A whole gut view: Microbiota-host interactions from oesophagus to colon

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Abstract

The gut microbiota represents a series of microbial communities adapted to the various environments of the intestinal tract. This biogeography is important to consider when investigating host-microbe interactions relevant to intestinal disorders. The microbiota is influenced by, and in turn, influences, the host, in regards to immune responses, gut physiology and metabolism, and these interactions may be specific to particular niches.

In this talk I will explore the microbiota in different intestinal niches and its potential role in specific gut disorders, including the oesophageal microbiota in oesophageal cancer, the duodenal microbiota in functional bowel disorders and the small intestinal microbiota in liver disease. Finally I will touch on new projects investigating the microbiota in colorectal cancer.

Biography

Erin is a microbiologist with a focus on host-microbe interactions. She recently commenced at the Charles Perkins Centre, The University of Sydney as an à Beckett Fellow in gut health, where she will focus on the complex interactions between the microbiota, diet and host, relevant to gut health and colorectal cancer. Erin was previously based at Princess Alexandra Hospital Brisbane and the University of Queensland, as a post-doctoral researcher; and coordinated a small team with a research focus on the intestinal microbiota in functional bowel disorders. She completed her PhD at the The University of Sydney Centenary Institute, in the Mycobacterial Research Laboratory.