Special Issue

Probiotics and Antimicrobial Effect

Message from the Guest Editor

The antimicrobial or antagonistic activity of probiotics is an important property that includes the production of antimicrobial compounds, competitive exclusion of pathogens, enhancement of the intestinal barrier function in resisting pathogens and others. There are many methods to ascertain probiotic properties, including various in vitro and in vivo methods. The in vitro methods include various modifications of the spot on lawn assay, agar well diffusion assay (AWDA), co culturing methods, usage of cell lines and others. The in vivo methods utilise animal models; however, their use is being restricted according to the European legislation OJ L136. The most important studies are double blinded randomized placebo controlled clinical trials; however, these studies are difficult to perform as it is not easy to achieve uniform conditions. There is a clear need for more elaborate assays that would better represent the complex interactions between the probiotics and the final host. Keywords: probiotics; beneficial microbes; antimicrobial effect; lactobacilli; bifidobacteria; fermented foods

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"Microorganism" merges the idea of the very small with the idea of the evolving reproducing organism is a unifying principle for the discipline of microbiology. Our journal recognizes the broadly diverse yet connected nature of microorganisms and provides an advanced publishing forum for original articles from scientists involved in high-quality basic and applied research on any prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganism, and for research on the ecology, genomics and evolution of microbial communities as well as that exploring cultured microorganisms in the laboratory.

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