



**12TH MICROBIOME R&D & BUSINESS
COLLABORATION FORUM: EUROPE**
**9TH PROBIOTICS & PREBIOTICS
CONGRESS: EUROPE**
**6TH SKIN MICROBIOME &
COSMECEUTICALS CONGRESS: EUROPE**

THE NETHERLANDS
23-24 April 2024



#MicrobiomeForum

www.global-engage.com



Global Engage is pleased to announce the **12th Microbiome, Probiotics & Prebiotics R&D and Business Collaboration Forum**, which is confirmed to be held on April 23-24 2024 at The Hague Conference Centre in The Netherlands and co-located with the **6th Skin Microbiome & Cosmeceuticals Congress**.

This world-renowned event which attracted 265 industry, academic, and investment leaders last year, enables the discussion of the most scientific cutting-edge microbiome, probiotics and skin-based research; the challenges and opportunities in translating research towards commercialisation, and partnerships and collaborations that secure investment. With 3 conferences and 8 tracks focusing on the topics below, there is ample content to learn from top scientists, network and broaden your connections and should you wish showcase your work in the poster presentation sessions or get involved in the interactive panel and roundtable discussions.

	Microbiome & Probiotics R&D and Business Collaboration Forum			Skin & Cosmeceuticals Congress
	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4
Day 1	Gut Microbiota for Health & Disease & Drug Development	Gut-Brain Axis	Infant Health, HMO & Nutrition	Skin Microbiome & Cosmeceuticals
Day 2	Investment, Regulations & Manufacture	Roundtable Discussions	Probiotics, Personalised Nutrition & Cardiometabolic Diseases	Skin Microbiome & Cosmeceuticals

- 75 strong senior level speaker faculty
- Expert-led roundtables and interactive panel sessions
- Two 50-minute start-up flash presentation sessions
- Unique academic and industry joint focus
- Over 7 hours of networking time
- A fantastic reputation as the number one microbiome scientific & networking event.

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MICROBIOME & PROBIOTICS SPEAKERS



SAM POSSEMIERS
CEO MRM Health



ADRIEN NIVOLIEZ
CEO, Biore Industrie



ANDREW BARTKO
Professor of Practice, Bioengineering and Pediatrics, University of California, San Diego



RAMY AMMAR
Director, Emerging Science and Innovation, Bayer Consumer Health



RAFIK FELLAGUE-CHEBBA
Executive Global Group Medical Director, Novartis Oncology



VALERIA FELICE
Research Project Manager, Health and Happiness Group



MARY FARRELL
Scientific Affairs Manager, Probi AB



CAITLIN HALL
Head of Research, Myota



MAHER FUAD
Principal Research Clinician, Fonterra Research and Development Centre, Fonterra dairy cooperative



SAHAR EL AIDY
Professor, Swammerdam Institute for Life Sciences (SILS), University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands



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SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
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CosmosID



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
Lallemand



NIALL P. HYLAND
Senior Lecturer and Funded Investigator, Department of Physiology and APC Microbiome Ireland, University College Cork, Ireland



MALCOLM KENDALL
Co-Founder & CEO, Microbiome Insights, Inc., Canada



DENISE KELLY
Investment Advisor, Seventure Partners



MARION LECLERC
Principal Scientist, Advisor, Consultant



PATRICK VEIGA
Research Director, INRAE - MetaGenoPolis



JOHANNA MAUKONEN
Director, Global Clinical Innovation & Translation, IFF



CÉLINE DRUART
Microbiome Project Manager, Pharmabiotic Research Institute (PRI)



COLETTE SHORTT
Visiting Professor, University of Ulster



ROSANNA PECERE
Executive Director, IPA Europe



BRUNO POT
Science Director Europe, Yakult Europe BV



JOS SEEGBERS
Senior Director of Operations, Caelus Health



RONNY SZELINSKY
CEO & Co-Founder, Happy



JONATHAN LANE
Associate Director of Research and Innovation, Health & Happiness Group



YANNIK SCHOENKNECHT
Scientific Advisor, Chr. Hansen A/S



ARJEN NAUTA
Senior Scientist Gut and Digestive Health, FrieslandCampina



CRAIG THOMPSON
Partner: European, Irish and UK Patent Attorney, HGF



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
Chr. Hansen



BENJAMIN A. H. JENSEN
Associate Professor, Group Leader, Nutritional Immunology, University of Copenhagen



LUIS GOSÁLBEZ
Managing Director, Sandwalk BioVentures



AURÉLIEN BAUDOT
CEO & Co-Founder, Cryptobiotix



DELPHINE LAUTÉ-CALY
Trainee Patent Attorney, HGF



AMINE ZORGANI
Founder, The Microbiome Mavericks



MARIANA KOLIANA
VP Business Development, Clinical Microbiomics



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
MS Omics



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
Beckman Coulter

SKIN MICROBIOME SPEAKERS



NATALISE KALEA ROBINSON
Co-Founder & CEO, Parallel Health



AHMAD KHODR
Head of the Microbiology Innovation Lab, L'Oréal R&I



MARIE DRAGO
Chief Creative Officer, Gallinée



CATHERINE O'NEIL
CSO, SkinBioTherapeutics; Professor of Translational Dermatology, University of Manchester



