

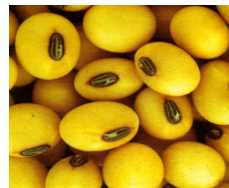
Appetite for Life  
Kannapolis, NC  
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# Human Gut Microbiome and Diet: Whose diet is it anyway?

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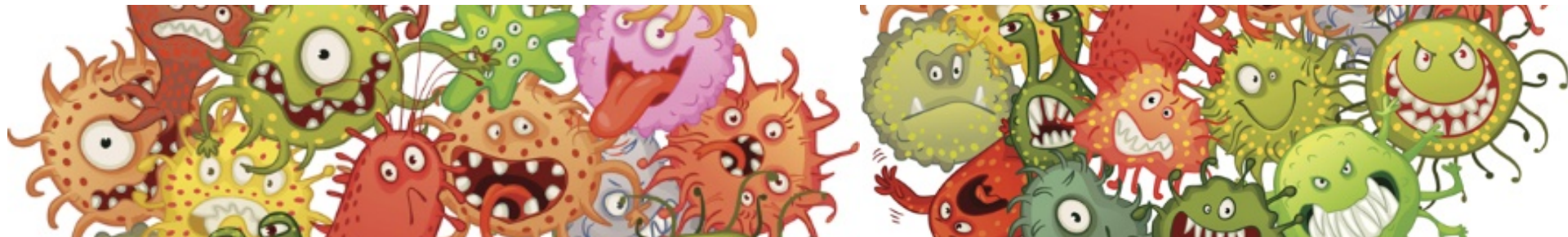
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CURES START HERE



# Outline

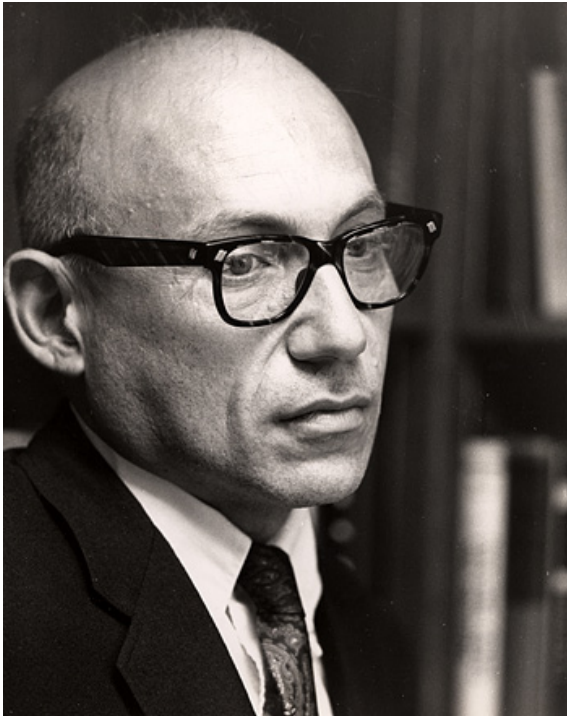
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- What is the microbiome?
- How is it characterized?
- How does it develop?
- What affects it?
- How does it affect responses to diet?
- How is it associated with health and disease?



# What is the microbiome?

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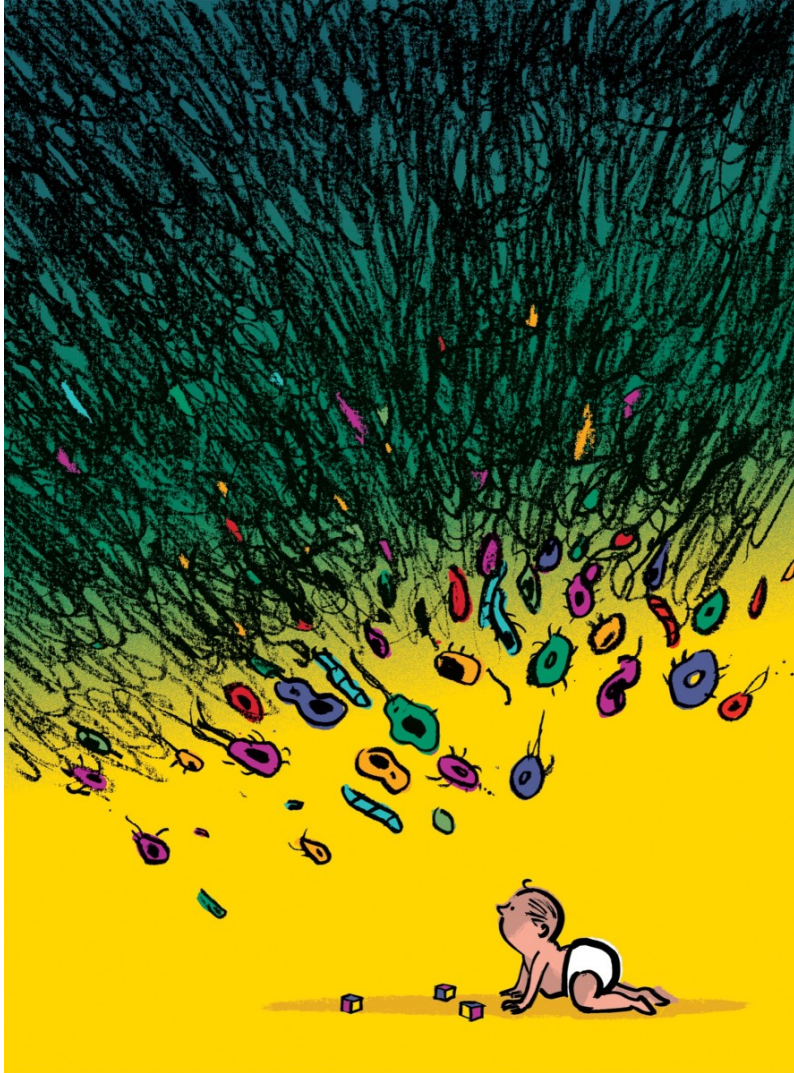


“The ecological community of commensal, symbiotic, and pathogenic microorganisms that literally share our body space.”

Joshua Lederberg  
1925-2008

# The Gut Microbiome: What have we learned?

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- It's complex.
- Trillions of microorganisms in human body
- Microbiome has 100 times as many genes as the human genome
- Important symbiosis between human host and microorganisms

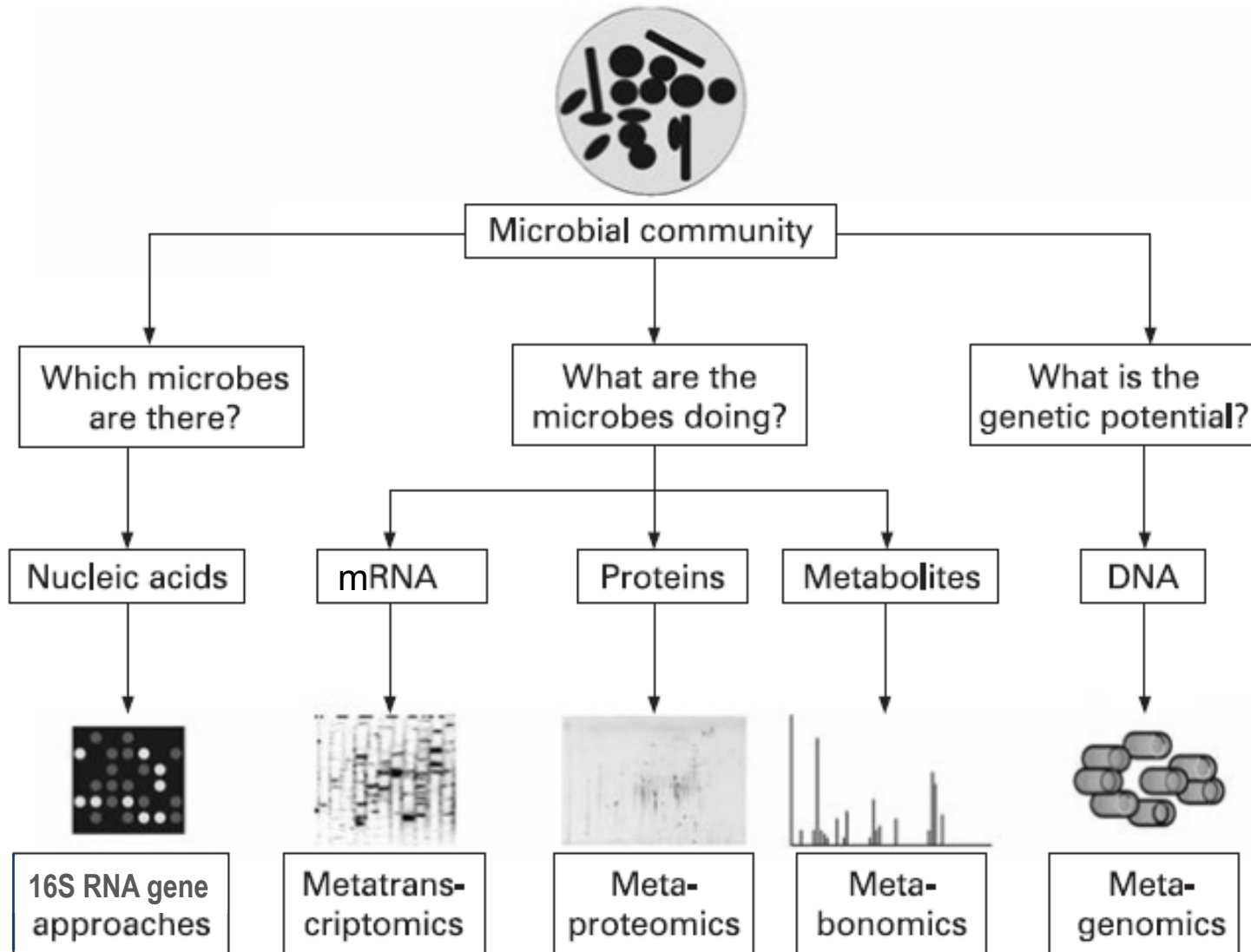
# The Gut Microbiome: Who is there?

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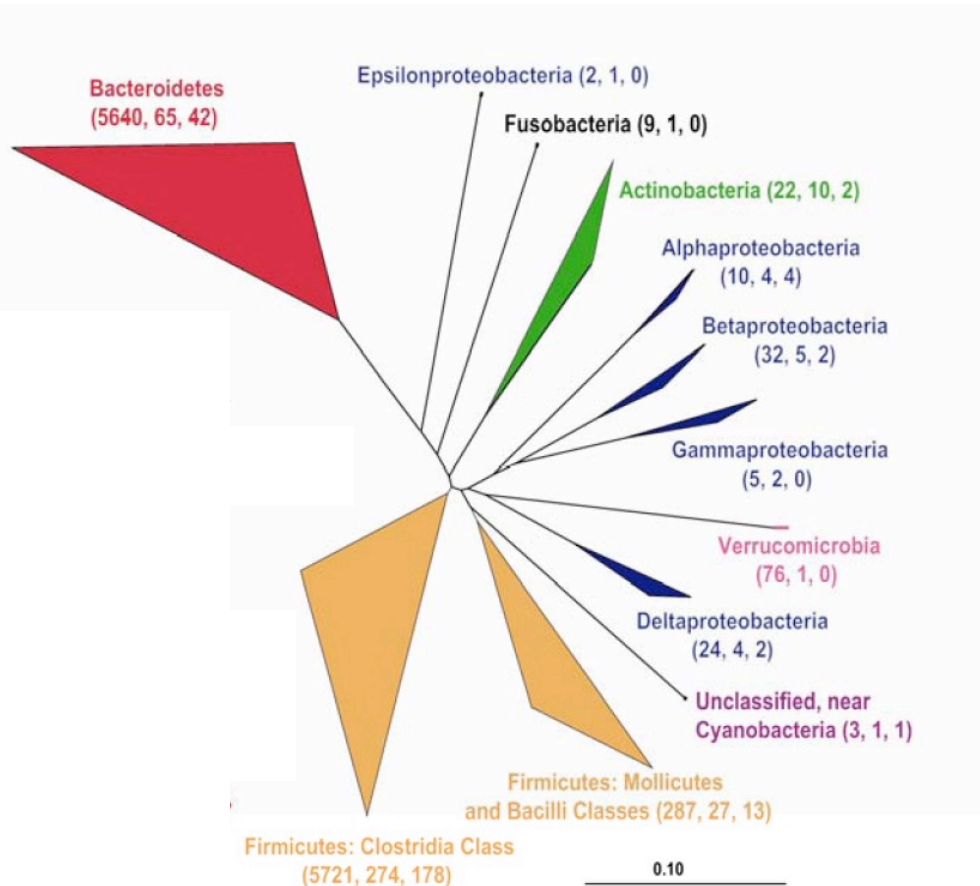
- Bacteria
- Viruses
- Protozoa
- Fungi

