

MU5BM560 - Systems immunologie

Microbiome and Immune systems interplay: examples in allergy & IgA deficiency

Martin LARSEN

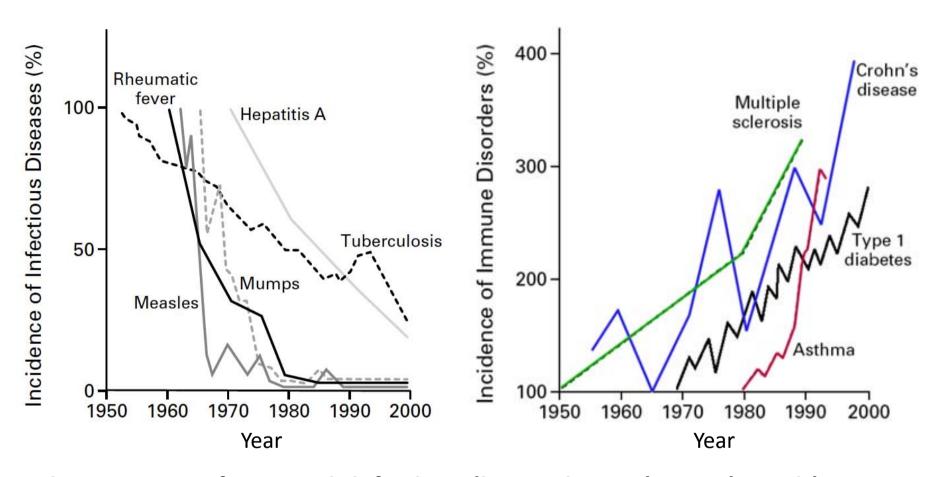
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Outline

- 1. Hygiene theory and environmental factors
- 2. The gut microbiota and our digestive system
- 3. Gut microbiota and host immunity
- 4. Gut microbiota in early life
- 5. Self-non-self versus the danger model.
- 6. Gut microbiota and its role in disease
- 7. Therapeutic applications

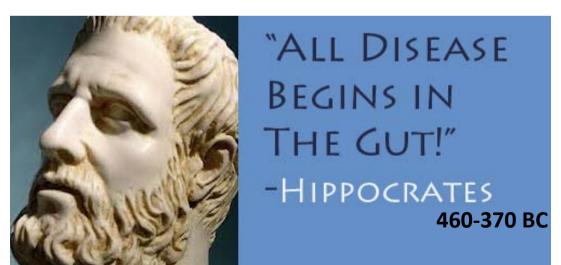
Hygiene theory and chronic inflammatory diseases

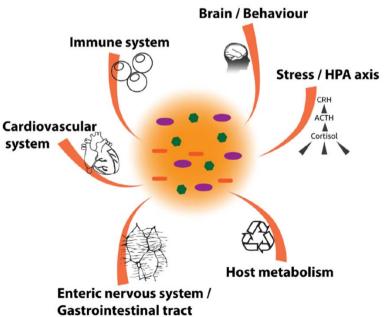


Disappearance of prototypic infectious diseases inversely correlate with occurrence of chronic inflammatory diseases.

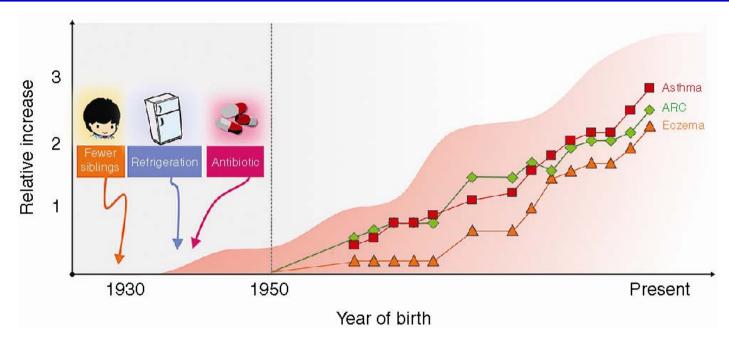
Hygiene theory and chronic inflammatory diseases

- ➤ Massive increase in prevalence of chronic inflammatory diseases in Westernized countries.
- ➤ Most chronic inflammatory diseases are attributed to both genetic predisposition and environmental factors
- Genetic drift over such a short period of time cannot explain increased incidence of disease
- > Westernized life-style has introduced several environmental risk factors, some of which may disturb the homeostatic balance of gut microbiota



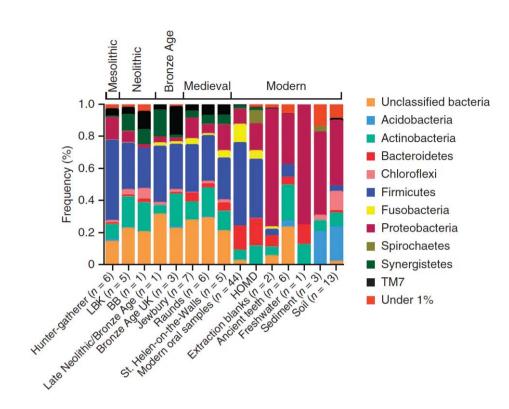


Lifestyle changes affecting Gut Microbiota



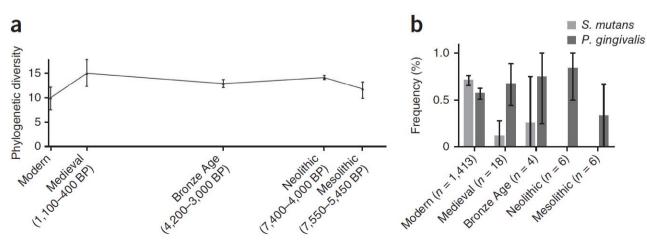
- Excessive antibiotic use, especially during early life (or even during pregnancy)
- > Shift towards more formula-fed babies
- > Shift towards greater numbers of babies born by Caesarean section
- > Western diet

Oral microbiota shifts through history of mankind

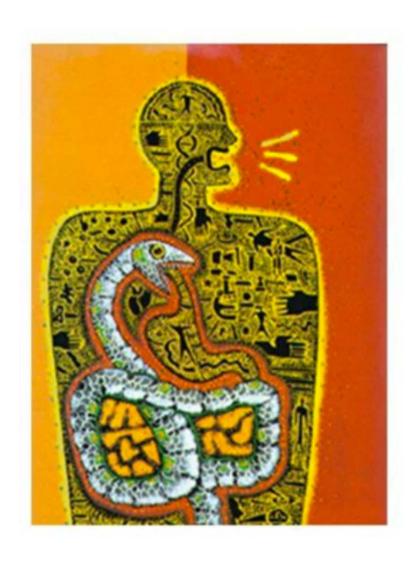


Two of the greatest dietary shifts in human evolution involved :

- Adoption of carbohydrate-rich
 Neolithic (farming) diets (beginning
 ~10,000 years before the present)
 - P. gingivalis augments.
- ➤ Industrially processed flour and sugar (in ~1850)
 - Streptococcus mutans augments (associated with carries).
- Reduced oral microbiota diversity in the modern human.

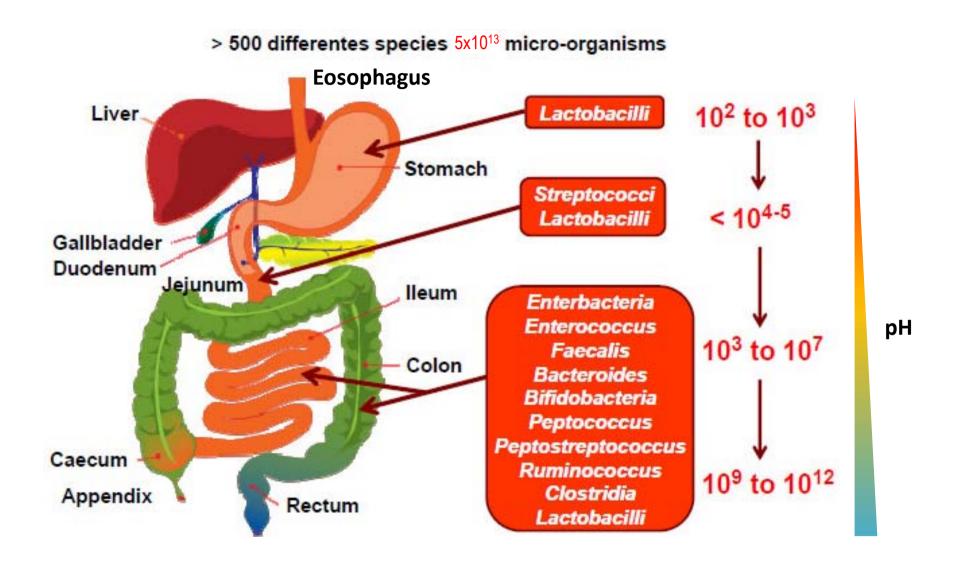


The human Gut and its inhabitants in numbers

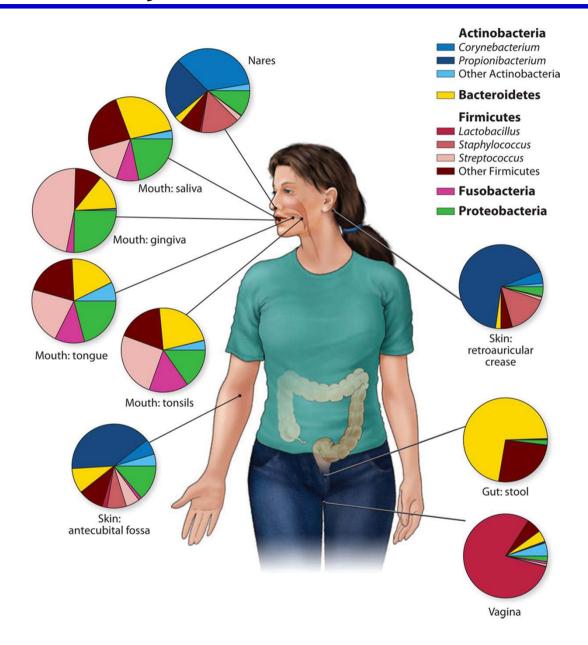


- ➤ 30 tons of food and 50.000 L during a lifetime
- ➤ Huge mucosal surface:150-200 m²
- >50 billions of new bacteria every day
- > 70-80% of all immune cells are located in the Gut.
- ➤ 1-2g secretory IgA per day
- ➤ 100 millions of neurons (as many as in the spinal cord).
- > $5x10^{13}$ bacteria (i.e. 1-2 kg) \approx number of cells in the entire body.
- ➤ 100 times more bacterial genes than human genes.

Spatial distribution of gut microbiota



Human body sites harbor distinct microbiota

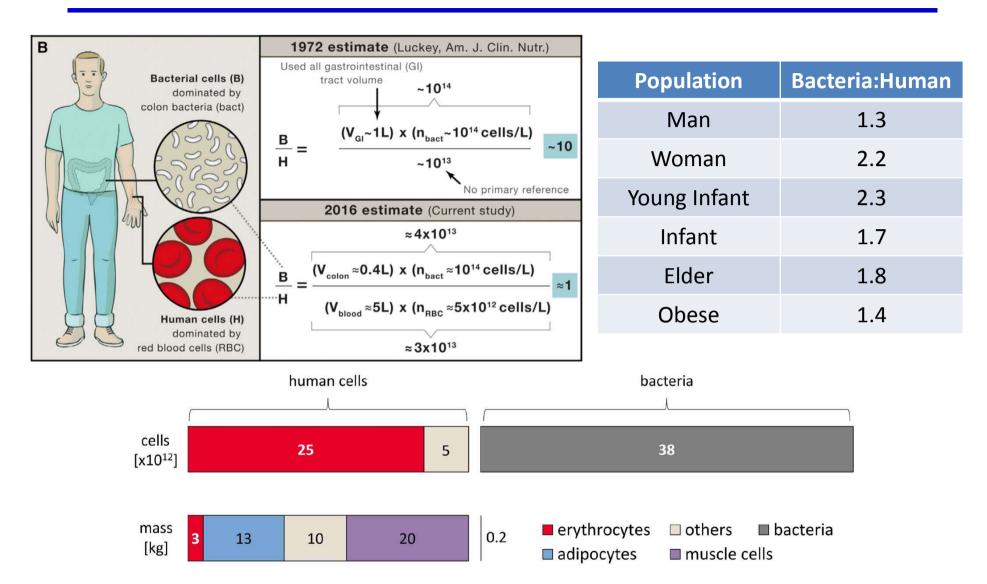


The digestive system - A trip through the GI tract



- Mouth (cheewing + saliva containing enzymes)
- > Eosophage
- > Stomach (very acidic, proteases, few microbes)
- > Small intestine (somewhat acidic, microbes (degrade otherwise none-degradable plant fibers).
- Large intestine (Final digestion and return of water to host)
- > You all know what happens then......COLLECTION TIME!