SABRINA BEHNKE
Business Director, Biopolymers & Modern Preservatives, TRI-K Industries



OLIVER WORSLEY
CEO & Co-Founder, Sequential



SIMONA BEFI
Head of R&D, S-Biomedic



SØREN KJAERULFF
CEO & CSO, Lactobio A/S



PETER LERSCH
Vice President Growth Fields, Evonik



DAN BROWNELL
Senior Director of Research and Development, AOBiome Therapeutics



BJÖRN ANDERSSON
Professor, Department of Cell and Molecular Biology Karolinska Institutet



AUDREY GUÉNICHE
Head of International Scientific Valorisation Luxury Division, L'Oréal Research & Innovation



HOLGER BRÜGGEMANN
Associate Professor, Department of Biomedicine, Aarhus University, Denmark



SABRINA LEOTY-OKOMBI
R&D Project Leader, BASF



KIM HARDIE
Professor in Bacterial Pathogenesis, University of Nottingham & Co-Investigator, National Biofilms Innovation Centre



JÖRN HENDRIK REUTER
Global Director Dermatology & Microbiome Research, Beiersdorf AG



GEOFF BRIGGS
Technology Scout - Skincare Innovation, No7 Beauty Company, Member of Walgreens Boots Alliance

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

FREE POSTER PRESENTATIONS AND FLASH TALKS - DEADLINE 5TH APRIL 2024

Whether looking for funding, employment opportunities or simply wanting to share your work with a like-minded and focused group, these are an excellent way to join the heart of this congress. In order to present a poster at the forum, you need to be registered as a delegate. Please note that there is limited space available and poster space is assigned on a first-come-first-served basis (subject to checks and successful registration)

- Poster presentations are actively encouraged at this event and as such registered academic and industry delegates are invited to present 1 poster each for free.
- Posters are displayed for the full two days of the event.
- We have reserved two 50 minute sessions in track 1 for non-vendor authors to present a flash presentation of their poster in order to showcase their work.
- We also issue a poster eBook to all attendees containing your full abstract, and you can share your poster as a PDF after the meeting if you desire (optional).

8:00-8:50	Registration & Refreshments
8:50-9:00	Global Engage Welcome Address

GUT MICROBIOTA FOR HEALTH & DISEASE

9:00-9:35

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE (Reserved)
 Rebiotix Inc, a Ferring Company
REBYOTA™ - A novel first-in-class microbiota-based live biotherapeutic - TBC


9:35-10:10

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
SAM POSSEMIERS
 CEO MRM Health
Clinical and mechanistic insights from phase 2a studies with optimized consortia therapeutic MH002 in Ulcerative Colitis and Pouchitis

- MH002, a 6-strain consortia therapeutic designed, optimized and manufactured through MRM Health's CORAL® technology, is the most advanced live biotherapeutic in clinical development for Ulcerative Colitis and Pouchitis.
- Receive the latest updates on clinical data obtained in phase 2a studies performed with MH002 in both Ulcerative Colitis and Pouchitis
- Receive integrated insight on the translation of the mechanism of action of MH002 in activity in Ulcerative Colitis patients, combining clinical efficacy and safety

10:10-10:40

ADRIEN NIVOLIEZ
 CEO, Biose Industrie



CMC & Regulatory Challenges for Live Biotherapeutic products
 Taking you on the complex LBP program journey and successfully delivering your GMP product through the clinic and into commercial production.

10:40-11:50	Morning Break / Poster Presentations / One-to-One Partner Meetings
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SKIN & COSMECEUTICALS

9:00-9:35


KEYNOTE ADDRESS
SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
 Invitation Out
Topic TBC

9:35-10:10

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
AHMAD KHODR
 Head of the Microbiology Innovation Lab, L'Oréal R&I
Physicochemical and molecular characterization of the adhesion mechanisms of cutaneous bacteria
 Background: Skin microbiome is formed of diverse microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi and viruses. Their adhesion is an essential step for the skin colonization and their resilience on the skin. The first step of this adhesion, which is reversible is driven by physicochemical interactions such as electrodynamic, hydrophobic or Lewis acid-base interactions. Objectives: This work aims to understand at the physicochemical/ molecular level, the mode of adhesion and the effect of different Raw Materials (RMs) on the first step of adhesion between cutaneous bacteria and the human skin in order to elaborate new ways to prevent skin colonization by undesired bacteria. Methods: Anti-adhesion effect is measured using a protocol developed on a 3D human skin model and three bacteria representative of the human skin microbiome. The physicochemical interactions involved are studied by goniometry and the MATS method (Microbial Adhesion To Solvents). Molecular pathways related to adhesion are also explored using RNA-Seq. Results: Significant differences in the adhesion profile of these bacteria to the 3D skin model were demonstrated with and without RMs. A combination of physicochemical properties and adhesion molecular pathways expression explains the adhesion behaviour of the used bacterial model and the anti-adhesion properties of tested RMs.

