
 Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*


NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism


*Darmmicrobiota en metabole gezondheid*  
*Ellen Blaak*



AOAC Lowlands Symposium Darmgezondheid, gezondheid zit in de darmen Breda, 21<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017

*Professor in Physiology of fat metabolism, Department of Human Biology  
NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism  
Maastricht University Medical Centre<sup>+</sup>  
The Netherlands*




 Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

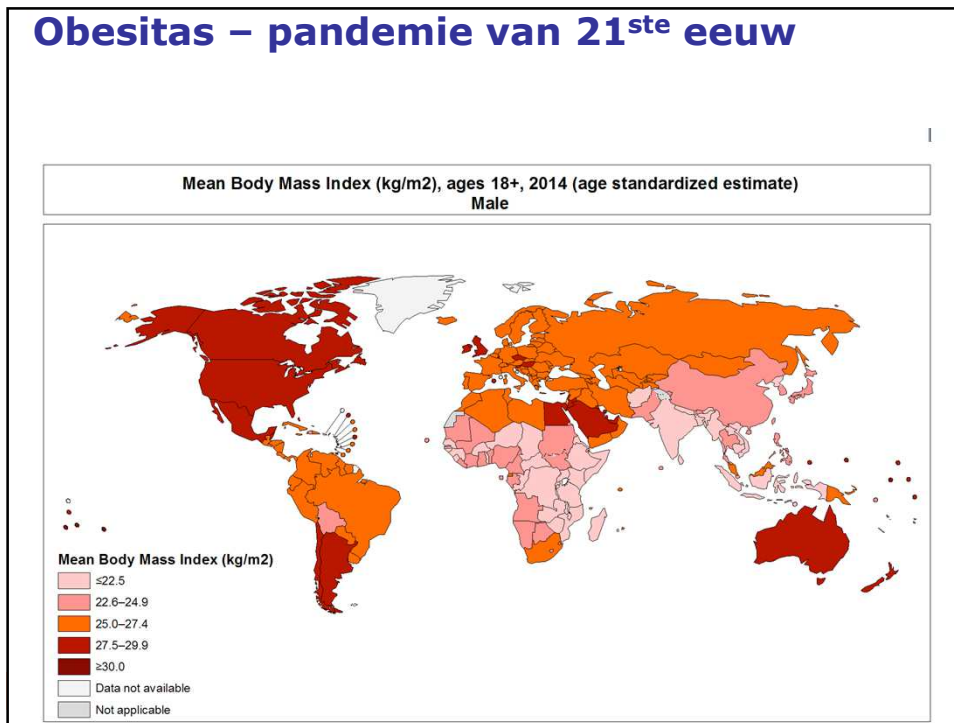
Overview van de presentatie

- Inleiding obesitas en microbiota
- Modulatie van microbiota en metabole gezondheid
  - Feces transplantatie
  - Antibiotica
- De rol van korte keten vetzuren (SCFA) in metabole gezondheid
- Modulatie van microbiota met voeding
- Conclusies



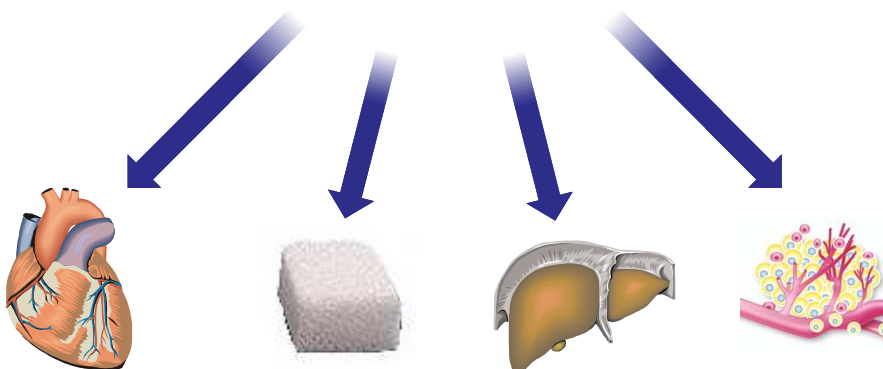
Department of Human Biology

## Obesitas – pandemie van 21<sup>ste</sup> eeuw



### Obesitas: een belangrijke risicofactor voor chronische ziekten

## OBESITY



Cardiovascular disease

Type 2 diabetes

Liver steatosis

Cancer

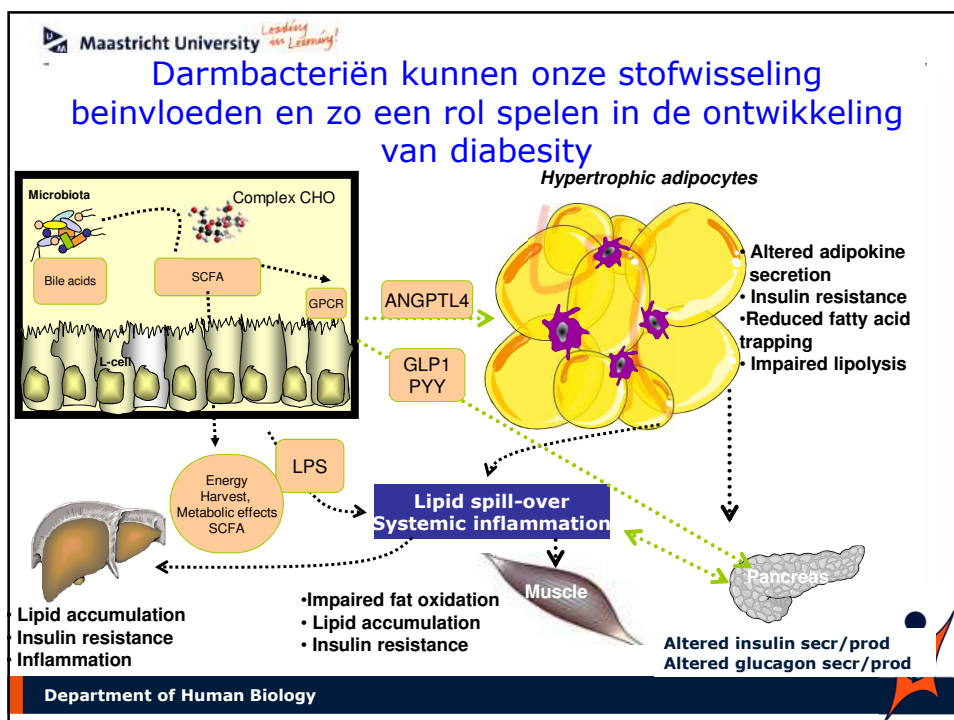
Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