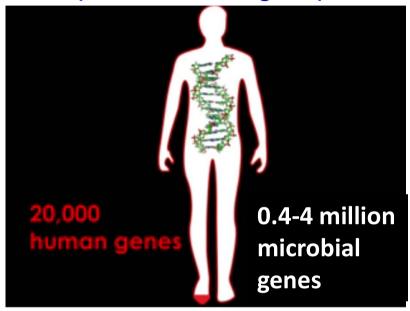
We are outnumbered and outsmarted



Of note, only takes into account the colon, but demonstrate that the colon contains 98% of all our commensal bacteria.

We are outnumbered and outsmarted

Outsmarted (20-200 fold more genes)



Each bacterial species has its own genomic DNA (all human cells have almost identical genomic DNA).

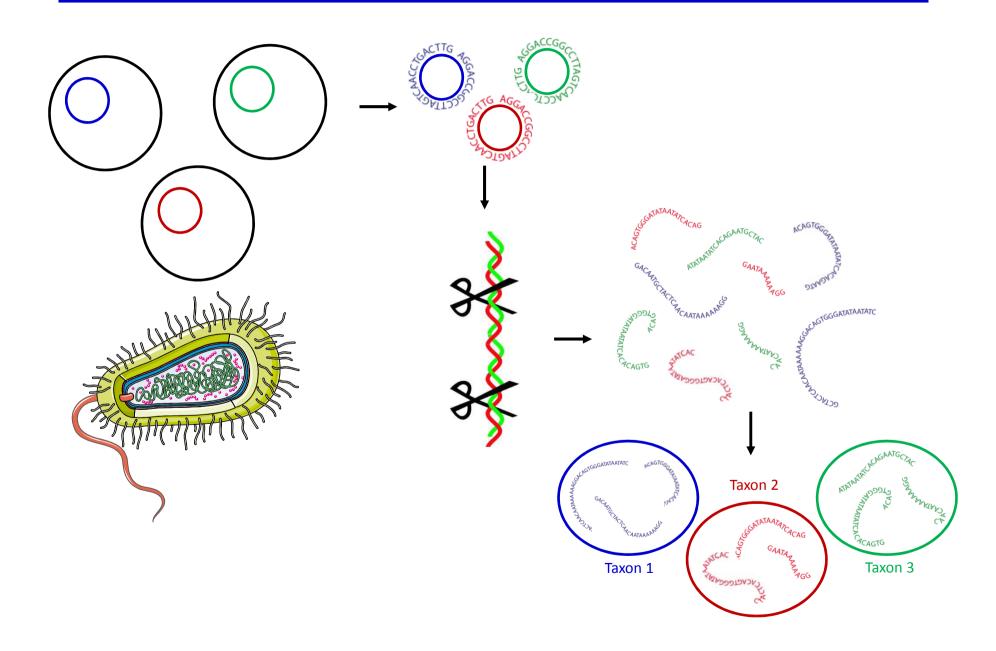
Bacterial genome (2-10x10⁶ bps) versus human genome (3x10⁹ bps)

Bacterial DNA is much more compact than human DNA in terms of gene content.

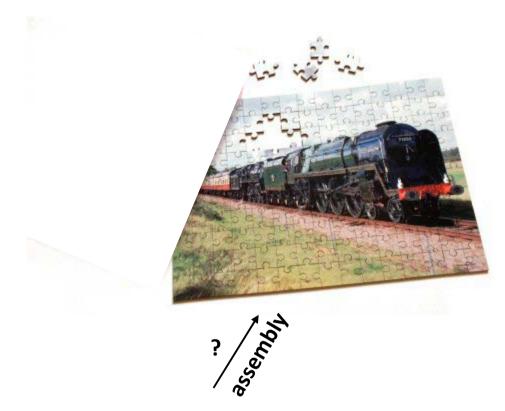
How to study the gut microbiota

- > Culture dependent (classic microbiology aerobiosis/anaerobiosis, medium)
 - Microscopy
 - Metabolism of substrates
 - > Co-culture with host cells (epithelium, immune cells etc.)
 - Genetic modifications
 - > Select single-cell culture strain isolation (FACS)
 - Antibody titers to microbes (ELISA, flow cytometry)
- > Culture independent
 - Mass spectrometry
 - Flow cytometry (FISH, immuno-microbiota)
 - Metabolomics
 - Metagenomics (microbiome and immuno-microbiome)
 - > Metatranscriptomics

Next Generation Sequencing - like reading a threaded book



Microbial whole genome sequencing

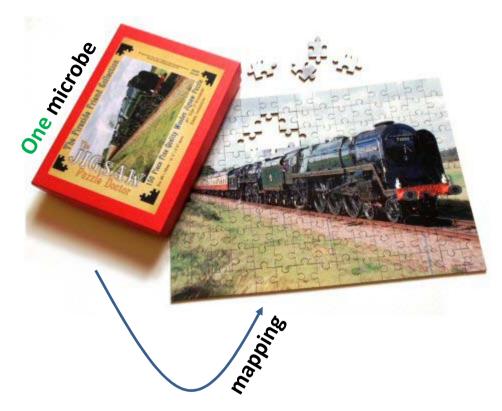


One microbe is fully sequenced and assembled.



One microbial genome puzzle

Microbial whole genome sequencing

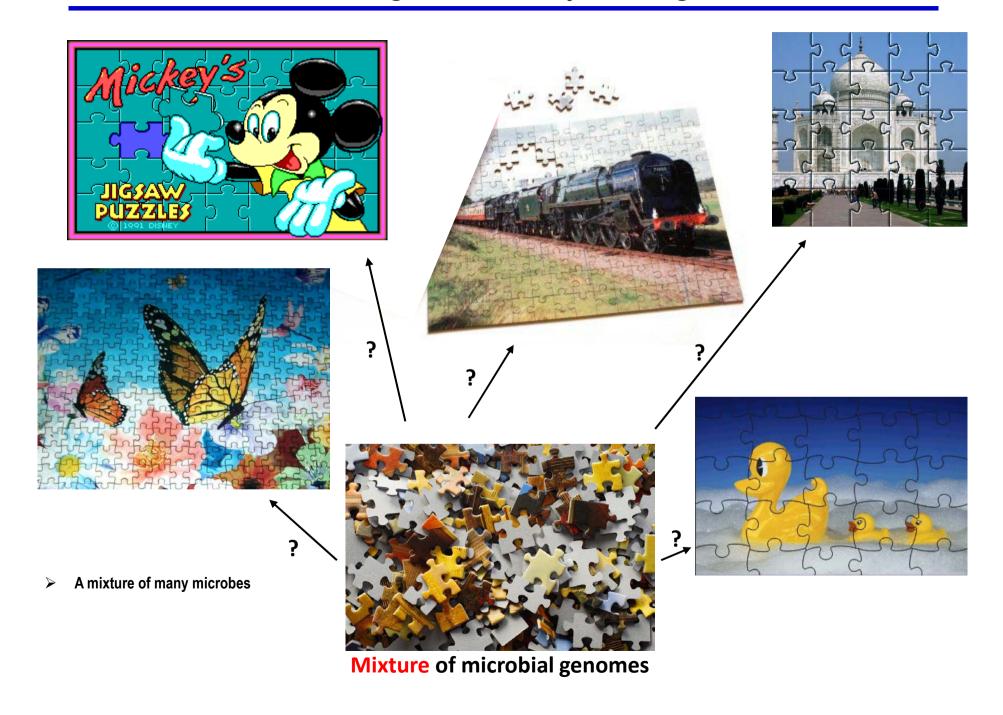


Using the reference lid jigsaw genes derived from the reference may be identified.

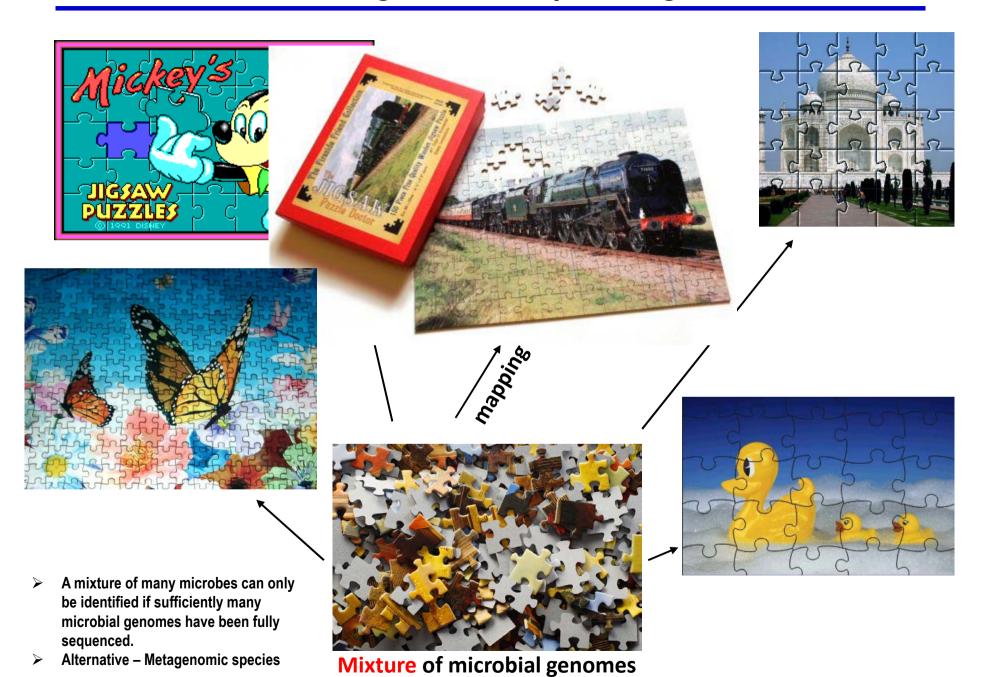


One microbial genome puzzle

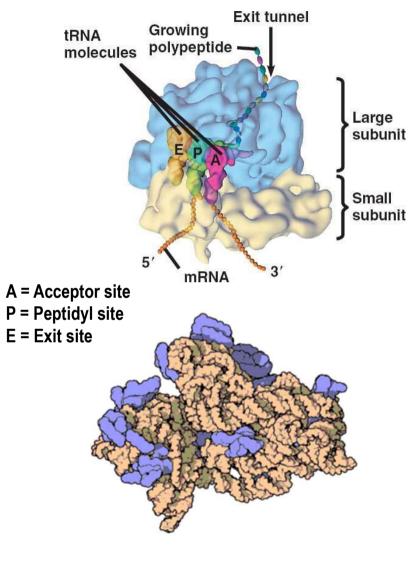
Metagenomic sequencing



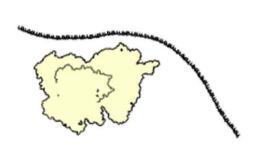
Metagenomic sequencing



16S rRNA sequencing



- 16S rRNA in orange
- Associated protein subunits in blue



Protein synthesis in the

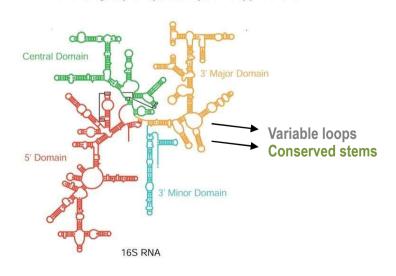
- 1. Cytosol
- 2. Endoplasmic reticulum ER-docking via signalrecognition particle

