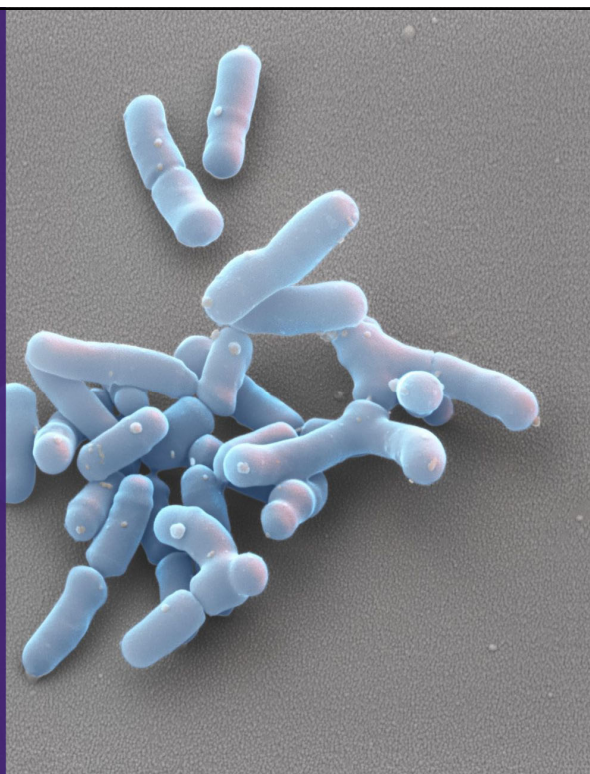




Practical Management of Infants with Cow Milk Allergy and the Role of the Intestinal Microbiota. Are We Doing Enough?

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Disclosures



Dr. Kelly Tappenden received an honorarium provided by Nutricia for this presentation.

The above does not pose a conflict of interest for this presentation.

The opinions reflected in this presentation are those of the speaker and independent of Nutricia.

2

Learning Objectives



Demonstrate the importance of the intestinal microbiota in early life and the development of the immune system;



Explore data on the immune system and infections in those with cow milk allergy;



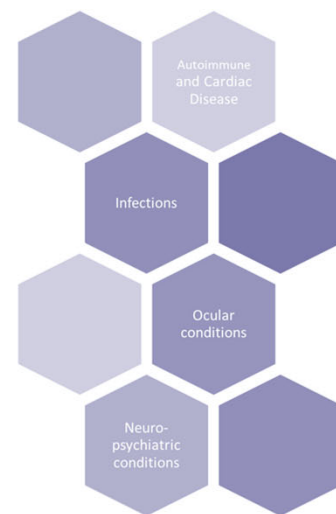
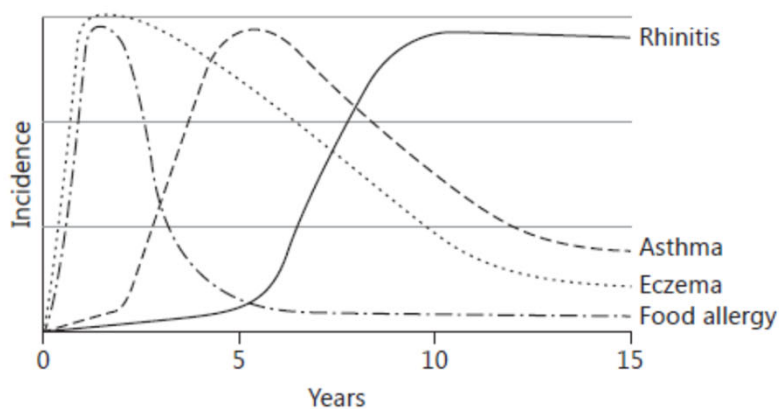
Illustrate the role of specific prebiotics and probiotics in the dietary management of infants with cow milk allergy;



Discover tips for clinicians based on a growing body of evidence.

3

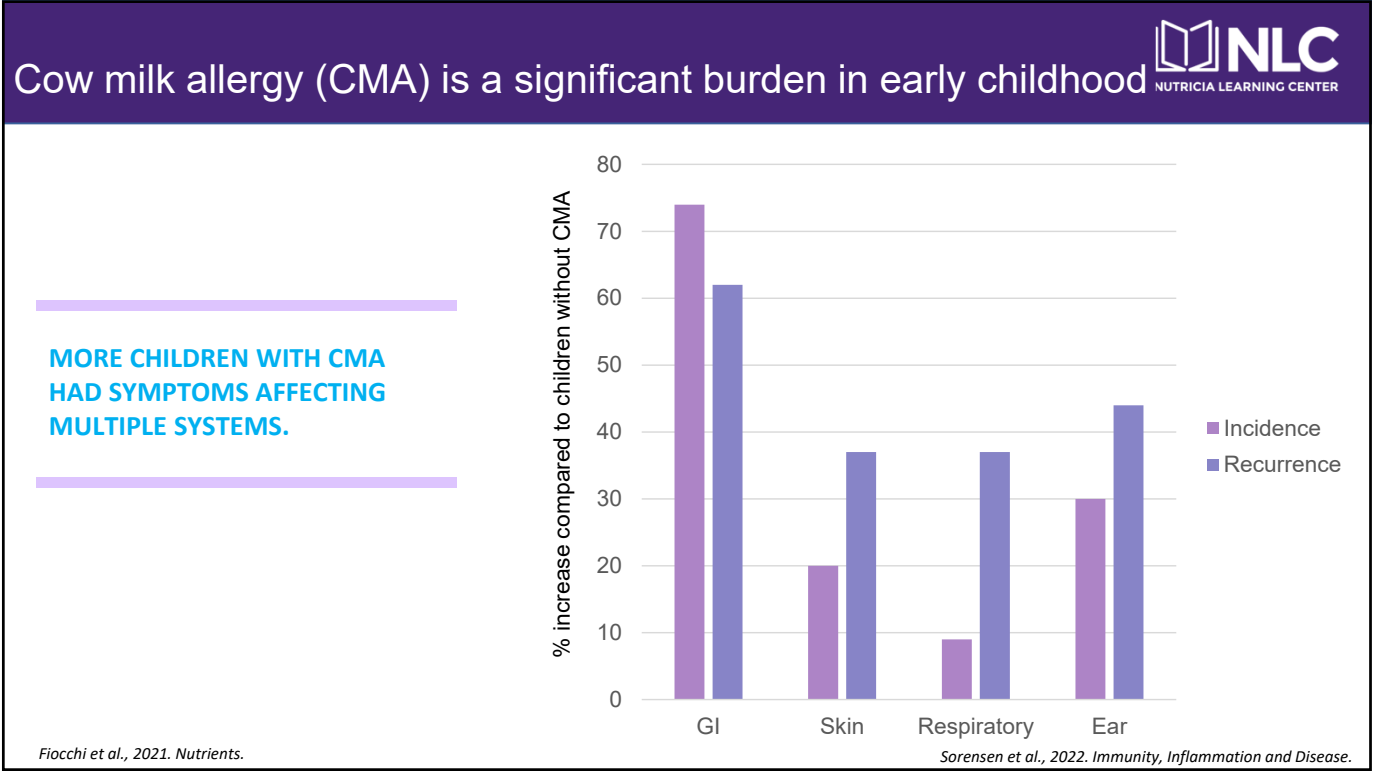
Atopy comorbidities vary by age through adulthood



