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Newsletter #84

June 23th, 2016



Edito

Dear Friends,

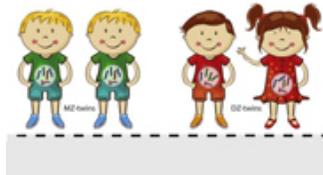
In this newsletter, we are pleased to share with you the official report from the Gut Microbiota for Health World Summit 2016! The report features "hot topics" from the summit and an overview of events. Take a look if you weren't able to join us in Miami this past March.

Despite rapidly increasing knowledge about what characterizes the gut microbiota in various disease states, researchers lack a comprehensive understanding of what factors determine the gut microbiota makeup of healthy individuals. In this newsletter, you can read about several of the factors that do appear to play a role: (1) genes, as shown in a new twin study, and (2) diet and drugs, as shown in two new population cohort studies.

Also in this newsletter: an article reviewing the latest on gut microbiota and breast milk, and a piece describing what we know -- and don't yet know -- about the mechanism of probiotic action in healthy individuals. Finally, an article by contributor Sudarshan Shetty from Wageningen University (the Netherlands) covers a recent study showing Blastocystis colonization is linked with greater bacterial diversity.

The GMFH publishing team

#GMFH2016: the Gut Summit Report



Twin study suggests gut microbial taxa abundance is partly regulated by host genotype

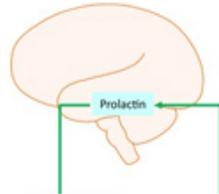
A recent study, led by Prof. Ruth Ley from the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics at Cornell University in Ithaca (USA), has found that some human genes related to diet sensing, metabolism, and immunity...

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New insights into gut microbial community variation from the two largest cohorts to date

The impact of host and environmental factors on gut microbiota variation within an average, healthy population has not been deeply studied. Two recent studies, the first one led by Dr. Jeroen Raes from the...



Benefits of breast milk go beyond infant nutrition

It is well-known that breastfeeding is the gold standard of infant nutrition, as breast milk contains protective nutrients for the growth and development of infants and may have a protective effect against long-term diseases including...

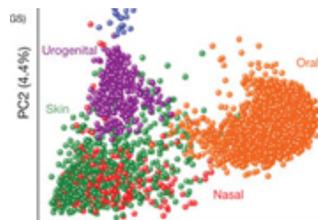
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Mechanism of probiotic action in healthy individuals still unsettled

A recent systematic review in *Genome Medicine*, authored by Nadja B. Kristensen and colleagues from the University of Copenhagen (Denmark), investigated the impact of probiotic supplementation on the fecal microbiota of healthy adults. The authors,...

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Blastocystis —a possible pathobiont— linked with greater bacterial diversity

The human gut microbiome consists of Bacteria, Archaea, viruses (mainly bacteriophages) and micro-eukaryotes (Human Microbiome Project Consortium). A wealth of data is available on bacterial communities and the focus is only occasionally directed towards the...

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