


Which role for Probiotics in Celiac Disease

Ruggiero Francavilla, MD PhD


Consultant in Pediatric Gastroenterology & Hepatology
Senior Lecturer in Pediatrics
Dpt Biomedicina Età Bioevolutiva
University of Bari - Italy



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI BARI
ALDO MORO**



Celiac disease (CD) is an immune-mediated systemic disorder elicited by **gluten and related prolamines** in **genetically susceptible individuals** and characterised by the presence of a variable combination of **gluten-dependent clinical manifestations, CD-specific antibodies**, (HLA-DQ2 or HLA-DQ8 haplotypes) and **enteropathy**.



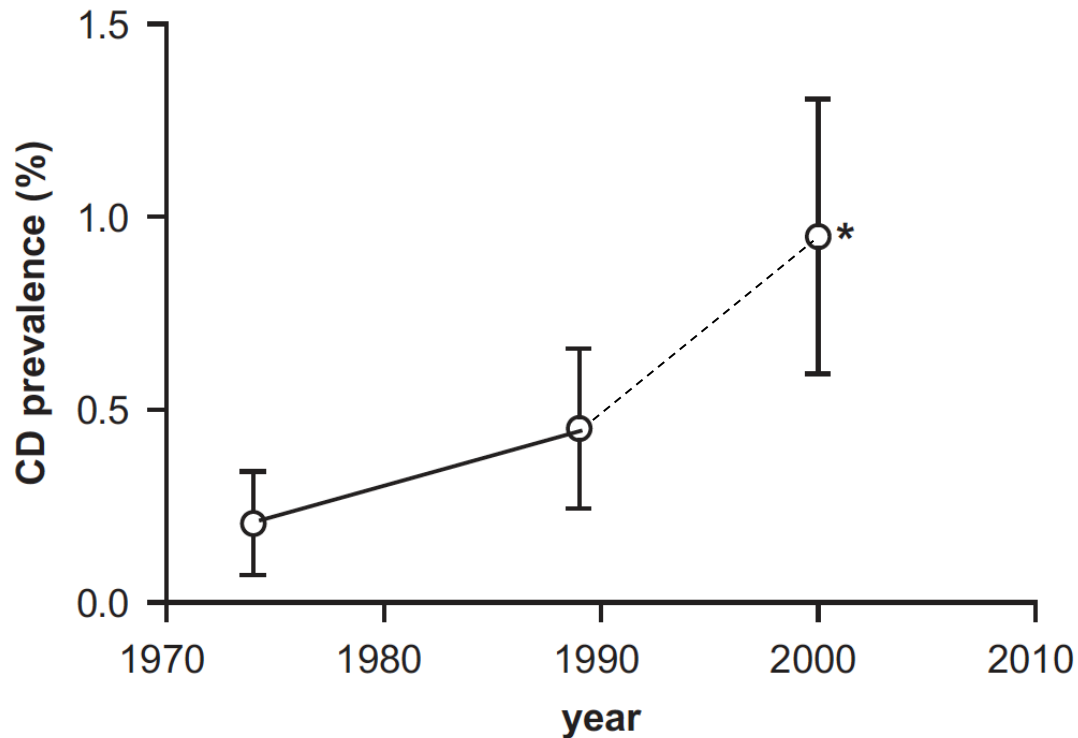
At this time, the only treatment for CD is lifelong adherence to a **gluten-free diet**, which involves the elimination of grains containing **gluten, wheat, rye, and barley** in addition to food, products and additives derived from them.



Adherence to GFD to improve symptoms, reduce the risk of complications, and confer health benefits (*i.e. improvement in bone mineral density*).

However, studies have shown that **dietary transgressions** in patients with CD are common and can occur anywhere from **32% to 55%**

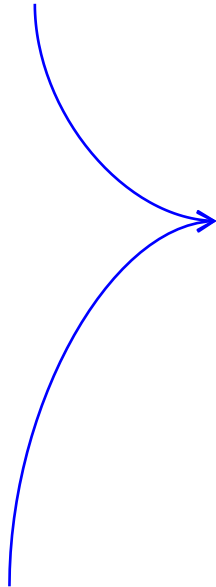
Natural history of celiac disease autoimmunity in a USA cohort followed since 1974



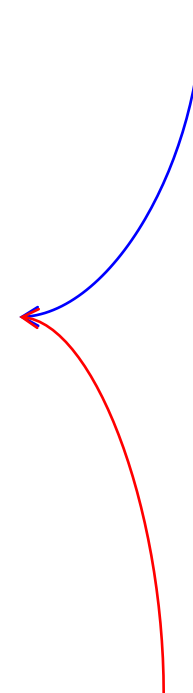
A recent US study showed that CD prevalence was only 0.2% in the year 1975, and increased 5-fold during the following 25 years

Increase of Prevalence: role of Environment

changes in the quantity
and quality of ingested
gluten



infant feeding
patterns



the spectrum of
intestinal infections

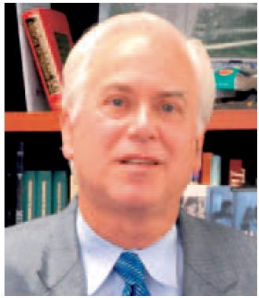
gut microbiota
colonization

Who are we?

Who are we?

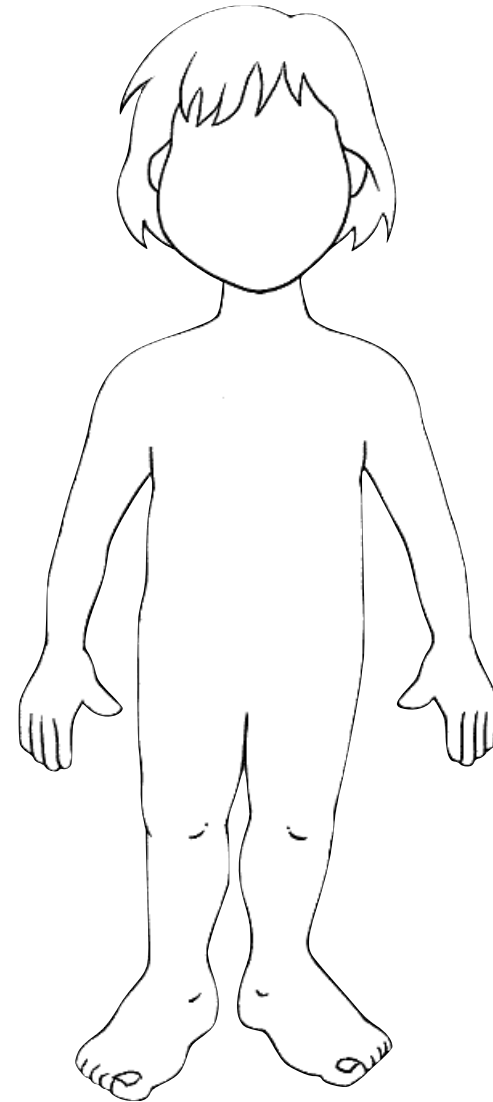
Indigenous microbes and the ecology of human diseases

Martin J. Blaser



Martin J. Blaser is the Frederick H. King Professor of Internal Medicine, the Chair of the Department of Medicine and a Professor of Microbiology at New York University School of Medicine, New York, USA.

E-mail: martin.blaser@med.nyu.edu

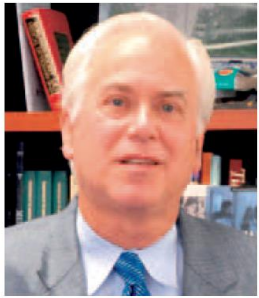


Who are we?

Who are we?

Indigenous microbes and the ecology of human diseases

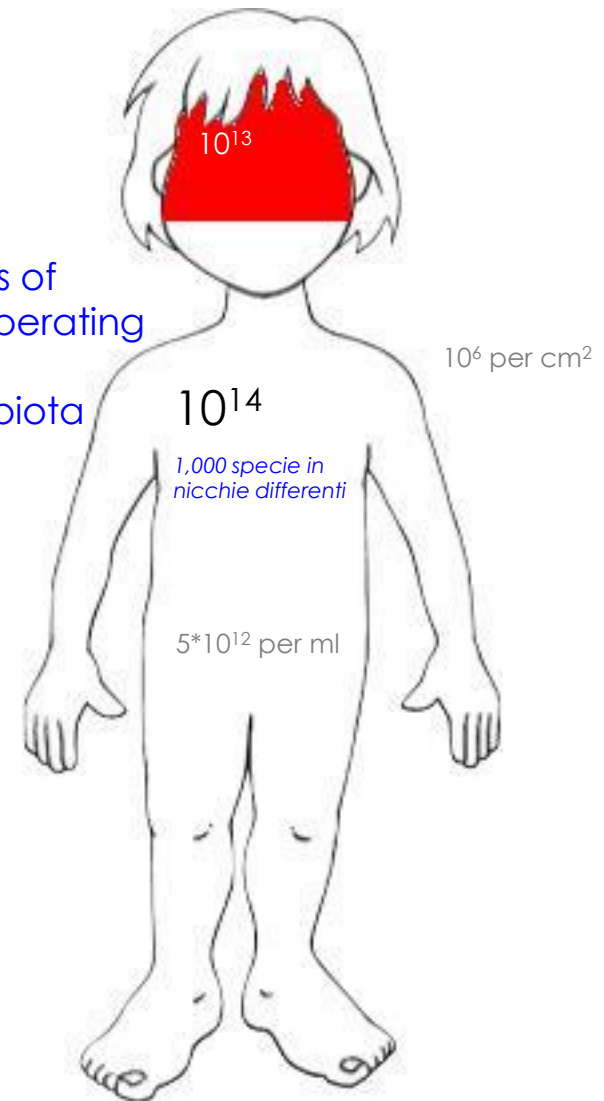
Martin J. Blaser



Martin J. Blaser is the Frederick H. King Professor of Internal Medicine, the Chair of the Department of Medicine and a Professor of Microbiology at New York University School of Medicine, New York, USA.

E-mail: martin.blaser@med.nyu.edu

Massive assemblages of competing and cooperating microbes are known collectively as microbiota

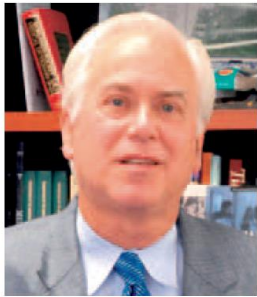


Who are we?

Who are we?