16S rRNA primary and secondary structures

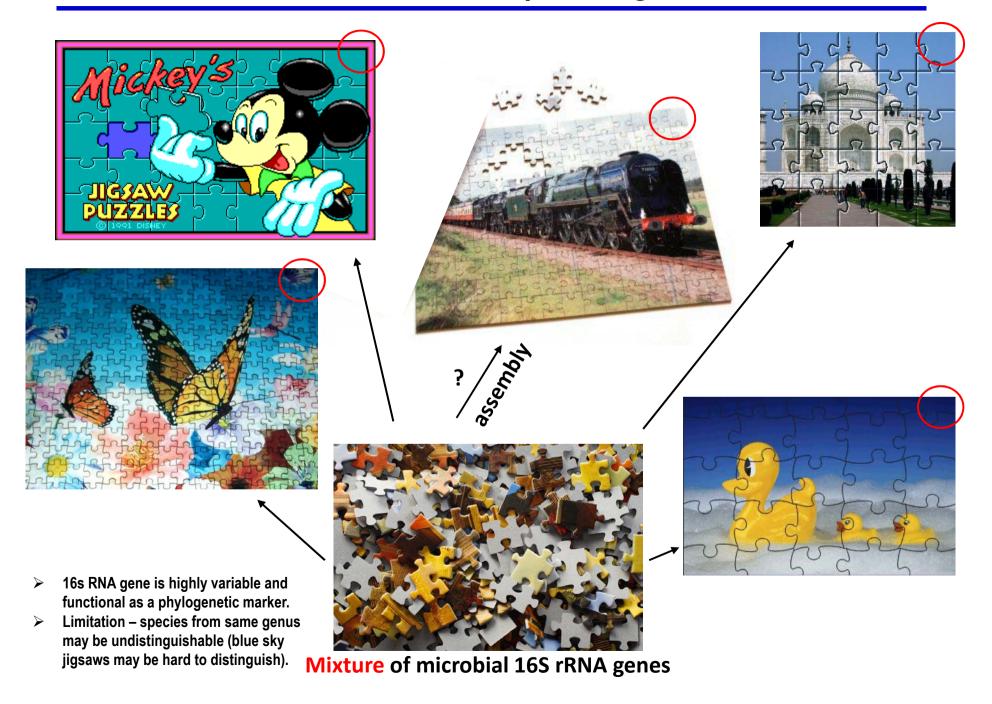


CONSERVED REGIONS: unspecific applications

VARIABLE REGIONS: group or species-specific applications

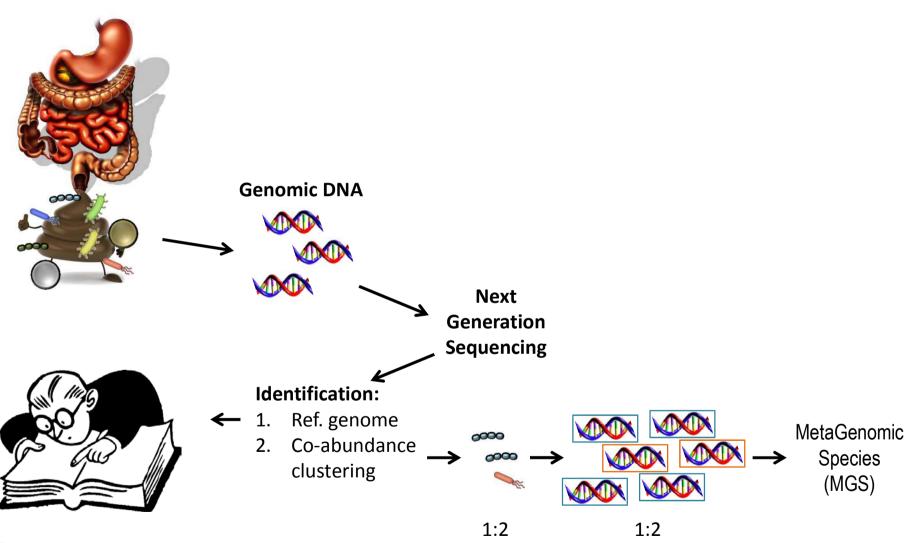


16S rRNA sequencing



Big data in Microbiology

Intestinal tract

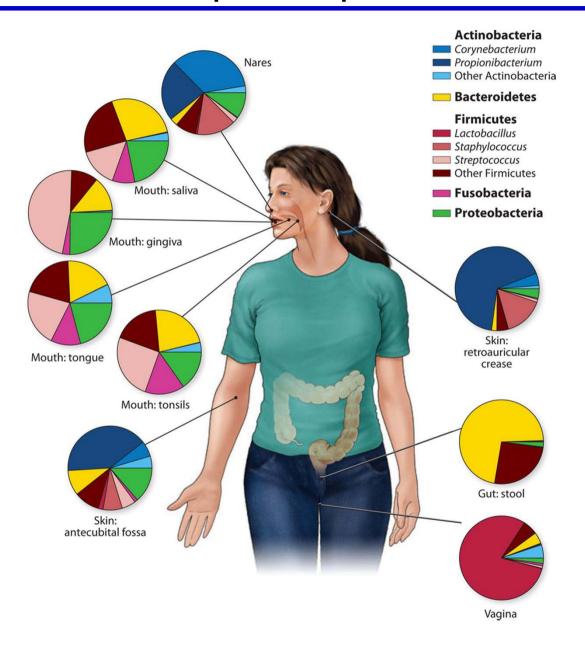


16S rRNA: Pruesse et al. NAR 2007 (www.arb-silva.de)

Metagenomics: Qin et al. Nature 2010

Nielsen et al. Nat Biotech 2014

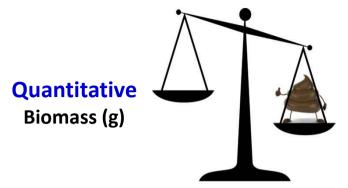
How to describe and compare complex microbiota compositions



Alpha-diversity

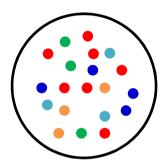


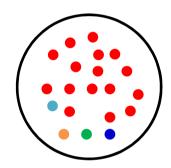
Alpha-diversity

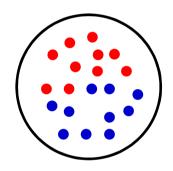


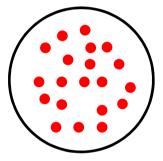
- > A community's biodiversity correlates with it's size and location
- Ecologists measure biodiversity as heterogeneity, which considers both diversity factors: richness and relative abundance.
- > $H = -\sum_{i=1}^{k} p_i log(p_i)$; p=abundance > $E_H = \frac{H}{log(k)}$; [Normalized]

Qualitative Richness Diversity







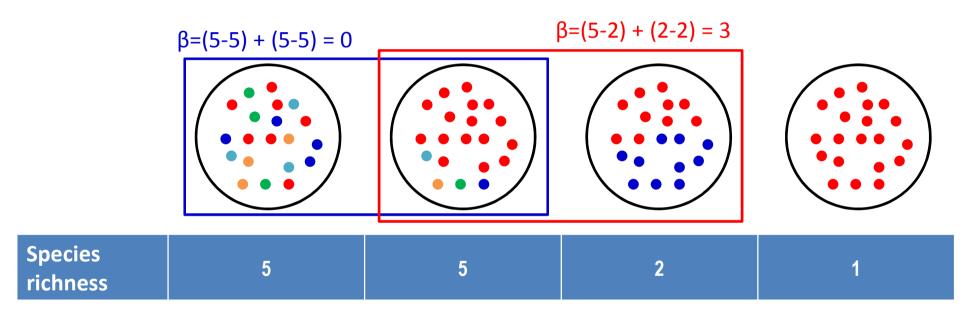


Species richness	5	5	2	1
Shannon	p _i =1/5	$p_{red} \sim 1 p_{NOT red} \sim 0$	p _i =1/2	p ₁ =1
entropy	H=log(5)	H= ~0	H=log(2)	H=0
[normalized]	[E _H =1]	[E _H = ~0]	[E _H =1]	[E _H =0]

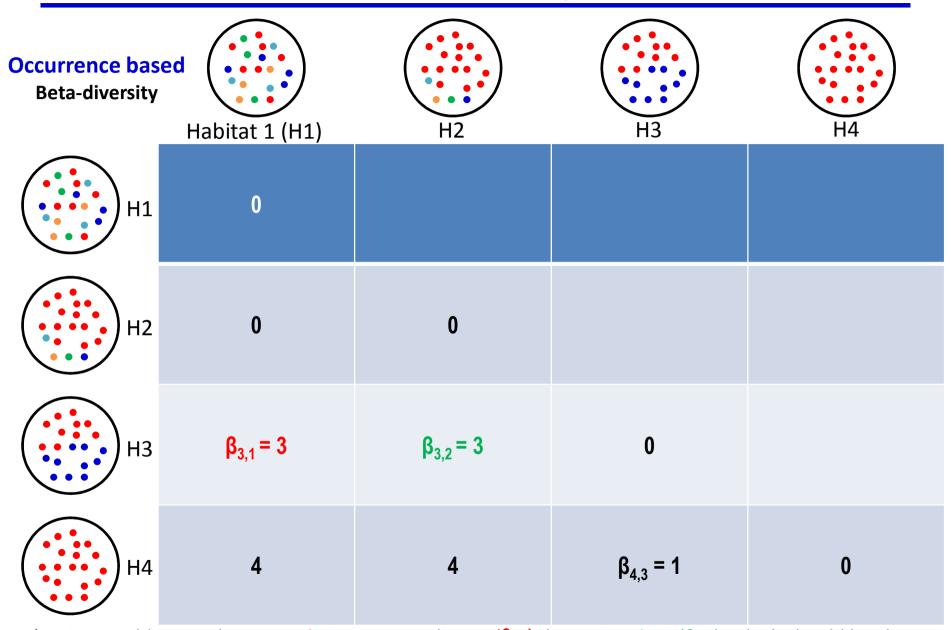
- Scores of alpha-diversity: Richness, Shannon, Simpson, Chao1 and Chao2
- Chao1 and Chao2 often used in microbiota research. Used when certain species are rare (based on expected rather than observed number of species in a sample).



- \succ Total species diversity (γ) is determined by the mean species diversity of a habitat (α) plus the differentiation among habitats (β). Robert Whittaker, 1960
- > Pair-wise beta-diversity is measured as similarity or dissimilarity between two samples.
- > Beta-diversity is also referred to as species turn-over.
- \triangleright Absolute species turn-over: $\beta = (R_1 c_{12}) + (R_2 c_{12})$, R=Richness, c=common species



- Absolute species turn-over is problematic when working with rare species, whose occurrence is associated with random sampling efficiency. Abundance based measures are therefore more appropriate for microbiota work.
- > Scores of beta-diversity:
- > Occurrence based: Absolute species turn-over, Whittaker species turn-over (special case of Sørensen similarity index) and Proportional species turn-over (Jaccard similarity index).
- ➤ Abundance based: Bray—Curtis dissimilarity index, Morisita-Horn overlap index.

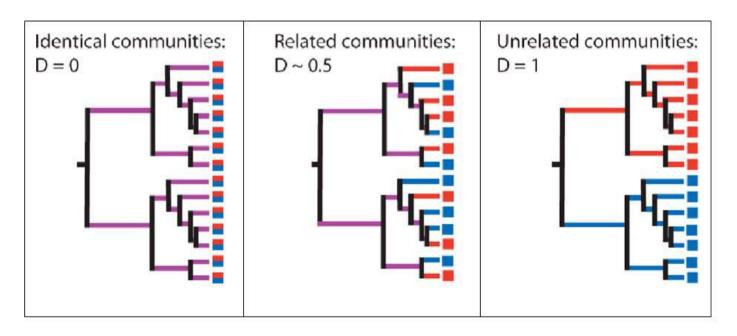


 $[\]triangleright$ One could argue that H1 and H3 are more distant ($\beta_{3,1}$) than H2 and H3 ($\beta_{3,2}$), which should be closer to $\beta_{4,3}$. This would be better represented by an abundance based beta diversity.

- Classic beta-diversity measures consider all genetically different species equally different (*E. coli* and *K. pneumoniae* (both Proteobacteria) are as different as *E. coli* and *B. longum* (Actinobacteria)).
- > Species from same phylum, class, order, family or genus are more phylogenetically similar than unrelated bacteria.
- Solution: UniFrac

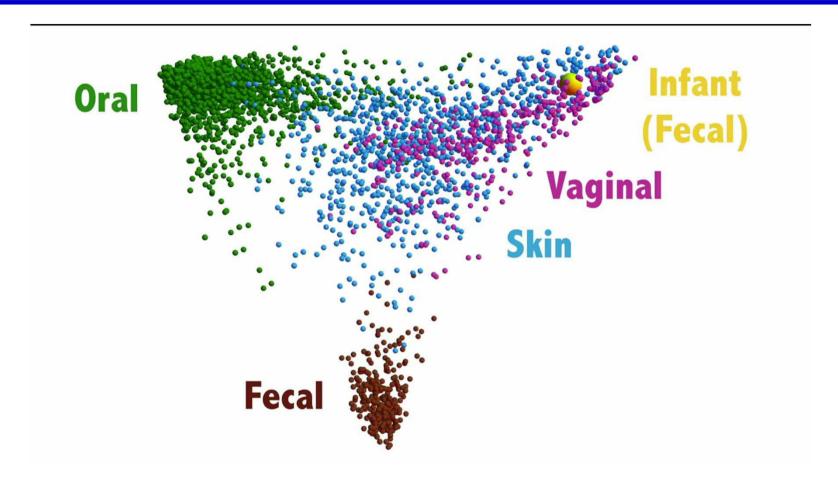
Unique Fraction (UniFrac) metric

- Qualitative phylogenetic β diversity.
- Distance = fraction of the total branch length that is unique to any particular environment.

