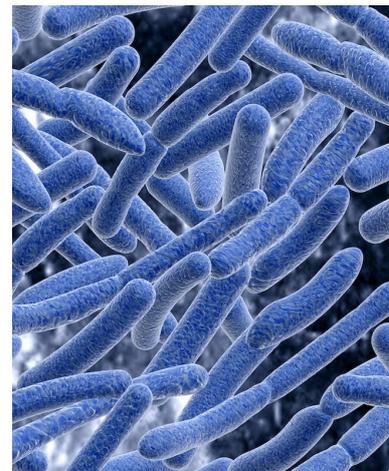
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