Indigenous microbes and the ecology of human diseases

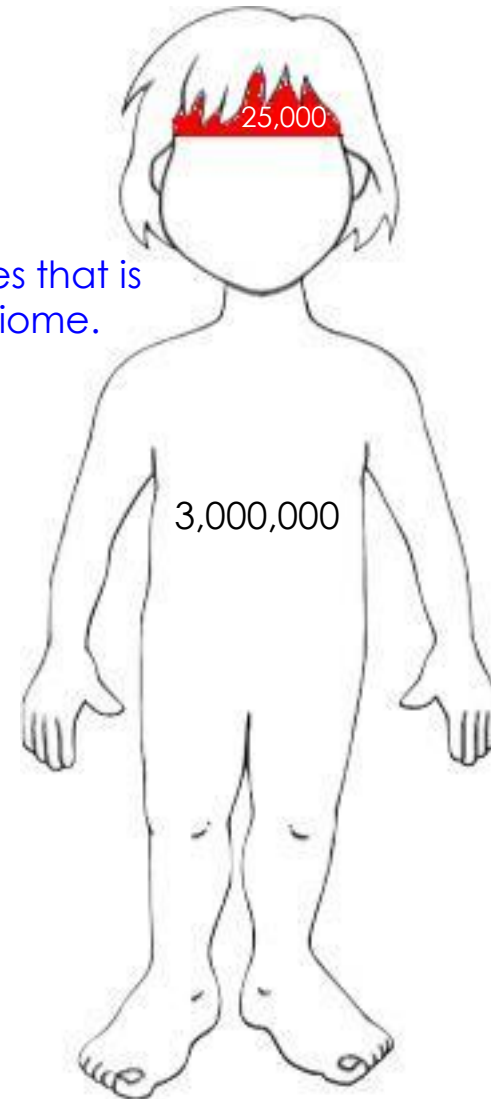
Martin J. Blaser



Martin J. Blaser is the Frederick H. King Professor of Internal Medicine, the Chair of the Department of Medicine and a Professor of Microbiology at New York University School of Medicine, New York, USA.

E-mail: martin.blaser@med.nyu.edu

The entire set of genes that is known as the microbiome.



Habitat  Food *Stable environment*

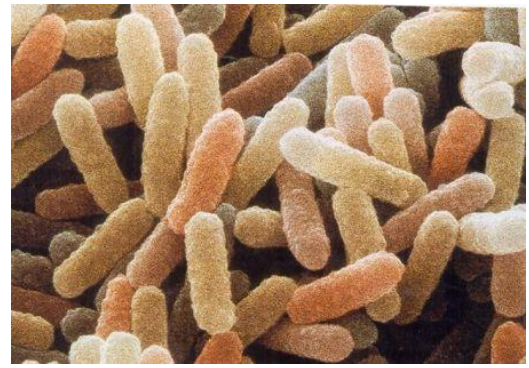
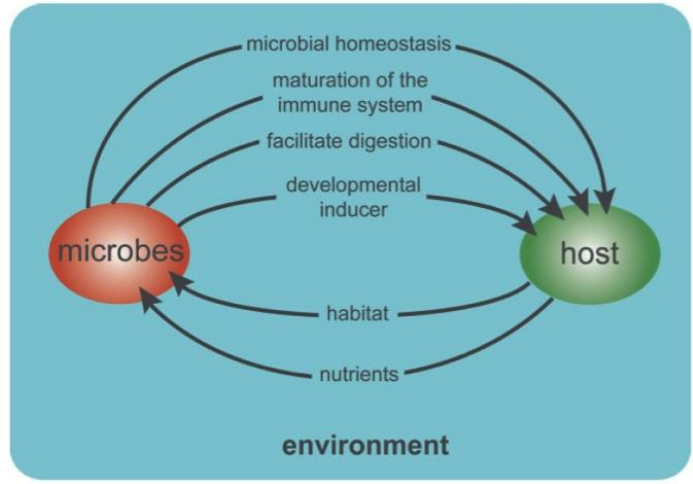


Figure 6. Schematic view of the interactions between host organisms and their microbiota.

Immune-modulation

Metabolic activities

In ecology, **biome** refers to the sets of plants and animals in a community (such as a jungle, forest, or coral reef) in which an enormous diversity of species, large and small, interact to form complex webs of mutual support.

When a keystone species disappears or goes extinct the ecology suffers. It can even collapse



ESSAY

What are the consequences of the disappearing human microbiota?

Martin J. Blaser and Stanley Falkow

*“For a number of reasons, **we are losing our ancient microbe**”*

The loss of microbial diversity on and within our bodies is exacting a terrible price.

obesity, childhood diabetes, asthma, hay fever, food allergies, esophageal reflux and cancer, celiac disease, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, autism, eczema

Disappearing Microbiota Hypothesis

ESSAY

What are the consequences of the disappearing human microbiota?

Martin J. Blaser and Stanley Falkow

Table 1 | **Changes in human ecology that might affect microbiota composition**

Change	Consequence
Clean water	Reduced faecal transmission
Increase in Caesarean sections	Reduced vaginal transmission
Increased use of pre-term antibiotics	Reduced vaginal transmission
Reduced breastfeeding	Reduced cutaneous transmission and a changed immunological environment
Smaller family size	Reduced early life transmission
Widespread antibiotic use	Selection for a changing composition
Increased bathing, showering and use of antibacterial soaps	Selection for a changing composition
Increased use of mercury-amalgam dental fillings	Selection for a changing composition

obesity, childhood diabetes, asthma, hay fever, food allergies, esophageal reflux and cancer, celiac disease, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, autism, eczema

Health

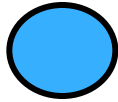
Diet

Hygiene

Antibiotics

Life style

Disease



Pathogenic
community

*no single microbe is
pathogenic alone. Instead,
the community assemblage is
an environmental risk factor
that contributes to a disease
state*

Eubiosis

Dysbiosis

Is this true for Celiac Disease?

Harmless bacteria

*Lactobacillus,
bifidobacteria*

Potentially harmful bacteria

*Bacteroides, Prevotella,
E. Coli*



regardless of whether CD was active or inactive (GFD)

Sanz Y. New York: Nova Science;2009.
Nadal I. J Med Microbiol.2007;56:1669.
Collado MC. BMC Microbiol.2008;22:232.
Collado MC. J Clin Pathol.2009;62:264.
De Palma G. BMC Microbiol.2010;10:63.
Di Cagno R. Appl Environ Microbiol. 2009;75:3963



Gluten free

Some of these alterations (*e.g., increased numbers of enterobacteria or staphylococci*) are restored after adherence to a gluten-free diet, suggesting they are secondary consequences of the disease

Others (*increased Bacteroides, virulent-E. coli and decreased Bifidobacteria and Lactobacilli*) are associated with CD and, therefore, could play a more prominent role in this disorder

Dysbiosis and GFD

Effects of a gluten-free diet on gut microbiota and immune function in healthy adult human subjects

Giada De Palma, Inmaculada Nadal, Maria Carmen Collado and Yolanda Sanz*

Table 1. Daily energy and nutrient intake before and after the gluten-free diet (GFD) intervention

(Mean values and standard deviations)

Diet composition	Subjects before GFD (n 10)		Subjects under GFD (n 10)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Energy				
kJ	7759.68	1446.91	7464.51	1263.28
kcal	1854.61	345.82	1784.06	301.93
Water (g)	2454.56	533.35	2764.96	464.18
Protein (g)	72.99	15.69	68.48	13.19
Energy from protein (%)	15.74	3.38	15.35	2.96
Fat (g)	78.69	21.12	71.95	19.00
Energy from fat (%)	38.19	10.25	36.30	9.58
Saturated fat (g)	23.21	11.17	22.42	6.55
Energy from saturated fat (%)	11.26	5.42	11.31	3.30
MUFA (g)	29.97	8.30	28.79	8.41
Energy from MUFA (%)	14.54	4.03	14.52	4.24
PUFA (g)	11.58	5.59	9.43	3.93
Energy from PUFA (%)	5.62	2.71	4.76	1.98
Cholesterol (mg)	262.36	181.37	266.76	115.07
CH (g)	212.41	55.42	218.87	69.05
Energy from CH (%)	45.81	11.95	49.07	15.48
Simple CH (g)	74.30	37.72	72.03	28.05
Energy from simple CH (%)	16.02	8.14	16.15	6.29
Polysaccharides (g)	116.63	51.62	62.95*	33.12
Energy from complex CH (%)	25.15	11.13	14.11	7.43
Dietary fibre (g)	19.52	10.78	17.56	9.13

CH, carbohydrates.

*Mean value was significantly different from that before the GFD ($P < 0.05$; Student's *t* test).

This may contribute to the disruption of the delicate balance between the host and its intestinal microbiota which might favor the overgrowth of opportunistic pathogens and weaken the host defenses and not favor completely the normalization of gut ecosystem in treated CD patients.

Different Fecal Microbiotas and Volatile Organic Compounds in Treated and Untreated Children with Celiac Disease^{∇†}

Raffaella Di Cagno,¹ Carlo G. Rizzello,¹ Francesca Gagliardi,² Patrizia Ricciuti,³ Maurice Ndagijimana,⁴ Ruggiero Francavilla,² M. Elisabetta Guerzoni,⁴ Carmine Crecchio,³ Marco Gobetti,¹ and Maria De Angelis^{1*}

