



GET TO KNOW YOUR BACTERIA

Bifidobacterium, the "health hero"



What are bifidobacteria?



Health-promoting bifidobacteria are bacteria normally found in your **digestive tract**.

They were first discovered by the **French pediatrician Tissier in 1899** when he isolated them from the digestive systems of breast-fed infants.⁽¹⁾



What can bifidobacteria do for you?

Bifidobacteria are like digestive health heroes—their growth in the gut can prevent and reduce diarrhea related to antibiotic treatment or viral infection⁽¹⁾. Here are some of their other talents:



Influence the immune system and fight **against inflammation**⁽²⁾



Improve **gastrointestinal symptoms** like abdominal pain, bloating, and slow transit time⁽³⁾



Protect the **gut barrier**⁽²⁾



Provide **nutrients** by breaking down fibres like resistant starch to produce molecules called short-chain fatty acids⁽¹⁾

How do bifidobacteria evolve over a lifetime?

Bifidobacteria exist in the human gut **throughout the lifespan**



They represent up to **95% of the bacteria** colonizing the guts of **newborn babies**⁽⁷⁾



They **decrease** over time to about **25%**⁽⁴⁾



How can you increase your bifidobacteria?

You can either consume bifidobacteria directly or consume compounds called **"bifidogenic factors"** that enhance their growth in your gut.



Consume them as **probiotics**



Consume them in **fermented foods** that specifically contain live microorganisms



Consume **prebiotics**, like fructooligosaccharides (FOS)⁽⁵⁾, which serve as food for bifidobacteria and help increase their abundance

Interested in meeting some important kinds of bifidobacteria?



Bifidobacterium breve: breaks down certain indigestible carbohydrates and enhances immunity⁽⁶⁾



Bifidobacterium bifidum: helps reinforce the gut barrier⁽⁷⁾



Bifidobacterium longum: improves digestive symptoms⁽⁸⁾



Bifidobacterium infantis: helps inhibit pathogens with its antimicrobial properties⁽⁹⁾



Bifidobacterium lactis: reduces gastrointestinal discomfort⁽¹⁰⁾