## Obesitas en diabetes en microbiota

- Wereldwijd bereikt obesitas een epidemische prevalentie
- De obesitas pandemie wordt niet verklaard door de meest voorkomende gen-omgevingsinteracties
- Darm microbiota geven producten die ons metabolisme kunnen beïnvloeden en kunnen zo een rol spelen bij obesitas en diabetes
- Obesitas en Type 2 diabetes mellitus gaan gepaard met minder microbiële diversiteit en een andere microbiosamenstelling
- Interventies die de darm microbiota manipuleren kunnen een gunstig effect hebben op diabetesrisico (resultaten niet consistent)


Department of Human Biology



Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

## Microbiota is individual specific

► **Is there a normal microbiota?**



Qin *et al.* Science, 2010


57 species common >90% individuals

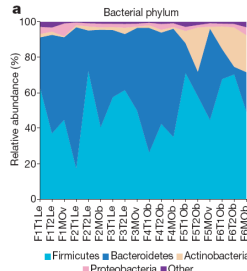
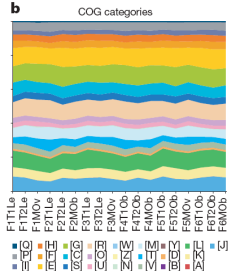
~ 250.000 genes (at least 50% of the individuals)

► **Compositional vs. functional differences**

Adapted from:

**Miguel Gueimonde**



Turnbaugh *et al.* Nature, 2009

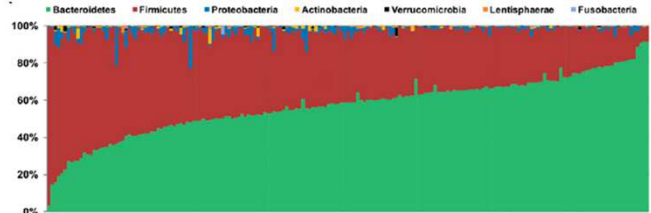
**Department of Human Biology**

Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

## Microbiota is individual specific

► **Challenge: definition of a normal/healthy microbiota**

■ Inter-individual variation




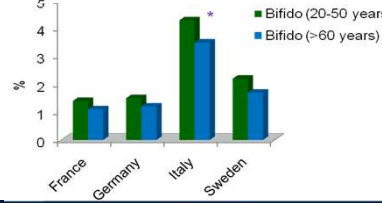
Claesson *et al.* PNAS, 2010.

■ Geographical differences

Adapted from:

**Miguel Gueimonde**





Mueller *et al.* AEM, 2006.

**Department of Human Biology**

Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

## Human gut microbes associated with obesity

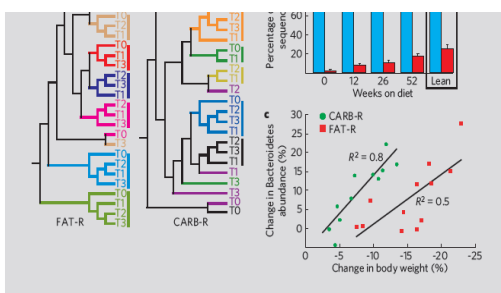
Ruth E. Ley, Peter J. Turnbaugh, Samuel Klein Jeffrey I. Gordon

### Beïnvloed door voeding, populatie, ethniciteit, leeftijd, geslacht, glucometabole status

that this proportion increases with weight loss on two types of low-calorie diet. Our findings indicate that obesity has a microbial component, which might have potential therapeutic implications.

Trillions of microbes live in the human gut, helping to break down otherwise indigestible foods<sup>1</sup>. Transplanting the gut microbiota from normal mice into germ-free recipients increases their body fat without any increase in food consumption<sup>2</sup>, raising the possibility that the composition of the microbial community in the gut affects the amount of energy extracted from the diet<sup>3</sup>.


The relative abundance of the two predominant bacterial divisions (deep evolutionary lineages or superkingdoms) in mice differs between lean and obese animals: mice that



NATURE | Vol 444 | 21/28 December 2006

**BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS**

Department of Human Biology



Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

## Feces transplantatie van muis naar muis

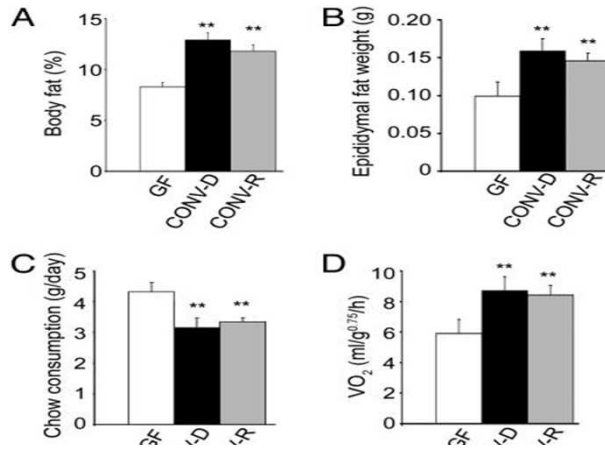


Department of Human Biology



### Van muis naar muis: Darm Flora draagt bij aan obesitas en diabetes

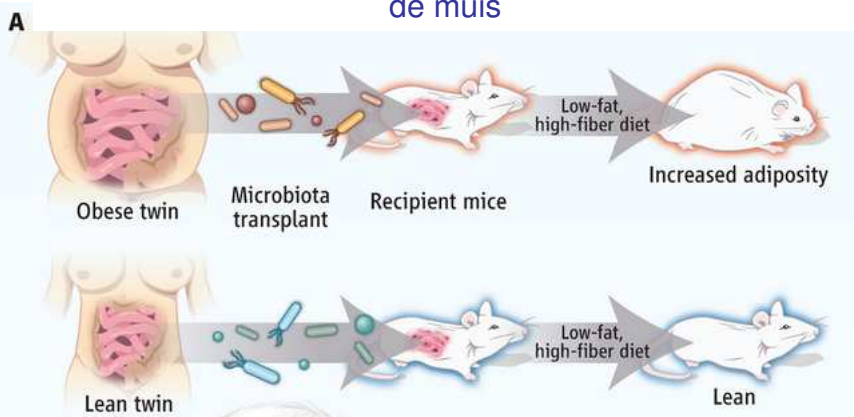
(Bäckhed et al, 2004, 2007)



