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Bile Acids and Probiotics in Regulation of Intestinal Function in Health and Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Guest Editors:

Dr. Giulia Roda

IBD Center, Department of Gastroenterology, Humanitas Clinical and Research Center – IRCCS –, Rozzano, Italy

Dr. Stefania Vetrano

IBD Center, Laboratory of Gastrointestinal Immunopathology, Humanitas Clinical and Research Center-IRCCS, Rozzano, 20089 Milan, Italy

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Message from the Guest Editors

Bile Acids (BAs) are endogenous acidic steroids synthesized in the liver from cholesterol with a pivotal role in lipid transport through enterohepatic circulation and as agonists of the Farnesoid X receptor and TGR5. The pathogenic role of BAs in chronic IBD has long been debated. Several studies have evaluated BA metabolism in relation to hepatobiliary and intestinal diseases; these studies, BA malabsorption plays a major role in diarrhea, because luminal BAs result in the colonic secretion of water and electrolytes and the induction of propagated contractions. BAs have been proposed as diagnostic or prognostic tools in IBD, but large studies to prove their utility are needed.

In this Special Issue of Nutrients, we aim to achieve a better understanding of the role of BAs in inflammation, their interaction with the microbiome and how their alterations are involved in IBD, how we could incorporate them into clinical practice as diagnostic or prognostic tools, and how probiotics and diet could orchestrate the interaction between bile acids and the microbiome and restore inflammation













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Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lluis Serra-Majem

1. Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red Fisiopatología de la Obesidad y la Nutrición (CIBEROBN), Institute of Health Carlos III, 28029 Madrid, Spain 2. Research Institute of Biomedical and Health Sciences (IUIBS), University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, 35001 Las Palmas, Spain 3. Preventive Medicine Service, Centro Hospitalario Universitario Insular Materno Infantil (CHUIMI),

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Prof. Dr. Maria Luz Fernandez

Canarian Health Service, 35016

Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269,

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