

The Human Microbiome

What We Know About It
and How We Can Manipulate It

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Disclosures

None

*Companies in Microbiome Space, no financial relationship

Historic Context

1796: Edward Jenner

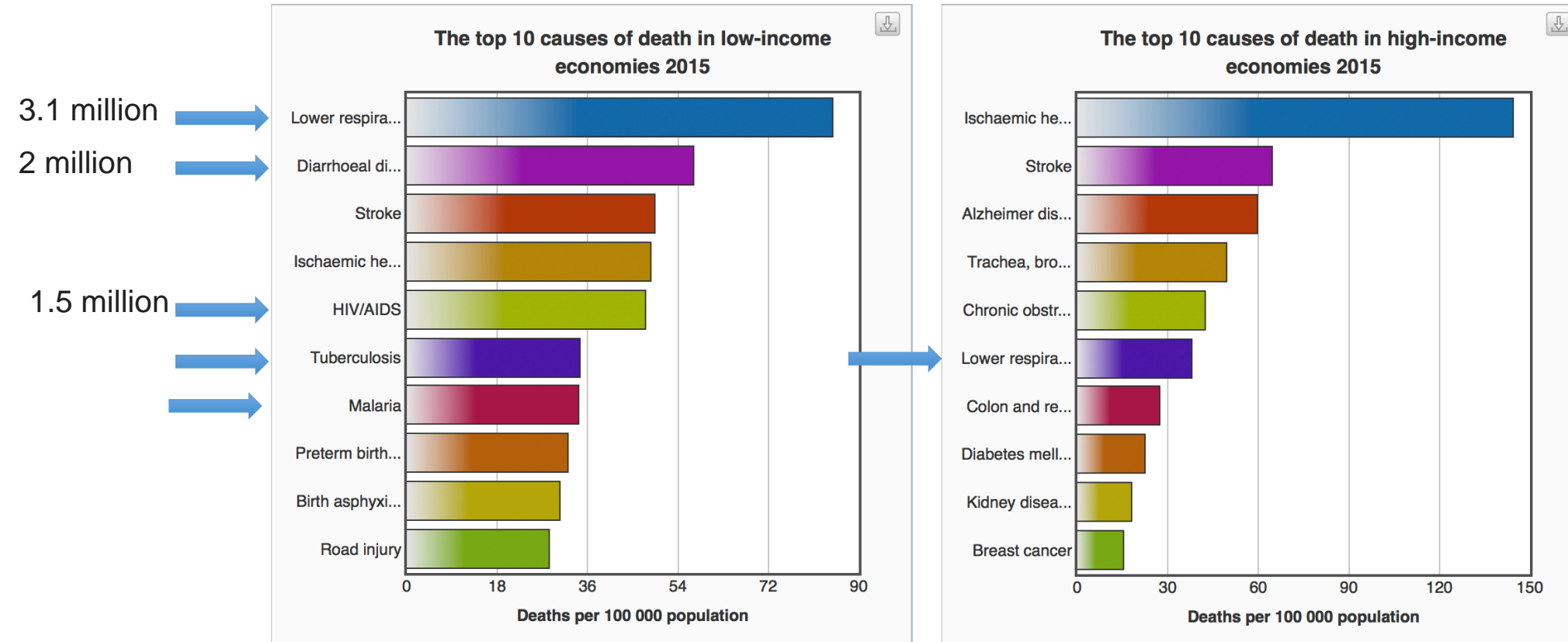
1860: Louis Pasteur

1928: Sir Alexander Fleming discovers *Penicillium*.

1942: Manufacturing process for Penicillin



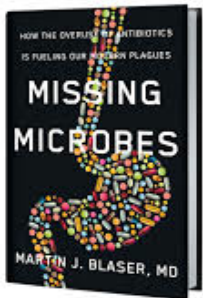
The Age of Antibiotics: Killing Bad Bugs is Good



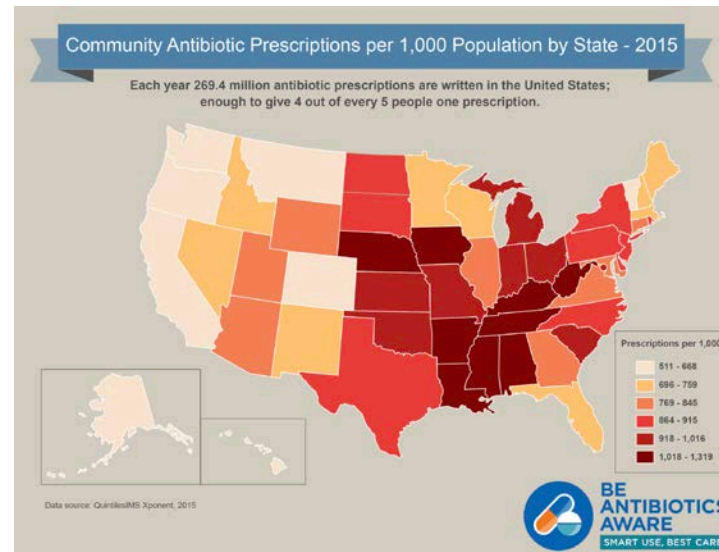
WHO, 2015

The Human Microbiome: an Innocent Bystander?

- Antibiotics are generally broad spectrum
- Americans receive, on average, ~18 rounds of antibiotics by age 20.
- Regional variation in antibiotic usage suggest cultural practices as opposed to medical necessity



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CDC, 2015



Unintended Consequences?

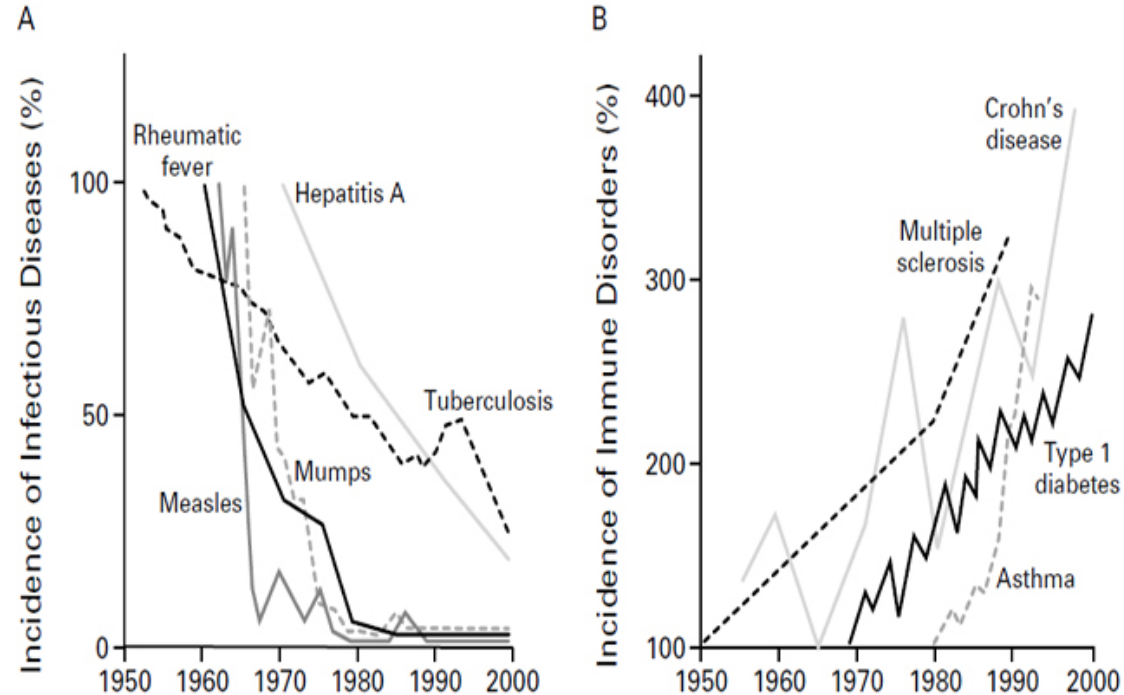


Figure 1. Inverse Relation between the Incidence of Prototypical Infectious Diseases (Panel A) and the Incidence of Immune Disorders (Panel B) from 1950 to 2000.

In Panel A, data concerning infectious diseases are derived from reports of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, except for the data on hepatitis A, which are derived from Joussemet et al.¹² In Panel B, data on immune disorders are derived from Swarbrick et al.,¹⁰ Dubois et al.,¹³ Tuomilehto et al.,¹⁴ and Pugliatti et al.¹⁵



Ancient Relationships



The Human Microbiome

Human body is composed of 30 trillion cells

It harbors *2-10 x* as many microorganisms

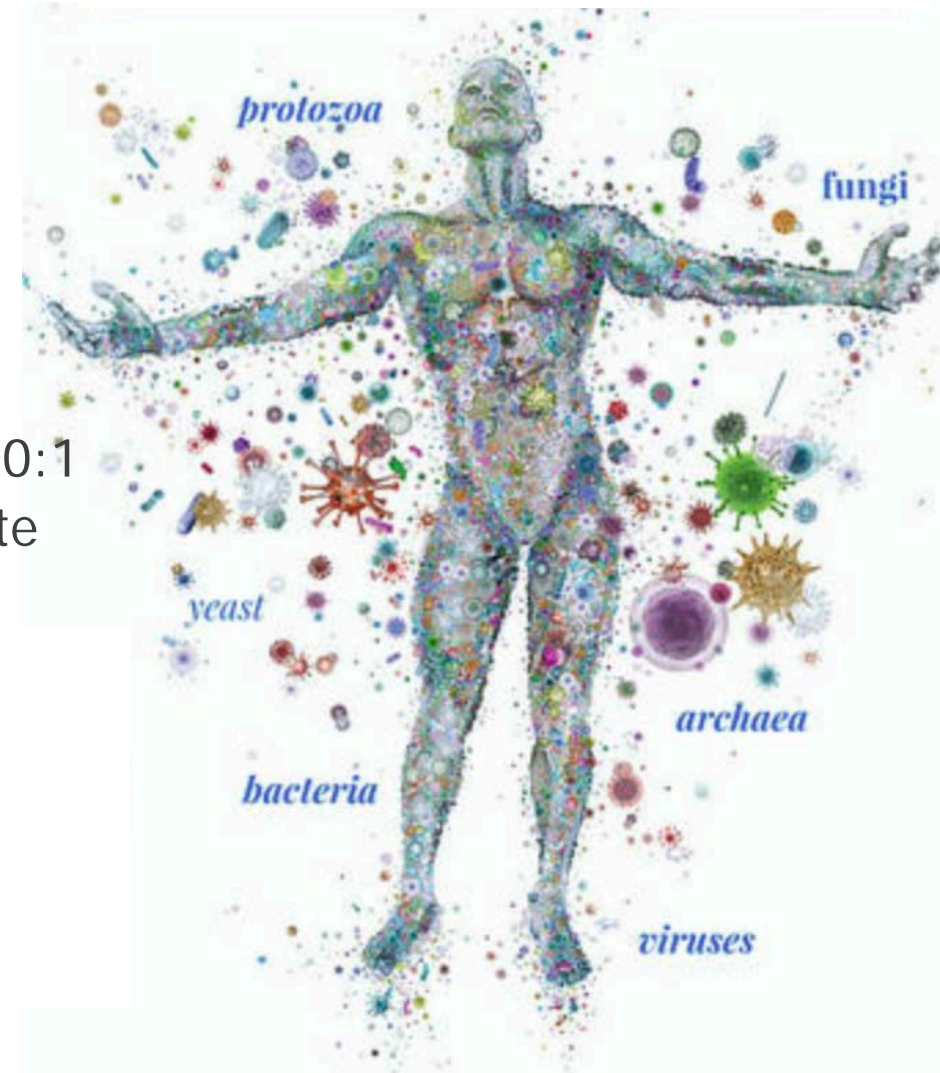
- 3 lb of bacteria
- Genetic material outnumbered that of human genome 150:1
- “Second Genome” - One that we can shape and cultivate

The Human as an Ecosystem

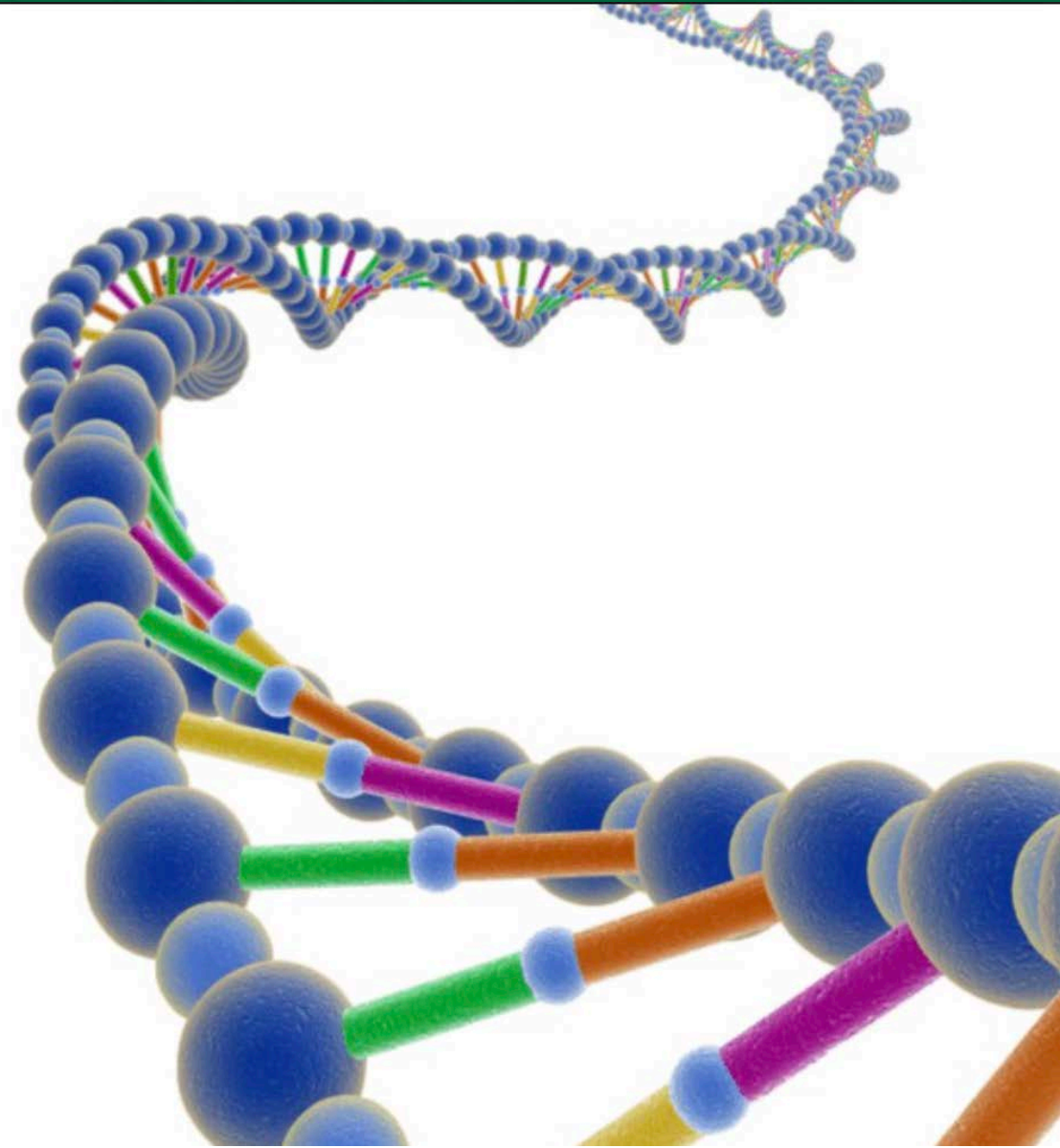
Microbiota – community of microorganisms