# Characterizing the Gut Microbial Community: Who is there and what are they doing?



# Bacterial Diversity in the Adult Human Gut

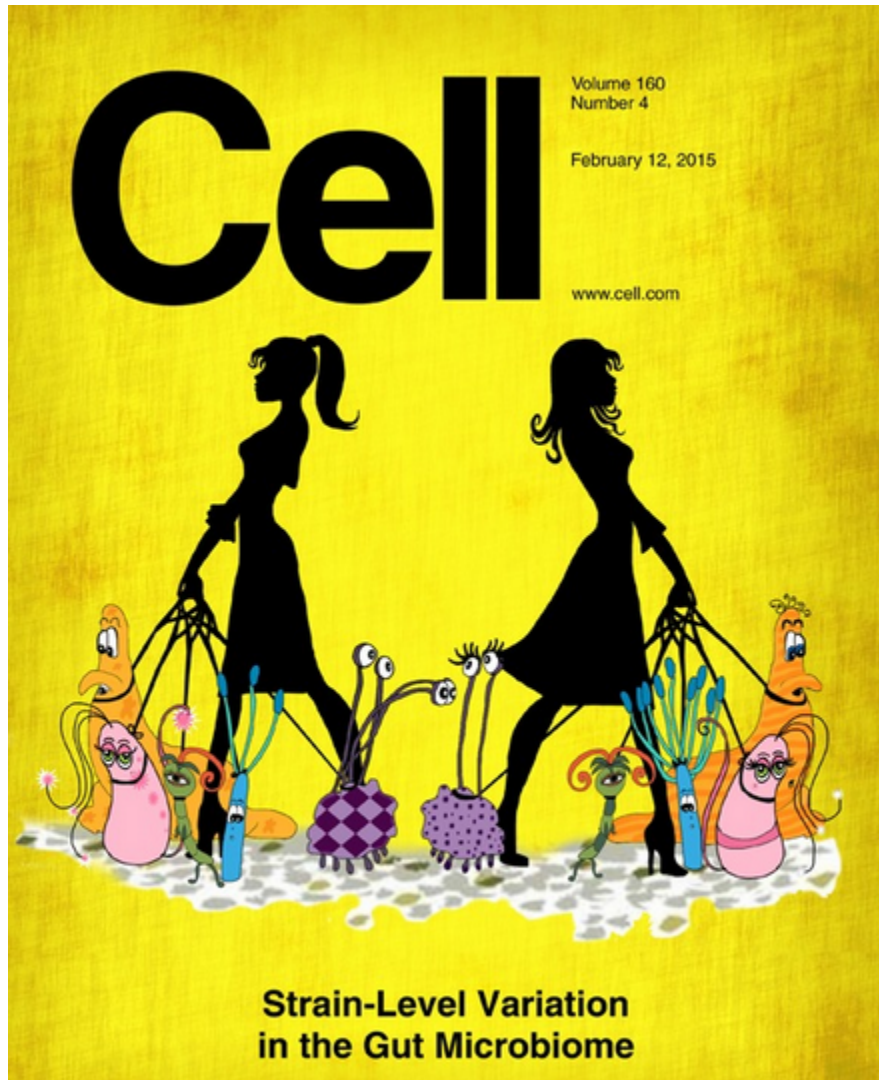
Kingdom ● Phylum ● Class ● Order ● Family ● Genus ● Species



- At least 10 different phyla of bacteria found in the human gut
- 5 phyla represent majority of bacteria
- Bacteroidetes and Firmicutes dominate.

# Much of the variation in the gut microbiome occurs at species and strain level

*Kingdom • Phylum • Class • Order • Family • Genus • Species*



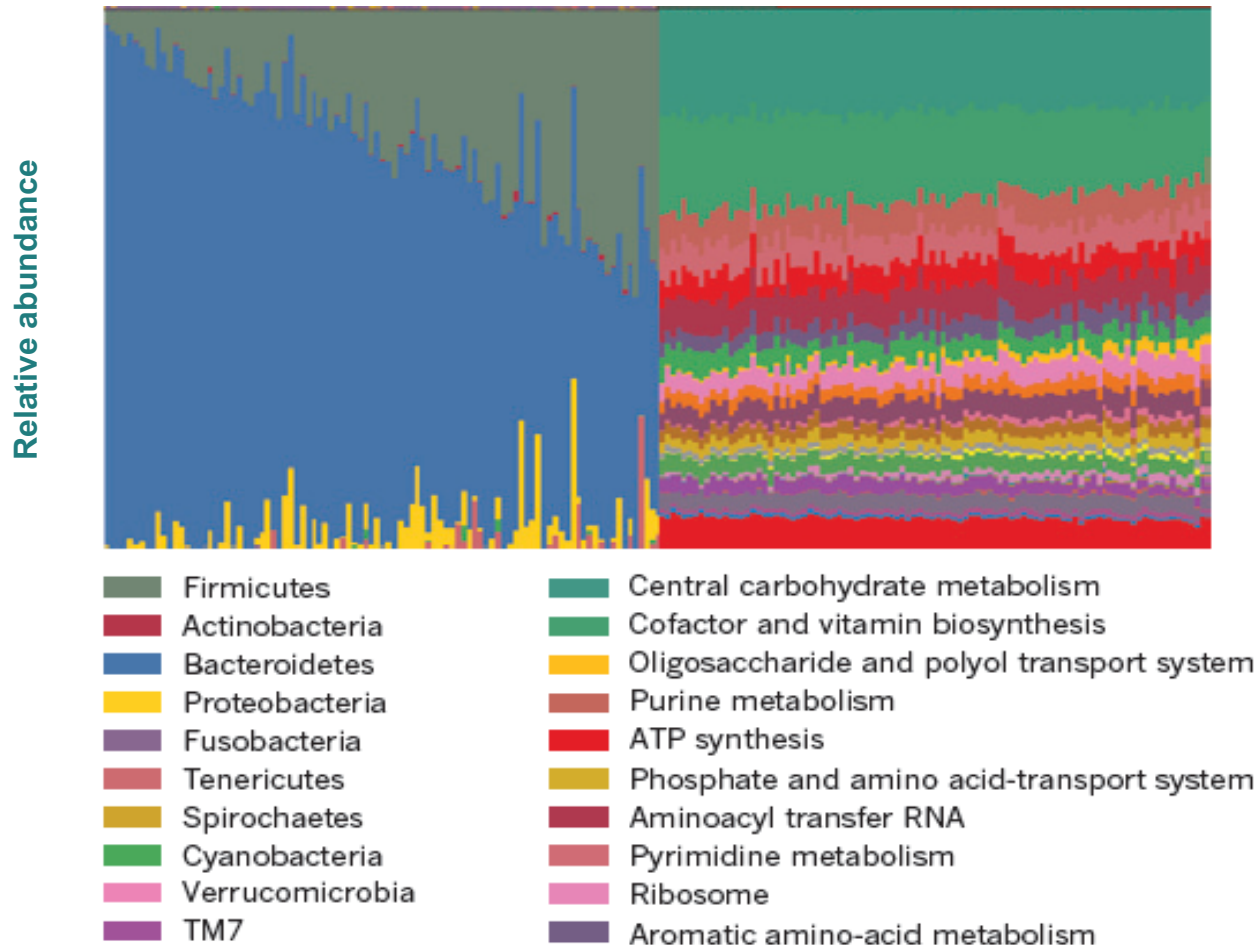
- 500-1000 species in the human gut
- Gut microbial community structure is specific to an individual
- A healthy adult human gut microbial community is relatively stable.



# Comparison of Structural (Taxonomic) and Functional Variation in the Human Gut Microbiome

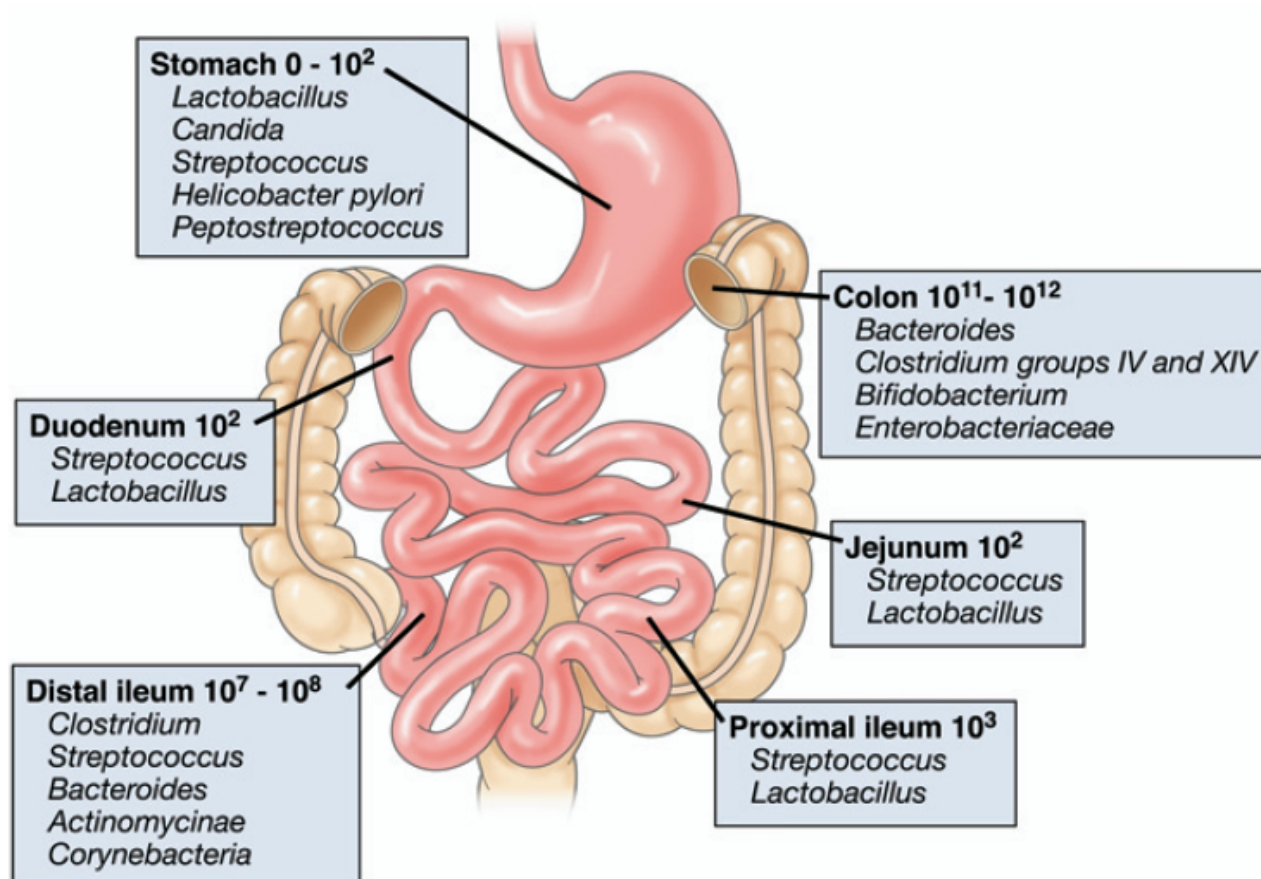
Who is there?

What is their functional potential?



# The Human Gut Microbiome

Composition and luminal concentrations of microbial groups vary along the GI tract.