Nutten. Ann Nutr Metab 2015;66(suppl1):8-16.

<https://nationaleczema.org/research/eczema-facts/>

4



5

The Intestinal Microbiota

Gut microbiome and gut microbiota describe either the collective genomes of the microorganisms that resides in the gut, or the microorganisms themselves, respectively.

The gut contains more than **3 million microbial genes**¹ (150 times more than human genes)

Gut microbiota weighs up to **2 kg**¹

The gut hosts **70-80% of the human body's immune cells**

Host-microbiome interactions can occur on a surface area of about **30-40m²** (20 times of the skin surface area)

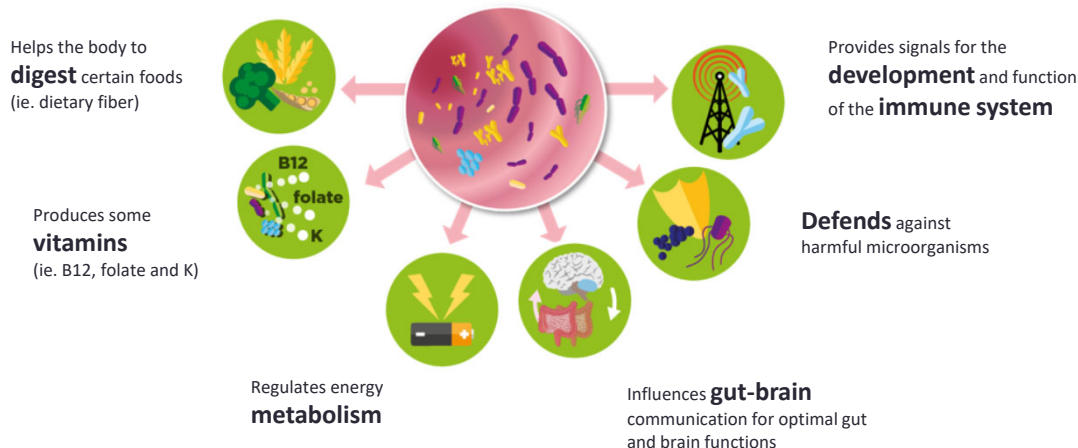
Human's gastrointestinal tract is home to **100 trillion of microorganisms**

Van de Wiele T et al. Nature Reviews Rheumatology, 12:398-411, 2016.

6



Why is intestinal microbiota important?



Shamir R, et al. *Essential Knowledge Briefing*, Wiley, Chichester (2015).
 Van de Wiele T et al. *Nature Reviews Rheumatology*, 12:398–411, 2016.

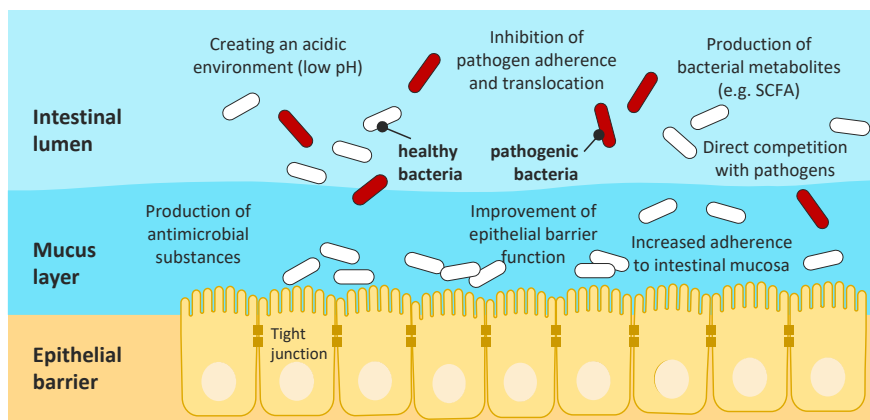
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The gut microbiota acts as a barrier against pathogens

The **healthy balanced intestinal microbiota** acts a barrier against the infiltration and colonization and infiltration of pathogens, thereby **protecting the infant** against infections.

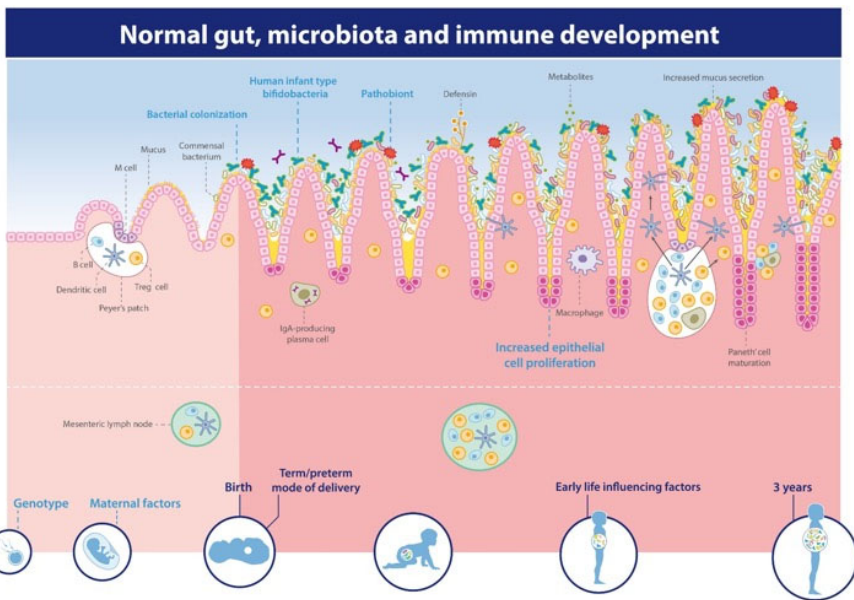
EXAMPLES OF FACTORS IN A HEALTHY BALANCED INTESTINAL MICROBIOTA THAT PREVENT PATHOGEN GROWTH



