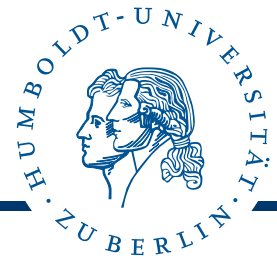




**SFB 852**

Ernährung und intestinale Mikrobiota –  
Wirtsinteraktionen beim Schwein



# Feeding *Enterococcus faecium* to piglets affects B-cells on cell, gene and miRNA level

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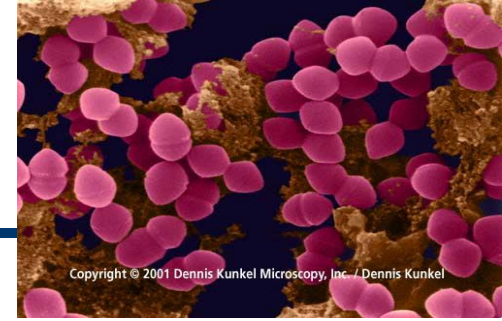
Breeding Biology and Molecular Genetics

# Aim and main question of this study

- Improvement of robustness of piglets through addition of *Enterococcus faecium* NCIMB 10415 to the diet.
- How is the intestinal gut immune system affected by the supplementation of *Enterococcus faecium*?



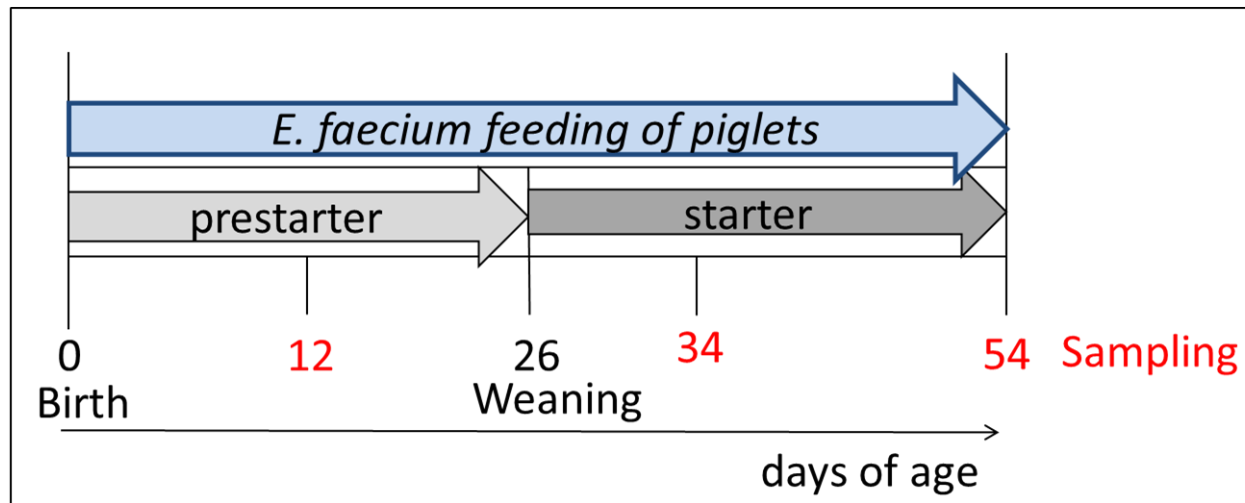
# Background



- *Enterococcus faecium* NCIMB 10415: gram positive, lactic-acid producing bacterium
- Licensed probiotic for pigs since 2005
- Known effects:
  - Reduction of incidence and severity of diarrhea (Busing and Zeyner, 2015; Taras et al., 2006; Zeyner and Boldt, 2006)
  - Reduced the number of mucosa-adherent Escherichia Coli pathotypes (Bednorz et al., 2013)
  - Reduction of the *Chlamydia* load of healthy piglets (Pollmann et al., 2005)
  - Modulation of the intestinal immune system (Kreuzer et al., 2012; Scharek et al., 2005; Wang et al., 2014)

