



A Review; Probiotic

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Abstract

Probiotics are commonly defined as viable microorganisms (bacteria or yeasts) that exhibit a beneficial effect on the health of the host when they are ingested. Numerous scientific studies have demonstrated their advantages for both human and animal health. The two primary probiotic groups are Lactobacillus and Bifidobacterium; however, there have been findings on the probiotic potential of yeasts, Pediococcus, Lactococcus, and Bacillus. Probiotic strains that have been found possess significant anti-inflammatory and antiallergic characteristics, among other key attributes. Aside from that, eating both dairy and non-dairy products boosts immunity in various ways. Probiotics have been employed with a variety of dietary matrices; a brief history is provided. This overview covers the history of probiotics, their use in food and health, and the latest developments in probiotic procedures and products.

Keywords-Probiotics, History, Classification, Mechansim, Application

Introduction

According to the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nation) and WHO (World Health Organisation), probiotics are: “Live microorganisms that, when administered in sufficient quantities, benefit the host's health.”

Probiotic bacteria are now increasingly used in the nutrition manufacturing and in commercial products like dietary supplements due to their positive impact on immune function, growth performance and in the treatment of many diseases and disorders like GIT and respiratory disorders etc.

In addition to the use in human foods, probiotics are also used in animal foods to strengthen and stabilize animal growth and products. For a functional probiotic with a suitable daily dosage of 10^6 - 10^9 living bacteria, the count of living microorganisms should be greater than 6 log cfu/g in order for probiotics to be effective for humans.

Various species of *Bacillus* genus have been found effective for application in food and agricultural industries. The spores of various *Bacillus* species, including *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus clausii*, and *Bacillus coagulans*, are used to produce probiotics. *Bacilli* bacteria, which are ubiquitous in food, water, and air, can enter the gastrointestinal tracts of humans exposed to these sources. Due to spore forming, there is a huge advantage in the strain survival during pellet formation and they also possess pathogen exclusion, antioxidant, antimicrobial,

immunomodulatory and food fermentation ability. Since the human gut contains 10^7 cfu or more of *Bacillus* species, they are thought to be one of the dominant elements of the normal gut microflora.

1. Probiotics:

'Probiotics' are live microorganisms which when administered in adequate amounts confer a health benefit on the host. The term probiotic was derived from the Greek word "for life". FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) and WHO (World Health Organization) have stated that there is adequate scientific evidence to indicate that there is potential for probiotic food to provide health benefits and that specific strains for safe human use. Probiotics were originally used to improve the health of humans and animals through the modulation of the intestinal microbiota, stimulation and development of the immune system. The main effect of probiotics at the intestinal level such as balancing and restoration of the gut microbiota, protection against pathogens, immunomodulation, and maintenance of intestinal barrier integrity.

The term probiotic taken as an unchallenged synonym for beneficial microbes has gained popularity over the years and has found application in several general health and clinical scenarios. Probiotics found applications with various health benefits in human and animal feed for the prevention of gastrointestinal infections with extensive use in poultry and aquaculture industries. The emergence of cross-resistance in pathogenic bacterial strains has led to the banning of antibiotic growth promoters (AGPs). Therefore, the need for alternative approaches is increasing and 'probiotics' has been proved to be one of the best alternatives. As a probiotic, many microbes have been used commercially, like *Lactobacillus* species, *Bacillus* species, *Enterococcus* species, and *Saccharomyces* species. *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* are the most widely or commonly used bacterial probiotics. Various species of the *Bacillus* genus have been found effective. Due to spore-forming, there is a huge advantage in strain survival during pellet formation. Endospores former such as *Bacillus* species are interesting because their spores resist the acid barrier of the stomach and are stable for long periods in commercial food products. *Bacilli* considered gut commensal have been used as probiotics for prophylaxis of human gastrointestinal disorders.

1.1 History of Probiotics:

The term probiotic is a relatively new word meaning "for life" and it is currently used to name bacteria associated with beneficial effects for humans and animals. The original observation of the positive role played by some selected bacteria is attributed to various scientists. The concept of probiotics was thus born and a new field of microbiology was opened.

Table.1: History of probiotics: Various scientists and their statements

Sr.no	Scientists/Year	Statement
1.	Elie Metchnikoff (1908)	Suggested that rod-shaped bacteria found in fermented dairy products (<i>Lactobacillus spp.</i>) offer health benefits. As a result, these bacteria have a beneficial effect on the gut microbiota and lessen the harmful activity of microorganisms in intestine.
2.	Greek and Romans (1925)	The history of probiotics began with the consumption of fermented diets

3.	American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Nutrition (1980)	Probiotics are microorganism that generates small molecular metabolic by-products that made beneficial regulatory effects on host biological function and may function as immunomodulators
4.	Lilly and Stillwell (1965)	'Substances secreted by one microorganism that stimulate the growth of another'.
5.	Parker (1974)	Proposed that Probiotics are 'organisms and substances which contribute to intestinal microbial balance'.
6.	Fuller (1989)	Here defined the word as "dietary supplement of live microbes that beneficially affect the host by improving its intestinal balance".
7.	Havener and Huis In't Veld (1992)	Redefined probiotics as "live cultures, consisting of one or more microbes which, when administered to animals or humans, are beneficially affecting the host by improving the properties of the intestinal flora".
8.	Guarner and Shaafsma (1998)	Defined as "live microorganisms, which when consumed in sufficient quantities, produce beneficial effects on the host beyond those of basic nutrition".
9.	ILSI (International Life Sciences Institute) Europe (1986)	Defined it as "A live microbial food ingredient that is beneficial to health"
10.	Schrezenmeit and de Vrese (2001)	Defined "Probiotics are a preparation of microorganisms or a product that contains live, defined microorganisms, which positively alter the composition of the microflora by implantation or colonization in a host's residence, after repeated periodical reintroduction, thus exerting beneficial effects on health"
11.	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations/World Health Organization (FAO/WHO, 2001)	Defined Probiotics as "Live microorganisms which, when administered in adequate amounts, confer a health benefit on the host"

1.2 Microorganisms used as probiotics/Classification:

The microbes used as Probiotics represent different types such as yeast, bacteria, or mold. However, there are more common species of each such as

