

Special Issue

Nutrition, Microbiota and Noncommunicable Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Health is defined as “the state of the organism when it functions optimally without evidence of disease”, and surprisingly, the words “microbes” or “microorganism” are missing in this definition. The regulation of gut microbiota is mediated by an enormous quantity of aspects, such as, microbiological factors, host characteristics, diet patterns and environmental variables. Some protective, structural and metabolic functions are reported for gut microbiota, and these functions are related to the regulation of homeostasis and host health. Host defence against pathogens is, in part, mediated through gut microbiota action and requires intimate interpretation of the current microenvironment and discrimination between commensal and occasional bacteria.

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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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