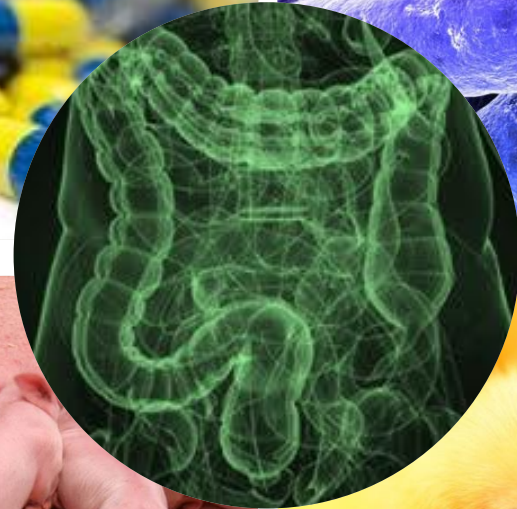
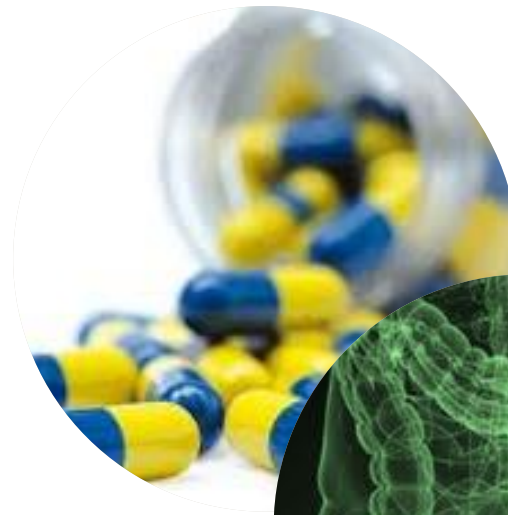


# Impact of Interventions during the Neonatal development of Piglets

Annemarie Rebel

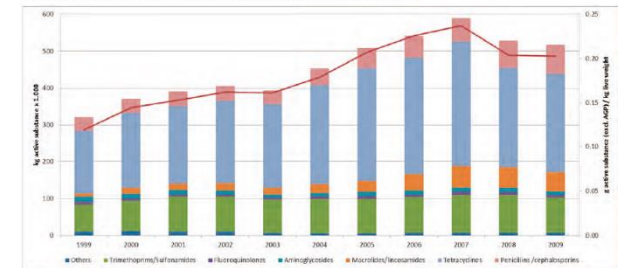
[annemarie.rebel@wur.nl](mailto:annemarie.rebel@wur.nl)



# Strategies to reduce antibiotic usages

- “All Disease begins in the Gut”
  - Hippocrates ca. 460 – ca. 370 BC
- Antibiotics are frequently used to treat intestinal problems.

Figure 3.1. Veterinary therapeutic antibiotic sales from 1999-2009 (FIDIN, 2010; vertical bars). The line presents the trends in grams of active ingredients used per kg live weight.



- Influence intestinal health without usage of antibiotics?

# Gut is the gatekeeper of health

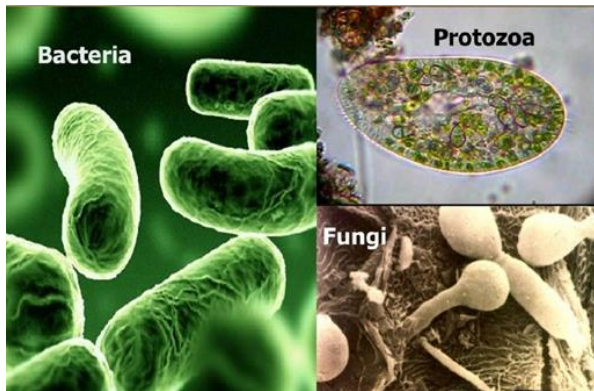


Host

**GUT**

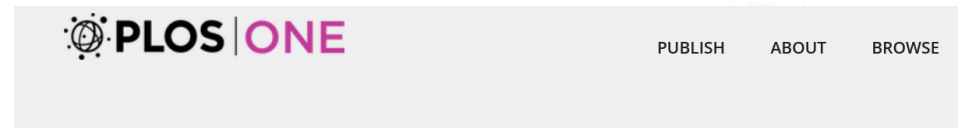
Microbiota

Environment



# Earlier results intestinal development, immune and microbiome

- Critical transition moments for microbiota development
  - Prenatal
  - Birth
  - Weaning
- Interventions
  - Feed(-additives)
  - Management
- Effects
  - Intestinal immune development
  - Long lasting
  - Due to early colonisation