Metagenome – collection of genes contained by
entire microbiota

Microbiome – microbiota + host

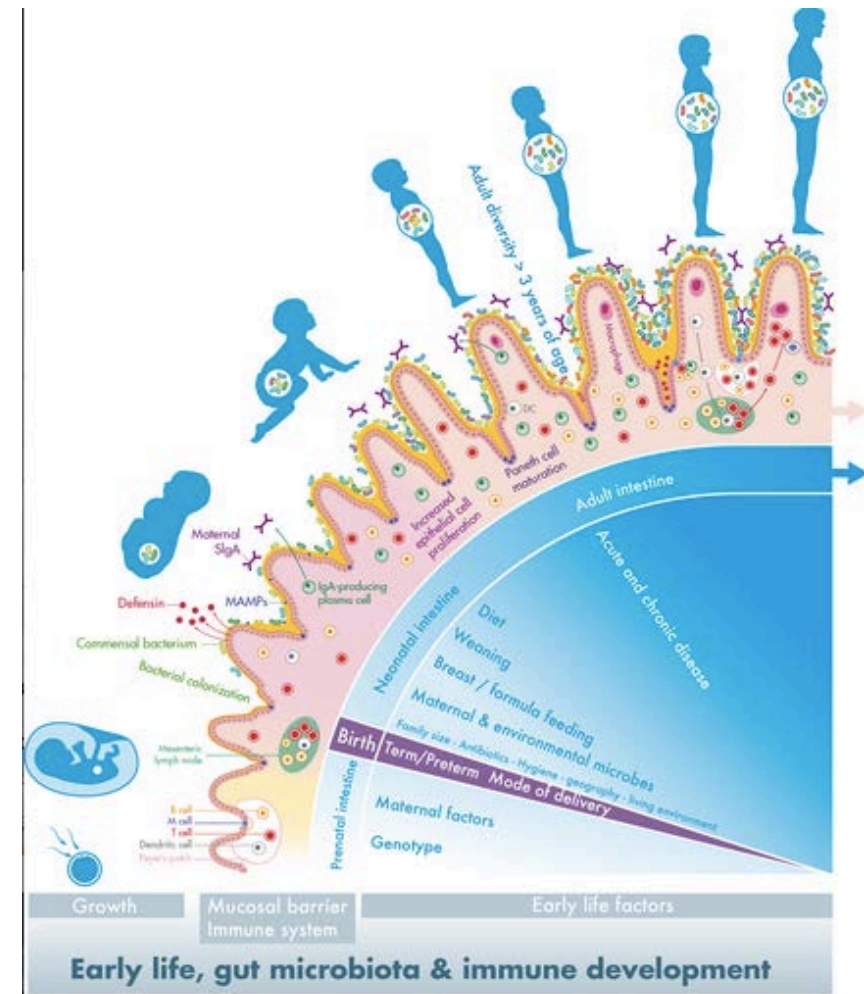


Why Now?..... Modern Genomic Technology



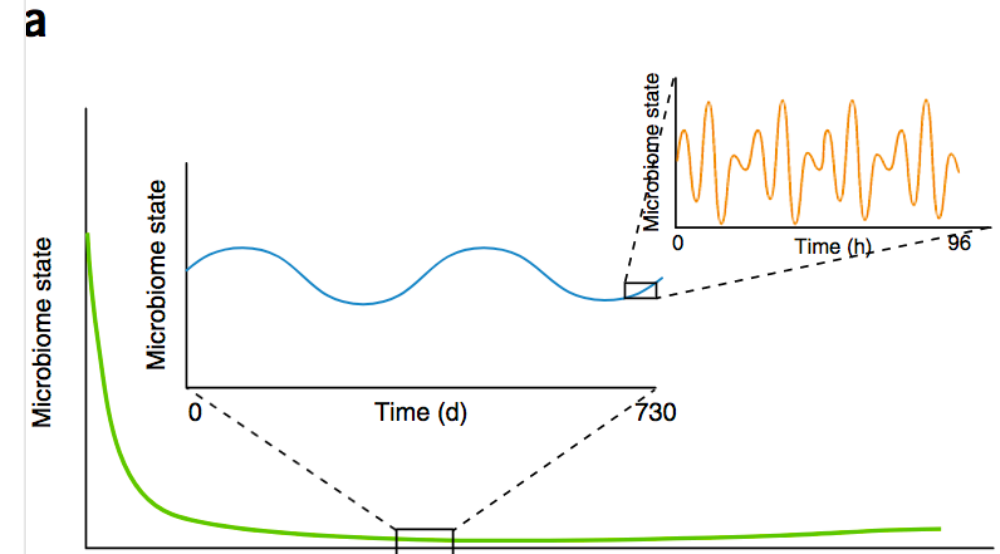
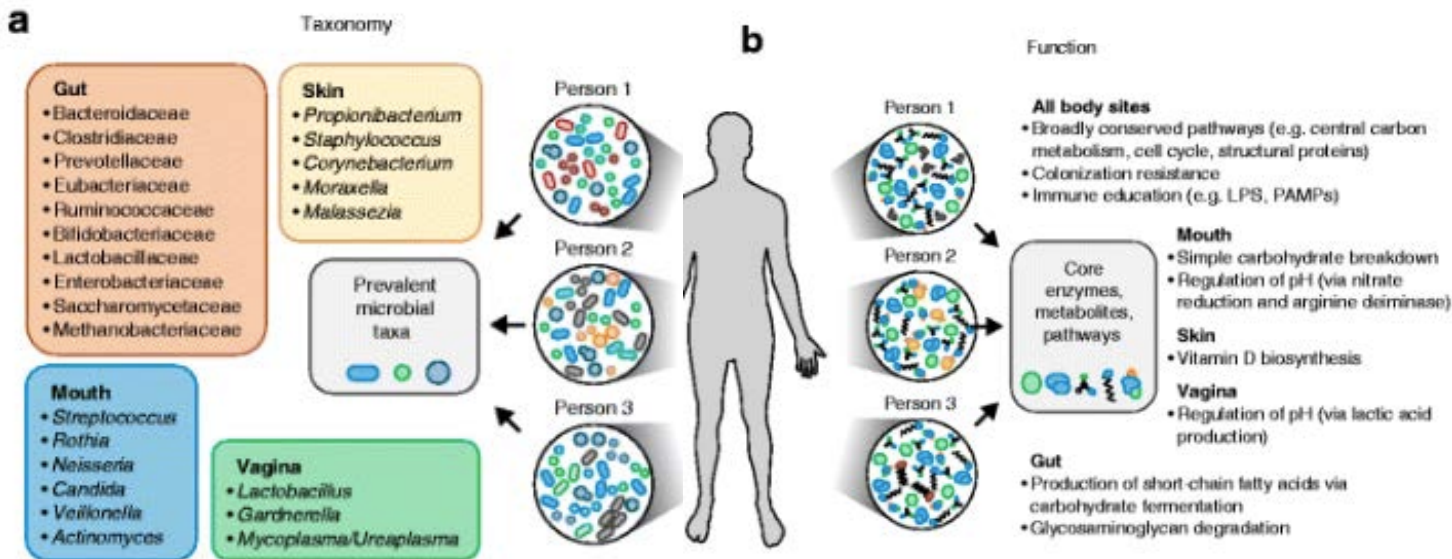
Normal Development of the Human Microbiome

- Neonatal period is generally sterile*
- Birth and colonization
 - Mode of delivery
 - Breast Feeding
- Volatility and increasing diversity (0-2 yrs)
- Stability and resilience (2 yrs-adulthood)
- Decreasing diversity and return of volatility (elderly)
- Each individual is unique
 - *personalized medicine



Wopereis, 2014

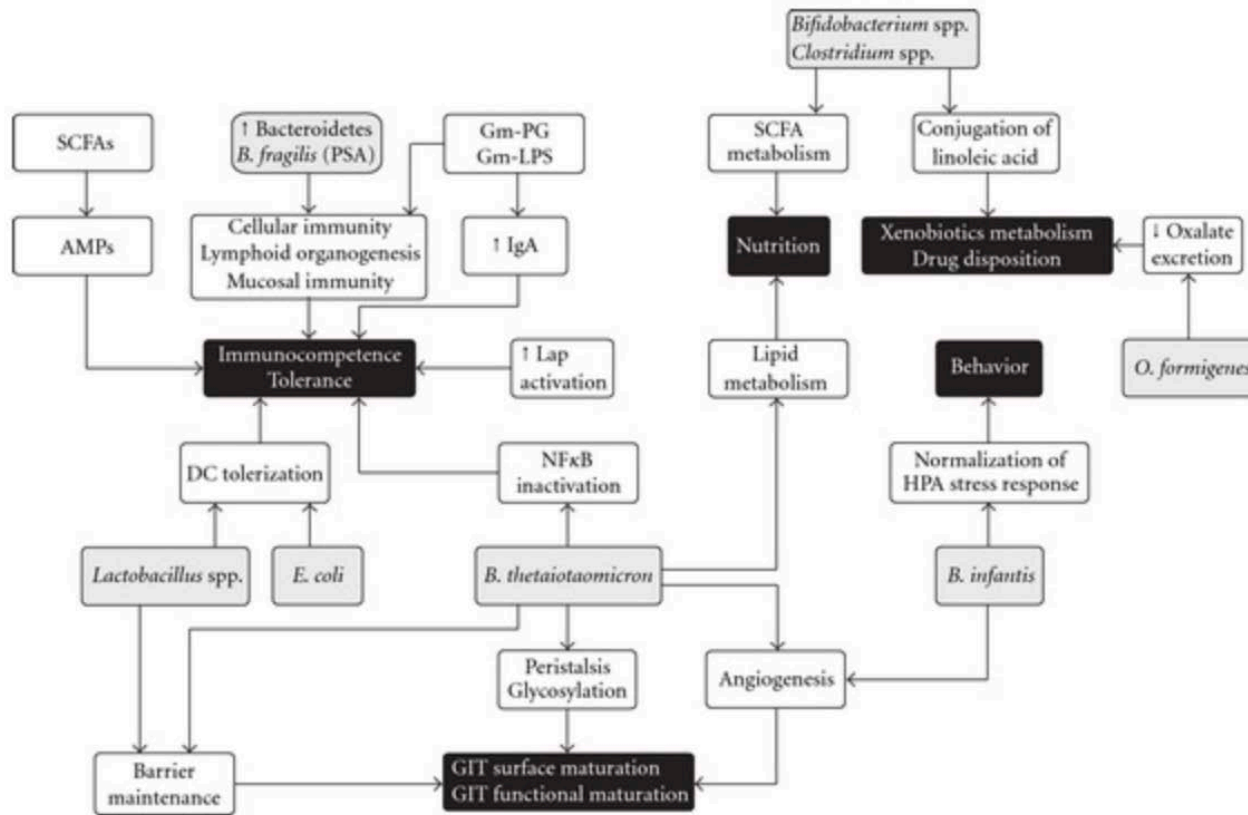
The Rhythms and Environmental Niches of the Human Microbiome



Gilbert. Nature Medicine 2018.



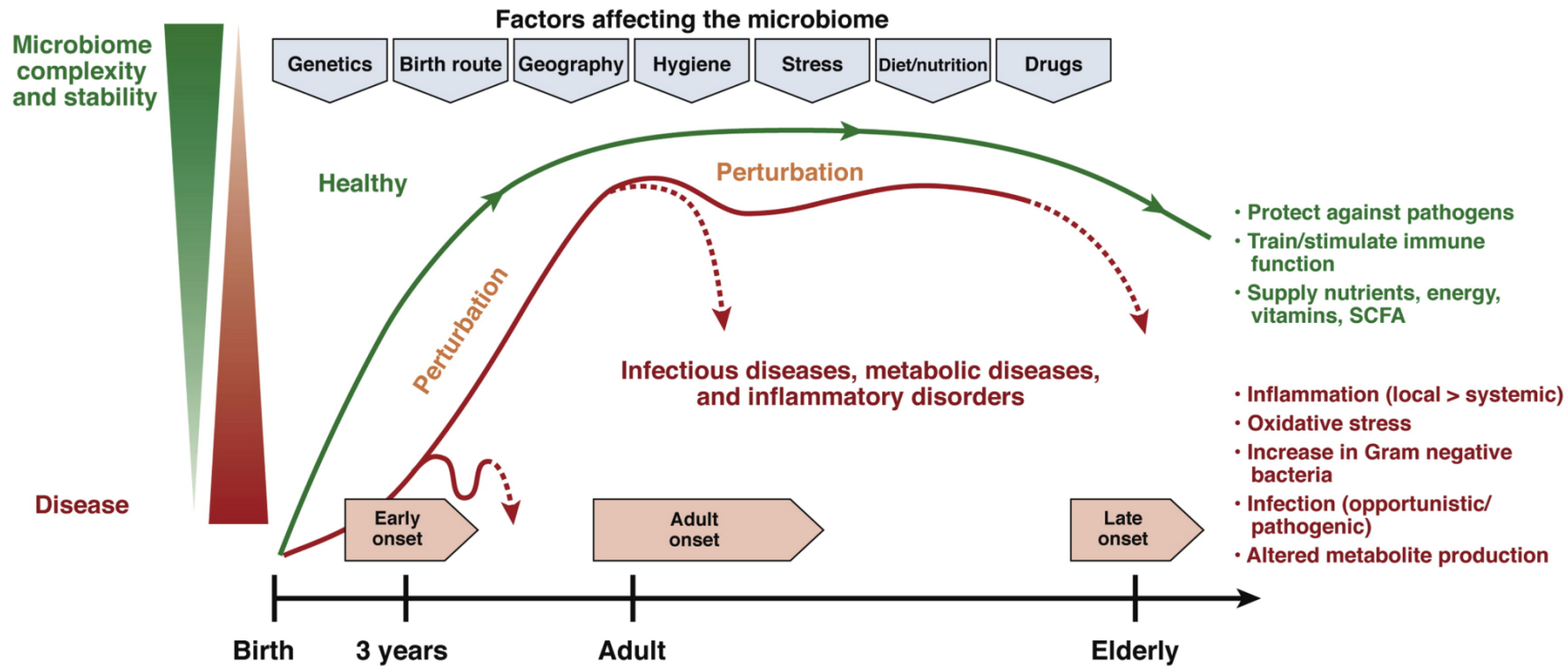
Host Physiology and the Microbiome



Phys Rev 2010 Sekirov et al.



Disruption of the Human Microbiome: Dysbiosis



Dysbiosis: Cause or Effect?

[Nat Rev Rheumatol](#). Author manuscript; available in PMC 2012 Feb 8.

Published in final edited form as:

[Nat Rev Rheumatol](#). 2011 Aug 23; 7(10): 569–578.

Published online 2011 Aug 23. doi: [10.1038/nrrheum.2011.121](#)

The microbiome and rheumatoid arthritis

[Jose U. Scher](#) and [Steven B. Abramson](#)

[Author information](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#) ►

PMCID: PMC3275

NIHMSID: NIHMS352

[Oncotarget](#). 2017 Jan 31; 8(5): 8890–8899.

Published online 2016 Oct 28. doi: [10.18632/oncotarget.12985](#)

PMCID: PMC5352451

Cross-talk between microbiota and immune fitness to steer and control response to anti PD-1/PDL-1 treatment

[Andrea Botticelli](#),^{#2} [Ilaria Zizzari](#),^{#1} [Federica Mazzuca](#),² [Paolo Antonio Ascierto](#),⁴ [Lorenza Putignani](#),³ [Luca Marchetti](#),⁵ [Chiara Napoletano](#),¹ [Marianna Nuti](#),^{#1} and [Paolo Marchetti](#)^{#2}

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Interactions between Gut Microbiota, Host Genetics and Diet Modulate the Predisposition to Obesity and Metabolic Syndrome

[Siegfried Ussar](#),^{#1,2} [Nicholas W. Griffin](#),^{#3,4} [Olivier Bezy](#),^{#1} [Shiho Fujisaka](#),¹ [Sara Vienberg](#),¹ [Samir Softic](#),¹ [Luxue Deng](#),⁵ [Lynn Bry](#),⁵ [Jeffrey I. Gordon](#),^{3,4} and [C. Ronald Kahn](#)¹

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[Front Neurosci](#). 2017; 11: 490.

Published online 2017 Sep 15. doi: [10.3389/fnins.2017.00490](#)

PMCID: PMC5605633

Cross Talk: The Microbiota and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

[John R. Kelly](#),^{1,2} [Chiara Minuto](#),^{1,2} [John F. Cryan](#),^{2,3} [Gerard Clarke](#),^{1,2} and [Timothy G. Dinan](#)^{1,2,*}

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[Gut](#). 2017 Apr; 66(4): 633–643.

Published online 2016 Mar 18. doi: [10.1136/gutjnl-2015-309595](#)

Original article

PMCID: PMC5529966

Tumour-associated and non-tumour-associated microbiota in colorectal cancer

[Burkhardt Flemer](#),^{1,2} [Denise B Lynch](#),^{1,2} [Jillian M R Brown](#),^{1,2} [Ian B Jeffery](#),^{1,2} [Feargal J Ryan](#),^{1,2} [Marcus J Claesson](#),^{1,2} [Micheal O'Riordain](#),³ [Fergus Shanahan](#),^{1,4} and [Paul W O'Toole](#)^{1,2}

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Subgingival microbiota dysbiosis in systemic lupus erythematosus: association with periodontal status

[Jôice Dias Corrêa](#),¹ [Débora Cerqueira Calderaro](#),² [Gilda Aparecida Ferreira](#),² [Santuza Maria Souza Mendonça](#),¹ [Gabriel R. Fernandes](#),³ [E. Xiao](#),⁴ [Antônio Lúcio Teixeira](#),² [Eugene J. Leys](#),⁵ [Dana T. Graves](#),^{#4} and [Tarcília Aparecida Silva](#)^{#1,6}

[Author information](#) ► [Article notes](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#) ►

[Gastroenterology](#). Author manuscript; available in PMC 2015 May 1.

