**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**Manuscript NO:** 65811

**Manuscript Type:** REVIEW

**Gossip in the gut: Quorum sensing, a new player in the host-microbiota interactions**

Coquant G *et al*. Quorum sensing in host-microbiota interactions

Garance Coquant, Doriane Aguanno, Sandrine Pham, Nathan Grellier, Sophie Thenet, Véronique Carrière, Jean-Pierre Grill, Philippe Seksik

**Garance Coquant, Doriane Aguanno, Sandrine Pham, Nathan Grellier, Sophie Thenet, Véronique Carrière, Jean-Pierre Grill, Philippe Seksik,** Centre de Recherche Saint-Antoine, INSERM, Sorbonne Université, Paris 75012, France

**Doriane Aguanno, Sandrine Pham, Sophie Thenet,** EPHE, PSL University, Paris 75014, France

**Philippe Seksik,** Department of Gastroenterology and Nutrition, Saint-Antoine Hospital, APHP, Paris 75012, France

**Author contributions:** Coquant G and Seksik P designed the outline of the review; Coquant G, Grill JP and Seksik P wrote part I; Coquant G, Aguanno D, Thenet S, Carrière V and Seksik P wrote part II; Aguanno D, Coquant G, Pham S and Grellier N wrote part III; Aguanno D and Coquant G made the figures; Coquant G and Aguanno D harmonized and formatted the different sections; all authors have reviewed the entire manuscript.

**Supported by** Fondation pour la Recherche Médicale, No. EQU202003010171; Association François Aupetit, No. AHLs 2019 and No. AHLs 2021; Fondation pour la Recherche Médical FRM, No. ECO201806006843 (to Coquant G); and CORDDIM, Ile-de-France Region (to Aguanno D).

**Corresponding author: Philippe Seksik, MD, PhD, Professor,** Department of Gastroenterology and Nutrition, Saint-Antoine Hospital, APHP, 184, rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine, Paris 75012, France. philippe.seksik@aphp.fr

**Received:** March 16, 2021

**Revised:** August 17, 2021

**Accepted:** October 27, 2021

**Published online:** November 14, 2021

**Abstract**

Bacteria are known to communicate with each other and regulate their activities in social networks by secreting and sensing signaling molecules called autoinducers, a process known as quorum sensing (QS). This is a growing area of research in which we are expanding our understanding of how bacteria collectively modify their behavior but are also involved in the crosstalk between the host and gut microbiome. This is particularly relevant in the case of pathologies associated with dysbiosis or disorders of the intestinal ecosystem. This review will examine the different QS systems and the evidence for their presence in the intestinal ecosystem. We will also provide clues on the role of QS molecules that may exert, directly or indirectly through their bacterial gossip, an influence on intestinal epithelial barrier function, intestinal inflammation, and intestinal carcinogenesis. This review aims to provide evidence on the role of QS molecules in gut physiology and the potential shared by this new player. Better understanding the impact of intestinal bacterial social networks and ultimately developing new therapeutic strategies to control intestinal disorders remains a challenge that needs to be addressed in the future.

**Key Words:** Inflammatory bowel disease; Quorum sensing; Gut microbiota; Dysbiosis; Inflammation; Intestinal barrier

**©The** **Author(s) 2021.** Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. All rights reserved.

**Citation:** Coquant G, Aguanno D, Pham S, Grellier N, Thenet S, Carrière V, Grill JP, Seksik P. Gossip in the gut: Quorum sensing, a new player in the host-microbiota interactions. *World J Gastroenterol* 2021; 27(42): 7247-7270

**URL:** https://www.wjgnet.com/1007-9327/full/v27/i42/7247.htm

**DOI:** https://dx.doi.org/10.3748/wjg.v27.i42.7247

**Core Tip:** Host-microbiota interactions play a crucial role in the pathophysiology of many intestinal diseases. While biological components have been repeatedly described, a largely overlooked component is quorum sensing (QS), a density-dependent system able to coordinate bacterial responses and interact with host cells constantly exposed to bacteria. This review intends to describe the different QS systems to show evidence that QS is part of the intestinal ecosystem and highlight its impact on intestinal epithelial barrier function, inflammation, and intestinal carcinogenesis. From this report, we open up a new area of intestinal physiology.

**INTRODUCTION**

Gut microbiota mutually interacts with coevolved host epithelial and immune cells in a beneficial reciprocal relationship[1]. The advent of multi-omics sequencing in the past decade has allowed researchers to investigate the complexity of the intestinal microbiota in various human disorders[2]. Many lines of evidence support a role for alteration of gut microbiota (dysbiosis) in the development or perpetuation of inflammatory and metabolic disorders; recent data pointed out the consequences of dysbiosis on host-microbiota interactions in this setting[3,4]. Currently, gut microbiota metabolites recognized as the main drivers of the impact of gut microbiota on hosts are short-chain fatty acids (SFCAs), branched-chain amino acids, trimethylamine N-oxide, bile acids, tryptophan (Trp), and indole derivatives[3,5]. A largely overlooked component is diffusible signaling molecules, which modulate the physiological response in the three domains of life[6]. A particular class of these signaling compounds is represented by bacterial quorum sensing (QS) molecules called autoinducers (AIs). QS is a density-dependent mechanism allowing bacterial populations to coordinate gene expression and physiology by modulating, for example, metabolic pathways, secretion of virulence factors, or biofilm formation in response to AIs[7]. Drawing on its density-dependent nature, it can be hypothesized that the production of bacterial signaling molecules is abundant in the highly densely populated environment of the mammalian intestinal tract.

Moreover, since several eukaryotic systems from fungi to plants and animals are known to recognize and respond to bacterial signaling compounds, it seems likely that human intestinal cells constantly exposed to bacterial compounds might also have developed response mechanisms to AIs with consequences on intestinal physiology[8]. The purpose of this current review is to provide clues to consider bacterial QS as a new actor of host-microbiota interactions. We will start by presenting the bacterial QS systems and evidence of QS in the gut. We will then provide an overview of the impact of QS molecules on host cell functions within the gut. Finally, we will investigate how modulation of the QS could be thought of as a therapeutic option, determine the key challenges, and suggest directions for future QS research.