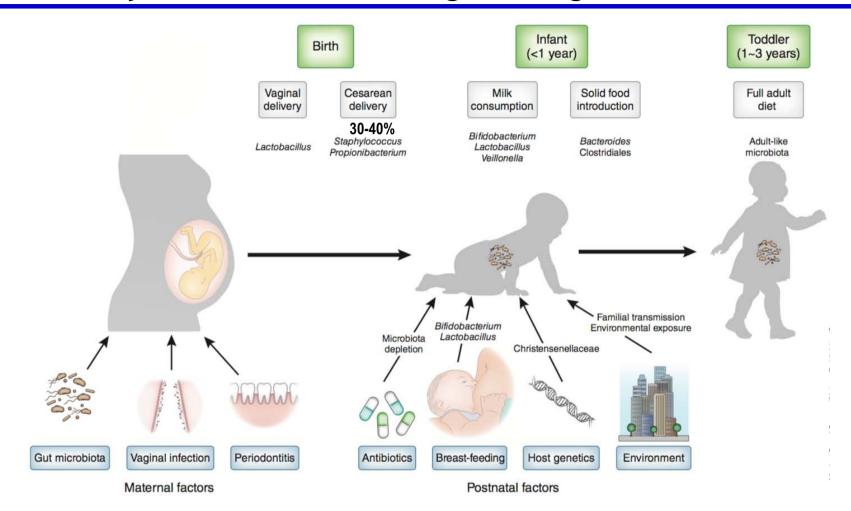


Lozupone and Knight, 2005, Appl Environ Microbiol 71:8228

Gut microbiota maturation during first 2 years of life

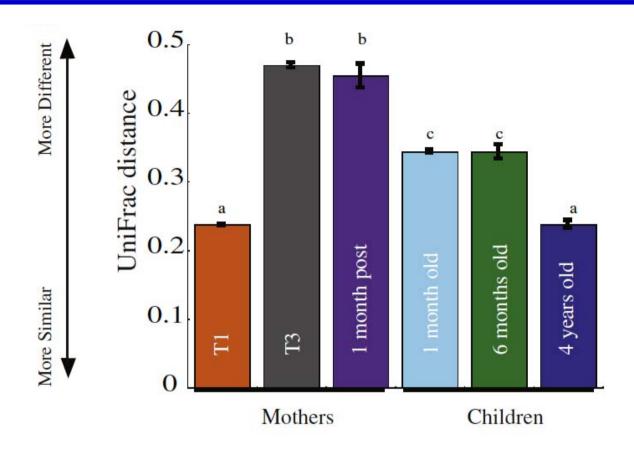


Early-life factors affecting infant gut microbiota



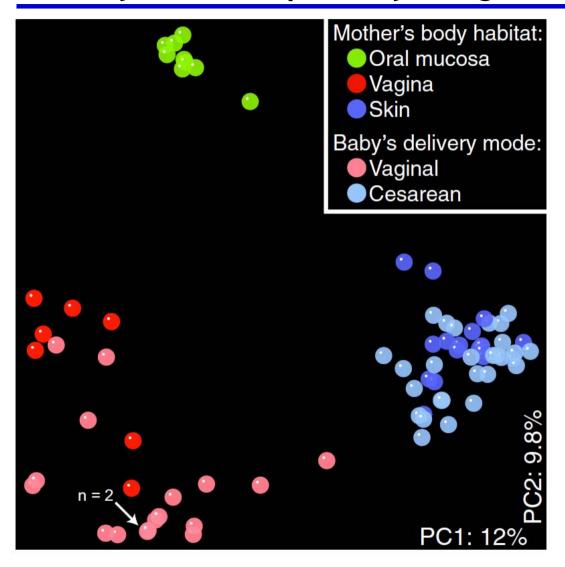
Both maternal and environmental factors influence early-life gut microbiota colonization.

Microbiota alterations during pregnancy and early life



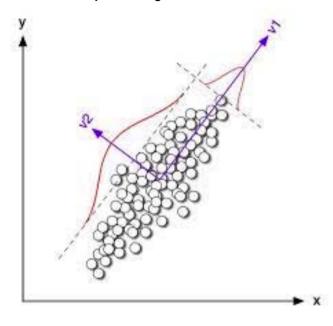
- ➤ Maternal microbiota changes between 1st and 3rd trimester and remains altered until at least 1 month post birth.
- Infant microbiota is different from initial T1 maternal gut microbiota.
- > Children approaches the maternal microbiota at 4 years of age.

Delivery mode shape early life gut microbiote colonization



Principal component analysis

Define axis representing maximal data variance!!

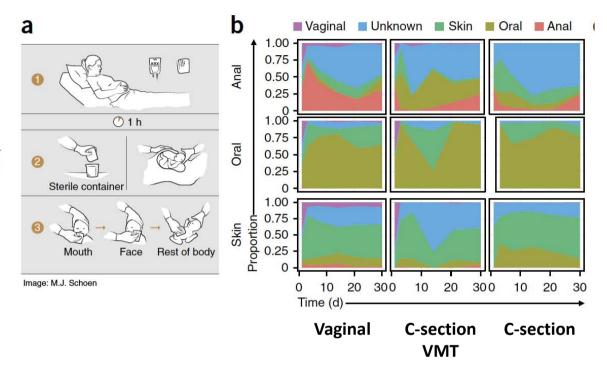


Vaginal Microbial Transfer (VMT) rescue microbiota post c-section.



Partial restoration of the microbiota of cesarean-born infants via vaginal microbial transfer

Maria G Dominguez-Bello^{1,2}, Kassandra M De Jesus-Laboy², Nan Shen³, Laura M Cox¹, Amnon Amir⁴, Antonio Gonzalez⁴, Nicholas A Bokulich¹, Se Jin Song^{4,5}, Marina Hoashi^{1,6}, Juana I Rivera-Vinas⁷, Keimari Mendez⁷, Rob Knight^{4,8} & Jose C Clemente^{3,9}



- > Vaginal Microbial Transfer (VMT) partly rescue gut microbiota composition of children born by C-section.
- Would primarily be maternal vaginal microbiota (mother/baby paired).
- However, in the case of mothers treated with antibiotics (such as HIV infected mothers) allogenic microbiota may be of interest even for children born vaginally.

4 infants received VMT 1 x VMT right after birth (bacterial numbers unknown)

Fecal Microbial Transfer (FMT) rescue microbiota post c-section.

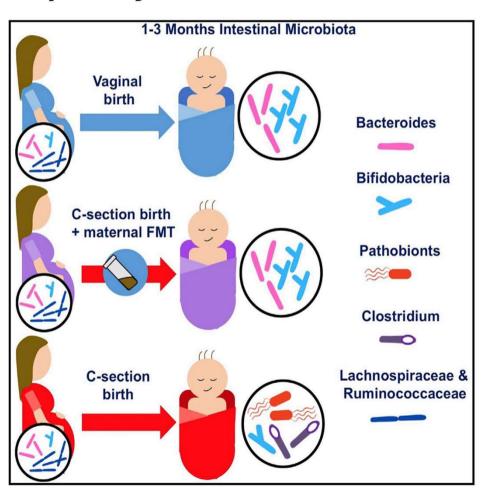
Cell

Article

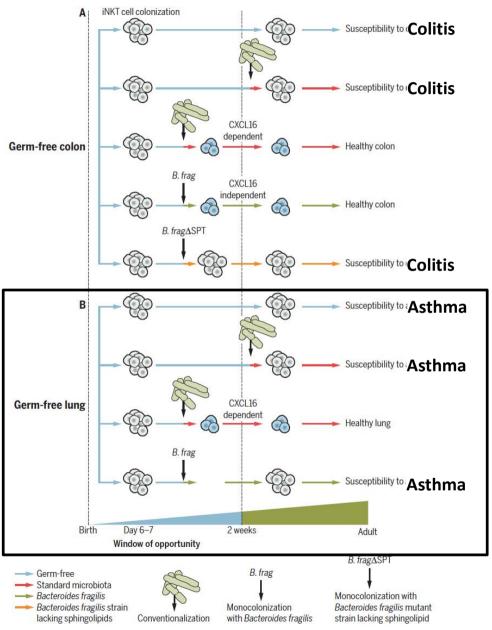
Maternal Fecal Microbiota Transplantation in Cesarean-Born Infants Rapidly Restores Normal Gut Microbial Development: A Proof-of-Concept Study

- Fecal microbiota development of newborns is dependent on the mode of delivery
- ➤ The development in cesarean section-born infants deviates from that of vaginally born infants
- This deviation can be prevented by fecal microbiota transplantation from the mother (T3 feces; collected 3 weeks prior to delivery)
- ➤ Transplanted cesarean section-born infants show normal fecal microbiota development at 1-3 months of age.

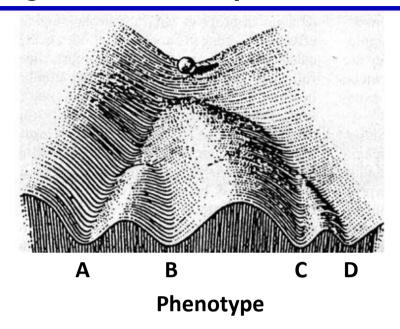
7 infants received FMT (1 time $3.5 \text{mg} = 10^6 - 10^7 \text{ bacteria}$)



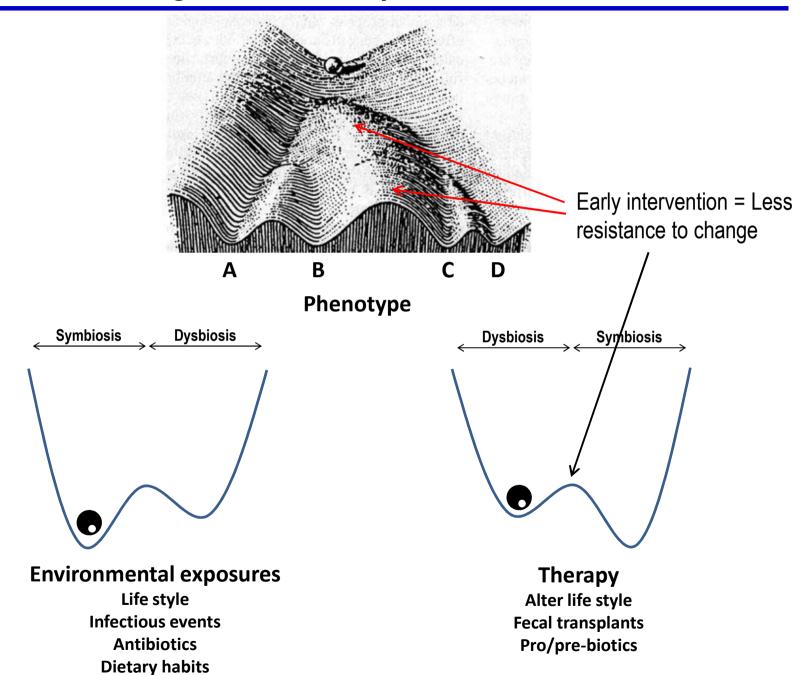
Primo-colonization - window of opportunity