# Experimental design

- *Enterococcus faecium* (EF) dietary supplementation ( $4.2 \times 10^6$  cfu/g) for sows and piglets
- EF-feeding of sows beginning 4 wk before partum, piglets all time

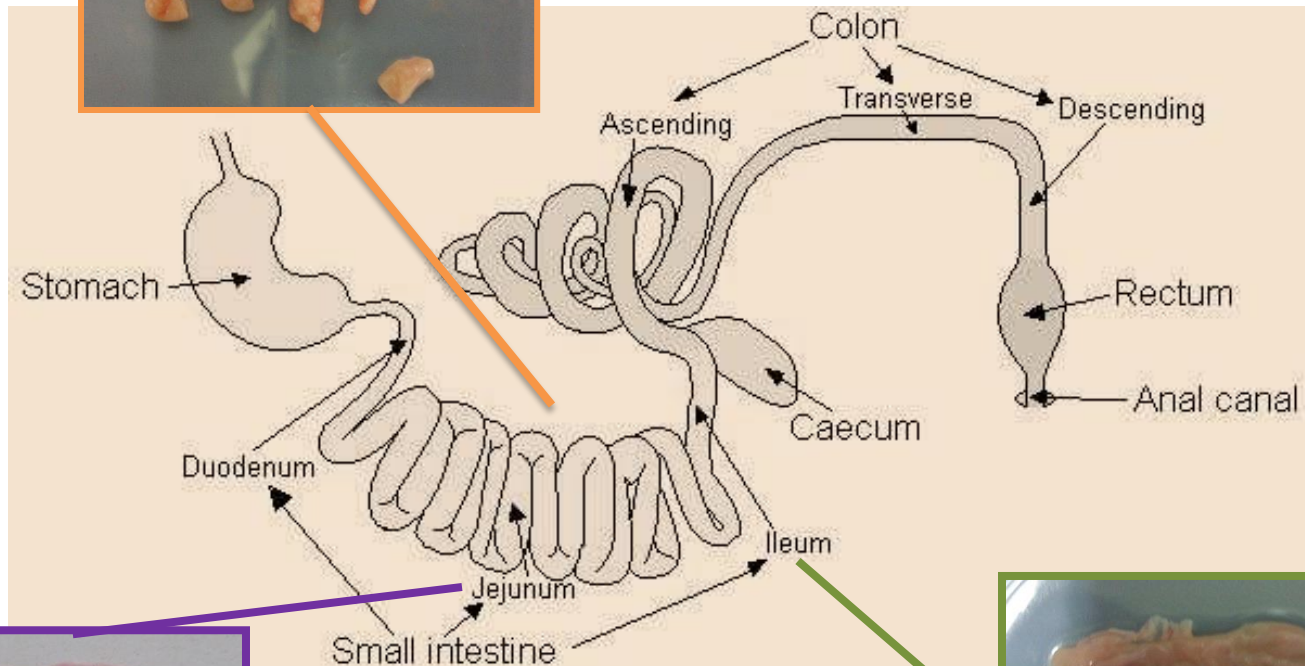


- 6 individuals of each group (Control, Probiotic)

# Material



Mesenteric lymph nodes (from Jejunum and Ileum)

