

# Microbiome <> GI Disorders

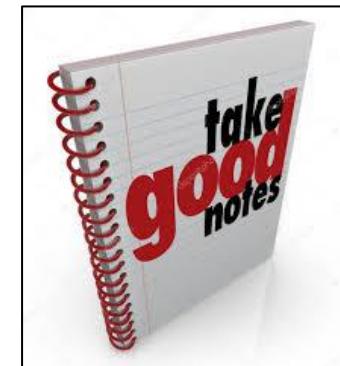
Prof. Ram Dickman

Neurogastroenterology Unit  
Rabin Medical Center  
Israel



# Key Points

- Our gut microbiota
- Where to find them?
- Symbiosis or Why do we need them?
- Dysbiosis or when things go wrong
- How to modulate microbiota?
- Does it help?
- The future



# Who Are Them

- 100 Trillions of microbial organisms
- Microbiota: Bacteria, viruses, fungi, and protozoa
- Bacteria: Main 4 phyla (99% of total)

Firmicutes  
Bacteroidetes

■	Firmicutes
■	Bacteroidetes
■	Actinobacteria
■	Proteobacteria
■	Verrucomicrobia
■	Fusobacteria
■	Cyanobacteria
■	Elusimicrobia
■	Others

## **Stomach and Duodenum**

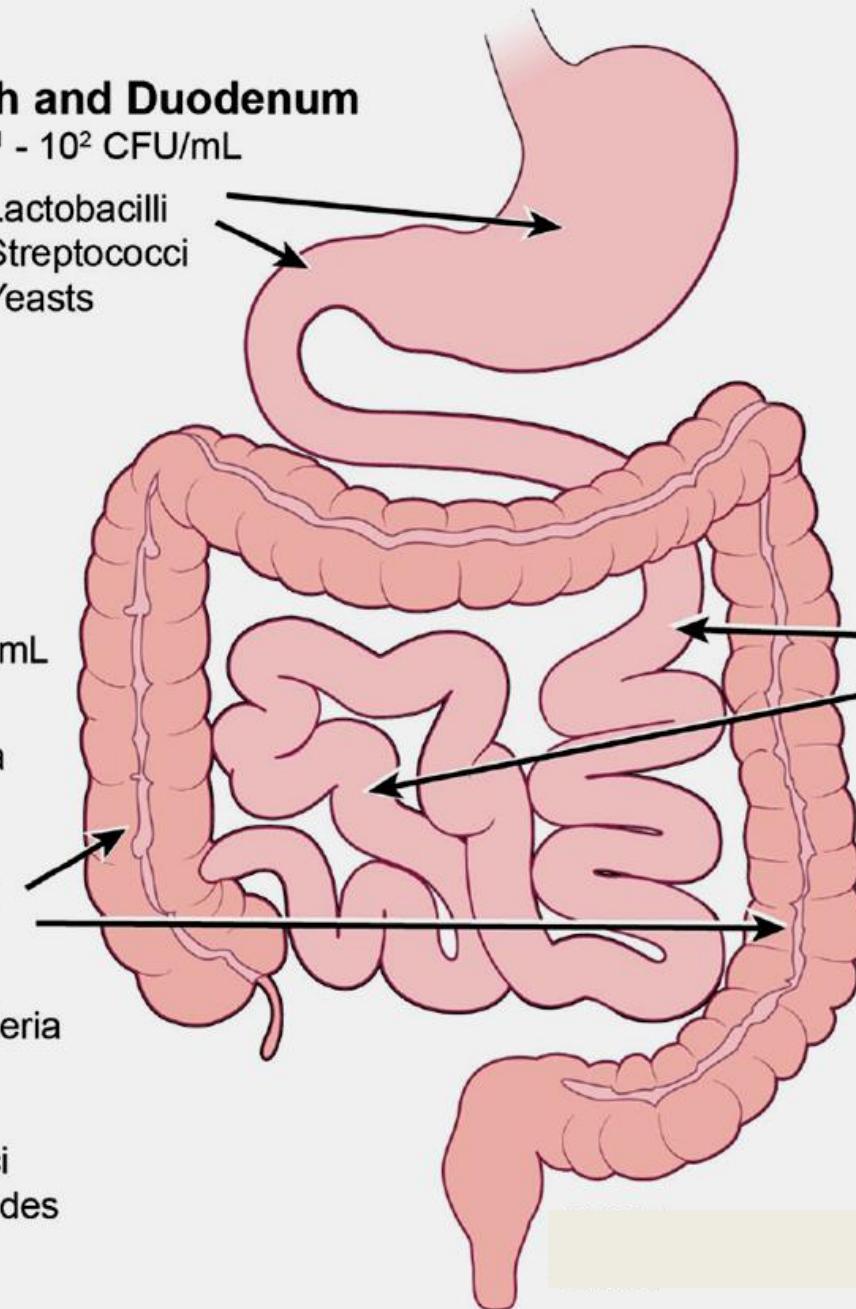
$10^1 - 10^2$  CFU/mL

Lactobacilli  
Streptococci  
Yeasts

## **Colon**

$10^{10} - 10^{12}$  CFU/mL

Bacteroides  
Bifidobacteria  
Streptococci  
Eubacteria  
Fusobacteria  
Clostridia  
Veilonella  
Coliform bacteria  
Lactobacilli  
Proteus  
Staphylococci  
Pseudomonades  
Yeasts  
Protozoa

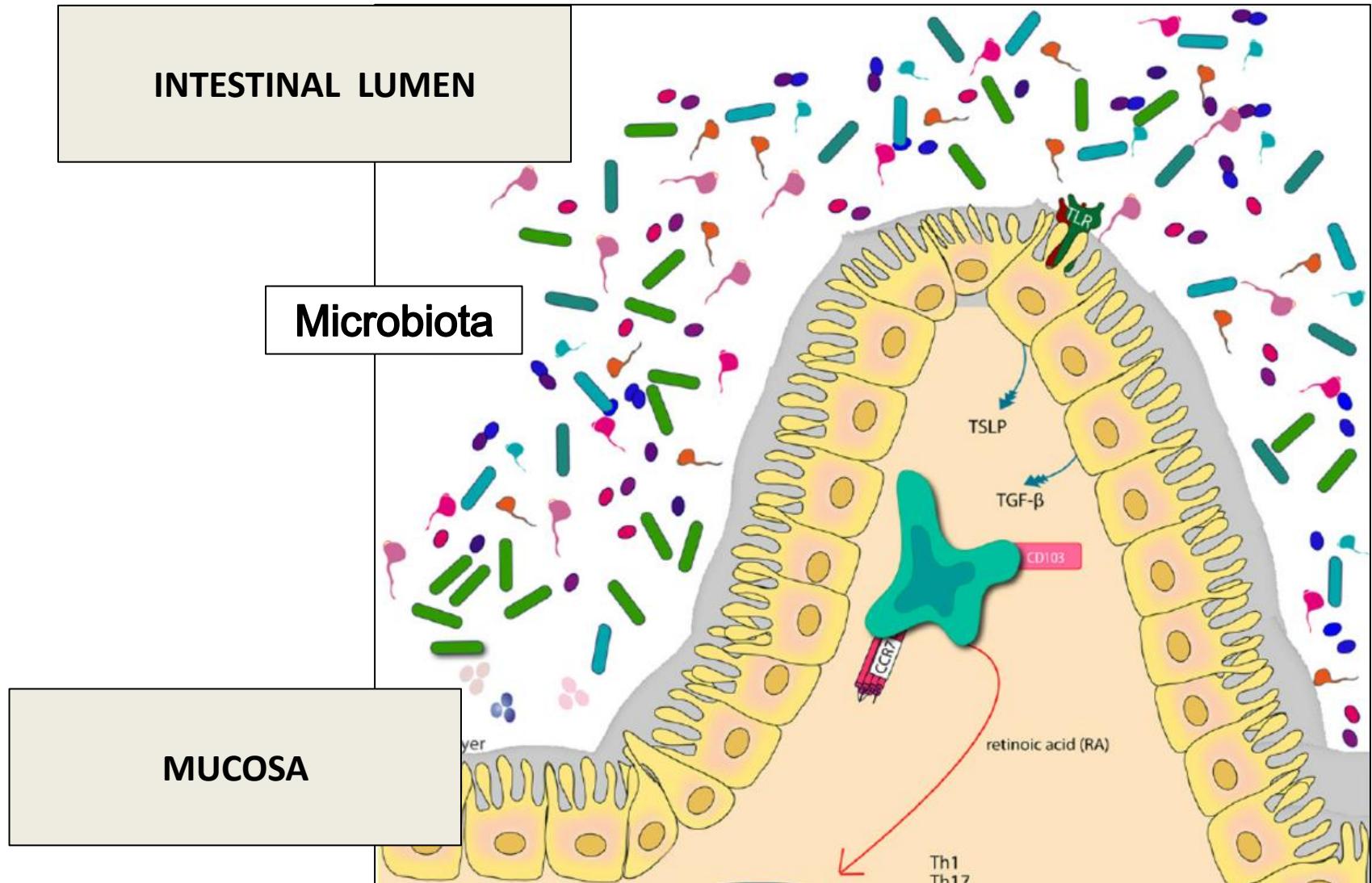


## **Jejunum and Ileum**

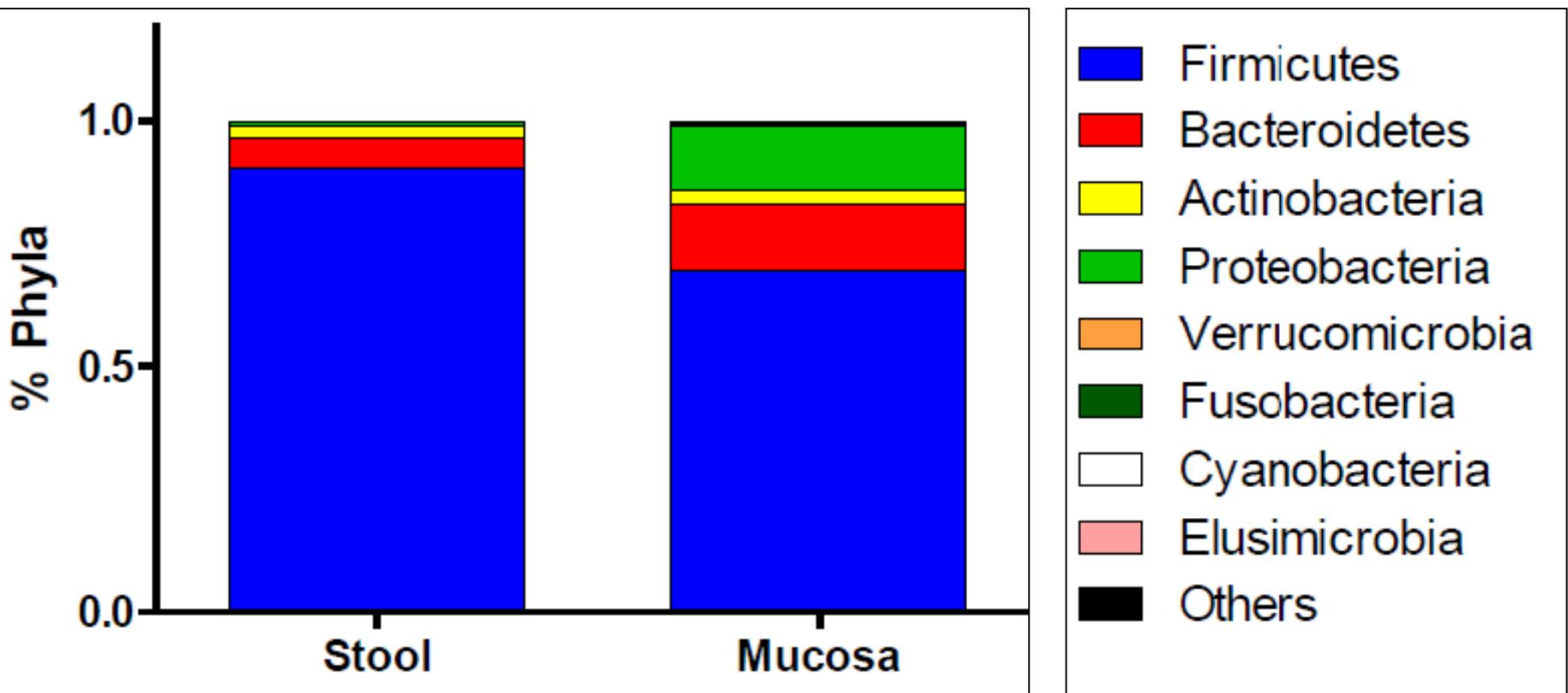
$10^4 - 10^8$  CFU/mL

Lactobacilli  
Coliform bacteria  
Streptococci  
Bacteroides  
Bifidobacteria  
Fusobacteria

# Where to Find Them



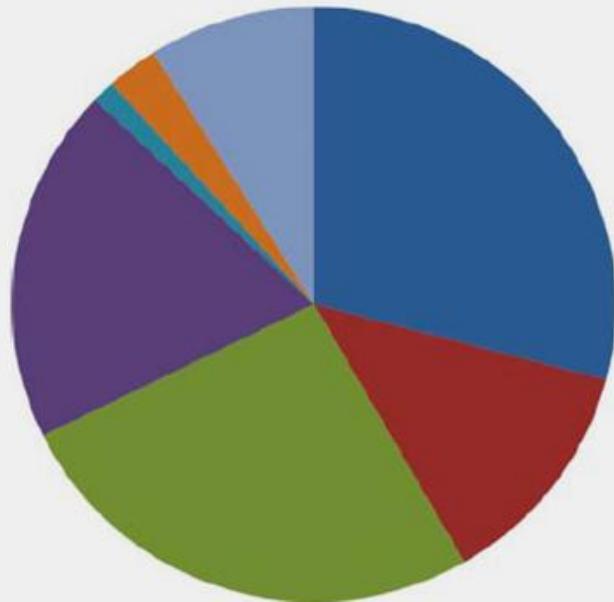
# Mucosa vs. Lumen



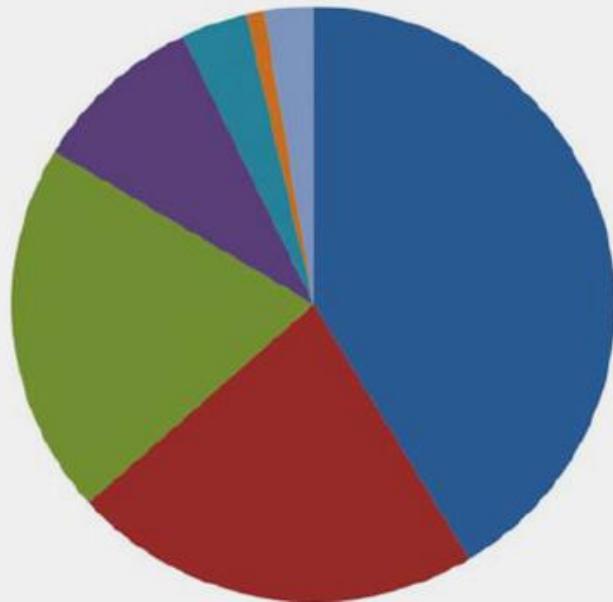
# High throughput sequencing reveals distinct microbial populations within the mucosal and luminal niches in healthy individuals

Yehuda Ringel<sup>1,\*†</sup>, Nitsan Maharshak<sup>1,2,†</sup>, Tamar Ringel-Kulka<sup>3</sup>, Elizabeth Ashley Wolber<sup>1</sup>, R Balfour Sartor<sup>1</sup>, and Ian M Carroll<sup>1</sup>

Mucosa



Stool



- Firmicutes
- Actinobacteria
- Bacteroidetes
- Proteobacteria
- Verrucomicrobia
- Cyanobacteria
- Others

# Summary: Microbiota Along the GI Tract

- Mapping is improved
- Limited information due to:
  - Culturing anaerobic bacteria
  - Limited accessibility (...small intestine)
  - Stool samples vs. Mucosal biopsies
  - Regional differences and similarities
  - Bowel preparation for colonoscopy
- Psychosomatic Medicine, 2017, 857-867
- Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2015;42:1211–21.