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[Gastroenterology](#). 2014 May; 146(6): 1534–1546.e3.

Published online 2014 Jan 7. doi: [10.1053/j.gastro.2014.01.001](#)

PMCID: PMC3995897

NIHMSID: NIHMS553868

Gastrointestinal Malignancy and the Microbiome

[Maria T. Abreu](#)¹ and [Richard M. Peek, Jr.](#)²

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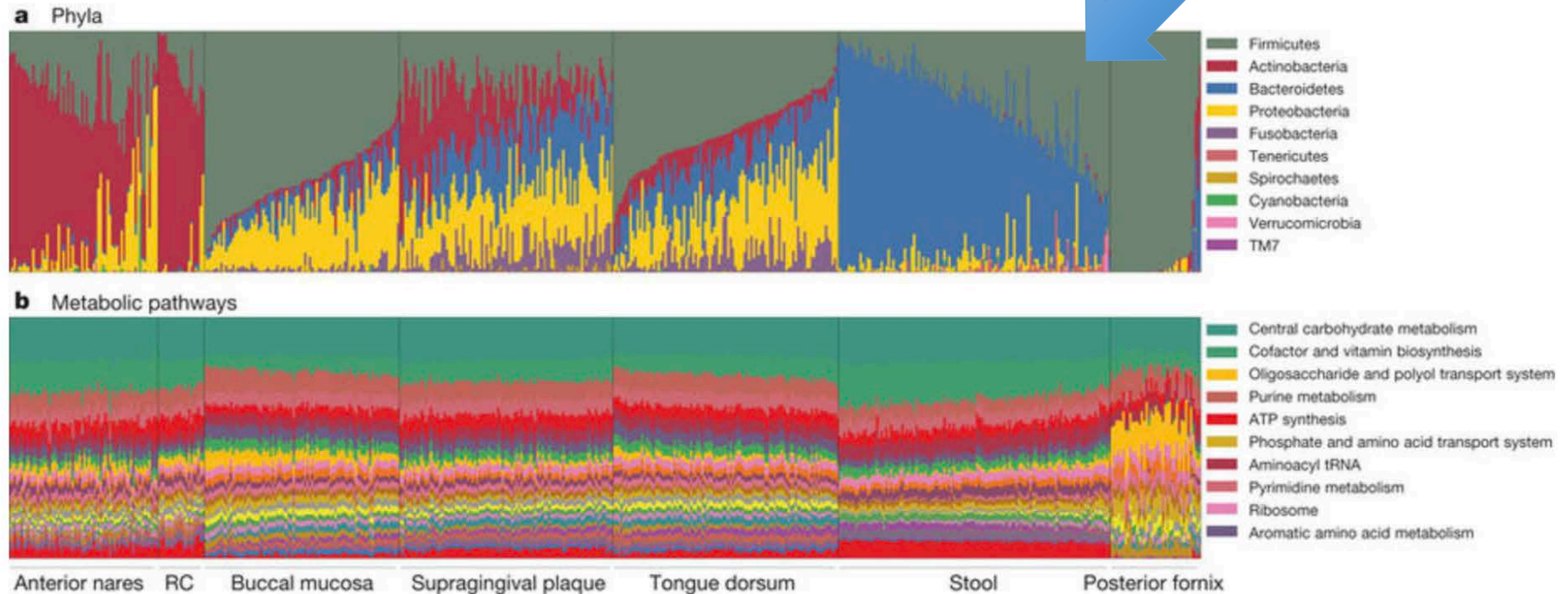


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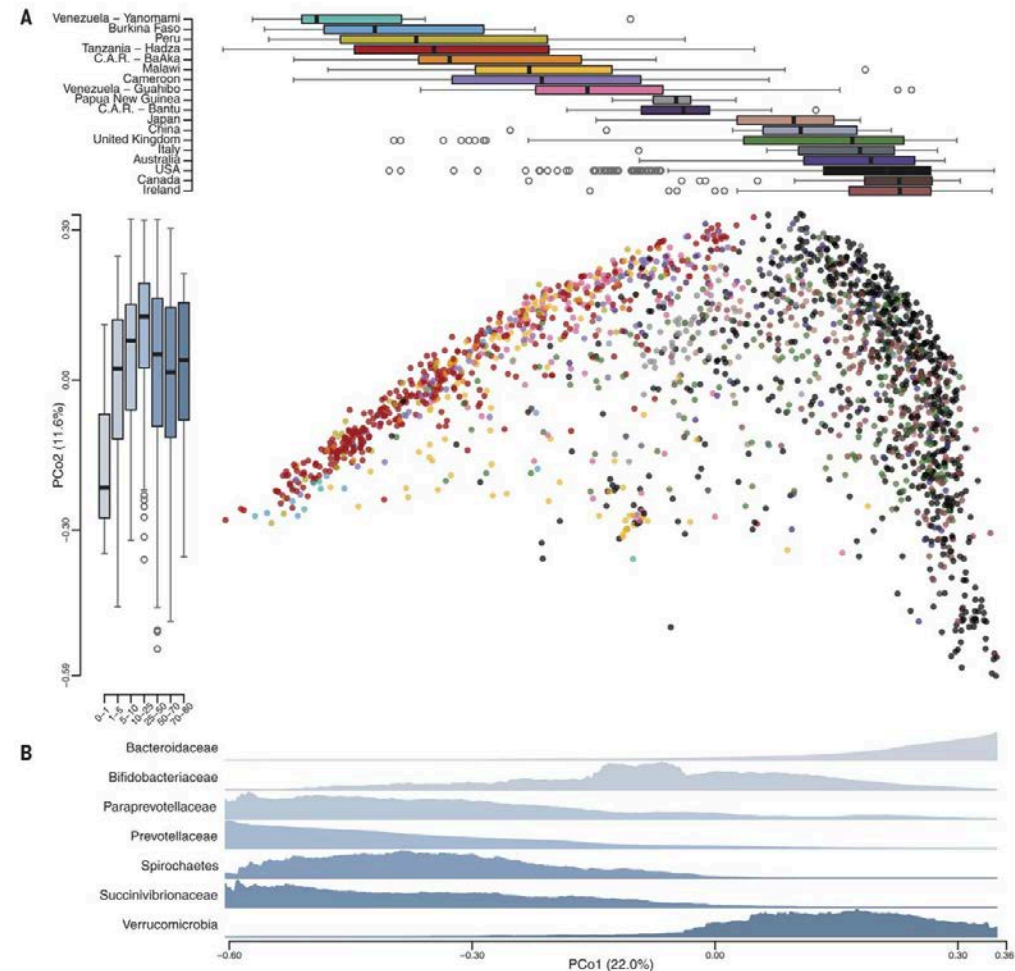
Correlation \neq Causation



The Human Microbiome: What is Normal?



Evolution of the Human Gut Microbiome



Smits, et al. Science. 2017

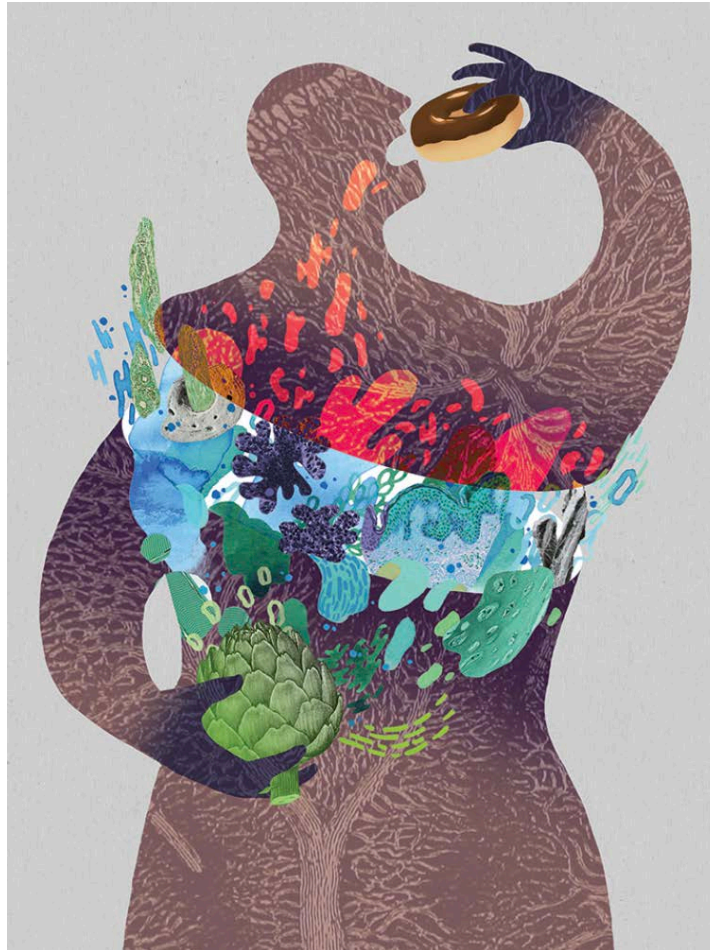


The Modern Gut Microbiome

- Urbanization, housing
- Sanitation
- Modern Medicine
 - Antibiotics
- **Diet**
 - Easy access to historically rare foods (sweet, salty)
 - Processed Foods
 - Dietary fiber: average American 15 g/ ADA 30 g/ Hadza 300 g

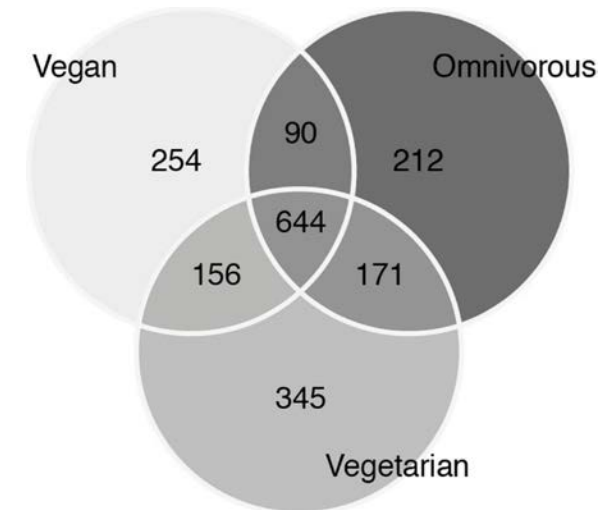
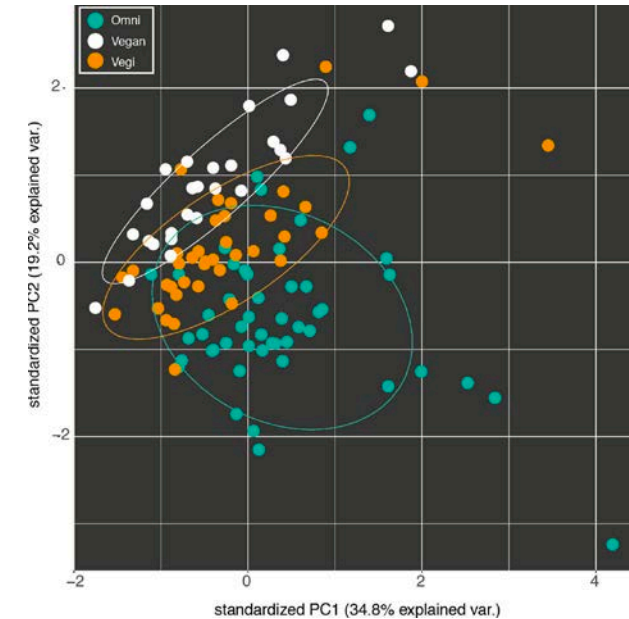


Diet: Major Influence Shaping the Gut Microbiome



Diet and the Gut Microbiome

- “Enterotypes”
 - Meat vs Plant-based diet
- Controlled feeding interventions
 - Shift within days of dietary change
- Immigration studies
- Japanese and seaweed



Losasso, et al. Front. Microbiol., 05 March 2018



Prebiotics vs Probiotics

Prebiotics: Food for your gut bacteria

Microbiota-accessible carbohydrates (MACs)

Dietary: Fermentable fiber

Host-derived: mucosal glycans



Probiotic: Live organisms consumed for a health benefit.

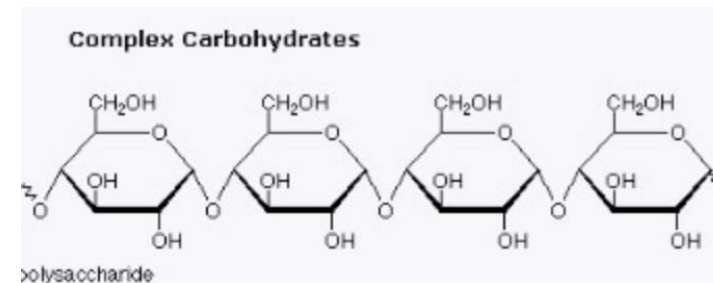
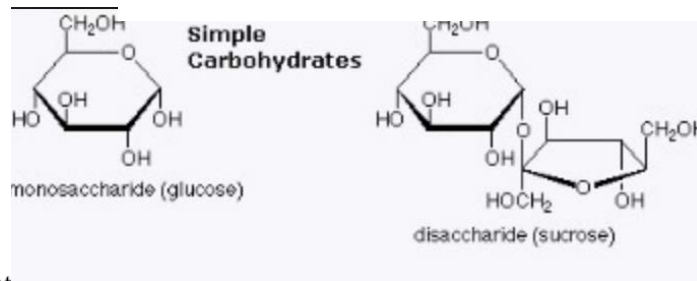


Dietary Fiber

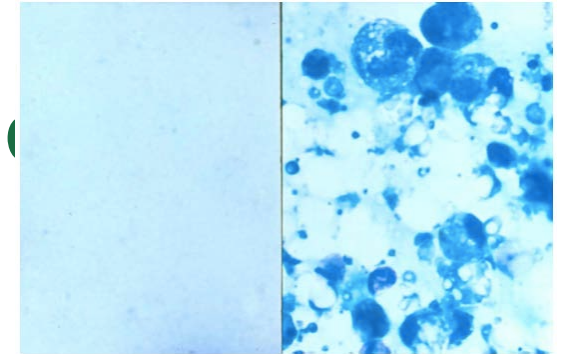
SIMPLE
CARBS

VS.

COMPLEX
CARBS



Breast Milk: The First Probiotic + Prebiotic



- Breast Milk

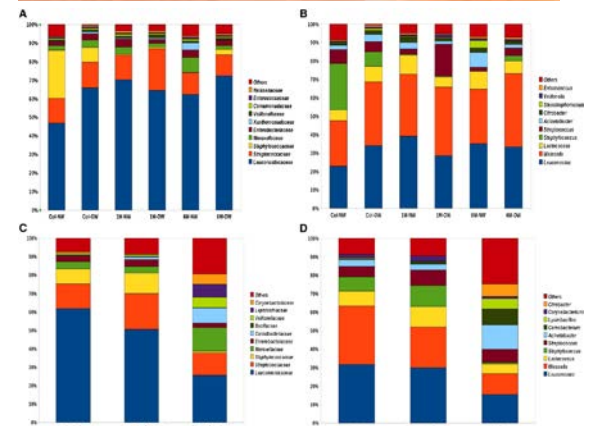
- Cytokines, Immunoglobulins, Growth factors, Lysozymes, Lactoferrin, and...

- Microbiota

- Bacteria, archaea, viruses, fungi, and protozoa

- 21%: Oligosaccharides (complex carbohydrates)

- Selects for bacteria (i.e. *Bifidobacterium longum*) to begin cultivation of the baby's gut.