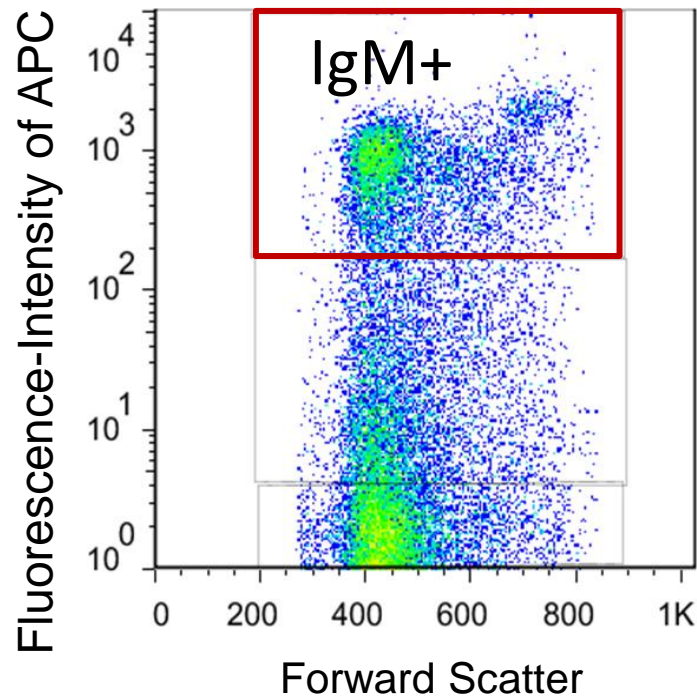


Peyer's Patch of Jejunum (left) and Ileum (right)