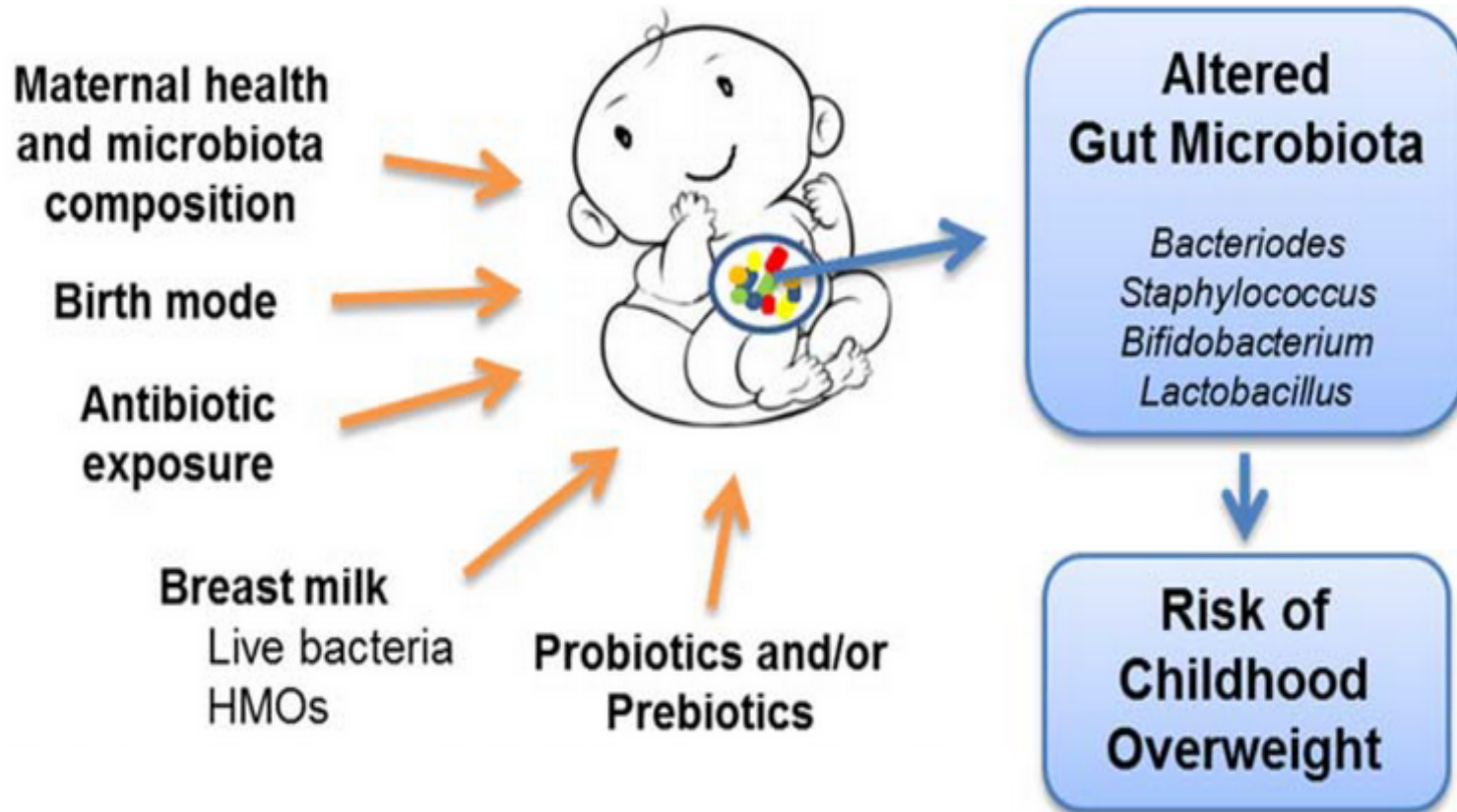


# How does the microbial community develop?

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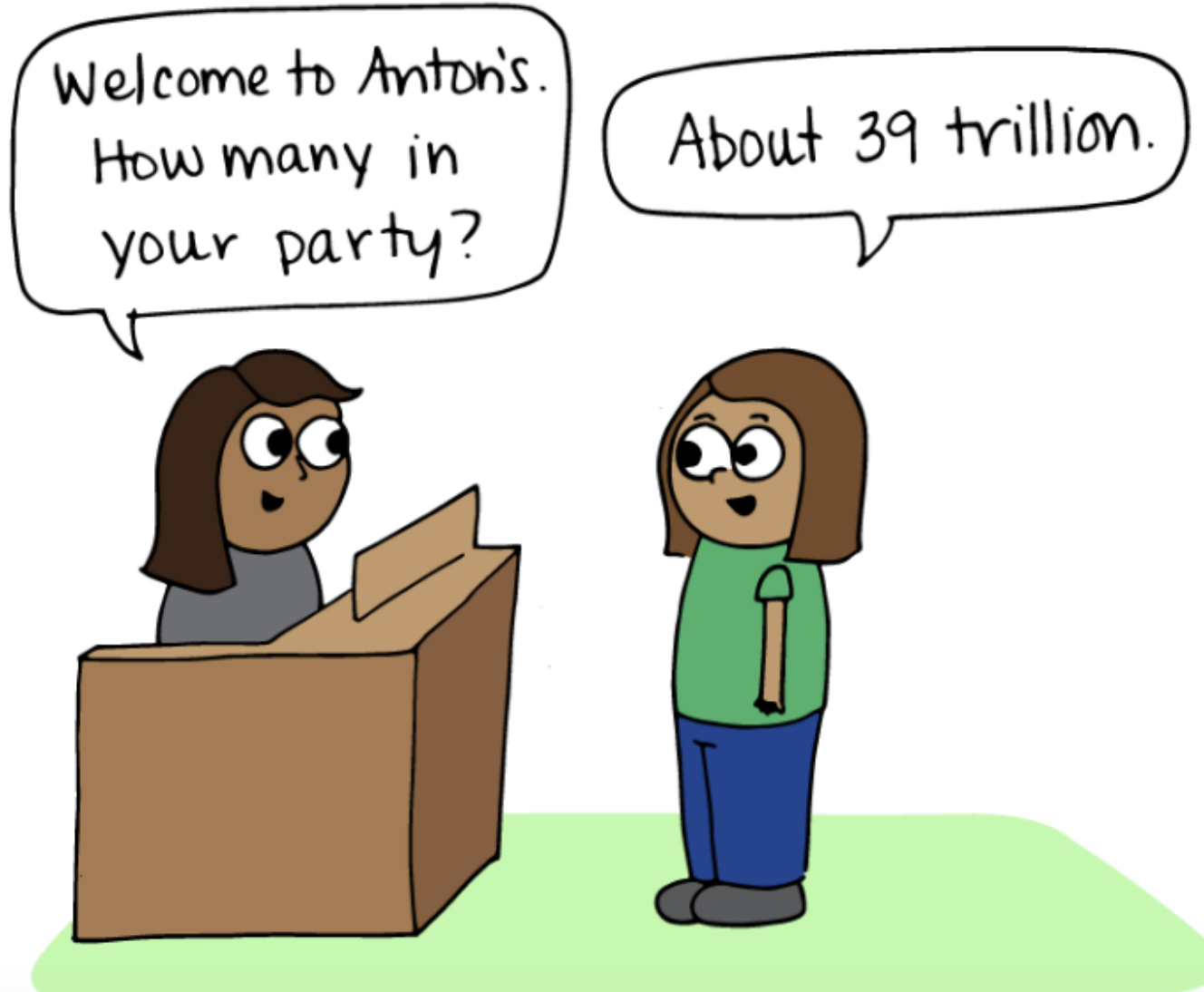
Ottman N et al, *Front Cell Infection Microbiol*, 2012

# Factors that may modify infant gut microbiome



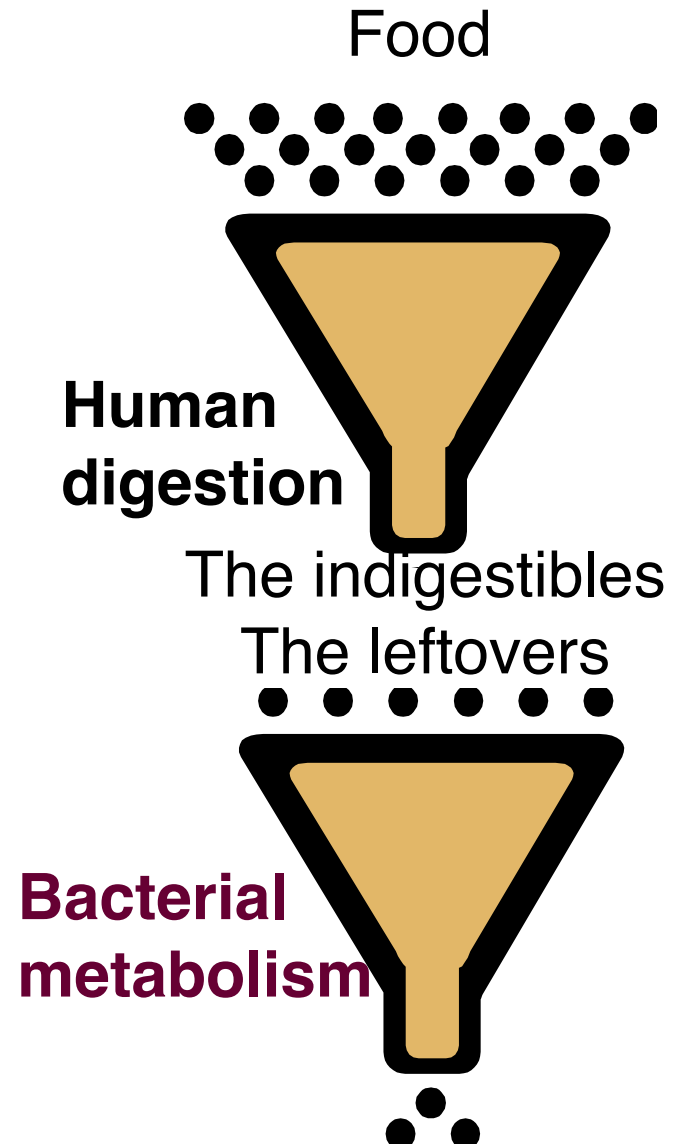
# Feeding the Gut Microbiome

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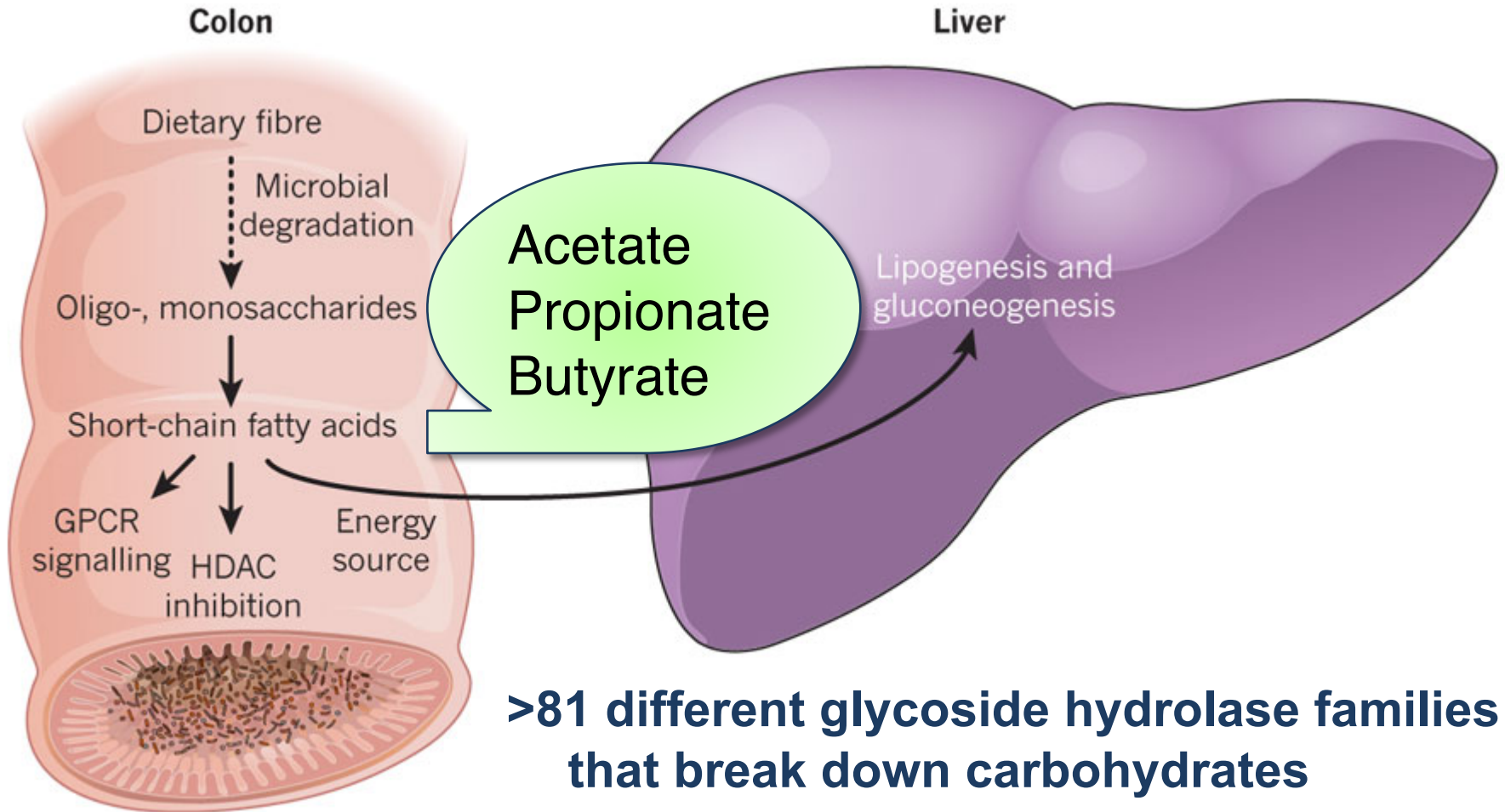