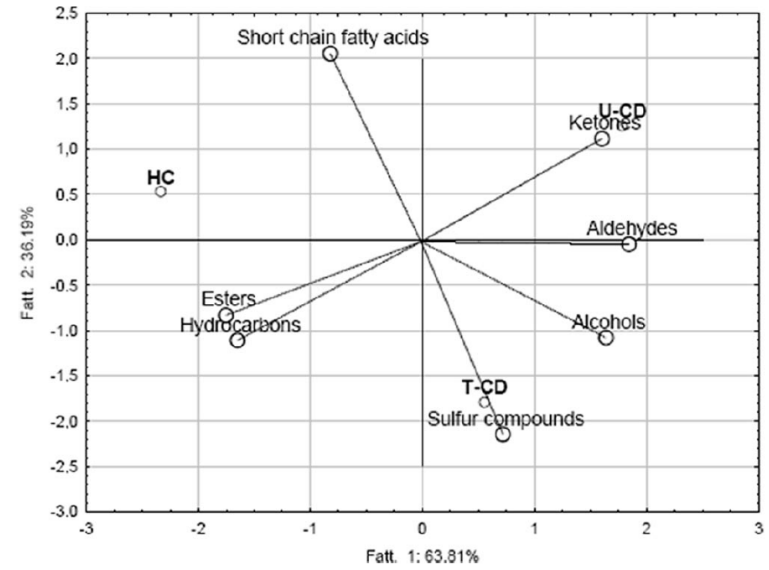
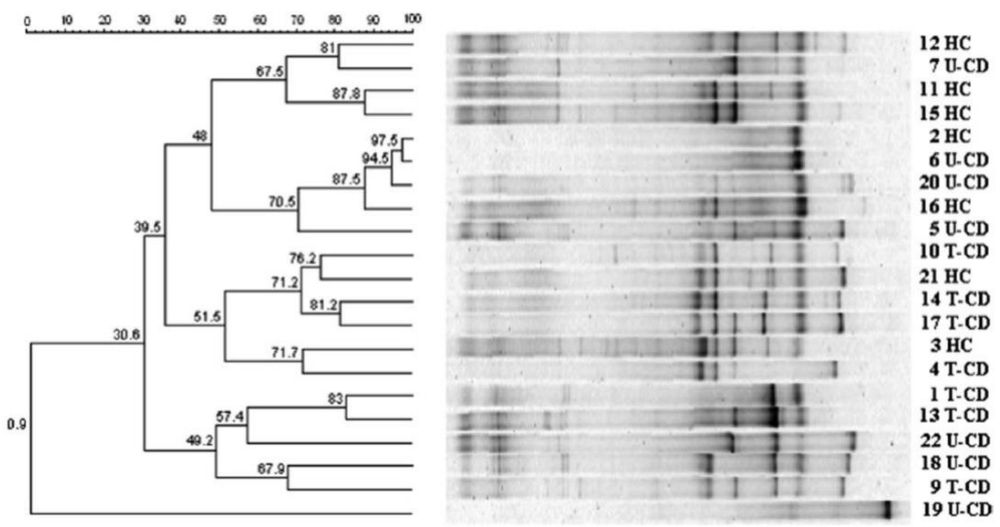


FIG. 4. Plot of the first and second principal components after PCA based on the median data for VOCs of T-CD, U-CD, and HC.

The percentages of *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* species were lower in CD as compared to HC and remained lower after years of GFD. The median concentrations of volatile organic compounds varied markedly for HC, T-CD, and U-CD

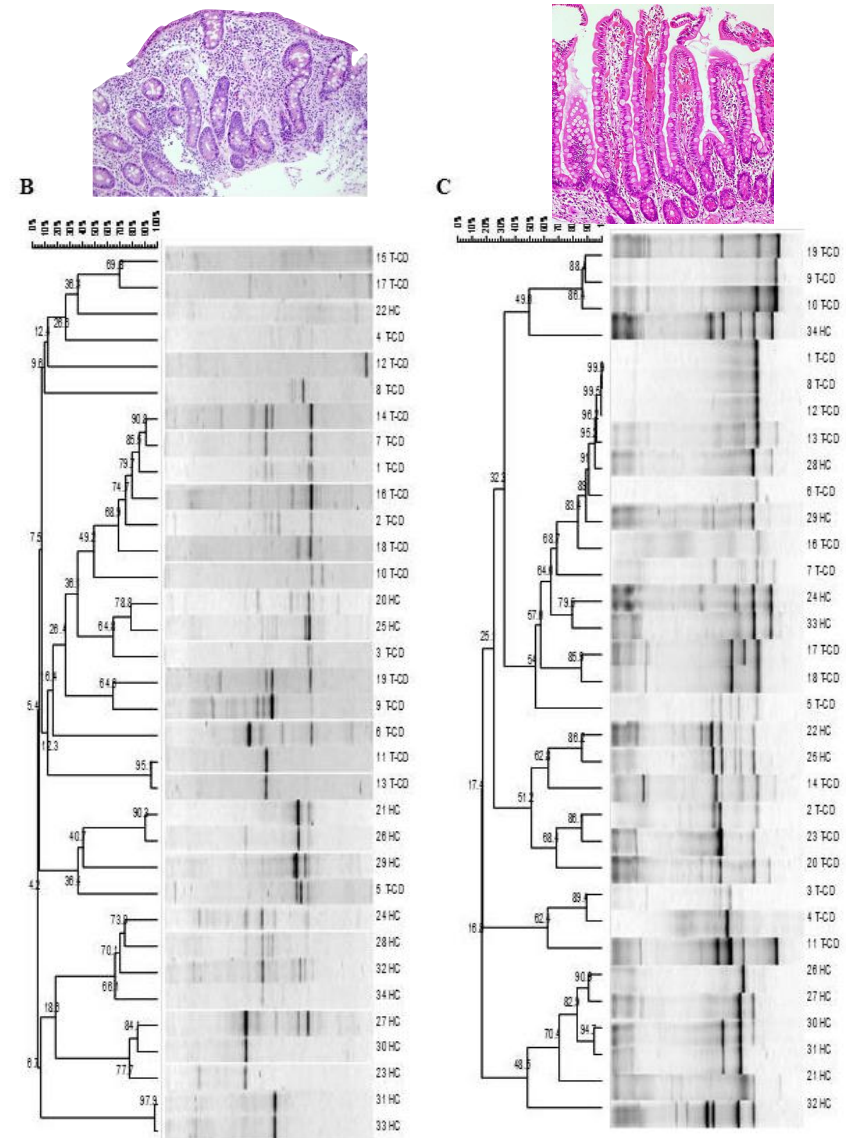
CD dysbiosis and GFD

Duodenal and faecal microbiota of celiac children: molecular, phenotype and metabolome characterization

Raffaella Di Cagno¹, Maria De Angelis^{1*}, Ilaria De Pasquale¹, Maurice Ndagijimana², Pamela Vernocchi², Patrizia Ricciuti¹, Francesca Gagliardi³, Luca Laghi², Carmine Crecchio¹, Maria Elisabetta Guerzoni², Marco Gobetti¹ and Ruggiero Francavilla³

We did not find bifidobacteria in biopsy specimens of CD subjects although present in fecal samples.

In addition, we showed a low level of microbiota diversity in biopsy specimens



Gut Microflora Associated Characteristics in Children with Celiac Disease

B. Tjellström, M.D.,^{1,2} L. Stenhammar, M.D., Ph.D.,^{2,3} L. Högberg, M.D., Ph.D.,² K. Fälth-Magnusson, M.D., Ph.D.,³ K-E. Magnusson, Ph.D.,⁴ T. Midtvedt, M.D., Ph.D.,¹ T. Sundqvist, Ph.D.,⁴ and E. Norin, Ph.D.¹

study of the SCFA pattern in fecal samples from children with CD: the results indicate that there is a difference in the metabolic activity of intestinal microbial flora in children with CD compared to that in HC.

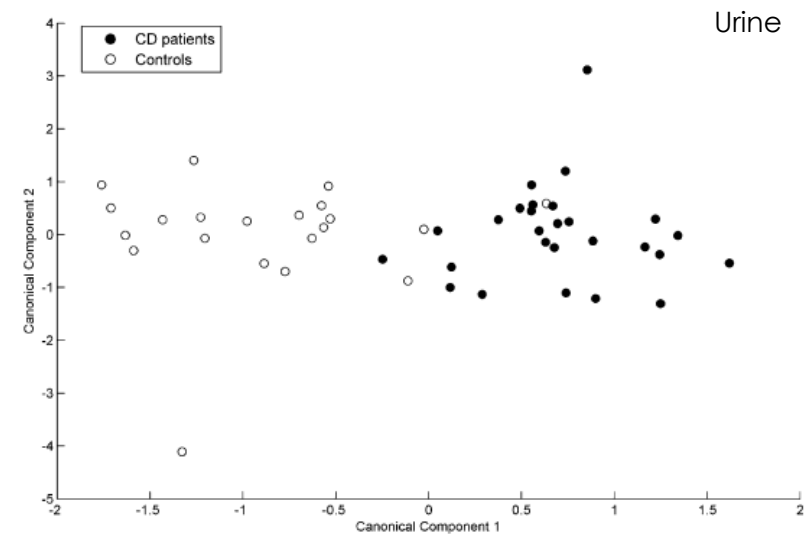
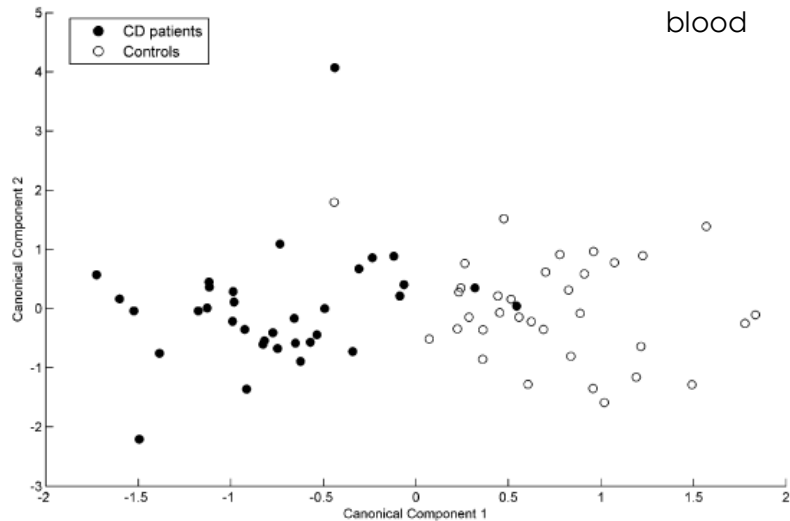
Table 1. Short Chain Fatty Acid Levels of Children with Celiac Disease and Healthy Controls

Type of Acid	Short Chain Fatty Acids		
	Untreated CD	Treated CD	HC
Acetic acid†	50.6*** 36 (22.6)	49.3*** 74 (26.8)	25.4 114 (8.2)
Propionic acid	13.9 36 (6.1)	14.1* 74 (7.1)	11.6 113 (5.7)
<i>i</i> -Butyric acid	2.3** 36 (1.0)	2.2** 74 (1.3)	1.6 113 (1.1)
<i>n</i> -Butyric acid	15.4 36 (8.1)	15.7 74 (9.6)	14.9 114 (11.2)
<i>i</i> -Valeric acid	3.0** 36 (1.4)	2.8** 74 (1.9)	2.1 114 (1.6)
<i>n</i> -Valeric acid	1.8 36 (1.0)	1.8** 74 (1.1)	1.4 114 (1.2)
<i>i</i> -Caproic acid	0.3 36 (0.5)	0.2 74 (0.4)	0.2 114 (0.4)
<i>n</i> -Caproic acid	0.2 36 (0.3)	0.2 74 (0.3)	0.2 114 (0.3)
Total SCFA	87.4*** 36 (31.0)	86.1*** 74 (38.0)	57.1 114 (19.4)