**QS: GOSSIP IN A BACTERIAL WORLD**

In the conventional view of prokaryotic existence, bacteria live as unicellular organisms, with responses to external stimuli limited to detecting chemical and physical signals of environmental origin. This view of bacteriology is now recognized as overly simplistic because bacteria communicate through small ‘hormone-like’ organic compounds. QS is a bacterial cell-cell communication process that involves the production, detection, and response to extracellular signaling molecules called AIs. AIs enable bacteria to perceive and respond to temporal and contiguous environments and coordinate the behavior of colonies by altering gene expression. QS controls genes that direct beneficial activities when performed by groups of bacteria acting in synchrony. Processes controlled by QS include bioluminescence, sporulation, competence, antibiotic production, biofilm formation, and virulence factor secretion (Figure 1A). Similar to languages between humans, these signals vary between species. Some bacterial species can interpret many different signals, while others respond to a few. The first such system was described in 1979 in *Vibrio fischeri*[9], a symbiotic species that provides marine eukaryotic hosts with light. Light emission depends on transcription of the luciferase operon, which occurs when the cell population density is sufficient to produce a threshold accumulation of a secreted AI, a specific N-acyl Homoserine Lactone (AHL). It was only in 1994 that the term QS was first used to introduce the idea of a minimal population (quorum) that was needed to trigger a group behavior thanks to a signal[10]. The science of studying group behavior in microorganisms has even been named "sociomicrobiology"[11].

***Different ways of talking***

Bacterial QSis highly complex and mediates communications thanks to the diversity of its different systems. QS systems can be divided into systems specific to species and mediating communication between Gram-positive bacteria, Gram-negative bacteria, and interspecies systems (Table 1 and Figure 1).

QS in Gram-positive species is driven in most cases by 5-17 amino acid oligopeptides (AIPs for AutoInducer Peptides), which are detected by membrane receptors belonging to the histidine kinase family and are involved in virulence or competence[12]. In addition, γ-butyrolactones are produced and integrated by *Streptomyces sp.* as signals controlling antibiotic production[13] or metabolism[14].

QS in Gram-negative bacteria relies on a high diversity of different systems, with some bacteria, such as *Pseudomonas aeruginosa (P. aeruginosa),* possessing several QS systems (Table 1). The expression of over 300 genes is regulated by QS. The most common system is driven by AI-1 molecules belonging to the AHL family, which are constituted by a homoserine lactone ring carrying a 4-18 carbon acyl chain. The lengths and modifications of the acyl chain give each AHL its species specificity[15]. The first described model is the *Vibrio fischeri* system, in which N-3-oxohexanoyl-homoserine lactone (3-oxo-C6) is synthesized by LuxI synthase, passively diffuses out of the cell and enters another bacterium in which it binds its receptor LuxR[16] (Figure 1B). Above a threshold, the AHL-receptor complex binds a consensus DNA sequence, thus triggering luciferase expression[17]. This model applies to all AHL systems (Table 1 and Figure 1B). The system involves a positive feedback loop, thus promoting QS activation at the population scale (Figure 1B). To date, numerous homologous systems (*i.e.,* genes coding synthases and receptors) have been described in many Gram-negative bacteria, including over 70 Proteobacteria species[18] (Table 1).

Other Gram-negative QS systems involve the AI-3 molecule, initially identified in enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) (EHEC) serotype O157:H7[19]. AI-3 regulates flagellar genes and pathogenicity[20,21] and is thought to be present in other enteropathogens (Table 1). A recent study[22] uncovered the structure of AI-3 and its natural analogs, including the prominent analog in mouse feces *in vivo*, which belongs to the pyrazinone family. The authors showed that various gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria produce AI-3 analogs, thus redefining the specificity of AI-3 molecules.

Last, the third type of QS system has been identified in Gram-negative bacteria such as EHEC or *Vibrio* species and Gram-positive bacteria such as *Salmonella enterica*[23,24]. It relies on AI-2 molecules such as S-THMF-borate [for (2S,4S)-2-methyl-2,3,3’,4-tetrahydroxy-tetrahydrofurane-borate][25] and R-THMF [for (2R,4S)-2-methyl-2,3,3’,4-tetrahydroxy-tetrahydro furane][26]. AI-2 has now been found in various bacterial species in which it regulates many processes[27] and is proposed to mediate poly-species communication (Figure 1C).

In addition, indole is produced from Trp by Gram-negative and Gram-positive commensal and pathogenic bacteria displaying tryptophanase activity[28-31]. As the source of Trp is supplied by the diet and cannot be synthesized endogenously, either by bacteria or by the host, indole is a bacterial byproduct of Trp metabolism. However, in recent years, some authors have considered indole to be a QS molecule, as it is produced in a density-dependent manner and regulates several bacterial physiological processes, such as the formation of spores or biofilms, virulence traits, bacterial motility, and drug resistance[29,32,33].

The versatility of QS systems and their AI molecules highlights the complexity of communication and thus emphasizes the key role QS could play in a diverse ecosystem: the intestinal microbiota.

***QS in the gut***

The study of QS in the gut is still a relatively recent matter of interest, as QS is generally addressed from the pathogenic bacterium *P. aeruginosa* point of view in the lung ecosystem. However, many arguments suggest that QS is a new player in the gut ecosystem.

**AHLs in the gut:** As part of the eavesdropping mechanism, some bacteria from the human gut can sense AHLs from other species (Figure 1A). Gram-negative bacilli such as *E. coli*, *Enterobacter*, or *Klebsiella* express the receptor SdiA, which can sense AHL, without producing such a signal[34]. The opportunistic pathogen *P. aeruginosa,* which targetsthe digestive tract in severely immune-compromised patients[35,36], and the more common enteropathogen *Yersinia enterolitica* are known to produce AHLs[37]. Analyses from sequencing databases have shown the presence of LuxI/LuxR homologs in a few commensals: *Hafnia alvei, Edwardsiella tarda*, and *Ralstonia* *sp.* strain 5\_7\_47FAA[37]. However, the latter article did not demonstrate the presence of AHLs but only homologs of the genes encoding the synthase complex and the receptor. A cohort low sample size pediatric study (*n* = 4) demonstrated, thanks to bacterial reporter systems, the presence of AHLs in the feces of patients without identifying them[38]. Our team investigated the question of AHLs in the human gut in the context of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). With high-resolution mass spectrometry, we identified approximately ten AHLs in the feces of healthy patients, IBD patients in remission, and flare[39]. We also found a never-described AHL, 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL, that was less represented in IBD patients, especially in flares, than in healthy subjects[39].