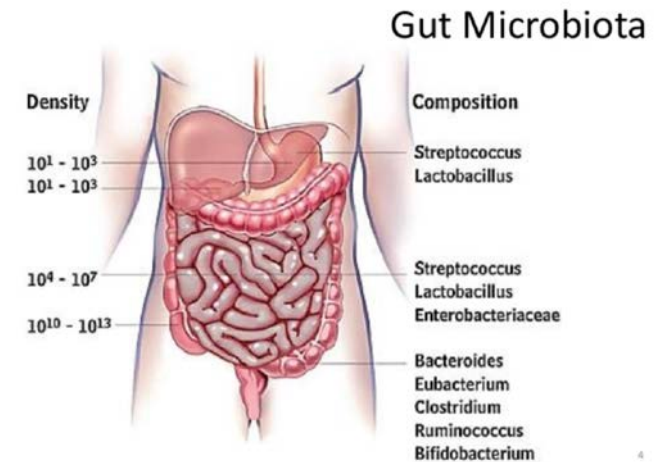


Raul Cabrera-Rubio et al. 2012



Probiotics: Challenges

- The bug
 - Aerobic manufacturing (vs anaerobic gut)
 - Storage and preservation (heat killed, temperature)
 - FDA regulation
- The host
 - “Drop in the bucket”
 - Colonization niches (pass on through vs. fill an unfilled niche and last)



Effects of the Modern Western Diet on the Gut Microbiome

Decreased complex fiber

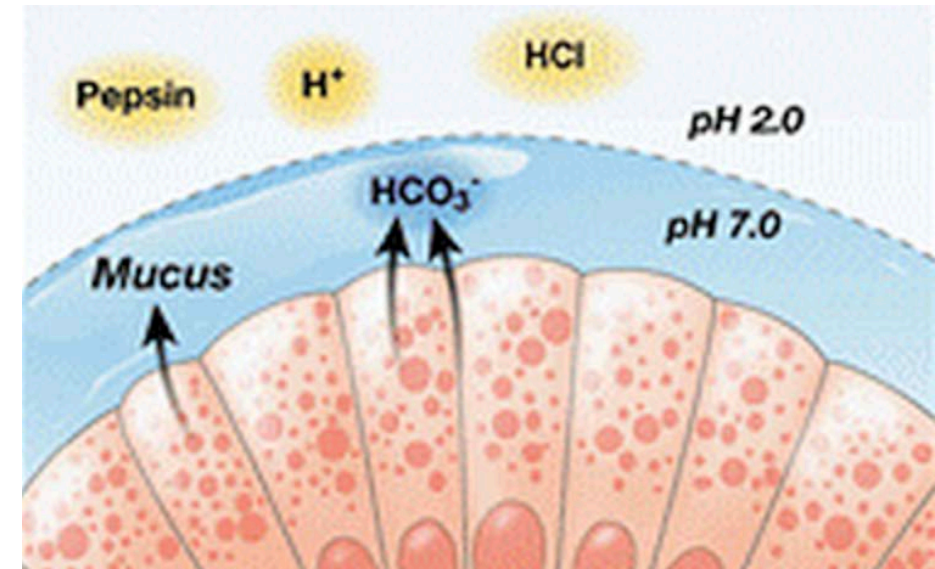
- “Hungry” bugs metabolize host glycans (mucus layer) instead
- Thinning of the protective mucus layer => Microbes closer to the epithelium => Immune activation

Artificial Sweeteners (sucralose and saccharin)

- Metabolized by microbes instead of host
- Results in microbial shifts
- Associated with metabolic changes in mice

Emulsifiers

- Thin host mucus layer in mouse models



Is the Modern Gut Microbiome the (or Part of the) Link?

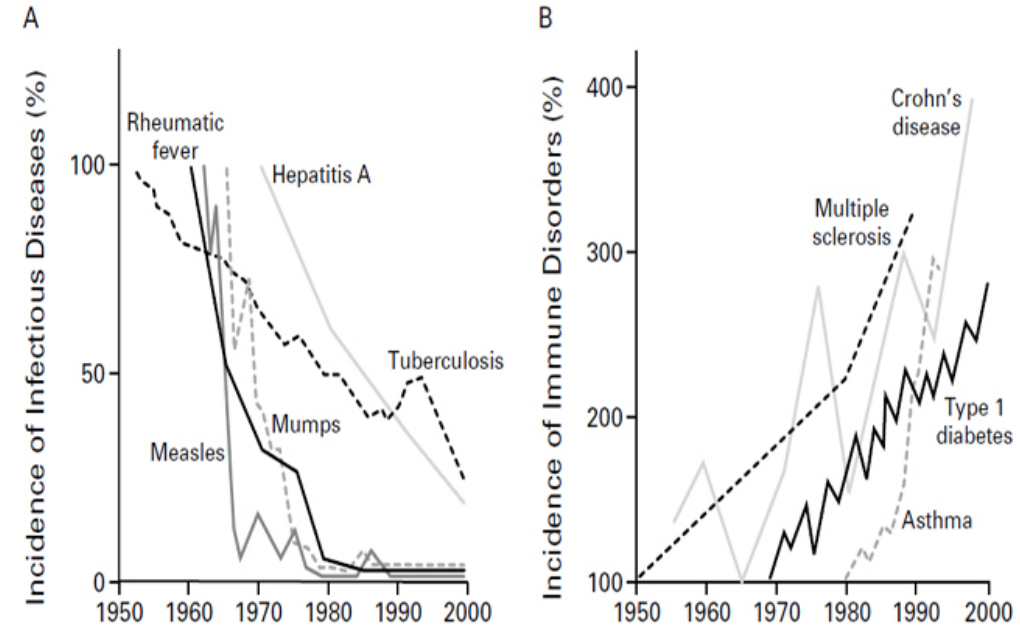
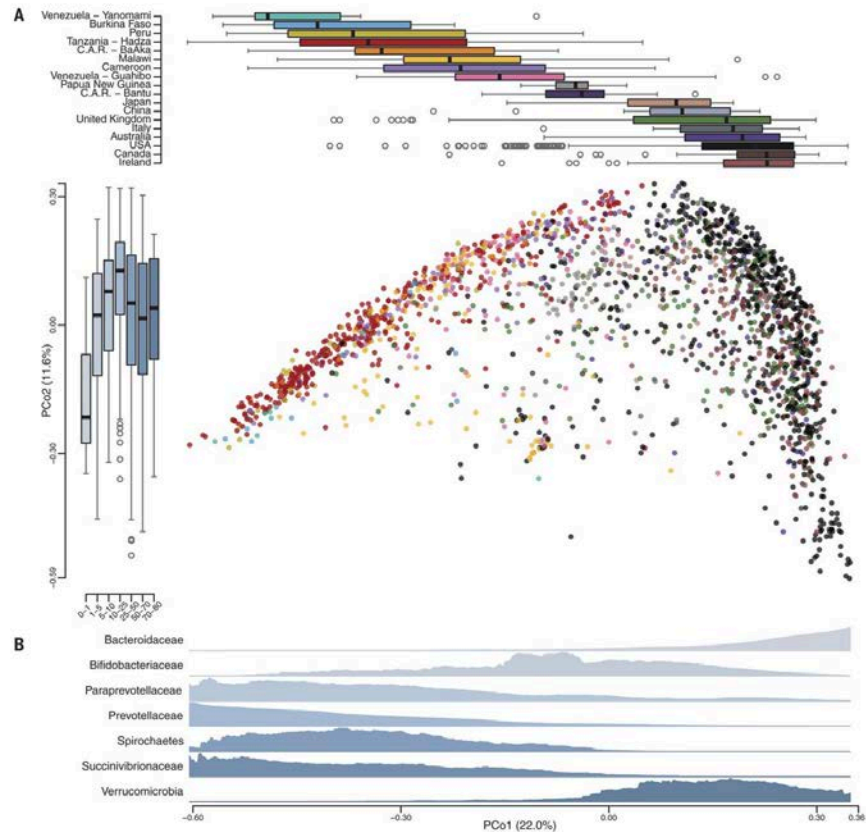
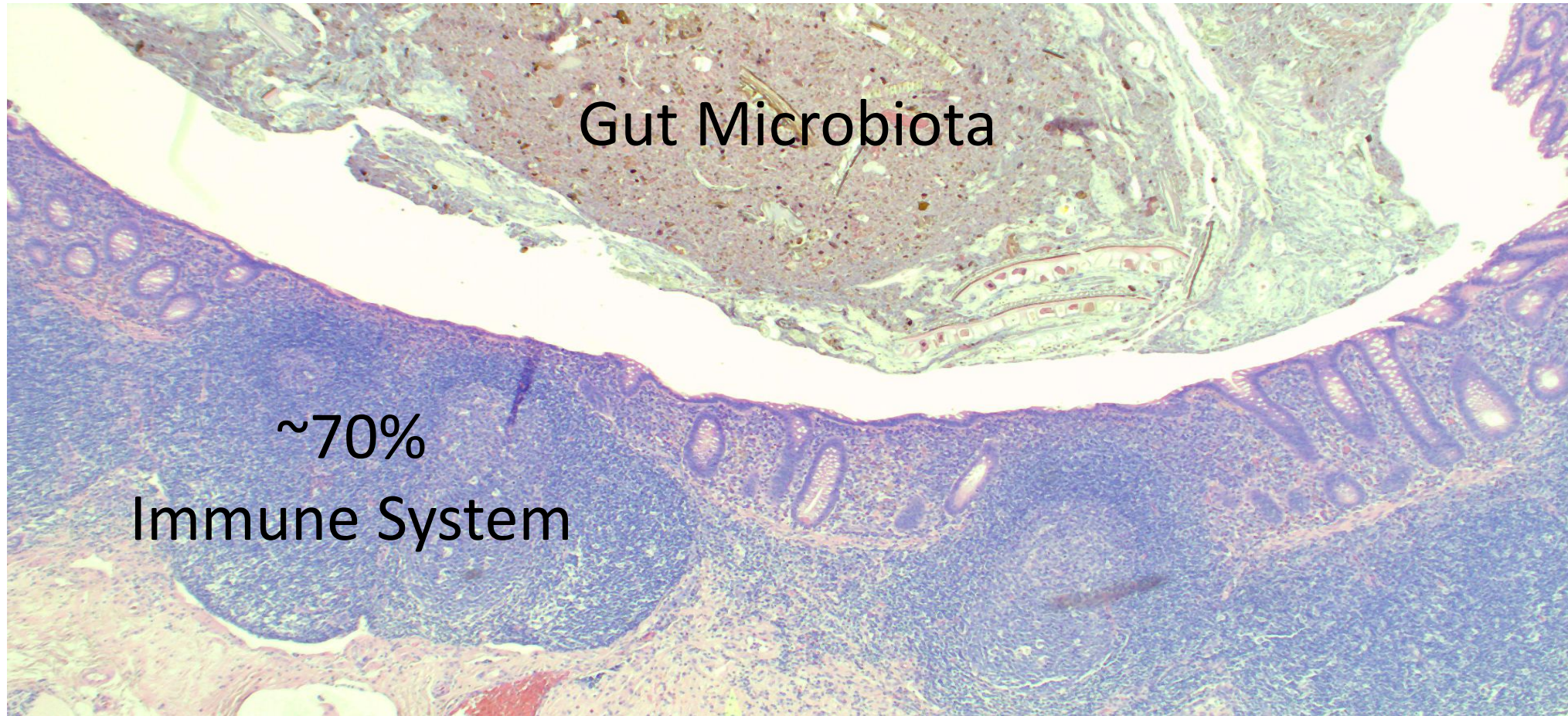


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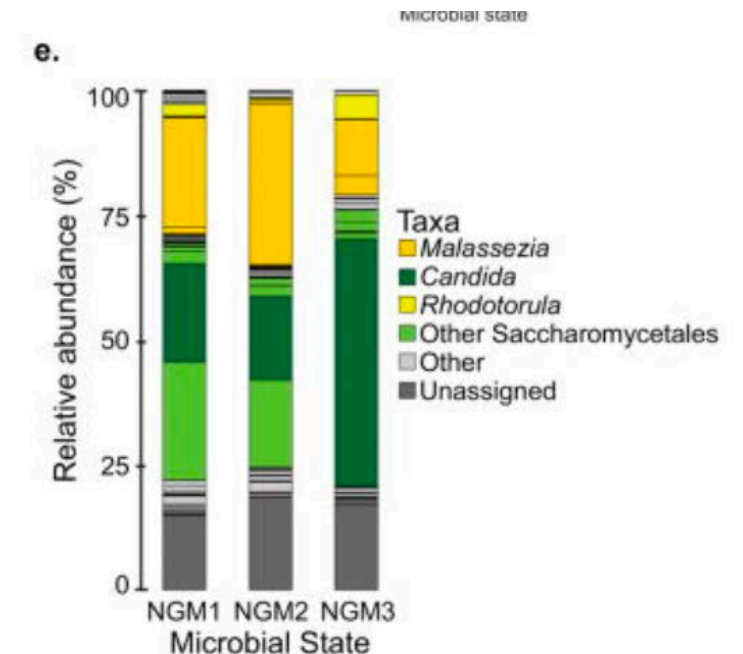
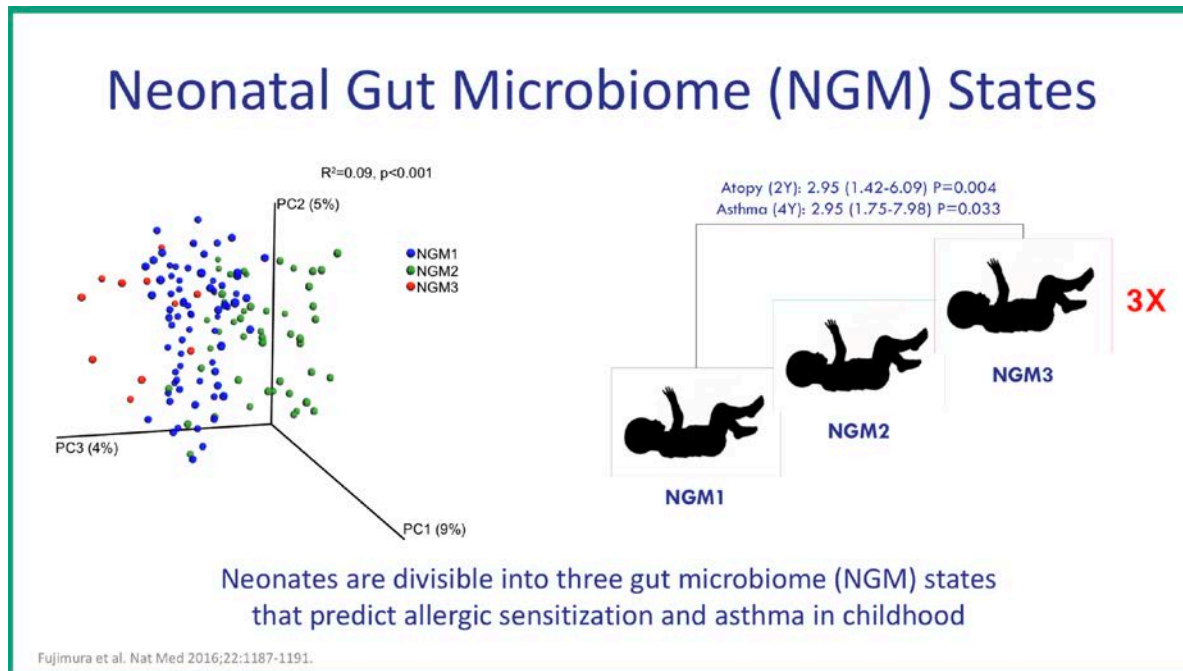
The Gut Microbiome and Immune Education



The Gut Microbiome and Immune Education

Prospective, birth cohort

Primary outcomes: Multi-sensitized atopy at 2 yo; Asthma at 4 yo



R. Valladares. Mol. TriCon. 2018

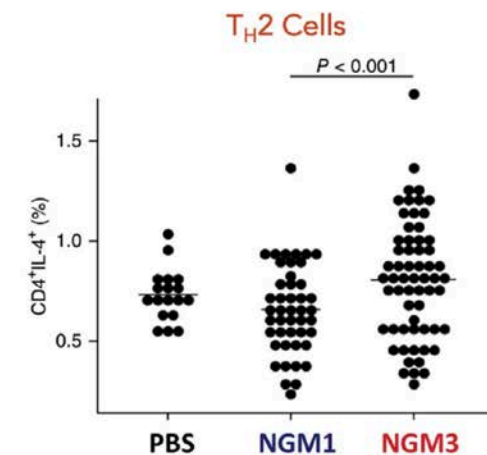
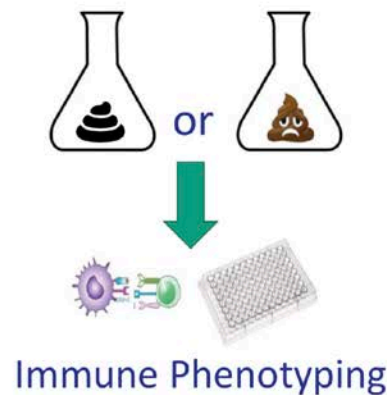
Fujimura 2016

The Gut Microbiome and Immune Education

- Exposure of immune cells to sterile fecal water of “high risk” neonates =>
 - T cell activation (increased IL-4) and
 - Decreased immune regulatory cells.