10:10-10:40

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE (Reserved)
 Bio-Me
Topic TBC



GUT MICROBIOME/ DRUG DEVELOPMENT

11:50-12:15

ANDREW BARTKO
 Professor of Practice, Bioengineering and Pediatrics, University of California, San Diego
Closing microbiome associated knowledge gaps in human health and wellness

- Scaling microbiome discovery and innovation
- Creating infrastructure for rapid and affordable clinical trials
- Case studies generating impact

GUT-BRAIN AXIS

11:50-12:15

RAMY AMMAR
 Director, Emerging Science and Innovation, Bayer Consumer Health
Microbiome-Gut-Brain Axis
 We'll discuss recent research on the gut microbiome-brain axis, its complexity, functionality, and its effect on health and disorders.

- Examples of how the gut microbiome-brain axis uses constant bidirectional communication in its role in many physiological processes in the human body.
- What is the correlation between living microorganisms found in the gut and their effect on gastrointestinal and mental disorders.
- What are some clinical applications of gut-microbiota-related substances.

INFANT HEALTH, HMO & NUTRITION

11:50-12:15

JONATHAN LANE
 Associate Director of Research and Innovation, Health & Happiness Group
Humanisation of infant milk formulation

- Human breast milk is an evolutionary material that supports infant growth, development and protection.
- Compositional and functional analyses of human breast milk, and technological advancements support the improvement of infant milk formulations for non-breast-fed infants.
- In this talk, we will explore carbohydrate, protein and lipid advancements that improve the functionality of infant milk formulation.

SKIN MICROBIOME & COSMECEUTICALS

11:50-12:15

MARIE DRAGO
 Chief Creative Officer, Gallinée
Microbiome products for acne prone skin, making friend with the enemy




12:15-12:40



RAFIK FELLAGUE-CHEBRA
Executive Global Group Medical Director, Novartis Oncology
Microbial insights in oncology

- What is cancer and why it happens?
- Influence of Microbiome on Cancer initiation and progression
- Potential for Microbiome based therapy in oncology


12:15-12:40



VALERIA FELICE
Research Project Manager, Health and Happiness Group
Novel bioactives for the management of stress and anxiety – implication for the microbiome-gut-brain axis

- Anxiety disorders are the most common mental disorders globally, affecting approximately 4% of the world's population.
- Several studies have highlighted the importance of the microbiome gut-brain axis in stress-related disorders including anxiety.
- In this talk, we will present our latest findings on the role of new bioactives in modulating stress-related disorders.


12:15-12:40



YANNIK SCHOENKNECHT
Scientific Advisor, Chr. Hansen A/S
Effect of human milk oligosaccharides on the microbiome and microbe-derived markers and their impact on health

Breastfeeding supports the establishment of a healthy microbiome in early life due to the content of human milk oligosaccharides (HMOs) and other components. It is established that supplementing infants with HMOs in the formula can mediate some of the same changes of the microbiome composition. These will result in changes to the microbe-derived metabolites, such as short-chain fatty acids, aromatic lactic acids, bile acids, etc. which are and some of these metabolites are shown to interact directly with epithelial and immune cells. The bacterial metabolites produced might be specific down to strain levels, e.g., bifidobacterial strains produce varying quantities of aromatic lactic acids. Less is known about the potential health effects of the metabolites on the host. We need to gain knowledge on the natural abundance of HMOs in human milk and their influence on the bifidobacterial community. This will provide a better insight into the metabolic profiles of different infants and clinical evidence for the health effects of changes in metabolic profiles in both the long and short term.

12:15-12:40



CATHERINE O'NEIL
CSO, SkinBioTherapeutics; Professor of Translational Dermatology, University of Manchester
Mining the skin microbiome for new approaches to the management of Atopic dermatitis


Staphylococcus aureus is a major cause of flares in patients with Atopic dermatitis (AD). Thus, management of S. aureus, often with antibiotics, is a major goal of treatment. However, antibiotics will have limited use in the future because of the emergence of resistant strains. S. aureus promotes the release of two cytokines, IL-33 and TSLP from keratinocytes. These cytokines induce the inflammatory type 2 cascade that is characteristic of AD. Thus, interventions that inhibit S. aureus -induced production of IL-33 and TSLP may be efficacious in the management of AD. In this talk, I will discuss use of bacteria from skins own microbiome that could be an efficacious approach to the prevention of AD flares.

12:40-13:10




SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
ILSI Europe

12:40-12:55





AURÉLIEN BAUDOT
CEO & Co-Founder, Cryptobiotix
Topic TBC

12:55-13:10



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE (Reserved)
Bio-Me
Topic TBC

12:40-13:10

SABRINA BEHNKE
Business Director, Biopolymers & Modern Preservatives, TRI-K Industries
Safe preservation vs. intact skin microbiome – does it have to be a choice?




