Unraveling the Alphabet in Your Gut

Presenter:

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Outline

How does the gastrointestinal tract work?

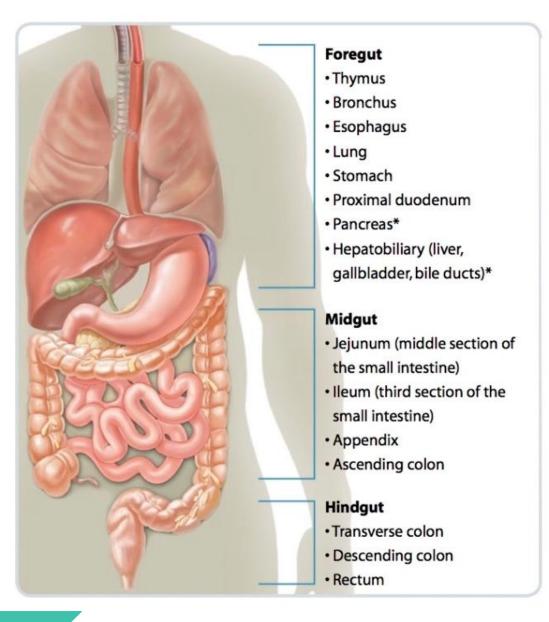
What is the microbiome?

How does the microbiome affect our gut?

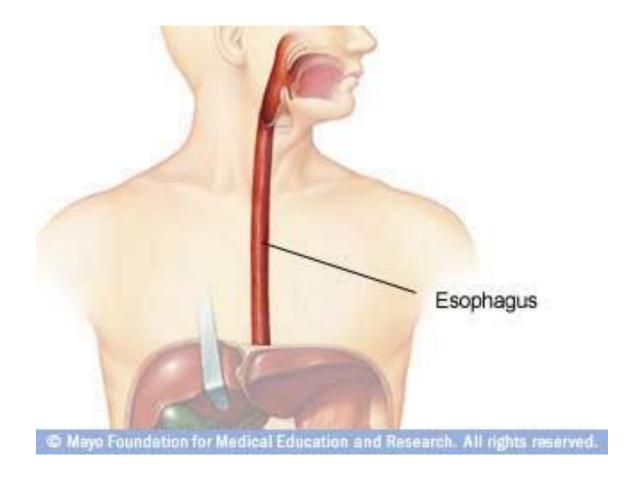
▲ How do we manage this?

Questions?