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RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Early-Life Environmental Variation Affects Intestinal Microbiota and Immune Development in New-Born Piglets

Dirkjan Schokker  , Jing Zhang , Ling-li Zhang, Stéphanie A. Vastenhouw, Hans G. H. J. Heilig, Hauke Smidt, Johanna M. J. Rebel, Mari A. Smits

## Long-Lasting Effects of Early-Life Antibiotic Treatment and Routine Animal Handling on Gut Microbiota Composition and Immune System in Pigs

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DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0210500

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## Plasticity of intestinal gene expression profile signatures reflected by nutritional interventions in piglets

Dirkjan Schokker , Ina Hulsegge, Henri Woelders & Johanna M. J. Rebel

# Hypothesis

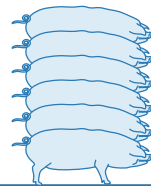
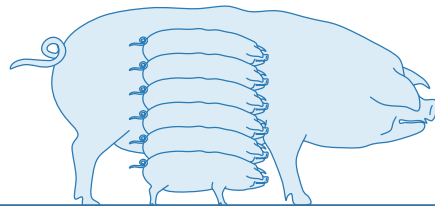
**Long-lasting effects of intestinal health are due to different programming of the gut immune system early in life**



# Experimental set-up



- **GOAL:** To determine the effect of dietary intervention on intestinal development in piglets
- Two different feeding strategies to apply intervention:
  - Maternal administration
  - Neonatal administration by oral gavage