# Gut Microbial Metabolism

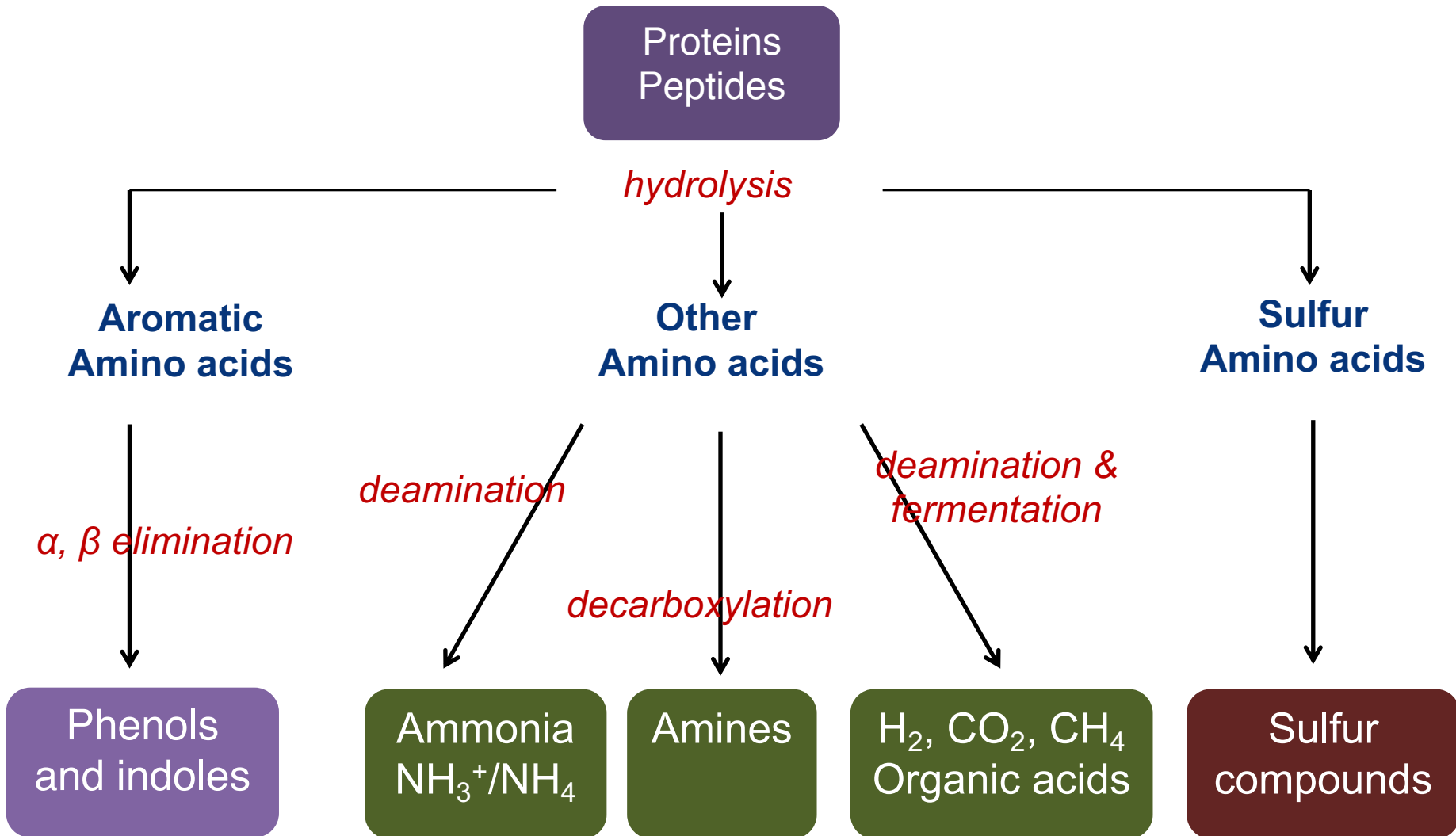
- Obtain energy and nutrients to live and reproduce
- Microbiome: >100 times as many genes as human genome
- Carry out reactions that human gut enzymes cannot:
  - Fermentation
  - Denitrification
  - Sulfate reduction
  - Aromatic fission
  - Hydrolysis/deconjugation



# Fermentation of Carbohydrates: Sugars, Dietary Fiber and Resistant Starch



# Microbial Metabolism of Proteins & Amino Acids





# How does diet affect the gut microbiome?

Evidence from:

## Observational studies

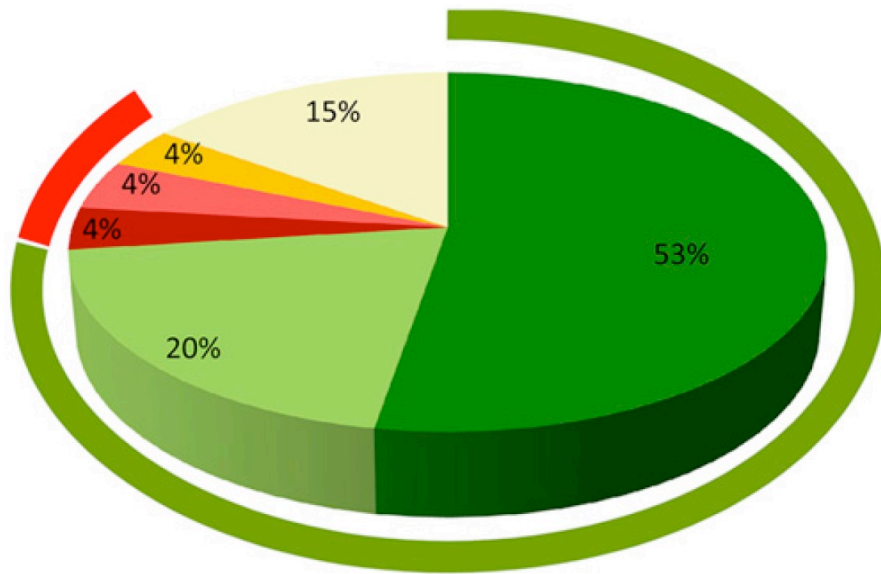
- Globally distinct populations
- Long-term food pattern consumption

## Dietary interventions

- Controlled feeding studies

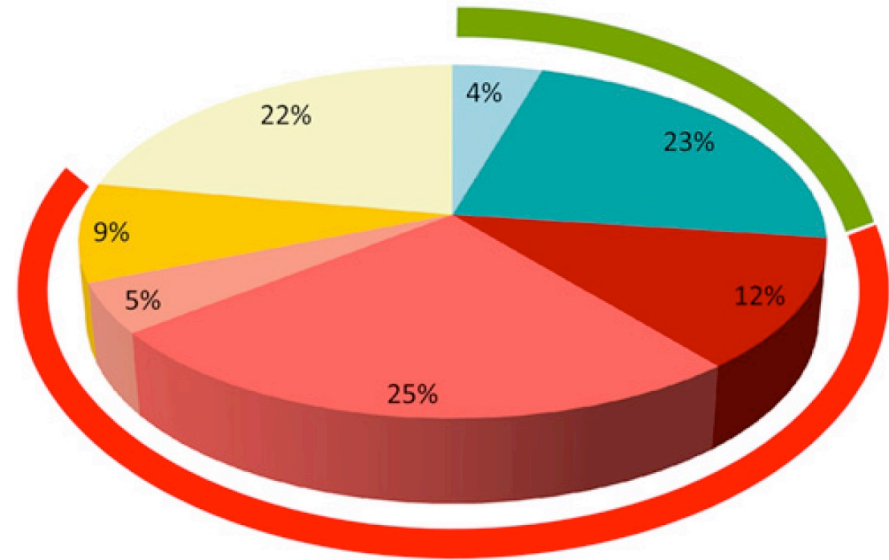


# Global Population Differences: Children in Rural Africa (BF) vs Urban Europe (EU)



**BF**

- Prevotella } Bacteroidetes
- Xylanibacter } Bacteroidetes
- Acetitomaculum } Firmicutes
- Faecalibacterium } Firmicutes
- Subdoligranulum } Firmicutes
- Others



**EU**

- Alistipes } Bacteroidetes
- Bacteroides } Bacteroidetes
- Acetitomaculum } Firmicutes
- Faecalibacterium } Firmicutes
- Roseburia } Firmicutes
- Subdoligranulum } Firmicutes
- Others