**AI-2 in the gut:** AI-2 presence in the gut has been reported by several articles[19,40,41] but is mainly linked to pathogenic bacteria such as enterohemorrhagic *E. coli*[19]. As AI-2 is considered a “universal language”, it is not surprising to find this AI in an ecosystem as diverse as the gut microbiota.

Thompson *et al*[42] showed that most Firmicutes contain LuxS protein orthologs, an important enzyme that allows AI-2 production. In contrast, its presence is less represented in Bacteroidetes. Mutant *E. coli* engineered to regulate AI-2 levels in the mouse gut counteract antibiotic-induced dysbiosis[42]. AI-2 produced by *E. coli* benefits Firmicutes while restraining Bacteroidetes representation[42], suggesting an important role of AI-2 in the gut ecosystem.

**Other QS signals:** Concerning other QS signals, there is less evidence of their implications in gut microbiota. A recent study showed a correlation between indole and *Clostridioides* *difficile* (*C. difficile*) infection (CDI) with higher indole concentrations for patients with CDI than for CDI-negative patients with diarrhea[43]. *C. difficile* induces indole production through overexpression of the tryptophanase gene tnaA in enterotoxigenic *E. coli* and other indole-producing anaerobes. This increased indole level has been shown to be detrimental to some of the beneficial bacteria and favors *C. difficile* colonization.

These mechanisms collectively suggest a complex bacteria-bacteria QS network in the gut ecosystem. The key issue is now to decode every language to fully understand its potential in host-microbiota interactions.

***Gossip in the gut: Direct dialog with the host and indirect effects through bacterial behavior***

In an ecosystem as networked and complex as that in the gut, bacterial communication has to be seen from a large perspective, with multiple bacterial populations crosstalking to each other through eavesdropping or crosstalking between species (Figure 1A). Therefore, the question of how QS affects the host can be addressed in two ways (Figure 2).

QS modulates microorganism metabolism, which in turn can affect the host’s physiology; one could consider this to be an indirect effect of QS molecules on the host (Figure 2). Bacterial metabolism modifies beneficial byproducts such as SFCAs and bile acids[42]. By modulating intestinal microbiota composition, QS can indirectly influence gut physiology by promoting deleterious or beneficial bacteria (Figure 2). Thompson *et al*[42] demonstrated that AI-2 modulates dysbiotic microbiota composition by enhancing Firmicutes growth. Several reports *in vitro* and *in vivo* describe how enteropathogens can signal through QS to commensals and trigger the expression of toxins, virulence factors, and biofilm formation[44-46]. In addition, AI-3 controls the genes that enable enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli* to cause lesions by the attachment and effacing process[19].

The question addressed in this review is how quorum-sensing molecules can directly affect the host, independent of the producing bacteria (Figure 2).

**HOST: “YOU’VE GOT MAIL”**

As discussed above, it remains largely unknown how the microbial communities hosted in the gut lumen use QS communication systems. However, there is evidence that at least several bacterial species commonly found in the gastrointestinal tract have the capacity to synthesize QS molecules[6,8,39].

Studies on the impact of QS molecules on the biology of intestinal host cells have focused on key actors of barrier function and the immune response. Intestinal barrier function includes the ability of epithelial cells to form: (1) A selective barrier whose permeability is controlled by cell-cell junctions[47], (2) Synthesize a protective mucus layer and antimicrobial peptides[48,49], and (3) Secrete cytokines and chemokines allowing appropriate crosstalk with the underlying immune compartment. The intestinal immune system is involved in tolerogenic or inflammatory responses to the commensal microbiota or pathobionts/pathogens[50,51], and it represents the largest immune organ in the body. Intestinal epithelial cells, intraepithelial lymphocytes, and immune cells located in the lamina propria are involved in the modulation of immunity and inflammation by microbiota[52].

The impact of QS molecules on barrier function and the immune response has been mainly studied in the context of host-pathogen interactions, probably because most of the data rely on AHLs produced by *P. aeruginosa*. However, evidence of the presence of QS molecules in the healthy intestinal lumen has led to further study on their effects on the host compartment, including barrier function, inflammatory process, and carcinogenesis.

***Effects of quorum-sensing molecules on intestinal epithelial barrier function***

**AHLs:** 3-oxo-C12-HSL produced by *P. aeruginosa* is probably the QS molecule whose effects on the barrier function of epithelial cells have been the most studied during the last two decades[53]. *P. aeruginosa* synthesizes various virulence factors, which act synergistically with QS molecules to destabilize cell-cell junctions and promote bacterial transmigration across epithelial and endothelial barriers[54].

3-oxo-C12-HSL induces an increase in paracellular permeability to ions and macromolecules[55-60] (Table 2). This deleterious effect of 3-oxo-C12-HSL on barrier function is accompanied by an alteration of tight junctions (TJs) (Figure 3). In the Caco-2 intestinal epithelial cell line, 3-oxo-C12-HSL induced a decrease in the expression, as well as mislocalization, of the TJ proteins occludin, tricellulin, ZO- 1, ZO-3, JAM-A, and of the adherent junction proteins E-cadherin and β-catenin[55,58-61] (Table 2). Loss of occludin/ZO-1 and tricellulin/ZO-1 interaction at the plasma membrane suggested the dismantling of TJ protein complexes[61]. In addition, hyperphosphorylation of occludin, ZO-1, ZO-3, JAM-A, E-cadherin, and β-catenin on tyrosine residues (as well as serine and threonine for E-cadherin and ZO-1) was reported in the presence of 3-oxo-C12-HSL, whereas the serine and threonine residues of occludin, JAM-A and β-catenin were less phosphorylated[58,59].

Several signaling mechanisms, including p38 and p42/44 MAP kinases[59,60], Ca2+ release[57,58], matrix metalloproteinases MMP-2 and MMP-3 *via* protease-activated receptor (PAR) signaling[55] and oxidative stress[62], have been implicated in 3-oxo-C12-HSL effects on junctional proteins and on the concomitant increase in permeability (Table 2).

