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Microbes as Functional Food: Genomics and Metabolomics Surveys of Bacterial Probiotic Strains

Guest Editor:

Dr. Alfonso Benítez-Páez

Institute of Agrochemistry and Food Technology (IATA-CSIC), Inst Agrochem & Food Technol, Microbial Ecol Nutr & Hlth Res Unit, C Catedrat Agustín Escardino Benlloch 7, Valencia, Spain

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Message from the Guest Editor

The characterization and use of probiotic strains have become an attractive alternative for the treatment of prevalent maladies such as CD, IDB/IBS, CeD, UC, and obesity, among others, resulting frequently in an amelioration of the respective symptoms. Advances in anaerobe culturing techniques have permitted to re-examine the so-called "non-cultivable" microbial species present in the human gut. Accordingly, new culture media and better protocols and equipment have made possible the recovery of indigenous and prevalent microbial species of the human GIT, thus permitting to explore in depth their growth conditions, nutritional requirements, genomes, gene expression patterns, and metabolic circuits. The **aim** of this Special Issue is to present the characterization of potential new probiotic strains using cutting-edge technology to describe: (1) their **genetic traits of interest** for disease prevention; (2) **in vitro** and **in vivo studies of synbiotic** products (probiotics+prebiotics); (3) **gene expression and metabolic products** released when exposed to prebiotics; and (4) production of **metabolites with impact on the gut–brain axis** function.



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Special Issue



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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Arun K. Bhunia

1. Department of Food Science,
Purdue University, West
Lafayette, IN, USA

2. Department of Comparative
Pathobiology (Courtesy), Purdue
University, West Lafayette, IN,
USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Foods Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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