# Dietary Patterns and Gut Microbiome

## Mediterranean Pyramid

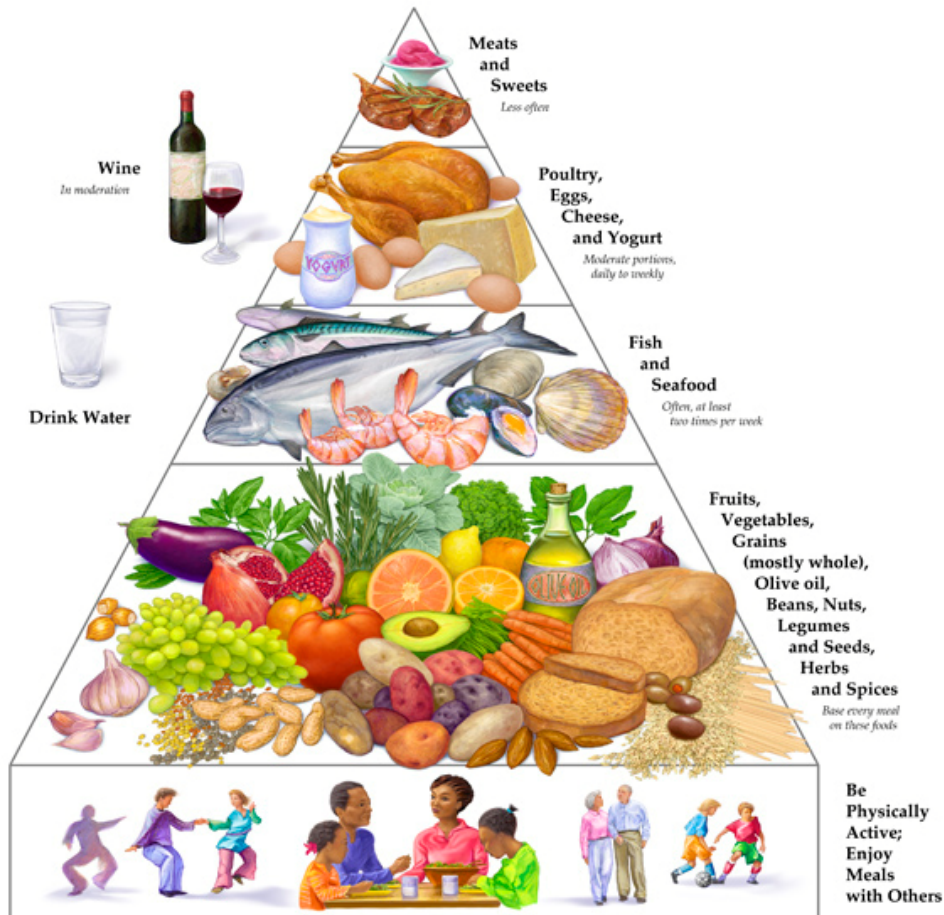
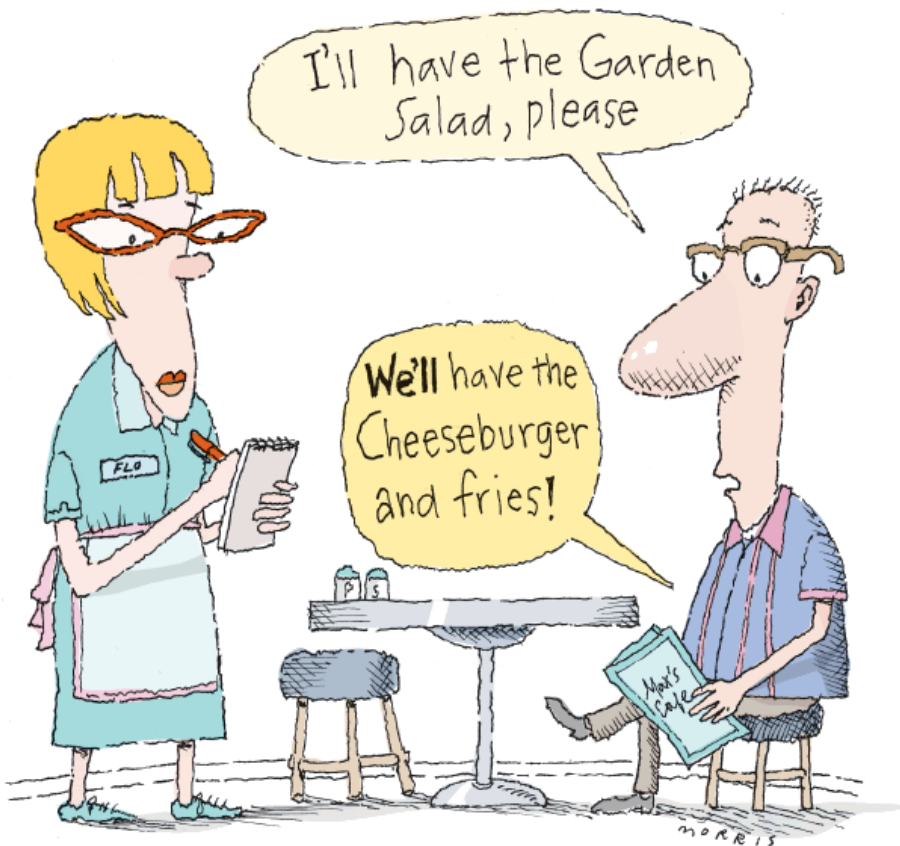


Illustration by George Middleton

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- Dietary Patterns:
  - Healthy Eating Index 2010
  - Alternative Healthy Eating Index
  - Mediterranean diet
  - DASH diet
- To date, few studies have examined associations between specific healthy eating patterns and the gut microbiome.

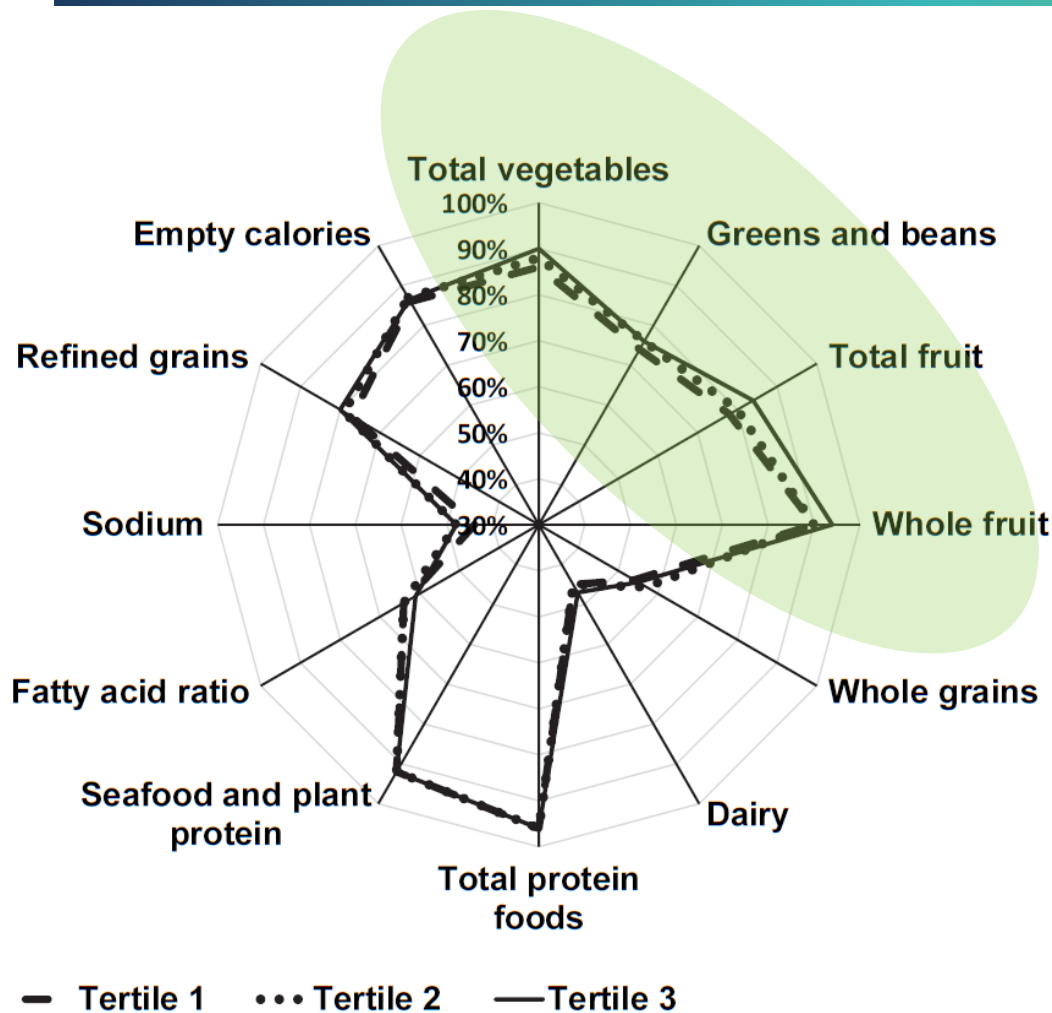
# Dietary Patterns for Human Health and Gut Health



## A healthy eating pattern includes:

- A variety of vegetables from all the subgroups
- Fruits, especially whole fruits
- Grains, at least half of which are whole grains
- Fat-free or low fat dairy
- A variety of protein foods, including ... legumes, and nuts and seeds and soy products.
- Oils

# Fecal Microbial Diversity and Structure Associated with Diet Quality

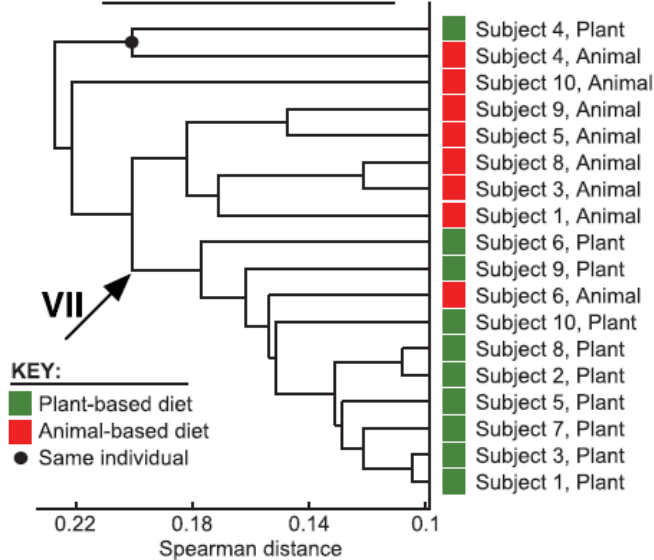


- 1735 participants in the Multiethnic Cohort
- Higher diet quality was associated with greater microbial community diversity.
- Intake of fruit and vegetables was an important contributor to the diversity.