# Why Do We Need Microbiota?

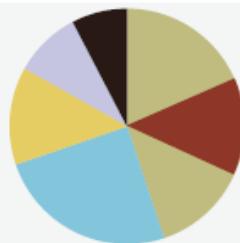
- Nutrient & Energy
  - *Bifidobacterium* ► Vitamin K & B
  - *Bacteroidetes* and *Firmicutes* ► Butyrate
- Immune training & control
  - IgA production
  - T helper (Th1/Th2) balance
  - Regulatory T cells ► Suppress inflammation
  - Barrier function
- Defense
  - Colonization resistance
  - Production of antimicrobial factors

# What Can Go Wrong

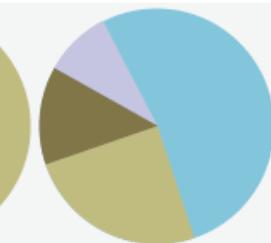


- Eubiosis vs. Dysbiosis
- High vs. Reduced **Stability & Diversity**

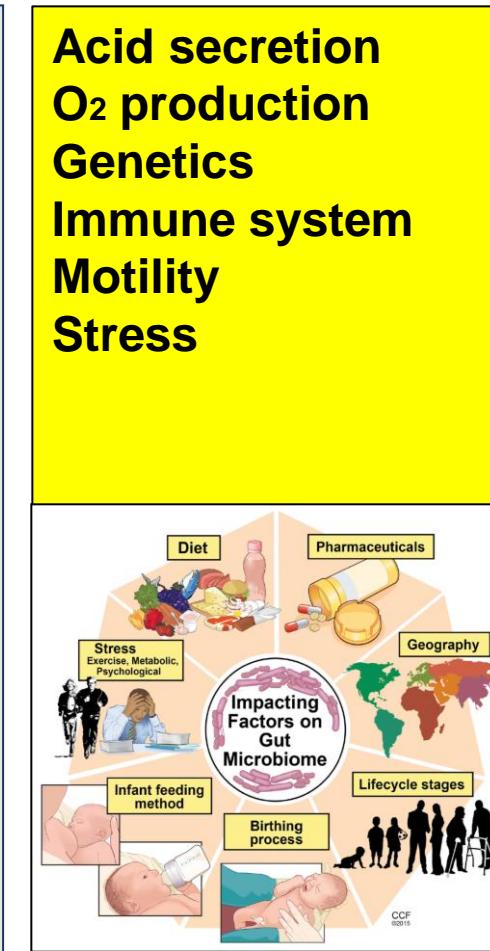
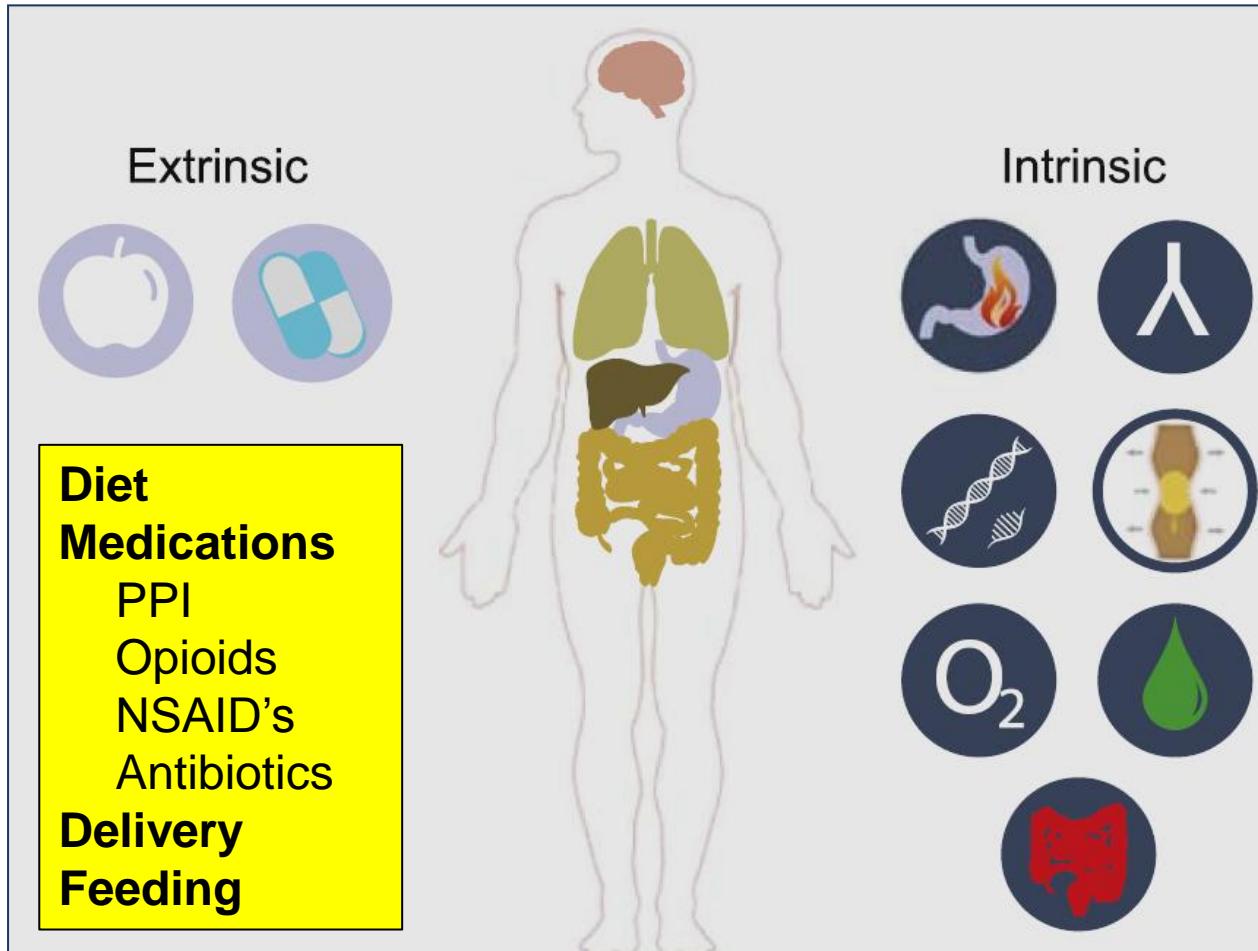
Eubiosis



Dysbiosis



# Who Affects Stability and Diversity



# Why Dysbiosis Is important?

- Association with GI diseases?
  - Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)
  - Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)
  - Obesity
- Alteration of gut microbiota were identified!
- Questions:
  - What is the relevance?
  - Manipulating microbiota = Therapy for IBS and IBD?

- Cell Host Microbe 2014;15:382–92
- Inflamm Bowel Dis 2009;15:1183–9
- Cell 2015;160:447–60
- Aliment Pharmacol Ther 51–41:342;2015
- PLoS One 2012;7:e39242
- Am J Gastroenterol 2015;110:921–30
- Gut 2012;61:997–1006

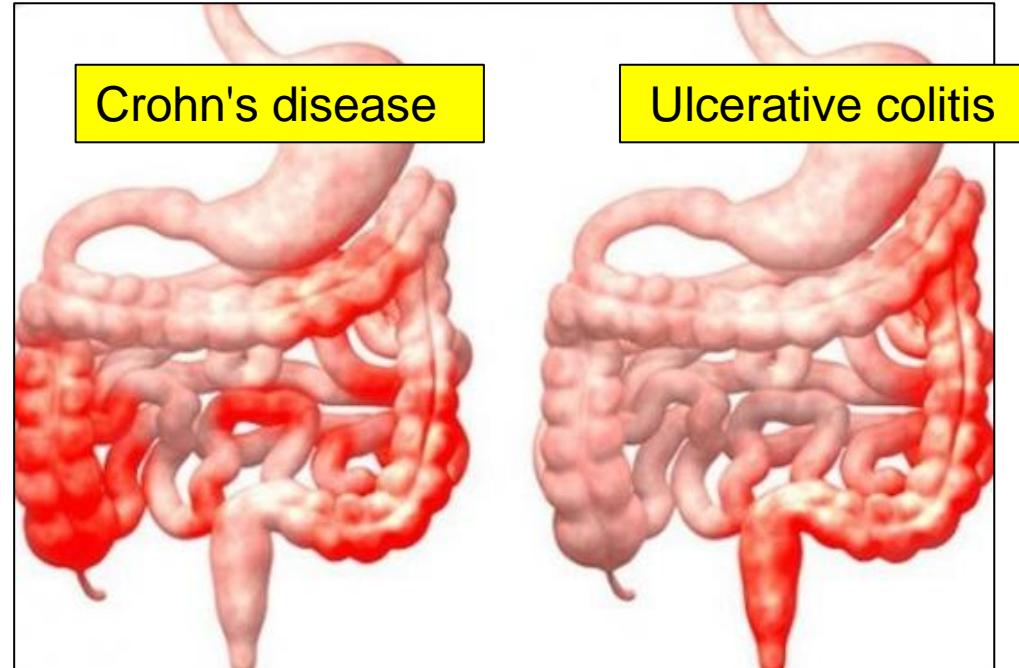
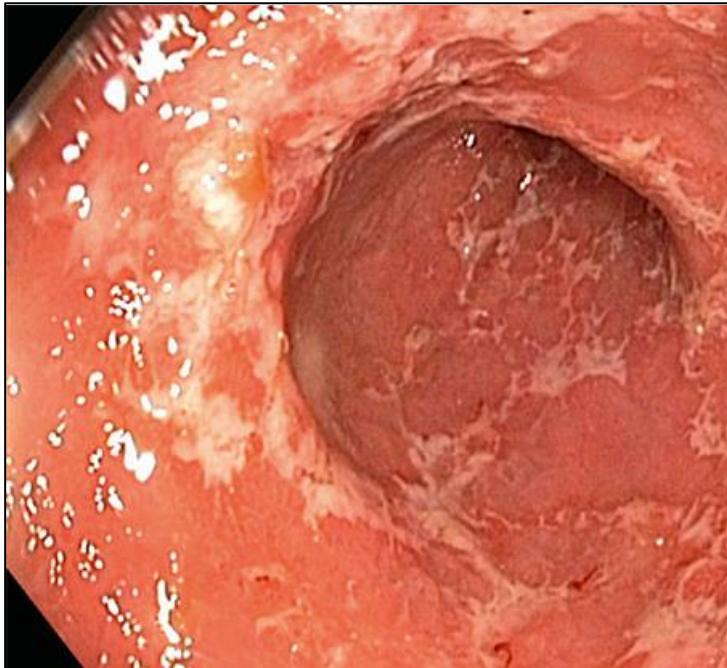
# Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD)

- Ulcerative Colitis (UC) & Crohn's Disease (CD)
- Chronic, Remitting, and Relapsing
- Prevalence approaches 1%
- Diagnosis: Before the age of 40 years
- Poor quality of life and social functioning
- Genetic and environmental factors

Gastroenterology 2012;142:46–54

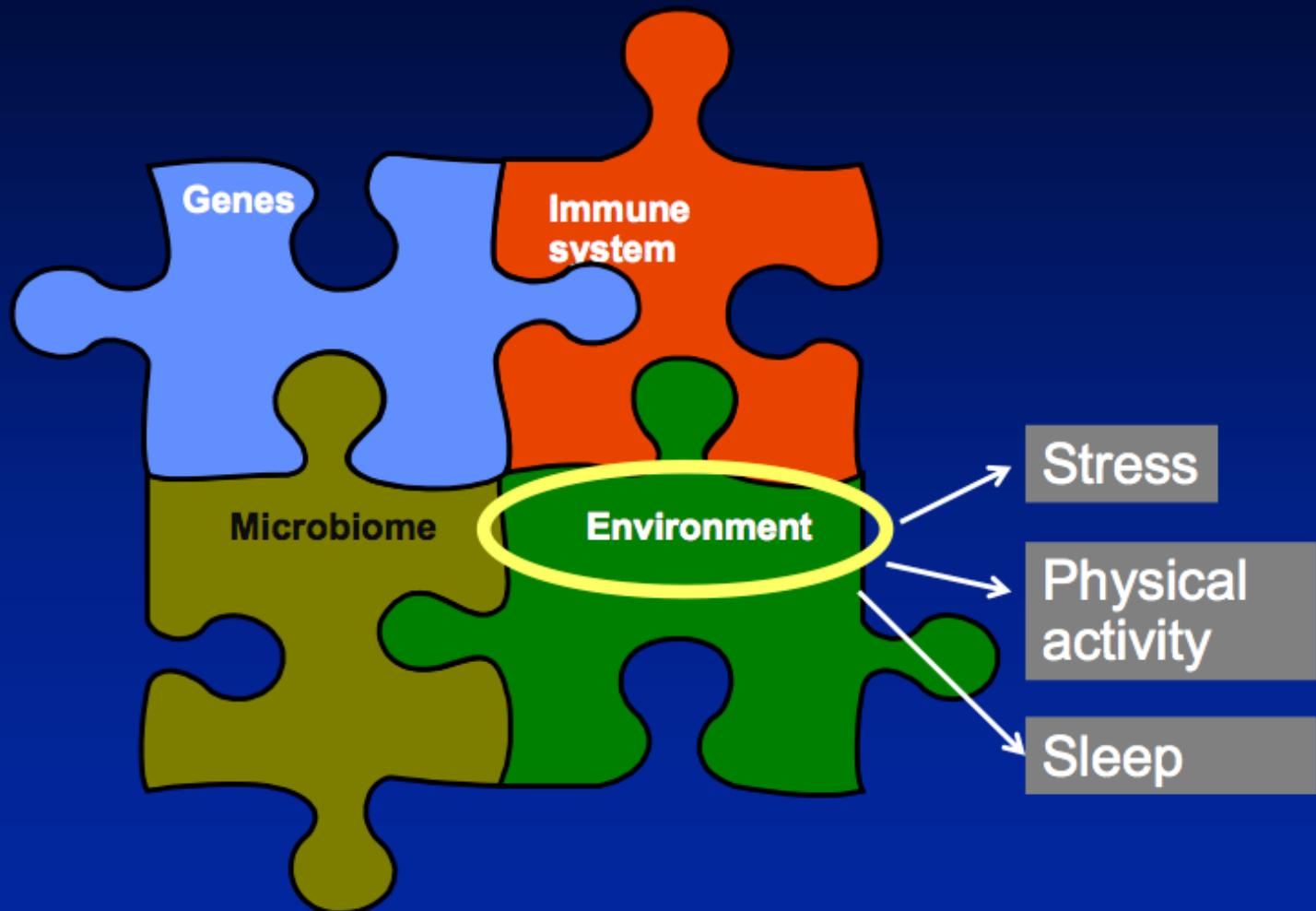


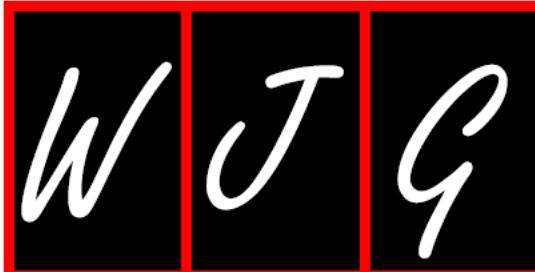
# Pathophysiology - IBD



Etiology?