Metabonomic Signature of CD

The Metabonomic Signature of Celiac Disease

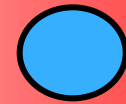
Ivano Bertini,^{*,†,‡} Antonio Calabrò,^{¶,#} Valeria De Carli,^{¶,#} Claudio Luchinat,^{†,§} Stefano Nepi,^{†,||,⊥}
Berardino Porfirio,[∇] Daniela Renzi,^{¶,#} Edoardo Saccenti,^{†,||,⊥} and Leonardo Tenori^{†,||,⊥}



NMR thus reveals a characteristic metabolic signature of celiac disease. Altered serum levels of glucose and ketonic bodies suggest alterations of energy metabolism, while the urine data point to alterations of gut microbiota

Health

Disease



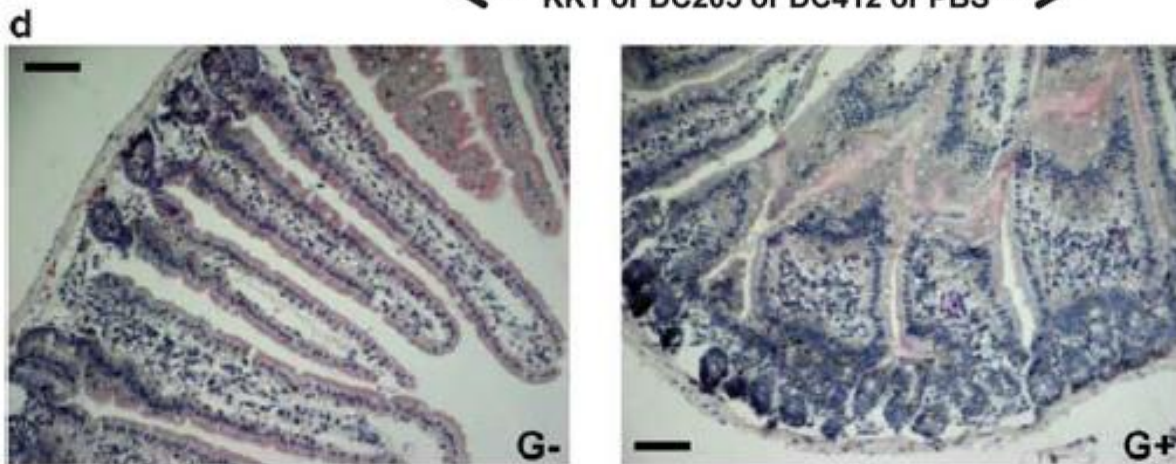
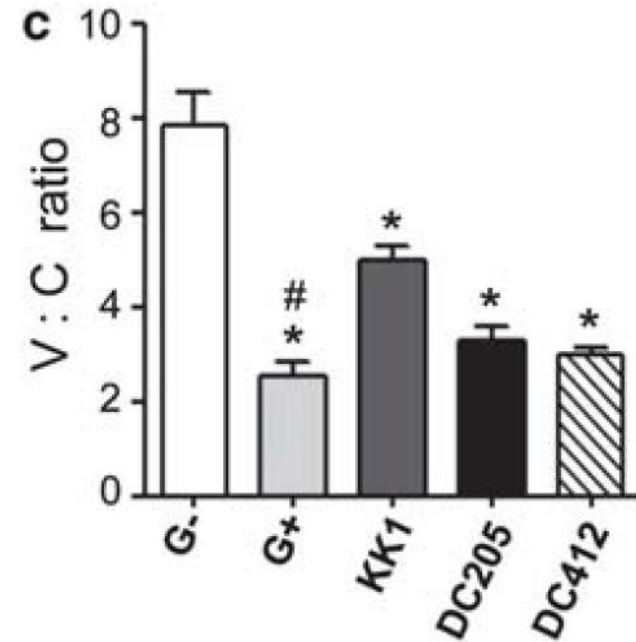
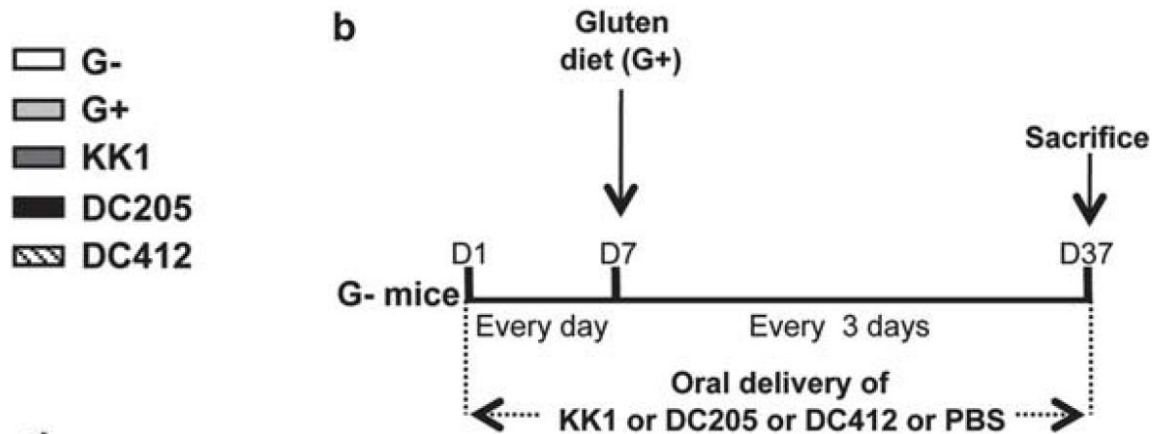
Eubiosis

Dysbiosis

Probiotic in CD – prof of concept

Gluten induces coeliac-like disease in sensitised mice involving IgA, CD71 and transglutaminase 2 interactions that are prevented by probiotics

Christina Papista^{1,2,3}, Vassilis Gerakopoulos¹, Andreas Kourelis¹, Maria Sounidaki¹, Anastasia Kontana¹, Laureline Berthelot^{2,3}, Ivan C Moura^{2,3}, Renato C Monteiro^{2,3,4} and Minas Yiangou¹

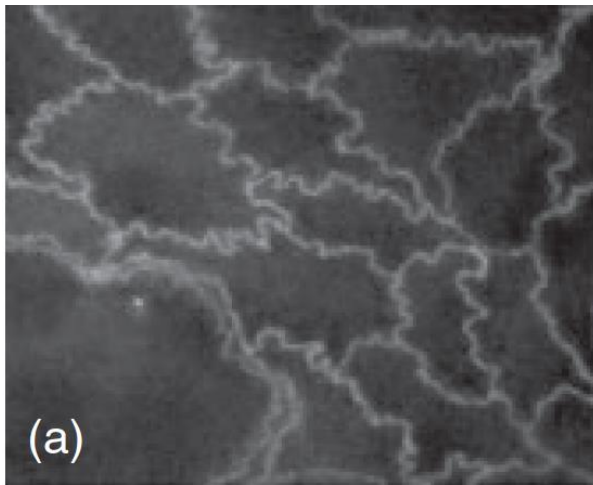


Live probiotic *Bifidobacterium lactis* bacteria inhibit the toxic effects induced by wheat gliadin in epithelial cell culture

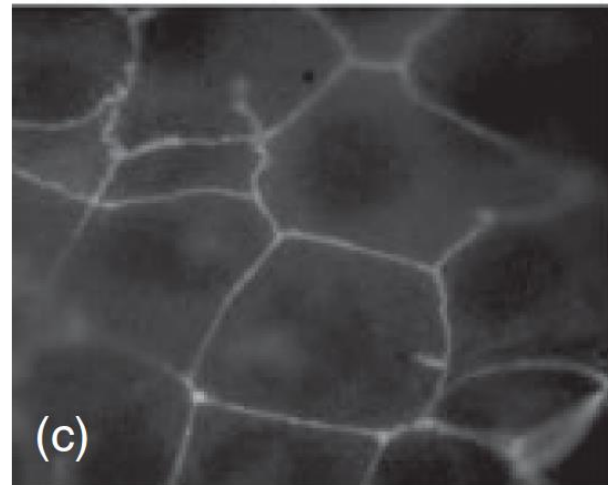
K. Lindfors,* T. Blomqvist,*
K. Juuti-Uusitalo,* S. Stenman,*
J. Venäläinen,† M. Mäki* and
K. Kaukinen‡

*Paediatric Research Centre, Medical School,
University of Tampere, Finland, Department
of Paediatrics, Tampere University Hospital,

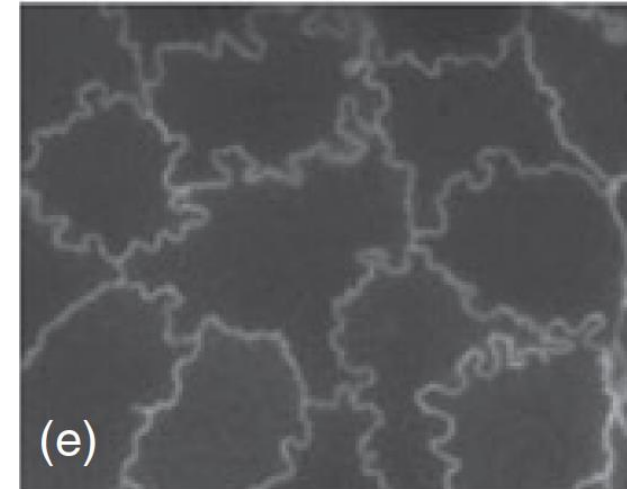
The ability of live probiotics to inhibit gliadin-induced damage to human colon cells Caco-2



Normal tight junctions



Tight junctions after gliadin
administration



Tight junctions after
gliadin and probiotic
administration

Exploratory, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study on the Effects of *Bifidobacterium infantis* Natren Life Start Strain Super Strain in Active Celiac Disease

Edgardo Smecuol, MD,*† Hui J. Hwang, MD,* Emilia Sugai, MD,* Laura Corso, MD,‡
Alejandra C. Cherñavsky, MD,§ Franco P. Bellavite, MD,* Andrea González, MD,‡
Florencia Vodánovich, MD,§ María L. Moreno, MD,* Horacio Vázquez, MD,*†
Graciela Lozano, MD,* Sonia Niveloni, MD,*† Roberto Mazure, MD,*
Jon Meddings, MD,|| Eduardo Mauriño, MD,* and Julio C. Bai, MD*†#