# Short-Term Feeding of Plant- and Animal-based Diets Alters Gut Microbiota

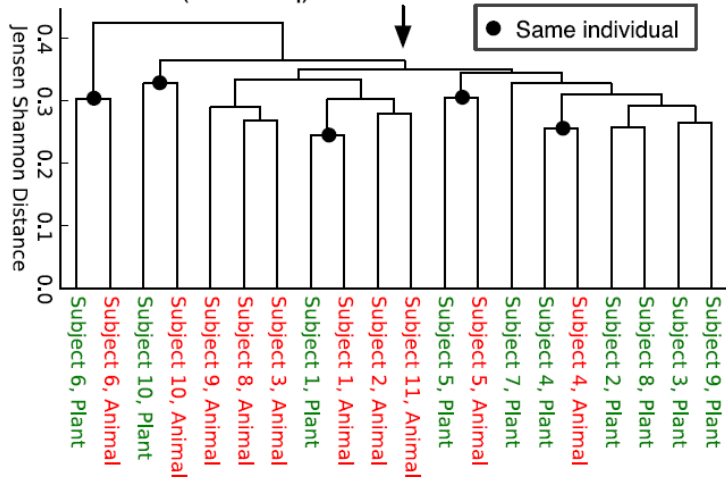
RNA-seq

Diet samples

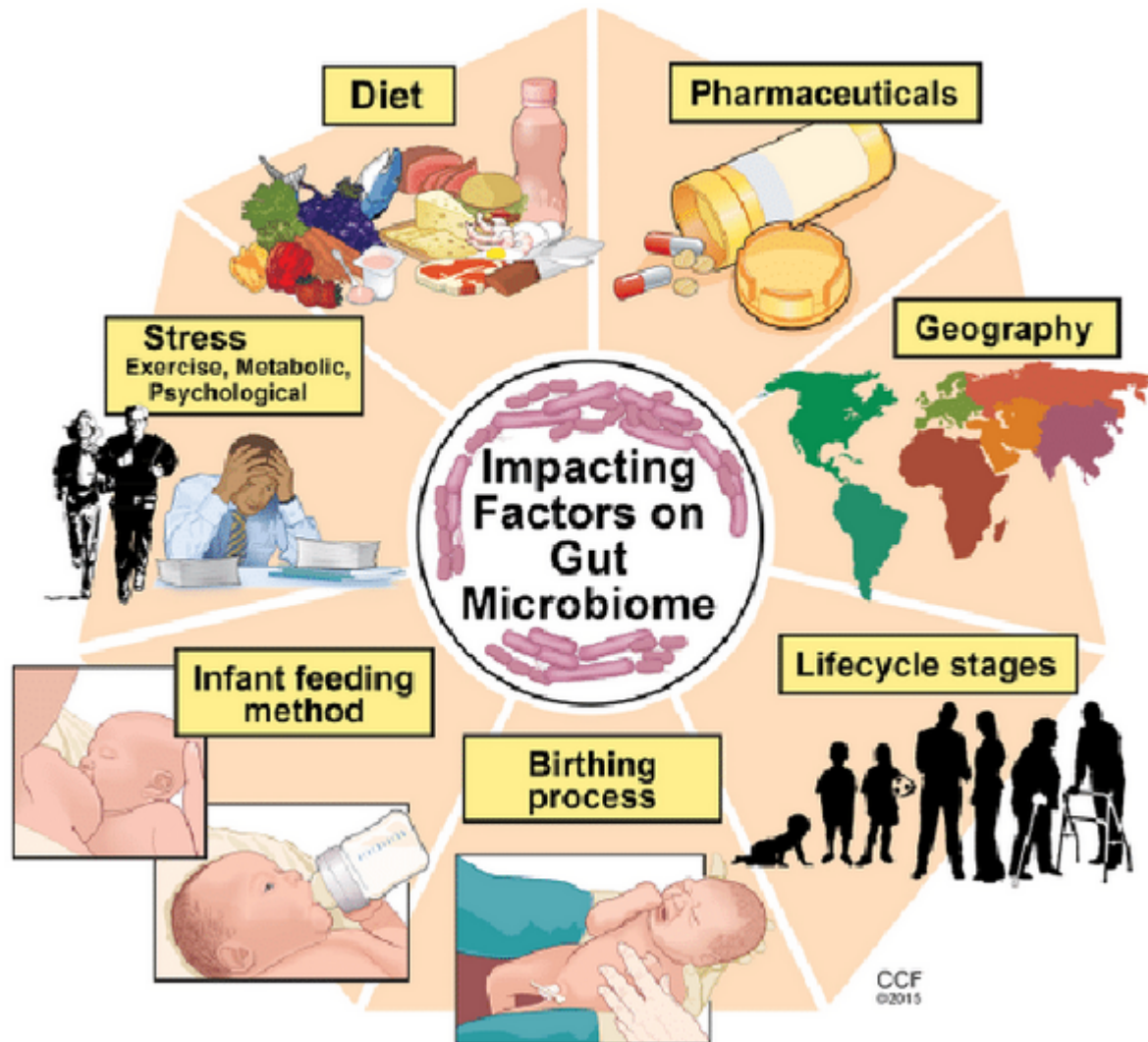


- 10 subjects tracked across 5-day animal- and plant-based diets.
- Animal-based diet increased bile-tolerant bacteria and decreased bacteria that metabolize dietary fiber.
- Bacterial metabolic activity tends to cluster by diet.
- Diet doesn't always overcome inter-individual differences in GMC structure (16S rRNA).

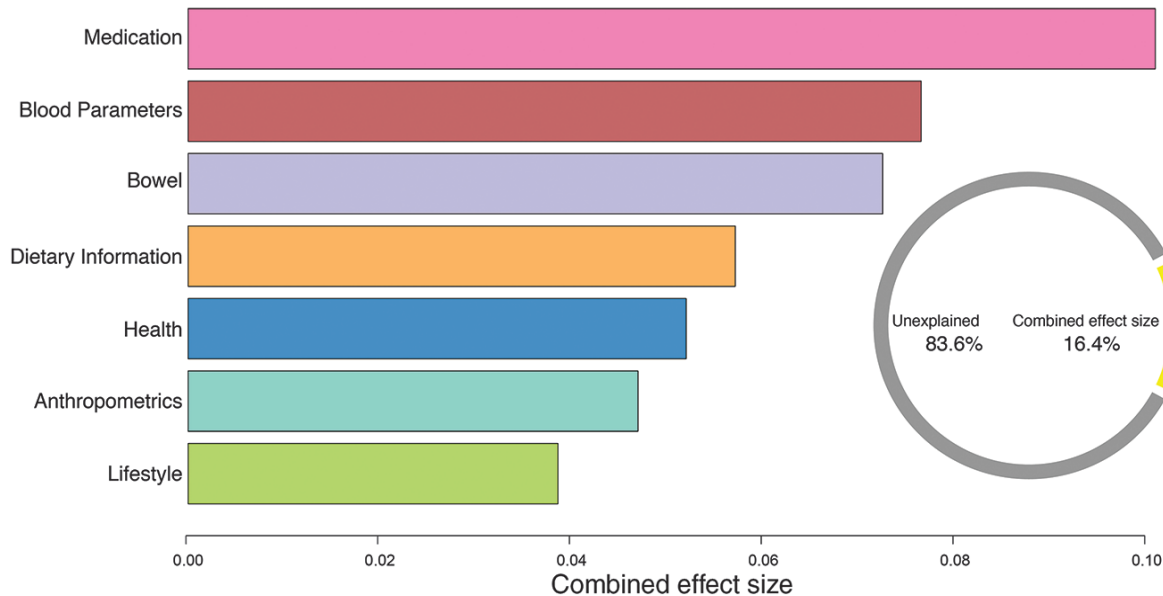
16S rRNA (DNA-seq)



# Numerous factors affect the gut microbiome



# What explains gut microbiome variation within a population?



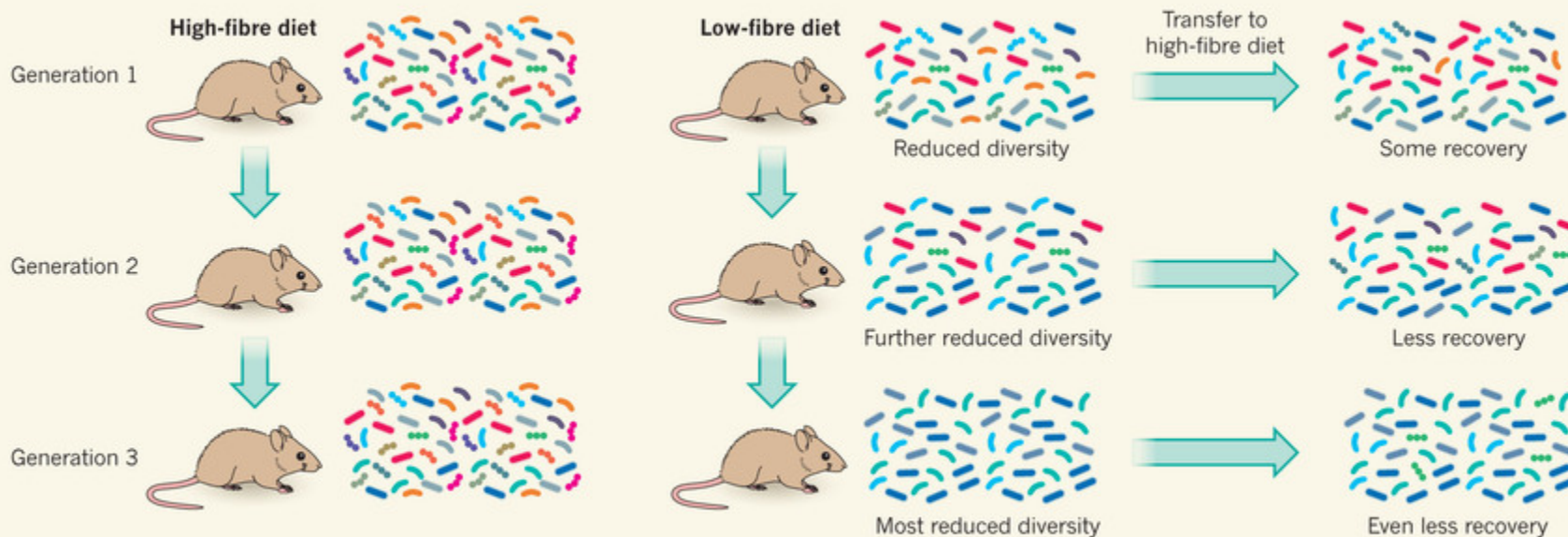
- Belgian Flemish Gut Flora Project (n=1106)
- 69 clinical and questionnaire-based covariates associated with microbiota compositional variation
- Stool consistency showed largest effect size and medication explained largest total variance.



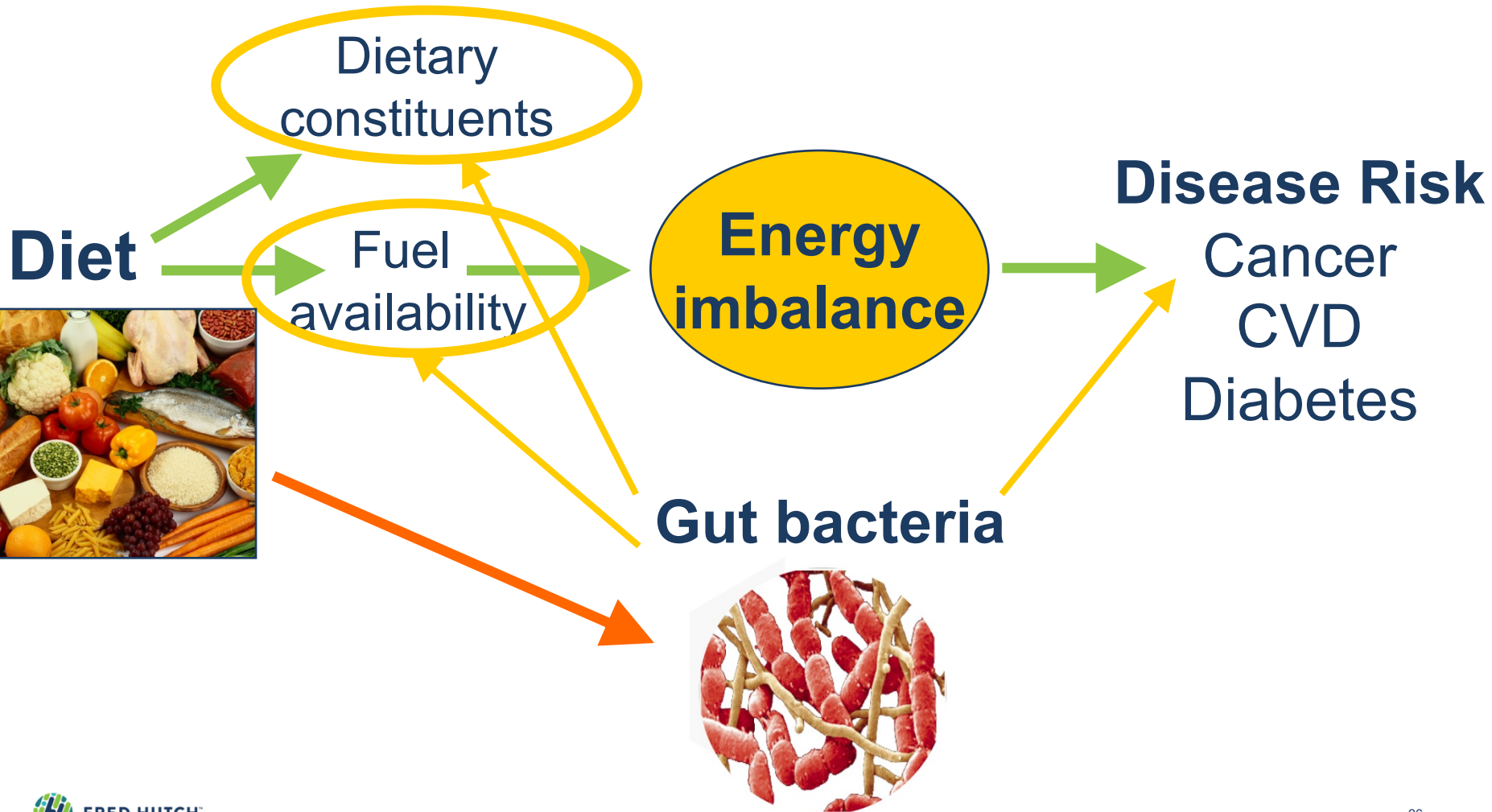


"They were my mother's microbes...  
and now they're yours!"

