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The gut microbiota in 2011: Translating the microbiota to medicine

Fergus Shanahan

The commensal microbiota is one of the hottest areas in medicine, with converging interests from diverse disciplines including nutrition and food science, microbiology, gastroenterology, immunology and metabolic medicine. Microbial signaling is required for the development and maintenance of digestive, immunologic and neurobiologic functions within the host.