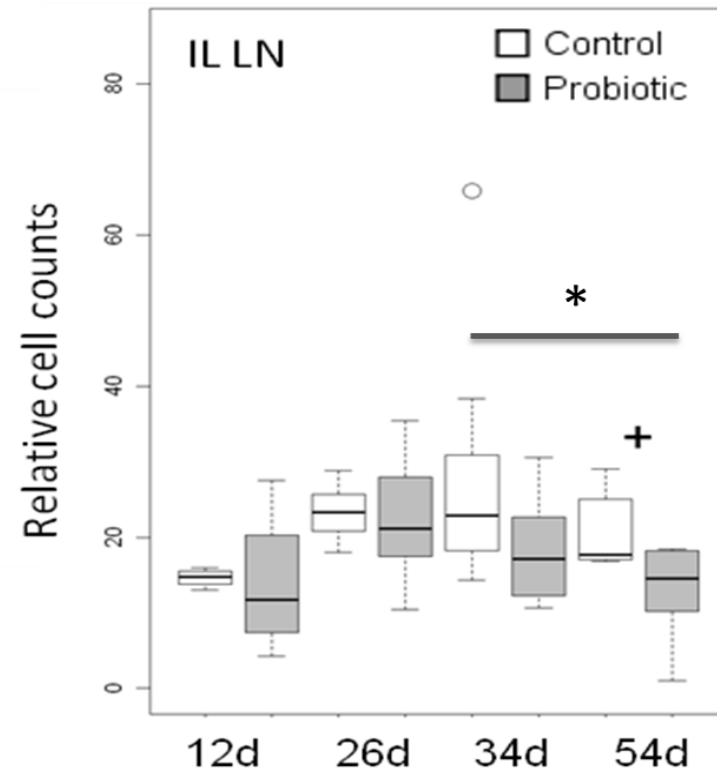


# Results: Flow cytometry (FC), cell level

Example FC-Plot of one pig

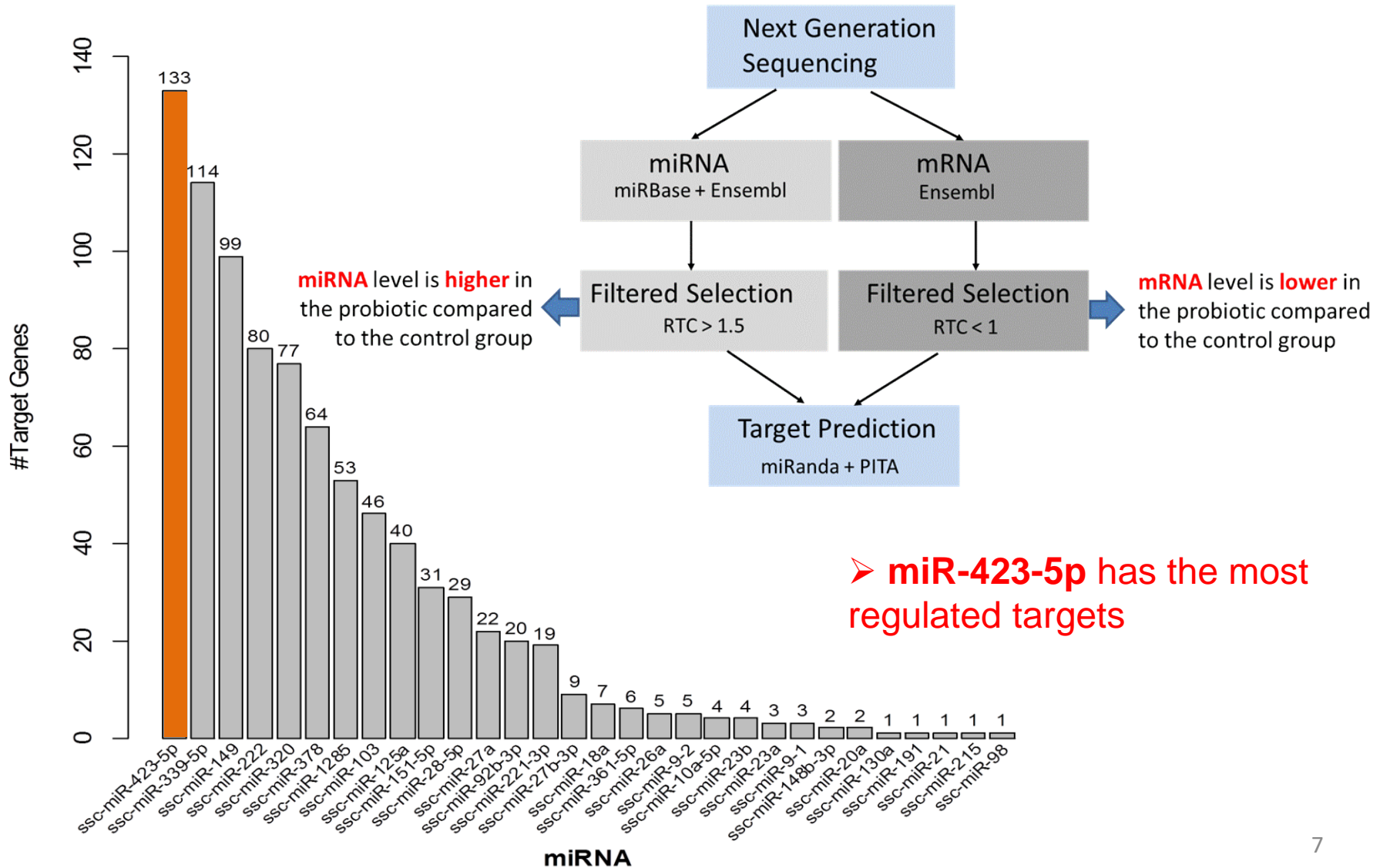


IgM+ B cells



