

Concept of Prebiotics, Probiotics and Synbiotics

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Definitions

- Prebiotic-(Greek-before life) a substance (usually an oligosaccharide) that cannot be digested but does promote the growth of beneficial bacteria or probiotics
- Probiotic- (for life) a substance that contains microorganisms or bacteria that are beneficial to the host organism
- Symbiotic- (plus life)- a substance containing both pre and probiotic

History



Elie Metchnikoff

 In 1907, Russian Nobel prize winner and father of modern immunology, Elie Metchnikoff, proposed that the acid producing bacteria in fermented milk products could prevent "fouling" in the large intestine and if consumed regularly lead to a longer, healthier life. He was the first to conceptualize "Probiotics".

History

- In early **1930's** in Japan, **Minoru Shirota** developed a **fermented milk** product called **Yakult**.
- In 1935 he started marketing Yakult as a probiotic yogurt like product made by fermenting a mixture of skimmed milk with a special strain of Lactobacillus casei Shirota.
- Bulgarian yoghurt (sour milk), commonly consumed plain, is popular for its taste, aroma, and quality. The qualities arise from the Lactobacillus bulgaricus and Streptococcus thermophilus culture strains used in Bulgaria.

Prebiotics



Prebiotics

- The **prebiotics concept** was introduced for the **first** time in **1995** by **Glenn Gibson** and **Marcel Roberfrois.**
- They are defined as non-digestible or low-digestible food ingredients that benefit the host organism by selectively stimulating the growth or activity of one or a limited number of probiotic bacteria in the colon.
- Fermentable carbohydrates (oligosaccharides) are the generally used prebiotics.

Benefits of Prebiotics



Prebiotics nourishes certain probiotic bacteria. This may help support gut health and promote overall health by

- 1. Increasing and energizing beneficial bacteria
- 2. Normalizing the gut by restoring the balance between good and bad bacteria
- 3. Positively impacting the gut environment with bacteriaderived compounds like short chain fatty acids and vitamins

Prebiotic should be

- It must be neither hydrolyzed nor absorbed in the upper part of the gastrointestinal tract.
- Selective fermentation by potentially beneficial bacteria in the colon
- Alternation in the composition of the colonic microbiota towards a healthier composition.
- Preferably induce effects which are beneficial to the host health

Types of Prebiotics

- The majority of prebiotics are carbohydrate groups and mostly oligosaccharide carbohydrates (OSCs)
- Fructans
- Galacto-Oligosaccharides
- Starch and Glucose Derived Oligosaccharides.
- Other Oligosaccharides
- Non-Carbohydrate Oligosaccharides

Fructans

- This category consists of Inulin and Fructo-oligosaccharide(FOS) and Oligofructose.
- Their structure is a linear chain of fructose with $\beta(2 \rightarrow 1)$ linkage. They usually have terminal glucose units with $\beta(2 \rightarrow 1)$ linkage.
- Inulin has Degree of Polymerization(DP) of upto 60, while the DP of FOS is less than 10.
- The chain length of Fructans is an important criterion to determine which bacteria can ferment them.

Galacto-Oligosaccharides

- Galacto-oligosaccharides (GOS), the product of lactose extension are classified into two subgroups:
- 1. The GOS with excess galactose at C3,C4 or C6 and
- 2. The **GOS manufactured from lactose** through enzymatic transglycosylation. The end product of this reaction is mainly a **mixture of tri** to pentascaaharides with galactose in $\beta(1\rightarrow 6),\beta(1\rightarrow 3)$ and $\beta(1\rightarrow 4)$ linkages. This type of GOS is also termed as trans-galactooligosaccharides or TOS
- GOS can greatly stimulate *Bifidobacteria* and *Lactobacilli*.
- Enterobacteria, Bacteroidetes and Firmicutes are also stimulated by GOS but to lesser extent.
- Some GOSs derived from lactulose, the isomer of Lactose. The lactulose derived GOSs are also considered as prebiotics.

Prebiotics commonly used in human nutrition

- Lactulose
- Galacto-oligosaccharides
- Fructi-oligosaccharides
- Inulin and its hydrolysates
- Mato-oligosaccharides
- Resistant starch

Examples of Prebiotics



Prebiotics and health benefits

- **1.** Reduce risk of Inflammatory and bowel diseases
- 2. Anti-hypertensive effects
- 3. Anti-diabetic effect
- 4. Hypocholesterolemic effect
- 5. Immunomodulatory effect

Prebiotic oligosaccharides can be produced in three different ways

- By extraction from plant materials
- Microbiological synthesis or enzymatic synthesis
- Enzymatic hydrolysis of Polysaccharides.

Case Studies

- Gibson and Wang, 1994 conducted in vitro studies on oligofructose and inulin and found that it had stimulatory effect on *Bifidobacteria*, while maintaining *E.coli* and *Clostridium* populations at relatively low levels.
- In vivo studies by Ohta et al., 1995 on Fructo oiligosaccharides (FOS) found improved recover from anemia and increased absorption of iron (Fe), Calcium and Magnesium, in Fe-deficient anemic rats.

