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Effects of Breast Milk and Formula on Infant Intestinal Health and the Infant Gut Microbiome

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Message from the Guest Editor

Nutrition during infancy has substantial health consequences, with breastfeeding providing numerous health benefits. These benefits range from being immediate and critical, such as the use of donor milk to reduce the risk of necrotizing enterocolitis in premature infants, to the more subtle effects of human milk oligosaccharides on shaping the development of the infant gut microbiome. As such, understanding how the components of breastmilk and formula in addition to the duration of breastmilk feeding shape infant gut health is key.

The objective of this Special Issue on the “Effects of Breast Milk and Formula on Infant Intestinal Health and the Infant Gut Microbiome” is to publish selected papers detailing both short-term and long-term effects of breast milk and formula on infant intestinal health, including changes to the infant gut microbiome. In particular, papers focused on how breastmilk and formula composition or the duration and intensity of breastfeeding impact infant intestinal health and the gut microbiome are of interest. Papers on both term and preterm infants are welcome.



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