Rising Star Award





Congratulations

Dr. Heather Armstrong University of Manitoba

crohn's colitis

CCC Rising Star: Raising awareness of the complex balance of diet and microbiome in IBD

Dr. Heather Armstrong (MSc, PhD)

Tier 2 CRC and Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Manitoba, Canada





Conflicts to Disclose

Commercial or Non-Profit Interest	Relationship
ARC	Scientific Advisor
Dayhoff Technologies	Scientific Advisor
CIDsCaNN	Committee Member

Factors that influence IBD: microbes (dysbiosis)



Nature Reviews | Gastroenterology & Hepatology Ananthakrishnan Nature Rev. Gastro Hept. 2015.



Lee Gastroenterology. 2021.

Does diet cause IBD?

• Epidemiologic evidence:

- Cohort and case control studies do show an association
- Animal/in vitro studies:
 - Multiple mechanistic links
- Dietary therapies:
 - EEN, CDED, and others can induce remission
- **BUT** IBD is heterogeneous!



Microbes link diet to host health



Nature Reviews | Gastroenterology & Hepatology Ananthakrishnan Nature Rev. Gastro Hept. 2015.

Fibers are not digested: they are fermented by microbes



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Dietary Beliefs and Behavior Among Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients

Camille Zallot, MD,* Didier Quilliot, MD, PhD,[†] Jean-Baptiste Chevaux, MD,* Carina Peyrin-Biroulet, MD,* Rosa Maria Guéant-Rodriguez, MD, PhD,* Estelle Freling, MD,* Benjamin Collet-Fenetrier, MD,* Nicolas Williet, MD,* Olivier Ziegler, MD, PhD,[†] Marc-André Bigard, MD,* Jean-Louis Guéant, MD, PhD,* and Laurent Peyrin-Biroulet, MD, PhD*

Food Groups	n (%)
Vegetables	39 (16.0%)
Fruits	27 (11.1%)
Cruciferous	27 (11.1%)
Tomato	25 (10.2%)
Green leafy vegetables	19 (7.8%)
Leguminous	14 (5.7%)
Spicy food	14 (5.7%)
Dairy products	10 (4.1%)
Fat products	10 (4.1%)
Citrus	8 (3.3%)
Oilseeds	7 (2.9%)
Sauce	7 (2.9%)
Alcohol	6 (2.5%)
Cereals	4 (1.6%)
Coffee	4 (1.6%)
Vinegar	2 (0.8%)
Bread	2 (0.8%)
Chocolate	1 (0.4%)
Sugar products	1 (0.4%)

TABLE 3. Food Exclusions (Question 3)

Inflamm Bowel Dis • Volume 19, Number 1, January 2013

- Survey in Nancy, France
- N=244 adult IBD
- 58%: diet plays a role in IBD
- 40% reported that diet leads to their flares
- 2/3 have given up on foods they enjoy

11) What food do you eat in case of relapse:

-Low residue diet	126 (51.6 %)
-Normal diet	62 (25.4 %)
-Dairy-free	34 (13.9 %)
-Other diet	28 (11.5 %)
-Gluten-free	4 (1.6%)
-NR	24 (9.8%)

Dietary Practices and Beliefs in Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Jimmy K. Limdi, MBBS,**[†] Divya Aggarwal, MBBS,* and John T. McLaughlin, MBChB, PhD[†]

Inflamm Bowel Dis • Volume 22, Number 1, January 2016



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Could unfermented fibres impact inflammation?