13:10-14:10 Lunch / One-to-One Partner Meetings

14:10-14:25



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
Owlstone Medical

14:10-14:40



MARY FARRELL
Scientific Affairs Manager, Probi AB
Intake of Probi* Sensia based on the probiotic strain Lactiplantibacillus plantarum HEAL9 (HEAL9™). Improves Mental Health and Cognition in Moderately Stressed Subjects: A Randomized Controlled Study

Mental health is a rapidly growing health area in which more and more products are being launched to the market. Recent research in the field of the gut-brain axis suggests probiotics may provide a novel approach to support mental health. The probiotic strain, L. plantarum HEAL9, was therefore given to moderately stressed but otherwise healthy individuals (n=129) for 12 weeks to evaluate the effect on the gut-brain axis. L. plantarum HEAL9 intake significantly improved memory and cognitive function compared to placebo. Additionally, improved sleep quality and mood states, as well as decreased cortisol were seen following intake of L. plantarum HEAL9 in moderately stressed but otherwise healthy individuals. Probi Sensia based on the probiotic strain L. plantarum HEAL9 offers a novel approach to supporting brain health via the gut by targeting immunomodulatory and metabolic pathways.

14:10-14:40

30-Minute Solution Provider Presentation
For sponsorship opportunities contact Gavin Hambrook
gavin@globalengage.co.uk

14:25-14:40



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
Baseclear

MICHAEL OREDSSON (Reserved)
CEO, The Akkermansia Company SA
Gut microbiome case study

14:40-15:05

POSTER / START-UP FLASH PRESENTATIONS
Presenters will be provided with the opportunity to give a flash 3-minute overview talk.

13 x 3 minute Flash Presentations

Deadline 5th April 2024

15:05-15:55



CAITLIN HALL
Head of Research, Myota
Brain Food: Effects of a diversified prebiotic fibre intervention on the gut microbiome, inflammation, and mental health

Emerging work suggests that the gut microbiota and its metabolites play a key role in altering brain activity and related behaviour. One of the main mechanisms by which the gut microbiota influences the brain is via the production of short-chain fatty acids, produced during the microbial fermentation of prebiotic fibre. In this talk, I present new findings from a 12-week parallel RCT, where participants were randomised into a control group receiving healthy eating advice, or an intervention group receiving healthy eating advice alongside a daily prebiotic fibre supplement. At pre- and post-intervention, we assessed gut microbiome profiles, inflammation, and mood, stress, and anxiety. This work represents a critical step in progressing gut-brain axis research from preclinical settings, to the more complex and nuanced human state.

14:40-15:05



MAHER FUAD
Principal Research Clinician, Fonterra Research and Development Centre, Fonterra dairy cooperative
The Role of HN001 Probiotics in Mental Wellbeing

- Mental health issues is a major global concern. It is predicted to be the leading cause of morbidity and mortality by 2050.
- HN001 Probiotics have been shown to have positive impact on mental wellbeing.
- Some of the mediating mechanisms are linked to gut brain axis and hypothalamic pituitary adrenal axis.

15:05-15:30



SAHAR EL AIDY
Professor, Swammerdam Institute for Life Sciences (SILS), University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Dynamics and emergent properties of probiotics within the small intestinal microbiome

The gastrointestinal tract hosts a complex bacterial system, contributing to emergent properties crucial for host health and resilience against disturbances. Imbalances in the resident microbiota can adversely affect the host, potentially leading to disease. While current microbiota research predominantly centers on the colon, the significance of the small intestinal microbiota remains substantial but largely unexplored. We assessed the impact of probiotic supplementation on the small intestinal microbiota using a simplified synthetic community and ileostoma effluent community (1, 2). In both communities, the probiotic supplementation induced a pH reduction, leading

15:30-15:55



ARJEN NAUTA
Senior Scientist Gut and Digestive Health, FrieslandCampina
The complementary benefits of multiple oligosaccharides in gut health

- Gut Health has a central role in health and well-being and depends on a gradual and timely colonization of the gastrointestinal tract by the gut microbiota in early life, oligosaccharides being of eminent importance.
- Breastmilk, containing oligosaccharides (HMOs), is considered the golden standard for infant nutrition. However, in case infant formula is used as an alternative the combined GOS and 2'-FL have multiple benefits, both in the gut and beyond.
- As will be presented, GOS and 2'-FL are complementary in the stimulation of beneficial bifidobacteria, the reduction of undesired Proteobacteria, the recovery of antibiotic-induced gut microbiota disturbances, and on basis of the site of action in the gastrointestinal tract.

14:40-15:05

CROSS-EVENT ROUNDTABLES - SESSION 1
Roundtables are informal, small-group interactive discussions on key topics in the field. Discussion leaders will introduce sub-topics/questions for discussion and roundtable attendees are encouraged to participate actively in the session.