# Multigenerational Effects of Dietary Fiber on Bacterial Diversity



# Gut Microbial Effects on Diet and Human Health



# How does the gut microbiome affect diet?

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- Alters exposure to nutrients and bioactives
- Generates new compounds, that:
  - Serve as energy sources
  - Regulate metabolism
  - Cause or reduce inflammation
  - Cause or reduce oxidative stress
  - Are carcinogenic or chemoprotective

# Bacteria Can Produce New Compounds from Dietary Constituents

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## Food Component

## Bacterial Metabolites

Dietary fiber

Butyrate and other SCFAs

Soy isoflavones

Equol, O-desmethylangolensin

Plant Lignans

Enterodiol, enterolactone

Ellagitannins

Urolithins A and B

Anthocyanins

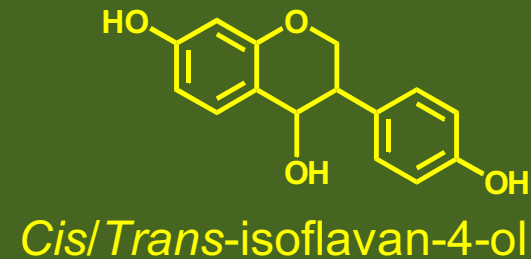
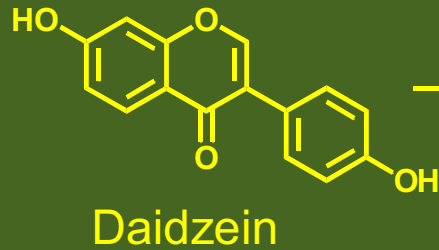
Hippuric acid & small phenolics

Glucosinolates

Isothiocyanates



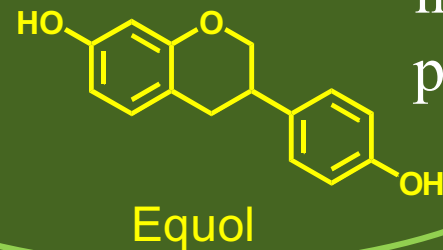
# Microbial Production of Equol and ODMA From Soy Isoflavone Daidzein

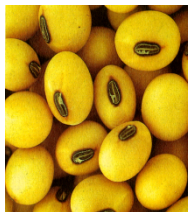


80-90% of individuals produce



20-60% of individuals produce

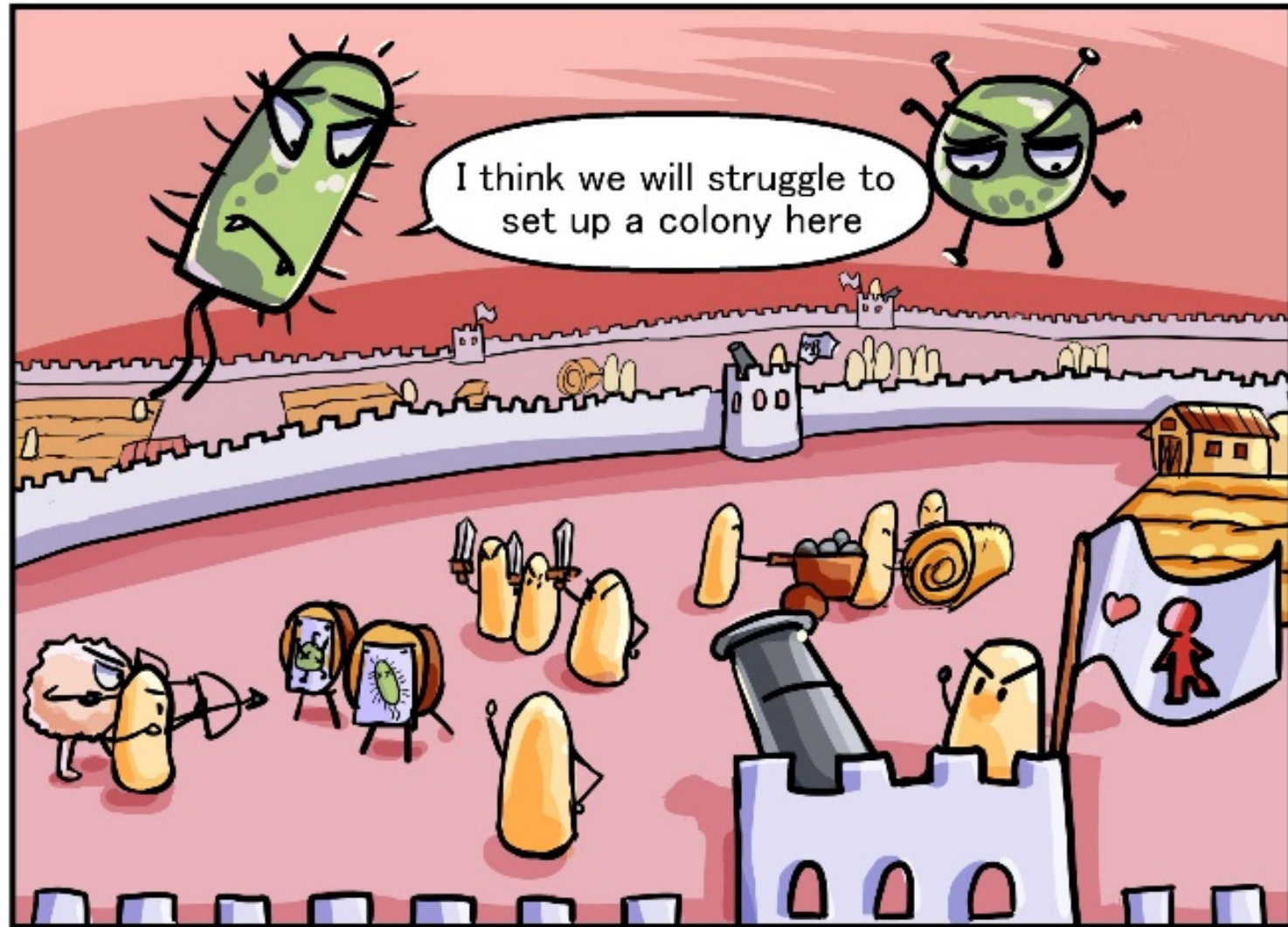




# Daidzein-Metabolizing Phenotypes and Obesity and Cardiovascular Risk

- Equol producers, compared to nonproducers, had:
  - Higher fat-free mass
  - Lower blood pressure
  - Lower serum triglyceride), hs-CRP
  - O-DMA producers, compared to nonproducers, had:
    - Lower BMI and %body fat
    - Lower total cholesterol
- Habitual soy isoflavone intake had little relation to risk factors.

In a healthy gut microbial community, it is difficult to get new microbes to colonize.

