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Nutrition and Gut Immunity

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Message from the Guest Editor

The gastrointestinal tract harbours trillions of bacteria in the lumen, separated from the host by the first line of defence, the gut epithelium, considered as part of the innate immunity. In conjunction with the epithelium, a dense population of immune cells in the lamina propria and gut lymphoid structures prevent the uncontrolled translocation of gut bacteria into the host that could otherwise have dramatic consequences for the host, including death.

Changes in the gut immunity can have both local and systemic impacts on the host. A better understanding of what affects gut immunity is thus critical to prevent/treat diseases.

Diet is among the major factors that can modulate gut immunity by modulating epithelial permeability, by promoting the differentiation of anti- or pro-inflammatory cells, or by controlling immune cell activities. Diet can mediate these effects either directly or indirectly through the gut microbiota.

The aim of this Issue is to gather reviews and original research articles investigating the impact of diet on gut immunity, including the role of the gut microbiota and the impact on host health.



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