Immune response + Genetics + Environment



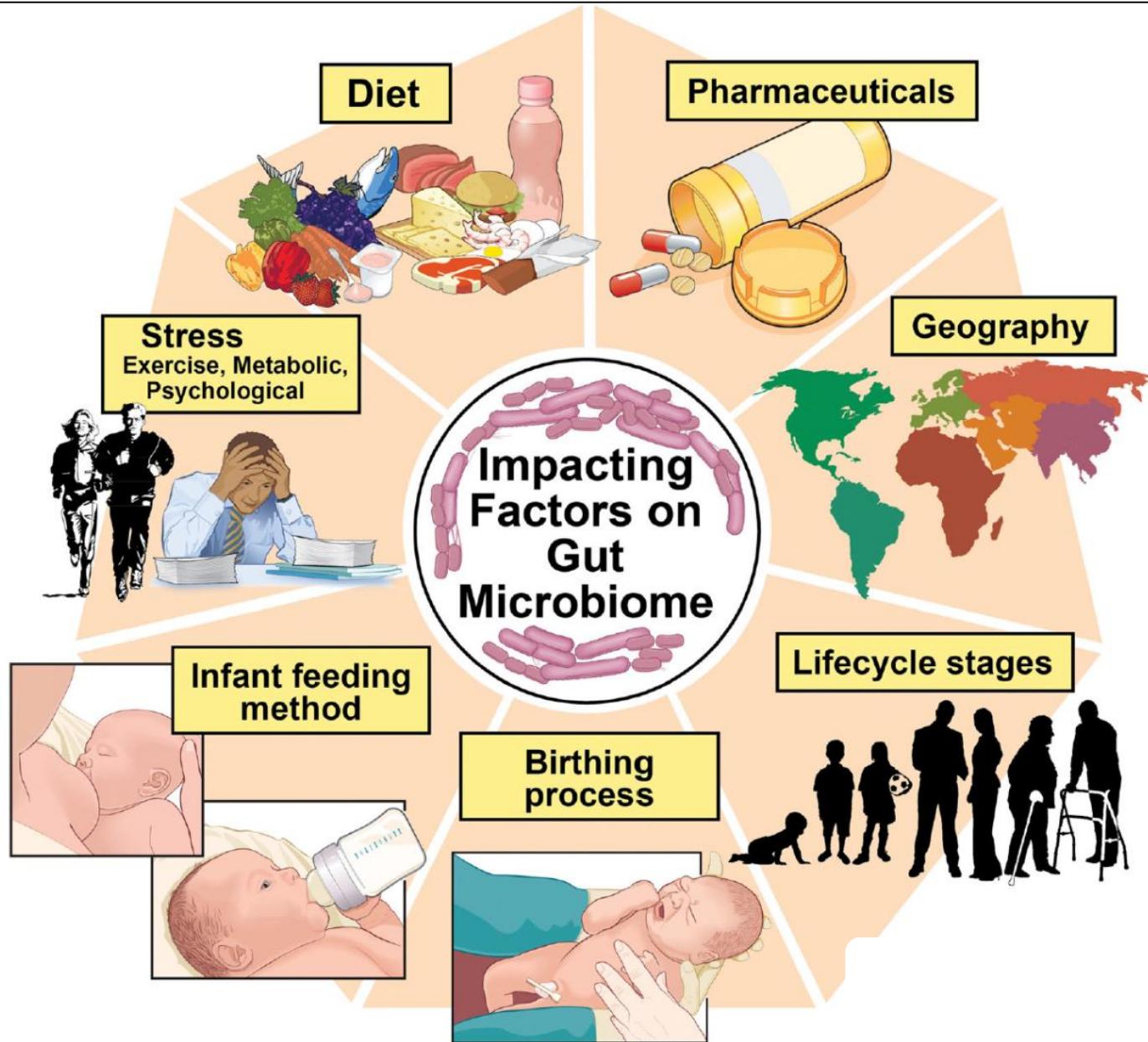


*EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE*

## **Environmental risk factors for inflammatory bowel diseases: Evidence based literature review**

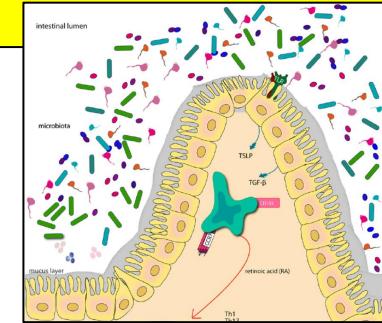
Ayokunle T Abegunde, Bashir H Muhammad, Owais Bhatti, Tauseef Ali

“Genetically susceptible individuals develop intolerance to **dysregulated gut microflora (dysbiosis)** and chronic inflammation develops ...”



# Gut Microbiota in IBD

- Fecal samples:
  - ↓ – Less: Firmicutes and Bacteroides  
Bacterial Diversity
  - ↑ – More: Proteobacteria and Actinobacteria
- Mucosal biopsies
  - ↓ – Less: Firmicutes  
Bacterial Diversity
  - ↑ – More: Proteobacteria Bacteroides

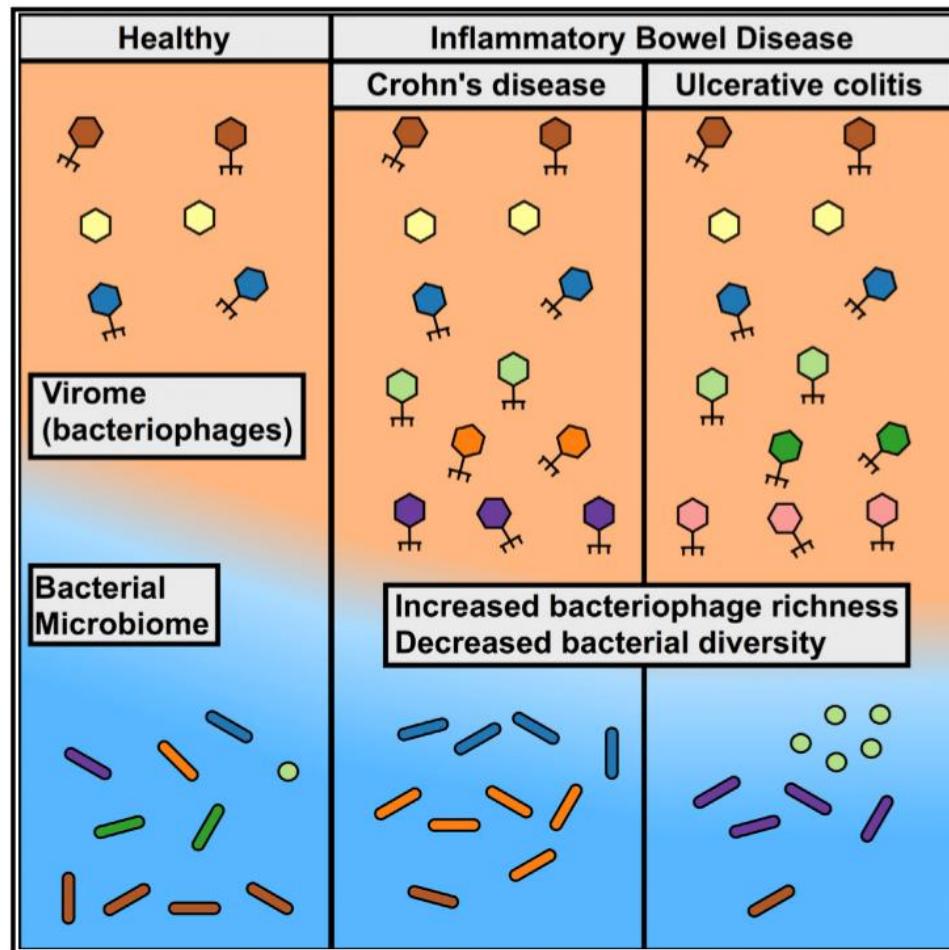


# Characterization of Gut Microbiota in IBD

- Observational studies
- Children and adults with IBD:
  - ↓ – Abundance of
    - Erysipelotrichales (order)
    - Clostridiales (order)
    - **Butyrate producers**
    - Gram-negative Clostridia
  - ↓ – Fecal bacterial diversity and fungal diversity
  - ↓ – Mucosal Firmicutes
  - ↑ – Fecal Candida
  - ↑ – Bacteriophages and Eukaryotic viruses

# Disease-Specific Alterations in the Enteric Virome in Inflammatory Bowel Disease

## Graphical Abstract



## Authors

Jason M. Norman, Scott A. Handley, ..., Miles Parkes, Herbert W. Virgin

## Correspondence

virgin@wustl.edu

## In Brief

The enteric virome is abnormal in multiple cohorts of inflammatory bowel disease patients, exhibiting disease-specific features that are not explained by changes in bacterial diversity and richness.

# Clinical Evidence

- What is the link?
    - Abnormal immune response to a normal microbiota?
    - Normal immune response to an abnormal microbiota?
  - Trigger Flare or Complications:
    - Pediatric: Lower diversity and abundance of *Rothia Mucilaginosa*
    - Adults: lower Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes ratio
  - Maintain Active Inflammation ► Complications
    - Pediatric: Lower diversity
  - Maintain Remission and Block Flares:
    - High abundance of *Faecalibacterium Prausnitzii*
  - Good Response to Therapy
    - High abundance of *Faecalibacterium Prausnitzii*
- 
- Psychosomatic Medicine, 2017, 857-867
  - Cell Host Microbe 2014;15:382–92

# Links: Gut Microbiota - IBD

- Conclusions:
  - Evidence is growing
  - Links are still... too weak!
  - More studies are needed on
    - Composition
    - **Association with natural course**
- Psychosomatic Medicine, 2017, 857-867
- Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2015;42:1211–21.

# Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)

- Chronic, Recurrent condition
- Abdominal pain + Altered bowel movements
- Normal clinical investigations
- Young age
- Prevalence approaches 11%
- Low QOL and Work productivity
- Low Social functioning
- Rome IV Criteria



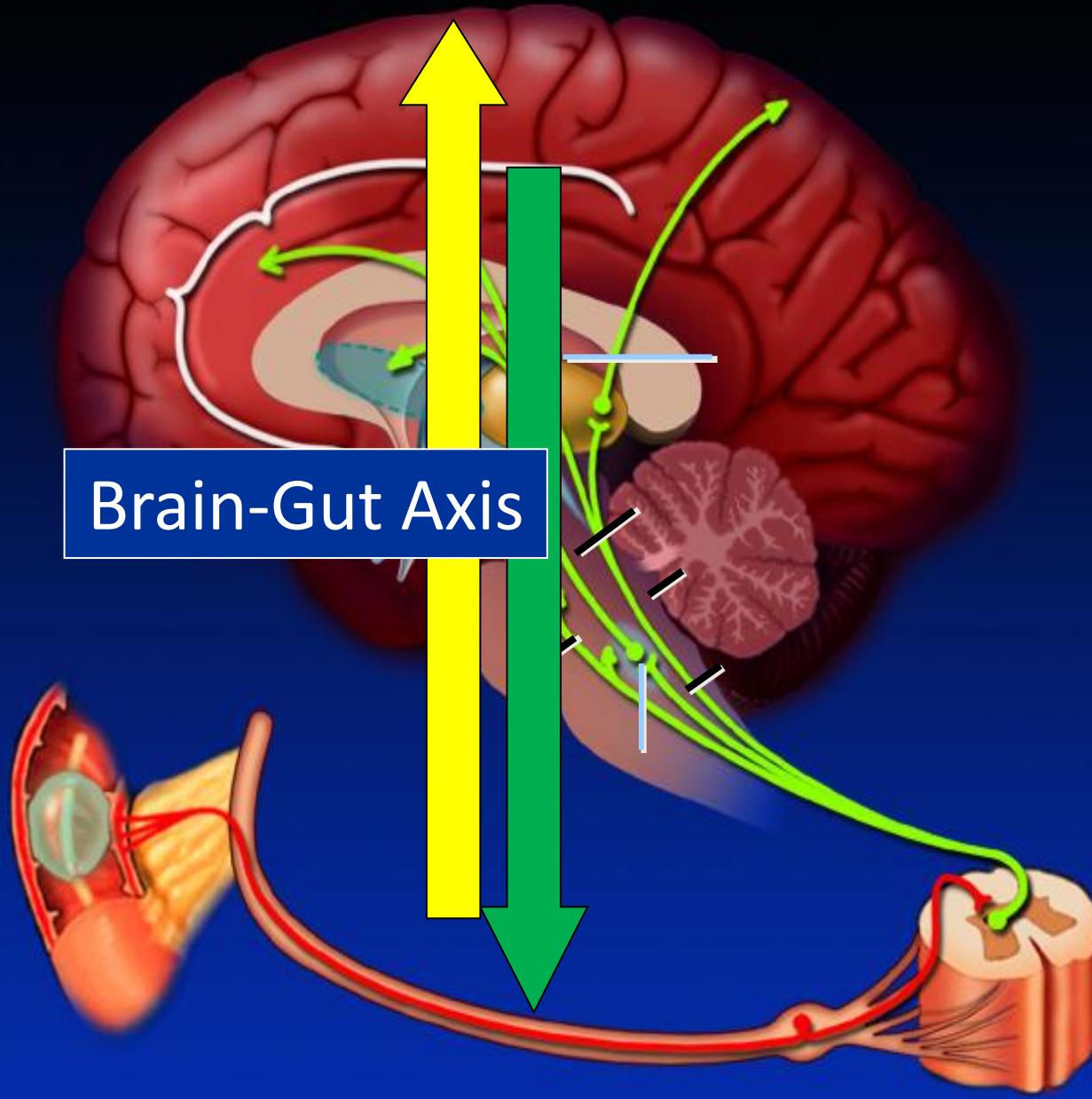
# IBS Subtypes

- Diarrhea-predominant IBS (IBS-D)
- Constipation-predominant (IBS-C)
- Mixed IBS (IBS-M)
- Post Infectious IBS (10%)