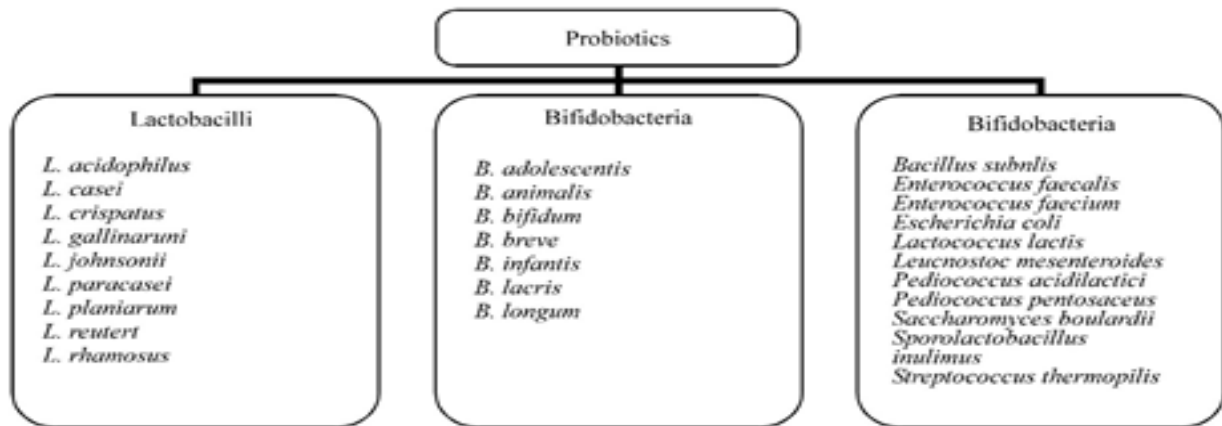


Fig 1 : Classification of probiotics

1.2.1 -Bacteria

- (i) *Lactobacillus: Plantarum, rhamnosus, acidophilus delbrueckii, reuteri, brevis, casei, paracasei, gasseri, crispatus.*
- (ii) *Bifidobacterium: bifidum, infantis, adolescentis, longum, breve, lactis, animalis.*
- (iii) *Streptococcus: lactis, cremoris, alivarius, intermedius, thermophilis, diacetylactis.*
- (iv) *Leuconostoc mesenteroides*
- (v) *Pediococcus.*
- (vi) *Propionibacterium.*
- (vii) *Bacillus.*
- (viii) *Enterococcus.*
- (ix) *Enterococcus faecium.*

1.2.1.1 -Lactobacillus

Lactobacilli are gram-positive, non-spore-forming rods that are frequently found in the mouth, GI tract, and female genitourinary tract. They are an essential component of the normal human bacterial flora. Microscopically, these bacteria resemble thin, non-motile rods that range in length from long to small. except in cases when they are linked to dental caries, *lactobacilli* are not often regarded as pathogens in healthy hosts because they are necessary to maintain a healthy GI tract. These organisms are regarded as "protectory" and may inhibit pathogenic growth by producing lactic acid and other metabolites. One of those features is the ability to produce bacteriocins (Small proteins called bacteriocins are made by bacteria and can be harmful to other bacteria), which are low-molecular-weight antimicrobials.

1.2.1.2-Bifidobacterium

Bifidobacteria were first isolated and described in 1899-1900 by Tissier, who characterized rod-shaped, non-gas-producing, anaerobic with bifid morphology, present in the faeces of breastfed infants, which he termed bacillus bifidus. The general characteristics of *bifidobacteria* are that they are catalase-negative, gram-positive, non-spore-forming, non-motile anaerobes. The gut microbiome has been extensively studied using *Bifidobacterium* as a probiotic, with the aim of altering its composition to reduce diseases. Additionally, bacteria can be used

in culture or colony development. *Bifidobacterium*, similar to other *Lactobacilli*, can inhibit harmful bacteria, enhance gastrointestinal barrier function, and suppress pro-inflammatory cytokines.

Recent studies have shown that *Bifidobacterium* alter dendritic cell function to control intestinal immune homeostasis against antigens and harmless bacteria or to initiate defense mechanisms against pathogens. The combination of *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* reduces stress and depression.

1.2.1.3-Others :

Enterococcus :

Enterococcus are gram-positive bacteria in the lactic acid bacteria family. The Gram-positive cocci that were formerly classified as *Streptococci* were reclassified as *Streptococcus*, *Lactococcus*, and *Enterococcus*. The new genus *Enterococci* contains the *faecal streptococci* that are present in the gastrointestinal tracts of both humans and animals as well as in a variety of different environments. Certain *Enterococcus* strains have immune system-modulating properties, exhibit antibiotic-induced dysbiosis, and have antitumor or anticancer properties. The culture of an *E. faecium* strain from human intestinal epithelium has been found to boost the bactericidal activities against enteroaggregative *E. coli*, membrane damage, and cell lysis.

1.2.2- Yeast and moulds:

Saccharomyces cerevisiae, *Saccharomyces boulardii*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Saccharomyces boulardii*. The type of microbes used as Probiotics increased due to the increase in the research concerning the subject as well as by the increase of the newly discovered and identified microbes, which could be used as Probiotics. Following are the requirements which have been identified for a microorganism to be defined as an effective probiotic:

- The probiotic should give positive effects on GIT of the host. It should be acid resistant, bile resistant.
- The adhesive capability of probiotics must be firm and faster.
- The probiotic should possess high survival rate & multiply faster.
- Exclude or reduce pathogenic adherence.
- Safe, non-invasive, non-carcinogenic, and non-pathogenic to the host. Produce acids, peroxide and bacteriocins, antagonistic for the growth of pathogens.
- Coaggregation to form a normal balanced flora.
- Probiotics should be durable enough to withstand the duress of commercial manufacturing, processing, packing and distribution so it can be delivered alive to the intestine.

1.2.2.1-Saccharomyces

A selective probiotic yeast that is non-pathogenic and used in the production of probiotic food. A number of studies have demonstrated that *S. cerevisiae* and *S. boulardii* were associated with an increased proportion of Bacteroidetes in the gut microbiota composition and a reduced relative abundance of Firmicutes and Proteobacteria. Furthermore, this yeast can reduce inflammation by boosting pro-inflammatory immune responses and short-chain fatty acid synthesis.

1.3 Sources of probiotics

The probiotic bacteria often come from the genera *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium*. However, some yeast and other bacteria also possess probiotic qualities. The most common source of probiotics is Yogurt. Yogurt consists of milk (usually from the cow, goat or sheep) fermented by bacteria that modify lactose into lactic acid. Lactic acid is responsible for giving yogurt its characteristics (sharp taste usually changed into good taste by using sweeteners and flavouring agent) and also denatures and precipitates casein, resulting in a semisolid consistency. "Bioyoghurts are produced in a similar way, but bacteria used for fermentation are of different strains, usually *L. acidophilus*. Fermented milk and fortified fruit juice are common sources of probiotics.

1.4 Selection Criteria for Probiotics

Before a probiotic can be useful in the interest of human health, it must have several criteria: it should have the desired technological properties so that it can be produced and added to the food products without losing its survival and function, or creating an unpleasant taste or tissue; it must survive when passing through the gastrointestinal tract and must reach live site and should be able to function in the intestinal environment. Several aspects should be considered in the selection of appropriate probiotic:

- 1) Safe strains, species, and genera of probiotics
- 2) Viability and bioactivity during the process and storage
- 3) Gastrointestinal survival and resistance to gastric acid and bile acids.
- 4) Stimulating the selection of beneficial bacteria and suppressing harmful bacteria (through the production of antimicrobial compounds and competitive elimination)
- 5) Antagonistic activity against pathogens such as *Helicobacter pylori*, *Salmonella*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Clostridium difficile*.
- 6) Adhesion to the intestinal epithelium
- 7) Anti-mutagenic and anti-carcinogenic properties. Modification and improvement of the immune system