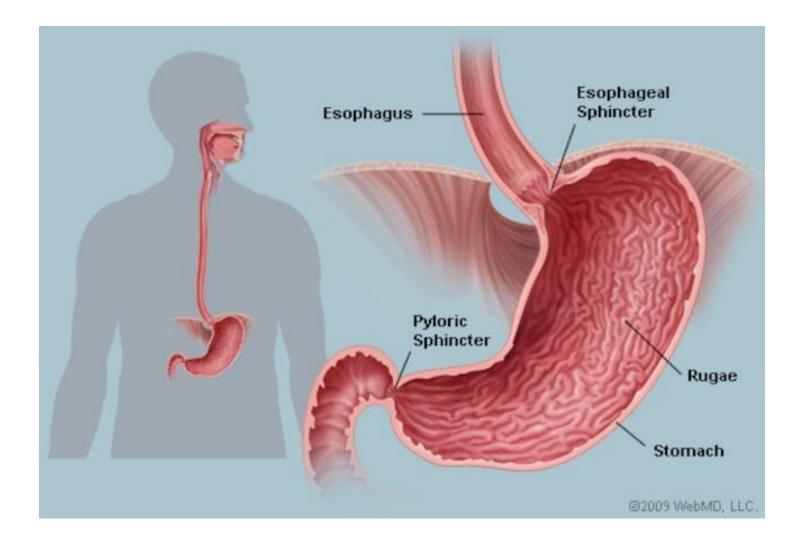
Basic Anatomy



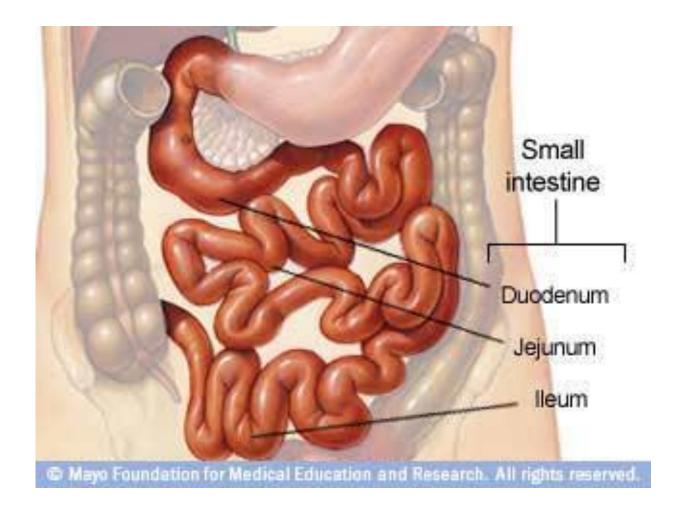
Esophagus



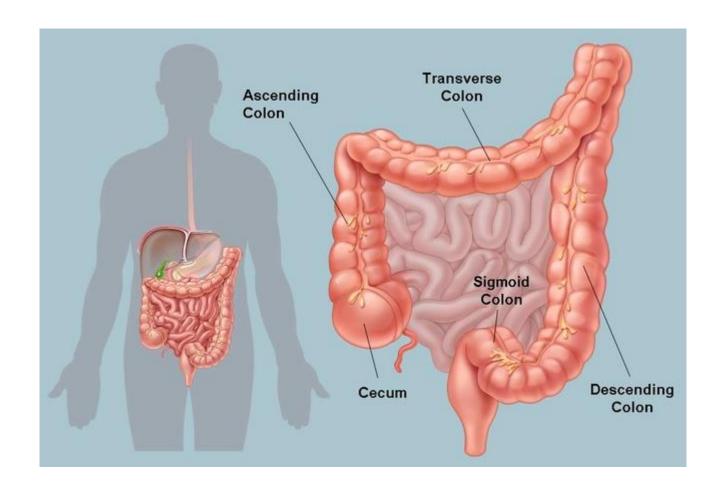
Stomach



Small Intestine

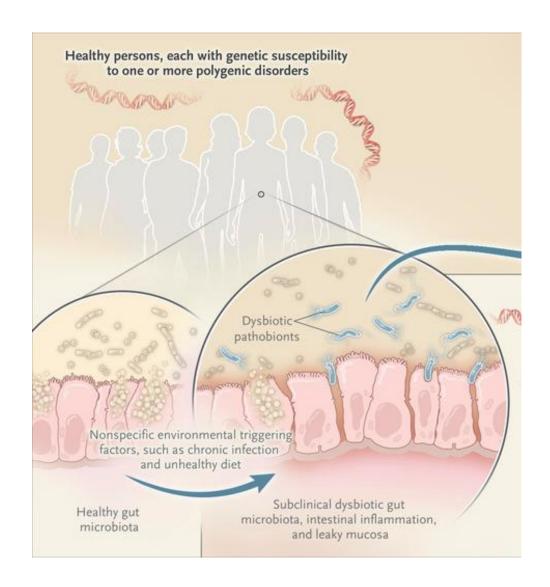


Large Intestine / Colon

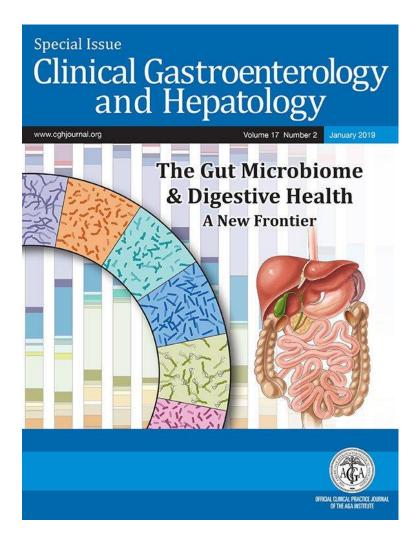


The Gut Microbiome

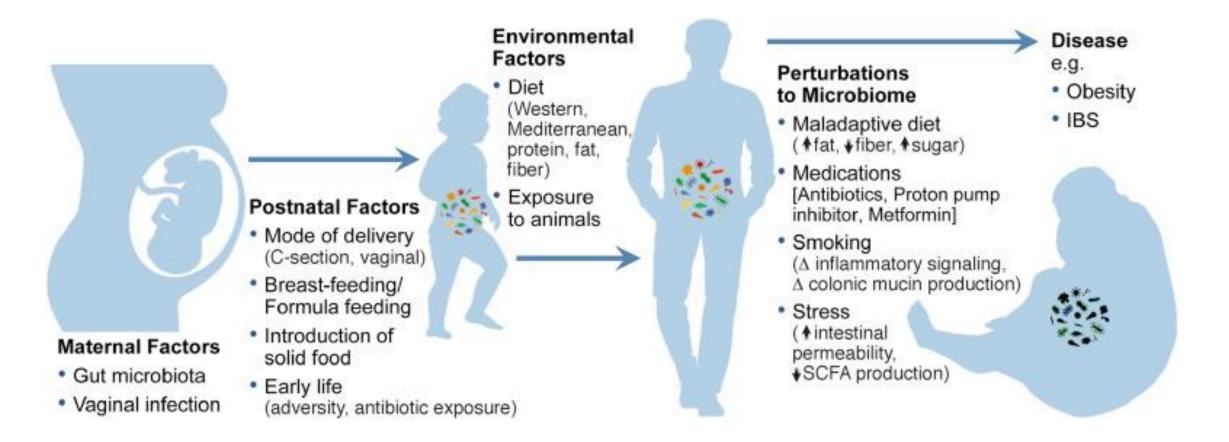
- 40 trillion microorganisms
- 1000 different bacterial species
- Complex equilibrium between the microbiome and host
- Alterations in the gut microbiome can lead to different GI conditions



"The role of the microbiome in health and human disease has emerged at the forefront of medicine in the 21st century."



What Alters our Microbiome?



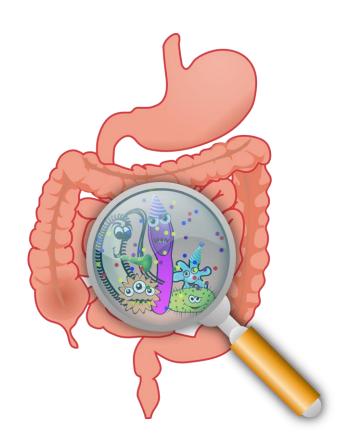
What are some GI conditions associated with an altered Microbiome?

Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Colorectal Cancer

Obesity



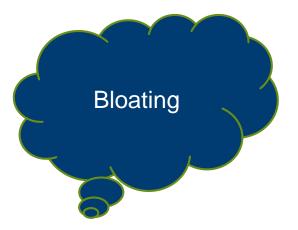
What is Irritable Bowel Syndrome or IBS?