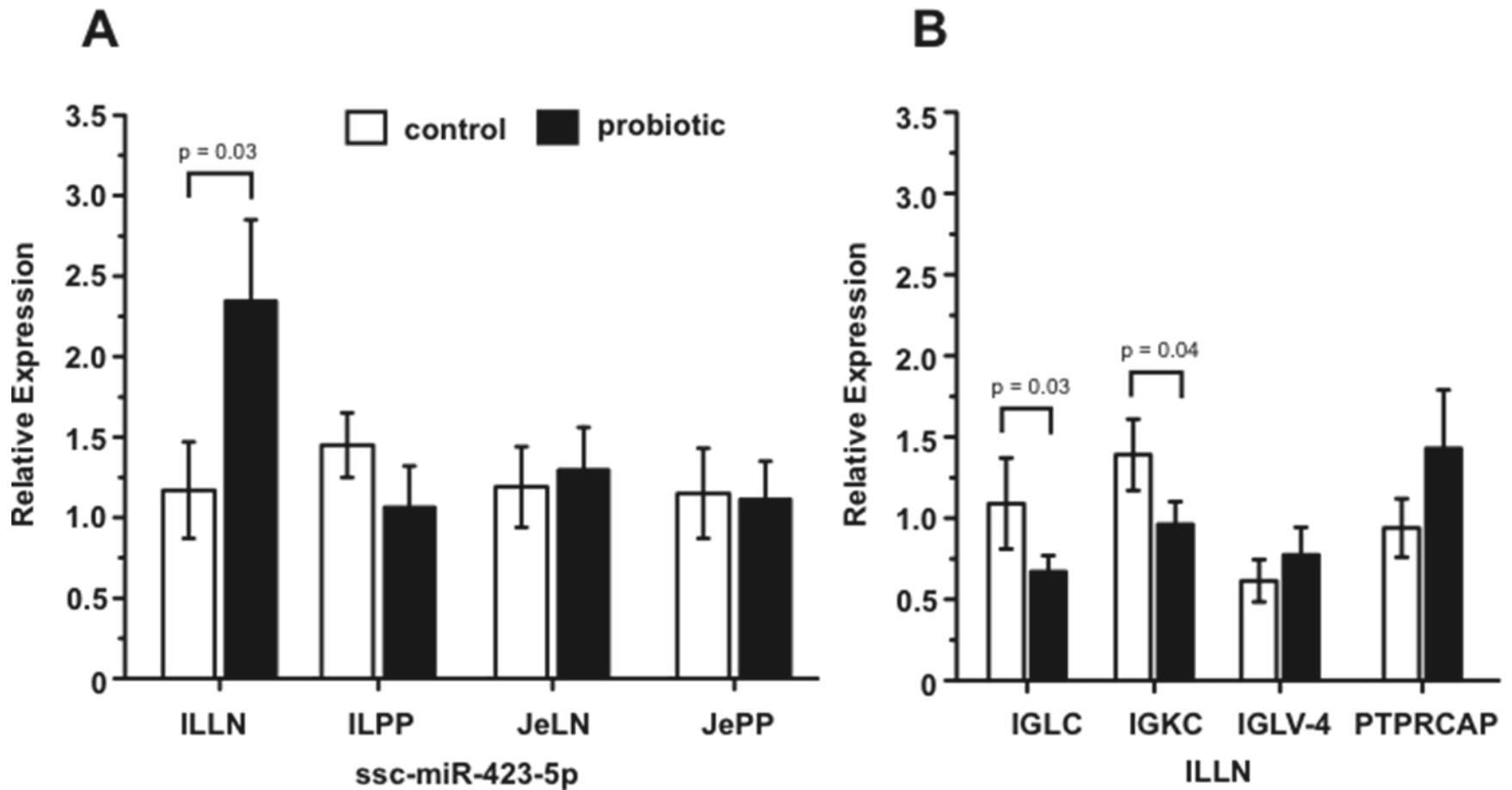
➤ Lower relative frequency of B cells in lymphocytes isolated from ileal mesenteric lymph nodes post weaning in the probiotic group