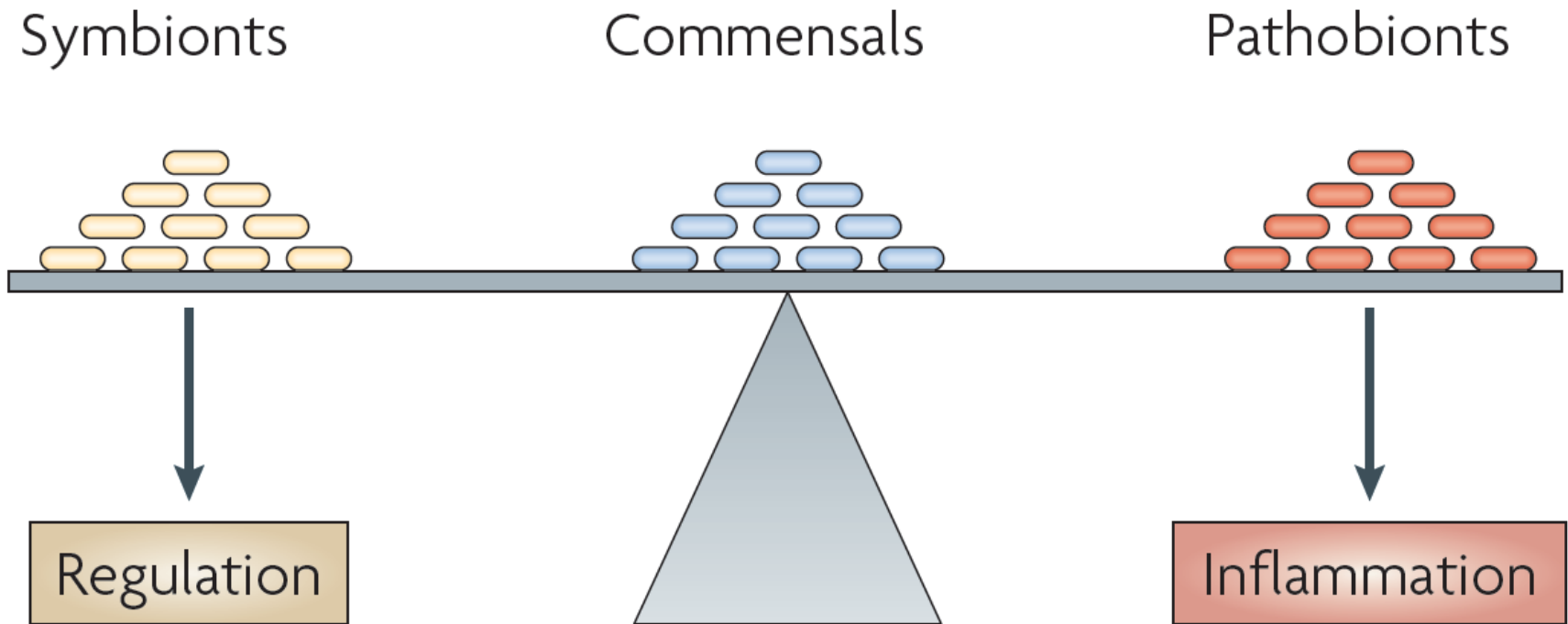




# Microbiome in Health and Disease

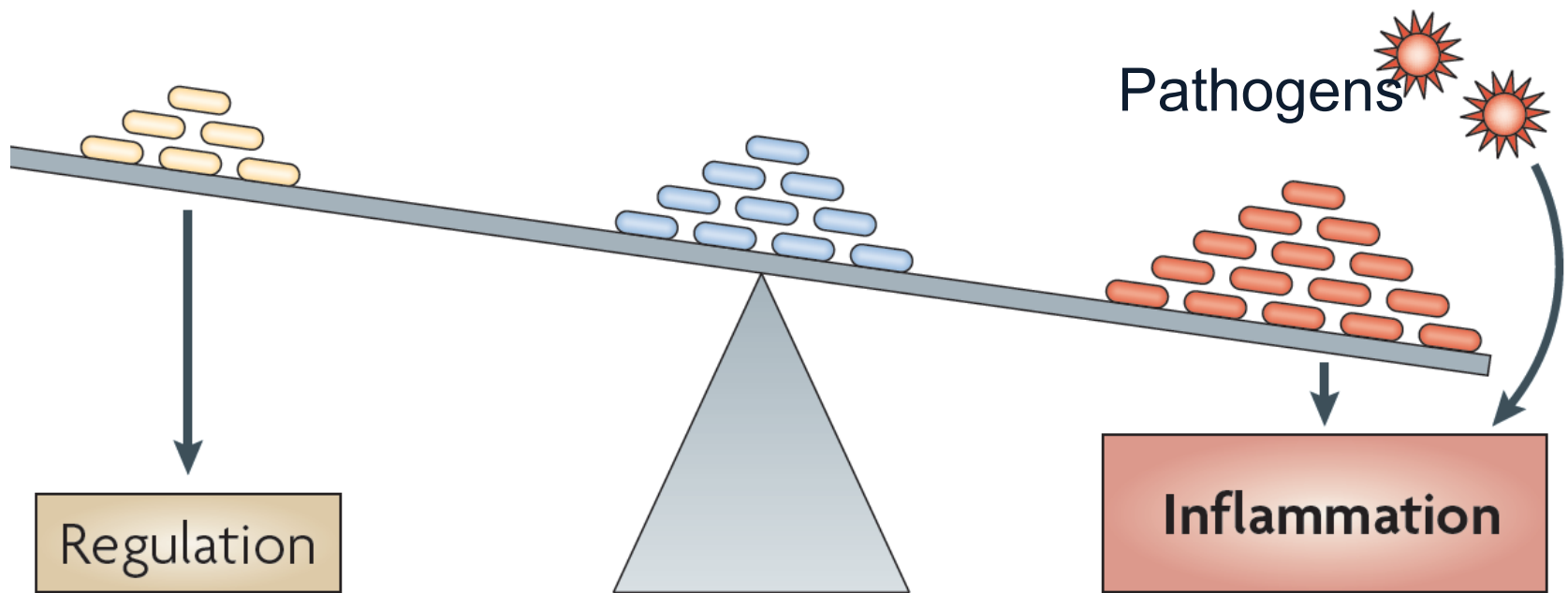
## Eubiosis: Balance

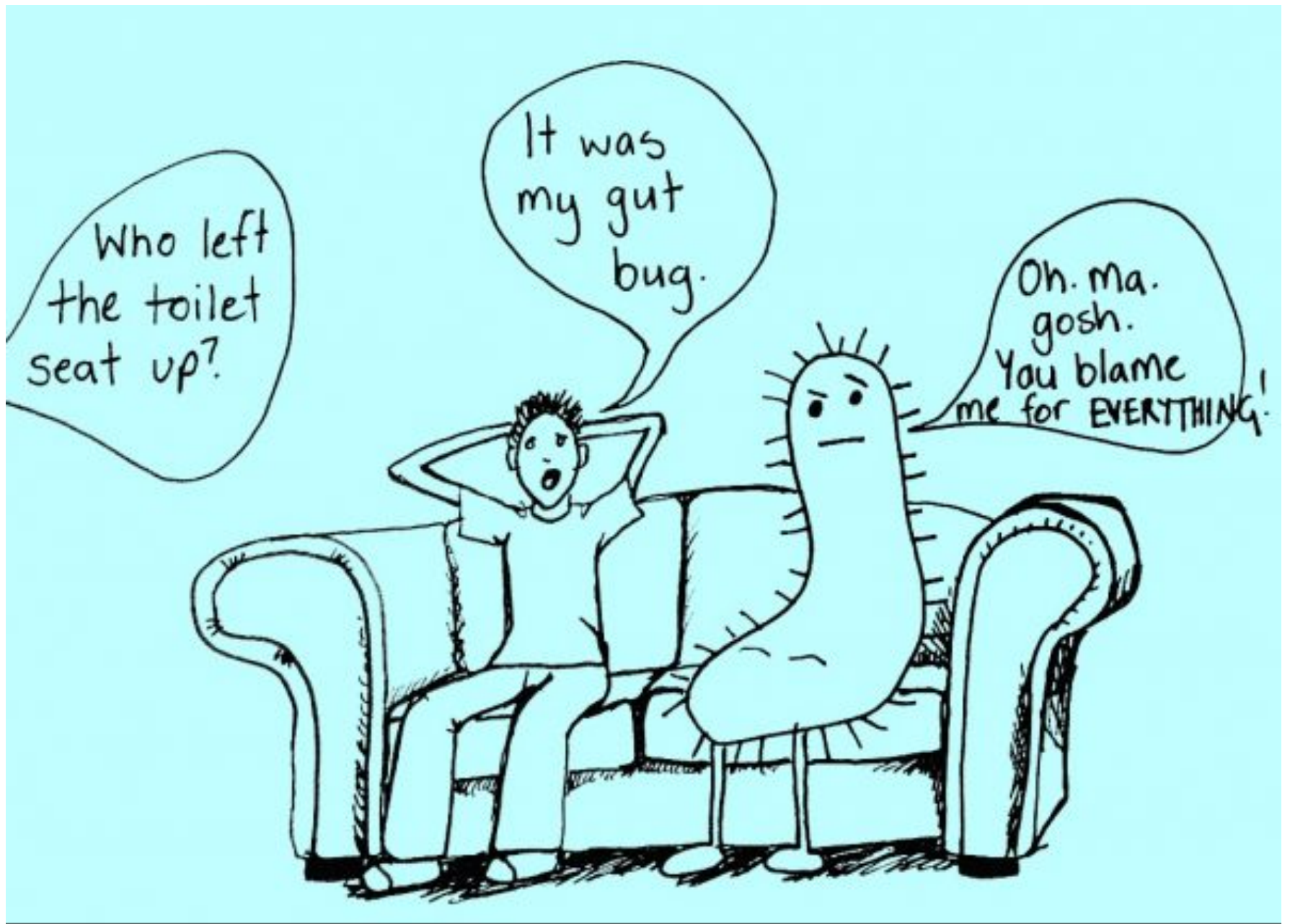
- Community of commensal, symbiotic, and pathogenic microorganisms in balance.



# Dysbiosis

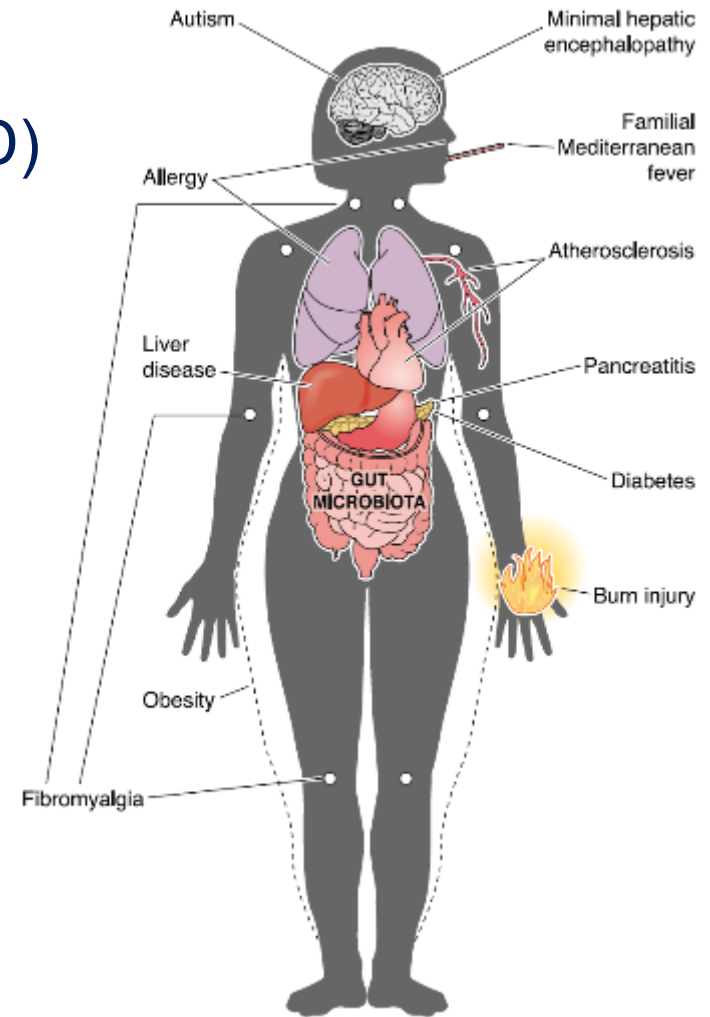
- Aberrant microbiota profiles and/or metabolite alteration characterized by loss of metabolic homeostasis and increased inflammation.





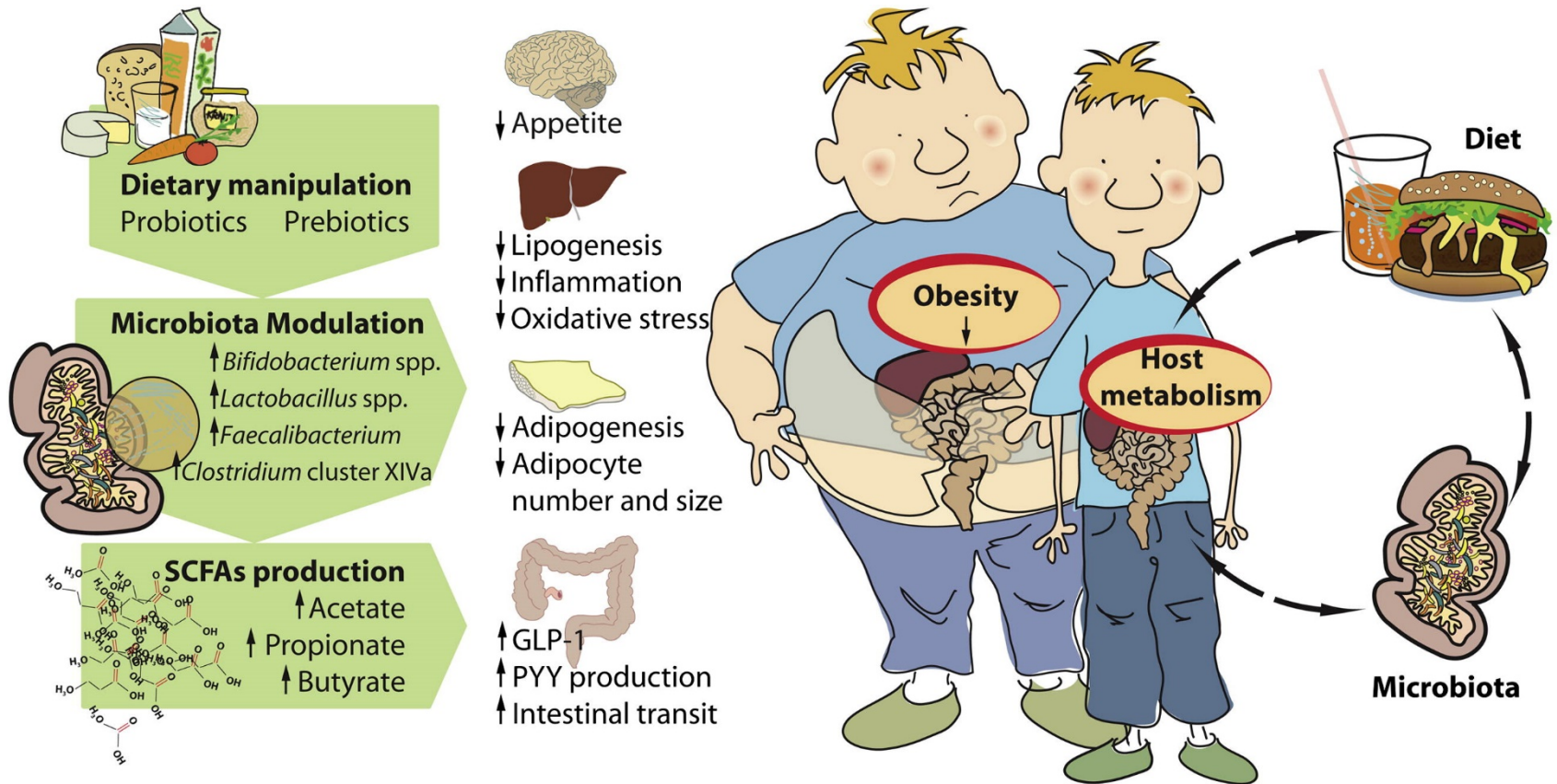
# Microbiome Dysbiosis and Disease

- Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)
- Colon cancer
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Metabolic syndrome
- Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease
- Heart disease
- Autoimmune disease
- Asthma
  
- Gut-brain axis



Sekirov I et al, *Physiol Rev*, 2010

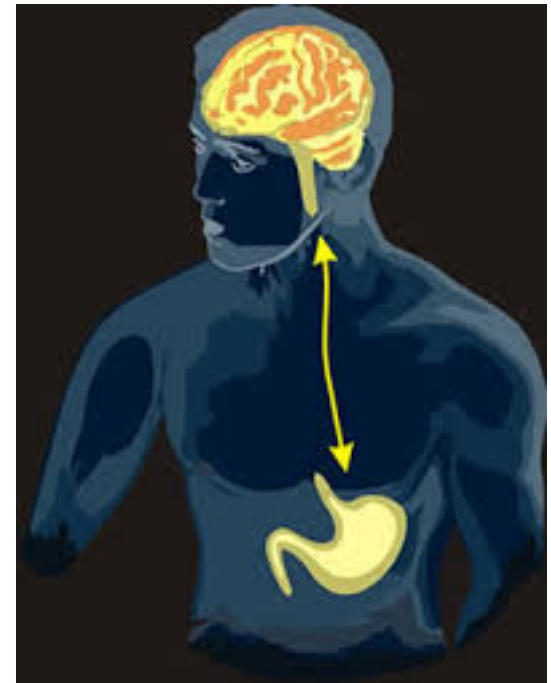
# Diet and Gut Microbiome Affect Host Metabolism



# Gut-Brain Axis

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- Regulating satiety and whole body energy balance
- Regulating brain development
- Neurologic diseases
  - Autism
  - Depression
  - Dementia
  - Mood
  - Sleep patterns



# Summary

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- Diet influences the gut microbiome and its impact on the host.
- Gut microbiome is modifiable with diet.
- Need to consider the totality of gut microbial community.
- A large proportion of the inter-individual variation in the gut microbiome remains unexplained.
- Substantial work to be done to establish evidence to support causal relationships between the gut microbiome and health and disease.



**QUESTIONS?**

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*“Everything is dandy—and our intestinal biomes are joyous.”*