# Impact of diet upon intestinal microbiota and microbial metabolites

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### Impact of the gut microbiota on human nutrition and health



Gut function, gut disorders:ColitColorColorInfectorInfectorSystemic effects:EnerrDiabHearAutor

Colitis; Irritable bowel syndrome Colorectal cancer Infections Energy supply, satiety Diabetes Heart disease Autoimmune disorders

## Modulation of the human gut microbiota by dietary fibres occurs at thespecies level[Chung WSF et al BMC Biology, 2016]







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**Firmicutes** 

#### Impact of dietary non-digestible carbohydrates in vivo

#### 14 obese male volunteers with metabolic syndrome

(mean age 54 years, mean BMI 39.4 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)

- M: maintenance diet
- NSP: high non-starch polysaccharide, low RS
- RS: high resistant starch, low NSP
- WL: high protein, moderate carbohydrate

#### Mean dietary intake [g/d]:





Walker AW et al. ISME J 2011

#### **★** Some but not all species are <u>diet-responsive</u>

#### [16S rRNA gene sequences]



#### **★** Lower diversity with RS than WB NSP



#### **★** Some but not all species are diet-responsive

#### [16S rRNA gene sequences]



Volunteer

No.

11

### ★ Lower diversity with RS than WB NSP

## Very extreme dietary changes can lead to wide-ranging shifts in the gut bacterial community in humans

'animal based' – 69.5 % (!) cals from fat, 30% from protein, <1% (!) from carbs/fibre

'<u>plant based</u>' - 32.5% from fat, 16.5% from protein, 50% from carbs/fibre

[David LA et al Nature 2014]

Rise in bile acids with high fat + lack of fibre considered key factors in 'animal-based' diet



#### Responses occur rapidly and tend to be species-specific

Cluster IV Ruminococcus species - qPCR



Walker AW et al. ISME J (2011); Salonen A et al. ISME J (2014)

#### Nutritional specialization among Ruminococcus spp.

- selected glycoside hydrolase families encoded by genomes



#### "Ruminococcus bicirculans"

Able to utilize xyloglucan, beta-glucan for growth, but not cellulolytic

Complete genome of a new Firmicutes species belonging to the dominant human colonic microbiota (*'Ruminococcus bicirculans'*) reveals two chromosomes and a selective capacity to utilize plant glucans.

Wegmann U et al (2014) Environ Microbiol 16:2879-2890

#### Ruminococcus champanellensis

The only human colonic anaerobe able to degrade filter paper (crystalline) cellulose





Ruminococcal cellulosome systems from rumen to human. Ben David *et al* (2015) *Environ Microbiol* 17:3407-3426

#### Ruminococcus bromii

Specialist starch-degrader

Exceptional starch-degrading activity in the human colonic anaerobe *Ruminococcus bromii* coincides with unique organization of its extracellular enzymes into 'amylosomes'.

Ze X et al (2015) MBio 6 (5) e01058-15.

Free

**Cell-bound** 



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Contrast - **Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron** starch utilization (*sus*) system (Salyers)

- soluble starches



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**Degradation of corn starches by four amylolytic human gut bacteria** [Ze X *et al* 2012 ISME J]



### *R. bromii a*s a 'keystone' species in degradation of resistant starch

[Walker AW *et al.* ISME J 2011 Ze X *et al.* ISME J 2012]



## Microbial ecology of carbohydrate utilization in the gut: functional groups

(Flint HJ et al Env Micro 2007)





#### Enrichment of Firmicutes bacteria on wheat bran in vitro\*



pH- controlled, anaerobic in vitro fermentor system -



\* Duncan SH et al. Environ Microbiol 2016 online

"Wheat bran promotes enrichment within the human colonic microbiota of butyrate-producing bacteria that release ferulic acid"

Duncan SH et al Environ Microbiol -2016 online



#### Action of isolated bacteria on wheat bran



### Impact of diet on plant-derived phenolic acids and microbial metabolites in human volunteers

[Russell WR *et al* AJCN 2011]



#### The gut microbiota, bacterial metabolites and colorectal cancer

#### [Louis P, Hold GL & Flint HJ 2014 NRM]



Nature Reviews | Microbiology

#### Major fermentation pathways



[propionate pathways -Reichardt N et al (2014) ISME J]

Kettle H, Louis P, Duncan SH, Holtrop G, Flint HJ (2015) **"Modelling the emergent dynamics of communities of human colonic microbiota: response to pH and peptide"** *Environ Microbiol* 15: 1615-1630



### Changes in butyrate-producing bacteria within faecal microbiota in disease states/ extreme diets –

↓	F. prausnitzii in ileal Crohn's patients	Sokol H <i>et al PNAS</i> (2008)
↓	F. prausnitzii in frail elderly	Claesson <i>et al Nature</i> (2012)
↓	Roseburia, E. rectale, F. prausnitzii in type 2 diabetics	Qin J <i>et al Nature</i> (2012)
¥	Butyrate- producers in type 1 diabetics	de Goffau MC <i>et al Diabetes</i> (2013)
↓	Roseburia, butyrate-producers in CR cancer	Wang T et al ISME J (2012)
↓	Roseburia in constipation-type-IBS	Chassard C et al Alim Ph Th (2012)
↓	Roseburia in hepatic encephalopathy (mucosal flora)	Bajaj JS <i>et al Am J Clin Nutr</i> (2012)
1	Butyrate-producers with improved insulin sensitivity	Vrieze A et al Gastroenterol (2012)
↓	Roseburia, E. rectale with low carb WL diets	Duncan SH <i>et al AEM</i> (2007)
¥	<i>Roseburia, Faecalibacterium, Coprococcus</i> in LGC individuals (increased metabolic syndrome)	Le Chatelier <i>et al Nature</i> (2013)

### How do changes in gut microbiota composition impact on metabolite production?



#### Relative abundance of <u>Bacteroidetes</u> correlates with % propionate

- in faecal samples

- and in fermentor studies



Salonen A et al. ISME J (2014)

Chung WSF et al. BMC Biology (2016)

• Total faecal SCFA , especially butyrate, decrease with lower carbohydrate intake

**Obese male subjects (UK)** 

1. Duncan SH et al AEM 2007

2. Russell WR et al Am J Cl Nutr 2011

**Diets:** 

M – maintenance (50-52% cals as CHO) HPMC – Moderate carbohydrate (35%) HPLC – Low carbohydrate (4-5%)



• Total faecal SCFA, including butyrate, can be very high in populations that have high intakes of plant-derived foodstuffs

Ou J et al Am J Clin Nutr 2013

Native Africans -African Americans -

Ace: Prop: But Ace: Prop: But 72: 27: 17 mM (total > 100 mM) 27: 7: 8 mM (total < 50 mM) Model describing the relationship between substrate abundance and gut microbiota product formation and its dependence on gut microbiota composition using the consumption of fermentable carbohydrates and the production of short chain fatty acids (SCFAs) as an example.





#### **GENERAL CONCLUSIONS**

Changes in diet composition change the representation of certain 'dietresponsive' species within the microbiota

- ★ This reflects the fact that many species (especially Firmicutes?) are highly specialised in their substrate utilization
- ★ 'Some are more equal than others' (Ze X *et al* Gut Microbes 2013) (after George Orwell) certain 'keystone species' play primary roles in degradation of recalcitrant substrates
- Changes in microbiota composition (due to diet or individual variation) impact on metabolite formation especially loss of keystone species

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