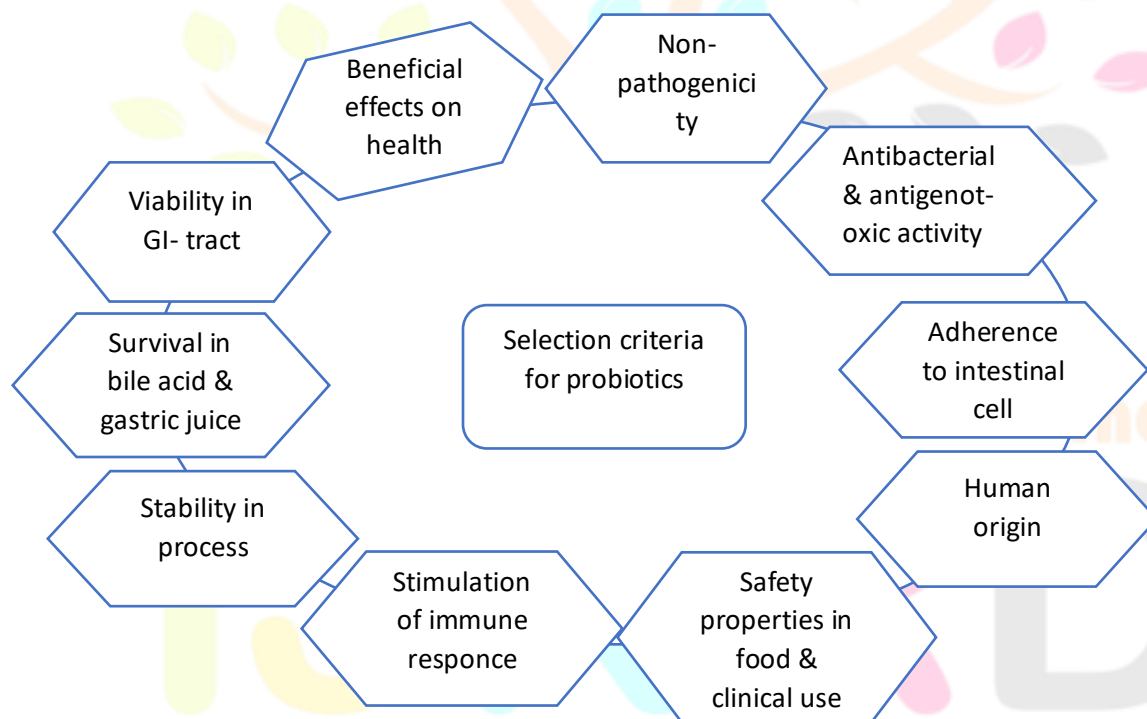


Fig.2: Selection criteria for Probiotics

1.5 Role and properties of probiotics:

Probiotics play a major role in the treatment and prevention of many diseases and disorders.

- Role of Probiotics in Preventing Diarrhoea
- Role of Probiotics in Lactose Intolerance
- Role of Probiotics in Control of Gastro-Intestinal Tract
- Role of Probiotics as a Functional Food
- Role of Probiotics in Cancer

- Role of Probiotics as Anti-Oxidants
- Role of Probiotics in Hypercholesteremia
- Role of Probiotics in Bacterial Vaginosis
- Role of Probiotics in Diabetic Activity

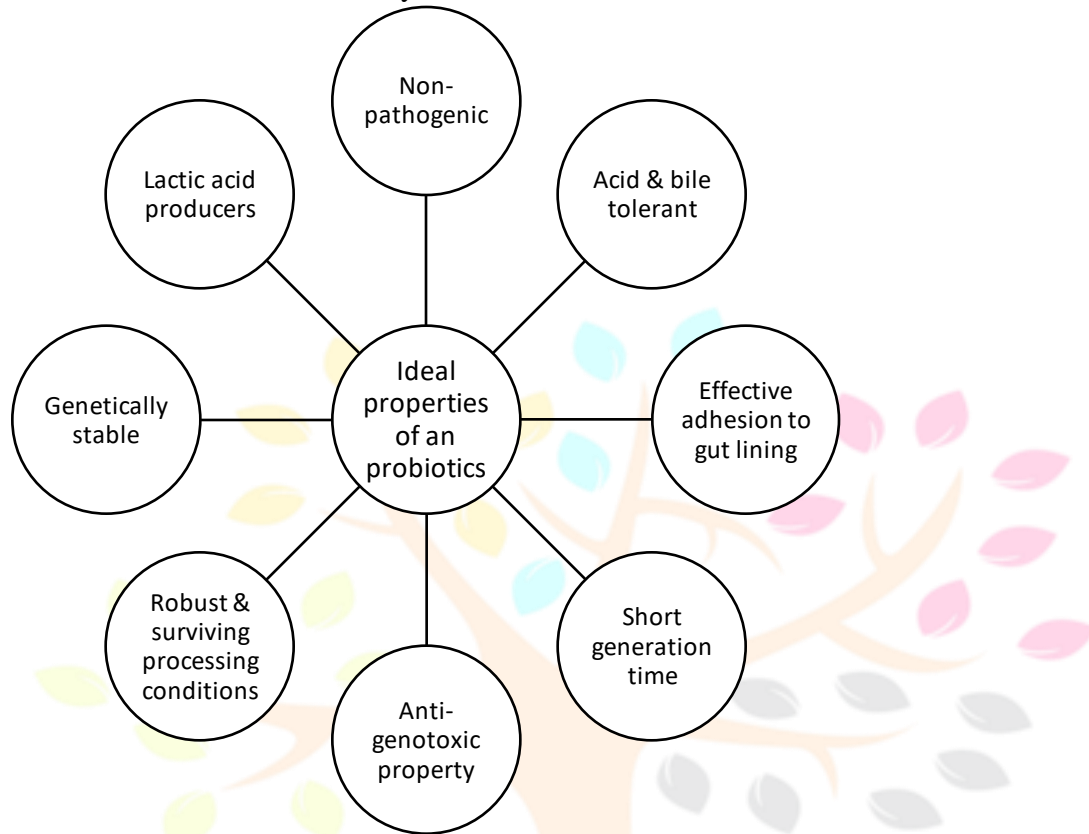


Fig.3: Properties of an ideal Probiotics

Various studies have indicated that Probiotics may alleviate lactose intolerance; have a positive influence on the intestinal flora of the host; stimulate/modulate mucosal immunity, reduce inflammatory or allergic reactions, reduce blood cholesterol, possess anti-colon cancer effects, reduce the clinical manifestations of atopic dermatitis, Crohn's disease, diarrhoea, constipation, candidiasis, and urinary tract infections, and competitively exclude pathogens. Considering this impressive list of potential health-promoting benefits, it is not surprising that there continues to be considerable interest in the use of probiotics as biotherapeutic agents. Furthermore, given a heightened awareness among consumers of the link between diet and health and the fact that Probiotics-containing foods are generally perceived as "safe" and "natural," the global market for such foods is on the increase, particularly dairy-based products marketed for the prophylaxis or alleviation of gastrointestinal disorders.

1.6 Ideal Properties of probiotics

- It should be capable of surviving and metabolizing in gut environment e.g., resistance to low PH and acids.
- It should be strain specific exerting beneficial effect on host animal. It should be present as viable cells, preferably in large numbers and it is acid and bile tolerant (ability of bacteria to survive in stomach and small intestine).