# Pathophysiology of IBS



- Etiology?
  - Abnormal Brain-Gut Interactions
  - Visceral Hypersensitivity
  - Gut Dysmotility and Secretion
  - Psychosocial Factors
  - **Gut Microbiota Composition**
  - Gut Permeability
  - Low Grade Immune Activity



# Genetic Predisposition

Social Factors

Stress

Abuse

Infection

Gastroenteritis

► Dysbiosis

Environmental Factors

Antibiotics

Stress

Inability to Cope with

Anxiety

Depression

Somatization

Catastrophizing

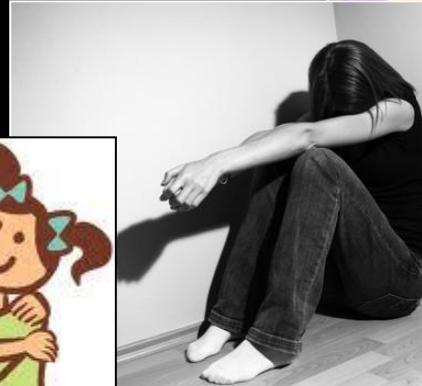
IBS

IBS Symptoms

# Biopsychosocial Model



- Bio
- Psycho
- Social



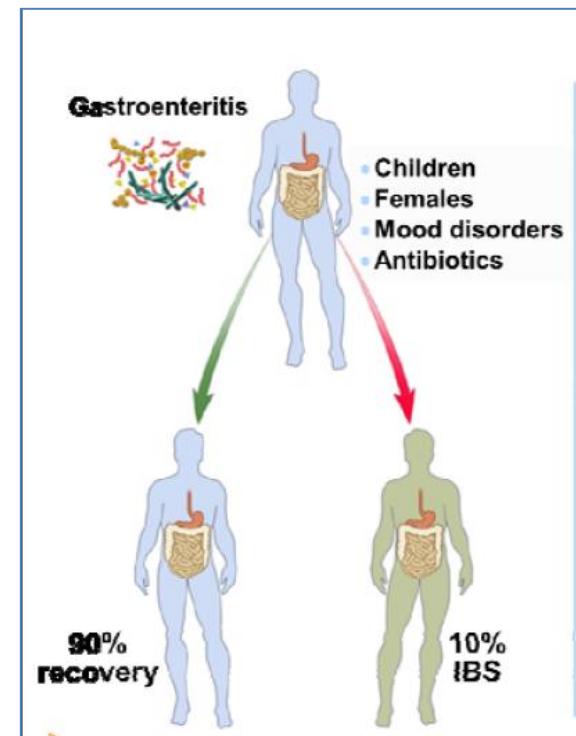
# Pathophysiology of IBS

## The Role of Microbiota

- Bacterial Gastroenteritis ► Post-Infection IBS
- Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth (**SIBO**)
- Microbiota in IBS is different?
- Efficacy of Antibiotics and Probiotics

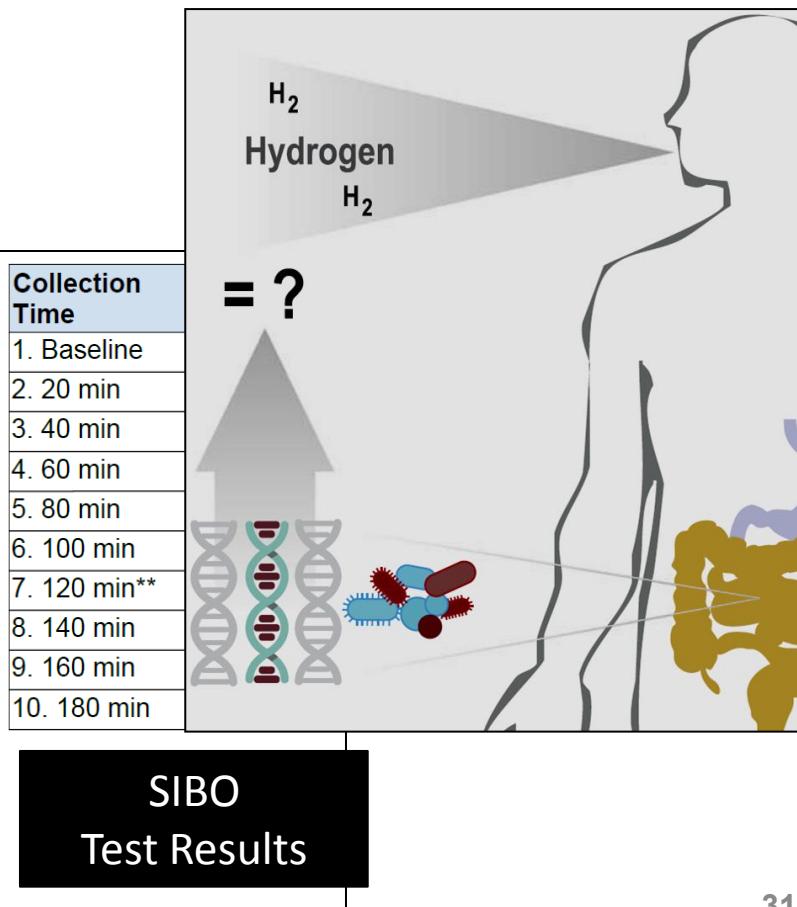
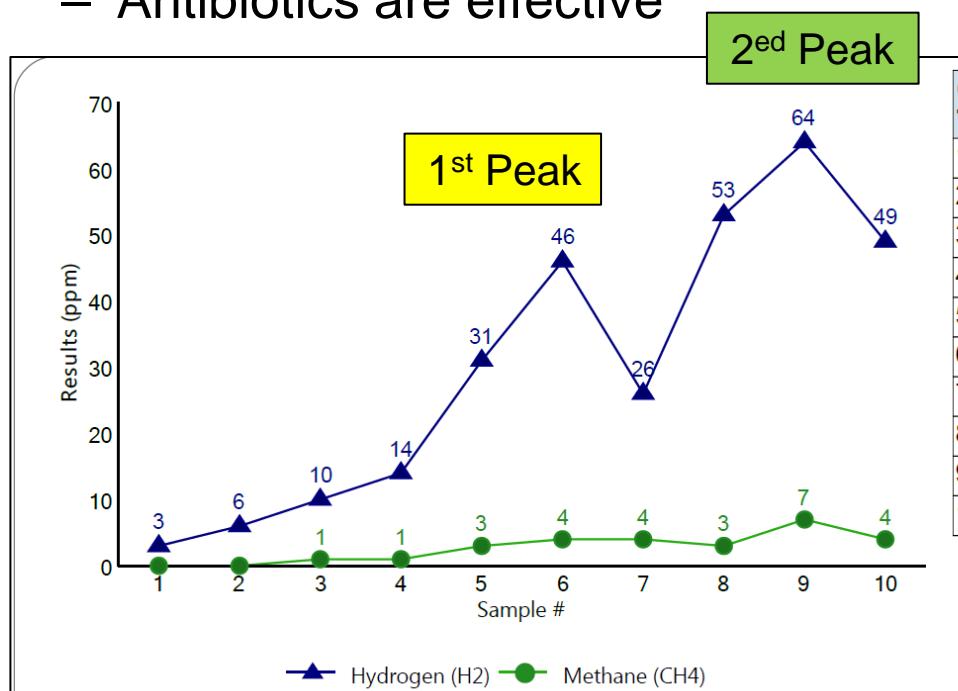
# Post Infectious IBS

- 10% of all IBS cases
- Infection ► 7-10 times risk ► IBS
- Risk factors
  - Females
  - Children
  - Mood disorders
  - Antibiotics



# Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth (SIBO)

- Biopsies are impractical
- Breath tests = Practical alternative
- Metaanalysis:
  - IBS patients have more SIBO
  - Symptoms overlap
  - Antibiotics are effective



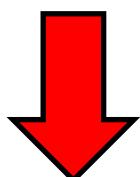
# Gut Microbiota in IBS

- Different Microbiota Compositions:

- Increased **Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes Ratio**
    - More Fecal **Ruminococcus Torques**
- 



- Reduced Fecal **Lactobacilli**
  - Reduced Fecal and Mucosal **Diversity**



## Fecal and Mucosa-Associated Intestinal Microbiota in Patients with Diarrhea-Predominant Irritable Bowel Syndrome

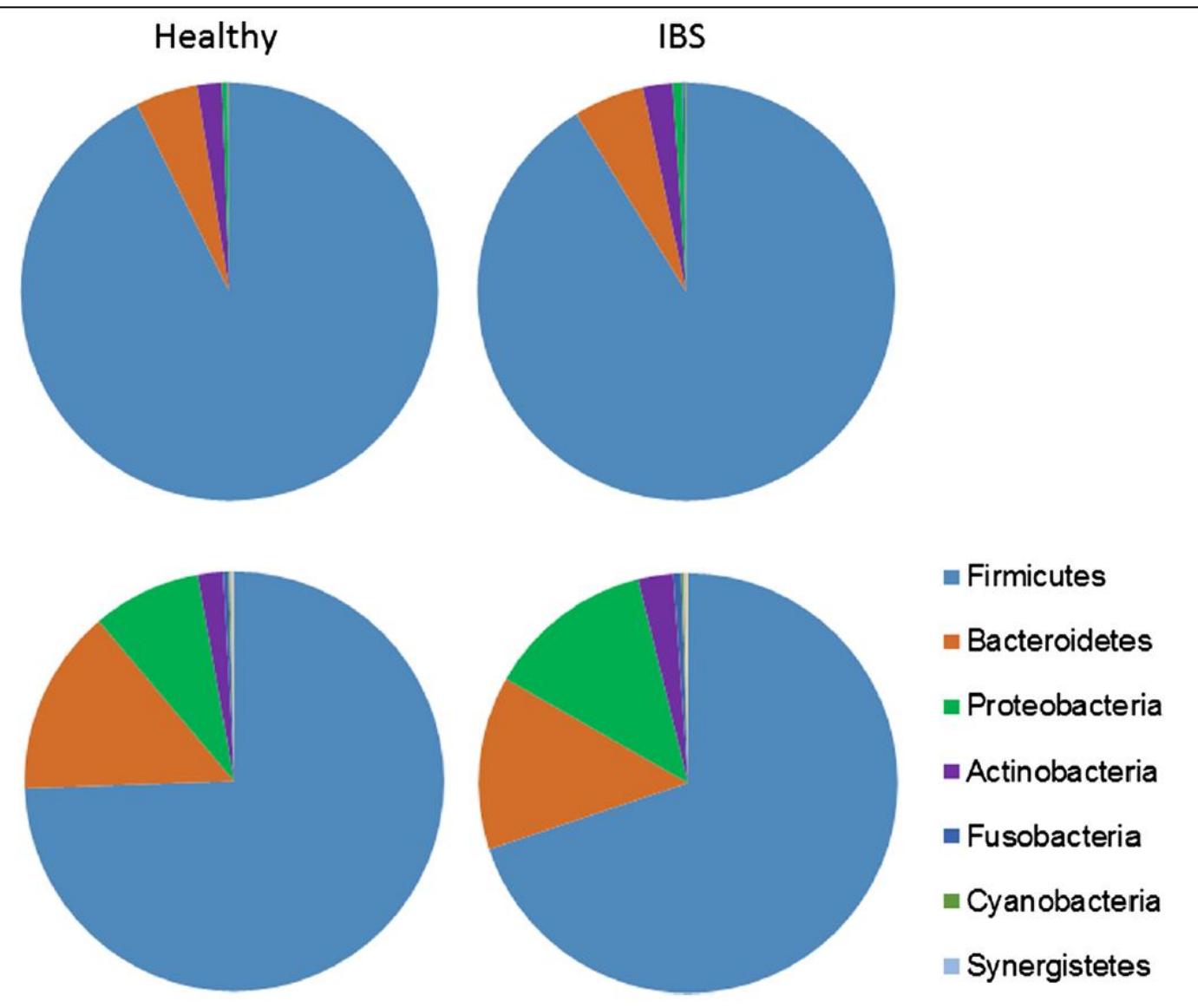
Fecal

Mucosa

Healthy

IBS

- Firmicutes
- Bacteroidetes
- Proteobacteria
- Actinobacteria
- Fusobacteria
- Cyanobacteria
- Synergistetes

