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Newsletter #81

May 12th, 2016



Edito

Dear Friends,

This spring brings an abundance of new gut microbiota research -- along with a lineup of exciting conferences where the research is presented and discussed! Conferences are not the only place where you can discuss ideas in the field with your colleagues, however. Our online platform offers a way to keep the discussion going outside the major meetings: in this week's newsletter, for example, Mary Ellen Sanders follows up on discussion at the #GMFH2016 World Gut Summit with her article on a clear probiotic definition.

In this newsletter, we present an article on the gut-brain axis, describing how antibiotic-induced gut microbiota disturbance can impair novel object recognition in mice. We also cover an 8-week trial assessing the effects of a daily probiotic on the health of pregnant women with gestational diabetes, and a review arguing that medications are an often-overlooked confound in human microbiome studies. Finally, we offer an article briefly covering the state of faecal microbiota transplantation (FMT) research, with mention of new data on the patient experience of FMT.

Don't forget to check out our [@gmfhx](#) Twitter account, where we've shared some highlights of recent conferences -- The Keystone Symposium "Gut Microbiota, Metabolic Disorders and Beyond" (#KSgut), The International Congress on Obesity (#ICO2016), and more!.

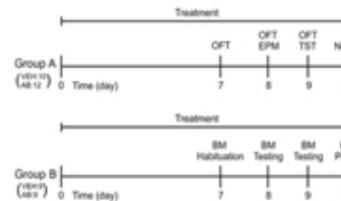
The GMFH publishing team

PROBIOTICS

A Clear Probiotic Definition by Mary Ellen Sanders

On the second day of the 2016 GMFH meeting, several speakers addressed the topic of the definition of probiotics. To my surprise, some of the speakers seemed to be unclear about the definition of a...

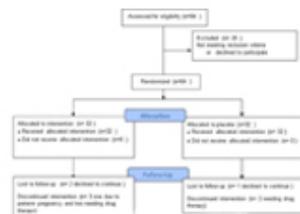
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How antibiotic-induced gut dybiosis may influence cognition in mice

Mechanisms involved in gut microbiota-brain communication are largely unknown and a better understanding of these complex relationships might provide new targeted therapies. A recent study, led by Prof. Peter Holzer from the Research Unit of...

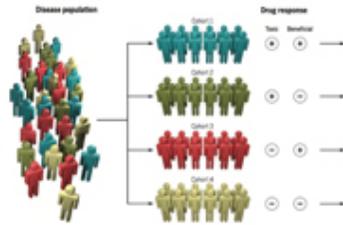
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Should women with gestational diabetes mellitus use probiotics?

Gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) is one of the most frequent metabolic complications of pregnancy and its prevalence is up to 12% in developed countries. Nowadays, several studies are investigating new therapies for glucose control that...

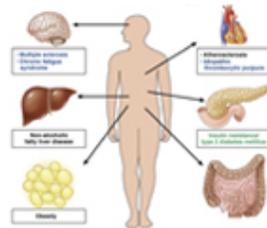
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Drugs are an important confound in human microbiome studies

A recent review, published by assistant professor Suzanne Devkota at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre in Los Angeles (USA), have shed light on the importance of controlling for external factors in microbiome studies, focusing on medications that...

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What is the current state-of-the-art of faecal microbiota transplantation?

Faecal microbiota transplantation has been demonstrated to be a safe and highly effective therapeutic option for refractory C. difficile infection (CDI), and many studies have shown that it may possibly have applications in other illnesses...

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