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THE PLACE FOR SCIENTIFIC DEBATE

The Gut Microbiota For Health Newsletter **#54**

April 2, 2015

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Edito

Dear Friends,

Fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT) is a topic that continues to provoke interesting discussion in the field of gut microbiota. This week we bring you a perspective from Mark Smith of OpenBiome stool bank, responding to a call for scientists to take on the role of supervising patients who self-administer FMT.

This newsletter also catches you up on the Keystone Symposium, "Gut Microbiota Modulation of Host Physiology", held March 1-5, 2015 in Colorado. We bring you an interview with conference co-organizer Yasmine Belkaid, which introduces the exciting work she presented on how bacteria influence the immune system in the long term. We also feature an overview of Kenya Honda's work on how oral bacteria and gut bacteria are both related to the immune system. Finally, through Storify, we bring you the tweet-sized highlights of conference days one through four.

We will have updates from Experimental Biology 2015 in our next newsletter, so stay tuned!

Meanwhile don't forget to visit the 2015 Gut Summit Media Room and Webcast Replays by following the links at the bottom of this newsletter!

The GMFH publishing team

Mark Smith of OpenBiome: Should Scientists Step Up to Supervise Patients Who Self-Administer Fecal Microbiota Transplants?

Dr. Mark Smith is a postdoctoral associate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and co-founder of OpenBiome, a nonprofit organization focused on expanding safe access to fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT).



Smith attended the Fourth Gut Summit in Barcelona on March 14th and 15th, 2015. After the summit, he answered some questions for GMFH editors about a recent provocative opinion piece on FMT.

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Written by K. Campbell



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Yasmine Belkaid, on Bacterial Contributions to the Immune System

Dr. Yasmine Belkaid of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH), is chief of the Mucosal Immunology section and co-director of the trans-NIH metaorganisms initiative. Her work explores mechanisms at barrier sites (i.e. skin and gut) that regulate immune responses to pathogens.



Belkaid presented a talk at the recent Keystone Symposium called, “Compartmentalized Control of Tissue Immunity by Commensals”, which included updates on other work in her lab. She took a moment at the conference to answer some questions for the GMFH editors.

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Kenya Honda, on Gut Bacteria, Oral Bacteria, and the Immune System

Dr. Kenya Honda of the School of Medicine, Keio University, Japan, spoke at the Keystone Symposium in March, 2015.

After his presentation, called Regulation of T Cells by the Gut Microbiota, he spoke with GMFH editors about his work.



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“Gut Microbiota Modulation of Host Physiology”: Highlights on Storify

KEYSTONE SYMPOSIA™
on Molecular and Cellular Biology
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The "Gut Microbiota Modulation of Host Physiology: The Search for Mechanism" Keystone Symposium took place in Keystone, Colorado, USA, March 1 - 5, 2015.

The Gut Microbiota for Health Team was there to cover the sessions! Find in the following links the Storify highlights of the event.

[Day One](#)

[Day Two](#)

[Day Three](#)

[Day Four](#)

Written by K. Campbell

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The Gut Microbiota For Health Experts Exchange is a medium to share news, innovation and information between experts on the topics of Gut Microbiota for Health.

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