Sow intervention

Piglet intervention

Sows: 1 week before gestation – weaning

Piglets: 1 day - weaning

## Day 1:

- Intestinal gene expression
- Microbiota composition
- Intestinal morphology

Day 1 – 31:  
Performance

## 3 days post weaning:

- Intestinal gene expression
- Microbiota composition
- Intestinal morphology

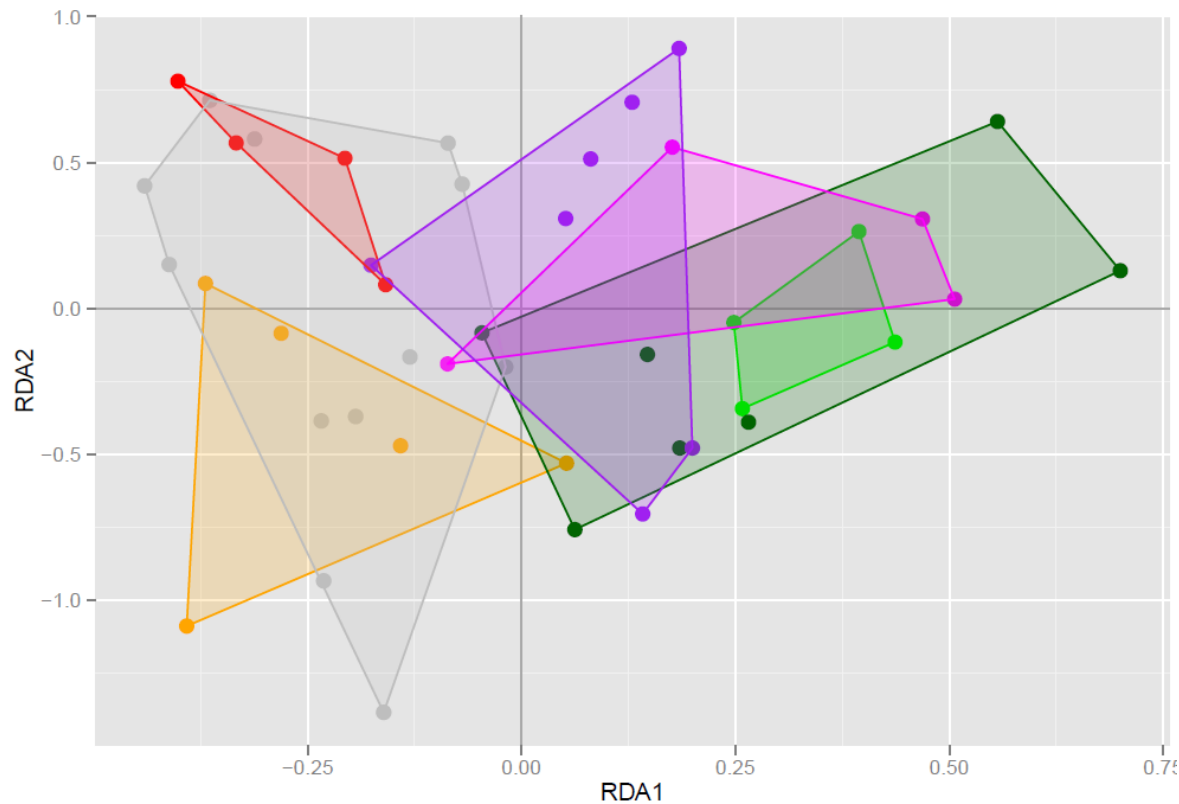
# interventions



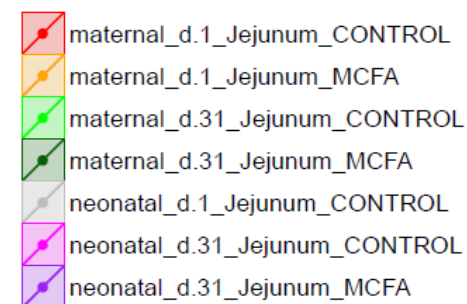
- Medium Chain Fatty acids: Probably affects microbiota composition proximal intestine
- Beta-glucan: Immunomodulatory effects
- Galacto-oligosaccharides: beneficial effects on humans → bifidogenic effect colon
- Control



# Microbiota composition depends on administration route



- Small differences in microbiota
- Microbiota composition depends on administration route
- ~ 10 differences on family level between treatment and control





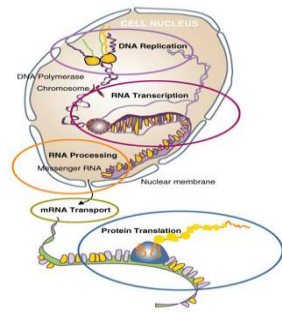
# Effect on microbiota

- Number of statistical changes in microbiota composition on family level

Intervention	Day	Number of statistically significant differences compared to control
1	1	45
	31	19
2	1	2
	31	0
3	1	5
	31	0

- MCFA induce changes in composition
  - Strongest effect on day 1, early life colonization
  - Suggestive for transmission effect via other routes than milk

# Intestinal development depends on administration route



Maternal MCFA	%	Neonatal MCFA	
Lipid digestion, mobilization and transport	7/71 (10%)	Regulation of complement cascade	4/26 (15%)
Chylomicron-mediated lipid transport	4/17 (23%)	Immune system	37/1547 (2%)
Retinoid metabolism and transport	5/42 (12%)	Chemokine receptors bind chemokines	5/56 (9%)
Metabolism of fat soluble vitamins	5/51 (10%)	Interferon alpha/beta signalling	5/68 (7%)
Reversible hydration of carbon oxide	3/12 (25%)	Metabolism of AA and derivatives	12/335 (4%)
Lipoprotein metabolism	4/34	IRN3 mediated activation of type 1 IFN	2/6 (33%)
Chemokine receptors bind chemokines	4/56 (7%)	Metabolism	42/1908 (2%)
Digestion of dietary carbohydrate	2/8 (25%)	Complement cascade	5/80 (6%)
Erythrocytes take up O <sub>2</sub> and release CO <sub>2</sub>	2/8 (25%)	ZBP1 mediated induction type I IFNs	3/26 (12%)
Visual phototransduction	5/97 (5%)	Innate immune system	21/807 (3%)

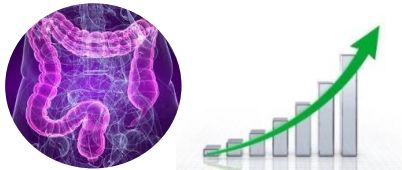
# Conclusion



- Administration route determines the outcome of intestinal development and on microbiota composition
- Large differences in intestinal development of new-born piglets between the 3 maternal dietary interventions
- Neonatal administration of MCFAs induces immunological changes



# Overall conclusions



- Feed in early life has consequences for the programming of the host immune system
- Administration timing of importance for result
- Hereby it is possible to change gut health
  
- And therefore this is an antibiotic reduction strategy.

# WUR Gut health team



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