Zhang M, et al. *Front Immunol*. 2017;8:942

8

Development of the immune system starts with the intestinal microbiota

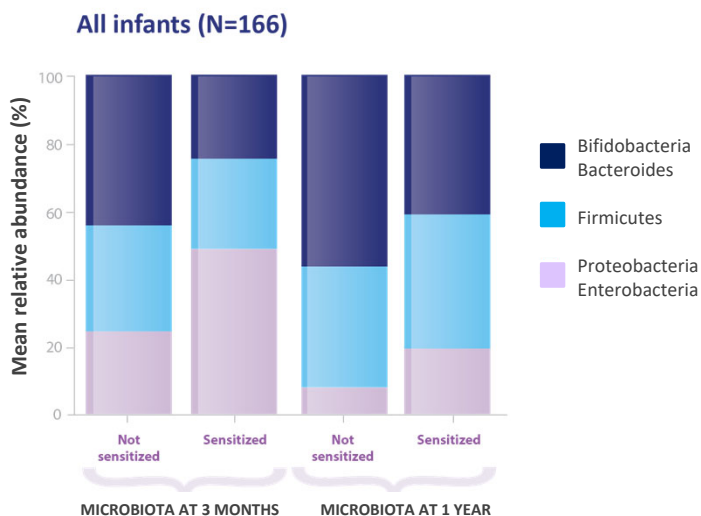


70-80% of all immune cells are organized in the gut associated lymphoid tissue.

Immune maturation depends on gut microbiota signals.

9

A HEALTHY GUT MICROBIOTA SUPPORTS ORAL TOLERANCE Dysbiosis in infant gut microbiota precedes food sensitization



LOWER GUT MICROBIAL RICHNESS at age of 3 months is associated with INCREASED LIKELIHOOD OF FOOD SENSITIZATION by 1 year of age.

Azad et al., 2015. Clinical and Experimental Allergy

10

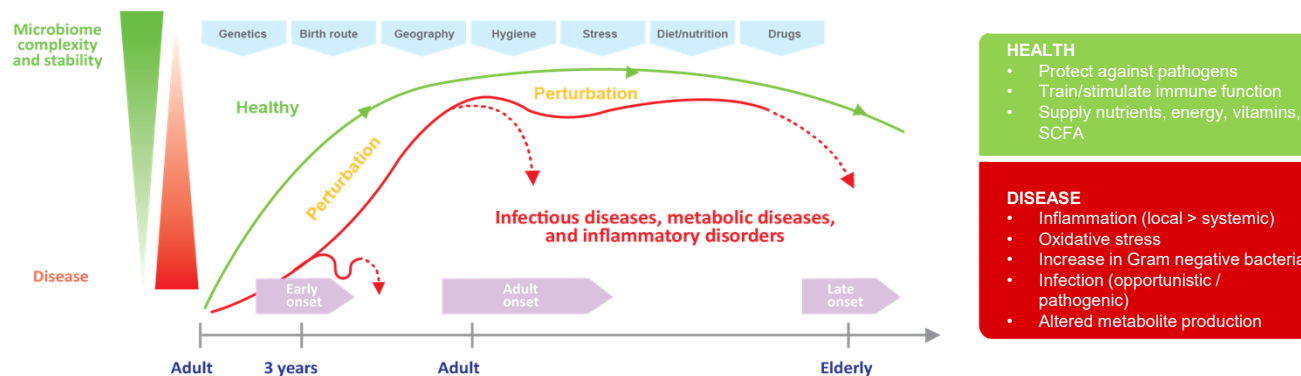


Dysbiosis precedes development of allergic phenotype

Age of dysbiosis	Phenotype	Age at diagnosis	Reference
1 month	Eczema	2 years	Abrahamsson et al., JACI 2012;129:434-440.
Day 7	Eczema	12 months	Ismail et al., PAI 2012;23:674-681.
1 week	Eczema	18 months	Wang et al., JACI 2008;121:129-134.
1 week/ 12 months	IgE, eos, rhinitis; NOT asthma, eczema	up to 6 years	Bisgaard et al., JACI 2011; 129:646-652.
3 weeks	Asthma		Vael et al., BMC Microbiol 2011;11:68.

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Factors affecting stability and complexity of gut microbiome in health and disease



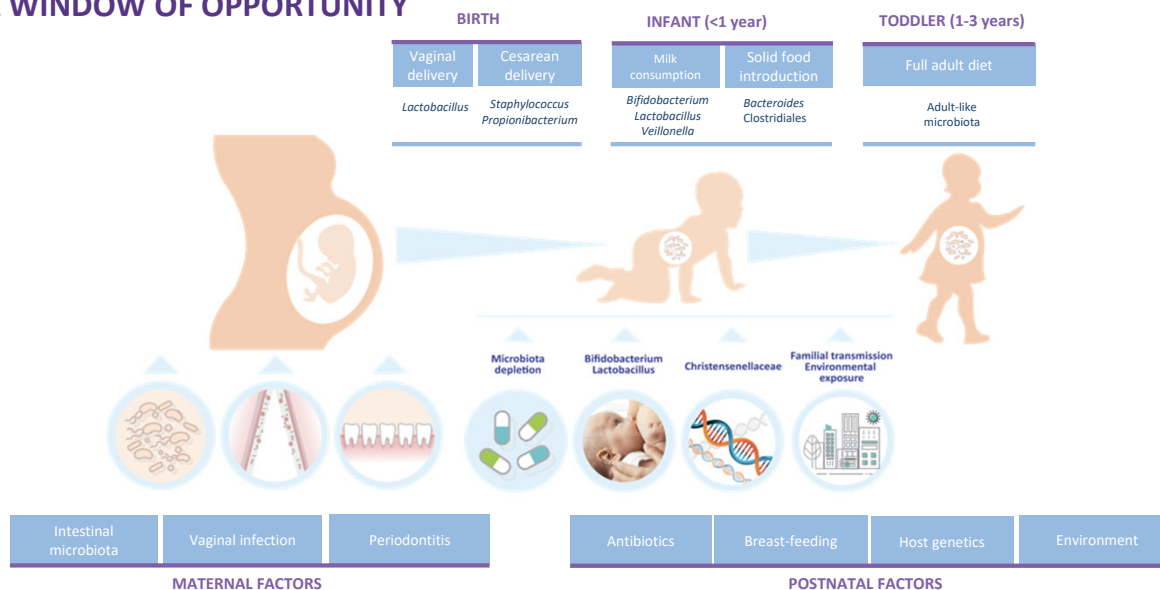
Adapted from Kostic et al., Gastroenterology 2014;146:1489-1499.