Microbiota vrije muizen zijn beschermd tegen een verstoorde glucose stofwisseling en insuline resistentie

Department of Human Biology

### Van mens naar muis: Darmmicrobiota van tweelingen met/zonder overgewicht moduleren de stofwisseling van de muis



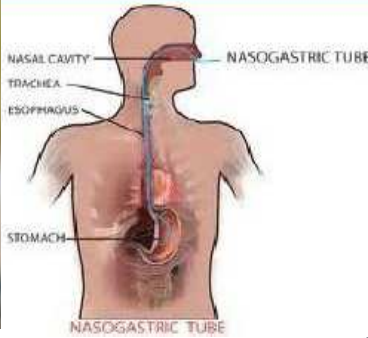
V K Ridaura et al. Science 2013;341:1241214

Department of Human Biology

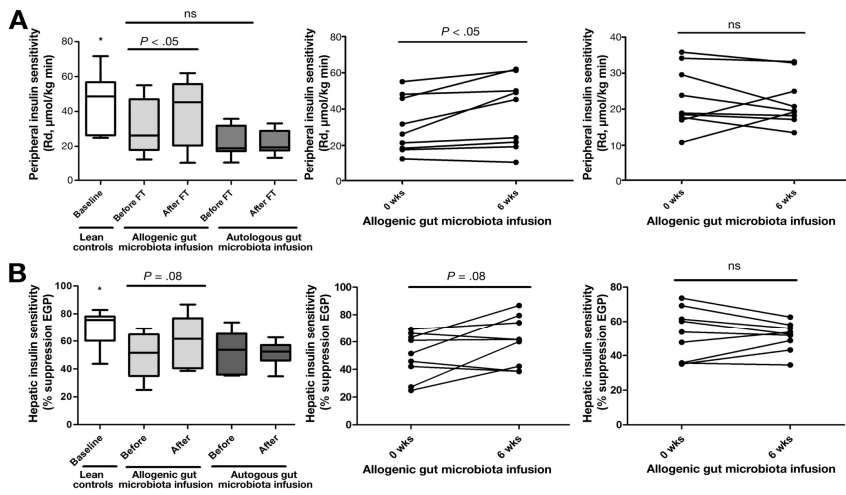
### Van mens naar mens: feces transplantatie en stofwisseling



### FECAL TRANSPLANT



### Transplantatie van Intestinale Microbiota van donoren met normaal gewicht verhoogt Insuline Gevoeligheid bij mensen met het Metabool Syndroom



## Transplantatie van microbiota tussen

- normale en microbiota vrije muizen,
- mensen en muizen
- mensen en mensen

heeft een rol van intestinale microbiota bij de ontwikkeling van obesitas en insuline resistentie aangetoond

Effecten bij de mens zijn klein!

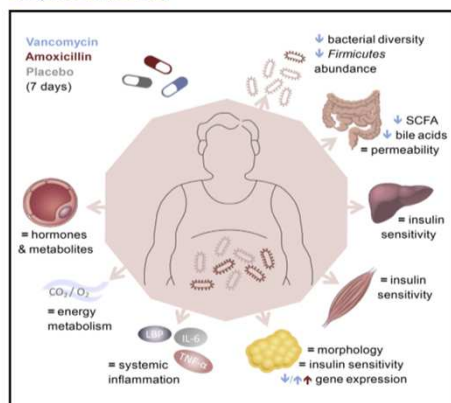


## Cell Metabolism

Clinical and Translational Report

### Effects of Gut Microbiota Manipulation by Antibiotics on Host Metabolism in Obese Humans: A Randomized Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Trial

#### Graphical Abstract



#### Highlights

#### Authors

Dorien Reijnders, Gijs H. Goossens, Gerben D.A. Hermes, ..., Erwin G. Zoetendal, Cornelis H.C. Dejong, Ellen E. Blaak

#### Correspondence

e.blaak@maastrichtuniversity.nl

#### In Brief

Reijnders et al. show that a 7-day antibiotic treatment (amoxicillin/vancomycin) has no clinically relevant impact on host metabolism in obese humans, both directly after treatment cessation and at 8-week follow-up, despite profound changes in gut microbiota, short-chain fatty acid, and bile acid concentrations induced by vancomycin.

#### Accession Numbers



Maastricht University **Antibiotica interventie**

**Treatment**

Placebo  
Amoxicillin  
Vancomycin

1500 mg/day  
7 days

40-70y  
IFG/IGT  
HOMA-IR > 2.2  
n=56

**Timing**

wk 1 pre  
wk 2  
2d wash out  
wk 3 post  
wk 8 follow-up

Department of Human Biology Reijnders et al, Cell metabolism, 2016

**Duidelijke veranderingen in microbiota samenstelling**

**Vanco:**

- Increased gram negative Proteobacteria
- less gram-positive bacteria
- decreased diversity
- After 8 weeks similarity with baseline still lower, diversity slightly lower

**Amox:**

- no diversity and/or composition differences

Department of Human Biology Reijnders et al, Cell metabolism, 2016

Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

## Geen effect op insuline gevoeligheid

- Two-step hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp
  - Endogenous **G**lucose **P**roduction

### Geen effect op insuline gevoeligheid 8 wk na het stoppen van de interventie

Parameter	Placebo	Amox	Vanco
% EGP suppression	~50	~45	~45
Peripheral Insulin Sensitivity (Rd) (μmol/kg/min)	~25	~23	~24
% suppression FFA	~50	~45	~45

Department of Human Biology *Reijnders et al, Cell metabolism, 2016*

Vancomycin  
Amoxicillin  
Placebo  
(7 days)

↓ bacterial diversity  
↓ Firmicutes abundance

↓ SCFA  
↓ bile acids  
= permeability

= hormones & metabolites

= insulin sensitivity

= insulin sensitivity

CO<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>  
= energy metabolism

= systemic inflammation

= morphology  
= insulin sensitivity  
↓/↑ gene expression

Department of Human Biology *Reijnders et al, Cell metabolism, 2016*


Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

## Perspectief

- Modulatie van de microbiota door een 7-daagse antibiotica kuur heeft geen effect op de stofwisseling, ook niet 8 wk na het stoppen van de interventie
- In tegenspraak met veel dierstudies!
- Meer frequent antibiotica gebruik, lange termijn dieet effecten?
- Speelt het metabole fenotype een rol?