# Results: NGS, miRNA and mRNA level



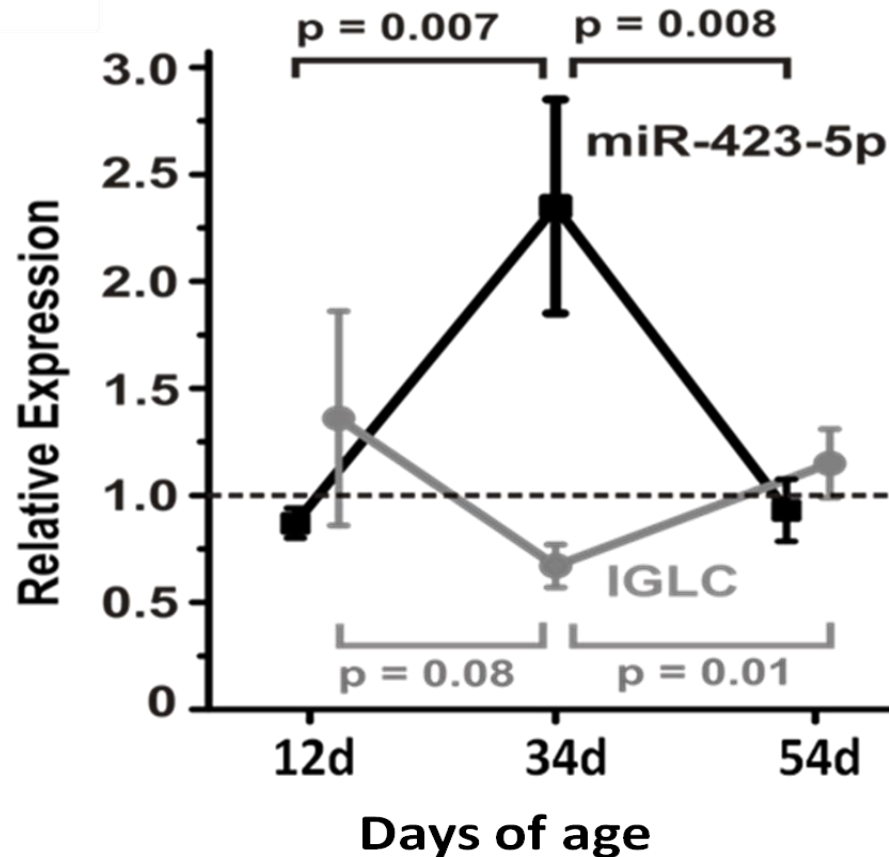
# Results: qPCR, miRNA and mRNA level

➤ Validation of NGS results by qPCR of 34 day old piglets





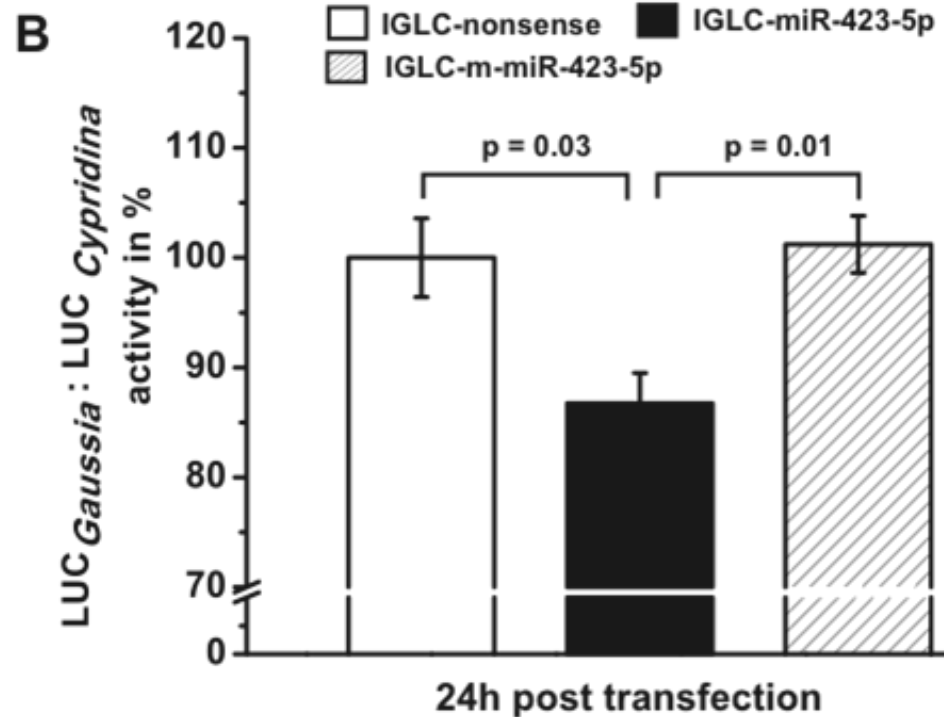
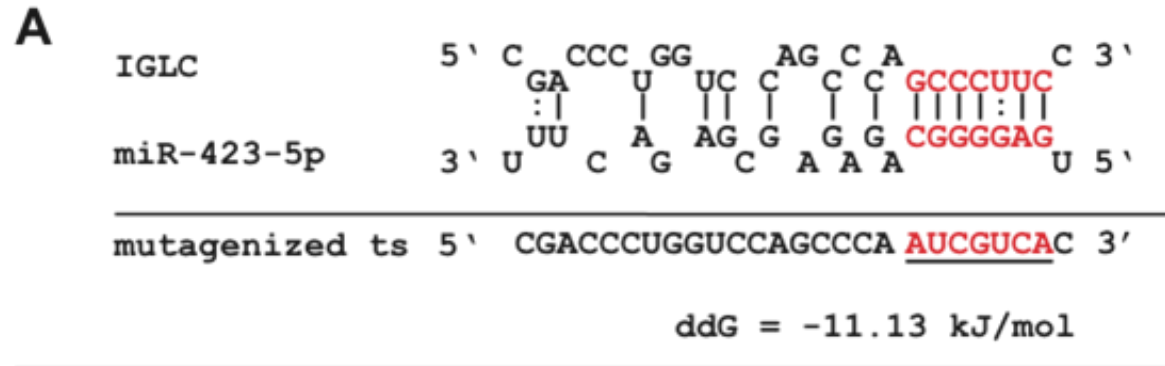
# Results: qPCR, miRNA and mRNA level