12



Early intestinal microbiota development

A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY



Adapted from Tamburini et al., *Nature Medicine*, 2016;22(7):713-722.

13

Factors disrupting microbial homeostasis during early life and development or protection against diseases



Disruptive factor	Study	Cohort characteristics	Outcomes
C-section	Sevelsted et al., 2015	1.9 million Danish term children, ages 0-15 years	Asthma, systemic connective tissues disorders, juvenile arthritis, IBDs, immune deficiencies and leukemia
	Huh et al., 2012	1,255 US children, age 3 years	Obesity, higher body-mass index and sum of skinfolds
	Eggesbø et al., 2003	2,803 Norwegian children, 0-2 years	Reactions to egg, fish or nuts, and a fourfold increase in egg allergy
Antibiotic treatment	Risnes et al., 2011	1,401 US children, ages 0-6 months	Asthma and allergy
	Hoskin-Parr et al., 2013	5,780 UK children, ages 0-2 years	Asthma and eczema
	Saari et al., 2015	12,062 Finnish children, ages 0-2 years	Overweight and obesity
	Schwartz et al. 2016	163,820 US children ages 2-18 years	Weight gain
	Kronman et al., 2012	9 million UK children	IBD development
Probiotics	Maldonado et al., 2012	215 Spanish children, ages 0-6 months	Reduction in gastrointestinal and upper respiratory tract infections
	Braegger et al., 2011	ESPGHAN Committee on Nutrition	Reduction in nonspecific gastrointestinal infections
Diet supplements	Zimmerman et al., 2010	Iron, 139 African children, ages 6-14 years	Intestinal inflammation, lower frequency of colic or irritability
Hygiene	Hesselmar et al., 2013	184 children, pacifier cleaning, ages 0-3 years	Lower risk of developing asthma, allergy and sensitization
Pets	Virtanen et al., 2014	3,143 Finnish children, ages 0-1 year	Reduction in risk of preclinical type I diabetes

Adapted from Tamburini et al., *Nature Medicine*, 2016;22(7):713-722.

14



HUMAN milk is best for infant health

Optimal growth & maturation¹⁻⁶

Brain & eye development⁷⁻⁹

Infections and illnesses¹⁰⁻¹⁵

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)¹⁶⁻²¹

Cognitive development²²⁻²⁴



Allergies and asthma^{16, 25-31}

Pediatric cancers^{16, 32}

Childhood obesity³³⁻⁴⁴

Cardiovascular and metabolic diseases^{16, 36, 45}

Diarrhea^{43, 46-49}

15

HUMAN milk is best for infant health References

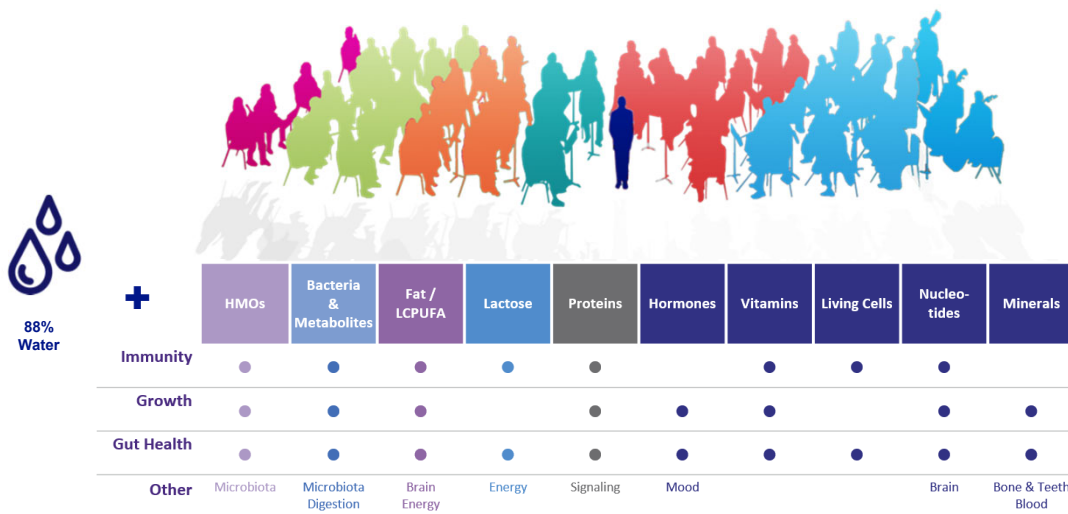


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16



Human milk: a complex system with an orchestra of functions

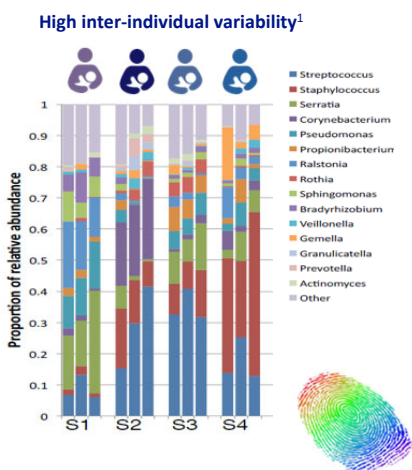


Pereira et al., *Nutrition*, 2014;30(6):619-627.