Department of Human Biology






Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

## Functie microbiota: saccharolytische en proteolytische activiteit

- Saccharolysis leads primarily to SCFA and gasses
  - SCFA: acetate, propionate, butyrate
  - lactate -> only accumulates when there is a **fast** fermentation
  - CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>
- Proteolysis in addition leads to toxic metabolites
  - BCFA: iso-butyrate, iso-valerate
  - ammonia
  - phenolics: phenol, indol, *p*-cresol, skatol
  - H<sub>2</sub>S, CH<sub>3</sub>SH, etc

m

Department of Human Biology

Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

### Plaats van fermentatie

- transverse colon: combination of saccharolytic and proteolytic fermentation
- proximal colon: primarily saccharolytic fermentation
- distal colon: primarily proteolytic fermentation
- distal colon: colon cancer and IBD

Department of Human Biology

### Functionality of microbiota: SCFA

Undigested foods → Acetate, propionate, butyrate → Faeces

Acetate, Propionate, Butyrate → Liver: ↓ Inflammation, ↓ FA, ↑ AMPK activity, ↑ Insulin sensitivity, ↓ Lipid accumulation

Acetate, Propionate, Butyrate → Muscle: ↓ Lipolysis, ↑ Adipogenesis, ↓ Inflammation, ↑ Leptin

Acetate, Propionate, Butyrate → Brain: ↑ Satiety, ↑ AMPK activity, ↑ Insulin sensitivity, ↓ Lipid accumulation

Intestinal effects: ↑ Intestinal gluconeogenesis, ↑ Sympathetic activity

Receptors: GPR41/43, PYY, GLP-1

Nature Reviews | Endocrinology

Canfora, E. E. *et al.* (2015) Short-chain fatty acids in control of body weight and insulin sensitivity *Nature Reviews Endocrinology* doi:10.1038/nrendo.2015.128

Department of Human Biology

Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

## Major SCFA

m

Acetate

Propionate

Butyrate

Department of Human Biology

Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

## Distal and proximal colonic acetate infusion and metabolic profile

Hypothesis: Colonic administration of SCFA has beneficial effects on human substrate and energy metabolism

↓

**Question:**  
Where to administer? Distal / Proximal?

Department of Human Biology

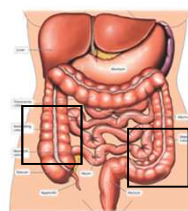
## Distal and proximal colonic acetate infusion and metabolic profile

### Aim:

To investigate differential effects of proximal and distal colonic infusions with sodium acetate on human fat oxidation, energy expenditure and circulating metabolic markers

### Study design

- Double blind, placebo controlled, randomized crossover study
- Six healthy overweight males (BMI 25 – 34.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)  
Aged 20 – 50 years;  
Weight stable for at least 3 months ( $\pm$  2 kg)  
No use of antibiotics, pre- or probiotics



### Intervention

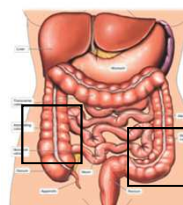
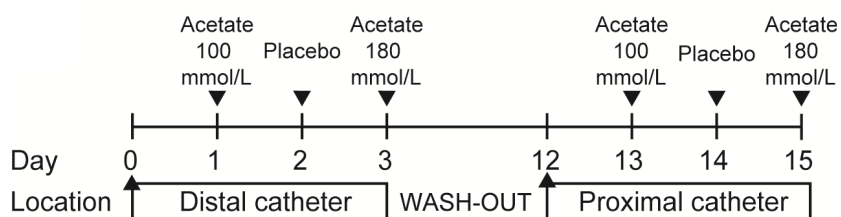
1. Sodium acetate 100mmol/L (12mmol in 120mL water)
2. Sodium acetate 180mmol/L (21.6mmol in 120mL water)
3. Placebo (0.9% NaCl) in 120mL