Roundtable 1:
HMO - TBC
JONATHAN LANE
Associate Director of Research and Innovation, Health & Happiness Group

Roundtable 2:
Strategic Consideration of your Competitors: an IP perspective



CRAIG THOMPSON
Partner: European, Irish and UK Patent Attorney, HGF



DELPHINE LAUTÉ-CALY
Trainee Patent Attorney, HGF
As the microbiome industry grows in strength and complexity, so do the competitive pressures within the industry. There is therefore a growing need to establish a competitor IP strategy; but to do so in a commercially relevant manner, through the evolutions of your business, is always challenging. This round table discussion will consider:

- What is to be gained from developing such a strategy?
 - Addressing investor queries, competitor intelligence, establishing powerful

15:05-15:55



OLIVER WORSLEY
CEO & Co-Founder, Sequential
The Future of Skin Microbiome Testing: Insights, Advancements, Approaches

What happens when we encapsulate a probiotic in an anti-microbial sanitizer? What are the microbial signatures and dermatotypes we find in Atopic Dermatitis? How does the skin microbiome change during ageing, over 300 subjects from Europe and Asia? How are Community State Types related to intimate area microbiome product development? Since launching the world's first at-home Skin Microbiome + Genetics test in 2019, Sequential has been on a path to fully uncover how the microbiome and gene expression signatures relates to skin, scalp and vaginal microbiome health. Sequential has worked with over 60 clients to support their clinical testing, and help them characterise the effect of their microbiome products on the microbiome in vivo, allowing for rigorous scientific R&D, claims support and substantiation. Please join Oliver's talk to hear the answers to these questions, and other exciting advances in clinical microbiome testing.

14:40-15:05

SIMONA BEFI
Head of R&D, S-Biomedic
Cutibacterium acnes, pioneering probiotics potential for skin health
Cutibacterium acnes, the main commensal bacterial species on our skin, unlocked the possibility to bring forward a revolutionary approach for skin health, as nature intended it. The potential of this bacteria in skin care explained through a set of cases and data.

15:05-15:30



SØREN KJÆRULFF
CEO & CSO, Lactobio A/S
Anti-aging clinical trials of Lactiplantibacillus plantarum LB244R®
Lactobio A/S has built a proprietary

microbiome platform that identifies functional lactic acid bacteria targeted screening of newly isolated strains against identified skin issues caused by dysbiosis. Lactobio has carried out two clinical trials demonstrating the anti-aging properties of Lactiplantibacillus plantarum LB244R®. In the first anti-aging clinical trial, 23 enrolled subjects used an ointment containing LB244R® twice daily. The ointment reduced subepidermal low echogenic band (SLEB) thickness, increased dermal density, skin firmness, elasticity, and hydration, decreased transepidermal water loss, crow's feet wrinkles and spot score, as well as increased complexion radiance and smoothness score. Many of the above-mentioned were affected in as little as 28 days. The second

15:30-15:55

15:05-15:55

Continued

15:30-15:55

to changes in microbiota composition. Furthermore, the supplementation enhanced metabolic utilization, potentially boosting resistance against disturbances. These mechanisms seem to be dependent of the genetic variations in the functional profiles of the probiotic and recipient microbiota. Overall, the outcome highlights the need for personalized probiotics aligned with the recipient microbiota's functional profile.

15:05-15:55

- collaborations; establishing Freedom-To-Operate and avoiding costly fights.
- How to evolve such a strategy that is both timely and appropriate for your business?

15:30-15:55

anti-aging clinical trial was a double-blinded vehicle placebo-controlled study. 46 subjects were enrolled and had to use an ointment either with or without LB244[®] twice daily for 56 days. This trial directly couples the anti-aging capabilities to the strain LB244R[®] compared to the placebo control.

15:55-16:45 Afternoon Break / Poster Presentations / One-to-One Partner Meetings

16:45-17:00



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE

Beckman Coulter
Topic TBC

16:45-17:15

30-Minute Solution Provider Presentation
For sponsorship opportunities contact Gavin Hambrook
gavin@globalengage.co.uk

16:45-17:15

30-Minute Solution Provider Presentation
For sponsorship opportunities contact Gavin Hambrook
gavin@globalengage.co.uk

17:00-17:15

30-Minute Solution Provider Presentation
For sponsorship opportunities contact Gavin Hambrook
gavin@globalengage.co.uk

SEBASTIAN SCHMIDT (Reserved)
Research Scientist, Structural & Computational Biology Unit, EMBL
Gut microbiome case study

17:15-17:40

NIALL P. HYLAND
Senior Lecturer and Funded Investigator, Department of Physiology and APC Microbiome Ireland, University College Cork, Ireland
The stressed gut and the microbiome
Understanding the mechanisms behind changes in enteric nervous system circuitry, visceral sensitivity, gut barrier function, permeability, and the gut microbiota following stress is an important research objective with pathophysiological implications in both neurogastroenterology and psychiatry. Moreover, the gut microbiota has emerged as a key aspect of physiology sensitive to the effects of stress. In this talk, I will focus on different aspects of the gastrointestinal tract including gut barrier function as well as the immune, humoral and neuronal elements involved in gut-brain communication. Furthermore, I will discuss the evidence for a role of stress in gut-brain disorders.

17:15-17:40

GWENNY FUHLER
Assistant Professor, Erasmus MC
Health and microbiome in infants born to mothers with inflammatory bowel disease
Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), chronic inflammation of the intestinal lining, arises as a consequence of an over-active immune response towards the intestinal microbiome in genetically susceptible individuals. Infants from mothers with IBD are at increased risk of developing IBD in later life. This may be due to genetic factors, but may also be partially explained by microbiome changes, as it is known that infant microbiome is shaped largely through perinatal contact with its mother's microbiome. Factors such as mode of delivery and breast-feeding can play a role. In addition, mothers with IBD are treated with immune modulatory agents, and to what extent these affect microbial and breastmilk characteristics which may in turn affect their offspring remains unknown. In the PETIT study we investigate to what extent infant microbiome is altered when mothers suffer from IBD. In addition, we investigate how the composition of breastmilk is affected by different IBD drugs.