As discussed above, the most prominent AHL detected in the human intestinal ecosystem is unsaturated 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL[39]. Despite a high structural homology with the *P. aeruginosa* 3-oxo-C12-HSL, this intestinal AHL has recently been found to have opposite properties regarding the barrier function (Table 2). In contrast to 3-oxo-C12-HSL, 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL does not increase paracellular permeability in Caco-2/TC7 enterocytic cells[39,61]. Most importantly, 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL can limit TJ disruption induced by the proinflammatory cytokines interferon-gamma (IFN-γ) and tumor necrosis factor-α (TNF-α)[61] (Figure 3). In these conditions mimicking intestinal inflammation encountered, for example, in IBD, 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL maintains the interaction of the TJ transmembrane proteins occludin and tricellulin with their main cytoplasmic partner ZO-1. It limits cytokine-induced occludin and tricellulin ubiquitination and the interaction of these TJ proteins with the E3 ubiquitin ligase itch, suggesting stabilization of TJ complexes at the plasma membrane in inflammatory conditions. Altogether, these results show that “commensal” intestinal 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL mitigates the deleterious effects of the inflammatory environment on TJs, which are key actors in epithelial barrier function[61].

Epithelial barrier disruption may combine TJ alteration and an unrestricted passage, which occurs following epithelial damage, generated, for example, by cell apoptosis upon exposure to harmful molecules such as high doses of proinflammatory cytokines[63-65]. This TJ-independent breaking of the barrier allows translocation of large particles such as large proteins, entire bacteria, and viruses, which *a priori* cannot cross the epithelium through the paracellular route even in conditions where TJs are “open”[66]. The 3-oxo-C12-HSL produced by *P. aeruginosa* exerts cytotoxic effects, particularly through apoptosis induction, in numerous cell types, including the intestinal and colonic epithelial cell linesLS174T[67-69], Caco-2[70], and CT26[62] (Table 2 and Figure 3). Apoptosis triggered by 3-oxo-C12-HSL relies on oxidative stress and caspase-dependent processes[62,69], whereas short-chain C4-HSL does not exert any apoptotic effects[67]. Interestingly, the increase in paracellular permeability to macromolecules induced by 3-oxo-C12-HSL was dramatically exacerbated in Caco-2/TC7 cells cultured in the presence of IFN-γ and TNF-α or cocultured with THP-1 activated monocytic cells[61]. These synergistic effects on barrier disruption probably rely on epithelial cell apoptosis, as they are abolished by a caspase inhibitor (unpublished results). In contrast, intestinal AHL 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL neither exerts cytotoxic effects nor synergizes with proinflammatory cytokines to disrupt the epithelial barrier[61].

Epithelial injury accompanying acute inflammatory conditions is followed by a re-epithelialization phase, during which cell migration plays an important role[71]. Interestingly, 3-oxo-C12-HSL has been shown to dose-dependently modulate Caco-2 cell migration in a wound-healing assay and interact directly with the GTPase activating protein IQGAP1, stressing a potential role of AHL in cytoskeletal reorganization[72] (Table 2).

Another key actor of the intestinal physical barrier is the mucus layer, which is essential to maintain segregation between luminal microorganisms and the epithelium[49]. 3-oxo-C12-HSL induces reduced expression and production of Mucin2 in LS174T cells[67], as well as a decrease in the levels of MUC3 mRNA in the Caco-2 cell line cultivated in an undifferentiated state[70] (Table 2 and Figure 3). Interestingly, differentiated Caco-2 cells, which express higher levels of mucin 3, showed less sensitivity to 3-oxo-C12-HSL-induced apoptosis in the latter study, and the addition of mucin dose-dependently protected cells from apoptosis induced by this AHL[70].

It must be specified that all these studies on barrier function were carried out with high concentrations of AHLs (100-400 μmol/L) (Table 2), knowing that the concentration of 3-oxo-C12-HSL has been estimated to reach 600 μmol/L in biofilms of *P. aeruginosa*[73].

**Gram-positive QS peptides:** The effects of AIP (found in Gram-positive bacteria) on intestinal barrier function are much less documented than those of Gram-negative QS molecules. Whereas most of the studies on the effects of AIP on host inflammation describe the indirect effects of AI through the modulation of bacterial metabolism, one article reported the direct effects of AIP. Fujiya *et al*[74] reported that *Bacillus subtilis* AIP, named competence and sporulation factor (CSF), induces HSP27 expression and the p38/MAPK pathway and reduces cell death and the loss of the epithelial barrier induced by oxidative stress (Table 2 and Figure 3). Inducible HSPs are needed under stress and help stabilize proteins to prevent denaturation[75]. *B. subtilis* is part of the normal microbiota; it is also used as a commercial probiotic and is beneficial to the host. Moreover, CSF seems to signal through a receptor named OCTN2 (organic cation/carnitine transporter 2), and polymorphisms of the gene encoding this receptor are part of the susceptibility locus of Crohn’s disease[74].

**Indole:** Indole exerts a beneficial role on TJ protein expression in several intestinal epithelial cells[76-79] (Table 2). Oral administration of indole to germ-free mice, which display very low indole fecal levels, increased the expression of TJ and adherens junction-associated proteins in the colonic epithelium and improved their resistance to dextran sulfate sodium (DSS)-induced colitis[77]. Indole has been identified as an endogenous agonist of aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AhR), which can compete for receptor binding with well-known AhR ligands[80]; several studies have also stressed the key role of the AhR pathway in indole derivative protective effects[81-83]. Accordingly, several studies have shown that AhR activation strengthens the epithelial barrier by protecting TJs[82,84-87] (Figure 3) or by stimulating antimicrobial peptide production *via* interleukin (IL)-22[88,89].

***Effects of QS molecules on immune response***

In addition to their effects on the intestinal barrier, QS molecules were analyzed on different actors of the immune compartment of the intestine, which is involved in a complex crosstalk with the epithelial compartment to maintain an appropriate immune response toward the content of the intestinal lumen.