TABLE 3. Final/Baseline Ratios for Intestinal Permeability (Lactulose/Mannitol Ratio), Serology (IgA tTG and IgA DGP), and Immunologic Parameters (in Serum and in PBMC 24 h Culture Supernatant) in the Probiotic and Placebo Arms

Parameter	Probiotic Arm	Placebo Arm	P
Lactulose/mannitol ratio			
Final/baseline ratio, median (range)	1.11 (0.65-2.13)	0.99 (0.48-6.79)	
Immunologic markers			
Celiac disease serology (final/baseline antibody concentration ratio), median (range)			
IgA tTG	0.90 (0.26-1.19)	1.07 (0.78-2.40)	0.0558
IgA DGP	0.90 (0.57-1.71)	1.10 (0.68-2.07)	0.1809
Inflammatory mediators			
In serum (serum concentrations)			
MIP-1 β (pg/mL), median (range)			
Baseline	99.3 (75.5-219.5)	104.8 (81.9-139.5)	
Final	129.9 (78.3-379.2)*	98.8 (52.4-136.5)	
In PBMC 24 h culture supernatant (final/baseline ratio), median (range)			
IL-12p70	0.9 (0.1-4.2)	3.5 (1.2-4.4)	< 0.02
IL-6	0.8 (0.1-1.4)	1.0 (0.2-7.2)	
IL-10/IL-12p70 ratio	1.0 (0.1-14.9)	0.5 (0.3-5.3)	

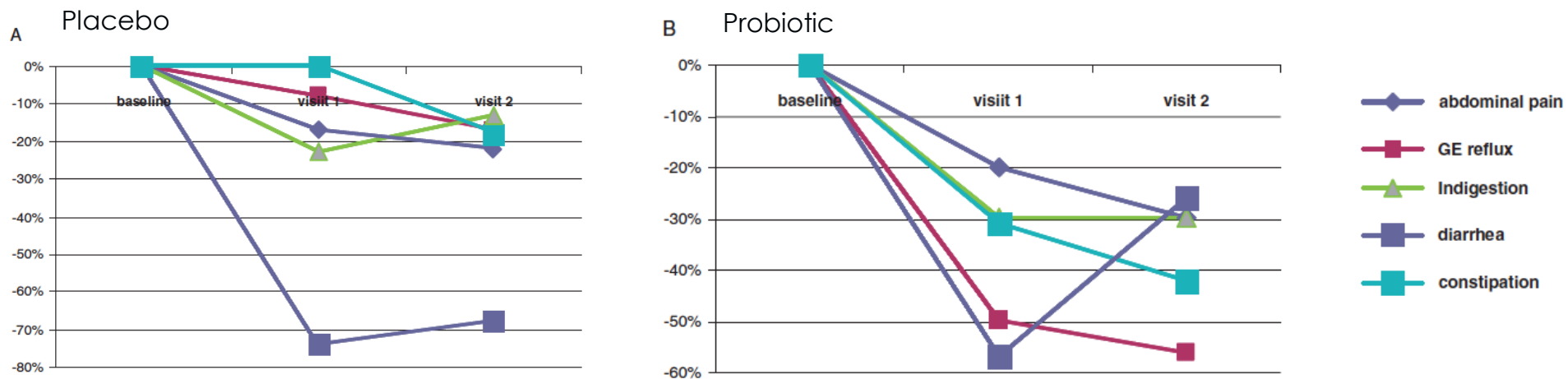
* $P < 0.04$.

PBMC indicates peripheral blood mononuclear cell.

Probiotic in CD at diagnosis

Exploratory, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study on the Effects of *Bifidobacterium infantis* Natren Life Start Strain Super Strain in Active Celiac Disease

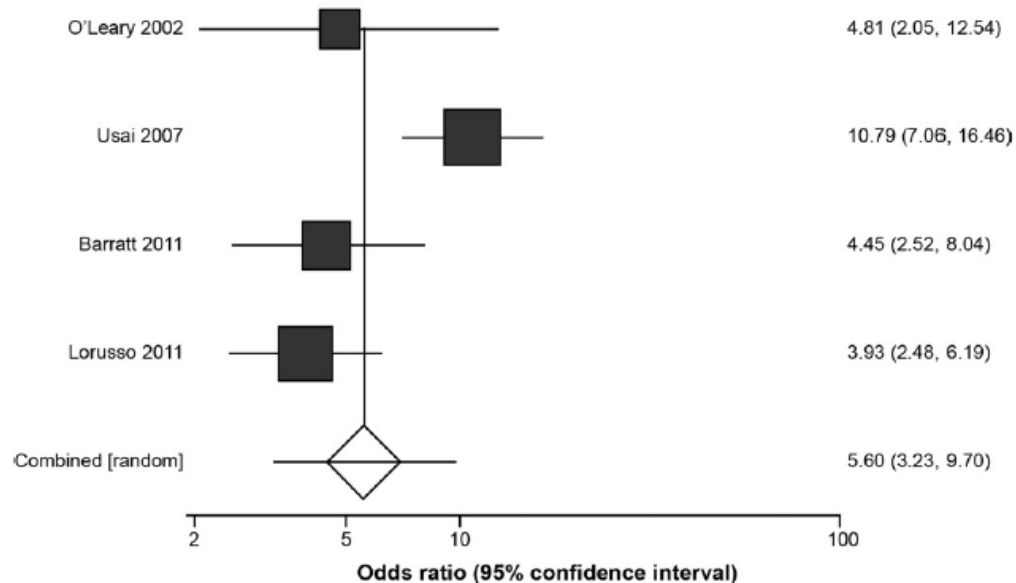
Edgardo Smecoul, MD,*† Hui J. Hwang, MD,* Emilia Sugai, MD,* Laura Corso, MD,‡
Alejandra C. Cherñavsky, MD,§ Franco P. Bellavite, MD,* Andrea González, MD,‡
Florencia Vodánovich, MD,§ María L. Moreno, MD,* Horacio Vázquez, MD,*†
Graciela Lozano, MD,* Sonia Niveloni, MD,*† Roberto Mazure, MD,*
Jon Meddings, MD,|| Eduardo Mauriño, MD,* and Julio C. Bai, MD*†‡



More than 70% of patients reported that these symptoms had improved with probiotics, whereas improvement occurred in 30% of patients with placebo. Once again, diarrhea was perceived as improved at the end of the trial by 80% of patients in both treatment arms.

Prevalence of Irritable Bowel Syndrome–type Symptoms in Patients With Celiac Disease: A Meta-analysis

ANITA SAINSBURY,* DAVID S. SANDERS,† and ALEXANDER C. FORD*§



The pooled OR for IBS-type symptoms was significantly higher in those with CD compared with controls. The odds of IBS-type symptoms were **more than 5-fold higher** (5.60; 95% CI, 3.23–9.70) among all patients with CD, regardless of adherence with a GFD, compared with controls without CD.

Increase of Prevalence of IBS in CD

854 CD patients: 353 adults e 401 children

1237 control: 484 adults e 389 children



Increase of Prevalence of IBS in CD

Dietary Supplement Use in Patients With Celiac Disease in the United States

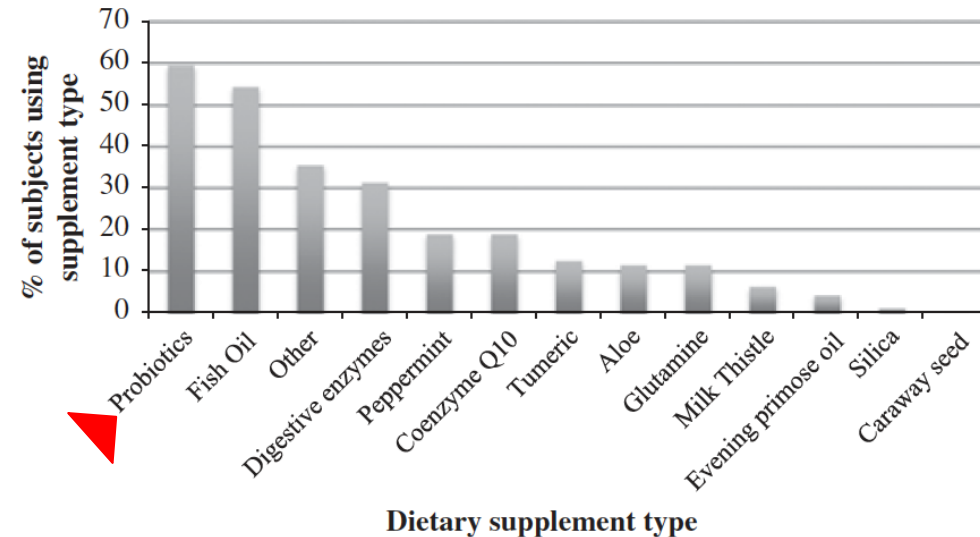
Samantha Nazareth, MD, Benjamin Lebwohl, MD, MSc,* †
Christina A. Tennyson, MD, ‡ Suzanne Simpson, RD,*
Heather Greenlee, ND, PhD, †§ and Peter H. Green, MD**

CD patients completed a questionnaire on demographics, types of dietary supplement use, attitudes toward CAM

TABLE 2. Dietary Supplement Use and Attitudes Toward CAM

Variables	All Patients (423) [n (%)]
Dietary supplement use	
No	323 (76.4)
Yes	100 (23.6)
Doctors should be supportive of CAM use	
Not at all	77 (18.2)
Slightly	105 (24.8)
Moderately	90 (21.3)
Quite a bit	71 (16.8)
A great deal	70 (16.5)

CAM indicates complementary and alternative medicine.