17



Bacteria composition of human milk (HM) is highly variable



HM contains 10^3 - 10^5 Colony Forming Units/ml bacteria, including Lactobacilli, Bifidobacterium and Staphylococcus.¹⁻³


Lactic acid bacteria in human milk \neq Vagina or skin of the mother.²



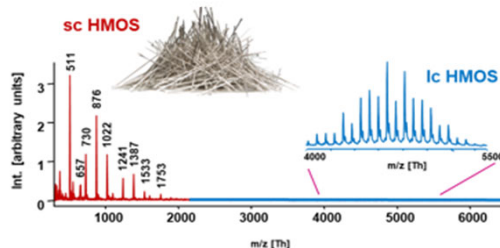
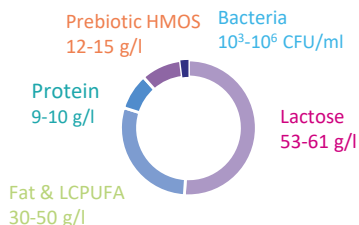
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18

PREBIOTIC HMOs: a key component of human milk



PREBIOTIC HMOs consist of different structures with >162 identified



1000s of structures

Stahl et al., *Analyt Biochem* 1994;223:218-226.

162 structures identified


Urashima et al., *Trends Glycosci Glycotechnol* 2018;30(172):51-65.

Key Milestones:

- Egge 1991 FABMS of HMOs
- Stahl 1991 MALDI-Mass Spec of OS
- Thurl 1991 LC of sc HMOs
- Stahl 1994 Mass Spec of sc & lc HMOs
- Thurl 1996 4 types of HMOs based on genes
- Thurl 2017 Systematic Rev on HMOs quantities
- Mank 2019 New LC Mass Spec of Key HMOs

HMOs = human milk oligosaccharides; scHMOs = short-chain human milk oligosaccharides; lcHMOs = long-chain human milk oligosaccharides; LCPUFA = Long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids

PREBIOTIC HMOs: a key component of human milk



HMOs have a multitude of functions



**Prebiotic Effect:
Growth and Activity
of Beneficial
Bacteria**

- Brand-Miller et al., *J Pediatr* 1998;133:95-98.
- György et al., *Eur J Biochem*, 1974;43:29.
- Roberfroid et al., *Br J Nutr* 2010; 104:51-63.



**Brain Building
Blocks**

- Hart et al., *J Pediatr Psych* 2003;28:
- Wang et al., *Am J Clin Nut* 2003;78: 1024-1029.
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- Murrey et al *PNAS* 2006;103



**Direct Effect on
Immune Cells**

- Eiwegger et al., *Pediatr Res* 2004;56:1-5.
- Bode et al., *Thromb Haem* 2004, 92:1402-10.
- Eiwegger et al., *PAI*, 2010; 21(8):1179-88.



**Anti-Infective Effect as
Receptor Analogues**

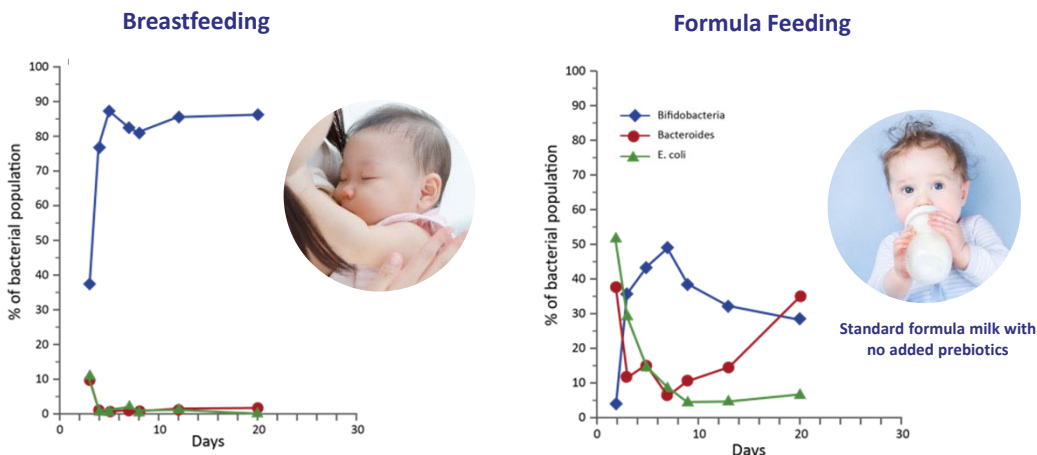
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HMOs = human milk oligosaccharides



Microbiota: breast vs. bottle

HIGHER BIFIDOBACTERIA COUNT IN BABIES WHO BREASTFEED



Harmsen et al., *J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.* 2000;30:61-67.

21



Synbiotics = prebiotic + probiotic

Can nutritional formulas be modified
- using a **SYNbiotic** approach -
to alter the intestinal microbiota and
improve clinical outcomes in children?

22



Prebiotics in HM and infant formula with scGOS/lcFOS

HUMAN MILK OLIGOSACCHARIDES

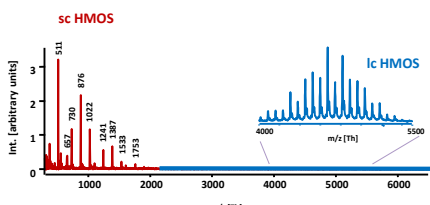


1000s of structures

Stahl B, Thurl S, et al.
Analyt. Biochem. 1994; 223:218-226

162 structures identified

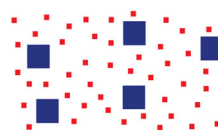
Urashima T, Hirabayashi J, Sato A, Kobata A
Trends Glycosci. Glycotechnol. 2018, 30;
 172, 51-65



Boehm et al., *Acta Paediatr Suppl.* 2003 Sep;91(441):64-67.