Health Benefits	Proposed mechanism involved
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Resistancetoenteric pathogens	Antagonism activity, Adjuvant effect increasing, antibody production, Systemic immune effect, Colonization resistance Limiting access of enteric pathogens(pH,bacteriocins/defensins,antimicrobialpeptides, lacticacidproduction, andtoxicoxygen metabolites)
Aidinlactosedigestionsmallbowel bacterial overgrowth	Bacteriallyactaseactsonlactoseinthestomach- Lactobacilli influence the activity of overgrowth flora, decreasing toxic metabolite production Normalizationofasmall bowelmicrobialcommunity Antibacterialcharacteristics
Immunesystem modulation	Strengthening of nonspecific and antigen-specific defense against infection and tumours Adjuvanteffectinantigen-specificimmuneresponses Regulating/influencing Th 1/Th2 cells, productionofanti-inflammatorycytokines
Urogenitalinfection	Adhesionourinaryandvaginaltractcells Competitive exclusion Inhibitorproduction(H ₂ O ₂ ,biosurfactants)
InfectioncausedbyHelicobacter pylori	Competitive Colonization Inhibitionofgrowthandadhesion tomucosalcells,decreasein gastric H.pylori concentration
Hepatic encephalopathy neutralization of dietary carcinogens	Competitiveexclusionorinhibition ofureaseproducinggut flora Productionofbutyricacidneutralizestheactivityofdietary carcinogens
NEC (necrotic inflammation of the distal small intestine)	DecreaseinTLRsandsignallingmoleculesandincreasein negative regulations ReductionintheIL-8response
Rotaviral gastroenteritis	Increased IgAresponsetothe virus
Inflammatory bowel disease, type I diabetes	Enhancementofmucosalbarrierfunction
Crohn'sdisease	Reduction in Proinflammatory cytokines including TNF α , reductioninthenumberofCD4cellsaswellasTNF α expression amongintraepitheliallymphocytes

- Itshouldberobustandsurvivingprocessingconditions.
- Itshouldbegeneticallystableunderstorageand field conditions

1.7 Health benefits of probiotics

It should be non-pathogenic and non-toxic. It is now an established fact that the indigenous microbial communities is host specific, location specific, very complex in composition and has beneficial properties to the host. However, it is not precisely known which species of microorganisms play the principal part in these beneficial properties. Some major health benefits of probiotics and their proposed mechanisms are illustrated in Table no.2

Table.2: Health benefits of probiotics and their mechanisms

The primary clinical interest in the modulation of an unbalanced indigenous microbiota serves as the basis for probiotic therapy because variations in the gut microbiota have been linked to increased risk of certain diseases. Additionally, due to the rapid emergence of antibiotic-resistant pathogenic strains and the negative effects of antibiotic therapies on the protective flora, which increases the risk of infection, the development of adjuvant or alternative therapies based on bacterial replacement is becoming increasingly important. Probiotic use should be further researched to determine any potential benefits and negative effects. As our understanding of the relationship between diet, immunity, and genetics in health and disease has grown over the past few years, this knowledge could definitely aid in the development of new probiotic strains with disease-specific functions. The application of probiotics has been in the prevention and treatment of GI infections and diseases. However, it is important that the probiotic strains for human use should undergo animal studies followed by human clinical trials in order to authenticate the suitability, safety, and benefits of probiotics for human consumption and the development of functional foods.



