

COMMITTEE ON GUT MICROBES AND HEALTH

Objectives:

The Committee on Gut Microbes and Health seeks to further explore the relationship between gut microbes and health, and how dietary factors affect the microbiome.

Committee Activities:

Significant scientific discoveries related to gut health have emerged in recent years from the prioritization of medical research related to the human microbiome (microbes colonizing in the intestine) by the National Institutes of Health and institutions in Europe and Canada. The microbiome is known to impact gastrointestinal disorders, and may have a significant influence on immune status and the body's ability to derive energy from food. Although the gut microbiome clearly plays an important role in gastrointestinal disease, there is no definition of a healthy gut microbiota. The Committee on Gut Microbes and Health seeks to host a consensus-style conference focused on identifying the scientific gaps that need to be filled in order to define a healthy gut microbiome and to substantiate efficacy and health outcomes. The workshop will bring together scientific and regulatory experts from fields such as immunology, microbiology, epidemiology, nutrition and gastroenterology. The workshop program is being designed to allow participants to work toward that development of a consensus statement, to be published in a peer-reviewed journal. The outcome of the workshop will help guide the development of scientific information describing what constitutes a "healthy gut microbiome," to forward the development of the field.

Committee Members:

Abbott Nutrition
BENEO-Group
Cargill, Incorporated
National Starch/Corn Products International
The Dannon Company, Inc.
General Mills
Tate & Lyle

Science Advisors and Liaisons:

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