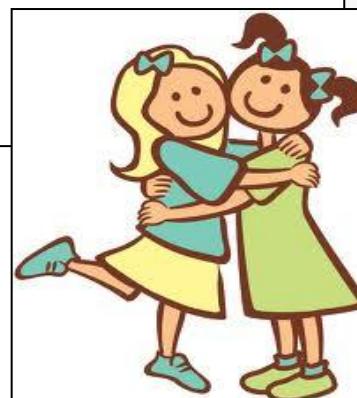


# Clinical Evidence

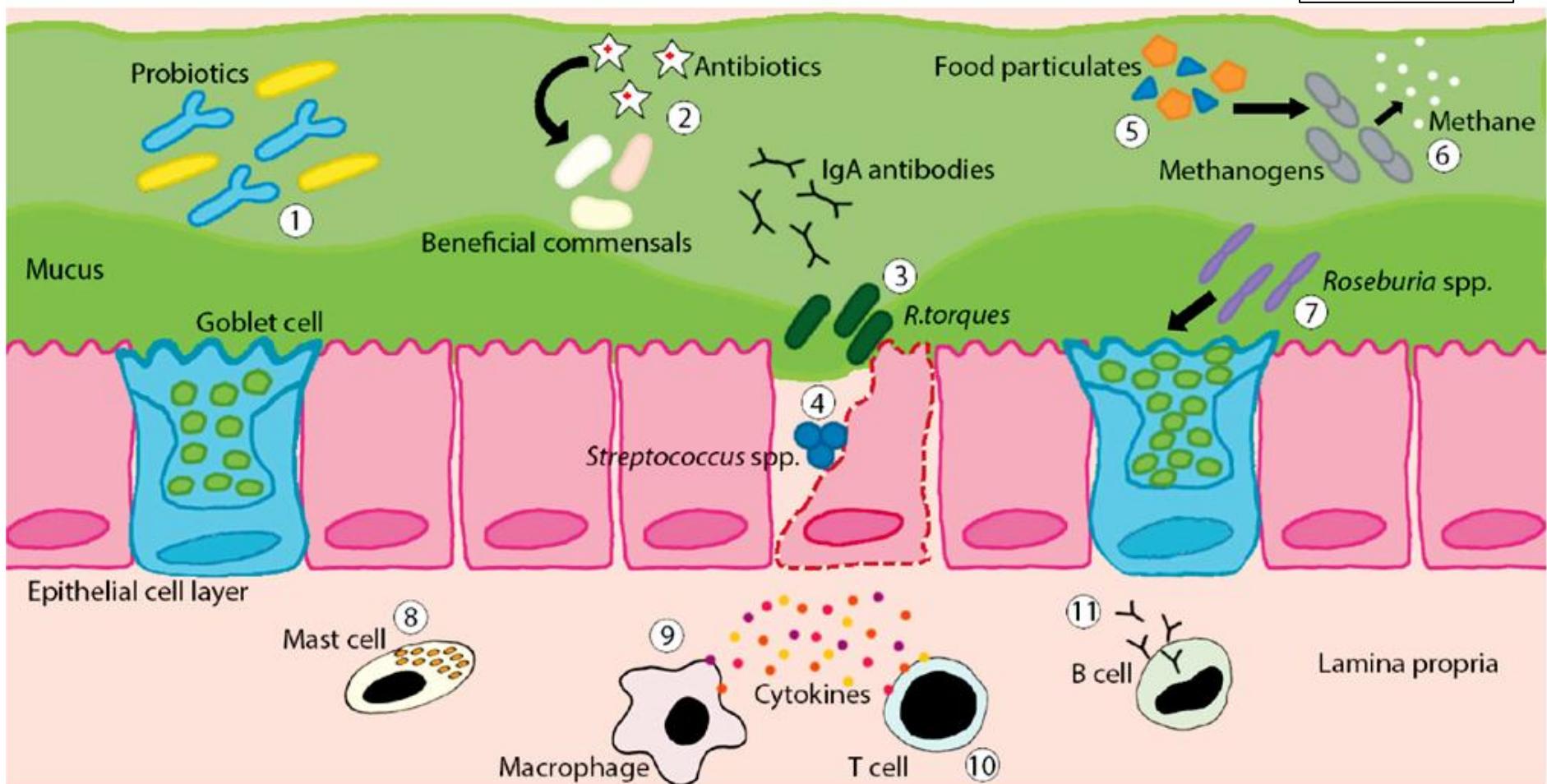
- Symptoms ← microbiota?
- IBS+Constipation: More Bifidobacteria?
- Overlap with Controls
- **Non-Microbiota factors count!**
- Evidence is growing

Psychosomatic Medicine, 2017, 857-867  
Gut 2012;61:997–1006

Infection  
SIBO  
Food  
Intolerance  
Diet  
Dysbiosis?



# Very Few Clear Targets ► Therapy?



# Therapeutic Approaches for Dysbiosis

Diet & Prebiotics



Probiotics



FMT



Antibiotics



DYSBIOSIS

Very few targets ► Empirical treatment

- Diet
- Prebiotics
- Probiotics
- Fecal Microbial Transplantation (FMT)
- Antibiotics
  - Rifaximin, Metronidazole

# On What Diet Are You?

Ornish Diet

Weight Watchers

Vegetarian

Omnivore

DASH Diet

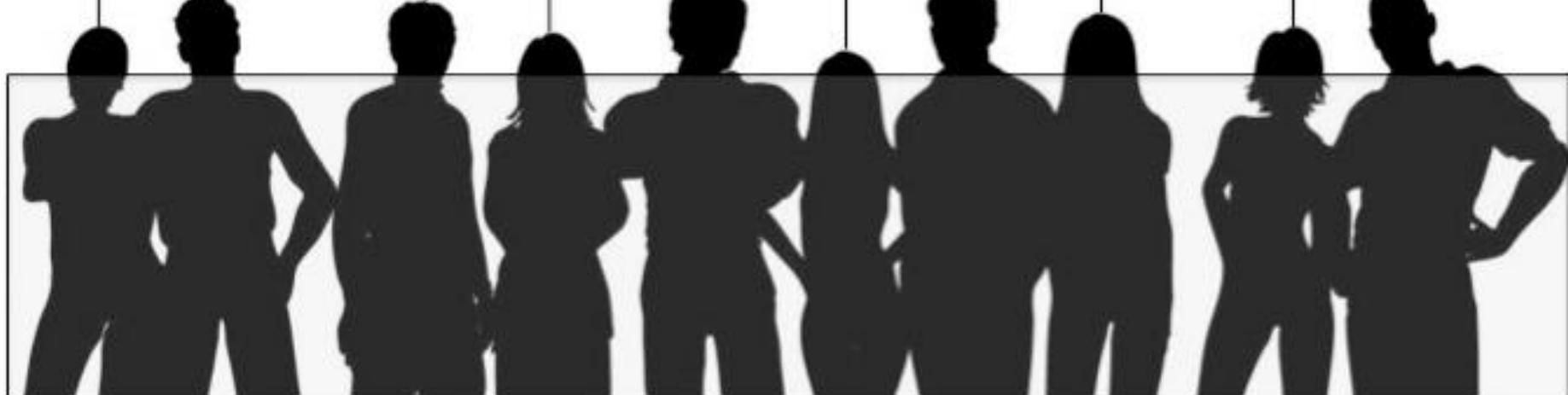
Paleo

Low GI

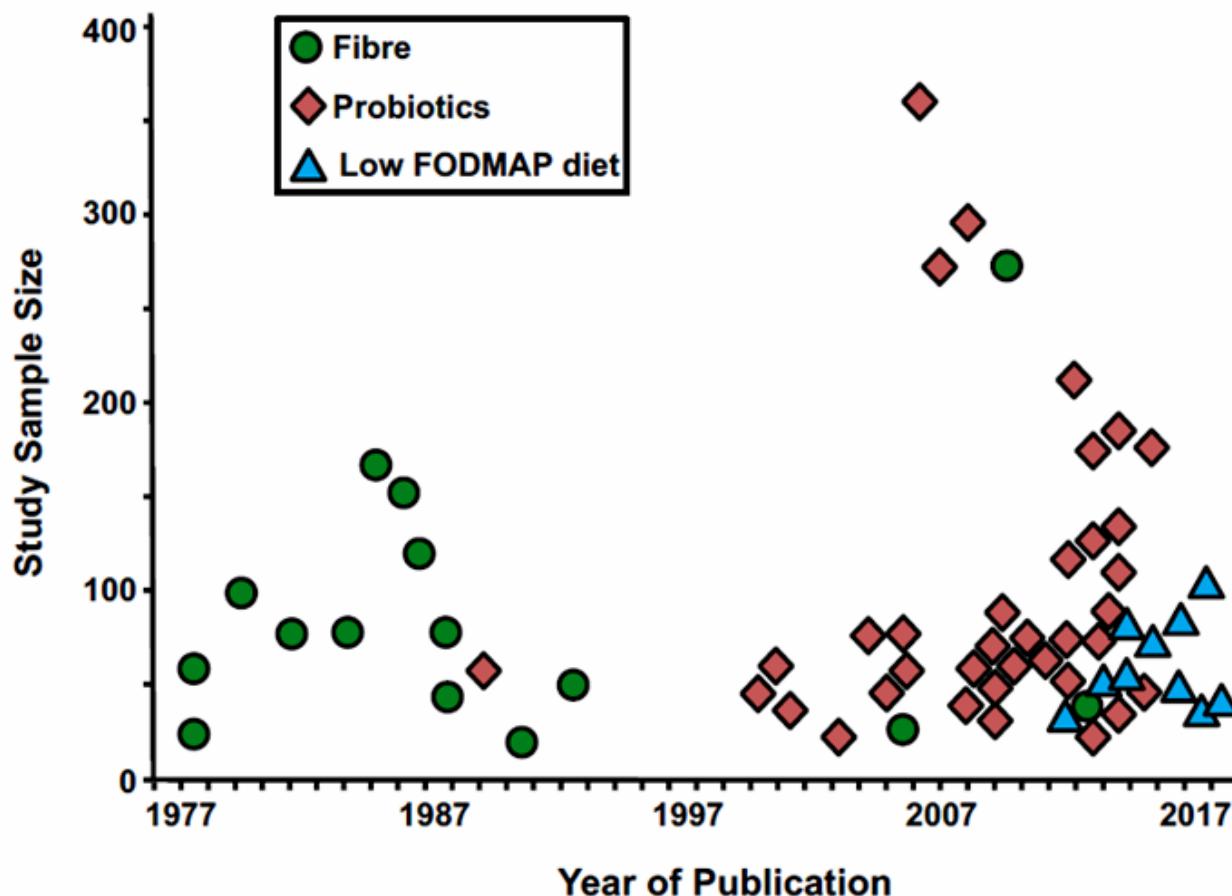
Gluten Free

Weight Watchers

Low Fat



# Trends in Diet Interventions in IBS

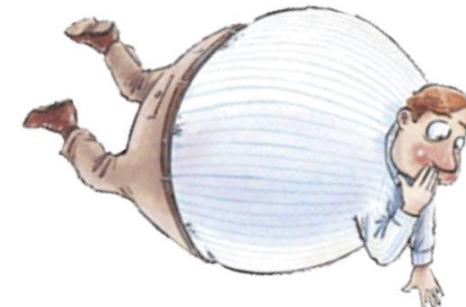


Dimidi E et al., Curr Opin Clin Nutr Metab Care 2017

# No. 1 Empirical Diet Intervention

- Low FODMAP Diet
  - Fermentable...
  - Oligosaccharides
  - Disaccharides
  - Monosaccharides
  - And Polyols

Halthy food, for many but not for all!

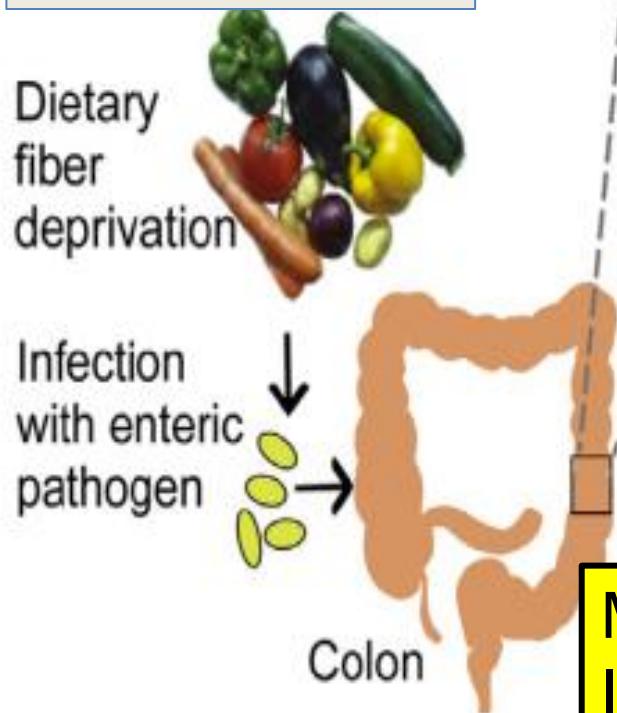


# Diet Interventions in IBS

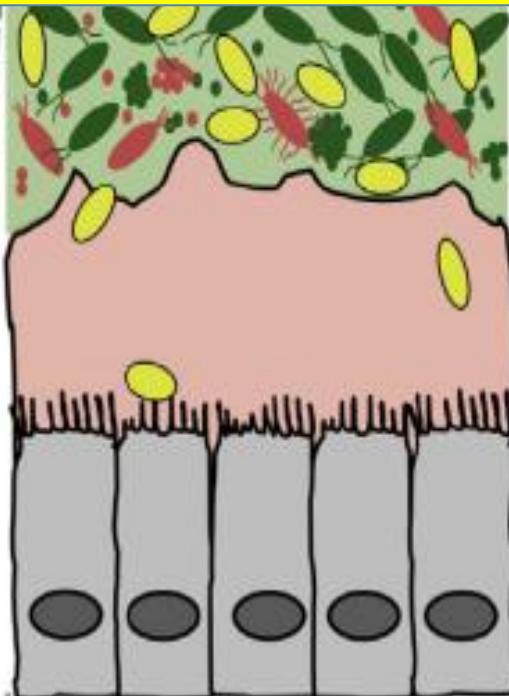
- Common practice
- The Low FODMAP Diet reduces symptoms
- Effect on gut microbiota ?
- Side effect - May reduce microbiota diversity!

Halmos EP, et al. Gut 2015;64:93–100

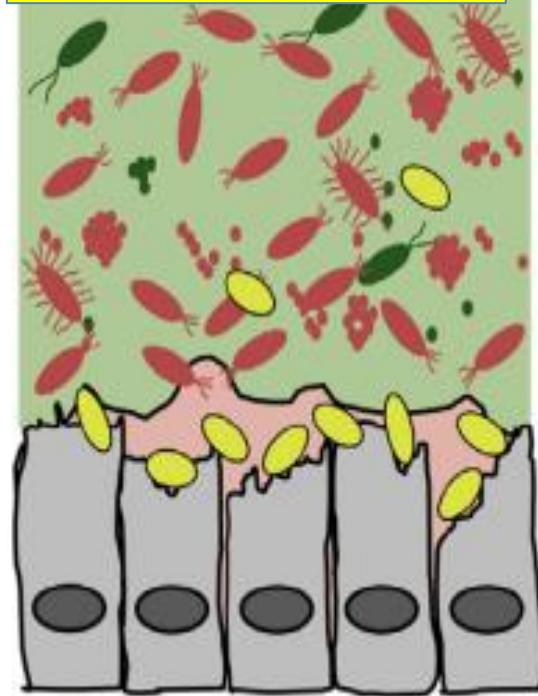
# The Role of FIBER



Fiber Rich Diet



No Fiber



Mature Mucus  
Intact Barrier Function!