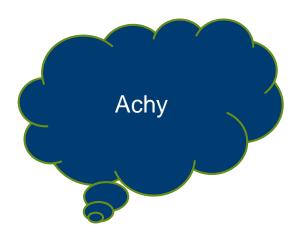
- Abdominal discomfort associated with a change in stool form and/or frequency
- Very common. 20% of the US population! The most commonly diagnosed GI condition.
- "Brain-gut" disorder with an altered GI microbiome



Common Bowel Symptoms

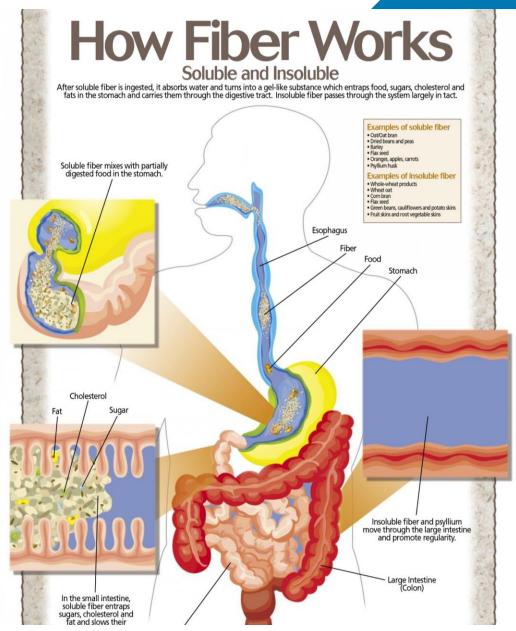




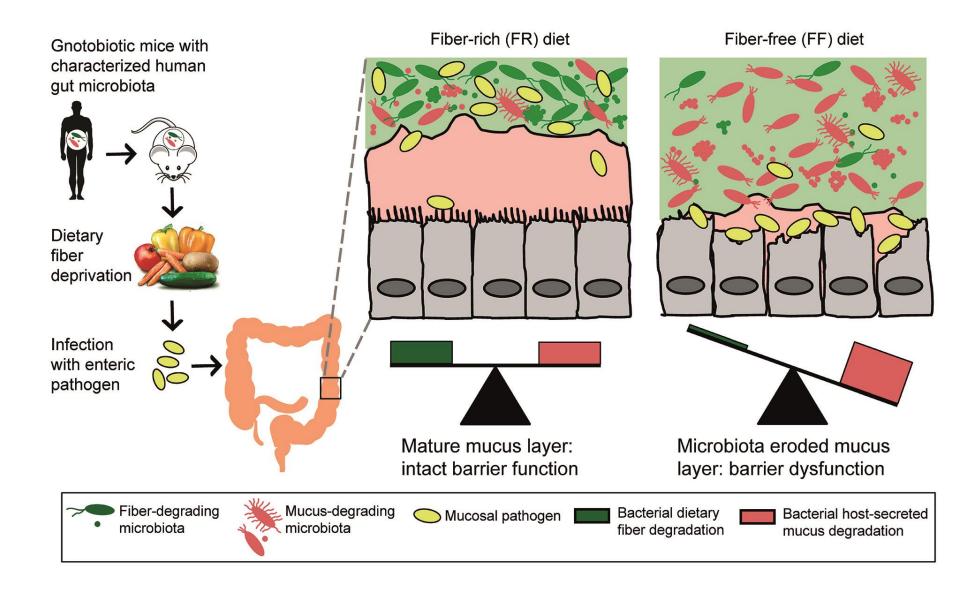


Psyllium is Effective for IBS

- Soluble fiber is effective for treating IBS.
- Data comes from 15 randomized controlled trials (kids/adults).
- Insoluble fibers are not readily processed.
- Improves the microbiome profile. Increases short chain fatty acid production. Increases mucous.



Soluble Fiber and the Microbiome



Soluble Fiber



Psyllium powder is the best studied fiber.

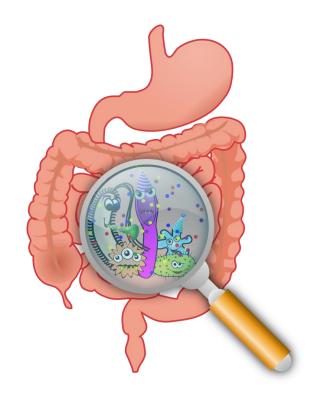
- ▲ Found in clinical trials to provider overall relief of IBS symptoms in both adults and children
- ▲ Comes in powders or capsules
- ▲ 10-20 grams per day (divided doses)





What are Probiotics?