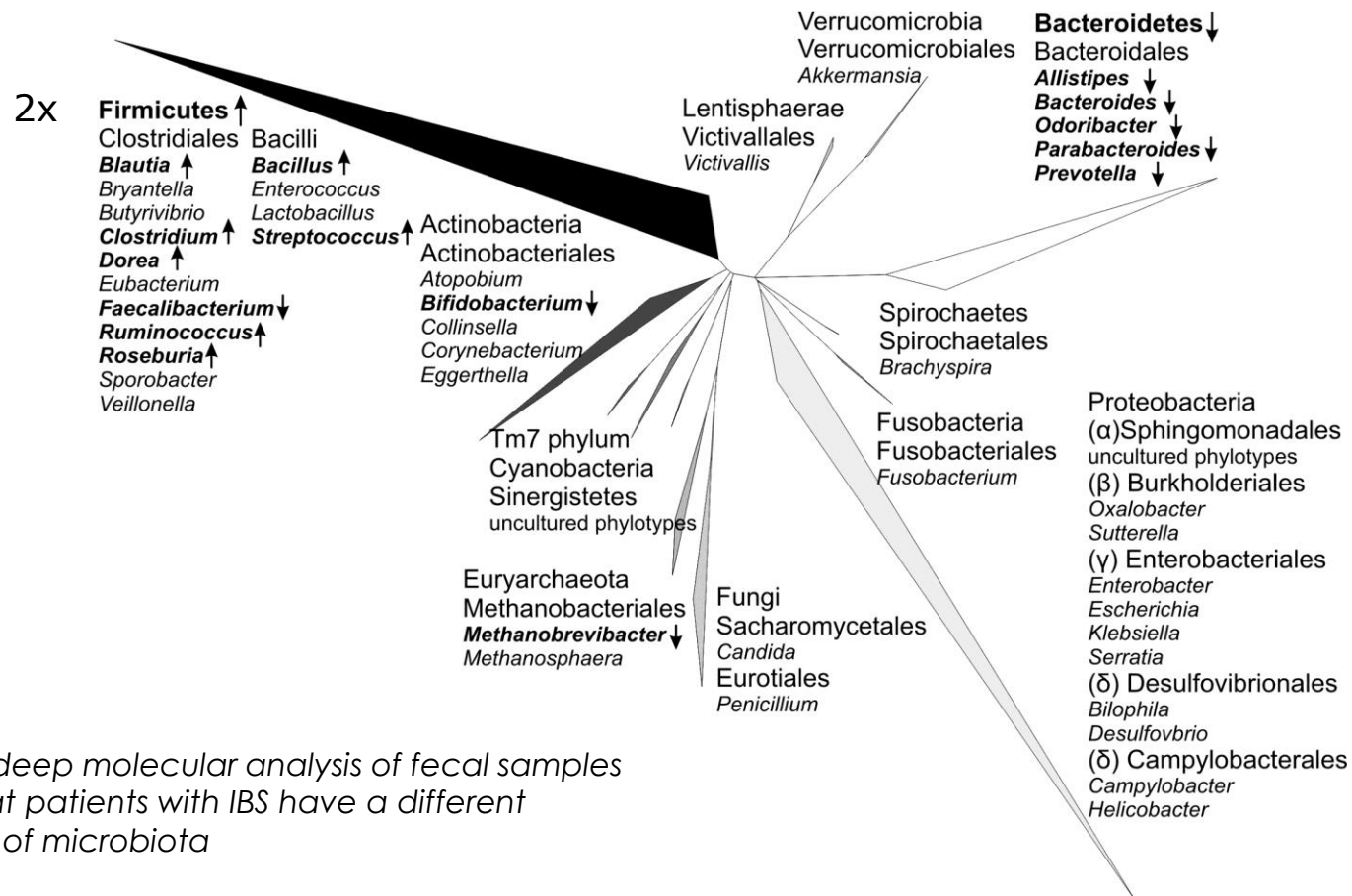




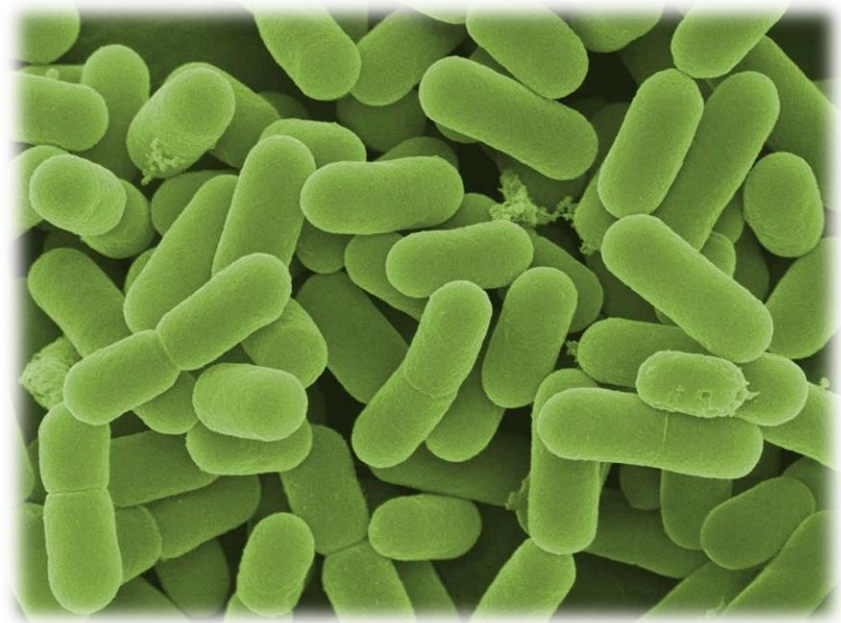
Microbiota in IBS

Global and Deep Molecular Analysis of Microbiota Signatures in Fecal Samples From Patients With Irritable Bowel Syndrome

MIRJANA RAJILIĆ-STOJANOVIĆ,*[‡] ELENA BIAGI,* HANS G.H.J. HEILIG,* KAJSA KAJANDER,[§] RIINA A. KEKKONEN,[§] SEBASTIAN TIMS,* and WILLEM M. DE VOS*^{||}



Global and deep molecular analysis of fecal samples indicates that patients with IBS have a different composition of microbiota