17:15-17:40

PETER LERSCH
Vice President Growth Fields, Evonik
Skin microbiome modulation: The prospects for effective cosmetic raw materials
Genomic advancements have significantly deepened our understanding of the skin microbiota's roles in health, such as pathogen defense and immune regulation. The cosmetic industry has responded with a wave of microbiome-based products containing probiotics, prebiotics, and postbiotics to modulate skin bacteria. Despite great progress, challenges in defining "healthy" skin microbiota and evaluating cosmetic effects persist. Researchers already use diverse methods, including metagenomic sequencing, to study skin-microbe interactions and its cosmetic impacts. Proper testing and scientific validation are essential for claims of 'microbiome-friendliness.' Both established and new methodologies are used to assess cosmetic ingredients' impacts on the microbiota, aiming to standardize criteria for 'microbiome-friendly' products that support the skin's ecosystem. The evolving technology landscape offers new learning opportunities about the microbiome. Much is known, yet much remains undiscovered in this field.

17:15-17:40

PANEL DISCUSSION
Investment in the microbiome



MALCOLM KENDALL (Chair)
Co-Founder & CEO, Microbiome Insights, Inc., Canada



DENISE KELLY
Investment Advisor, Seventure Partners

17:40-18:30



MARION LECLERC
Principal Scientist, Advisor, Consultant
Akkermansia muciniphila live improves stress-induced mild depression and produces neurotransmitters

Low abundance of *A. muciniphila* has been reported in depressed subjects (Deng et al, 2021), however the mechanisms of actions are not known. *A. muciniphila* live was given to rats suffering from chronic stress induced anxiety and mild depression. Compared to placebo, the animals receiving Pendulum *A. muciniphila* showed significant improvements in i) behavior, ii) brain markers, iii) neuroinflammation and iv) circulating neurotransmitters. For several markers, the rats inoculated with *A. muciniphila* were not only statistically distinct from the "depressed group", but similar to the "non depressed animals". We present matching in vitro data with the identification of neurotransmitters produced by Pendulum *A. muciniphila* during manufacturing.

17:40-18:05

SYLVIE RABOT
Université Paris-Saclay, INRAE, AgroParisTech, Micalis Institute
The microbiota-gut-brain axis in emotional behaviors: effects of microbial indole

18:05-18:30

PANEL DISCUSSION
HMO Research - where do we go from here?

- Turning data into evidence based applications
- Improvements by identifying gaps in research



COLETTE SHORTT (Chair)
Visiting Professor, University of Ulster



JONATHAN LANE
Associate Director of Research and Innovation, Health & Happiness Group



ARJEN NAUTA
Senior Scientist Gut and Digestive Health, FrieslandCampina

17:40-18:30

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
Chr. Hansen

PANEL DISCUSSION
Updates and future directions of Skin Microbiome research

- Developing the next generation of microbiome skincare



GEOFF BRIGGS
Technology Scout - Skincare Innovation, No7 Beauty Company, Member of Walgreens Boots Alliance



PETER LERSCH
Vice President Growth Fields, Evonik



DAN BROWNELL
Senior Director of Research and Development, AOBiome Therapeutics

17:40-18:30

18:30

End of Day 1 & Networking Drinks Reception

8:00-8:50	Registration & Refreshments
8:50-9:00	Global Engage Welcome Address

MICROBIOME & PROBIOTICS R&D & BUSINESS COLLABORATION FORUM

9:00-9:35

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
PATRICK VEIGA
 Research Director, INRAE - MetaGenoPolis
Latent gut microbiome stratification: unlocking precision approaches?
 The efficacy of medical and nutritional interventions face challenges due to inter-individual variations in the gut microbiome. Recently, we identified a latent organization within the human gut microbiome, reflecting global and local states (Tap et al., 2023, Nat Comm). This discovery holds the potential to shape future endeavors aimed at developing microbiome-directed solutions, spanning from precision pro/prebiotics to functional foods and microbiome-targeted drugs. Our recent initiatives, Le French Gut, alongside other large-scale population initiatives, are poised to provide foundational elements that will lay the groundwork for precision approaches in microbiome-related interventions.