➤ Additional examination of 12 and 54 days old piglets showed an anti-correlation of miR-423-5p and IGLC

IGLC: Immunglobulin Lambda Light Chain (Constant Region)

# Results: miRNA-gene interaction



➤ Luciferase reporter assays verified IGLC as a target of miR-423-5p

# Summary and Conclusion

- The expression of miRNA-423-5p is influenced by *E. faecium* feeding in ileal lymph nodes
- The probiotic *E. faecium* led to lower relative transcript amount of IGLC after weaning
- The probiotic *E. faecium* led to lower relative B cell counts after weaning
- IGLC is likely a target of miRNA-423-5p

➔ There seem to be miRNA mediated effects through *E. faecium* on B cells

# Acknowledgment



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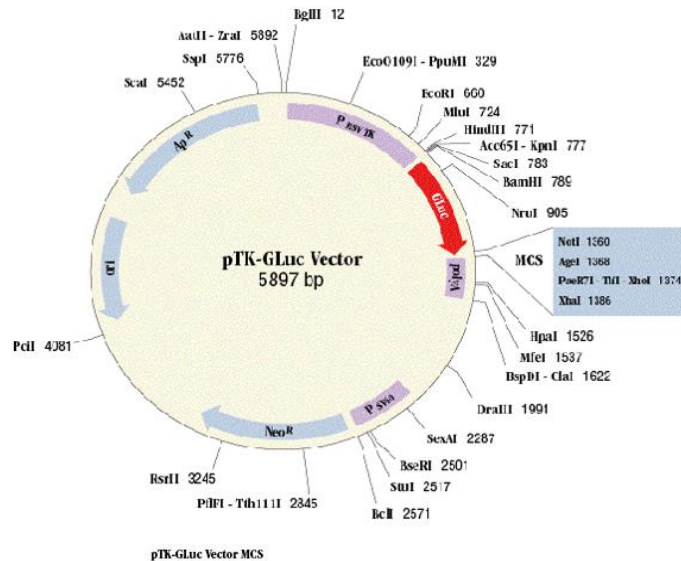
**This study was supported by the German Research Foundation (DFG) through grant SFB 852/1.**

# Summary and Conclusion

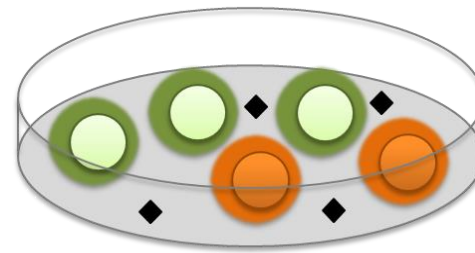
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- ➔ There seem to be miRNA mediated effects through *E. faecium* on B cells

*Thank you for your attention!*

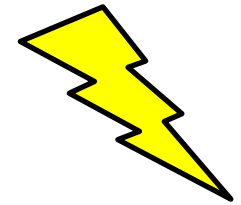
# Results – miRNA and gene interaction



**1)** Identified porcine target sites of IGLC were cloned into the reporter plasmid pTK-Gluc (as well as a mutagenized control)



**2)** Reporter plasmids were co-transfected with pre-miR miRNA-423-5p precursors and nonsense miRNA pre-miR miRNA precursor negative control



**3)** Detection of Luciferase activity

# Introduction - the gut immune system