Department of Human Biology

Van der Beek et al, Clin Sci 2017



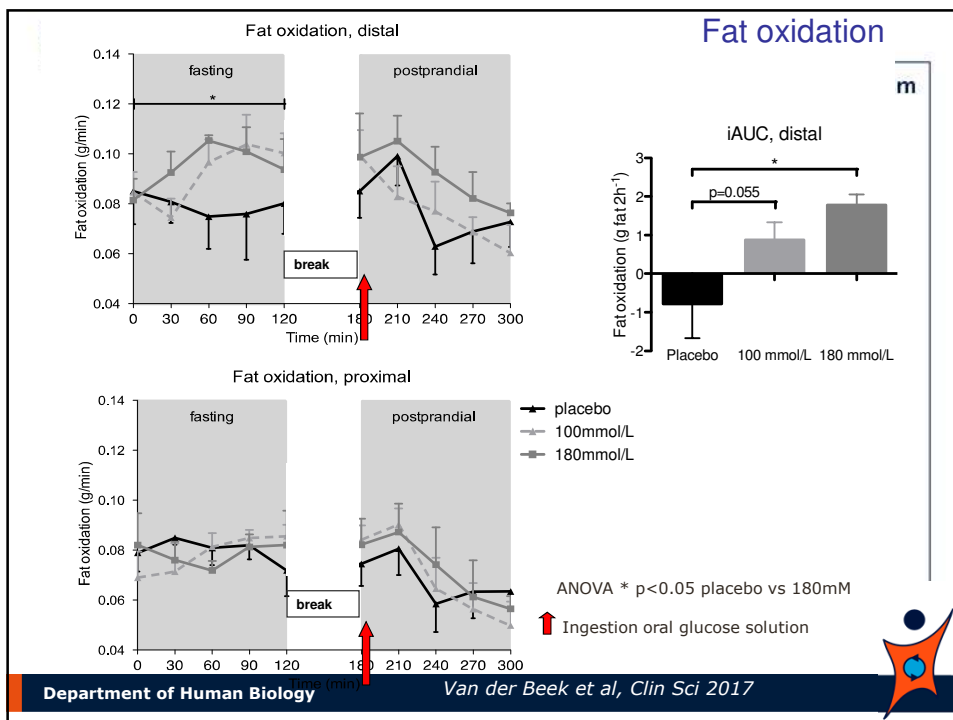
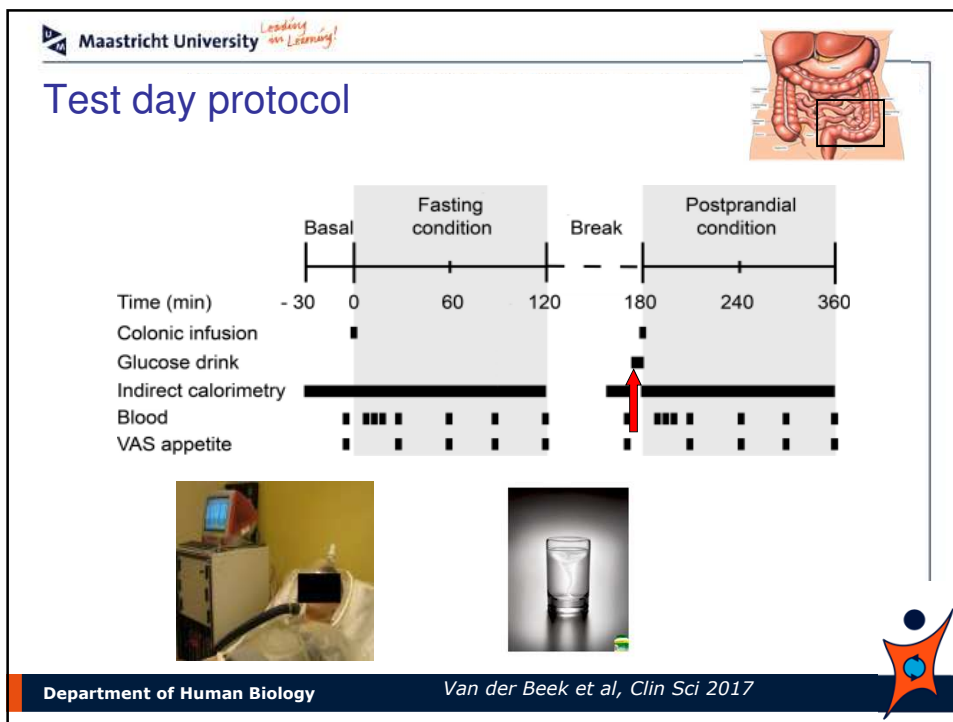
## Intervention protocol



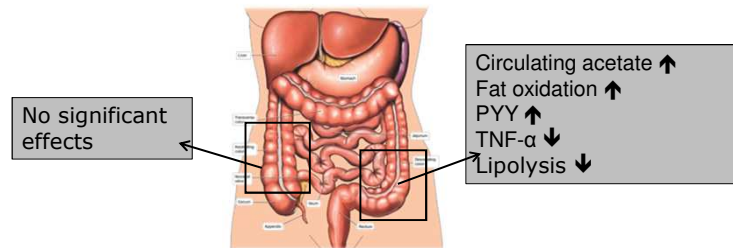
Department of Human Biology

Van der Beek et al, Clin Sci 2017





## Distal, not proximal, colonic acetate infusion improves metabolic profile



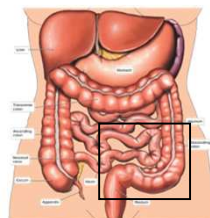
→ Increasing colonic and systemic acetate beneficially affect the metabolic profile

→ Validated distal colonic infusion as a good model to study SCFA effects on metabolism



## Combinations of SCFA and metabolic profile

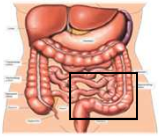
To investigate acute effects of distal colonic infusions of SCFA combinations on substrate and energy metabolism





Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

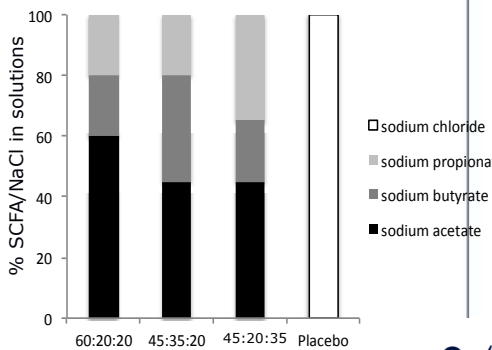
## Intervention protocol (1)



Double blind, placebo controlled, randomized crossover study with 4 distal infusions:

- Placebo: 40mmol NaCl
- High sodium acetate (60:20:20): 24mmol NaAc, 8mmol NaBu, 8mmol NaPr
- High sodium butyrate (45:35:20): 18mmol NaAc, 14mmol NaBu, 8mmol NaPr
- High sodium propionate (45:20:35): 18mmol NaAc, 8mmol NaBu, 14mmol NaPr