**AHLs:** Our group described that 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL, an AHL recently discovered in the human gut[39], exerts anti-inflammatory effects on intestinal epithelial cells. During inflammation, intestinal epithelial cells can secrete some cytokines, among which the chemokine IL-8 promotes the recruitment of neutrophils in the mucosa and participates in the acute-phase response[90,91]. In a study comparing the effect of 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL to 3-oxo-C12-HSL produced by *P. aeruginosa*, our group demonstrated in the human enterocytic Caco-2/TC7 cell line that 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL, but not 3-oxo-C12-HSL, attenuated the induction of IL-8 secretion induced by the proinflammatory cytokine IL-1β[39,92] (Table 3 and Figure 3). This potential anti-inflammatory effect of 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL is consistent with the hypothesis of a beneficial role of this AHL in gut ecosystems[39], as are its protective effects on TJ integrity. The impact of intestinal 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL on immune cells remains largely unknown.

The effects of 3-oxo-C12-HSL depend on the concentration and cell type studied[6,93]. Telford *et al*[94] showed that 3-oxo-C12-HSL inhibits the production of TNF-α and IL-12 [a cytokine involved in the T helper cell-1 type response (Th1-type response)] by lipopolysaccharide-activated macrophages at high concentrations and stimulates the production of antibodies, particularly immunoglobulin G1, which is an indicator of a Th2-type response at lower concentrations (Table 3). Conversely, Smith *et al*[95] showed that 3-oxo-C12-HSL activates and promotes the differentiation of naive T lymphocytes toward a Th1-like phenotype, while Ritchie *et al*[96] observed that 3-oxo-C12-HSL inhibits the differentiation of both Th1 and Th2 T lymphocytes (Table 3). Altogether, these results demonstrated that 3-oxo-C12-HSL is an immunomodulator of the Th1/Th2 response. 3-oxo-C12-HSL and two other QS molecules from *P. aeruginosa*, PQS (*Pseudomonas* quinolone signal), and HHQ (4-hydroxy-2-heptylquinoline), suppress both innate and adaptive immune responses acting on lymphoid cells, dendritic cells, and neutrophil monocytes/macrophages[22,97,98]. 3-oxo-C12-HSL and PQS decreased the production of the cytokines IL-12 and IFN-γ by activated dendritic cells, which in turn decreased T-cell proliferation and activity[98-100] while promoting the induction of regulatory T-cells[99] (Table 3). 3-oxo-C12-HSL provoked apoptosis of macrophages, neutrophils, and T lymphocytes through activation of caspases and the mitochondrial apoptosis pathway[101,102]. Several reports described inhibition of the nuclear factor-kappa B (NF-κB) pathway by QS molecules from *P. aeruginosa*[93,103-106] and/or the activation of signaling pathways such as p38 MAPK[105,107] (Table 3). It has been recently demonstrated that only long-chain AHLs such as 3-oxo-C12-HSL modulate the phenotype of dendritic cells and the type 2 immune response through mechanisms involving retinoic acid signaling and the protein kinase AKT[106].

The molecular mechanisms involved in the effects of QS molecules from *P. aeruginosa* on immune cells are independent of the Toll-like receptor pathway[105], which is a classical cell process involved in recognizing pathogen fragments. Some reports have indicated that the perception of AHL by mammalian cells involves the bitter taste receptor T2R38[108-110], which is widely expressed in the human digestive tract from the tongue to the colon[111]. Polymorphisms in the *TAS2R38* gene may increase susceptibility to infections and colorectal cancer (CRC)[112]. It has been shown that these receptors use inflammatory pathways, which differ according to the cell type and their localization[113]. 3-oxo-C12-HSL binds to the transcription factor peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor γ[114], which has been proposed as a potential receptor for AHL and seems to be involved in AHL proinflammatory effects[115]. Recently, Moura-Alves *et al*[116] showed that QS molecules produced by *P. aeruginosa* modulated the activity of the transcription factor AhR, which plays an important role in regulating innate and adaptive immunity[117,118].

Overall, it has been demonstrated that QS molecules from *P. aeruginosa* have an immunosuppressive effect, allowing the pathogen to evade the immune system during infection. It remains to be determined whether endogenous intestinal 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL participates in controlling intestinal immunity in health and diseases and to decipher the underlying mechanisms.

**AI-2 and AI-3:** AI-2 is produced by both Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria and is mainly studied for its role in bacteria-bacteria communication and the virulence of pathogenic strains[8]. However, little is known about the effect of AI-2 on immune cells. In mice, AI-2 administration has no effect by itself on cytokine expression but aggravates lung inflammation during *P. aeruginosa* infection by interfering with QS molecules produced by this pathogen[119]. In cultured macrophages, AI-2 induces the expression of several cytokines and chemokines as well as the expression of TNF superfamily member 9 (TNFSF9), a protein involved in the immune response[41] (Figure 3).

The AI-3 system is mainly described in enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* and is therefore linked to the development of intestinal epithelial lesions, suggesting its proinflammatory activity[120] (Table 3 and Figure 3). Indeed, AI-3 and its analogs increase IL-8 secretion by THP-1 monocytes[22]. Given that the AI-3 structure has only been uncovered recently[22], the direct effect of this molecule on the host is poorly known so far. In addition, since the AI-3 bacterial receptor can recognize host-synthesized epinephrine/norepinephrine (Figure 3), one could suggest that adrenergic receptors could recognize AI-3[19]. However, it has been shown that AI-3 and its analogs do not activate or modulate adrenergic signaling[22].

**Gram-positive AIP:** The effects of Gram-positive AIP bacteria on inflammation are far less documented than those of Gram-negative QS. Moreover, most of the studies on the effects of AIP on host inflammation describe the indirect effects of AIs through the modulation of bacterial metabolism.

A study described that AIP could selectively cross intestinal epithelial cell Caco-2 cell monolayers[121]. Additionally, it has been reported that AIP can cross the highly selective blood-brain barrier *in vivo*[122]. These processes seem to be peptide-specific: *Clostridium acetobutylicum* AIP easily penetrates the blood-brain barrier, while *Streptococcus pneumonia*’s AIP crosses it poorly[122]. This shows that small molecules such as AIs affect the host's physiology beyond the gastrointestinal tract. For instance, it has been described that AIP has various effects on muscle inflammation as part of the gut-muscle axis. De Spiegeleer *et al*[121] performed an extensive screening of 75 QS molecules on muscle cells. They demonstrated both pro- and anti-inflammatory effects of four peptides from the genera *Staphylococcus*, *Streptococcus*, *Lactobacillus,* and *Bacillus,* and some of those peptides have been described in the gut.