Lactobacillus plantarum CECT 4528

Lactobacillus casei 101/37 LMG P-17504

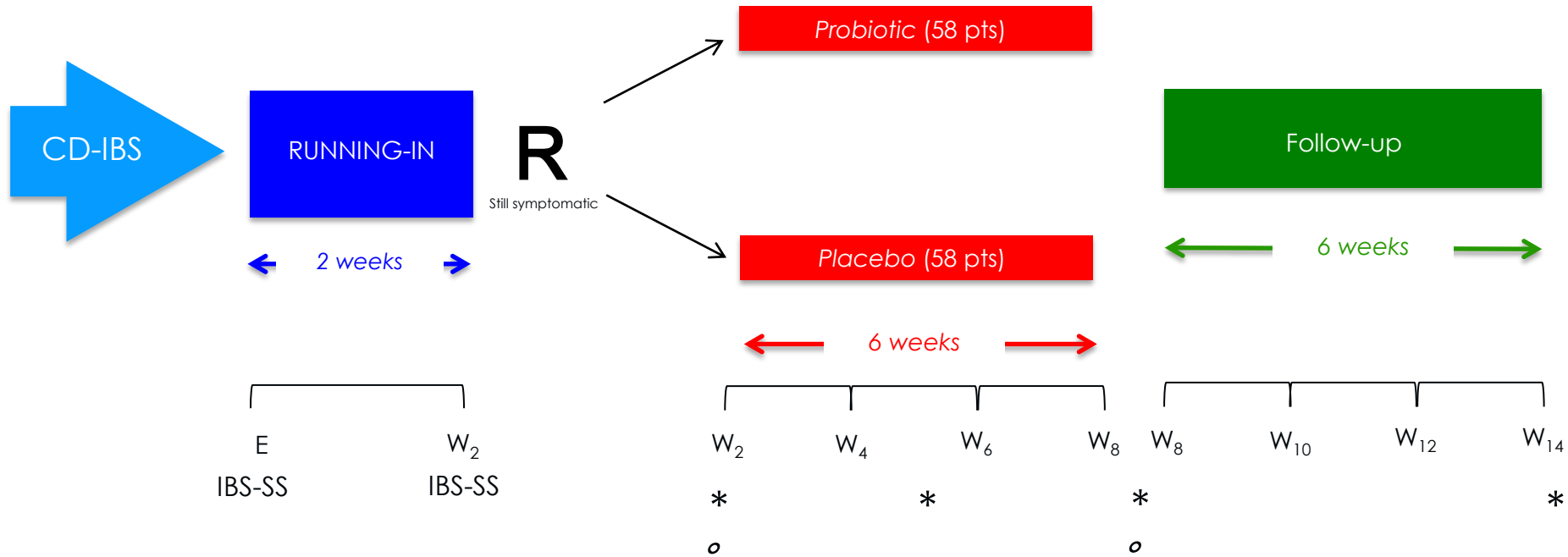
Bifidobacterium breve Bbr8 LMG P-17501

Bifidobacterium breve BI10 LMG P-17500

Bifidobacterium animalis (Subsp. *lactis*) LMG P-17502

PROCEDO study

116 patients enrolled

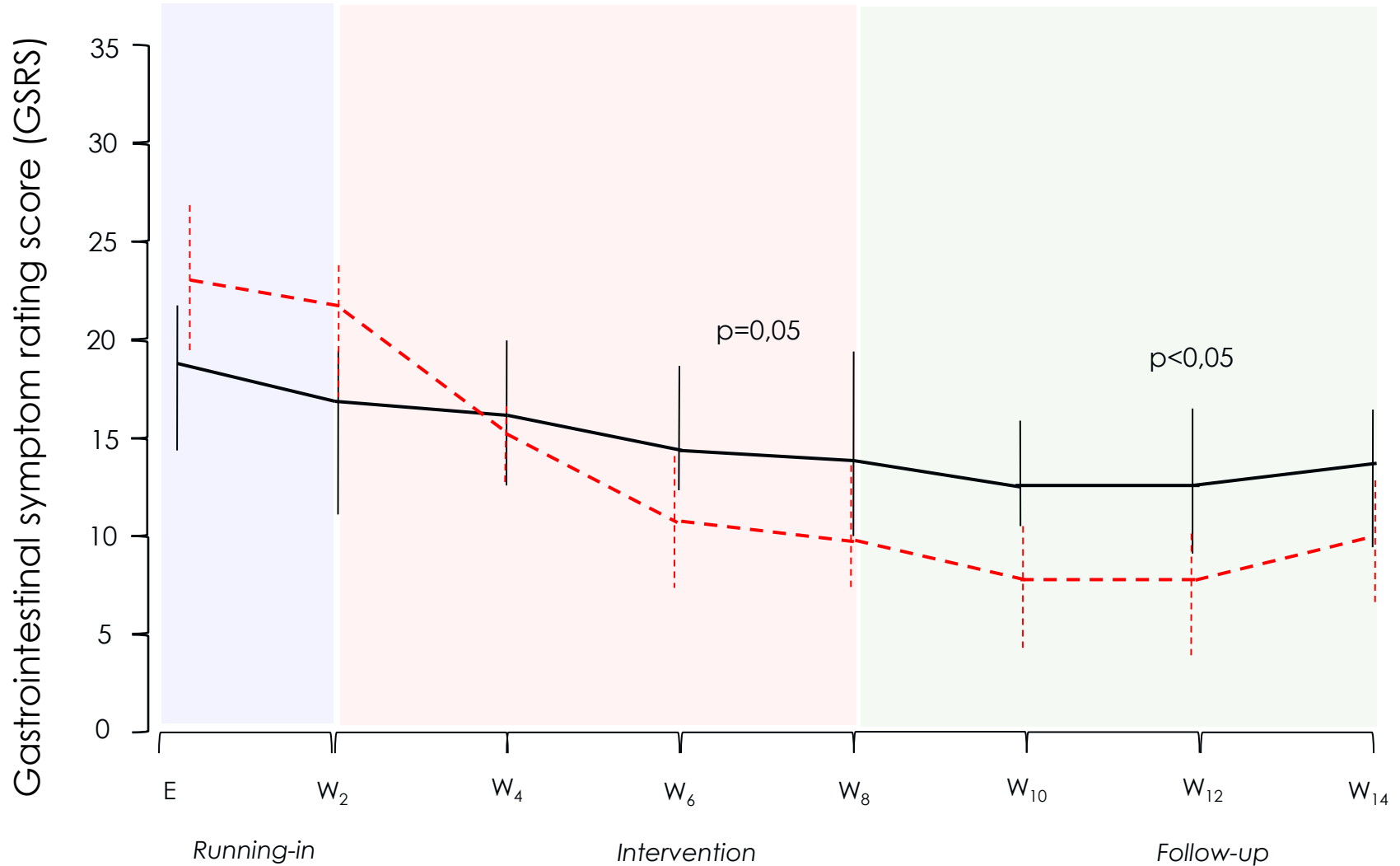


- * IBS severity score (IBS-SS) assessed by VAS
- * Gastrointestinal Symptom Rating Scale (GSRS)
- * Bristol Stool Chart (BSC)
- * IBS Quality of Life (I-QOL)
- * Symptom Check List (SL-90)
- * Hospital Anxiety & Depression Scale (HADS)
- o Urine - stools

PROCEDO study: GSRS

87 patients analysed (75%); end of study November 2014.

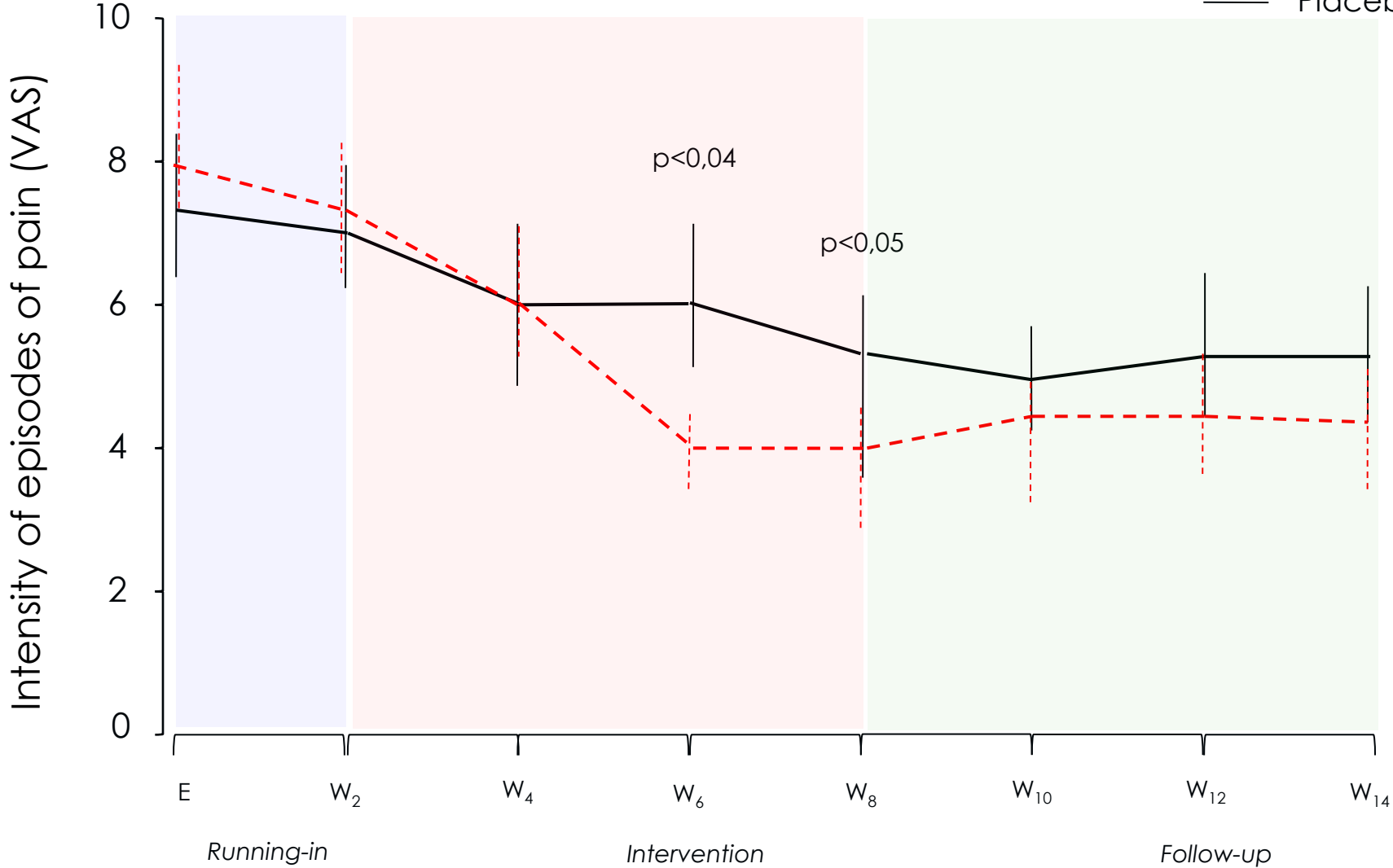
----- Combination
—— Placebo



PROCEDO study: IBS-SS by VAS

87 patients analysed (75%); end of study November 2014.

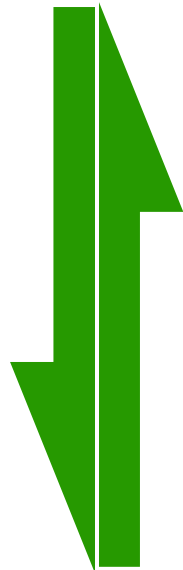
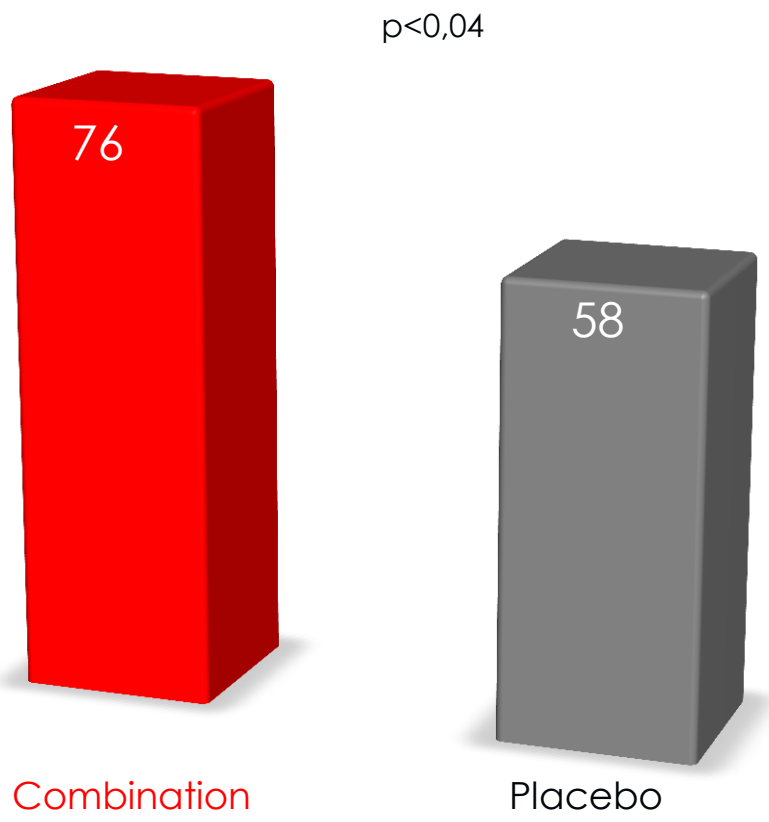
----- Combination
— Placebo



PROCEDO study: BSC

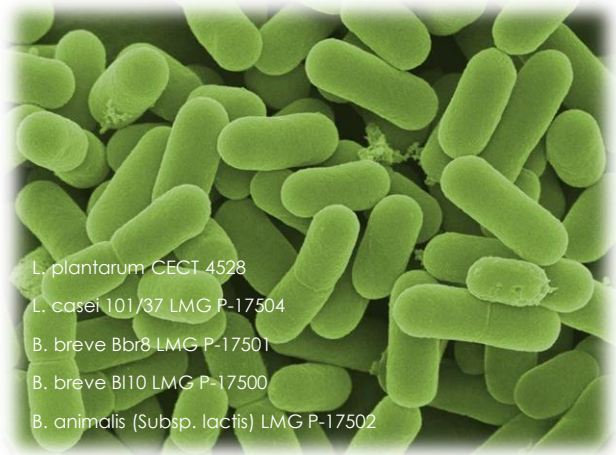
87 patients analysed (75%); end of study November 2014.