Eroded Mucus  
Barrier Damage

# Probiotics

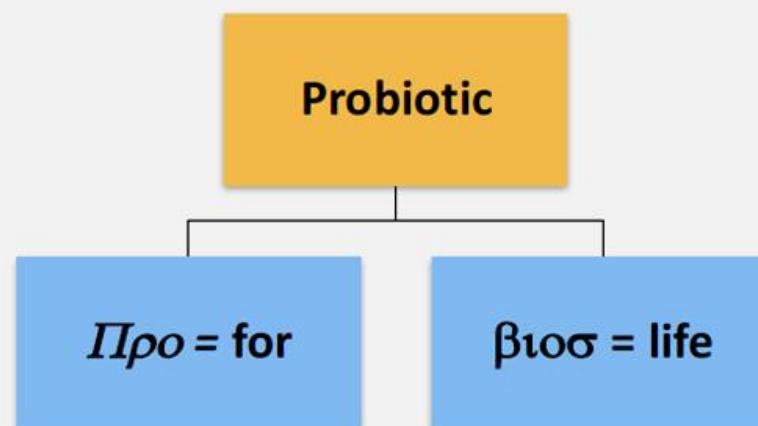


## CONSENSUS STATEMENTS

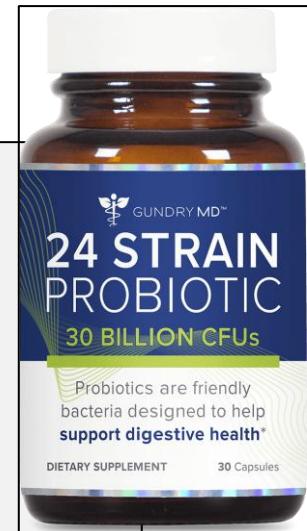
EXPERT CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

### The International Scientific Association for Probiotics and Prebiotics consensus statement on the scope and appropriate use of the term probiotic

Colin Hill, Francisco Guarner, Gregor Reid, Glenn R. Gibson, Daniel J. Merenstein, Bruno Pot, Lorenzo Morelli, Roberto Berni Canani, Harry J. Flint, Seppo Salminen, Phillip C. Calder and Mary Ellen Sanders



*Live organisms, which when administered in adequate amounts, confer a health benefit on the host*



# Probiotics in Health

RESEARCH

Open Access



## Alterations in fecal microbiota composition by probiotic supplementation in healthy adults: a systematic review of randomized controlled trials

Nadja B. Kristensen\*, Thomas Bryrup, Kristine H. Allin, Trine Nielsen, Tue H. Hansen and Oluf Pedersen

- Systemic review
- 7 Randomized control trials
- Healthy adults
- **No effect on microbiota parameters**

Kristensen NB et al., Genome Med 2016;8:52

# Probiotics in Disease

Ritchie ML, PLoS ONE 2012;7:e34938

## A Meta-Analysis of Probiotic Efficacy for Gastrointestinal Diseases

Marina L. Ritchie\*, Tamara N. Romanuk

- 74 studies
- 84 trials
- 10,351 patients

Disorder	Positive Effect	Risk reduction
Infectious Diarrhea	Yes	0.5
Antibiotic ► Diarrhea	Yes	0.5
Traveler Diarrhea	No	
IBS	Yes	0.5
IBD - Paucities	Yes	0.5
Helicobacter pylori	Yes	0.5
Clostridium Colitis	Yes	0.5
Necrotizing Ent. Colitis	No	

# Probiotics - Recommendations

American College of Gastroenterology Monograph  
on Management of Irritable Bowel Syndrome



## INTERVENTIONS THAT MODIFY THE MICROBIOTA: PROBIOTICS

- 53 RCTs involving 5'545 patients
- Probiotics superior to placebo (RR of IBS not improving = 0.81)
- NNT: 7
- Adverse events not higher with probiotics (RR 1.09)
- Significant heterogeneity between studies ( $I^2 = 71\%$ ,  $P < 0.001$ )

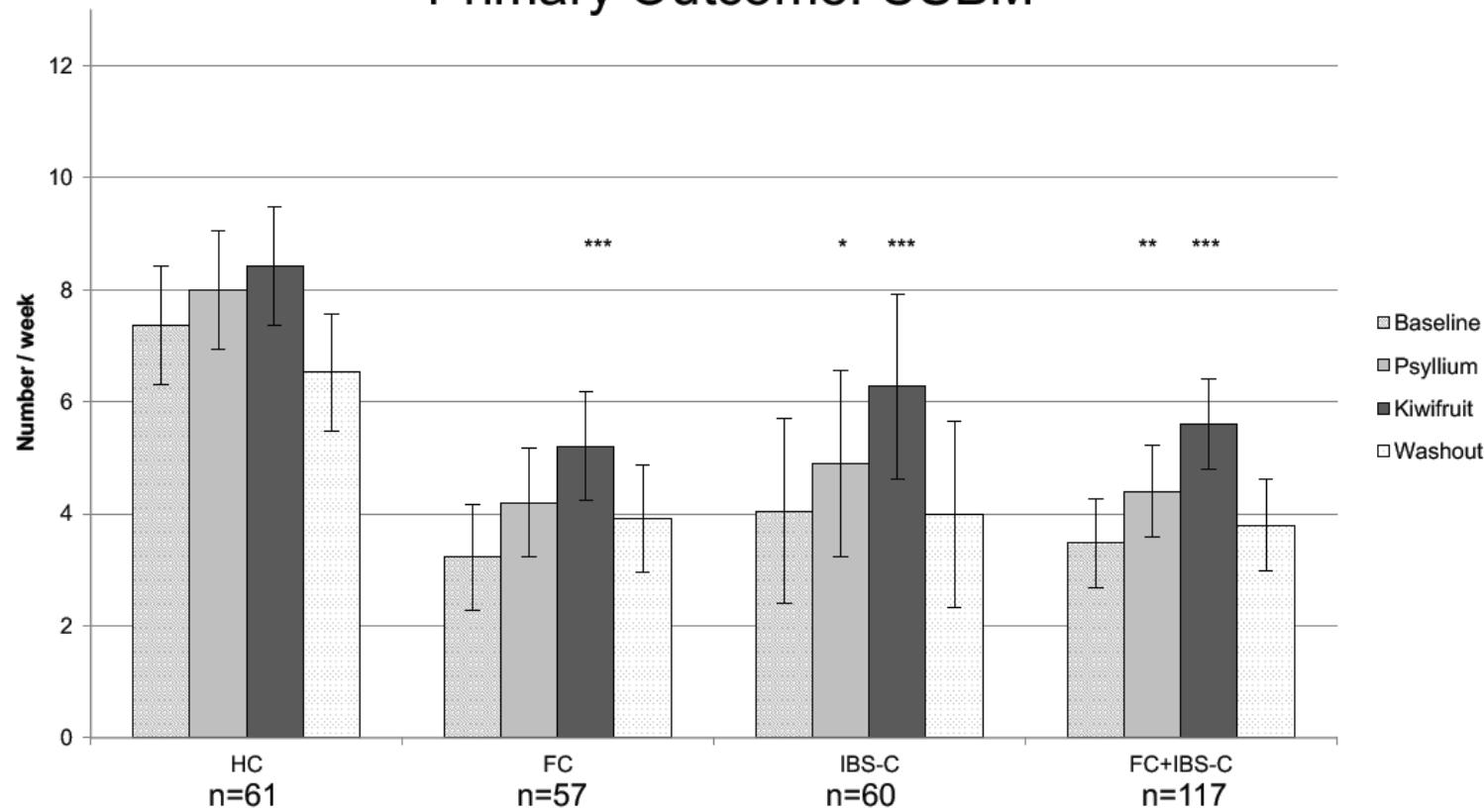
**We suggest probiotics, taken as a group, to improve global symptoms, as well as bloating and flatulence in IBS patients**

**Recommendation:** weak; **Quality of evidence:** low



# Effect of Green Kiwifruit in Functional Constipation and IBS-C

Primary Outcome: CSBM



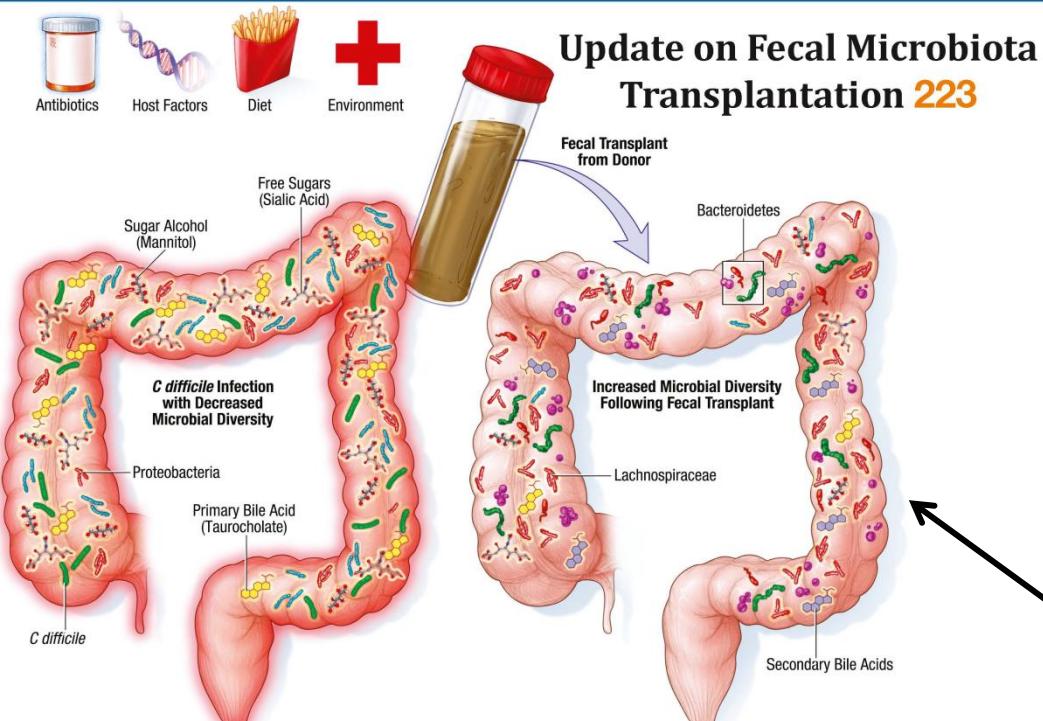
Barbara G et al. DDW 2018

# Fecal Microbial Transplantation (FMT)

# Gastroenterology

www.gastrojournal.org

Volume 149 Number 1 July 2015



Colleen R et al, et al Gastroenterology 2015;149:223–37

## Clinical Practice

- *C. difficile* Infection
  - Relapsing/Recurrent
  - Resistant

## Research

- IBD
- IBS
- Obesity/Metabolic Synd.
- Diabetes Mellitus Type 2
- Fatty Liver
- Hepatic Encephalopathy
- Pediatric Allergy Synd.