**Indole:** Several studies have reported that indole exerts anti-inflammatory effects in the intestine and protects against pathogenic infection[123] (Table 3). AhR, an important contributor to the maintenance of innate and adaptive immunity, drives most of these effects, particularly in the intestinal mucosa[117,118,124].

Several reports have shown altered Trp metabolism in gut inflammation in humans and mice [81,125-127]. A decrease in endogenous indole was observed in human feces from subjects with celiac disease or IBD[127]. This was associated with a decrease in AhR activity in the intestinal mucosa. In parallel, an increase in Trp levels in the same samples suggested that the gut microbiota-dependent metabolism of Trp was altered[127]. In mouse models of celiac disease and IBD, the implantation of indole-producing bacteria increases AhR activity and protects them from gut inflammation[81]. Interestingly, Moura-Alves *et al*[116] showed that 3-oxo-C12-HSL and HHQ had an inhibitory effect on AhR activity and could compete with well-known activators of AhR. This observation raises the question of potential competition between several QS molecules for AhR-dependent modulation of innate and adaptive immunity.

***Effects of QS molecules on carcinogenesis***

There is growing evidence that gut microbiota dysbiosis plays a major role in CRC development[128]. Indeed, modifications of commensal gut microbiota in favor of opportunist bacteria promote intestinal inflammation, which is well known as a driver event in CRC onset[129,130]. Thus, the concept of the “bacterial driver-passenger model” highlights the crosstalk between host immunity and colonic microbiota[131]. For example, some driver pathogens, such as *Bacteroides fragilis,* have been proposed to promote a strong Th17 inflammatory response[132]. This proinflammatory microenvironment might favor colonization by opportunist pathogens such as *Fusobacterium spp.* Accordingly, Fusobacteria-dominant biofilms were associated with human CRC[133-135]. Altogether, these findings support that polymicrobial interactions and intercellular communications might play an important role in CRC development[136]. Nevertheless, how bacteria communicate with themselves and with the host during CRC remains poorly understood.

Recent findings provide new insights into the role of the QS molecule AI-2 in intercellular communication during CRC. First, the AI-2 concentration is increased in tumors compared to the surrounding normal tissue in human CRC[41]. These levels also correlate with the progression of the disease according to the CRC TNM (tumor node and metastasis) score[41]. Regarding the tumor immune microenvironment, the AI-2 concentration positively correlates with TNFSF9 expression, which is mainly expressed by tumor-associated macrophages, and negatively correlates with the CD4/CD8 ratio, suggesting that AI-2 associates with the antitumor response[41]. At the molecular level, it was demonstrated that AI-2 induces *in vitro* M1 polarization of U987-derived macrophages through the TNFSF9 signaling pathway[137]. These findings reveal that AI-2 could be an important factor linked to the immune tumor microenvironment and shed light on the role of the quorum-sensing system during CRC development and progression. Interestingly, mammalian epithelial cells are able to produce AI-2 analog molecules that mimic AI-2 effects (Figure 3), illustrating the complexity of bacteria-host crosstalk[45]. Thus, a better characterization of QS molecules involved in tumorigenesis might be an opportunity to improve our knowledge of the mechanisms underlying CRC development.

***The host strikes back to QS***

Interkingdom signaling works in two ways, as host cells are able to counterattack the QS system using several strategies.

As described above, as part of AI-3 signaling, host hormones such as epinephrine and norepinephrine can be recognized by EHEC and lead to the expression of virulence genes[19]. This AI-3/epinephrine/norepinephrine signaling is not restricted to EHEC, and the receptor QseC is also expressed, for example, by the intestinal pathogenic *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium[138] (Table 1). Recently, *in silico* analysis suggested that another catecholamine neurotransmitter, dopamine, can bind to QseC. However, no effect *in vitro* was measured[139]. This study of interkingdom signaling through hormones has been named “microbial endocrinology”[140].

Interestingly, there is evidence that human epithelial cells can produce AI-2 mimicking molecules. The study was conducted on Caco-2 intestinal epithelial cells, and the authors showed that an AI-2 mimic is produced not only when cells are in contact with bacteria but also after TJ disruption by calcium deprivation or DSS treatment[45]. This emphasizes how much AI-2 is a universal language between Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria and the host (Figure 3).

Hosts have also developed defense tools against QS, leading to a mechanism named quorum quenching. Mammals can synthesize enzymes named paraoxonases (PONs) that hydrolyze the lactone ring of long-chain AHLs[141] (Figure 3). There are three types of PONs (PON 1, PON2, PON3) that are highly conserved across species, and PON2 has greater activity on AHLs[142]. It has been demonstrated that PON2 is more highly expressed in the human jejunum than in other parts of the intestine[143]. Interestingly, PON1 and PON3 are expressed at lower levels in patients with Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis than in healthy subjects[144]. A case-control study has also shown that carriage of the PON1 R192 allele in Ashkenazi Jewish may confer protection against the development of IBD. This allele was significantly less common among IBD Ashkenazi patients, with a significant odds ratio of 0.61[145].

**QS IN THE GUT: FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR THIS NEW PLAYER**

***Using QS to modulate gut microbiota: Application in gut ecosystem disorders***

Gut dysbiosis is an imbalance in the composition of microorganisms inside the digestive tract, especially described with bacteria. This dysregulation has been shown to be a preponderant risk factor in several digestive and extra digestive diseases[146-149]. For example, in IBD and recurrent *C. difficile* infections,it is well known that the over- and underrepresentation of certain phyla can lead to a pathologic state[150,151]. Modulating the gut microbiota may be the key to treating or even preventing such diseases by restoring normobiosis. Fecal microbiota transplantation is now commonly used in the setting of *C. difficile* infections[152,153]. However, the lack of standardization and the safety and quality issues of this procedure call for the development of new strategies.