HM = human milk; scGOS = short-chain galactooligosaccharides; lcFOS = long-chain fructooligosaccharides

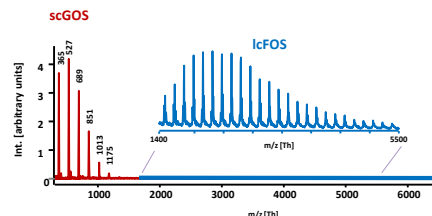
INFANT NUTRITION WITH scGOS/lcFOS (9:1)



100s of structures

Coulier L et al.
J. Agric. Food Chem. 2009; 57,
 8488-8495

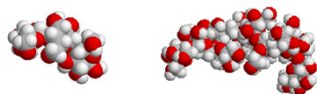
Finke et al.
J. Agric. Food Chem. 2002; 50,
 4743-4748



Prebiotics and Bifidogenic gut colonization



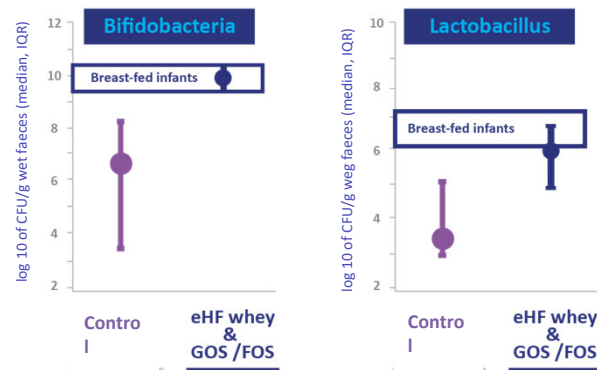
scGOS & lcFOS



- 6 clinical trials
- With a specific mixture of short-chain galacto-oligosaccharides (scGOS) and long chain fructo-oligosaccharides (lcFOS)
- In a ratio 9:1 in infant milk formulas
- Showed consistent positive effects on stool consistency and stool frequency

Reviewed in Scholtens et al., *World Gastroenterol* 2014

EFFECT ON GUT MICROFLORA (TERM INFANTS AFTER 28 DAYS FORMULA FEEDING)



Moro et al., *J Ped Gastroenterology & Nutrition* 2002

scGOS/lcFOS supports intestinal microbiota by discouraging the growth of potential pathogens



Target population

Preterm

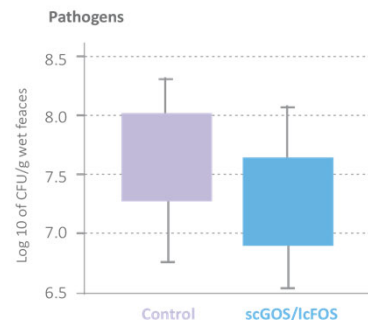
Conclusions

Supplementation of a preterm formula with scGOS/lcFOS sign decreases the sum of pathogens. Also, the sum of pathogens as % of total bacterial count was lower than control.

Study design

25 preterm infants

- 0.0g scGOS/lcFOS [Control] (n=15)
- 1.0 g/100ml scGOS/lcFOS (n=12)



scGOS/lcFOS sign reduces the number of clinically relevant pathogens in stools of preterm infants

Knol, J. et al. (2005). Acta Paediatrica;94 (Suppl 449):31-33.

scGOS = short-chain galactooligosaccharides; lcFOS = long-chain fructooligosaccharides

25

scGOS/lcFOS reduces infections during the first 6 months of life



Target population

Healthy infants

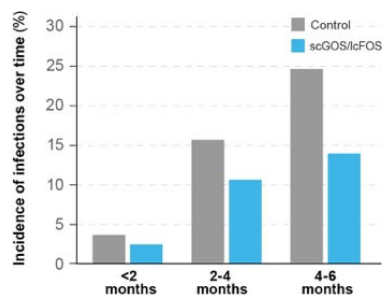
Conclusions

0.8 g/100ml scGOS/lcFOS reduced the number of infectious episodes during the first 6 months of life.

Study design

Randomized, double blind, controlled study; Healthy, term infants with parental history of atopic eczema, allergic rhinitis, or asthma:

- 0.0 g scGOS/lcFOS [Control] (n=104)
- 0.8 g/100ml scGOS/lcFOS (n=102)



scGOS/lcFOS results in lower incidence of infections over time

Arslanoglu, et al. J Nutr 2007;137:2420-2424.

scGOS = short-chain galactooligosaccharides; lcFOS = long-chain fructooligosaccharides

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scGOS/lcFOS reduces infections and incidence of allergic manifestations during the first 2 years of life

Target population
 Healthy infants

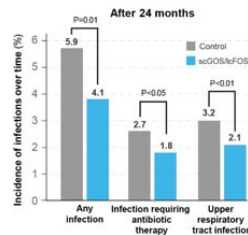
Conclusions

Early nutritional intervention with 0.8 g/100ml scGOS/lcFOS is effective in priming the infant's immune system, providing substantial protection against both allergy and infection.

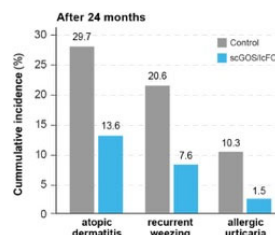
Study design

Randomized, double blind, controlled study; Healthy, term infants with parental history of atopic eczema, allergic rhinitis, or asthma; for 2 years:

- 0.0 g scGOS/lcFOS [Control] (n=68)
- 0.8 g/100ml scGOS/lcFOS (n=66)



scGOS/lcFOS results in sign. lower number of overall infections, URTI and infections requiring antibiotics



scGOS/lcFOS results in sign. lower cumulative incidence of atopic dermatitis, wheezing and allergic urticaria

Arslanoglu, et al. *J Nutr* 2008;138:1091-1095

scGOS = short-chain galactooligosaccharides; lcFOS = long-chain fructooligosaccharides; URTI = upper respiratory tract infections



scGOS/lcFOS reduces intestinal infections

Target population
 Healthy infants

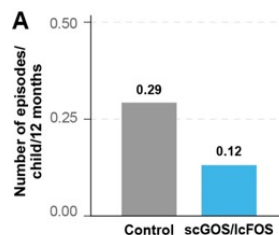
Conclusions

These data show that scGOS/lcFOS 0.4 g/100 ml reduced intestinal infections in healthy infants during the first year of age.