Case studies

- Ozceliket al., 1996 shown (in vivo) that oral lactulose treatment prior to surgical trauma reduced bacterial translocation to mesenteric lymph nodes and prtal venous blood.
- Bovee Oudenhoven and Van der Meer, 1997 shown (In vivo) that combination of dietary lactulose and calcium phosphate were protective against Salmonella infection.

Commercially available Prebiotics



Probiotics

- The idea probiotics was first introduced by Metchnikoff in 1908.
- Probiotics –Greek word meaning " for life"
- Probiotics can be defined as "live organisms that when ingested in adequate amounts, exert a health benefit to the host (Eamonn and Quigley, 2010)"
- We use the term probiotics to refer to **beneficial bacteria**
- Probiotics defined as "micro-organisms that have a beneficial effect on the host intestinal microbial balance".
- Probiotics was meant to **contrast "antibiotics**" popularly prescribed and known to also destroy beneficial organisms and impact the immune system.
- Large number of probiotics currently used and available in dairy fermented foods, especially in yogurts.

Probiotics

- They possess good sensorial properties.
- Fermentative activity
- Good survival during freeze drying or spray-drying
- Proper growth and viability in food products
- Phage resistance and high stability during long-term storage

PROBIOTIC FOOD





sauerkraut



dairy products





sourdough bread



Probiotics







bulgaricus





bifidobacterium



lactobacillus



lactococcus



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PROBIOTICS

★ WHAT ARE PROBIOTICS * SOURCES OF PROBIOTICS * PROBIOTICS HEALTH BENEFITS







Bifidobacterium

Propionibacterium

Strengthening the Immune System



Streptococcus Thermophilus



Lactococcus







Kombucha



Mental Health

Sauerkraut

PROBIOTICS HEALTH BENEFITS

Weight Loss



Digestive Health





Normalization of Blood Pressure



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Initial Intentional Probiotic Use

Eli Metchnikoff observed

- Bulgarians who drank milk fermented by lactic-acid producing bacteria had long lives
- Lactic acid lower gut pH and inhibits the growth of some pathogenic bacteria

- Lactic acid bacteria beyond fermentation positively influence our health mainly by improving the composition of intestinal microbiota. For this reason they are called probiotics
- Lactobacillus, Bifidobacterium, Streptococcus, Lactococcus and Saccharomyces have been promoted in food product because of their reputed

Requirement to be defined as an effective probiotic

- **1. Adhere to cells**
- 2. Exclude or reduce pathogenic adherence
- 3. Persist and multiply
- 4. Produce acids, hydrogen peroxide and bacteriocins antagonistic to pathogen growth
- 5. Be safe, non-invasive, non-carcinogenic and non-pathogenic
- 6. Congregate to form a normal balanced flora

Beneficial Roles for probiotic strains

- **1.** Re-establishment of balanced intestinal micro flora
- 2. Improving colonization resistance and /or prevention of diarrhea
- 3. Systemic reduction of serum cholesterol
- 4. Reduction of faecal enzymes, potential mutagens which may induce tumors
- 5. Metabolism of lactose and reduction of lactose intolerance
- 6. Enhancement of immune system response
- 7. Improved Calcium absorption
- 8. Synthesis of vitamins and predigestion of proteins

Commercially Available Probiotics



















Proofs

- Promising evidences have shown that prevention of GIT colonizing by a variety of pathogen is primary mechanism of beneficial effects mediated by probiotics (Lu and Walker, 2001; Forestier et al., 2001).
- Probiotic bacteria attach to enterocytes and thus inhibit the binding of enteric pathogen to the intestinal mucosa by production of inhibitory substances (competitive exclusion of pathogens. These inhibitory substances include bacteriocins, lactic acid and toxic oxygen metabolites) (Nemcova,1997; Kopp Hoolihan, 2001).
- Attachment of probiotic bacteria to cell surface receptors of enterocytes also initiates signaling events that results in the synthesis of cytokines. Furthermore the production of butyric acid by some probiotic bacteria affects the turnover of enterocytes and neutralizes the activity of dietary carcinogens, such as nitrosamines (Wollowski et al., 2001).

Synbiotics

- Synbiotics may be defined as a mixture of probiotics and prebiotics that beneficially affects the host by improving the survival and implantation of live microbial dietary supplements in the gastrointestinal tract.
- In other words the live microbial additions (probiotics) may be used in conjunction with specific substrates (prebiotics) for growth (e.g. a fructo-oligosaccharide in conjunction with a bifidobacterial strain or lactitol in conjugation with lactobacillus organism.)

Synbiotics and Health Benefits

- Pediatric Surgery: For Probiotics, live bacterial preparations of Bifidobacterium breve strain yakult and Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota were used, and galacto-oligosaccharide were supplemented as probiotics.
- As the intestinal bacterial flora was improved by synbiotic therapy, intestinal peristalsis recovered, intestinal expansion was reduced and the nutritional condition improved as reflected by gain in body weight (Kanamori et al., 2004; Kanamori et al., 2003).







THANK YOU