Theoretically, AHLs remain good candidates in this approach using natural molecules from QS to modulate microbiota composition and gut inflammation. As seen above, AHL signaling may involve different pathways that contribute to controlling intestinal inflammation, such as inhibition of NF-κB, modulation, inhibition of MAPK activation, increase in regulatory T cell induction, decrease in proinflammatory cytokines, and modulation of junctional complexes in the epithelial barrier. Indeed, using QS molecules could play a role in both components (gut microbiota and host responses) of gut ecosystem disorders observed in metabolic and inflammatory diseases. AHL-based QS devices already exist as therapeutic applications for the dynamic control of Gram-negative bacterial populations, especially in infectious diseases. Other QS molecules could be extended as potential clinical therapies for diseases related to the gut microbiota that involve biofilm formation and antibiotic resistance[154]. Research efforts must investigate the potential of this new trial.

In addition to therapeutic applications, one could consider QS molecules as reliable biomarkers for dysbiosis-related chronic diseases such as IBD or CRC. Indeed, it has been shown that the presence of some AI-1 QS molecules in the gut ecosystem directly correlates with bacterial group size[39]. AHLs could represent a biomarker of the bacterial level population acting as a magnifying glass for dysbiosis. In addition, AI-2 concentration increased during adenomas to colorectal transition and CRC progression[41]. This opens the perspective for using the QS system as a biomarker for the prevention and follow-up of chronic diseases.

***For the future***

Knowing which commensal bacteria carry QS systems, their site of production, their ability to be mobilized during dysbiosis, and their effect on the luminal or mucosal microenvironment are as many unresolved questions. The scientific community, together with gastroenterologists, needs to tackle these issues to pave the way for translation into clinical use. Future directions also involve designing dedicated QS derivatives targeting either the host cells or the bacterial compartment. Such QS derivatives have already been reported to control the epithelial cell inflammation pathway with a wider effect than natural 3-oxoC12:2 without bacterial-activating properties[92]. Using QS molecules as an approach to tackle the gut microbiota compartment has already been proven to be a successful strategy[42], thus leading to interesting perspectives. Considering the QS system as a new player in the gut ecosystem, it represents a control platform to shape the host's gut microbiota population and/or major physiological pathways.

**CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the intestinal microbiota interacts mutually with epithelial and immune cells of the coevolved host in a beneficial, reciprocal relationship. The QS signaling of bacteria probably contributes substantially to establishing symbiotic interactions in certain dynamics of interaction between the different kingdoms. A better understanding of QS systems by researchers and gastroenterologists involved in describing and managing ecological disorders of the intestinal ecosystem is a new approach that opens up fascinating therapeutic opportunities.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We thank Rainteau D for his support and knowledge on quorum sensing. We acknowledge the Association François Aupetit for its unwavering support.

**REFERENCES**

1 **Le Chatelier E**, Nielsen T, Qin J, Prifti E, Hildebrand F, Falony G, Almeida M, Arumugam M, Batto JM, Kennedy S, Leonard P, Li J, Burgdorf K, Grarup N, Jørgensen T, Brandslund I, Nielsen HB, Juncker AS, Bertalan M, Levenez F, Pons N, Rasmussen S, Sunagawa S, Tap J, Tims S, Zoetendal EG, Brunak S, Clément K, Doré J, Kleerebezem M, Kristiansen K, Renault P, Sicheritz-Ponten T, de Vos WM, Zucker JD, Raes J, Hansen T; MetaHIT consortium, Bork P, Wang J, Ehrlich SD, Pedersen O. Richness of human gut microbiome correlates with metabolic markers. *Nature* 2013; **500**: 541-546 [PMID: 23985870 DOI: 10.1038/nature12506]

2 **Sokol H**, Seksik P. The intestinal microbiota in inflammatory bowel diseases: time to connect with the host. *Curr Opin Gastroenterol* 2010; **26**: 327-331 [PMID: 20445446 DOI: 10.1097/MOG.0b013e328339536b]

3 **Agus A**, Clément K, Sokol H. Gut microbiota-derived metabolites as central regulators in metabolic disorders. *Gut* 2021; **70**: 1174-1182 [PMID: 33272977 DOI: 10.1136/gutjnl-2020-323071]

4 **Qin J**, Li R, Raes J, Arumugam M, Burgdorf KS, Manichanh C, Nielsen T, Pons N, Levenez F, Yamada T, Mende DR, Li J, Xu J, Li S, Li D, Cao J, Wang B, Liang H, Zheng H, Xie Y, Tap J, Lepage P, Bertalan M, Batto JM, Hansen T, Le Paslier D, Linneberg A, Nielsen HB, Pelletier E, Renault P, Sicheritz-Ponten T, Turner K, Zhu H, Yu C, Li S, Jian M, Zhou Y, Li Y, Zhang X, Li S, Qin N, Yang H, Wang J, Brunak S, Doré J, Guarner F, Kristiansen K, Pedersen O, Parkhill J, Weissenbach J; MetaHIT Consortium, Bork P, Ehrlich SD, Wang J. A human gut microbial gene catalogue established by metagenomic sequencing. *Nature* 2010; **464**: 59-65 [PMID: 20203603 DOI: 10.1038/nature08821]

5 **Jandhyala SM**, Talukdar R, Subramanyam C, Vuyyuru H, Sasikala M, Nageshwar Reddy D. Role of the normal gut microbiota. *World J Gastroenterol* 2015; **21**: 8787-8803 [PMID: 26269668 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v21.i29.8787]

6 **Coquant G**, Grill JP, Seksik P. Impact of *N*-Acyl-Homoserine Lactones, Quorum Sensing Molecules, on Gut Immunity. *Front Immunol* 2020; **11**: 1827 [PMID: 32983093 DOI: 10.3389/fimmu.2020.01827]

7 **Prescott RD**, Decho AW. Flexibility and Adaptability of Quorum Sensing in Nature. *Trends Microbiol* 2020; **28**: 436-444 [PMID: 32001099 DOI: 10.1016/j.tim.2019.12.004]

8 **Wu L**, Luo Y. Bacterial Quorum-Sensing Systems and Their Role in Intestinal Bacteria-Host Crosstalk. *Front Microbiol* 2021; **12**: 611413 [PMID: 33584614 DOI: 10.3389/fmicb.2021.611413]