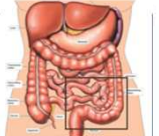
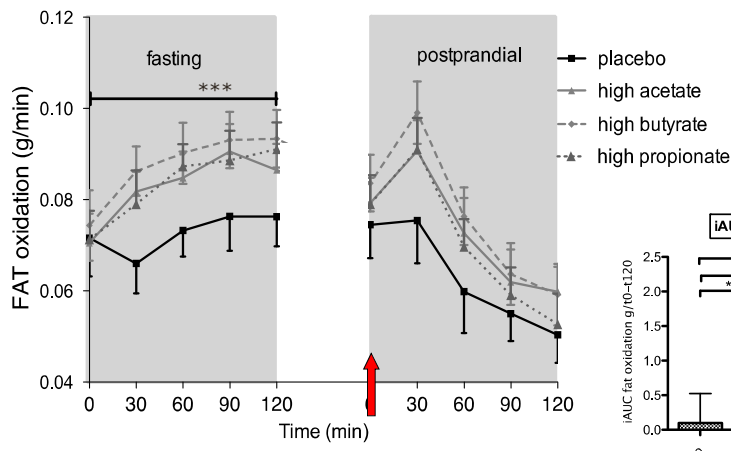
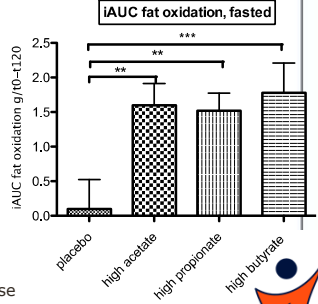
All diluted in 200mL water



Department of Human Biology Canfora et al, Scientific reports, 2017

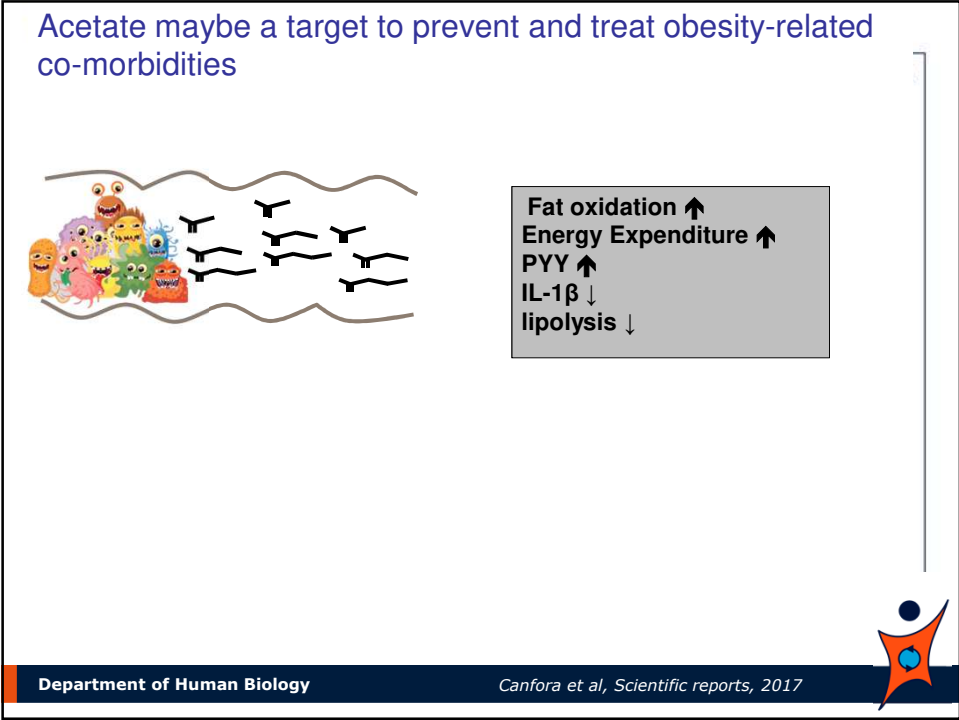
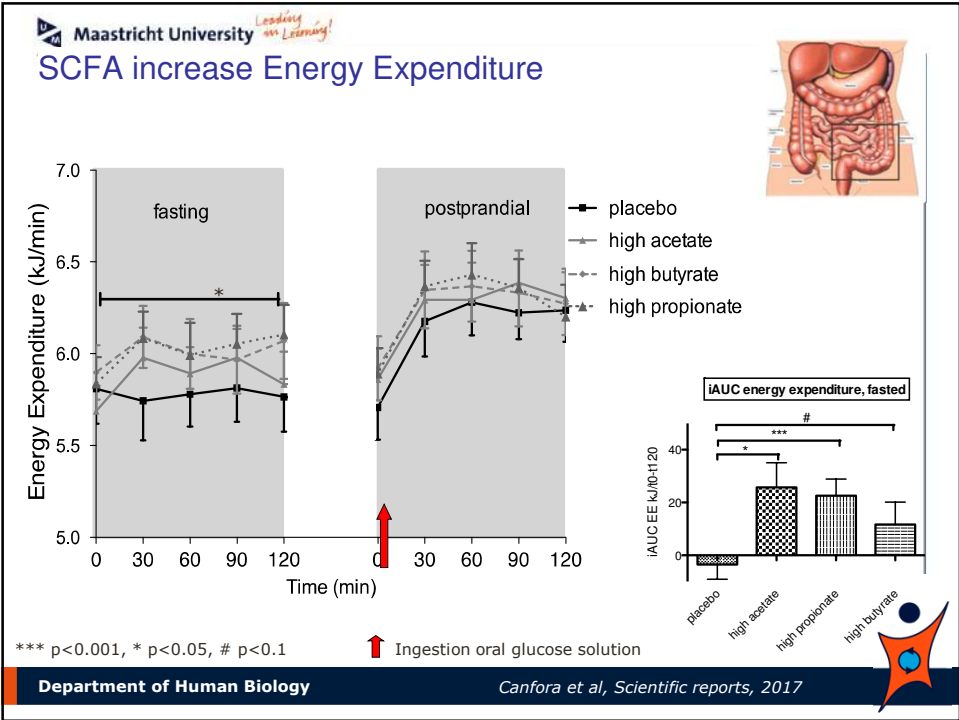
Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

## SCFA increase Fat oxidation

\*\*\* p<0.001, \*\* p<0.01

Department of Human Biology Canfora et al, Scientific reports, 2017



Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

### Why do we hypothesize that the distal colon should be targeted?

Higher density of PYY-producing L-cells in the distal colon

Epithelia

Enteric nervous system

To CNS via pelvic or vagus nerves

Kuwahara (2014), *Frontiers in Endocrinology*

Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

### Increased fat oxidation and EE only after distal administration:

Acetate bypass the liver → circulating acetate ↑ → uptake in oxidative tissues → pAMPK ↑ → fat oxidation ↑