Following FMT ►  
**Increased Microbial  
Diversity!**

# Fecal Microbial Transplantation: Preparation and Delivery Modalities



Fresh



Frozen



Dry Capsule

Preparation



Nasogastric tube



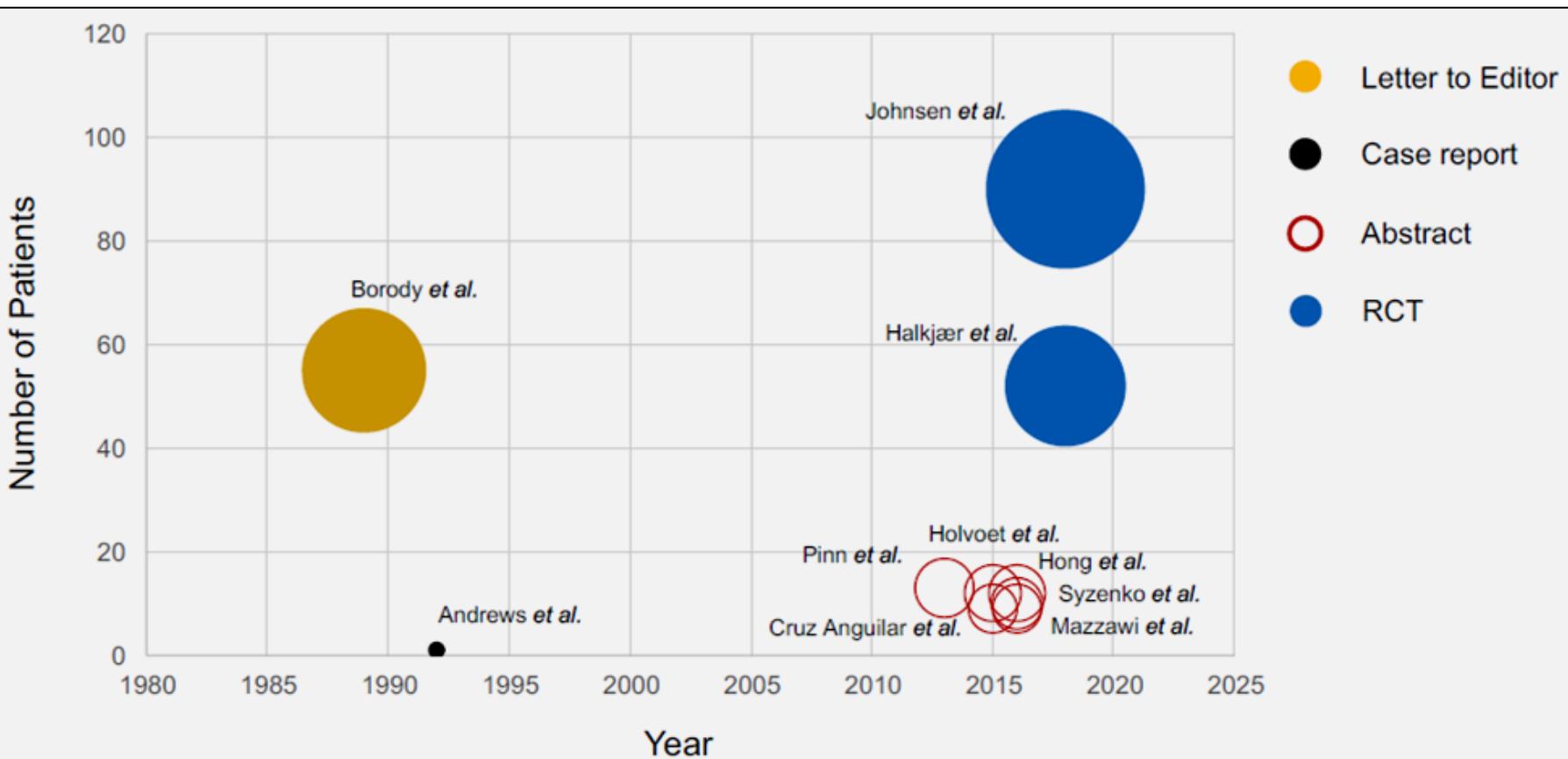
Enema



Colonoscopy

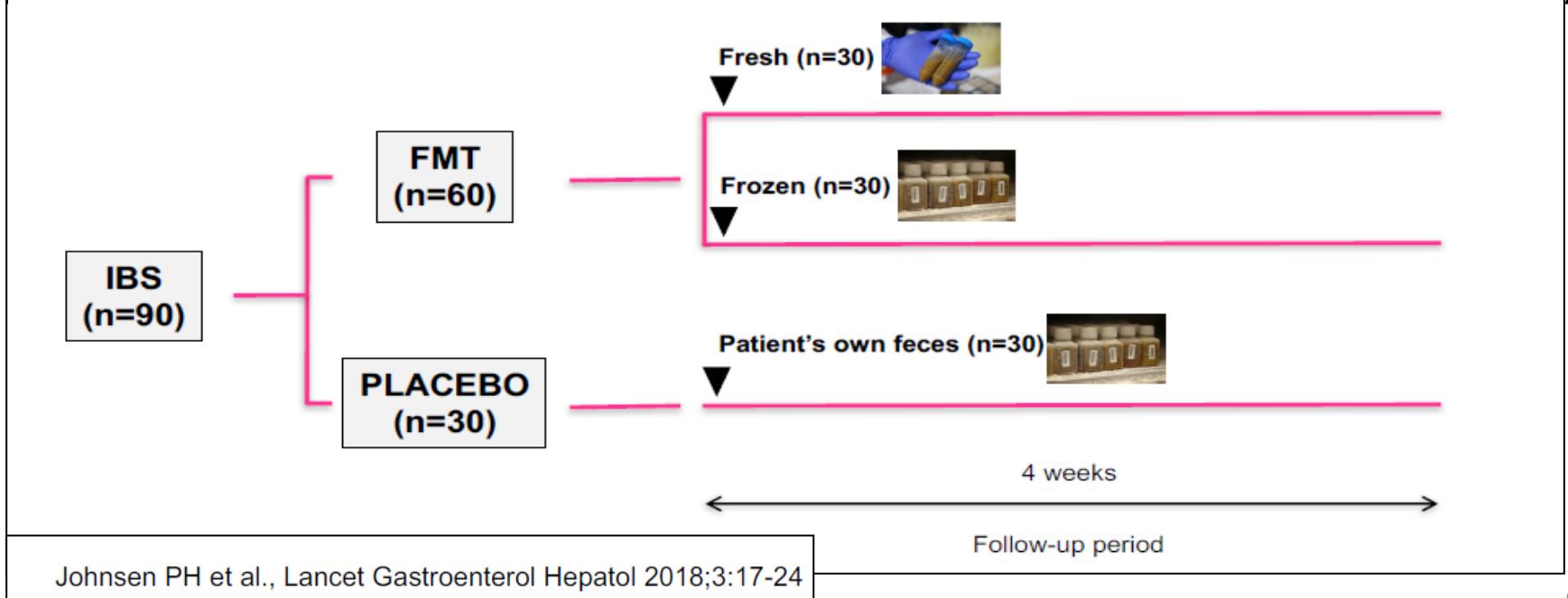
Delivery

# Trials of FMT in IBS



# Trials of FMT in IBS

Trial	No. of Patients	Symptoms	Side effects
Johnsen 2018	90	Improved	No Serious

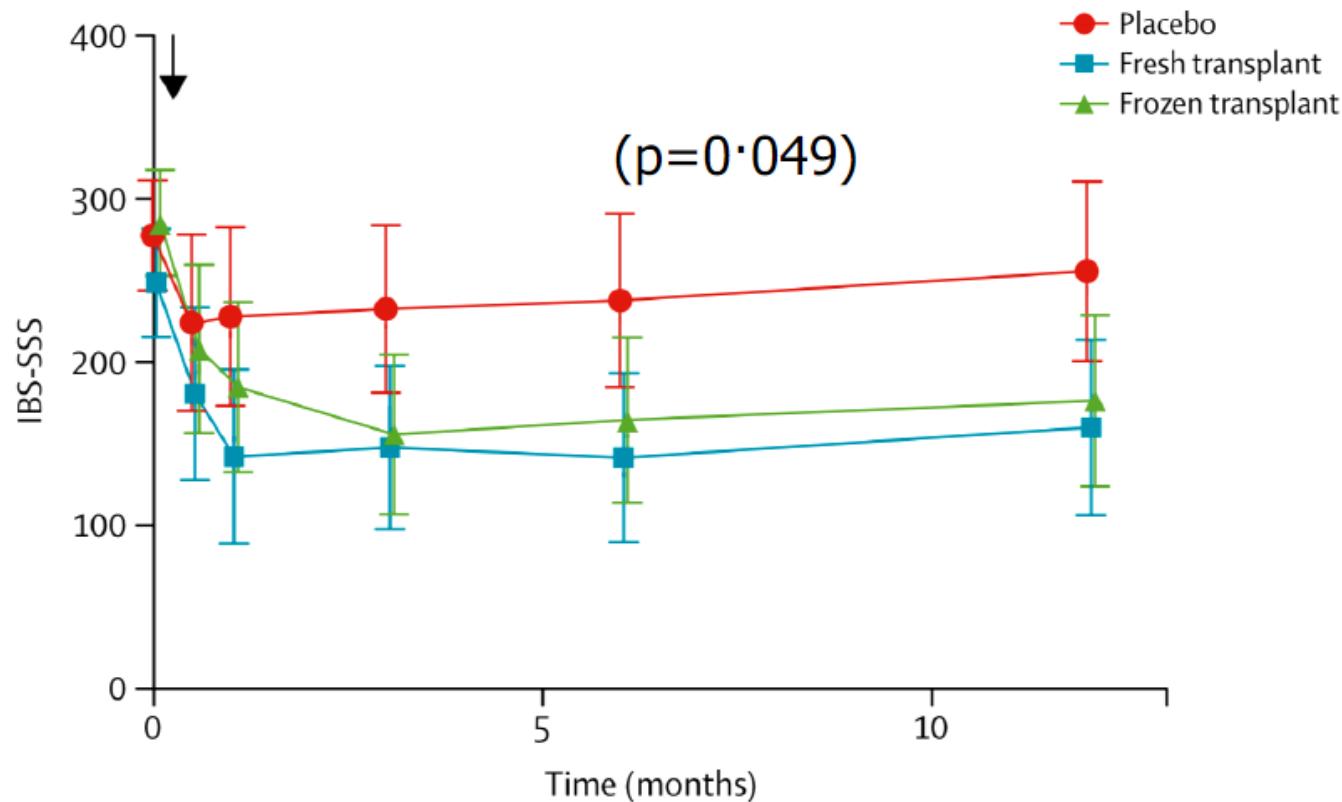


# FMT in IBS: STUDY 1



## FMT for IBS Primary endpoint

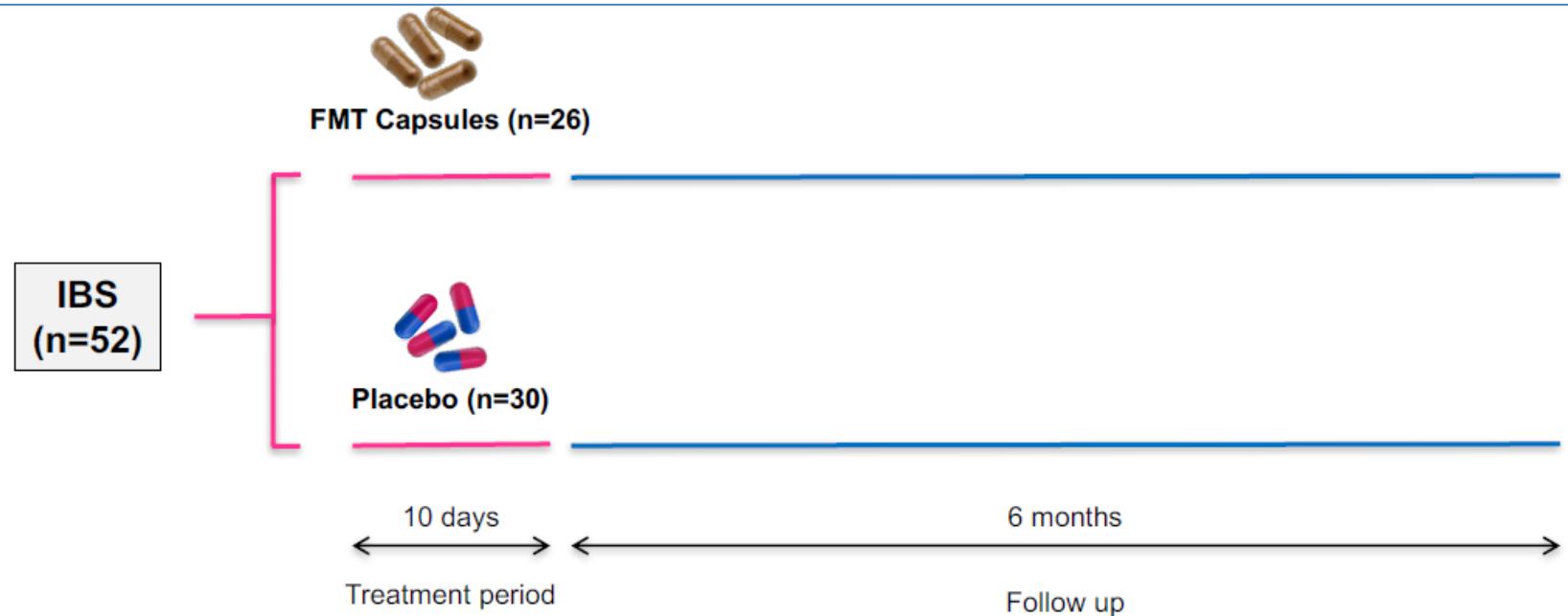
Symptom relief of more than 75 points on the IBS-SSS



- No serious adverse events

Johnsen PH et al., Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol 2018;3:17-24

# FMT in IBS: STUDY 2

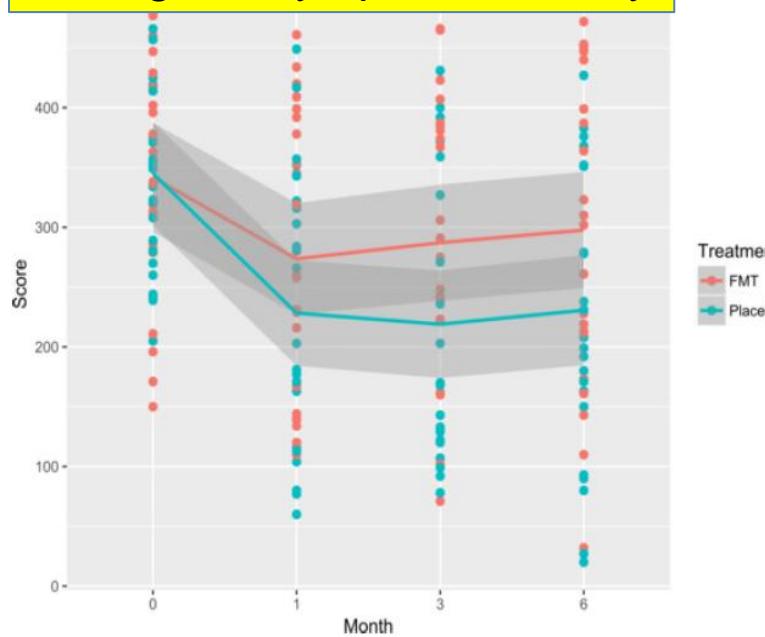


Halkjær SI, et al. Gut 2018

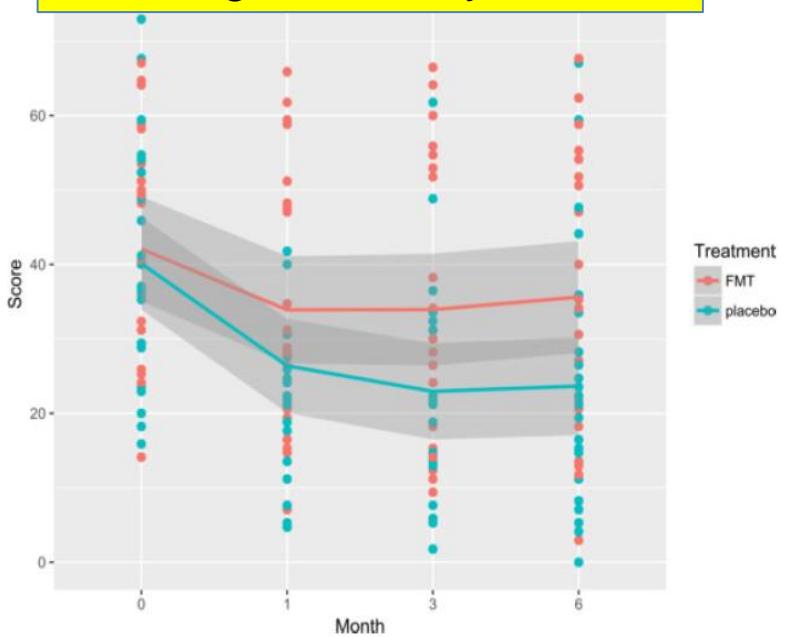
# FMT in IBS: STUDY 2

- FMT increased biodiversity (First study)
- Symptoms and quality of life improved with placebo

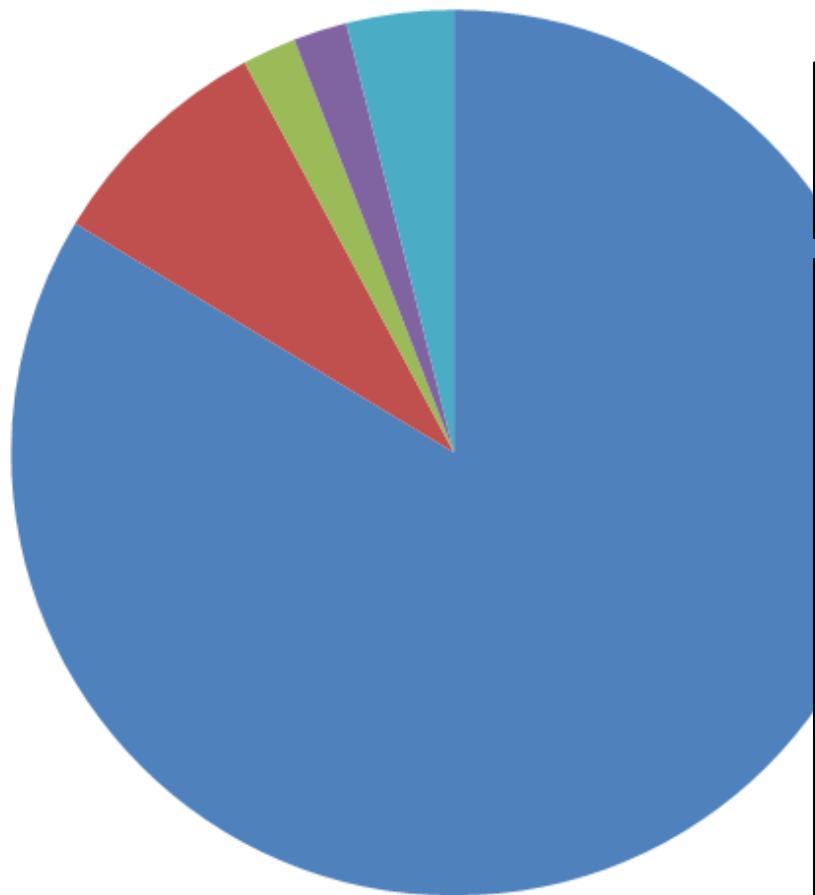
Change in Symptom Severity



Change in Quality of Life



# Oral FMT for Recurrent CDI



**Overall cure rate 94%**

- 83.6% Cured w/ 1 dose
- 8.6% Cured w/ 2 doses
- 2% Cured w/ 3 doses
- 2% Failed 2 or more
- 4% Failed. No re-tx.