9:35-10:05

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
JOHANNA MAUKONEN
 Director, Global Clinical Innovation & Translation, IFF
Metabolic health; Frontiers in gut microbiota research - TBC

10:05-10:35

MARIANA KOLIANA
 VP Business Development, Clinical Microbiomics
Beyond Species Taxonomy: New Tools for Understanding Mechanisms of Action and Guiding Therapeutic Strain Development

- Clonal-Level Engraftment: A Case Study of Strain Transfer Across Hosts to Understand Engraftment Dynamics
- Phage Profiling: Exploring its Link to Treatment Efficacy and Success
- Combining It All: Integrating Metagenomics and Metabolomics to Generate Mode-of-Action Hypotheses
- Not Just Gut Feelings: Clonal-Level Profiling, Phages, and Multi-Omics Analysis for the Skin Microbiome

10:35-11:45 Morning Break / Poster Presentations / One-to-One Partner Meetings

11:45-12:15

30-Minute Solution Provider Presentation
 For sponsorship opportunities contact Gavin Hambrook
gavin@globalengage.co.uk

11:45-12:15

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE

 Lallemand
Topic TBC

11:45-12:15

30-Minute Solution Provider Presentation
 For sponsorship opportunities contact Gavin Hambrook
gavin@globalengage.co.uk

INVESTMENT, REGULATION & MANUFACTURE

12:15-12:40

CÉLINE DRUART
 Microbiome Project Manager, Pharmabiotic Research Institute (PRI)
Gaining insight into the evolving European regulatory landscape : microbiome innovations in the context of the SoHO revision

- Human microbiome samples will be included in the scope of the new European SoHO regulation, which is expected to come into force as early as 2026.
- New SoHO Regulation's scope will cover all human applications, not just pharmaceutical developments...
- SoHO-related terms will have important impacts on future developments: SoHO Entity, SoHO Establishment, SoHO Activities, SoHO Preparations – untangling the new terms

PROBIOTICS, PERSONALIZED NUTRITION & CARDIOMETABOLIC DISEASES

12:15-12:40

BENJAMIN A. H. JENSEN
 Associate Professor, Group Leader, Nutritional Immunology, University of Copenhagen
Diet Dependency in Probiotic Efficacy

- Main challenges for probiotic efficacy:
 - Abundant data demonstrate probiotic efficacy in preclinical animal models
 - Translatability is scarce
 - Clinical trials are often inconclusive
- The talk will provide an overview of how choice of model organism affect the outcome. Specifically, how pigs, mice and humans compare and contrast in terms of GI anatomy and physiology, and how this, together with diet, region-specifically affect host-microbe interactions.

SKIN & COSMECEUTICALS

12:15-12:40

HOLGER BRÜGGEMANN
 Associate Professor, Department of Biomedicine, Aarhus University, Denmark
Skin microbiome interferences and the potential exploitation for acne treatment

- Dysbiosis of the skin microbiome in acne, with a special focus on C. acnes and staphylococcal populations
- Strain-specific interferences between C. acnes and staphylococci and their role in shaping the skin microbiome
- Selected staphylococcal strains with anti-C. acnes activity as potential skin probiotics: results from an engraftment study

SKIN MICROBIOME & COSMECEUTICALS CONGRESS

9:00-9:35

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
BJÖRN ANDERSSON
 Professor, Department of Cell and Molecular Biology Karolinska Institutet
The skin virus microbiome and disease; results from the MAARS cohort

- The MAARS cohort includes skin microbiome and human gene expression data from a large psoriasis and atopic dermatitis cohort
- We have complemented the full microbiome analysis with an extensive characterization of the virus content.
- I will discuss the results in the context of the possible involvement of virus infections in psoriasis.

9:35-10:05

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
AUDREY GUÉNICHE
 Head of International Scientific Valorisation Luxury Division, L'Oréal Research & Innovation
Skin microbiome and aesthetic procedure



POSTER / START-UP FLASH PRESENTATIONS

Presenters will be provided with the opportunity to give a flash 3-minute overview talk.

15 x 3 minute Flash Presentations

Deadline 5th April 2024

12:40-13:30

CROSS-EVENT ROUNDTABLES - SESSION 1

Roundtables are informal, small-group interactive discussions on key topics in the field. Discussion leaders will introduce sub-topics/questions for discussion and roundtable attendees are encouraged to participate actively in the session.



Roundtable 1:
Microbiome and Longevity: Strategic Insights into Aging from a Microbial Perspective
AMINE ZORGANI

Founder, The Microbiome Mavericks

This roundtable focuses on the emerging intersection between the human microbiome and the aging process. We'll explore recent findings that link gut microbiota composition to aging and lifespan, examining how microbial diversity influences age-related health conditions.



Roundtable 2:
Funding and Investment
RONNY SZELINSKY
CEO & Co-Founder, Happy

12:40-13:30



JOS SEEGERS
Director of Operations, Caelus Health
Anaerobutyricum soehngenii, beyond butyrate

- Quick summary: from discovery of role of *A. soehngenii* in metabolic syndrome to unraveling the mode of action.
- Summary of clinical trials with *A. soehngenii*
- Implication and future on the use of *A. soehngenii*

12:40-13:05



LUIS GOSÁLBEZ
Managing Director, Sandwalk BioVentures
A 2024 regulatory update on next-gen probiotics development

EU regulations to develop next-gen probiotics are becoming stricter and more complex every day. In 2023 we started to see how the Transparency Regulation effectively kills 50% of all Novel Food procedures. Also, EFSA published a new guideline on antimicrobial resistance reporting, which may make this task very challenging for developers of strains that belong to less conventional microbial species. Luis will be presenting a thorough analysis of these problems and some options to overcome them.