Circulating Acetate ↑

Acetate → pAMPK ↑ → fat oxidation ↑<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Acetate → pAMPK ↑ → fat oxidation ↑<sup>1,2,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sakakibara *et al.*, 2006; <sup>2</sup>Yamashita *et al.*, 2009; <sup>3</sup>Kimura *et al.*, 2013; <sup>4</sup>den Besten *et al.*, 2015

Department of Human Biology


Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

## Summary on acetate

- Abundant animal and limited human in-vivo data: a beneficial role of acetate in the control of body weight, glucose homeostasis, and insulin sensitivity.
- In contrast, some animal data suggest that acetate promotes the development of obesity and insulin resistance.
- Human studies are warranted to evaluate the 'acetate discrepancies' with respect to effects on metabolic health.

Department of Human Biology *Canfora and Blaak, Curr Opin Clin Nutr Metab Care 2017*



## Towards dietary intervention study with galacto-oligosaccharides targeting colonic acetate

Study design


- Double blind, placebo controlled, randomized parallel study
- 46 volunteers:
  - Males and postmenopausal females aged 45-70 years;
  - BMI 28 – 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>;
  - Impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) and/or impaired fasting glucose (IFG);
  - Weight stable for at least 3 months ( $\pm$  2 kg);
  - No use of antibiotics, pre- or probiotics for 3 months

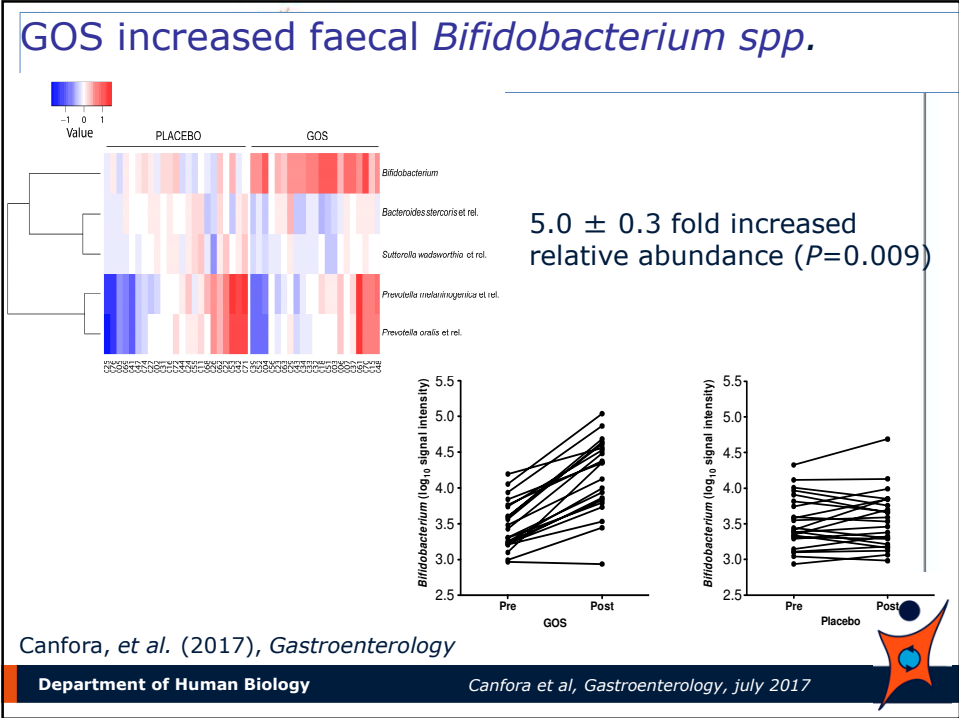
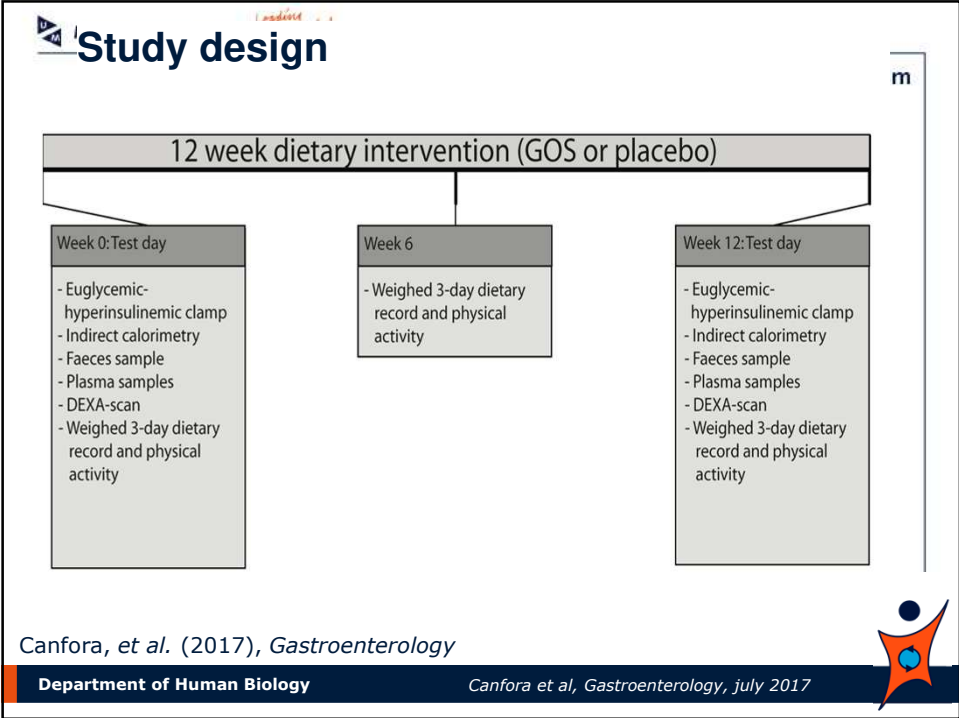
IGT: 2h plasma glucose during 75g OGTT  
7.8-11.1 mmol/l  
IFG: plasma glucose  $\geq$  5.6 mmol/l