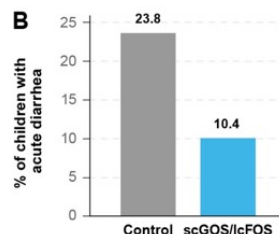
Study design

A prospective, randomized, controlled, open trial. Healthy infants aged between 15 and 120 days were enrolled in two intervention groups; formula feeding for 12 months

- 0.0 g scGOS/lcFOS [Control] (n=105)
- 0.4 g/ 100mL scGOS/lcFOS (n=96)



scGOS/lcFOS leads to significant lower number of gastroenteritis episodes



scGOS/lcFOS results in 58% less acute diarrhea

Bruzzese, et al. *Clinical Nutrition* 2009;28:156-161

scGOS = short-chain galactooligosaccharides; lcFOS = long-chain fructooligosaccharides

Amino acid-based formula (AAF) with specific synbiotics aims to eliminate allergens for active management of cow milk allergy



maximal allergen elimination

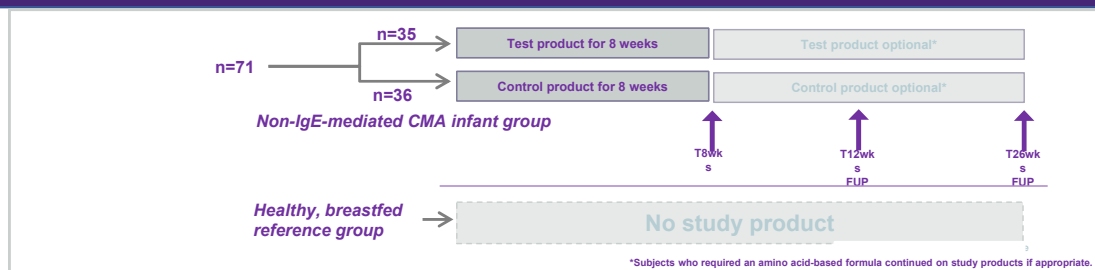


helps to address underlying gut dysbiosis

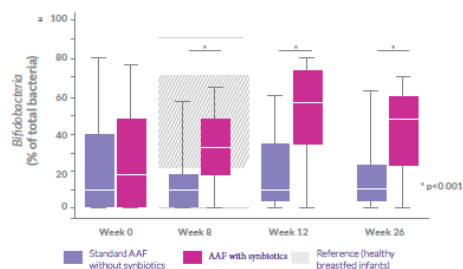
- Hypoallergenic formula
- Protein source: 100% amino acids
- 0-12 months of age
- **sc-FOS / lc-FOS (9:1 ratio)**
- 0.63g / 100 ml
- no GOS, to avoid cow milk protein contamination
- ***Bifidobacterium breve* M-16V**
- 10⁸ CFU/g powder
- processed in a milk-free environment

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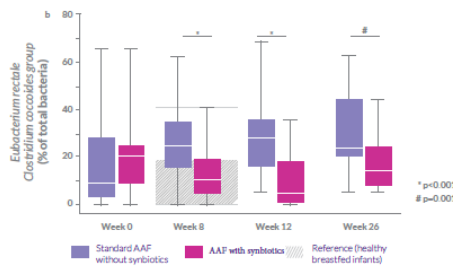
AAF + specific synbiotic blend promotes sustained bifidobacteria growth and reduces *Eubacterium* / *Clostridia*, similar to breastfed infants



***Bifidobacterium* species in fecal microbiota**



***E. rectale* / *C. coccoides* cluster in fecal microbiota**



Fox, et al. Clin Transl Allergy. 2019;9:5.

AAF = amino acid-based formula

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Recent meta-analysis of AAF + specific synbiotic blend



Lead Author (Date)	Population and Type of Study	Male	Mean Age (Months)	Amount of Formula Consumed/Day (mL) Mean ± SD	n AAF-Syn	n AAF	Intervention Duration	Timepoint Outcomes Measured
Harvey (2014) [38] Full paper	Infants with IgE mediated CMPA aged 0–36 months One arm DBPCCFC and 7 day feeding period	61%	17.3, range 3.3–46.9	Not reported	30	30	7 days	7 days
	Full-term healthy infants aged 3–16 months, RCT †	67%	10.6, range 3–16	AAF-Syn: 349 ± 127 [§] ; AAF: 331 ± 124 [§]	59	56	16 weeks	2, 4, 8, 12 & 16 weeks
Burks (2015) [39] Full paper	Infants with IgE or non-IgE mediated CMPA aged 0–8 months, RCT	62%	4.5, range 0.6–8.9	Not reported. Intake was reported as comparable in both groups	54	56	16 weeks	4 & 16 weeks
Candy (2018) [32] ASSIGN study, full paper	Infants with non-IgE mediated CMPA aged 0–13 months, RCT Included breast-fed healthy reference group (not randomised)	73%	6, range 1.2–12.8	Week 8 AAF-Syn 652 ± 176; AAF 639 ± 212	35	36	8 weeks	4 & 8 weeks
Fox (2019) [33] † ASSIGN study, full paper	Infants with non-IgE mediated CMPA aged 0–13 months 26-week follow-up of Candy (2018)	73%	6, range 1.2–12.8	Week 8 AAF-Syn 652 ± 176; AAF 639 ± 212	35	36	8 weeks	8, 12 & 26 weeks
Wopereis (2019) [40] † ASSIGN study, full paper	Infants with non-IgE mediated CMPA aged 0–13 months Gene-sequencing analysis from Candy (2018) and Fox (2019)	73%	6, range 1.2–12.8	Week 8 AAF-Syn 652 ± 176; AAF 639 ± 212	35	36	8 weeks	8, 12 & 26 weeks
Chatchatee (2019) [31] PRESTO study †, conference abstract	Infants with confirmed IgE mediated CMPA aged 0–13 months, RCT	72%	9.36, SD 2.53	At 12 months: AAF-Syn: 547 ± 302; AAF: 530 ± 308	80	89	12 months	12 months
Wopereis (2020) [30] PRESTO study †, conference abstract	Infants with confirmed IgE mediated CMPA aged 0–13 months, RCT							

CMPA: cow's milk protein allergy; RCT: randomised controlled trial; DBPCCFC: double blind placebo-controlled crossover food challenge; AAF-Syn: amino acid formula with synbiotics (Neocate Syneo[®], Nutricia); AAF (control): amino acid formula (Neocate LCP[®], Nutricia); † original RCT (Candy 2018 [32]) was for 8 weeks, Fox (2019) [33] and Wopereis (2019) [40] were published after original RCT; ‡ Chatchatee (2019) [31] and Wopereis (2020) [30] report different outcomes from same study; § Converted from reported oz/d (11.8 ± 4.3 oz/d AAF-Syn; 11.2 ± 4.2 oz/d AAF); † Included in table for completeness, but outside scope of review as subjects were not required to have CMPA.