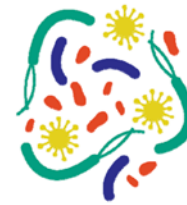
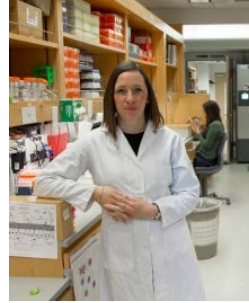
NGM3 Fecal Metabolites Induce Expansion of Th2 Cells



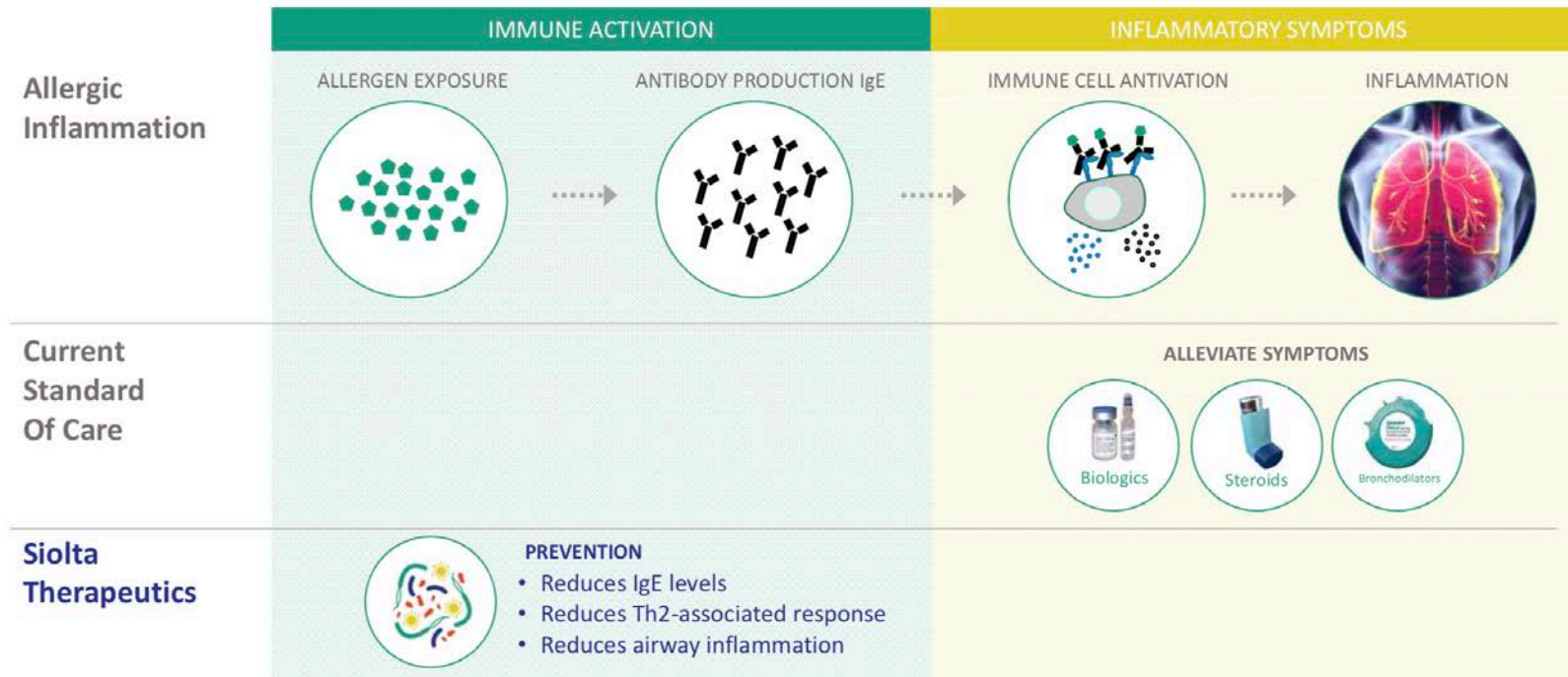
Fujimura et al. Nat Med 2016;22:1187-1191.



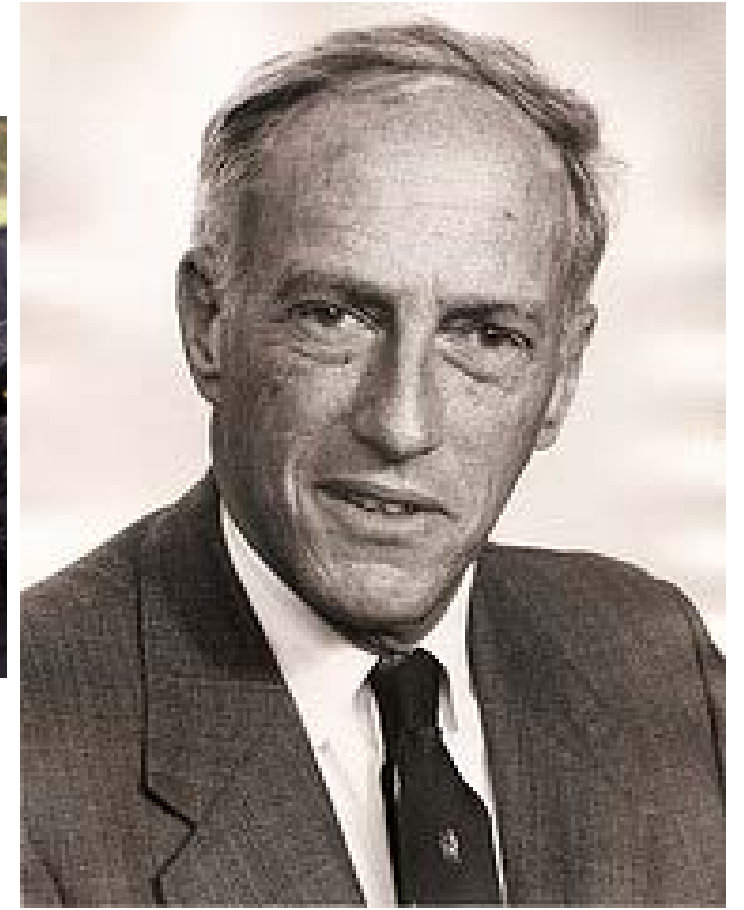
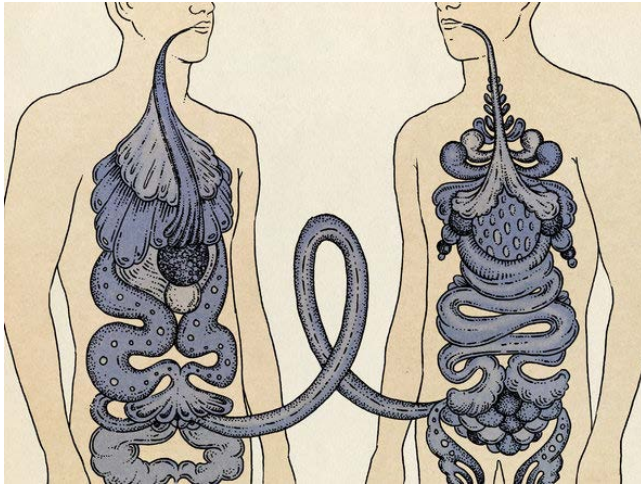
Using the Gut Microbiome to Prevent Disease: Asthma



Siolta
Therapeutics

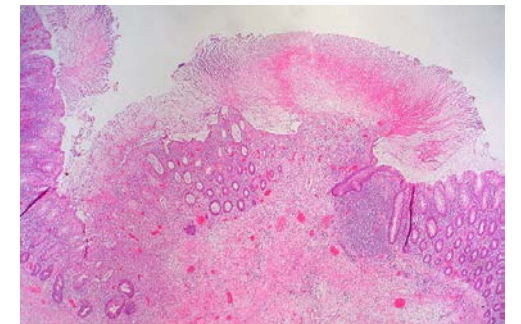


Using the Gut Microbiome to Treat Disease: Fecal Microbiota Transplant



Clostridium difficile Colitis

- *C. difficile* colitis is characterized by profuse, watery diarrhea, abd pain, fever
 - Incidence ~ 500,000
 - Mortality ~ 14,000
 - Morbidity includes drug toxicity 2° Abx use, toxic megacolon, total colectomy
- Deaths linked to *C. diff* increased fivefold between 1999 and 2007.
- Risks for developing colitis include antibiotic use, increasing age, long term care facility
- Recurrent *C. difficile* colitis (rCDI)
 - 1st reoccurrence: ~25% of patients,
 - Of those, 35-65% will suffer multiple episodes



Fecal Microbiota Transplant: *C. difficile* Colitis



- **Prospective, randomized, controlled trial**

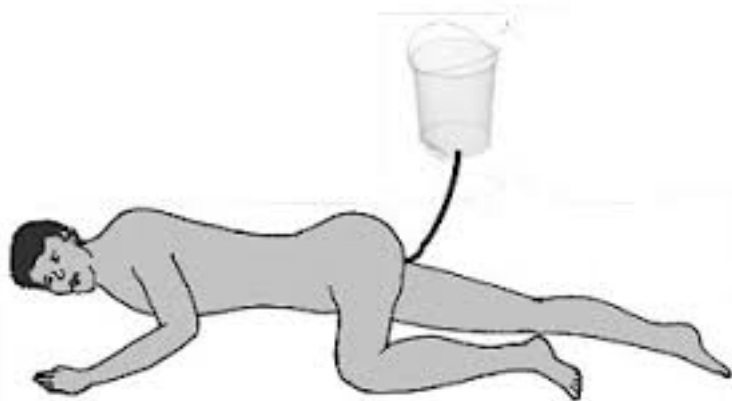
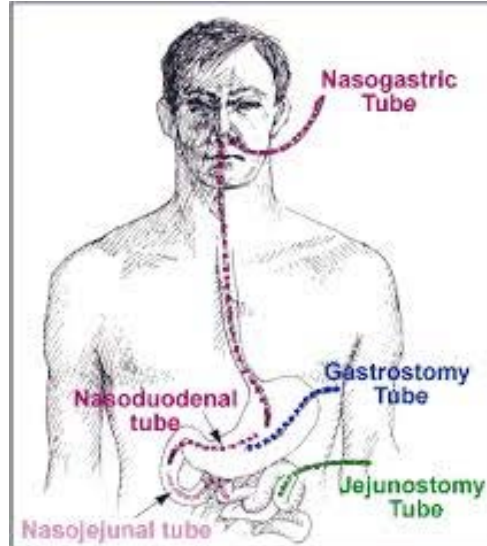
- 1) **FMT**: Short-course of vancomycin (500 mg orally q6 x 4d) => FMT
- 2) **Standard vancomycin**: 500 mg orally q6 x 14 days
- 3) **Vancomycin with bowel lavage**: Bowel lavage performed on d 4

Fecal Microbiota Transplant: *C. difficile* colitis

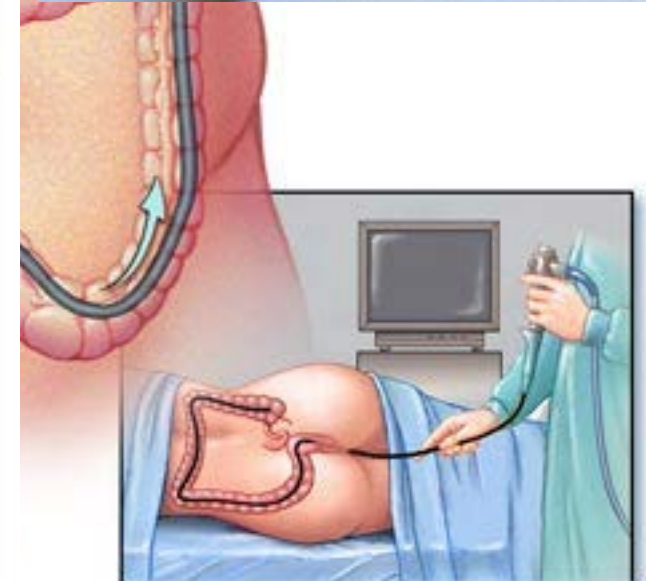
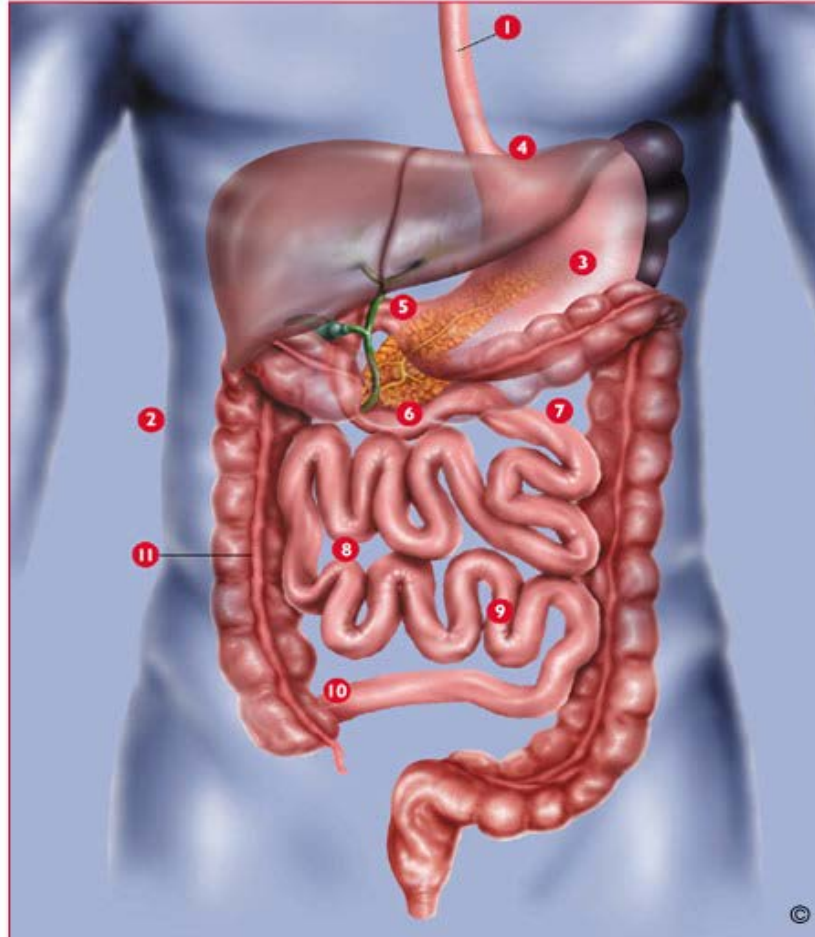
- The **study was stopped** after an interim analysis.
 - 13/16 (81%) resolved with 1 FMT, 2 of 3 remaining patients resolved after 2nd FMT.
- Recurrence rate 5 weeks following treatment:
 - 62% in vancomycin alone
 - 54% in vancomycin + bowel lavage
 - 1 patient (6%) in FMT
- Average cure rate: 93%
- No serious adverse events to date have been reported.



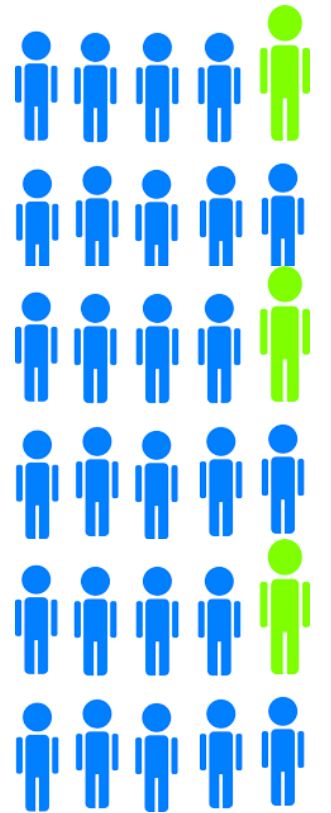
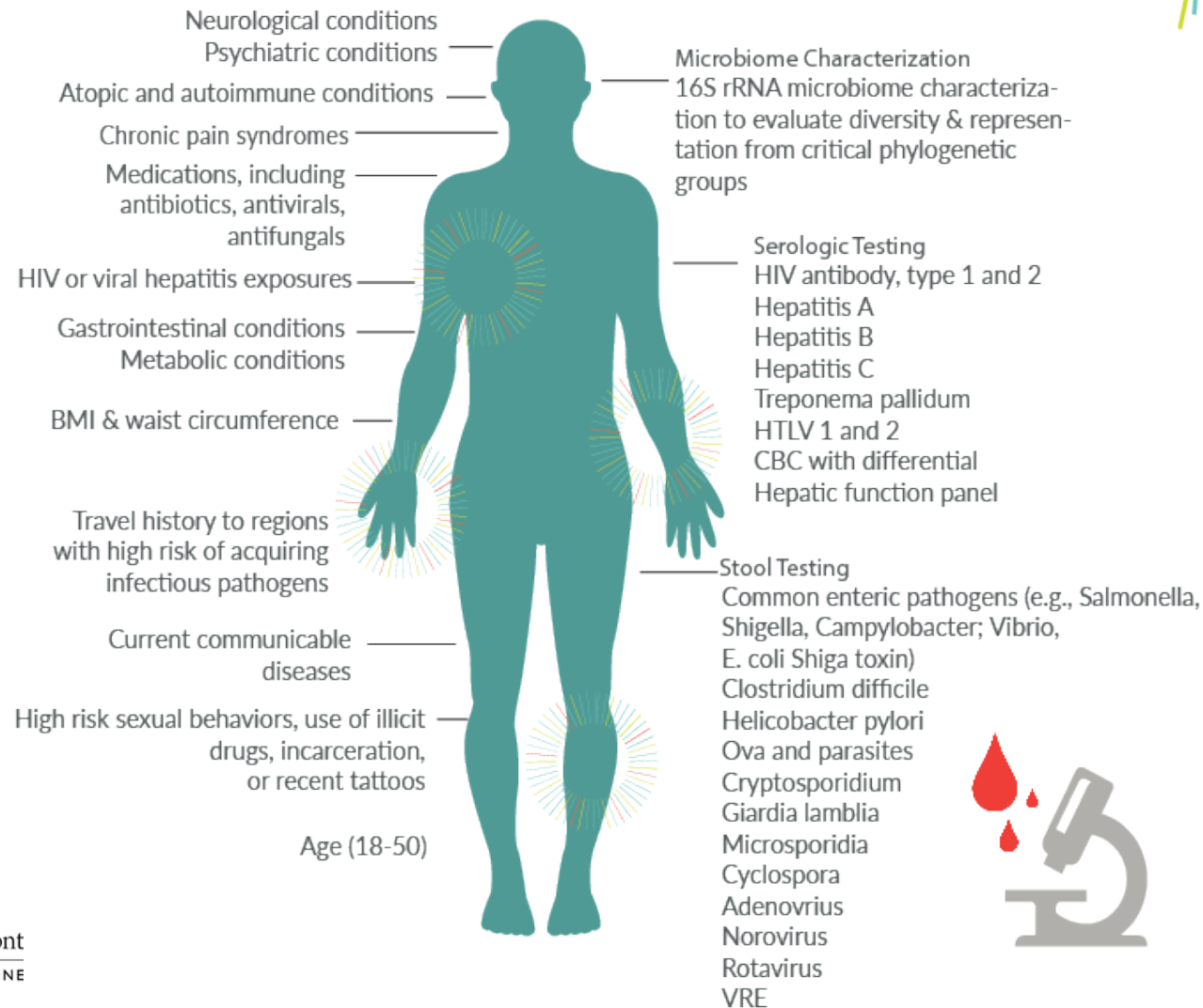
Fecal Microbiota Transplant: Delivery