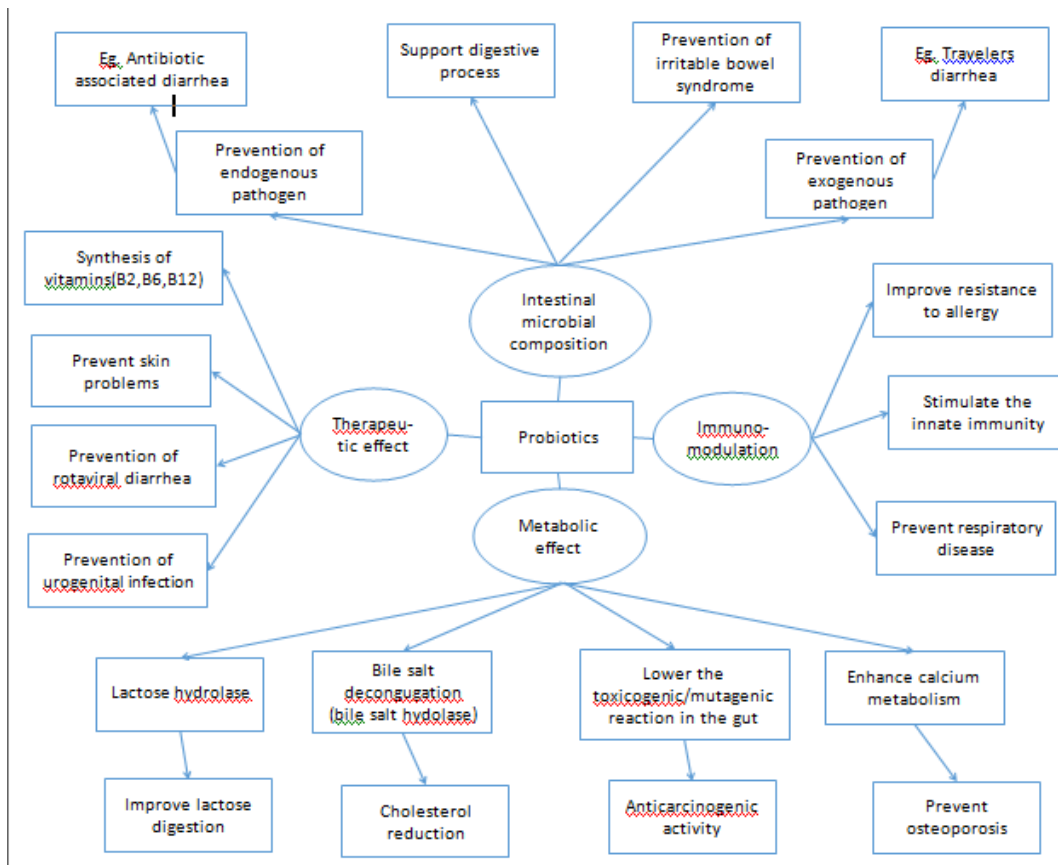


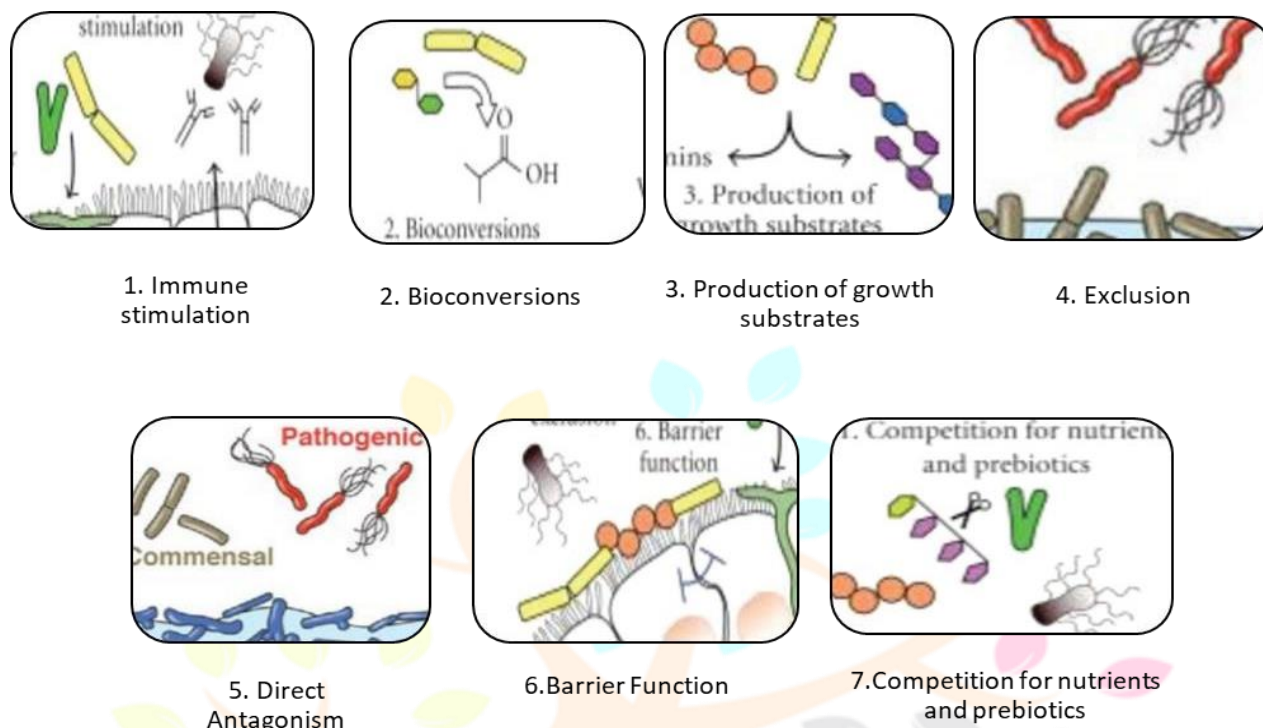
Fig.4: Health Benefits of Probiotics

Probiotics also play a major role in reducing serum cholesterol levels, Probiotics play a major role in Lactose intolerance, Diarrhoea, Anti-carcinogenic properties, Enhances Immune system, Atopic Dermatitis, Urinary tract infections.



1.8 Mechanism of Probiotics:

The main mechanism by which probiotics play a beneficial role in animals is described as (i) production of antibiotic substance, (ii) compete with harmful bacteria for nutrients, (iii) adhesion and colonization in the intestinal mucosa, (iv) reducing the stress response and enhancing the immunity, and (v) regulating the binding



of cytokines to receptors to regulate the immune response. The exact mechanism by which probiotics carry out their beneficial impacts is not well understood.

Fig.5: Various Mechanisms of probiotics

One such mechanism involves probiotics competing for cellular attachments by competing for adhesion sites. To successfully colonize, a variety of pathogenic organisms must collaborate with the gastrointestinal endothelium. However, some *bifidobacterial* and *lactobacilli* strains can hold fast to the epithelium and serve as "colonization barriers" by preventing pathogens from sticking to the mucosa, this is not always the situation. The modification of the microbial flora through the synthesis of antimicrobial compounds is another potential mechanism of action. Bacteriocins and other antimicrobial substances are produced by a wide variety of lactobacilli and bifidobacteria. "Compounds produced by bacteria that have a biologically active protein moiety and a bactericidal action" are referred to as bacteriocins. The lactic acid bacteria also produce short-chain fatty acids, hydrogen peroxide, and diacetyl, all of which are biologically active substances. Probiotic organisms release these chemicals, which alter the microflora positively. However, not all strains of lactobacilli or bifidobacteria produce antimicrobial substances, and some produce substances with relatively nonspecific activities, which might harm both pathogenic and beneficial bacteria.

1.8.1 Enhancement of the Epithelial Barrier:

The intestinal barrier is a crucial barrier system that keeps the epithelium intact and protects the organism from its surroundings. The antimicrobial mucous layer, secretory IgA, and the epithelial cells that form tight connections make up the intestinal barrier's defenses. A number of clinical disorders, including bowel illness, liver disease, and GIT infection, have been associated with epithelial barrier disruption. Importantly, consuming probiotic bacteria can improve intestinal barrier performance. The enterocytes create thick mucus that is released by mucus and distributed throughout the luminal epithelium of the intestines, enhancing the epithelial barrier. Probiotic bacteria have been shown to stimulate intestinal epithelium inflammation, which in turn increases mucus output.

Numerous studies have suggested that enhancing the expression of genes related to tight junction signaling is a potential method for maintaining the function of the intestinal barrier. The tight junction signaling pathway can be induced by certain probiotics. For instance, in a T84 cell, lactobacilli alter the regulation of E-cadherin and -catenin. In gastrointestinal disorders like IBD, changes in pro-inflammatory cytokine levels can cause intestinal permeability. By preventing the production of cytokines, probiotic bacteria consumption reduces cytokine-induced epithelium damage (TNF).

1.8.2 Increased Adhesion to Intestinal:

Since probiotic bacteria can attach to epithelial cells, they can prevent pathogen adherence. Probiotics may induce the production of mucin, a complex glycoprotein mixture that is a component of mucus, which inhibits the adhesion of pathogenic bacteria, or they may compete with pathogens for the same receptors as a result of their anti-adhesive effect. According to several studies, various *lactobacilli* proteins promote mucous adhesions and bacterial surface adhesions serve as a pathway for attachment to the mucous layer.

1.8.3 Competitive exclusion of pathogenic microorganisms:

Exogenous pathogens are competitively prevented from the environment by local bacteria due to competition for adhesion space. *E. coli*, *Salmonella*, *Helicobacter pylori*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, and Rotavirus are just a few of the pathogens that *lactobacilli* and *bifidobacteria* have been shown to inhibit. Probiotics' ability to physically block pathogenic bacteria from colonizing their preferred sites, such as the intestinal cell, epithelium, and colonic crypts is one of the many mechanisms and characteristics that probiotics use to inhibit pathogenic adhesion.

1.8.4 Production of anti-microbial substances

Probiotics can produce antimicrobial substances that can prevent pathogen replication. Short chain fatty acids (SCFA), antimicrobial peptides (AMPs), organic acids, and deconjugated bile acids are examples of LMW compounds that are almost always present in these components. This LMW group contains short-chain fatty acids, which is significant. Acetate, propionate, and butyrate are among the short-chain fatty acids (SCFA) that are created by intestinal bacteria during the fermentation of dietary plant material's insoluble fiber. Acetic acid and lactic acid in particular, which have a potent inhibitory effect against Gram-negative bacteria, have been thought to be the main antimicrobial compounds causing probiotics' inhibitory activity against pathogens.



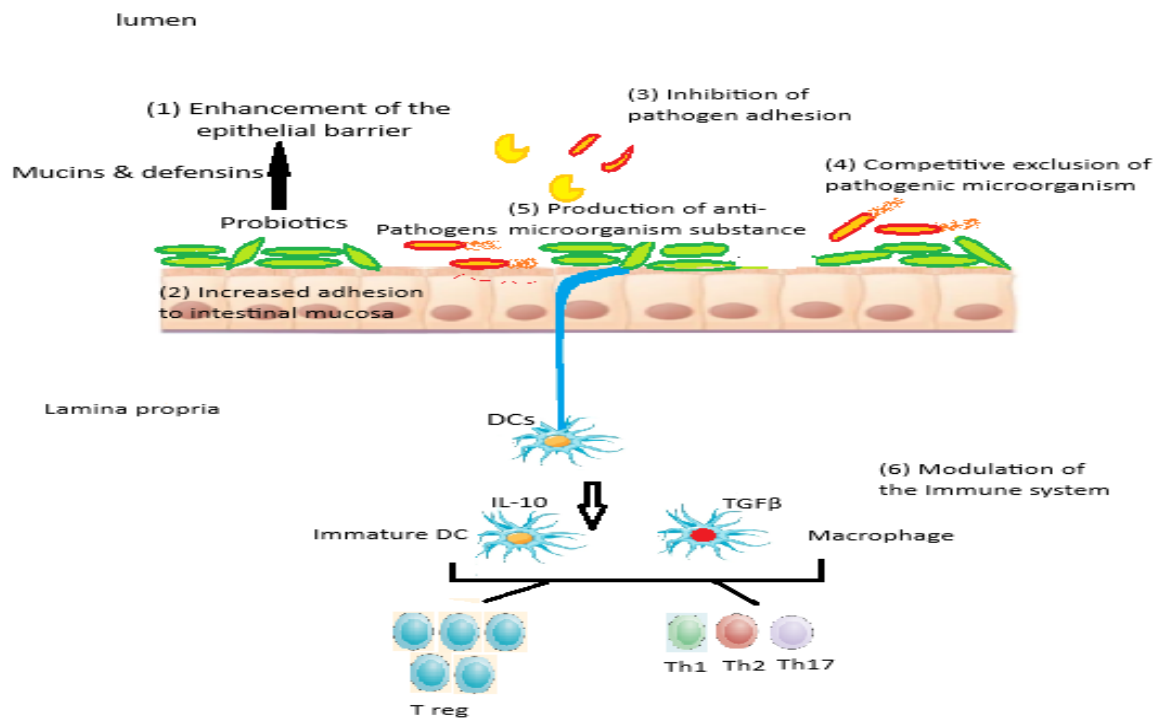


Fig.6: Mechanism of Probiotics



1.9 Probiotics and their immune system:

Numerous cell types involved in adaptive and innate immune responses, including epithelial cells, dendritic cells, monocytes/macrophages, B cells, T cells, regulatory T cells, and NK cells, can be affected by probiotic bacteria, which then exert their immunomodulatory effect. Probiotic bacteria can lower the T lymphocyte response and prevent dendritic cells from producing the production of cytokines IL-12, TNF, and IFN (DC). Children with the gastrointestinal disease who were given *L. rhamnosus* GG noticed an increase in non-specific humoral immune responses via circulating lymphocytes secreting the most IgG, IgA, and IgM. One such mechanism involves probiotics competing for cellular attachments by competing for adhesion sites. To successfully colonize, a variety of pathogenic organisms must collaborate with the Gastrointestinal endothelium. However, some *bifidobacterial* and *lactobacilli* strains can hold fast to the epithelium and serve as "colonization barriers" by preventing pathogens from sticking to the mucosa, this is not always the situation. The *Lactobacillus lactobacillus acidophilus* strain GG and the *Lactobacillus Plantarum* 299v were used to demonstrate this effect. Both of these organisms demonstrated the ability to prevent *Escherichia coli* from strictly adhering to human colon cells. Other proposed mechanisms for how intestinal microflora is affected include lowering intestinal pH, releasing gut-protective metabolites, controlling intestinal motility, and producing mucus. The primary point of contact between the immune system and the outside world is the mucosa of the gastrointestinal tract. Antigen transport increases whenever intestinal microflora decreases, indicating that the healthy gut microflora maintains gut defenses. To initiate the immune signals, the non-pathogenic probiotic bacteria interact with the gut epithelial cells and the immune cells. These bacteria must interact with gut epithelial cells, associated immune cells, and M cells in Peyer's patches. The production of immunoglobulins has been shown to be modulated by probiotic bacteria. Mucosal immunity benefits from secretory IgA, which helps to form a defense against pathogenic bacteria and viruses.

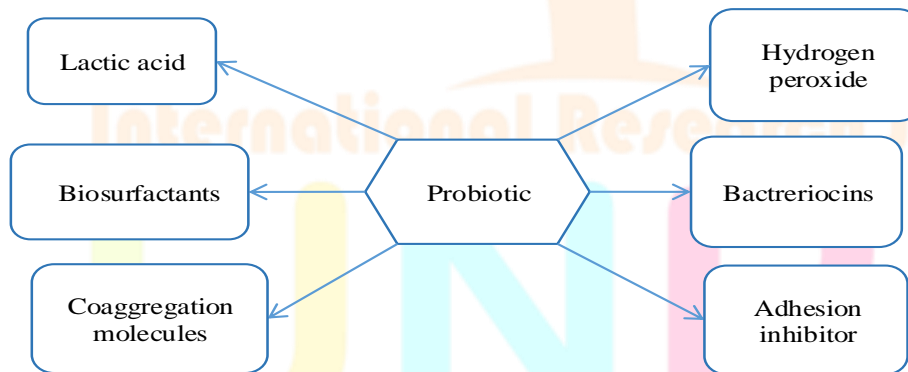


Fig.7: Metabolic products of Probiotic

The most remarkable character of probiotic organisms was the increase in IgA-producing cells, though it has also been shown that fermented milk yogurt can also induce IgA independently. The stimulation with probiotic bacteria has also been observed to increase the profiles of some cytokines (TNF- IFN-, IL-10). In order to up or down-regulate immune responses and preserve intestinal homeostasis, the release of cytokines is induced. It is still unclear how probiotic microorganisms interact with GALT (Gut-associated lymphoid tissue), as well as how they exert their anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory effects.

1.10 Safety of Probiotics:

This study's objective was to assess the safety of products that contained probiotic strains. According to

observations, these products are increasingly helping people with immunosuppressed systems or vulnerable individuals, such as the elderly, children, and those with immune deficiencies. Such an ideology leads to concerns about probiotics' safety. The probiotic strains should not harm the host and should be completely non-pathogenic. It is difficult to find evidence to back up this assertion.

The Probiotic Safety Assessment studies use a variety of techniques, including

1. Study the particular characteristics of different probiotic strains
2. Investigation into the probiotic strains' pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic
3. Research into how probiotics and hosts interact.

The most effective way to evaluate the safety of a new probiotic in an immunocompromised host is only through the animal model. The safety of a probiotic food product is defined as the absence of any significant adverse health effects following consumption under specific circumstances. Due to their extensive history of safe use, probiotics are effective. *Bacillus* species, a probiotic, is widely distributed throughout the environment and can be isolated from water, soil, air, and decomposing plant matter, most likely as a result of indirectly consuming plant matter. Some *Bacillus* species bacteria have also been found in the gastrointestinal tract of animals. An important source of enzymes for food, animal feed, and numerous industrial uses are the *Bacillus* species. In Asia, a number of exclusive *Bacillus* probiotic strains have been marketed as dietary supplements. *Bacillus* probiotics' mechanism is still poorly understood. The following traits are probiotic safety dimensions.

1. Human origin should be preferred for probiotic strains intended for human consumption.
2. They need to be maintained apart from a healthy human digestive system.
3. They shouldn't have a background that makes them pathogenic.
4. They shouldn't be connected to conditions like infectious endocarditis or digestive issues.
5. They shouldn't hydroxylate or reduce congestion of bile salts in the small intestine.
6. They shouldn't have genes that make them susceptible to antibiotic resistance.

Probiotics are assumed to have beneficial benefits, produce antimicrobials, stimulate the immune system, and improve gut flora. Through a series of in vitro, in vivo, and clinical studies, the safety of probiotics *Bacillus coagulans* and *B. subtilis* intended for consumption by humans was evaluated. Various researchers evaluated the safety of probiotics, but the full implications of the safety data were not reported.

1.11 DIFFICULTIES IN RECOGNIZING PROBIOTIC INFECTIONS

Due to the anaerobic nature of probiotic bacteria, it has always been difficult to demonstrate that they are infectious. Additionally, probiotics are rarely believed to infect healthy people. Therefore, it would be preferable to determine a strain's potential for pathogenicity in advance of administration. One of the most accurate approaches is to conduct acute and chronic toxicity studies, which can also provide information about toxicity dosage. Predicting toxicity is difficult because the technique is time-consuming and infectivity is frequently strain-dependent. When probiotic strains cause infection, they are frequently undetectable in the laboratory since their long track record of safety has largely removed them from suspicion. Accurate identification of *Lactobacillus* and other anaerobic probiotics in rod shape is challenging, as most commercial identification systems are inadequate for this particular bacterium. Microscopic detection also proved difficult. For example, the morphology of *Lactobacillus* is similar to other genera, including *Corynebacterium*, *Clostridium*, *Nocardia*, and *Streptococcus*. Based on gram stain detection, probiotics such as *Lactobacillus* were mistaken for diphtheroids and thus dismissed as contaminants. Similarly, *Enterococcus spp.* has been confused with *Weissella confusa* because they are both pyroglutamyl aminopeptidase positive and may have similar morphology based on Gram stain results of blood agar plates. Detailed identification, for example using specific polymerase chain reaction and pulsed-field gel electrophoresis, is usually required.

1.12 Application of Probiotics:

1.12.1 Clinical application of probiotics:

Along with stomach issues, probiotics can help with a variety of acute and chronic infectious diseases. as shown in the figure no.6. The body's defenses can be weakened by a variety of factors, leading to inflammatory, viral, neoplastic, and degenerative diseases. Other therapies, such as antibiotics, radiation, and immunosuppressive therapy, may change the stomach's normal flora composition. The goal of functional food products like probiotics is to improve cellular well-being and accelerate the implementation of cells' natural defense mechanisms.

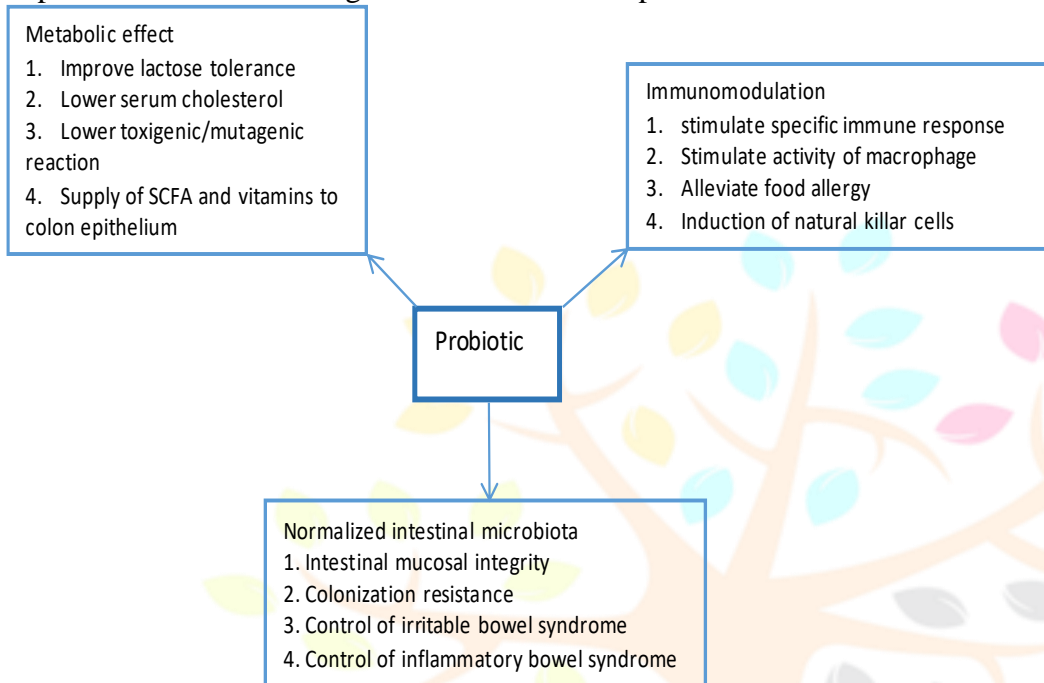


Fig.6: Clinical Application of Probiotics

Probiotics' effects on human disease, diseases, mood, behaviors, and performance have been the subject of numerous studies. The treatment plans should include pharmacological therapy, dietary recommendations, and the use of complementary medicines like probiotics. Probiotics are a promising therapeutic and preventive option for a variety of illnesses, including inflammatory disease, as they are known to have immune-modulatory effects on the host. Consuming probiotics in the form of powder, capsules, and drinks helps in the regeneration of the gut's beneficial microflora, which strengthens human immune systems.

1.13 Uses of probiotics:

Probiotics have been shown to be effective in varied clinical conditions - ranging from infantile diarrhoea, necrotizing enterocolitis, antibiotic-associated diarrhoea, relapsing *Clostridium difficile* colitis, *Helicobacter pylori* infections, inflammatory bowel disease to cancer, female urogenital infection and surgical infections.

1.13.1 Recent advance:

Probiotics can change the composition of the gut microbiota, according to some recent studies, but the exact mechanism by which they do so is still unknown. By

- 1) increasing regulatory T cell differentiation and function.
- 2) reducing the inflammatory response.
- 3) Modulating the gut environment, oral probiotics improved the disease state.
- 4) Enhancing the distribution of intestinal flora, including *Bifidobacterium*, and *Faecalibacterium* among others, that generate short-chain fatty acids or beneficial metabolites. Innovative probiotics and prebiotics are now more crucial than before due to the speed at which human microbiome scientific investigation is progressing.

1.13.1.1 Recentadvancesintheantioxidationroleof probiotics:

Nobelmechanismsofactionintheprocessofoxidation.Throughsuchanumberofmechanisms,probiotic microorganisms have been shown to have significant antioxidant abilities both in vivo and in vitro:

- 1) Probioticschelatemetal ions.
- 2) Probioticsproduce antioxidants.
- 3) Probioticscreateantioxidant metabolites.
- 4) Probioticsboosttheantioxidizeactivityofthe host.
- 5) Thehost'slevelsofantioxidantmetabolitesareincreasedby probiotics.
- 6) Probioticsregulatesignalingpathways.
- 7) Probioticsstoptheproduction ofreactiveoxygenspecies bytheirenzymes (ROS).
- 8) Probioticscontroltheintestinalbacteria.

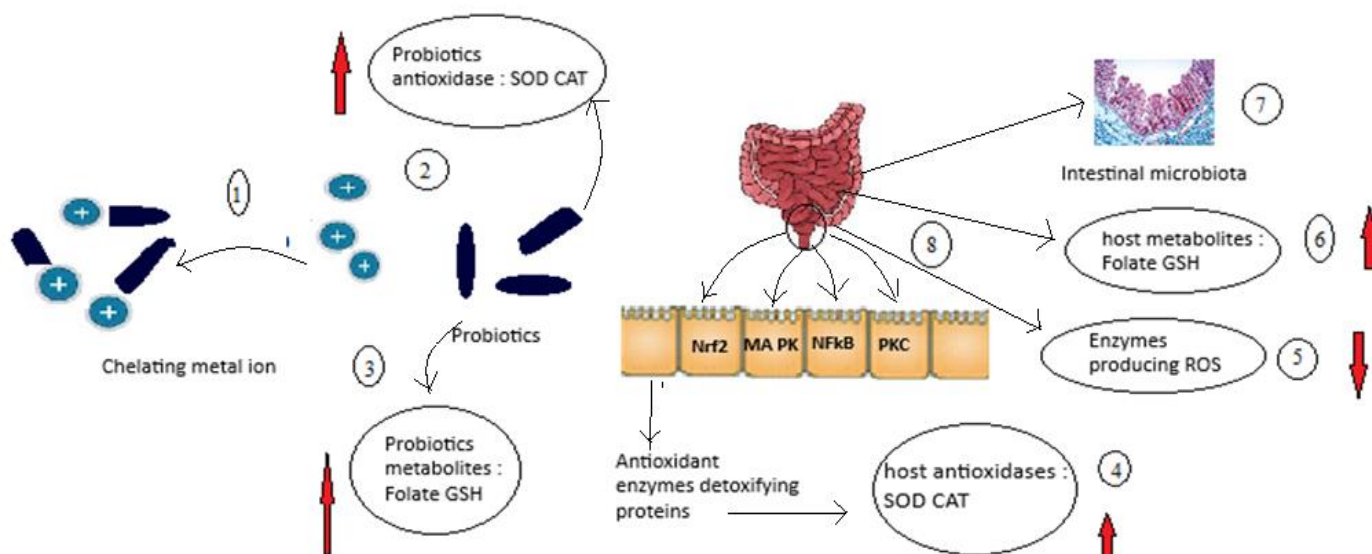


Fig.13: Nobel Modes of Action of probiotics in antioxidant

When exposed to high intensity stress, *Lactoseibacillus rhamnosus* demonstrated significant antioxidant activity in humans. The ability of *Lactoseibacillus rhamnosus* to increase antioxidant levels and reduce the harmful effects of reactive oxygen species may be helpful for athletes experiencing oxidative stress.

Research over the past few decades has shown that various probiotic bacteria strains can exert antioxidant activity in a number of different ways. On the basis of probiotic antioxidant mechanisms, however, not many reviews have been written and published. This section that follows gives a summary of what is known about the mechanisms of oxygen resistance in different probiotic strains as a result

1.13.2 The therapeutic effect of probiotic use in the management of hypertension:

Around the world, hypertension (HTN) has become a significant risk factor for cardiovascular, cerebrovascular, and renal diseases. Certain gut microbial strains may play a pathogenic or protective role in the onset of hypertension. Dysbiosis of the gut microbiota has been linked to HTN progression in animal models and humans, according to recent research. Lowering luminal pH, secreting antimicrobial peptides, blocking bacterial adhesion to epithelial cells through increased expression of intestinal mucins (MUC2) and (MUC3), enhancing mucous secretion, activating cytokine cascades and immune modulation, and inhibiting (reducing) the concentrations of myeloperoxidase, tumour necrosis factor alpha, and nuclear factor kappa are the main mechanisms by which probiotics. By restricting the mucosal barrier, increasing growth factors and receptor sites, and improving the GI barrier's integrity, probiotics can help. Probiotics promote the development of non-

pathogenic commensal bacteria by producing H₂O₂ and benzoic acid, which inhibit many pathogenic, acid-sensitive bacteria. SCFAs have anti-inflammatory effects on immune cells as well as bacterial colony and epithelial cells. The ability of probiotics to lower blood pressure has recently been linked to the fermentation process' production of bioactive peptides like angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitory peptides, which have a hypotensive effect comparable to that of ACE-inhibitor medications.

1.13.3 Production of Antibiotic Compounds

Certain probiotics have been shown to have positive effects because they can cause the host to create antimicrobial molecules that attack and destroy invasive bacteria. production of an engineered *Lactobacillus casei* that can release and produce human lactoferrin (hLF). When the hLF-expressing recombinant strain was fed to mice, histopathological examinations of the small intestine after oral treatment showed less intestinal damage and longer villi. Recombinant strains have also been developed to deal with gram-positive infections, including *L. monocytogenes*, an intracellular foodborne pathogen. Community bacteria have also been bioengineered to create antiviral peptides, proving they are not limited to treating bacterial infections. Targeting HIV infections at the mucosal layers of the gastrointestinal and cervico-vaginal tracts, where viral transmission predominates, results in the development of many constructions.

1.13.4 VACCINE AND DRUG DELIVERY

Besides being biological agents, recombinant probiotics are also used as delivery vehicles and effective prophylactic agents for gastroenterology. Lactamase was used as the model protein for the release of proteins from recombinant probiotics. In this study, recombinant strains of *L. By delivering -lactamase to rats through lactis*, the oral bioavailability was significantly enhanced, which was 2–3 times higher than the control in free solution form. Enhancing the effectiveness of this approach for delivering long-lasting drugs like insulin and growth hormones.

1.13.5 IMMUNOMODULATION

Probiotics have been developed to modulate immune responses. A number of bacteria have also been bioengineered to produce immune molecules that successfully target colitis. *L. lactis* secreting interleukin-27 (IL-27), anti-TNF (tumor necrosis factor), and a serine protease inhibitor, Elafin, have been shown to prevent or reduce colitis in murine models. Recombinant probiotics target allergic reactions. Modulation of acute allergic airway inflammation by IL-10-expressing *L. actis* has been demonstrated in a mouse model.

1.13.6 CANCER TREATMENT

Probiotic bacteria represent a new and emerging class of biotherapeutic agents for colorectal cancer. The hypoxic conditions that promote tumor growth have been identified as a potential therapeutic target. Sasaki developed an enzyme prodrug therapy, which involve administering *Bifidobacterium longum* with sequential administration of cytosine deaminases and 5-fluorocytidine (5-FC).

1.13.7 PSYCHOBIOPTICS

In addition to physical benefits, probiotics can also help patients with their mental health. The gut microbiota may play a role in modulating psychological conditions such as anxiety and depression. psychobiotics I.e., a number of natural, commensal, and probiotic bacterial strains can produce and secrete psychoactive molecules such as γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA), the primary inhibitory neurotransmitter in the mammalian central nervous system. In rats, the oral administration of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* has been shown to reduce levels of stress-induced corticosterone by modulating GABA receptor expression in the forebrain, amygdala, and hippocampus.

Conclusion

Probiotic therapy is already being used to treat a variety of illnesses, including inflammatory, allergic, neoplastic, and infectious diseases. Probiotics have an extensive range of possible uses in treating many of these ailments.

Therefore, a thorough assessment of these goods is necessary prior to implementing probiotics into regular use. A number of significant requirements and benchmarks pertaining to quality and dependability must be fulfilled. Therefore, more carefully planned, double-blind studies with reliable findings are needed to determine the actual health advantages of these products. In order for this traditional medicine to prove to be a useful instrument for medical therapy, it is crucial to carefully select the probiotic agent, standardize its dose, and have a good understanding of its helpful benefits in addition to its adverse consequences.

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