Live microorganisms taken to restore the gut microbiome.



Probiotics









Our View on Probiotics

- Taken as a group, probiotics improve global IBS symptoms like bloating and gas.
- However, because of study limitations, a recommendation for a particular probiotic cannot be made.
- Insufficient data on prebiotics.

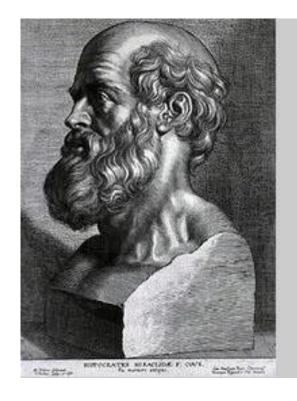


Antibiotics for IBS

Rifaximin

- Non-absorbable antibiotic that works in the intestine to modify the microbiome.
- Improves overall IBS symptoms.
- 2 week course, though it's unclear how durable the effects are.

Low FODMAP Diet and the Microbiome

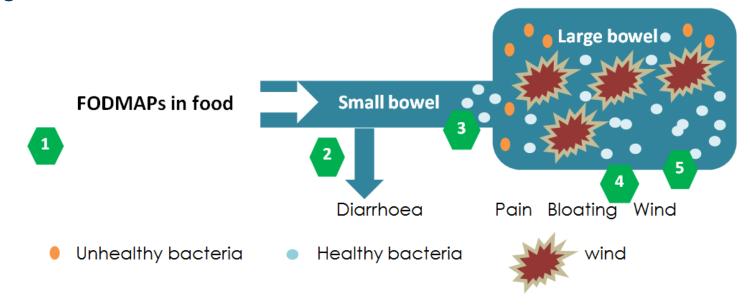


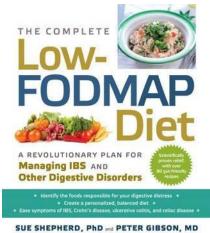
"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food" - Hippocrates

PALE SPIRIT COM

The Low FODMAP Diet

- FODMAPs (fermentable oligosaccharides, monosaccharides, disaccharides and polyols) are specific types of sugars in our diet that are poorly digested by the human intestine and as a consequence, reach the colon where the sugars are fermented.
- The Low FODMAP Diet is a diet where foods that are high in these sugars are avoided/minimized.





Foods suitable on a low-fodmap diet

vegetables grain foods milk products fruit other fruit vegetables milk tofu cereals banana, blueberry, alfalfa, bamboo shoots, gluten-free bread or lactose-free milk*, sweeteners boysenberry, bean shoots, bok choy, cereal products oat milk*, rice milk*, sugar* (sucrose), carrot, celery, choko, soy milk* canteloupe, cranberry, glucose, artificial durian, grape, choy sum, endive, *check for additives 100% spelt bread sweeteners not grapefruit, honeydew ginger, green beans, ending in '-ol' cheeses rice melon, kiwifruit, lemon, lettuce, olives, parsnip, hard cheeses, and brie honey substitutes lime, mandarin, orange, potato, pumpkin, red oats and camembert golden syrup*, passionfruit, pawpaw, capsicum (bell pepper), polenta maple syrup*, raspberry, rhubarb, silver beet, spinach, yoghurt other molasses, treacle lactose-free varieties rockmelon, star anise, squash, swede, sweet arrowroot, millet, *small quantities strawberry, tangelo potato, taro, tomato, ice-cream psyllium, quinoa, turnip, yam, zucchini Note: if fruit is dried, eat in substitutes sorgum, tapioca small quantities gelati, sorbet herbs basil, chili, coriander, butter substitutes ginger, lemongrass, olive oil marjoram, mint, oregano, parsley, rosemary, thyme

