

Special Issue

Human Gut Microbiome and Diet in Health and Disease

Message from the Guest Editors

In the last several decades, many studies have shown that the microbial communities associated with the human host play a fundamental role in maintaining health and preventing or causing some diseases. Other works have shown that human-associated microbial communities are shaped by several factors, including age, sex, antibiotics usage, and lifestyle. Among lifestyle-related factors, diet plays a key role in shaping the microbiome of the human digestive tract, as it provides different food sources for microbes and strongly affects the host metabolism. Human diet moreover forges the cross-talk between the host and the associated microbial communities by influencing the availability and production of different host- or microbiome-produced metabolites. While disentangling the links between diet, gut microbiome, and host metabolism is a complex matter, studies shedding light on these relationships are of key importance to identify potential diet interventions that could help to prevent or treat diseases through modulation of the gut microbiome.

Guest Editors

Dr. Francesco Asnicar

Department of Cellular, Computational and Integrative Biology (CIBIO),
University of Trento, 38123 Trento, Italy

Dr. Serena Manara

Department of Cellular, Computational and Integrative Biology (CIBIO),
University of Trento, 38123 Trento, Italy

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of Odontostomatologic and Specialized Clinical Sciences,
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of Medicine, Università Politecnica delle
Marche, Via Ranieri 65, 60100 Ancona, Italy

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