Special Issue

Dietary Polysaccharides and Gut Microbiota Ecosystem

Message from the Guest Editors

The community of microorganisms that subsists within the gastrointestinal (GI) ecosystem is called the intestinal microbiota. Polysaccharides are the most abundant dietary components in the gut microbiota and are deeply involved in host health. Emerging evidence shows the involvement of polysaccharides in numerous functions in gut microbiota-host symbiosis, such as microbial interactions with endogenous host glycans, and the important role of microbial polysaccharides. Additionally, bacterial polysaccharides act as immunomodulators, and host-derived polysaccharides not only protect host cells from pathogenic microbial neighbours but also affect overall gut health through interactions with gut microbes. In the course of intestinal fermentation, polysaccharides (among others) can promote the growth of certain intestinal bacteria, thus changing the profile of the intestinal microbiota and affecting the physiology of the host both locally and remotely, which can contribute to the development of diseases.

We welcome different types of manuscript submissions, including original research articles and up-to-date reviews (systematic reviews and meta-analyses).

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Nutrients is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2009. *Nutrients* adheres to rigorous peer-review and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues related to the impacts of nutrients on human health. The Impact Factor of *Nutrients* has risen rapidly since its establishment and it is now ranked in the first quartile of journals publishing in the field of nutrition and dietetics research.

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