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VSL3 is beneficial for hospitalized patients, and will be a useful addition to formulary in addition to Culturelle. VSL3 contains more viable organisms, contains bifidobacteria, and is more acid/bile resistant than Culturelle organisms
contains bifidobacterium organisms, whereas culturelle does not
Bifido species produce acetate, which promotes the growth of butyrate-producing commensals, which promote enterocyte health by SCFA production https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5614387/
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Bifidobacterium in VSL3 more useful for IBS symptoms (ubiquitous among hospitalist patients) than culturelle: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3424311/
Probiotics need to survive past stomach acid and bile to arrive into the small intestine to ultimately end up in the distal small intestine / colon. Culturelle strain is LESS acid/bile resistant than strains present in VSL3

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