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## The Interplay between Food and Gut Microbiota in the Nutrient–Disease Link

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### Message from the Guest Editors

The human microbiota is shaped and influenced by numerous factors, including diet, genetics, immune system, culture, economy, behavior, and environment. It is acquired and developed during the first years of life, and is thought to play a crucial role in human health. Changes in the gut microbiota can have an impact on the immune system and diabetes, inflammation and insulin resistance, the development and treatment of tumors, cardiovascular disease, obesity, and behavior. Therefore, it is extremely important to understand the process of microbiota acquisition and to manage this process in a way that best serves human health. Infection with microbial, viral, or parasitic pathogens or the use of antibiotics to treat bacterial infections can trigger a profound change in the gut microbial ecosystem. This can lead to a prolonged and excessive inflammatory response that increases the risk of developing various chronic diseases and cancer. In recent years, a growing number of studies have shown that diet can modulate the composition of the gut microbiota, and is therefore a key factor in human health.

Deadline for manuscript submissions:

**15 October 2024**



[mdpi.com/si/201979](https://mdpi.com/si/201979)

# Special Issue



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