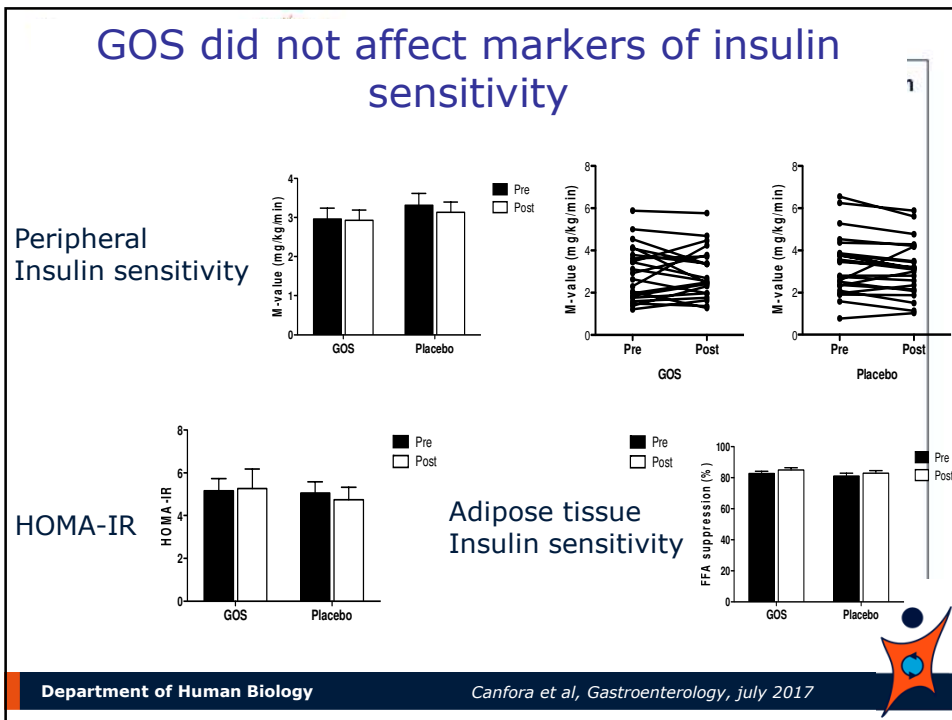
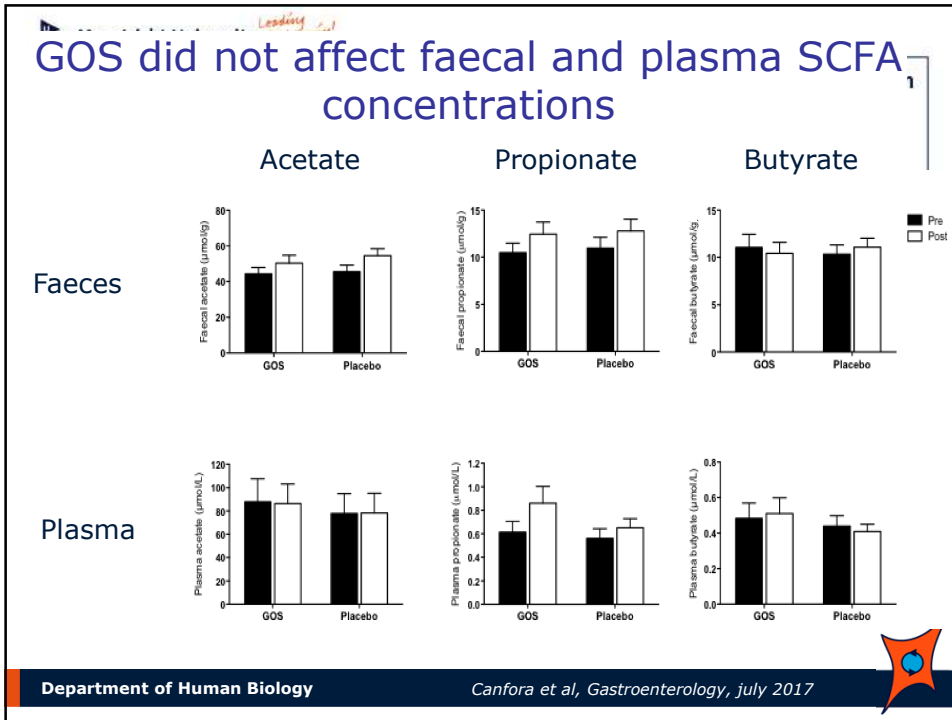
Intervention groups:

1. Vivinal GOS 3x 5 gram per day for 12 weeks
2. Maltodextrin 3x 4.4 gram per day for 12 weeks (isocaloric placebo)

Department of Human Biology *Canfora et al, Gastroenterology, July 2017*








Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism

## In Summary

- Modulation of microbiota by means of antibiotics did not affect metabolic health after 7 days and in the longer term
- SCFA may be an important link between gut microbiota and metabolic health
- Distal, but not proximal, acetate infusion may improve fat oxidation and metabolic profile
- Rectal infusion of SCFA combinations all increase fat oxidation, energy expenditure and metabolic profile
- We propose that acetate is the main driver of this effect
- GOS increased bifidobacteria but not insulin sensitivity in prediabetic individuals
- Dietary fiber intervention focussed on targeted production of SCFA may improve intervention outcome with respect to metabolic profile, but this requires further confirmation

Department of Human Biology



Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

ZonMw

NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research in Metabolism


## Collaborations/Acknowledgements

NWO

TIFOOD NUTRITION

- Gijs Goossens
- Johan Jocken
- Birgitta van der Kolk
- Dorien Reijnders
- Emanuel Canfora
- Rudi Stinkens
- Max Vogel
- Jasper Most
- Kenneth Verboven
- Yvonne Essers
- Nicole Hoebers  
Dept Human Biology

And external Collaborations  
Top Institute Food and Nutrition  
(project GH003, microbiota, energy balance and metabolism)  
EU consortia: EU-Lipgene, MIRdiet, EDIPS, Diogenes



EFSD European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes

Cargill

Diabetes Fonds