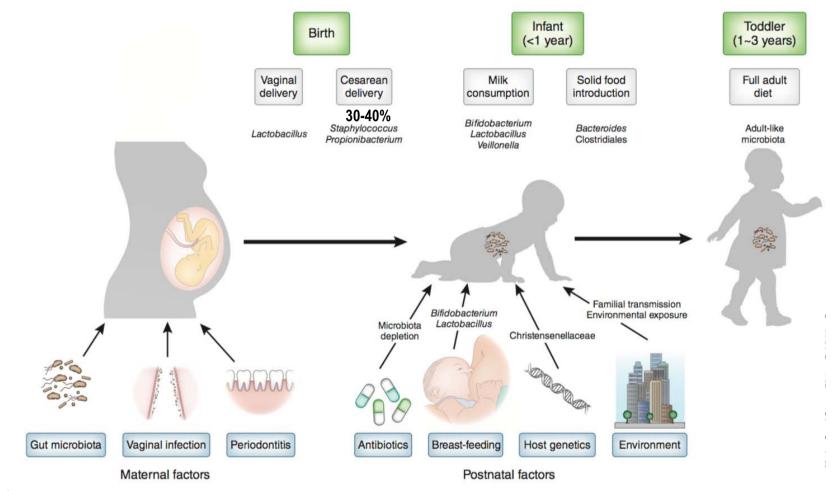
Waddington's landscape & intervention



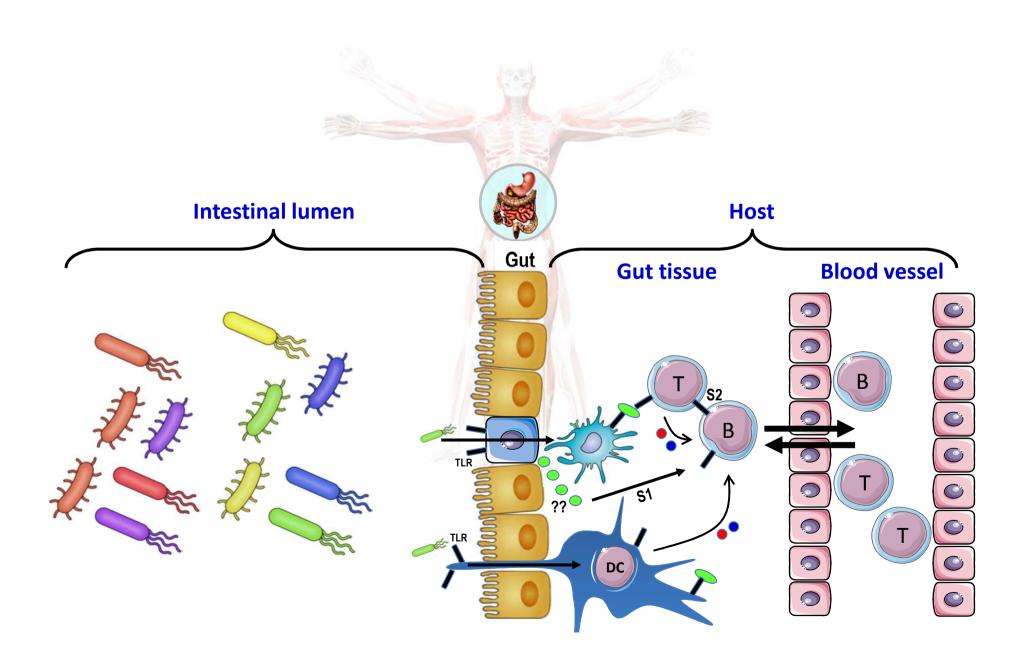
Waddington's landscape & intervention

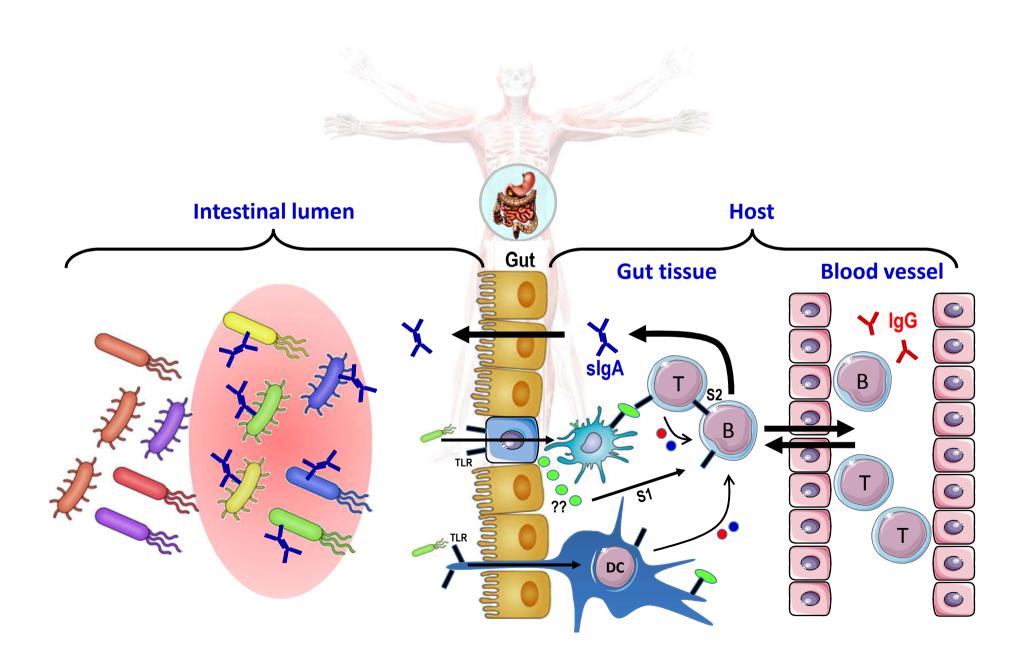


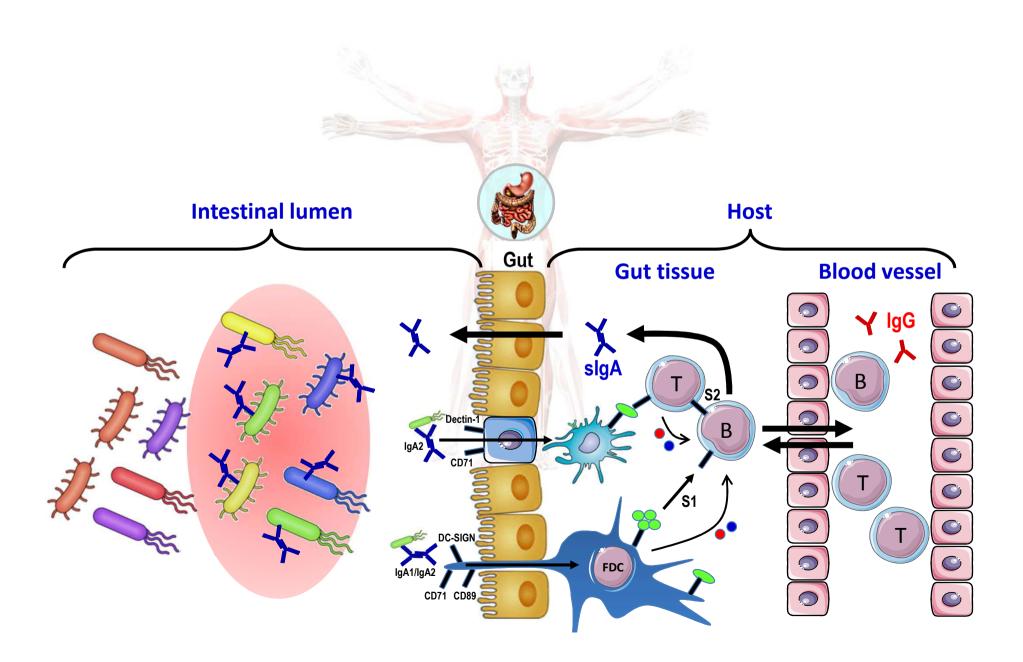
Early-life factors affect infant gut microbiota temporarily



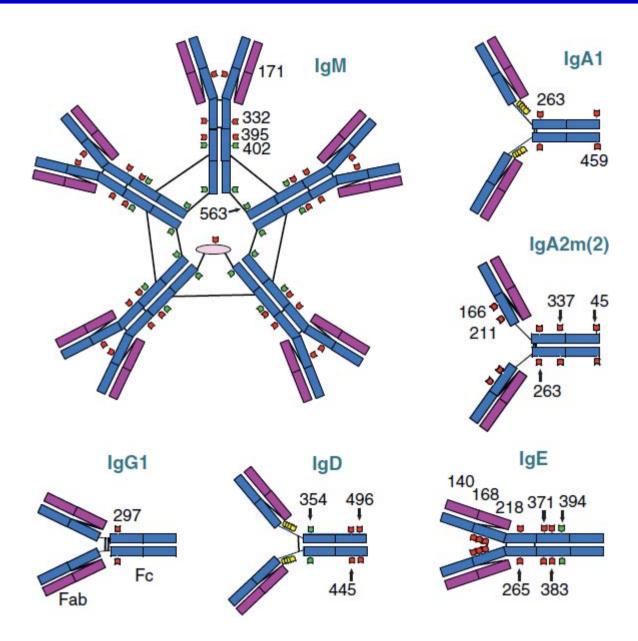
- ➤ But at 1-3 years of age the child acquires an adult like gut microbiota, independent of birth route and breastfeeding.
- ➤ If global gut microbiota is unaltered, but disease risk elevated what can be the cause.
 - Minor persistent alterations in gut microbiota?
 - Long-term immunological memory to gut microbiota? Etc.



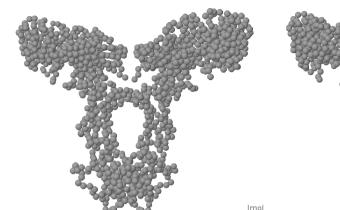


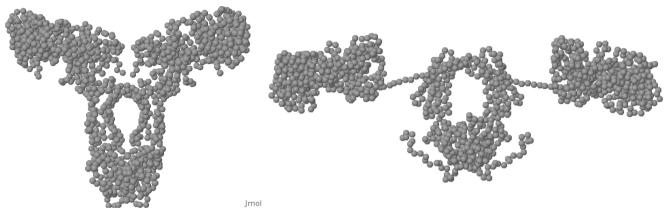


Antibody characteristics



Antibody characteristics





IgG

Small mammals Higher monkeys

Y-shape Sensitive to proteases

Non-Secretory

IgA2

Small mammals Higher monkeys

Y-shape Non-Sensitive to proteases

Secretory: non-planar (fab fragment not aligned with Fc portion)

Binds to Peyer's Patch M cells to undergo transcytosis thereby delivering antigens to GALT Mantis NJ *et al.* JI 2002 IgA1

Not found in Small mammals Higher monkeys

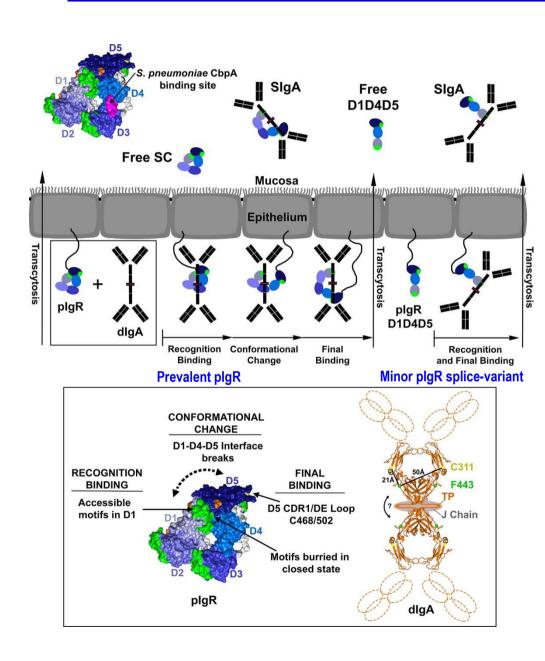
T-shape Less-Sensitive to proteases

Secretory: planar (fab fragments aligned with Fc portion

No binding to Peyer's Patch M cells. Warning! Assay used mouse M cells.