Improvement of defecation



Bristol Stool Chart

Tipo 1		Grumi duri separati tra loro, come noci (difficili da espellere)
Tipo 2		A forma di salsiccia, ma formata da grumi uniti tra loro
Tipo 3		Come un salame, ma con crepe sulla sua superficie
Tipo 4		Come una salsiccia o un serpente, liscia e morbida
Tipo 5		Pezzi separati morbidi con bordi come tagliati/spezzati; chiara (facile da evacuare)
Tipo 6		Pezzi soffici/flocculari con bordi frastagliati, feci pastose
Tipo 7		Acquosa, nessun pezzo solido Completamente liquida



L. plantarum CECT 4528

L. casei 101/37 LMG P-17504

B. breve Bbr8 LMG P-17501

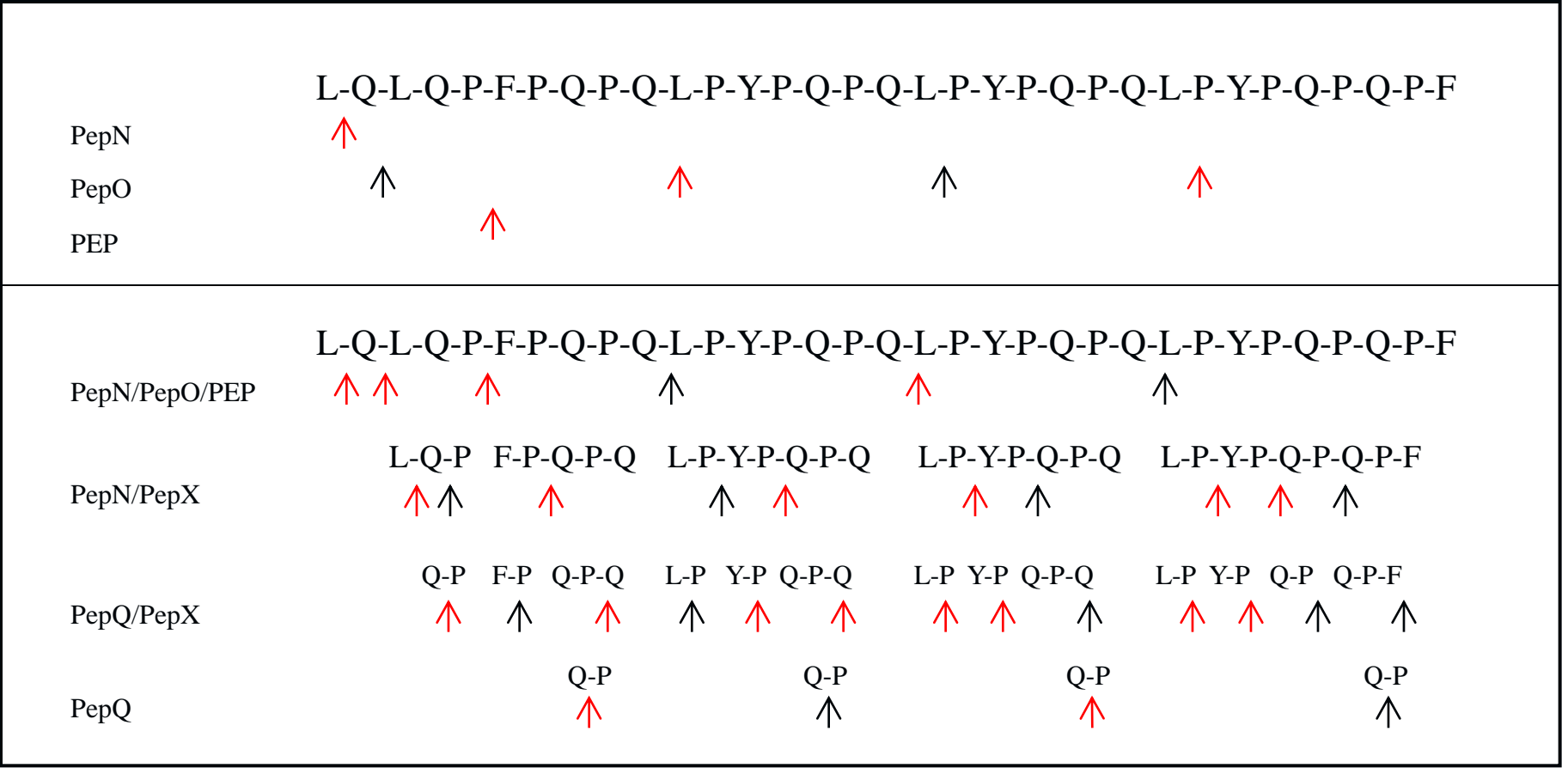
B. breve Bl10 LMG P-17500

B. animalis (Subsp. *lactis*) LMG P-17502

A 6-wk treatment with a probiotic mixture of 2 Lactobacilli and 3 Bifidobacteria provided effective symptom relief in celiac patients suffering of symptoms suggestive for IBS

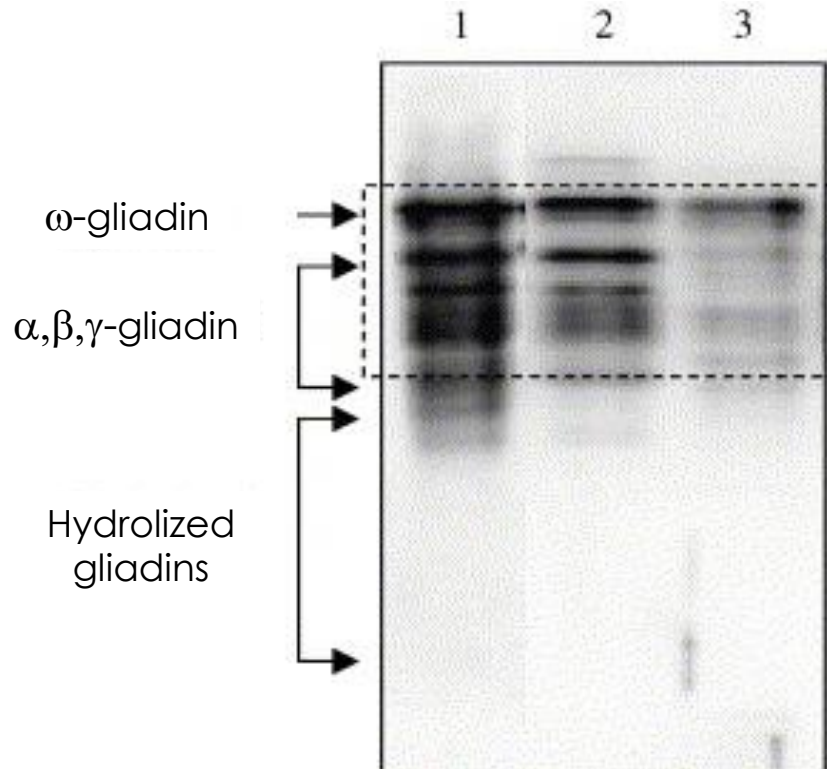
PROCEDO: effect on gliadin peptides

The probiotic combination has the ability to hydrolyze toxic gliadin polypeptides



PROCEDO: effect on gliadin peptides

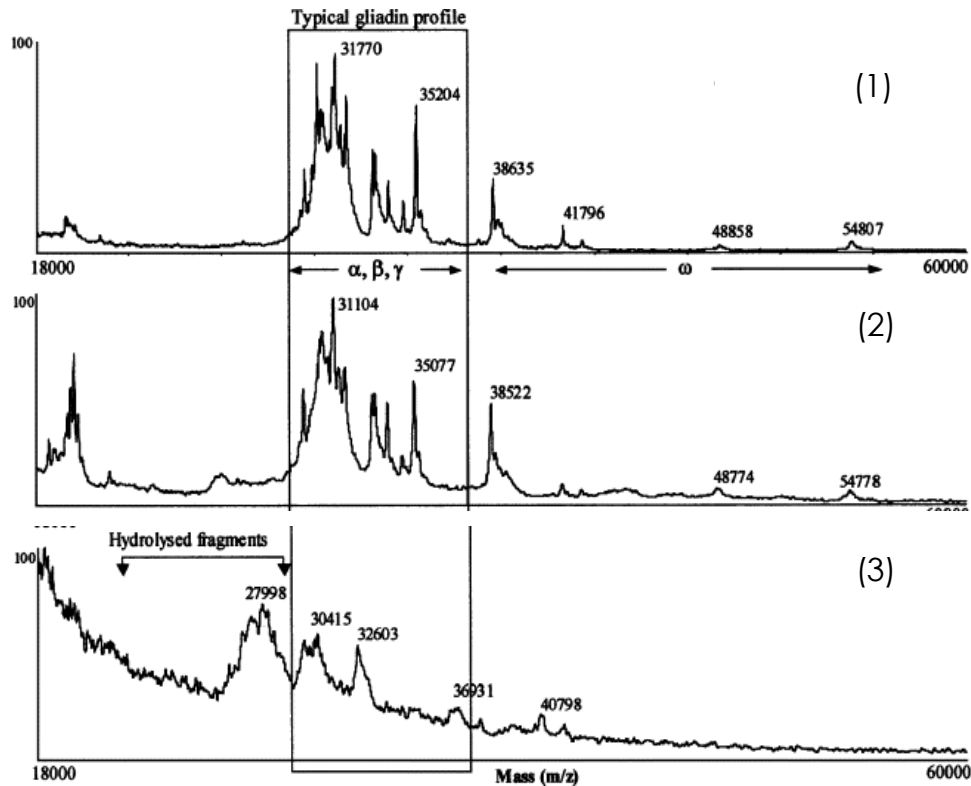
The probiotic combination has the ability to hydrolyze toxic gliadin polypeptides



Western blot/R5 analysis of:

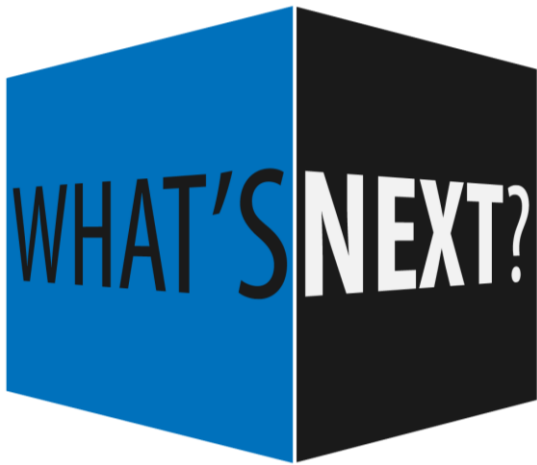
- 1) European gliadin reference
- 2) Dough (control)
- 3) Dough incubated for 24 h at 37 °C with the probiotic combination.

The probiotic combination has the ability to hydrolyze toxic gliadin polypeptides



MALDI-TOF mass spectra of aqueous ethanol extract of wheat gliadin:

- 1) European gliadin reference
- 2) Dough (control)
- 3) Dough incubated for 24 h at 37 ° C with the probiotic combination.



1. CD is characterized by a state of dysbiosis that do not completely reverse by GFD levels;
2. Bifidobacteria and lactobacilli are reduced in CD patients, and these bacteria can be considered a promising target for probiotic therapy at least to reduce GI symptoms that are common in this condition.
3. The identification of strains capable of producing enzymes that degrade gliadin peptides and induce anti-inflammatory effects needs to be studied.
4. Finally, studies including a larger sample size and involving international health and research centers would contribute to the design of common directions and guidelines for the use of probiotic and advance the knowledge regarding the importance of microbiota in CD.