The Human Digestive System

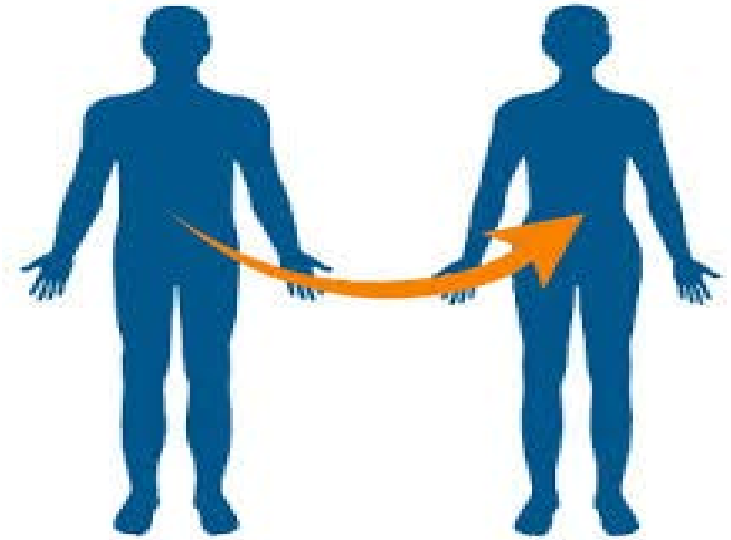


Fecal Microbiota Transplant: Donor



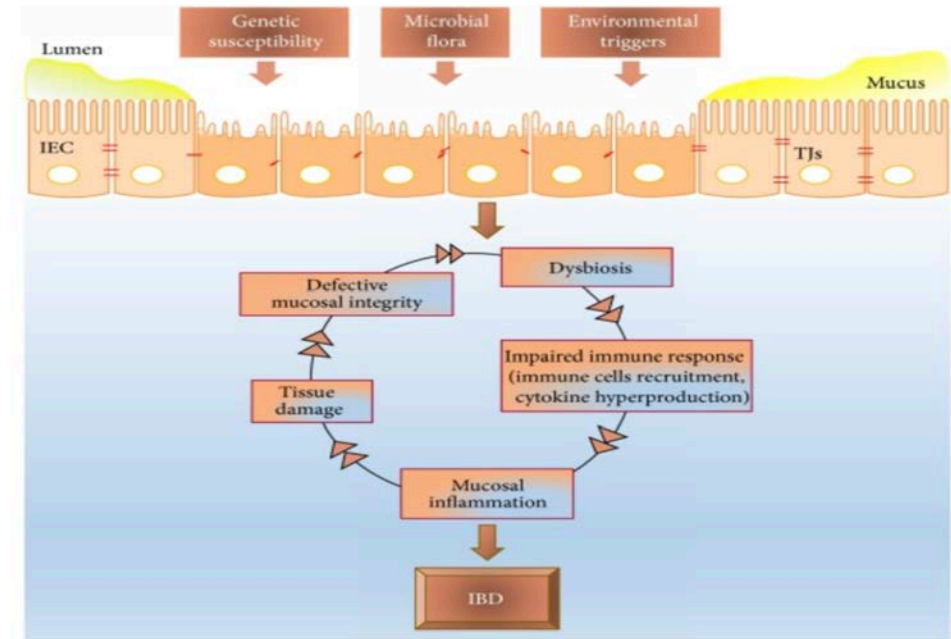
Fecal Microbiota Transplant in the Treatment of Ulcerative Colitis

- Clinical Trial #NCT02390726
- Principal Investigator: Peter L Moses, MD
- Multidisciplinary
- Study Design: Randomized Control Trial
- Intervention Model: Parallel Assignment
- Masking: Double Blind (Subject, Investigator)

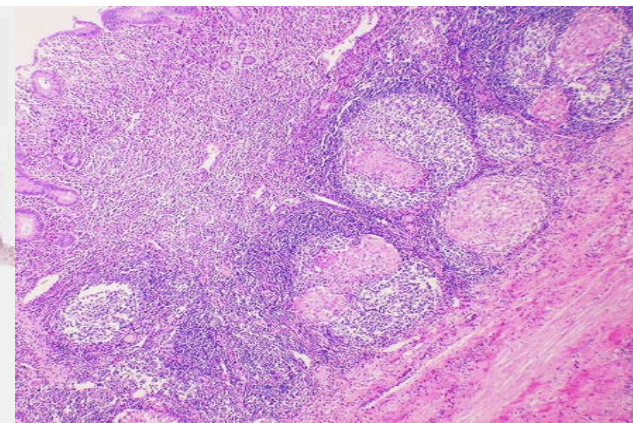
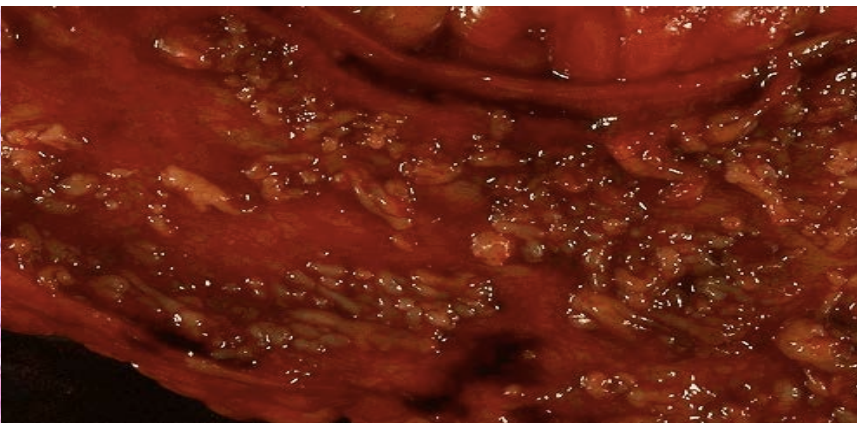
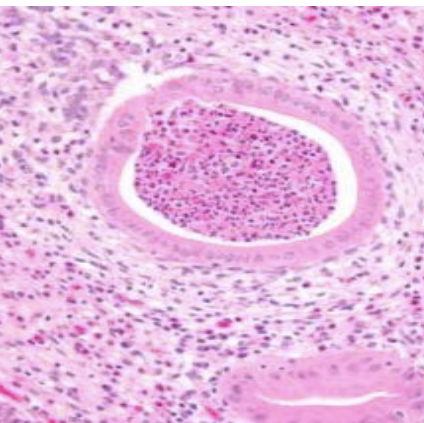
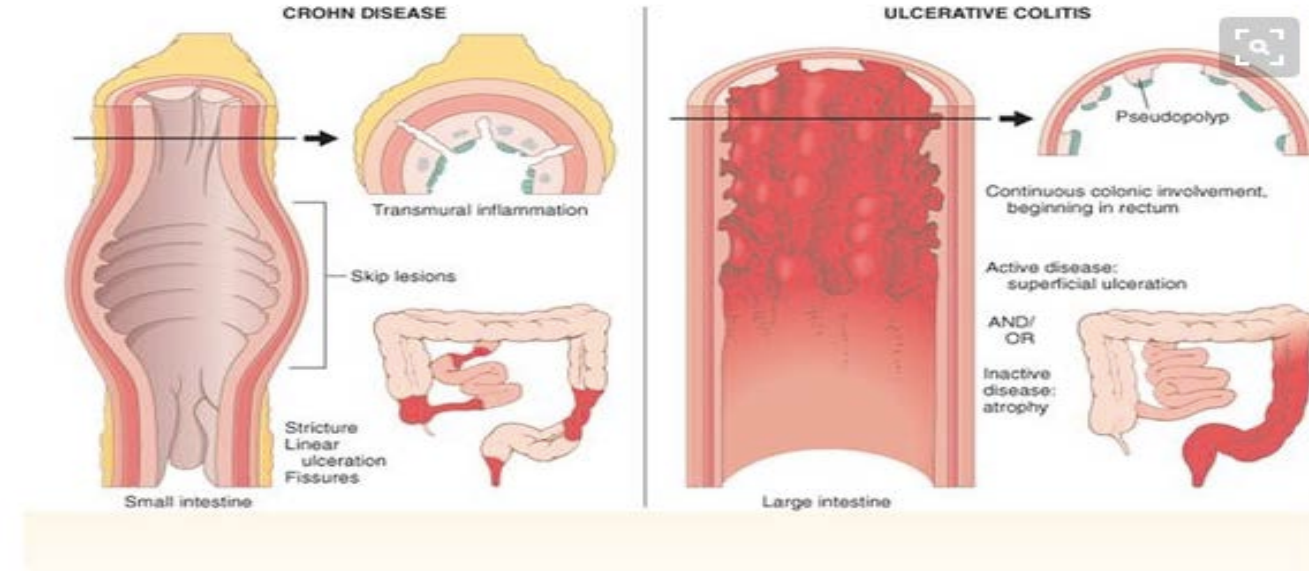
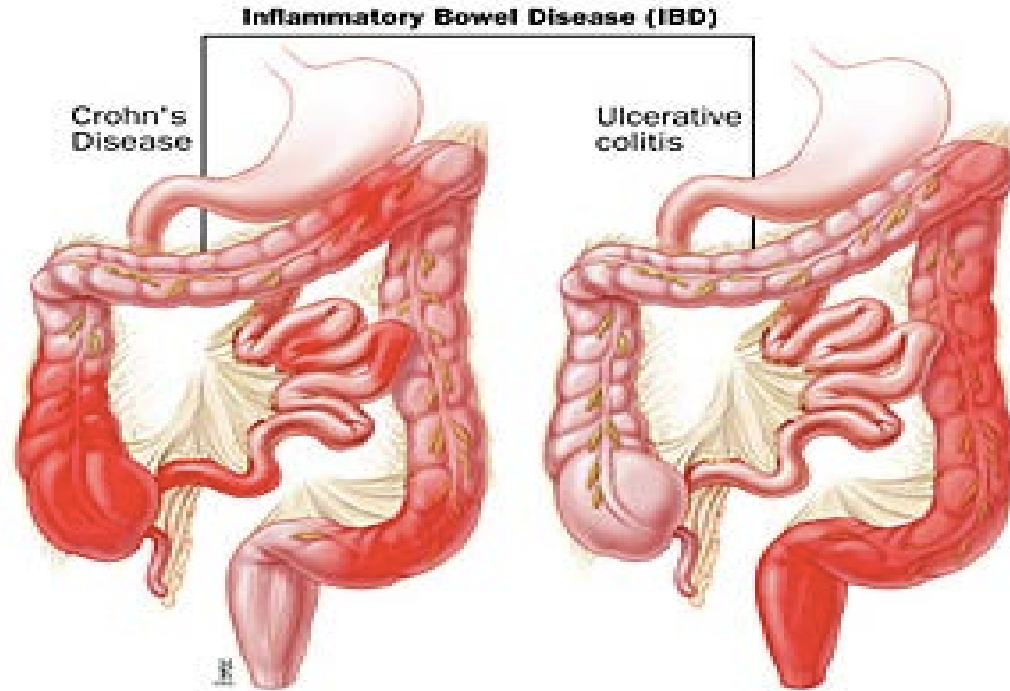


Using the Microbiome to Treat Disease: Fecal Microbiota Transplant in Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)

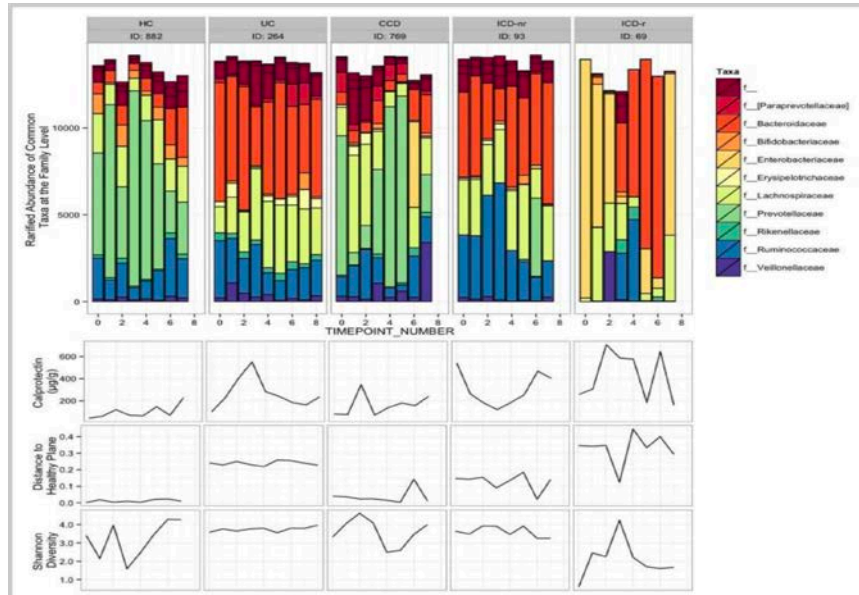
- Includes both Crohns Disease & Ulcerative Colitis
- US incidence ~ 1.6 million
- Peak age of onset ~ 2nd-3rd decades