Rochereau N et al. PLoS Biol 2013

Poly Ig Receptor (pIgR), Secretory component (SC) and pIgs



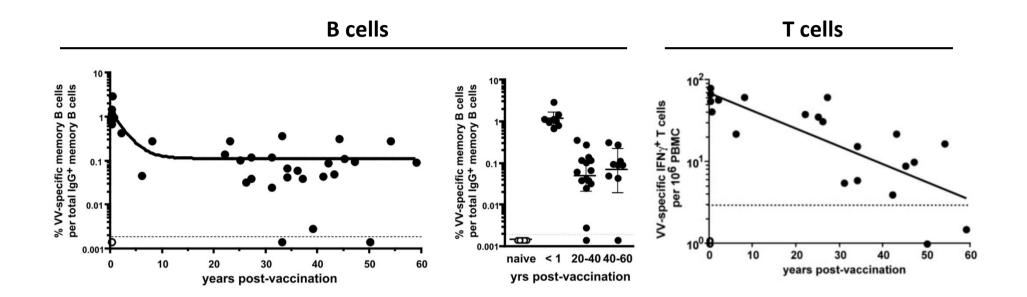
Human plgR:

- Glycosylated type I membrane protein
- Five tandem immunoglobulin-like (Iglike) domains (620AA)
- Transmembrane domain (23AA)
- Intracellular domain (103AA)

plgR in evolution

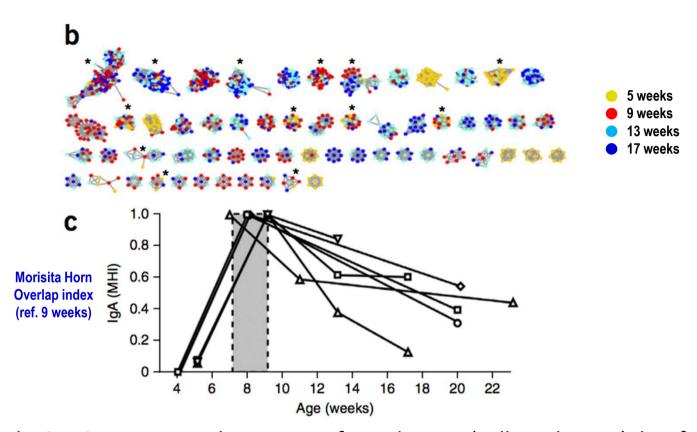
- Oldest identifiable Fc receptor,
- Teleost (bony) fish (2 Ig-like domains)
- Birds, amphibians and reptiles (4 Ig-like domains)
- Mammals (5 Ig-like domains (D1-D5)) plus a splice variant (D1D4D5)

Temporal changes of antibody immunity



- ➤ B cell retraction phase is followed by long-term (+50 years) stable maintenance of B cell memory.
- > T cells continue to retract, but remain detectable for more than 50 years.

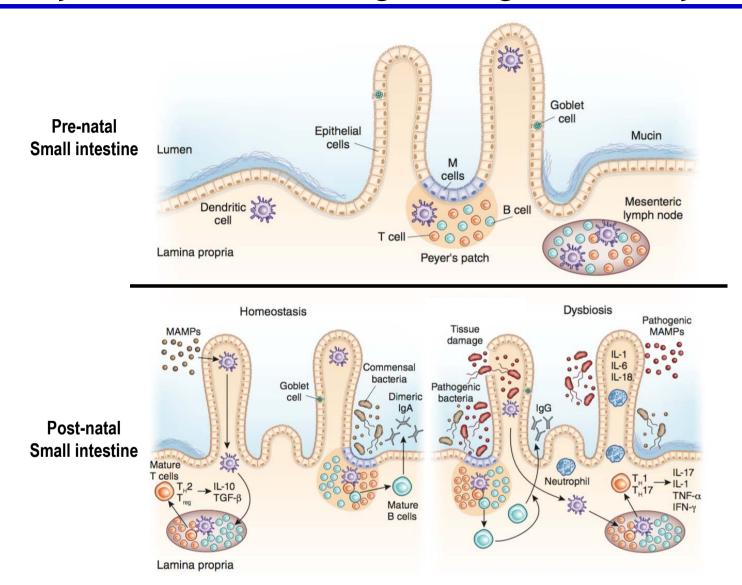
Temporal changes of antibody immunity



- ➤ 5 weeks CDR3 sequences cluster apart from the rest (yellow clusters), but from 9 weeks forward mice tend to have persisting CDR3 sequences in their IgA B cell repertoire (multi-color mixed clusters).
- ➤ The Morisita-Horn Overlap Index (MHI) equally shows more overlap between 9 weeks and later time points compared with earlier time points.
- > Antibody repertoire is inprinted during a short time frame in early life.

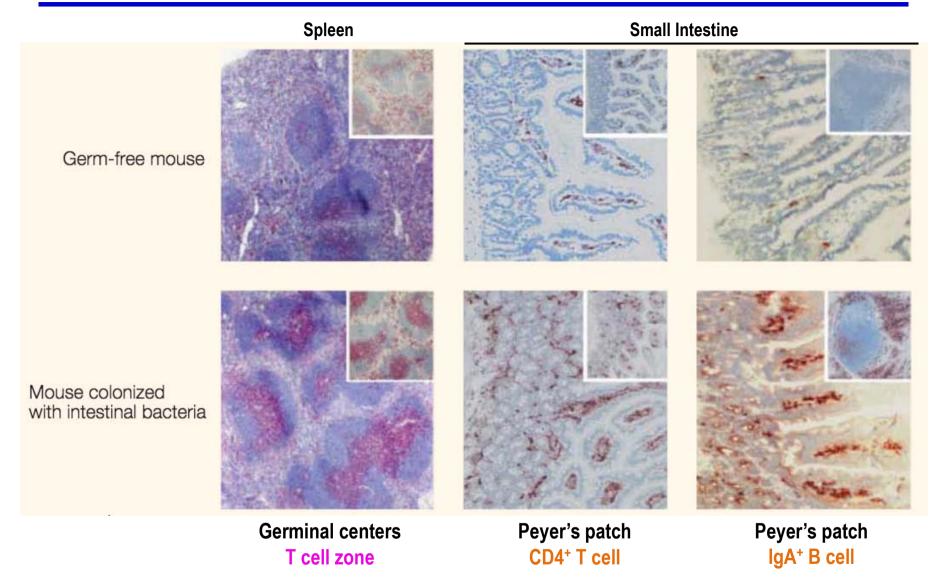
What happens to immunity?

Early-life factors affecting infant gut immunity and health



➤ Of note, Pre-natal Peyer's patches are still fairly unstructured with weak definition of B and T cell zones of the lymphoid follicle.

Lymphoid structures and immune cells in GF mice



- > Spleen with few germinal centres and poorly formed T cell (pink) and B cell zones.
- ➤ Germ-free mice display hypoplastic Peyer's patches, with reduced T cell numbers and IgA-expressing B cells.

 Macpherson et al. Nat Rev. Immunol 2004

Temporal changes of antibody immunity

TABLE 12-12 · LEVELS OF IMMUNOGLOBULINS IN SERA OF NORMAL SUBJECTS BY AGE*

Age	IgG		IgM		lgA		Total Immunoglobulin	
	mg/dl	% of Adult Level	mg/dl	% of Adult Level	mg/dl	% of Adult Level	mg/dl	% of Adult Level
Newborn	1031 ± 200†	89 ± 17	11 ± 5	1.1 ± 5	2 ± 3	1 ± 2	1044 ± 201	67 ± 13
1-3 mo	430 ± 119	37 ± 10	30 ± 11	30 ± 11	21 ± 13	11 ± 7	481 ± 127	31 ± 9
4-6 mo	427 ± 186	37 ± 16	43 ± 17	43 ± 17	28 ± 18	14 ± 9	498 ± 204	32 ± 13
7-12 mo	661 ± 219	58 ± 19	54 ± 23	55 ± 23	37 ± 18	19 ± 9	752 ± 242	48 ± 15
13-24 mo	762 ± 209	66 ± 18	58 ± 23	59 ± 23	50 ± 24	25 ± 12	870 ± 258	56 ± 16
25-36 mo	892 ± 183	77 ± 16	61 ± 19	62 ± 19	71 ± 37	36 ± 19	1024 ± 205	65 ± 14
3-5 yr	929 ± 228	80 ± 20	56 ± 18	57 ± 18	93 ± 27	47 ± 14	1078 ± 245	69 ± 17
6-8 yr	923 ± 256	20 ± 22	65 ± 25	66 ± 25	124 ± 45	62 ± 23	1112 ± 293	71 ± 20
9-11 yr	1124 ± 235	97 ± 20	79 ± 33	80 ± 33	131 ± 60	66 ± 30	1334 ± 254	85 ± 17
12-16 yr	946 ± 124	82 ± 11	59 ± 20	60 ± 20	148 ± 63	74 ± 32	1153 ± 169	74 ± 12
Adults	1158 ± 305	100 ± 26	99 ± 27	100 ± 27	200 ± 61	100 ± 31	1457 ± 353	100 ± 24

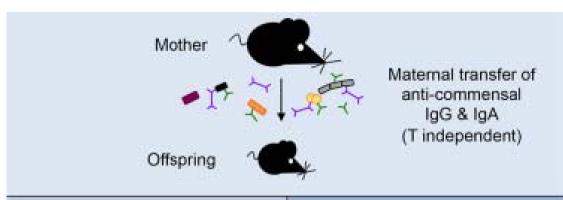
^{*}The values were divided from measurements made in 296 healthy children and 30 adults. Levels were determined by the radial diffusion technique using specific rabbit antisera to human immunoglobulins.

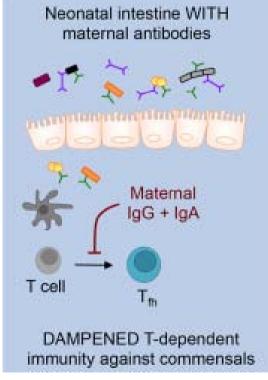
From Stiehm ER, Fudenberg HH. Serum levels of immune globulins in health and disease. A survey. Pediatrics 37:715, 1966.

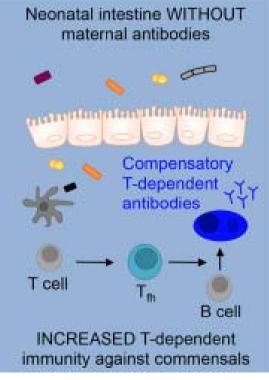
- > We are born with maternal IgG antibodies circulating our blood stream.
- > IgM and IgA **serum** antibodies are virtually absent at birth and slowly increases during childhood.
- > Intestinal antibodies are provided through breastfeeding.

[†]One standard deviation.

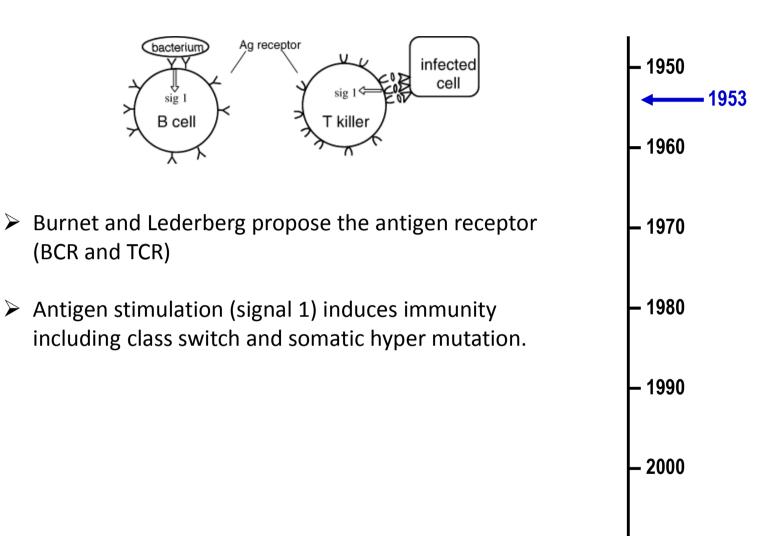
Maternal antibodies dampen offspring immunity

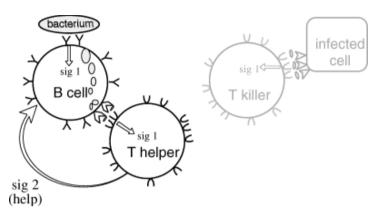






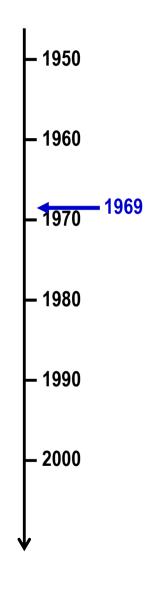
- ➤ T-independent production of IgG specific for mucosal bacteria.
- Gut microbes elicit anticommensal IgG antibodies via TLR signalling on B cells
- Maternal transmission of IgG coordinates with IgA to limit mucosal T cell responses
- Absence of maternal antibodies triggers a compensatory T-dependent immune response in the offspring.