Sorensen et al., *Nutrients*, 2021;13:935-954.

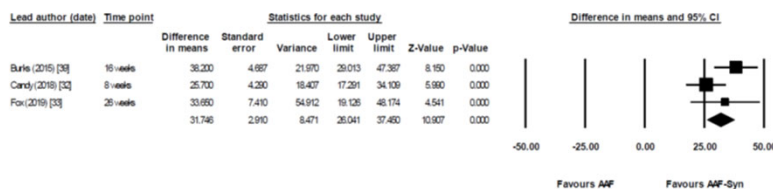
AAF = amino acid-based formula

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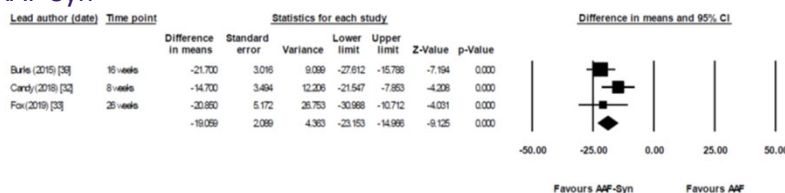
Meta-analyses reveal consumption of AAF + specific synbiotic blend enhance microbiota community



- increased percentages of faecal bifidobacterial species with AAF-Syn



- lower percentages of adult-like *Eubacterium rectale* and *Clostridium coccoides* species with AAF-Syn



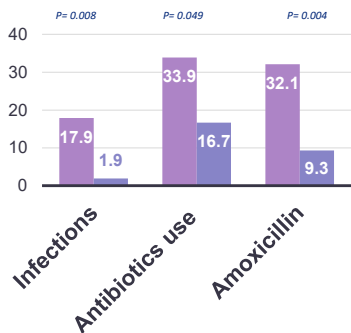
Sorensen et al., *Nutrients*, 2021;13:935-954.

AAF = amino acid-based formula

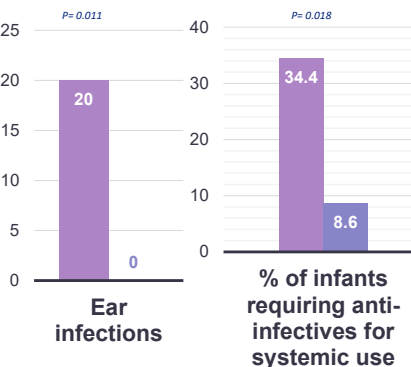
32



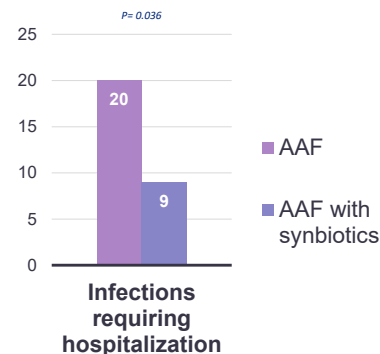
Evaluation of adverse events: 3 RCTs with AAF with synbiotics show a reduction in reports of infections & antibiotic usage



Fewer reported infections and use of antibacterial for systemic use, specifically amoxicillin¹



Fewer reported ear infections and use of anti-infectives^{2,3}



Fewer reported infections requiring hospitalization⁴

¹ Burks, et al. *Pediatr Allergy Immunol.* 2015;26:316-22.
² Candy, et al. *Pediatr Res.* 2018;83:677-86.
³ Fox, et al. *Clin Transl Allergy.* 2019;9:5.
⁴ Chatchatee, et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol.* 2022;149:650-8.e5.

AAF with synbiotics includes: scFOS/lcFOS & B.brevis M-16V

RCTs = randomized controlled trial; AAF = amino acid-based formula

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Multiple studies demonstrate consumption of AAF with synbiotics improve clinical outcomes



- Compared to AAF, significantly fewer infants fed AAF-Syn had infections*
- Overall medication* use, including antibacterials and anti-infectives, was lower among infants fed AAF-Syn.
- Significantly fewer infants had hospital admissions (arising from infections) with AAF-Syn compared to AAF (8.8% vs. 20.2%, p = 0.036; 56% reduction), leading to potential cost savings† per infant of £164.05–£338.77.

* Exploratory findings, from component studies (not powered to test these outcomes), were the results of safety evaluations. † Cost savings based on UK hospital admission costs. Costs may vary in the US.

Sorensen et al., *Nutrients*, 2021;13:935-954.

AAF = amino acid-based formula

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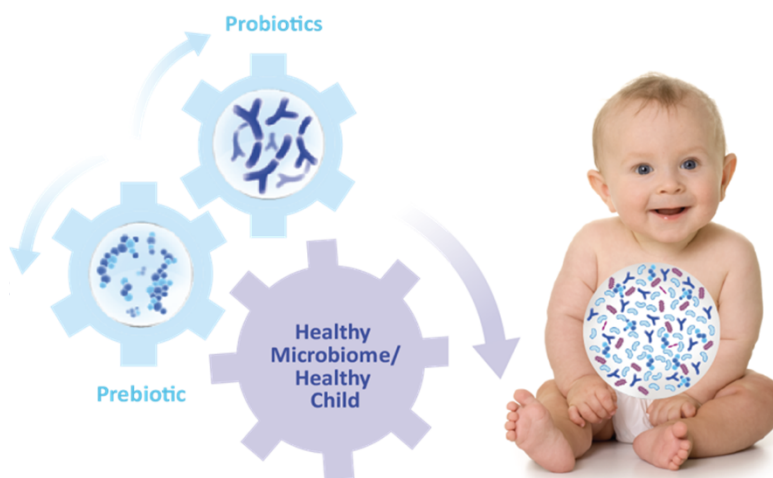
Conclusion



Nutritional strategies employing
PRObiotics + PREbiotic fiber
– hence SYNbiotics –
are important for addressing dysbiosis of the
developing intestinal microbiota and stimulating
critical development of the immune system in early
life.

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We need to consider (and feed) the complex ecosystem



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