13:05-13:30



JÖRN HENDRIK REUTER
Global Director Dermatology & Microbiome Research, Beiersdorf AG
Skin Microbiome in Health and Disease
Cutibacteria and Staphylococci on human Skin, Probiotics in Cosmetics

12:40-13:05



SABRINA LEOTY-OKOMBI
R&D Project Leader, BASF
Skin microbiota community associated with sensitive skin

In order to compare microbiomes from individuals with/without Sensitive Skin (SS), face skin swabs were analyzed using 16S rRNA sequencing. Droplet-based microfluidic technology (DBMT) was applied to isolate and create a bacterial collection from individuals of each cohort. Further culture methods were set up to compare interactions of cohorts' isolates with skin cells. We observed in SS increases in abundance of Cutibacterium, Kocuria, Micrococcus Pseudomonas and decrease in Staphylococci and Lactobacilli. Additionally, *S.aureus*, *C. kroppenstedtii* and were increased Using DBMT, we isolated hundred strains and selected representatives of each cohort. Finally, interactions studies of the most prevalent strains of SS with skin cells evidenced some of their detrimental potential.

13:05-13:30

13:30-14:30 Lunch/ Poster Presentations / One-to-One Partner Meetings

PANEL DISCUSSION

Navigating the Future: Regulation of Probiotic and Microbiome based assets for the Food and Pharma Markets.



COLETTE SHORTT (Chair)
Visiting Professor, University of Ulster



CELINE DRUART
Microbiome Project Manager, Pharmabiotic Research Institute (PRI)



ROSANNA PECERE
Executive Director, IPA Europe



BRUNO POT
Science Director Europe, Yakult Europe BV

14:30-15:20



DAN BROWNELL
Senior Director of Research and Development, AOBiome Therapeutics
B244 Utilizes Multiple Mechanisms of Action to Treat Atopic Dermatitis, a Multifactorial Disease

- B244 Mechanisms
- B244 Pre-Clinical and Clinical Data
- Future Expansion of B244 Use

14:30-14:55



KIM HARDIE
Professor in Bacterial Pathogenesis, University of Nottingham & Co-Investigator, National Biofilms Innovation Centre
Commensal bacteria protect skin cells from the pathogens Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Staphylococcus aureus

Skin offers protection against external insults, with the microbiota playing a crucial defensive role against pathogens that gain access when the skin barrier is breached. Our polymicrobial biofilm keratinocyte model incorporates the commensals (*Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Micrococcus luteus*) and pathogens (*Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*). The commensals reduced the damage caused to the immortalized keratinocyte (HaCat cells) monolayer by the pathogens via (i) reducing the biofilm thickness, or (ii) forming a protective layer over the keratinocytes. Our realistic 3D skin model incorporating stratified collagen layers mimics chronic polymicrobial infections, and is shedding light on the features selected

14:55-15:20

14:30-15:20

PANEL DISCUSSION

Current Challenges and Future Opportunities in LBP Manufacturing

Key topics

- What are the current major hurdles in LBP manufacturing?
- Examine new technologies for manufacturing sensitive drug substance strains
- Weigh the pros and cons of internal versus external manufacturing
- What are the latest development and most important advances in manufacturing i. LBPs and ii. sensitive drug substance strains?



JOS SEEGERS

Senior Director of Operations, Caelus Health

Panellists x4

15:20-16:10

Continued

15:20-15:45

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE (Reserved)

Reading University

Probiotics, & personalized nutrition case study

15:45-16:10

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE

Invitation Out

Probiotics, & personalized nutrition case study

14:55-15:20

in chronic skin wounds to enable pairs of pathogens to co-colonise. This insight is enabling identification of novel therapeutic approaches alongside reliable biomarkers of life-changing chronic skin infections.



NATALISE KALEA ROBINSON

Co-Founder & CEO, Parallel Health

Analyzing the Skin Microbiome for Personalized Skin Health

15:20-15:45

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE

Concerto Biosciences

Skin Microbiome Case Study

15:45-16:10

16:10

Conference Close



THE HAGUE CONFERENCE CENTRE

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The Hague Conference Centre is renowned for its international hospitality, luxury catering and modern facilities at the highest level. With our professional and personal approach, we are happy to accommodate small meetings as well as multi-day congresses of up to 650 people.



SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

SUSTAINABILITY

Venues with Sustainability Goals

We are committed to selecting venues with more sustainable practices. These will cover energy supply, food & waste, water use, recycling and plastics. The sustainability policies of the venues will be published on the meeting website.

Event App

We have reduced waste by replacing printed documentation with an app. Make sure you have it downloaded to your devices in time for the meeting. Get Agorify on [Google Play](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.agorify) and [Apple App Store](https://apps.apple.com/nl/app/agorify/id1488888888).

Catering

You will have some great food choices while you are with us. We have worked with the caterer to increase the proportion of plant-based items. We have also built a plan with the venue to avoid waste through how they serve meals and how any leftovers are processed. Our aim is that you have some great meals, whilst with us, but with less environmental impact by the time you leave.

Travel

An international meeting does involve travel but where it is practical, please consider more sustainable alternatives to flying. The app will also have a discussion space to arrange ride shares.