# Randomized FMT Trials in Adult UC Patients

## Fecal Microbiota Transplantation Induces Remission in Patients With Active Ulcerative Colitis in a Randomized Controlled Trial

Paul Moayyedi,<sup>1</sup> Michael G. Surette,<sup>1</sup> Peter T. Kim,<sup>2,3</sup> Josie Libertucci,<sup>1</sup> Melanie Wolfe,<sup>1</sup> Catherine Onischi,<sup>3</sup> David Armstrong,<sup>1</sup> John K. Marshall,<sup>1</sup> Zain Kassam,<sup>4</sup> Walter Reinisch,<sup>1</sup> and Christine H. Lee<sup>3</sup>

## Findings From a Randomized Controlled Trial of Fecal Transplantation for Patients With Ulcerative Colitis

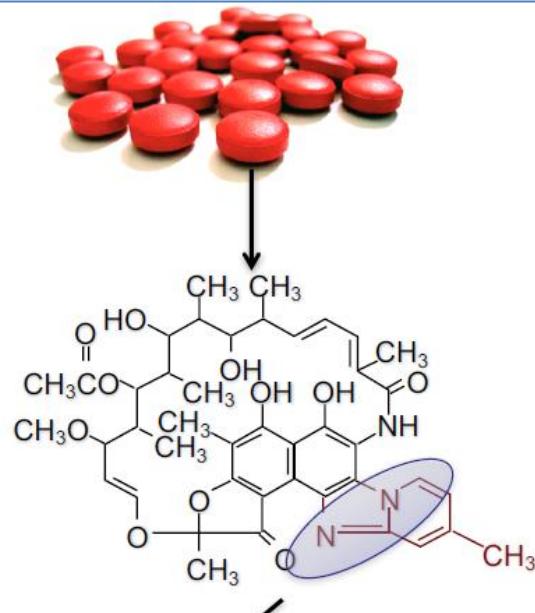


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# Multi-Donor FMT for Active Ulcerative Colitis

- Multicenter, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial
- Mild-moderate active UC to either FMT or placebo colonoscopic infusion, followed by enemas 5 days per week for 8 weeks
- FMT enemas were from between 3-7 unrelated donors
- **Primary outcome: steroid-free clinical remission with endoscopic remission or response at week 8**
- Performed 16S rRNA stool analysis to assess associated microbial changes

# Antibiotics in IBS: Rifaximin

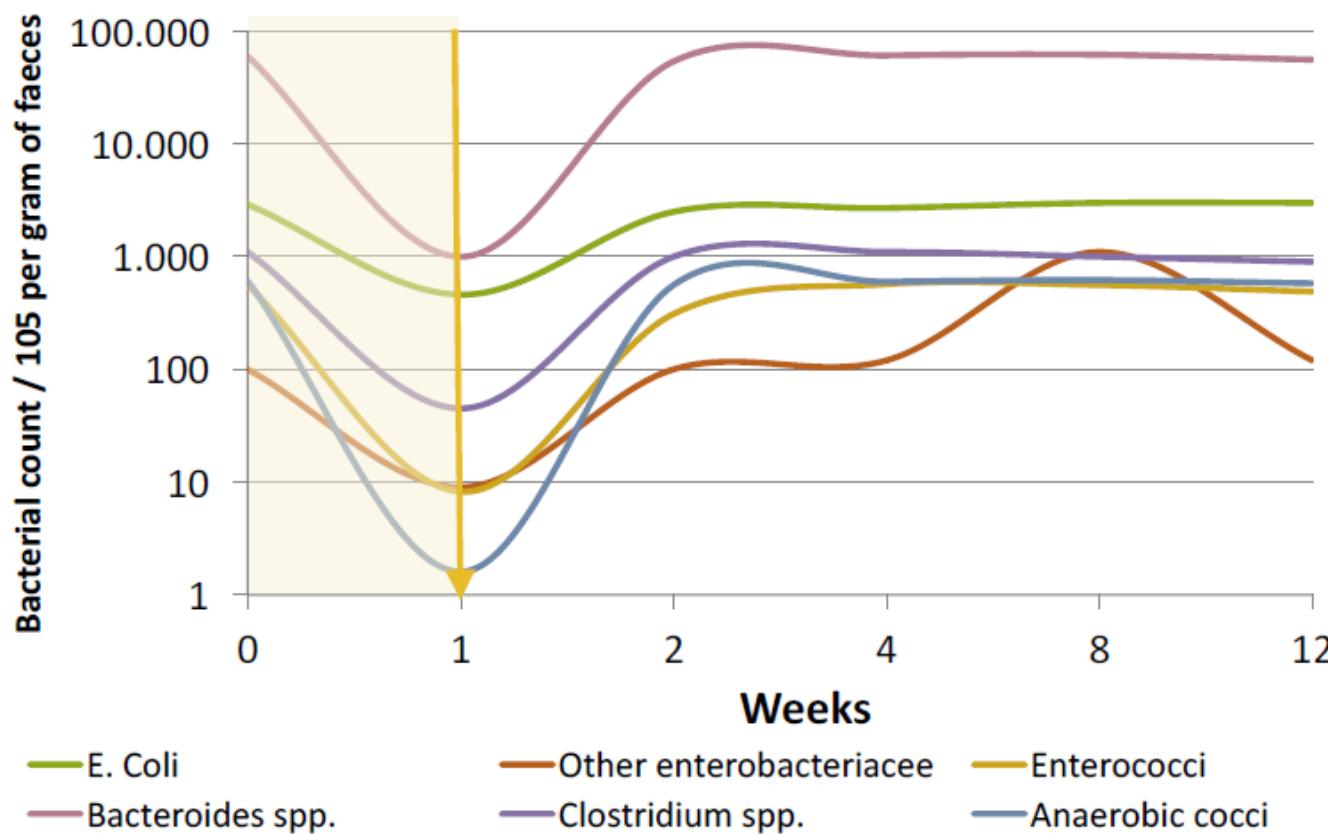


The presence of two opposite charged nitrogens prevents its absorption by passive diffusion

- Poorly absorbed, broad spectrum antibiotic
- Structural analogue of rifampin
- Inhibits bacterial RNA synthesis by binding to the  $\beta$ -subunit of bacterial DNA –dependent RNA polymerase
- Five polymorphic forms of rifaximin have been identified so far, i.e. rifaximin- $\alpha$ ,  $-\beta$ ,  $-\gamma$ ,  $-\delta$ ,  $-\varepsilon$
- Rifaximin- $\alpha$  has negligible absorption: <1%

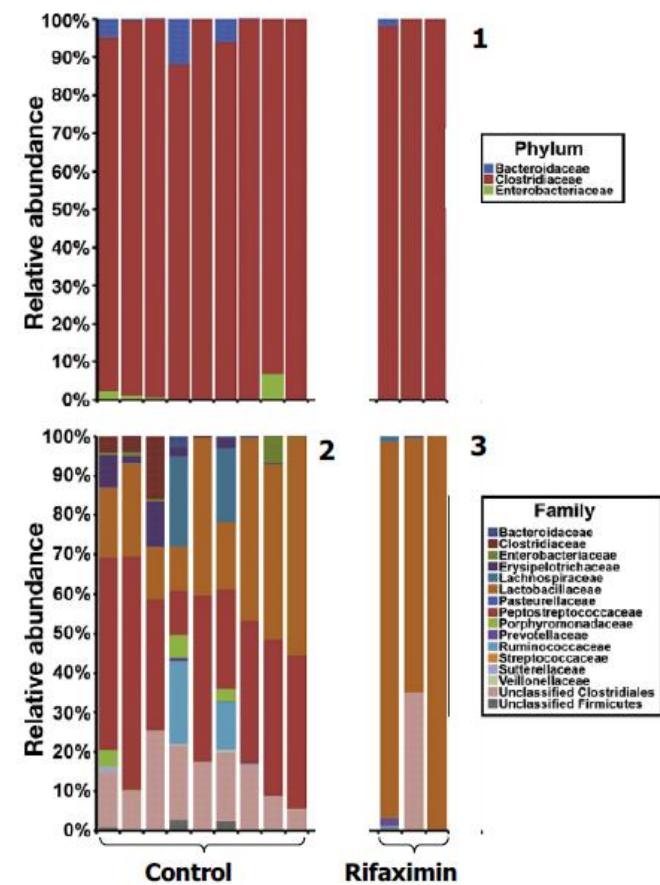
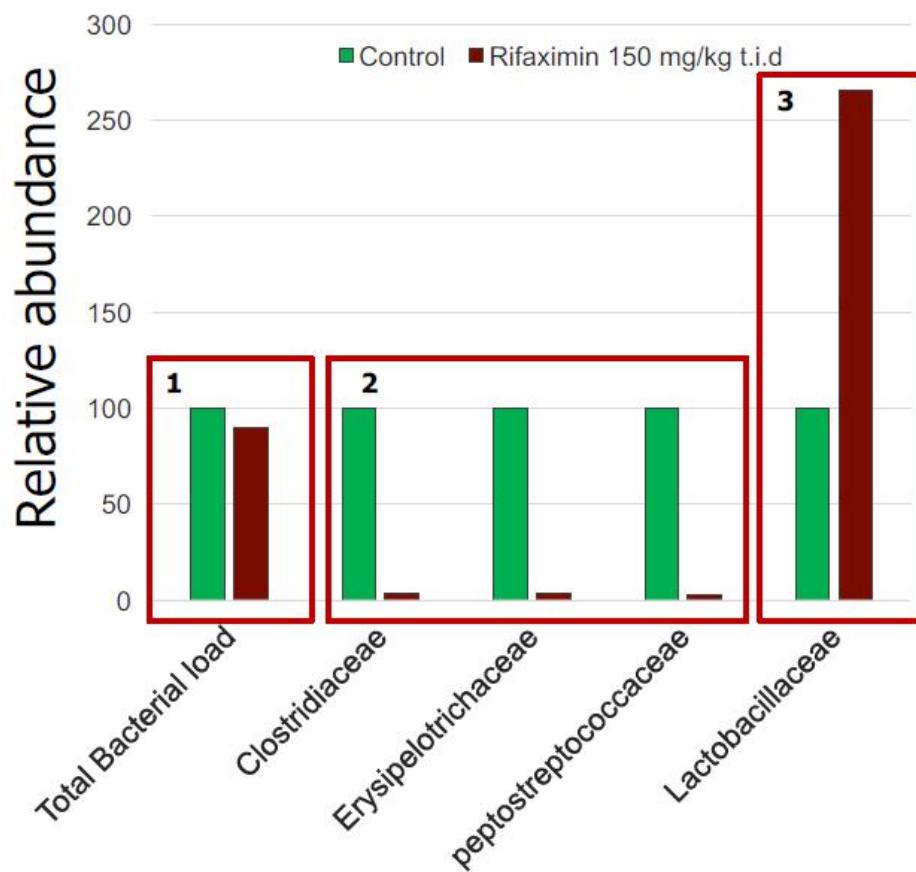
# Effect of Rifaximin on Gut Microbiota

5-days Rifaximin (800 mg / day) in 10 healthy volunteers)



Gillis Drugs 1995; DeLeo Drug Exptl Clin Res 1986

# The Eubiotic Effect of Rifaximin



Xu D et al., Gastroenterology 2014;146:484-96

# Multi-Donor FMT for Active Ulcerative Colitis

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tion under medical

at -20°C. ■ Draw either temperature overnight, samples can remain at indicated for up to 8 hours). And refreezing may date indicated below.

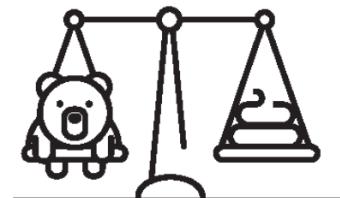
cluding nuts.

hazardous waste.

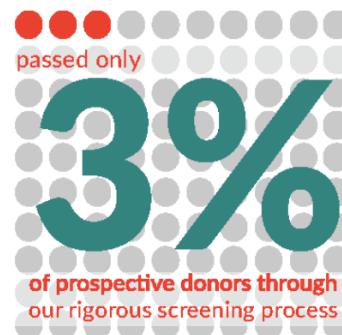
nsult quality metrics for

Expiry Date

A



Processed over  
**4000** pounds  
that's **2 tons** of stool!



# Primary Outcomes

- 6-month UC related hospitalizations
- 6-month cumulative incidence of infection
- UC Remission at week 12



# **Study: Fecal Microbiota in Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth (SIBO)**

- **Breath tests:**
  - 60 patients with SIBO
  - 20 patients without SIBO
  - 20 Healthy controls
- **Results**

# Conclusions & The future

- GI symptom generation is linked to gut microbiome
- In some patients with IBS gut microbiota is different
- Treatment options:
  - Restriction diets ► Reduce biodiversity
  - Probiotics, Antibiotics ► Beneficial but limited
  - FMT ► Conflicting results
- Future: More studies:
  - Diet-Microbiota interactions-GI symptoms
  - Host-Microbiota interactions
  - Treatment studies-Symptom generation

# Thank you!

SAVE LIVES.



EARN MONEY.



DONATE YOUR STOOL.

