Development of the Gut Microbiota Over the Human Lifespan: its Interaction with Diet and Influence on Health and Illness

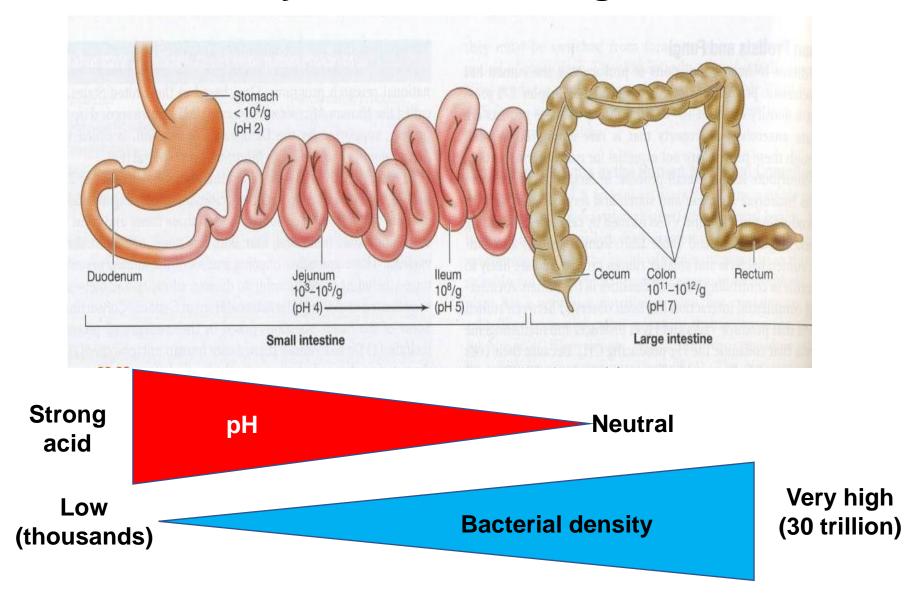
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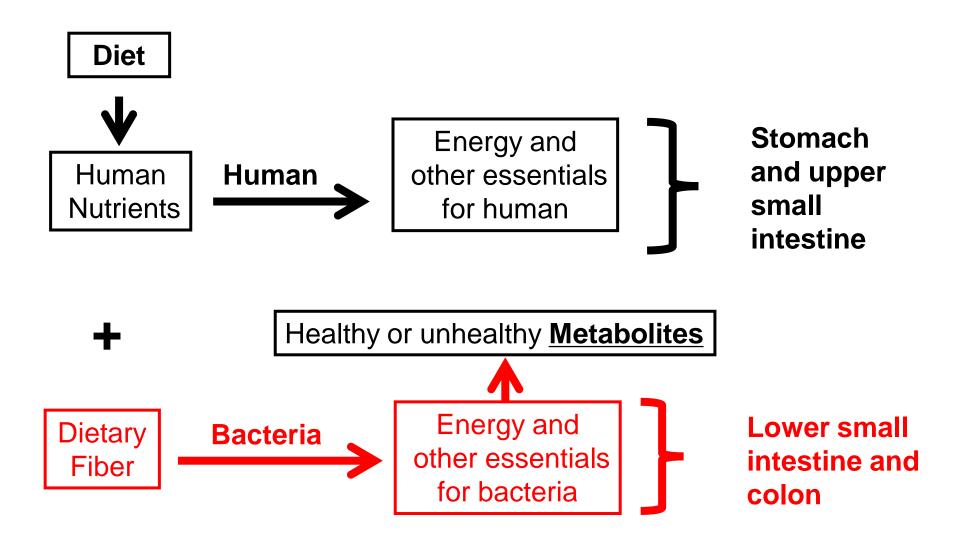


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Anatomy of the human digestive tract



We eat for two (ourselves and our gut bacteria), and we are what we eat!



What is dietary fiber? (new Canada food guide is good source but it fails to mention role of gut bacteria)

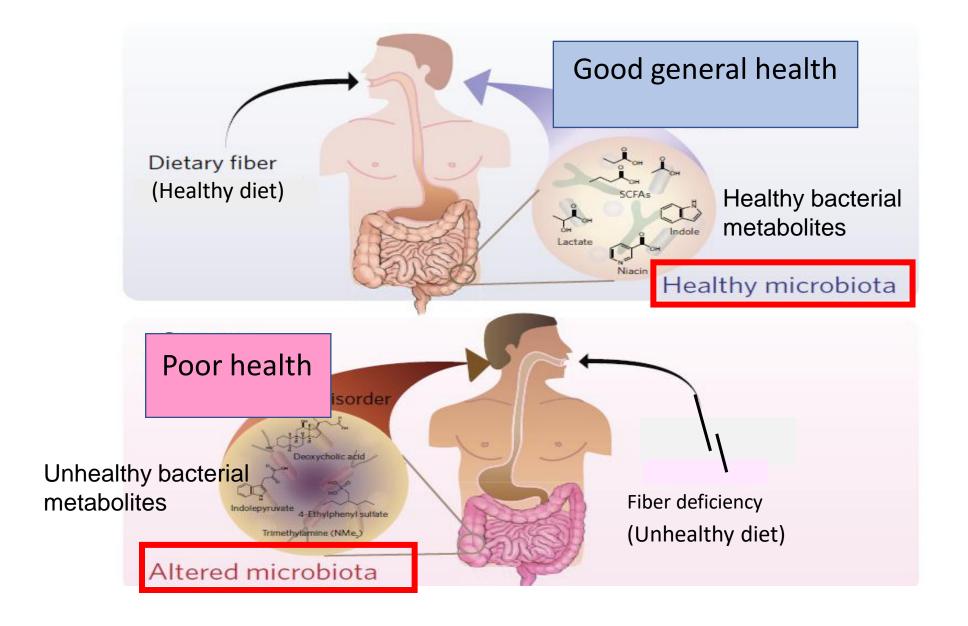


Fresh fruits and vegetables

• Others: whole grains, beans, nuts, etc.

 Benefits: ".....decreased risk of cardiovascular disease, colon cancer, and type 2 diabetes" --- but no mention of gut microbiota and the importance of their metabolites

Summary



Essential function of gut bacterial metabolites

Bacterial metabolites maintain and regulate functions of your immune system

Maintains and regulate activities of your digestive system

Used to mediate communication between gut and brain

 Remember that healthy diets support population of "good" gut bacteria and their healthy metabolites. Not so if you abuse your diet