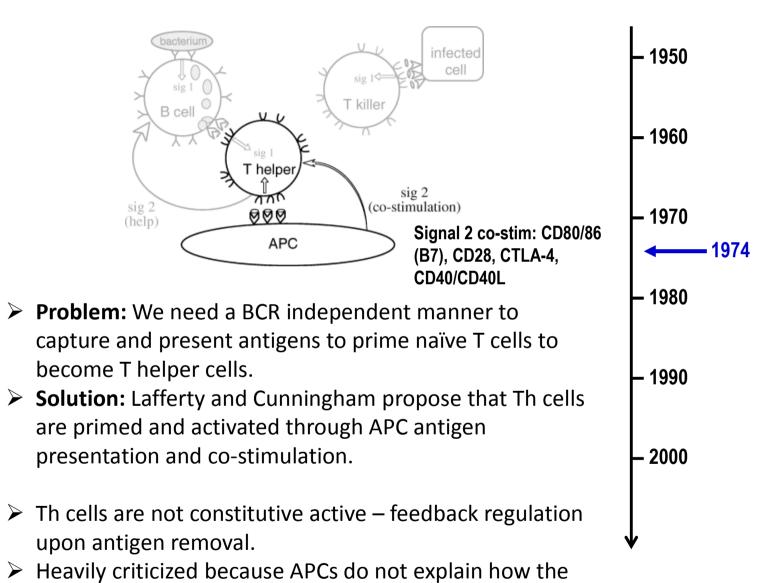




Signal 2: e.g. CD40/CD40L and cytokines

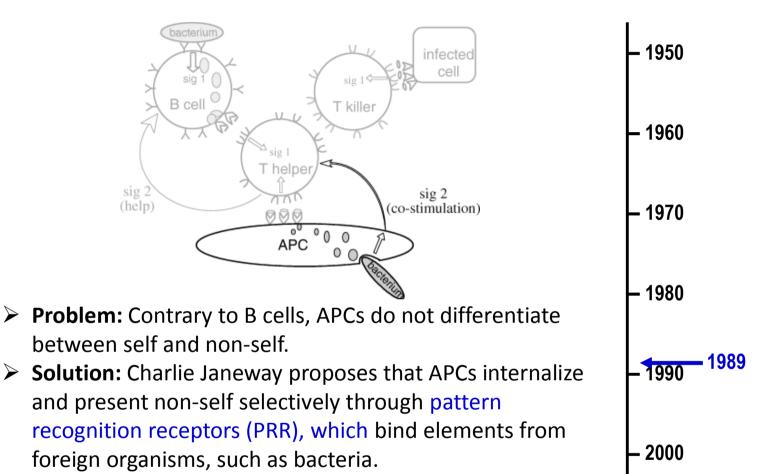
- ➤ **Problem:** BCR hypermutation may lead to autoreactive BCRs.
- > Solution: Cohn add another cell: The T helper cell (only formally proven much later).
- ➤ B cells internalize pathogen and present antigens to interact with specific Th cells, which validate that target is non-self.
- Signal 1 alone leads to clonal deletion (both self and non-self reactivity leads to signal 1).
- Signal 1 + 2 lead to activation (non-self rescued by T cells, with TCR which does not hyper mutate).





immune system distinguish between self and non/self (which BCR dependent antigen selection provided).

Matzinger et al. Scan J Immunol 2003

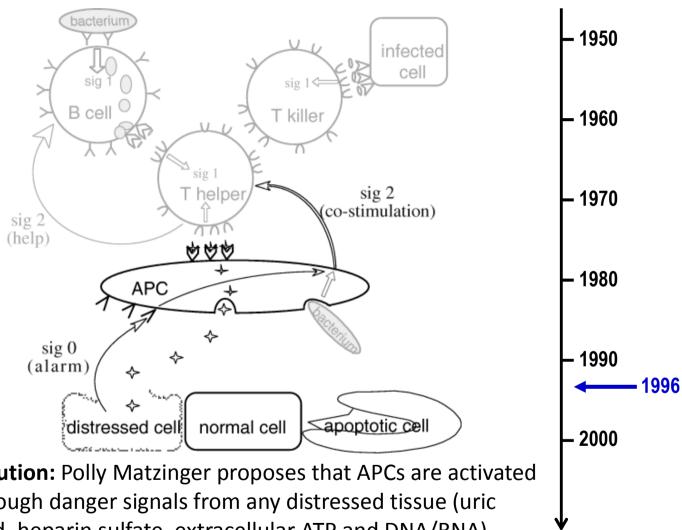


- This model inherently imply that APCs are not constitutively active, but require external stimuli through the PRR signalling pathway.
- Proposes explanation for why vaccines need an adjuvant.

Problem

How to explain:

- Autoimmunity
- Non-reject of tumour with tumour antigen
- DNA therapy versus DNA vaccine
- Why mothers don't reject the fetus.
- Why temporal geneexpression changes doesn't evoke immunity (e.g. breast milk).
- Why can we host tons of microbes?



- > **Solution:** Polly Matzinger proposes that APCs are activated through danger signals from any distressed tissue (uric acid, heparin sulfate, extracellular ATP and DNA/RNA).
- Advocate that we are a friendly host as long as our visitors are friendly too. Don't push the button first policy. Matzinger et al. Scan J Immunol 2003

Danger model and gut microbiota symbiosis

The danger model would suggest that we do not respond to non-harmful bacteria colonizing our gut (Mutualism and Commensalism allowed).

Symbiosis

Living together (sym: with; bio: life)

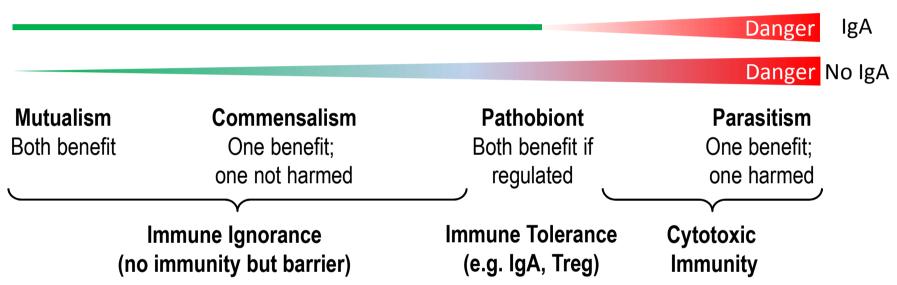
Immune Ignorance (no immunity but barrier)		????	Cytotoxic Immunity
Both benefit	One benefit; one not harmed	Both benefit if regulated	One benefit; one harmed
Mutualism	Commensalism	Pathobiont	Parasitism 2

Danger model and IgA responses

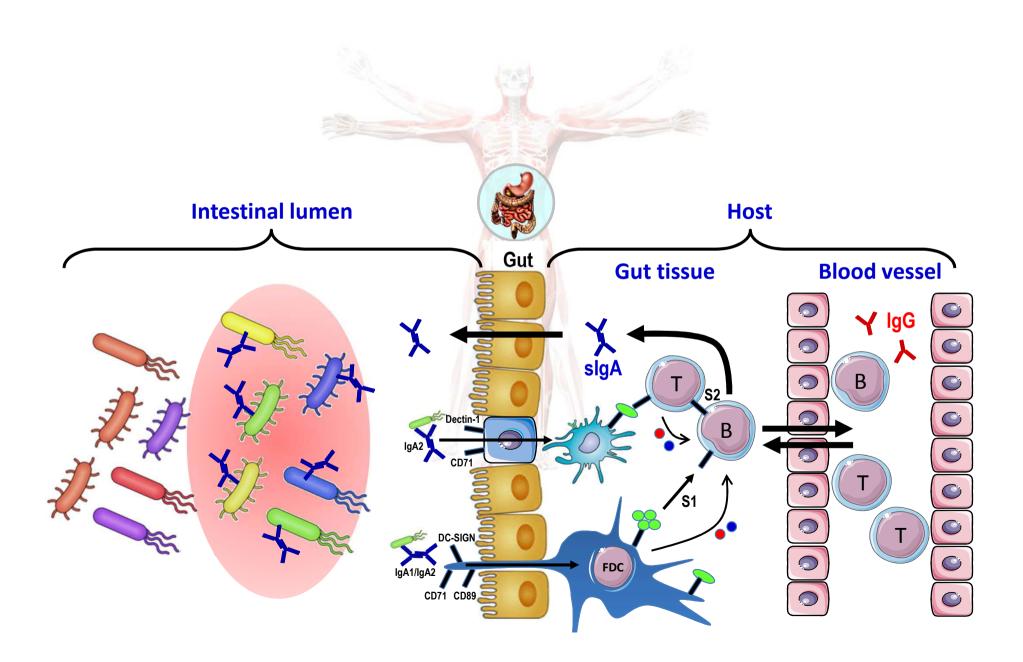
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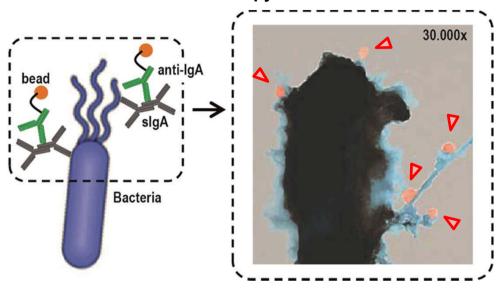


- In reality microbes cannot be categorized discretely, but rather represents a continuum from Mutualism to parasitism.
- How to retain tolerance to commensals, while pathogens are attacked?
- ➤ The range of host-microbe interactions evokes ignorance to non-harmful microbes, tolerogenic immunity to beneficial microbes (harmful if not regulated) and cytotoxic immunity to harmful microbes.



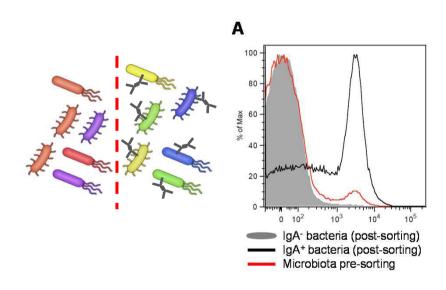
sIgA opsonization of gut commensal

Electron microscopy of bacteria



Gut microbiota specificity of gut Ig immunity

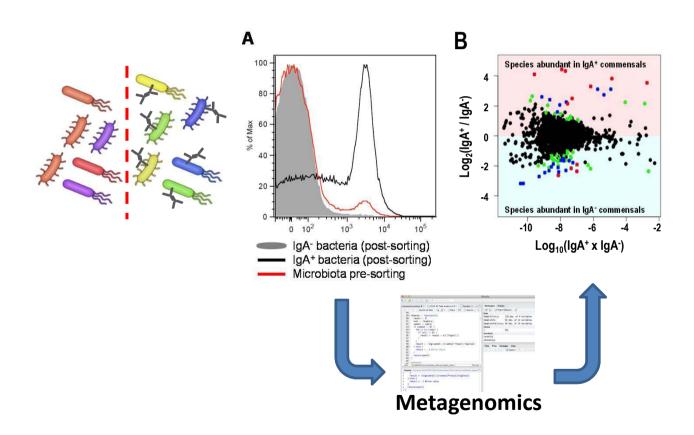
Gut microbiota sorting (IgA+ / IgA-)



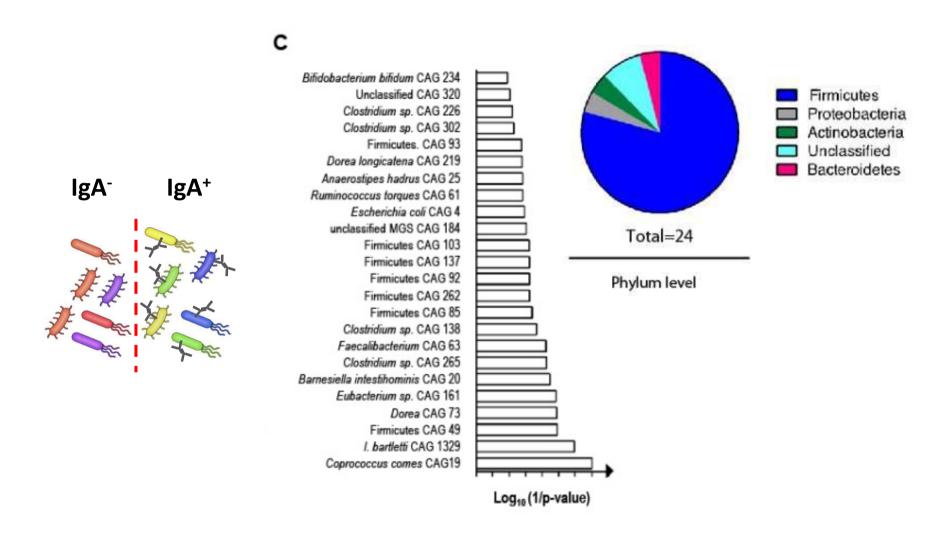
Gut microbiota specificity of gut Ig immunity

