FACTSHEET

Prebiotics and GUT HEALTH

WHAT EXACTLY IS GUT HEALTH?

Trillions of microbes, mainly bacteria, call your gut home. Collectively, these microbes, along with their environment, genes and their by-products, are called your microbiome¹. While gut health is a relatively new and evolving area of scientific research, current evidence suggests that your gut microbiome plays an essential role in your overall health – linking it with everything from irritable bowel syndrome² and type two diabetes³ to depression⁴ and even your immunity⁵. After all, it's thought that the majority of your immune cells lie in your gut!

Along with sleep, stress and exercise, what you eat has a big impact on your gut microbiome – and changes in your diet can quickly lead to changes in your gut microbiome and therefore your gut health and overall health.

When it comes to food, there are five key elements that keep your good bugs happy:

Probiotics are the good gut bugs living inside your gut. In adequate amounts, they may have a beneficial effect on your health.

Prebiotics are the food that feeds your good gut bugs – without them, probiotics just wouldn't survive.

Postbiotics include non-viable (or dead probiotics) as well as compounds produced as a result of the pre and probiotics doing their jobs (feeding and fermenting) – metabolites, short-chain fatty acids and functional proteins. Postbiotics may be responsible for many of our gut's health benefits⁶.

Fibre is the indigestible part of plant foods – fruit, vegetables, wholegrains, nuts, legumes and seeds – that keep you regular, balance blood sugars and can lower your cholesterol³. Some fibres are also prebiotics. Fibre works with...

Fluid to keep your gut moving regularly.

PREBIOTIC POWER

There are many types of prebiotics. The major prebiotic-rich foods that feed good gut bugs are fructans, galacto-oligosaccharides and candidate prebiotic – resistant starch^{7,8}.



POWERED BY PREBIOTICS

To feed your good gut bugs:

- √ Eat at least 30 different plant foods per week; this includes: fruit, vegetables, wholegrains, nuts, legumes and seeds.
- ✓ Include prebiotic-rich foods, namely Fructans and Galacto-oligosaccharides.

Gut microbiota = community of microbes living in your gut 1

AKA gut bugs

Gut microbiome = all of the genetic material of the microbes in your gut 1

Feeding your good gut bugs with a prebiotic-rich diet may support gut health and overall health, of course consumed as part of a balanced diet!

"GOS has been shown to increase the number of good bugs (Bifidobacterium and Lactobacillus spp) in your gut and therefore support your gut health" 12-16





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- Prebiotic (Galacto-oligosaccharide) supports everyday gut health by increasing the good bugs in your gut, as part of a balanced diet



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