Eliminate foods containing fodmaps

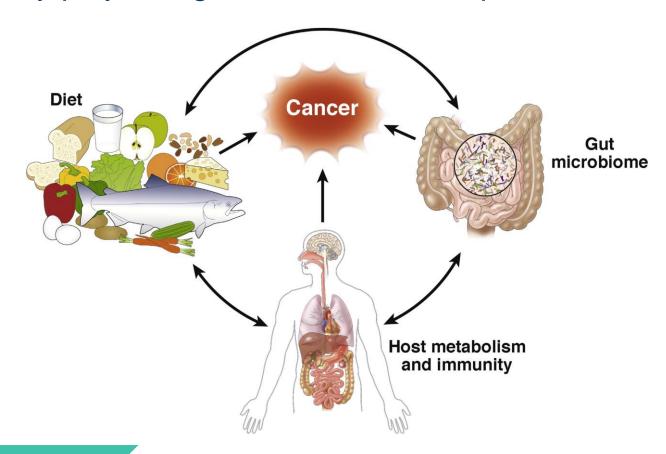


What's the Evidence?

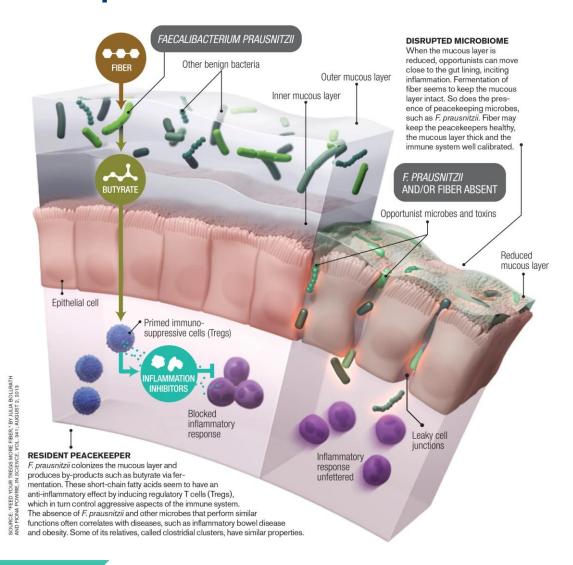
- 7 Studies show that around 50-60% of IBS patients can get symptom relief with a low FODMAP diet.
- Low FODMAP diet changes the gut microbiome.
- A 2-4 week trial is usually sufficient to gauge response.
- This is NOT a long term diet. Foods should be reintroduced.

Colon Cancer and the Microbiome

- Colon cancer is the third most common cancer in the US.
- Microbiome may play a large role in the development of cancer.



Low Soluble Fiber Diets are associated with increased colon inflammation, which can lead to development of colon cancer.

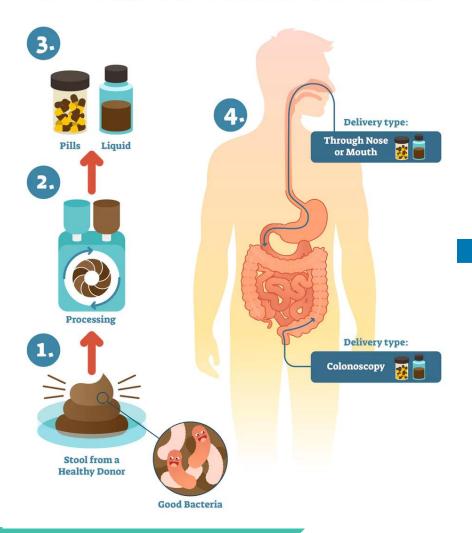


Microbiota-based Strategies for Prevention

- Obesity
- Dietary fiber
- Less Fat
- Less Red Meat
- More marine omega 3 fatty acids
- >2 yogurt servings/week lowers risk of colon polyps

The Future?

FECAL TRANSPLANT THERAPY





Questions?

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