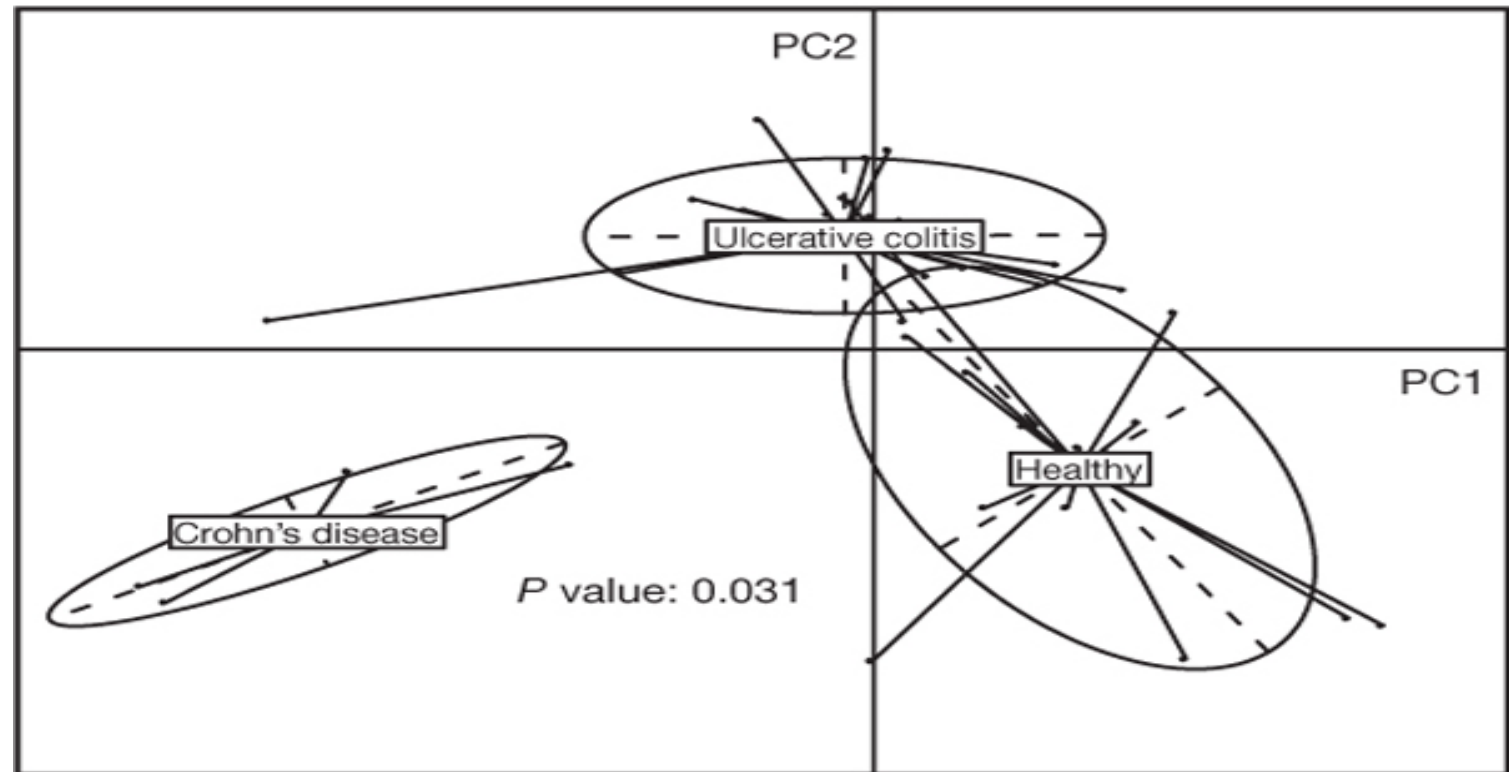
IBD: Crohn's vs Ulcerative Colitis



Gut Microbiomes of IBD patients vs. healthy individuals



Halfvarson. 2017

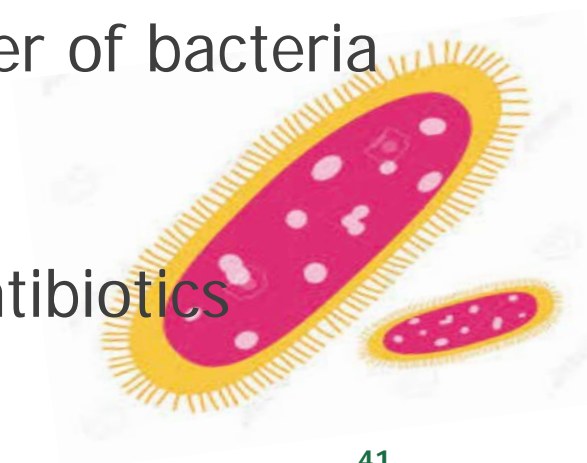


JJ Qin *et al. Nature* **464**, 59-65 (2010) doi:10.1038/nature08821



IBD: Evidence for Microbial Pathogenesis

- IBD patients display aberrant T-cell activation, high levels of mucosal IgG, AB cytokine responses to intestinal bacteria
- Risk increased by agents suspected of disrupting mucosal barrier and normal microbiota composition.
 - Antibiotics, enteropathogenic exposures
- IBD pts have decreased mucus layer and increased number of bacteria directly adjacent to epithelial surface.
- Effective treatments include: Diversion of fecal stream, Antibiotics



Fecal Microbiota Transplant in the Treatment of Ulcerative Colitis

Antibiotic pretreatment (Both Arms)

- ciprofloxacin 250mg PO q12 and metronidazole 500mg PO q8 x7 days

Treatment Arm:

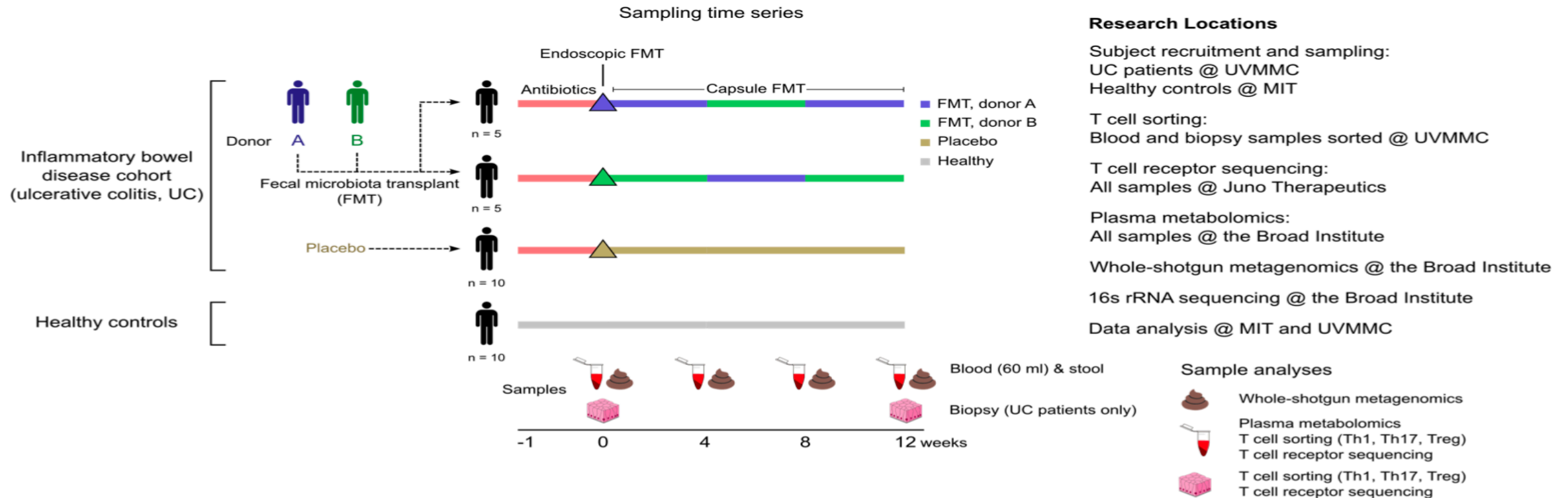
- FMT Induction by colonoscopy plus microbial maintenance plus standard therapy



Control Arm:

- Sham FMT and Sham Microbial Maintenance plus standard therapy

Study Design



Patient Groups are Similar at Baseline

	Study Number	Age	Sex	Initials	Primary Donor	
7	1	44	M	KDZ	A	
	7	46	F	JHR	A	
	10	38	M	AMR	A	
	14	20	M	AJS	A	
	3	22	F	ECT	B	SCREEN FAIL
	8	35	F	JCJ	B	
	11	65	F	JFE	B	
8	2	27	F	BAE		SCREEN FAIL
	4	65	M	AZN		
	5	68	M	MCT		
	6	47	F	CLR		
	9	31	F	LEH		
	12	40	F	LLM		DROPPED OUT
	13	58	M	GLF		
	15	57	M	CSE		SCREEN FAIL

ITT n = 15

Variable	Group		P value
	Active	Placebo	
N	7	8	
Age	39 (15)	49 (15)	0.21
Sex	4 (57%)	4 (50%)	1.00
Race	6 (86%)	7 (88%)	1.00
BMI	25 (3)	29 (4)	0.04
CRP	2 (29%)	3 (38%)	1.00
Fecal calprotectin	513 (607)	306 (301)	0.47
Fecal lactoferrin	7 (100%)	6 (75%)	0.47
Endo UCEIS score	6.6 (2.0)	7.4 (2.6)	0.51
Endo Mayo score	1.4 (0.8)	1.8 (1.2)	0.55
Mayo symptom score	4.6 (1.8)	4.4 (1.1)	0.80
IBDQ bowel system	4.4 (0.7)	4.2 (0.8)	0.67
IBDQ emotional health	4.6 (1.0)	4.7 (1.0)	0.91
IBDQ systemic systems	4.5 (1.1)	4.2 (1.1)	0.70
IBDQ social function	5.1 (0.5)	4.9 (1.2)	0.60
IBDQ total score	147.3 (19.3)	144.1 (25.1)	0.79



Adverse Events: No difference between groups



Adverse Event	Cases	Relatedness	Severity	Group Designation
Fever	2	Not Related, Possibly Related	1	Active, Active
Worsening Disease	2	Possibly Related	1	Active, Placebo
Abdominal pain	1	Not Related	1	Active (not treated)
Epitaxis	1	Not Related	1	Placebo
URI	1	Not Related	1	Placebo
Head Cold	1	Not Related	1	Active
Nausea	1	Probably related	1	Placebo
Post- Anesthesia Myocolonic Jerks	1	Probably Related	3	Active (not treated)
Sore throat	1	Not Related	1	Placebo

6/7 vs 5/8 $p = 1.0$ fischer's exact test

Primary Clinical Outcomes

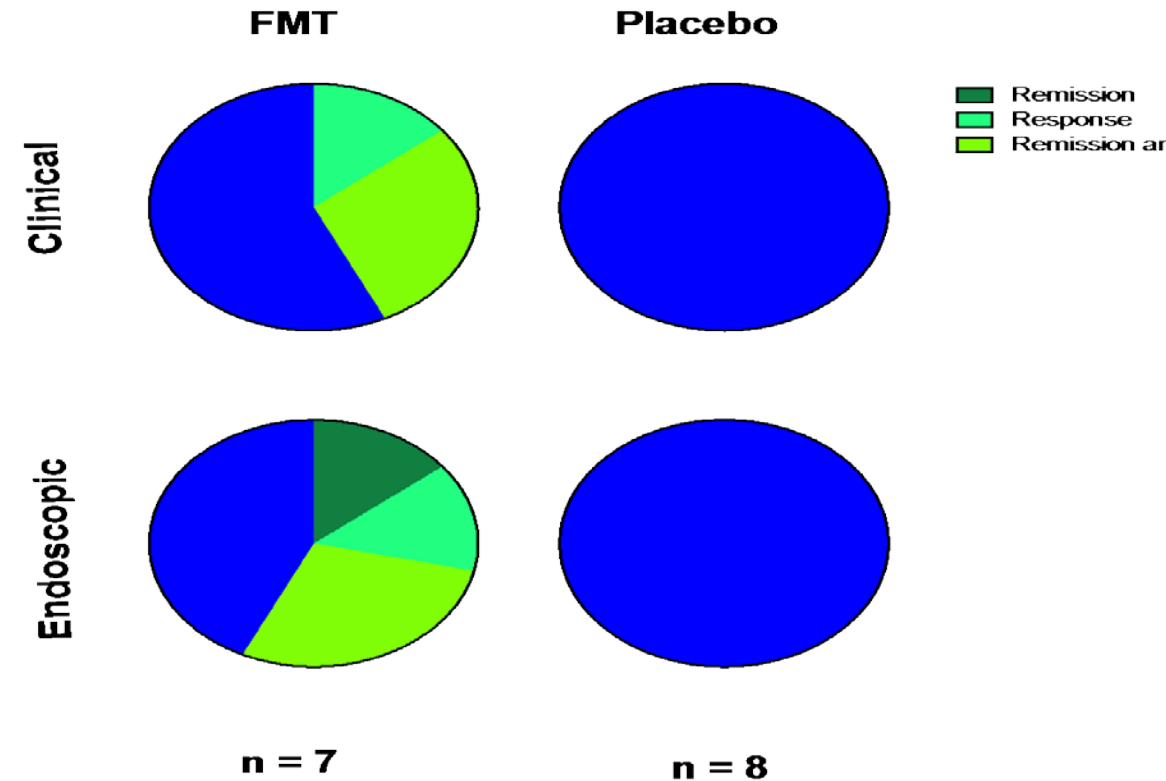
Clinical Remission: 29% vs 0% ($p=0.20$)

Clinical Response: 43% vs. 0% ($p=0.08$)

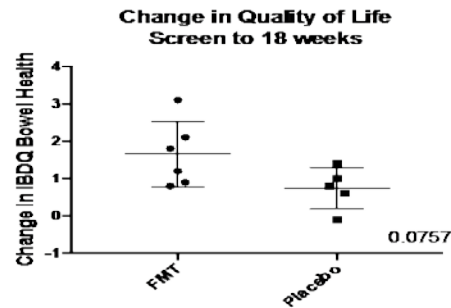
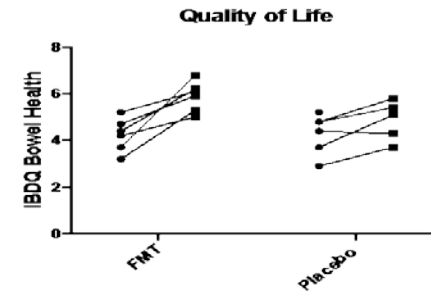
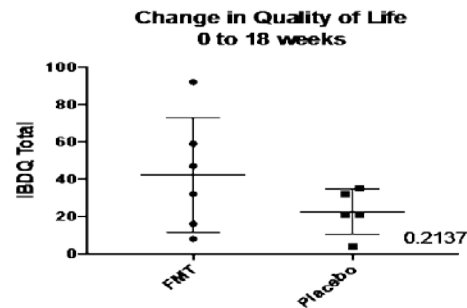
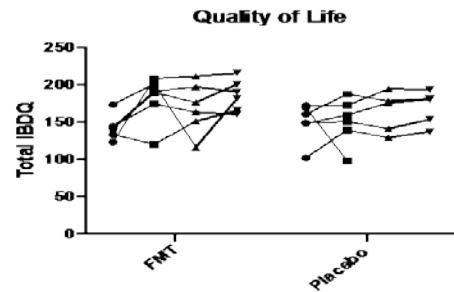
Endoscopic Remission: 43% vs 0% ($p=0.08$)

Endoscopic Response: 43% vs. 0% ($p=0.08$)

**Either Endoscopic Remission or Response: 57% vs 0% ($p=0.03$)*



FMT patients reported enhanced bowel health



- **IBDQ** (Inflammatory Bowel Disease Questionnaire)
 - Validated
 - Disease-specific



FMT patients have a decrease in stool markers of inflammation (fecal calprotectin and lactoferrin)

Variable	Group		Screen or Procedure	4 week	12 week	18 week	P value*
CRP	Active	Adjusted %	27%	30%	79%	9%	0.99
	Placebo	Adjusted %	31%	37%	71%	7%	
Fecal calprotectin	Active	Adjusted mean (SE)	447 (39)		184 (43)		0.03
	Placebo	Adjusted mean (SE)	417 (34)		396 (41)		

Variable	Group		Visit			
			Screen	4 week	12 week	18 week
Fecal lactoferrin	Active	#(%) positive	7 (100%)	5 (83%)	4 (67%)	3 (50%)
	Placebo	#(%) positive	6 (75%)	5 (83%)	5 (100%)	5 (100%)
	P value		0.47	1.00	0.45	0.18



C-Reactive Protein:

Nonspecific, acute phase reactant
Method: Immunoturbidimetric Assay
Ref Range: <10mg/L

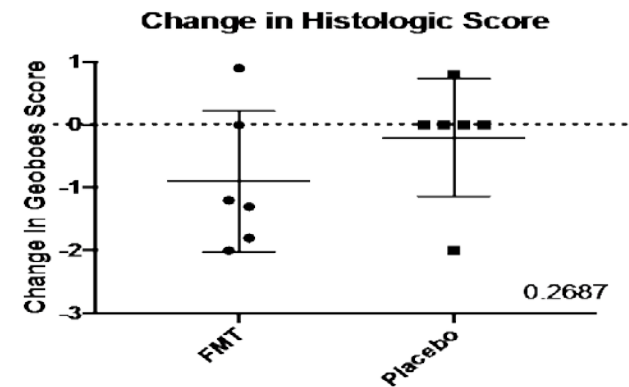
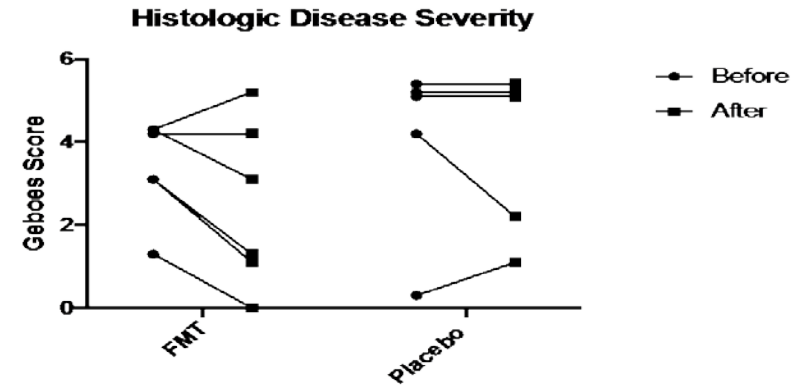
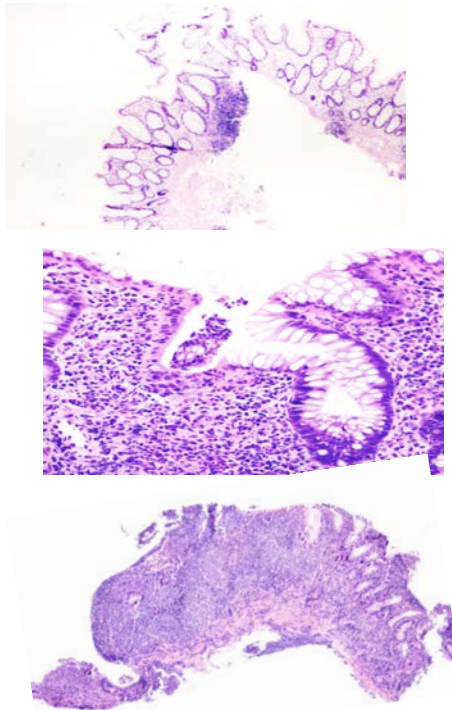
Fecal Calprotectin:

Heterodimer of S100A8 and S100A9. Member of the calcium-binding protein family. Primarily expressed by neutrophils
Method: ELISA
Ref Range:
< or =50.0 mcg/g (Normal)
50.1-120.0 mcg/g (Borderline)
or =120.1 mcg/g (Abnormal)

Fecal Lactoferrin:

Fe⁺ binding protein.
Antibacterial.
Secreted by neutrophils
Method: ELISA
Ref Range: negative

FMT patients trend toward decreasing histologic evidence of inflammation



Global Assessment: The Super Responders and Non Responders



Global Response:

3/6 (50%) vs 2/6 (33%)

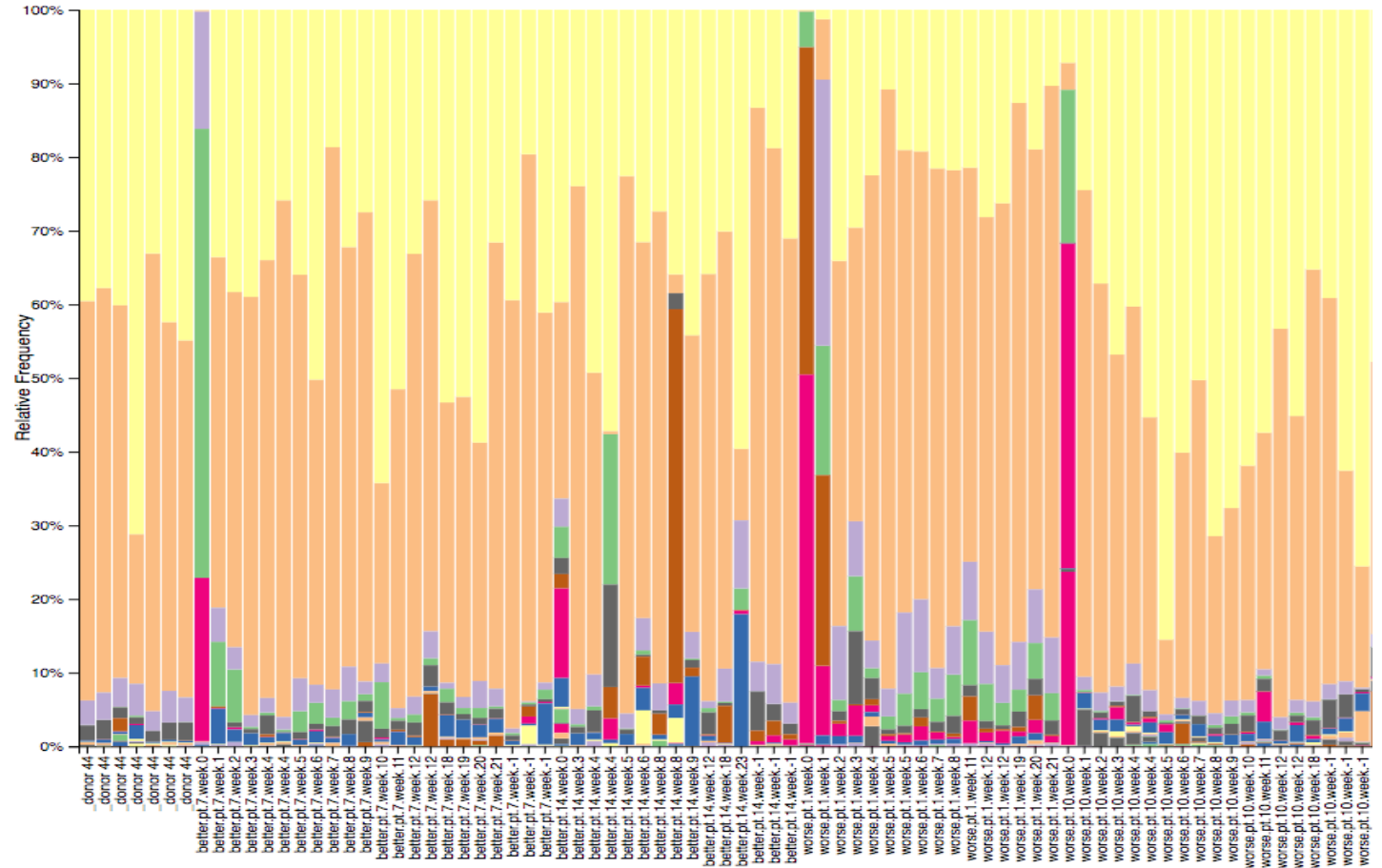
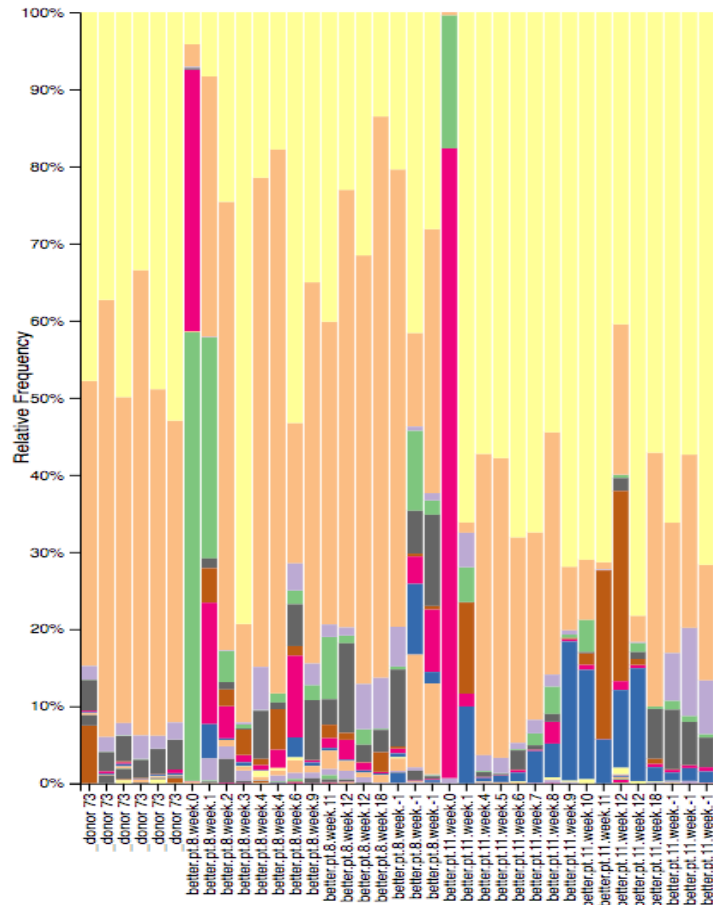
FMT

Placebo

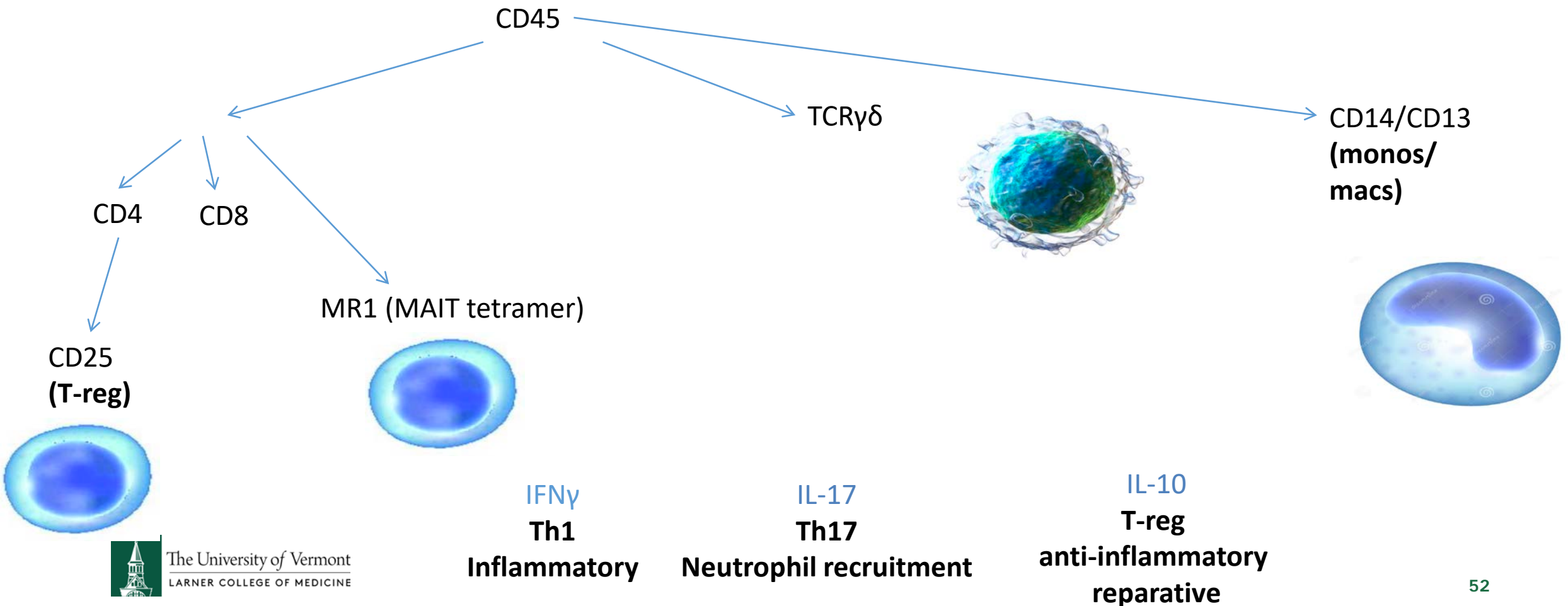
Clinical							Endoscopic				Histologic		Inflammaotry							
Study Number	Age	Sex	Extent of Disease	Duration of Disease (yrs)	BMI	Primary Donor	Change in Total		Change in				Change in		Fecal Lactoferrin	Fecal Calprotectin	Escalation of Therapy			
							Total Mayo B	Mayo	UCEIS B	UCEIS	Mayo B	Change in Mayo	Geboes B	Geboes Score						
7	46	F	pan-colitis	5.5	20.9	A	1	-7	4	-2	1	0	0.1	-3	PNNN	285=>0				
8	35	F	pan-colitis	7.5	27.8	B	1	-3	5	-1	2	0	0	-1.3	PPPP	336=>147				
14	20	M	pan-colitis	3.8	25	A	4	-1	4	-1	1	0	1.1	-2	PPPP	385=>221	Mesalamine 4.8 mg at wk 26 11/15/17			
11	65	F	L-Sided	26.2	20.9	B	8	3	7	0	2	1	3.1	-1.2	PPPN	?=>375	Prednisone 40 mg at 13 wks			
1	44	M	pan-colitis	0.2	25.6	A	8	1	7	-3	2	0	5.2	0.9	PPPP	>1000=>>1000	Prednisone 10 mg at 14 weeks			
10	38	M	pan-colitis	10.2	25.2	A	6	-3	10	2	2	-1	4.2	0	PPNN	119=>72	Prednisone 40 mg at 6 wks			
3	22	F	pan-colitis	6.9	27.7	B	SCREEN FAIL													
5	68	M	pan-colitis	4.4	28.8		4	-2	5	-1	2	0	1.1	0.8	PNPP	196=>64.8				
13	58	M	L-Sided	27.8	26.9		6	1	8	0	2	0	2.2	-2	PPPP	129.6=>133.3				
4	65	M	L-Sided	0.4	36.15		8	0	8	0	2	0	5.1	0	PPPP	286=>360	Adalimumab 40mg 13 wks			
6	47	F	pan-colitis	8.8	29.2		7	-1	10	0	3	0	5.4	0	PPPP	873=>846	Mercaptopurine 50 mg QD at wk 12			
9	31	F	pan-colitis	0.8	29.1		6	0	7	-1	2	0	5.2	0	PPPP	579=>442	Budesonide 9 mg QD at 13 wks			
12	40	F	pan-colitis	16.3	25		DROPPED OUT DUE TO WORSENING DISEASE ACTIVITY											PP	383=>	Prednisone 40 mg at 2 wks
2	27	F	pan-colitis	5.2	23.8		SCREEN FAIL													
15	57	M	pan-colitis	11.9	32.9		SCREEN FAIL													



Changes in the Gut microbiome of FMT patients



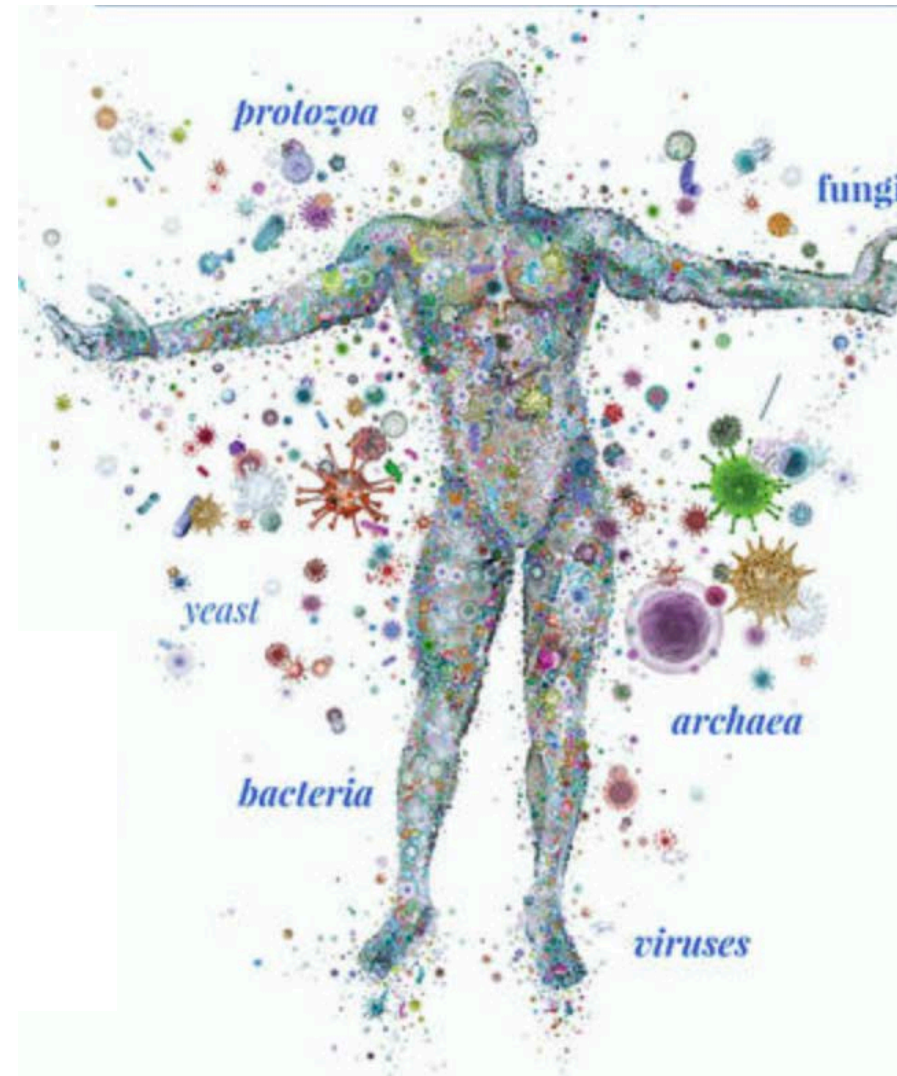
Immunologic Investigation of FMT: Mechanism of Action Patient Stratification



While we work out the Science...

Eat and live like your ancestors (when appropriate)

Honor your ancient relationship with your microbes





The University of Vermont

LARNER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE