

#### Health Benefits of Fermented Dairy Products for Targeted Populations PROLIFIC Project Innovative fermented dairy products and ingredients for targeted populations

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#### ▶ To cite this version:

Yves Le Loir. Health Benefits of Fermented Dairy Products for Targeted Populations PROLIFIC Project Innovative fermented dairy products and ingredients for targeted populations. AHFES Fermentation Webinar, BBA milk Valley, Nov 2021, WEBINAIRE, France. hal-03419039

HAL Id: hal-03419039

https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-03419039

Submitted on 8 Nov 2021

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AHFES Fermentation Webinar November 8th, 2021

Health Benefits of Fermented Dairy Products for Targeted Populations PROLIFIC Project

Innovative fermented dairy products and ingredients for targeted populations







#### **Context: A favorable ecosystem in Great West, France**



Strong academic-private partnership

Shared desire to make the best use of "white gold"

Co-construction of ambitious pre-competitive research projects

Ex. PROFIL 2014-2019, PROLIFIC 2020-2025



#### Context

Food fermentations (eg lactic and propionic fermentations) are one of the oldest ways of preserving perishable foods.

Can Fermented Dairy Products have a positive effect on digestive functions and on the gut-brain axis?

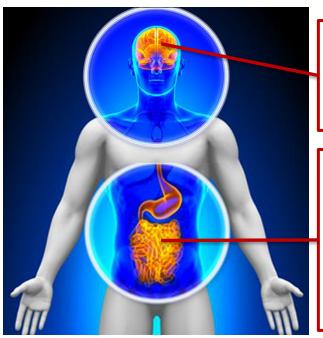


In addition to the production of organic acids, the activity of bacteria during these fermentations radically transforms the raw material and generates compounds of interest whose action and benefit can go far beyond a mere preservation.

Nutrient intake, organoleptic qualities, biopreservation, Immunomodulation, food-microbiota-health interactions, milk microbiota, inflamation, cognition...

#### **Context**

Increasing incidence of chronic digestive and neurological pathologies...



Neurodegenerative pathologies (Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, cognitive decline)

Neurodevelopmental pathologies

Inflammatory pathologies (ulcerative colitis, Crohn's)

Functional digestive disorders (IBS; 10-15% population)

Food allergy

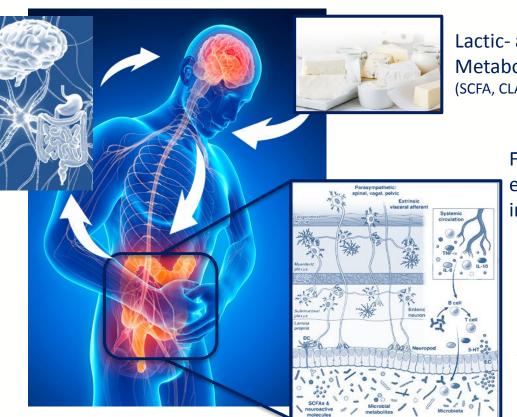
... And chronic stress. (risk factor for chronic diseases)



### **PROLIFIC**

#### « May your diet be your first medicine »

ENS-Central Nervous System (CNS) interactions



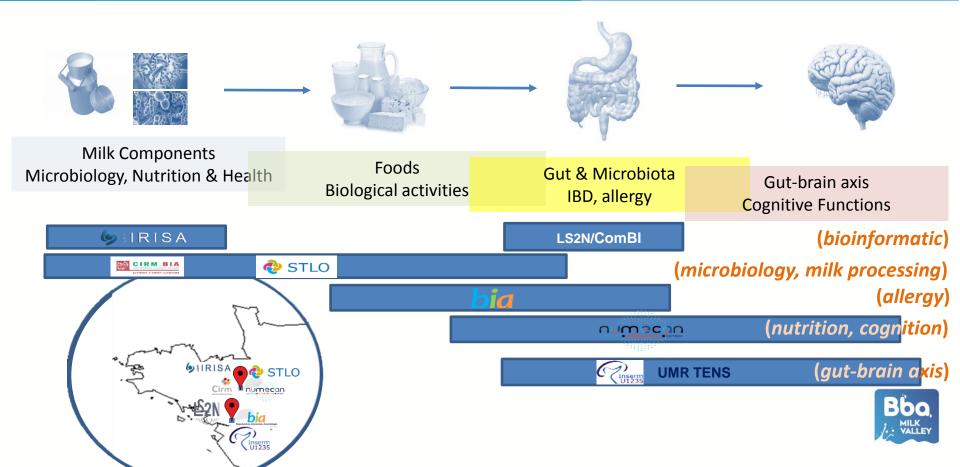
Lactic- and Propionic- Acid bacteria Metabolites of interest (SCFA, CLA, oligosaccharides, vitamins, etc.)

Food microbiota-intestinal epithelial barrier (IEB) interactions

IEB-Enteric nervous system (ENS) interactions



# Scientific continuum and expertise



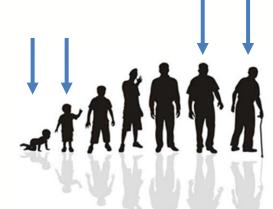
### PROLIFIC « May your diet be your first medicine »

### For which target populations?

The first 1000 days of life (0-6 months and 6 months-3 years)

The **seniors** 









## PROLIFIC « May your diet be your first medicine »

#### For which functionalities?

Colonisation and homeostasis of gut microbiota



Cognitive development / Neurodegeneration



Inflammation
Tolerance / Allergy





### **PROLIFIC**

### « May your diet be your first medicine »

#### **Bacteria**



Fermentation Fermentation products

Preservation
Interactions with biological activities

Health Effect



Milk

Dairy fractions / fermented dairy products
Infant milk powder



**Process** 



# **Structure of PROLIFIC project**

1000 days

Cognitive

#### **Project Management**

Conception and characterization of bacterial consortia

In vitro- in vivo efficiency / Health effects

Implementation in model dairy products / target populations

platform 1000 days seniors

Immuno

Immuno

*In vitro* screening platform

Dairy technololgy plateform

*In silico* screening









**Industrial implementation** 

# **PROLIFIC** in figures

#### **Human ressources**

- **5** PhD projects (180 months)
  - 4 post-docs (60 months)
    - **5** Contracts Technicians and Engineers (90 months)

### **Funding**

13,9 M€ Full cost

7,55 M€ funded by Bba Milk Valley

1,86 M€ funded by Regions BZH and PDL



## **Research Projects**

PhD project 1: Development of an IF with a complex bacterial component (based on breast milk microbiota): impact on intestinal homeostasis

**PhD project 2:** Fermentation as a lever for improving IFs: design of a fermented formula improving brain development in newborns.

PhD project 3: Combined effects of propionic acid bacteria and n-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids on the intestinal barrier.

PhD project 4: Com2Brain: Combination of Microbes to Boost Brain functionality. Effects of bacterial metabolites on the Gut-Brain Axis during normal and pathological ageing.

PhD project 5: In silico modeling of host-lactic acid bacteria interactions at the EIB

**Post-doc1:** Benefit of a microbial component similar to breast milk in IF / prevention of food allergies (12 months)

**Post-Doc2:** Immunomodulation by the Bacterial Surface: towards fermented dairy products as a remedy against allergies (*12 months*)

**Post-doc3:** Optimizing the health effect of the bacterial component of dairy products (OptiBac) (24 months)

**Engineer 4**: Ability of fermented dairy products to modulate the activation of the gut-brain axis during axis activation stress (18 months)

**Experimentation / screening on organoids** (Engineer; 18 months) **Assembly of bacterial consortia for targeted functionalities** (Engineer; 18 months) **IF and FDP preparation, implementation in model dairy products, scale-up** (Technician; 24 months)



# Thank you for your attention









