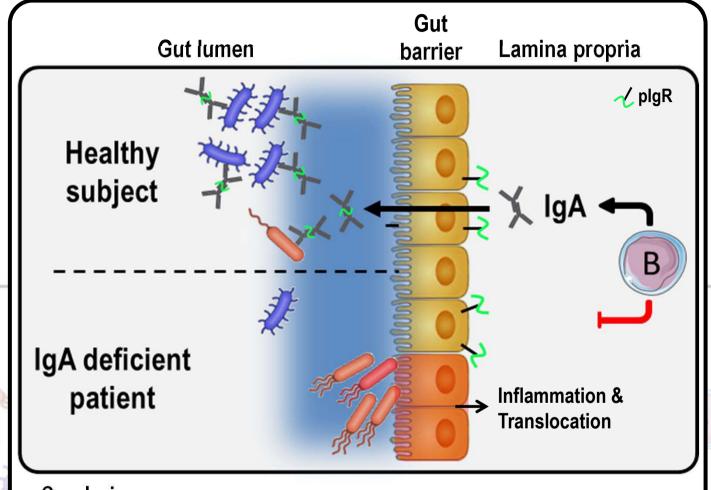
Gut microbiota sorting (IgA+ / IgA-)

Paired metagenomic analysis



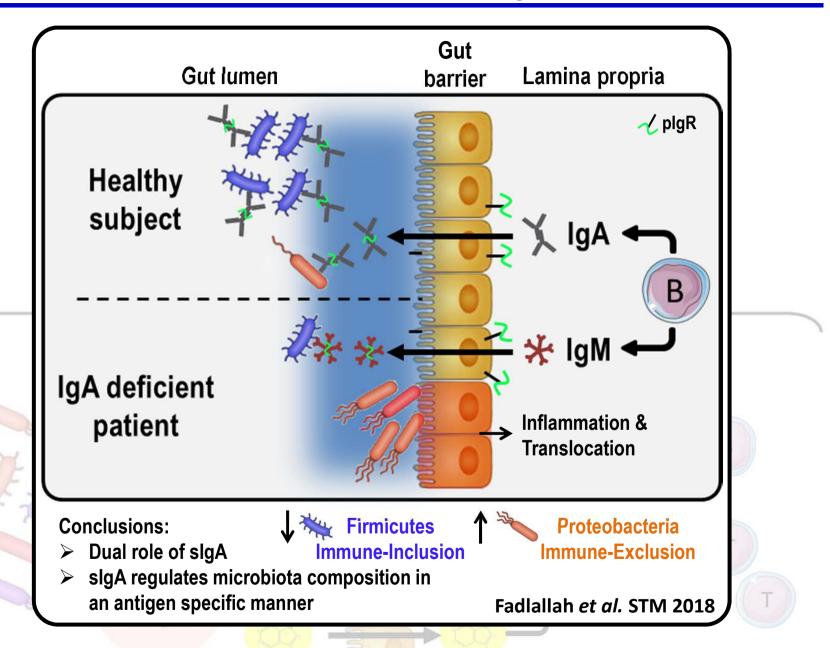
Gut microbiota specificity of gut IgA immunity



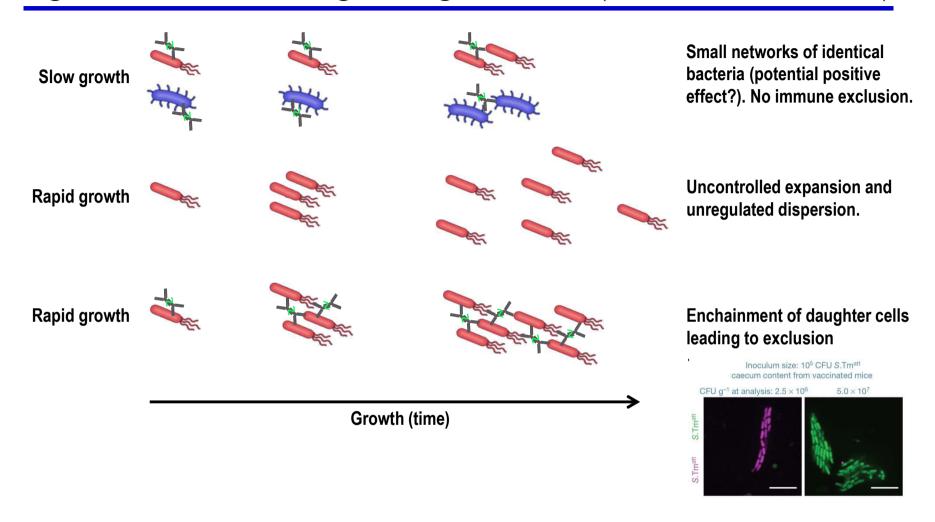


Conclusions:

> slgA regulates microbiota composition in an antigen-specific manner Fadlallah *et al.* STM 2018



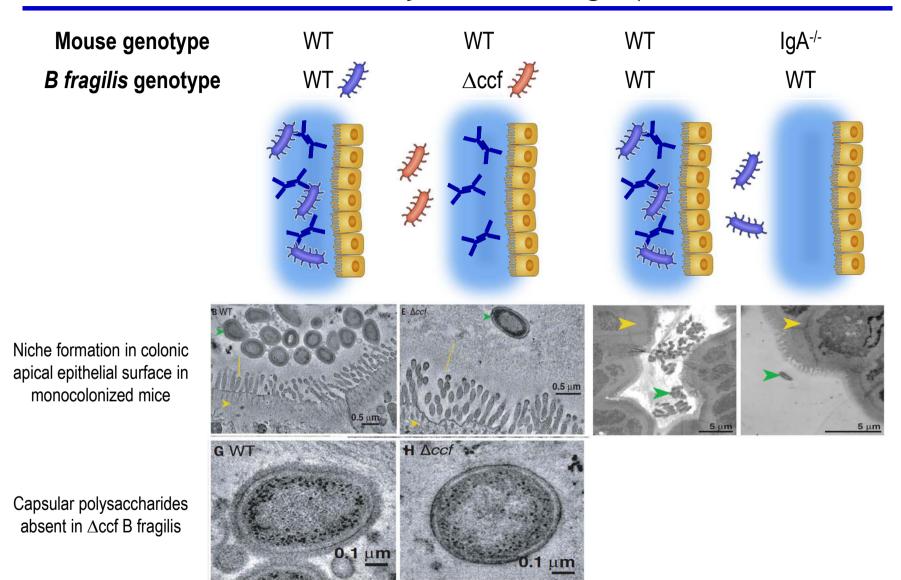
slgA enchainment of growing bacteria (immune-exclusion)



Dual effect of slgA – immune exclusion:

- ➤ Pathogenic and commensal microbial strains from the same species/genus (e.g. *E. coli*) could be targeted by the same slgA, but immune exclusion would be specific to the pathogenic rapidly growing microbe
- Enchainment blocks genetic communication between non-related bacteria, because related bacteria clusterizes.

Bacterial niche formation by mucosal sIgA (immune-inclusion)



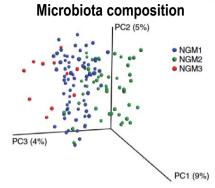
Dual effect of slgA – immune inclusion:

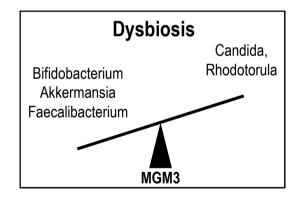
Gut colonization by B fragilis regulated by slgA: Absence of antibody and/or Absence of the antibody binding site (Capsular Polysaccharides) prohibit colonization.
Donaldson et al. Science 2018

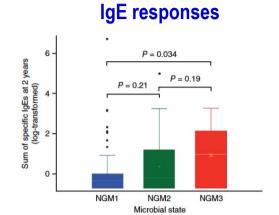
Examples of gut microbiota associations with allergy

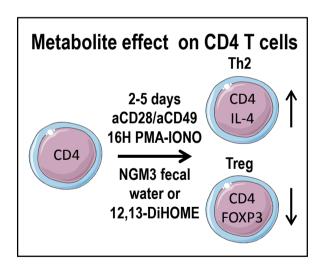
Gut Microbiota composition is associated with allergic disease

Non-supervised cluster analysis



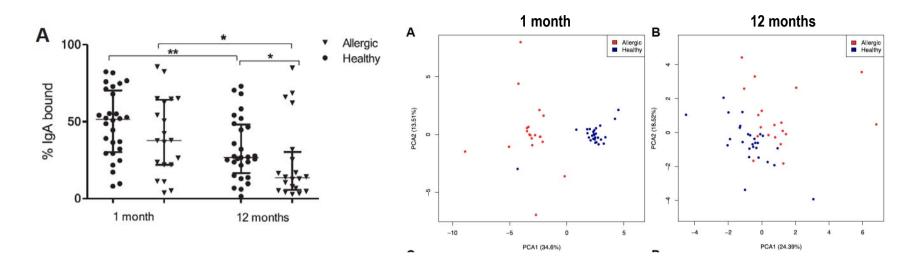






- ➤ Neonatal gut microbiota (NGM) clusters differentiate low and high risk allergic disease (loss of bacteria and gain of fungus increase risk of allergy).
- > Dysbiosis alters the metabolic profile of fecal water (reduction of Tregs increase in Th2 cells).

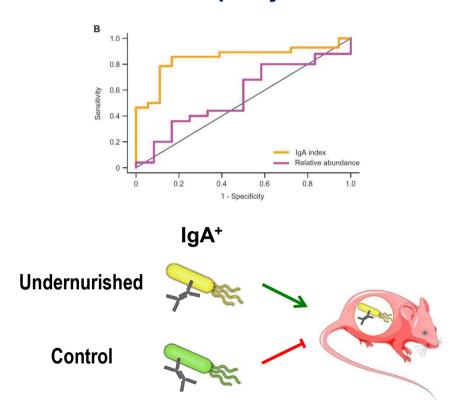
Gut Immuno-Microbiome - allergic disease



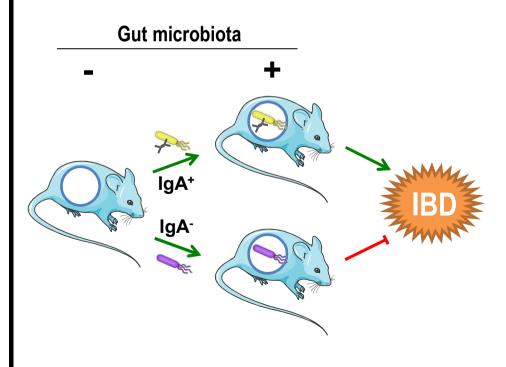
- ➤ Allergy is associated with reduced sIgA-opsonization levels of gut microbiota in 12 months-old children (tendency already at 1 month).
- > Fecal sIgA levels are unaltered.
- ➤ Gut bacterial load is reduced at 12 months of age in allergic children
- ➤ A unique immuno-microbiome signature precedes allergy already at 1 month of age.
- ➤ slgA-opsonization and immuno-microbiome signature are similar when stratified for birth route and breastfeeding (Of note, breastfeeding is assessed at 12 months practically all Swedish children are breastfed in the first months of life)

IgA targets bacteria involved in human pathology

- > Undernourished Malawian children produce diet-dependent enteropathy.
- ➤ IgA coated gut microbiota from children is predictive of nutritional status and enteropathy.



- > Mouse model of microbiota-driven colitis.
- ➤ Human IgA coated gut microbiota from IBD patients confer susceptibility to colitis in germ-free mice.



Kau et al. STM 2015 Palm et al. Cell 2014

Take home message

- > Gut microbiota influence host immunity (Tolerance versus inflammation)
- > Gut microbiota is regulated by host immunity (innate and adaptive (e.g. IgA))
- ➤ **Altered lifestyle** influence our gut microbiota composition and is temporally (but maybe not causally) associated with a rapid increase in chronic inflammatory diseases, including allergy (since 1950 forward).
- ➤ **Hygiene theory**: Reduced exposure to microbes result in a skewed host immunity, which is insufficiently schooled to regulate inflammatory responses.
- ➤ Cross-talk: Immuno-Microbiota interactions are dual. 1) Microbiota drives maturation of host immunity and 2) Secretory IgA regulates microbiota ecology (immune inclusion and immune exclusion).
- ➤ Save our microbiota: Microbiota transplantation (C-section birth), reduce antibiotics use (or use of new treatments, such as DAV132 co-therapy), dietary intervention.
- > Save our immunity: Breast feeding, slgA nutritional supplement (colostrum), tolerogenic vaccines (do not exist today).