Deehan et al Microbiology Spectrum 2018

Armstrong et al Front. Ped. 2021

B-fructans and arabinoxylans promote inflammaiton



Specific unfermented fibers (B-fructans and arabinoxylans) can promote inflammation

This was comparable to pro-inflammatory response to fungal carbohydrates (zymosan and curdlan)

B-fructan induces pro-inflammatory cytokines in specific IBD patients



Unfermented B-fructan (chicory root; SYNERGY-1) can promote inflammation in pediatric IBD biopsies *ex vivo*

- Confirmed in clinical trial cohort



ex vivo biopsies

B-fructan induces pro-inflammatory cytokines in specific IBD patients



Unfermented B-fructan (chicory root; SYNERGY-1) can promote inflammation in adult IBD RCT – 15g SYNERGY 6 months

A subset of patients (~30%) flare

B-fructan induces various pathways in specific IBD patients

Clinical Trial: NCT02865707



B-fructan induces pro-inflammatory cytokines via NLRP3



NLRP3 inflammasome inhibitors reduced IL-1B pro-inflammatory response to B-fructans (FOS)



B-fructan interacts with immune cells via TLR2

Molecular dynamics identified TLR2 as the host receptor for B-fructan TLR2 inhibitor (Inh-c29) validated the receptors role in cytokine response to B-fructan



Profiling fibres from different food sources



The food source and composition of the fibres impacts their interactions with host cells

The gut is protected by a mucosal epithelial layer



Epithelial barrier formation is differentially altered

- Inulin and oligofructose improve epithelial barrier integrity
- B-D-glucan and arabinoxylan causes epithelial barrier disruption



Epithelial barrier height is affect by B-fructan





Gut microbiota community role in fermentation



Whole gut microbiota collected from gut washes



B-fructan fermentation by microbiota prevents inflammatory response



Fermentation of B-fructan (FOS) with whole gut microbes from IBD patients with active inflammation did not reduce pro-inflammatory response to fibre

Inflammatory response is a combination of \uparrow whole B-fructan and \downarrow SCFA



Concentrations of SCFA & FOS following fermentation by IBD NR microbes

Concentrations of SCFA & FOS following fermentation by IBD R microbes

Changes in the gut microbiome alter our responses to environmental factors



Select Microbes and Microbe Pathways are Involved in Response to B-fructans



Microbial enzymes were validated in our RCT of B-fructans in adult IBD

Shotgun metagenomics - Intestinal washes



Clinical Trial: NCT02865707

RCT patient relapse = lower riboflavin synthase produced by microbes **AND** Lower riboflavin in stool at baseline



Biomarker of response to B-fructans?

Select fermentable fibers should be avoided in specific IBD patients

TAKE HOME: these patients matter too!

How does dietary fibre intake change over time in IBD?

Examine the avoidance patterns of specific fiber subtypes in IBD patients and how this relates to disease progression





FFQ: (fiber consumption patterns) Baseline- Week 52





Statistical analysis:

Correlation between the shift in fiber consumption/ avoidance and disease remission/flare

How does dietary fibre intake change over time in IBD?

Consumption of FOS and inulin is negatively correlated with disease flare in IBD patients



Changes in the gut microbiota appear to precede changes in B-fructan consumption followed by flare



Khorasaniha et al.; In preparation

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Khorasaniha et al.; In preparation

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Fibre fermentation products (SCFA+FOS) dictates pro-inflammatory response



UC patient relapse following B-fructan consumption was correlated with increased markers of colon cancer



Wounding of the gut and persistent inflammation in IBD is associated with colon cancer risk





Deehan et al Microbiology Spectrum 2018

Armstrong et al Front. Ped. 2021

Translating our findings to the clinic



- Can we use our microbial enzyme stool test (biomarkers) to predict response to fibres?
- Developed **clinical scoring system** to predict a patients degree of sensitivity to select fibres
- Developing and testing personalized dietary interventions
- Randomized control trial (recruiting)



Conclusion

- YES dietary fibres provide clear benefits
- *BUT* the **type**, **source** and **quantity** of fiber is extremely important
- AND without the right microbes present, does what we eat still benefit us??



Conclusion

- YES dietary fibres provide clear benefits
- *BUT* the **type** and **quantity** of fiber is extremely important
- AND without the right microbes present, does what we eat still benefit us??
- FUTURE precision medicine
 - Patient specific dietary recommendations

One cure does not fit all...















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Special thanks! To our funders, clinics, and patients!



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