9 **Nealson KH**, Hastings JW. Bacterial bioluminescence: its control and ecological significance. *Microbiol Rev* 1979; **43**: 496-518 [PMID: 396467 DOI: 10.1128/mr.43.4.496-518.1979]

10 **Fuqua WC**, Winans SC, Greenberg EP. Quorum sensing in bacteria: the LuxR-LuxI family of cell density-responsive transcriptional regulators. *J Bacteriol* 1994; **176**: 269-275 [PMID: 8288518 DOI: 10.1128/jb.176.2.269-275.1994]

11 **Parsek MR**, Greenberg EP. Sociomicrobiology: the connections between quorum sensing and biofilms. *Trends Microbiol* 2005; **13**: 27-33 [PMID: 15639629 DOI: 10.1016/j.tim.2004.11.007]

12 **Ng WL**, Bassler BL. Bacterial quorum-sensing network architectures. *Annu Rev Genet* 2009; **43**: 197-222 [PMID: 19686078 DOI: 10.1146/annurev-genet-102108-134304]

13 **Takano E**, Chakraburtty R, Nihira T, Yamada Y, Bibb MJ. A complex role for the gamma-butyrolactone SCB1 in regulating antibiotic production in Streptomyces coelicolor A3(2). *Mol Microbiol* 2001; **41**: 1015-1028 [PMID: 11555283 DOI: 10.1046/j.1365-2958.2001.02562.x]

14 **Du YL**, Shen XL, Yu P, Bai LQ, Li YQ. Gamma-butyrolactone regulatory system of Streptomyces chattanoogensis links nutrient utilization, metabolism, and development. *Appl Environ Microbiol* 2011; **77**: 8415-8426 [PMID: 21948843 DOI: 10.1128/AEM.05898-11]

15 **Galloway WR**, Hodgkinson JT, Bowden SD, Welch M, Spring DR. Quorum sensing in Gram-negative bacteria: small-molecule modulation of AHL and AI-2 quorum sensing pathways. *Chem Rev* 2011; **111**: 28-67 [PMID: 21182299 DOI: 10.1021/cr100109t]

16 **Engebrecht J**, Silverman M. Identification of genes and gene products necessary for bacterial bioluminescence. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 1984; **81**: 4154-4158 [PMID: 6377310 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.81.13.4154]

17 **Stevens AM**, Dolan KM, Greenberg EP. Synergistic binding of the Vibrio fischeri LuxR transcriptional activator domain and RNA polymerase to the lux promoter region. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 1994; **91**: 12619-12623 [PMID: 7809088 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.91.26.12619]

18 **Case RJ**, Labbate M, Kjelleberg S. AHL-driven quorum-sensing circuits: their frequency and function among the Proteobacteria. *ISME J* 2008; **2**: 345-349 [PMID: 18273067 DOI: 10.1038/ismej.2008.13]

19 **Sperandio V**, Torres AG, Jarvis B, Nataro JP, Kaper JB. Bacteria-host communication: the language of hormones. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2003; **100**: 8951-8956 [PMID: 12847292 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1537100100]

20 **Carlson-Banning KM**, Sperandio V. Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli outwits hosts through sensing small molecules. *Curr Opin Microbiol* 2018; **41**: 83-88 [PMID: 29258058 DOI: 10.1016/j.mib.2017.12.002]

21 **Walters M**, Sircili MP, Sperandio V. AI-3 synthesis is not dependent on luxS in Escherichia coli. *J Bacteriol* 2006; **188**: 5668-5681 [PMID: 16885435 DOI: 10.1128/JB.00648-06]

22 **Kim CS**, Gatsios A, Cuesta S, Lam YC, Wei Z, Chen H, Russell RM, Shine EE, Wang R, Wyche TP, Piizzi G, Flavell RA, Palm NW, Sperandio V, Crawford JM. Characterization of Autoinducer-3 Structure and Biosynthesis in *E. coli*. *ACS Cent Sci* 2020; **6**: 197-206 [PMID: 32123737 DOI: 10.1021/acscentsci.9b01076]

23 **Schauder S**, Bassler BL. The languages of bacteria. *Genes Dev* 2001; **15**: 1468-1480 [PMID: 11410527 DOI: 10.1101/gad.899601]

24 **Surette MG**, Miller MB, Bassler BL. Quorum sensing in Escherichia coli, Salmonella typhimurium, and Vibrio harveyi: a new family of genes responsible for autoinducer production. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 1999; **96**: 1639-1644 [PMID: 9990077 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.96.4.1639]

25 **Chen X**, Schauder S, Potier N, Van Dorsselaer A, Pelczer I, Bassler BL, Hughson FM. Structural identification of a bacterial quorum-sensing signal containing boron. *Nature* 2002; **415**: 545-549 [PMID: 11823863 DOI: 10.1038/415545a]

26 **Miller ST**, Xavier KB, Campagna SR, Taga ME, Semmelhack MF, Bassler BL, Hughson FM. Salmonella typhimurium recognizes a chemically distinct form of the bacterial quorum-sensing signal AI-2. *Mol Cell* 2004; **15**: 677-687 [PMID: 15350213 DOI: 10.1016/j.molcel.2004.07.020]

27 **Pereira CS**, Thompson JA, Xavier KB. AI-2-mediated signalling in bacteria. *FEMS Microbiol Rev* 2013; **37**: 156-181 [PMID: 22712853 DOI: 10.1111/j.1574-6976.2012.00345.x]

28 **Defoirdt T**. Amino acid-derived quorum sensing molecules controlling the virulence of vibrios (and beyond). *PLoS Pathog* 2019; **15**: e1007815 [PMID: 31295324 DOI: 10.1371/journal.ppat.1007815]

29 **Lee JH**, Lee J. Indole as an intercellular signal in microbial communities. *FEMS Microbiol Rev* 2010; **34**: 426-444 [PMID: 20070374 DOI: 10.1111/j.1574-6976.2009.00204.x]

30 **Pena RT**, Blasco L, Ambroa A, González-Pedrajo B, Fernández-García L, López M, Bleriot I, Bou G, García-Contreras R, Wood TK, Tomás M. Relationship Between Quorum Sensing and Secretion Systems. *Front Microbiol* 2019; **10**: 1100 [PMID: 31231316 DOI: 10.3389/fmicb.2019.01100]

31 **Rumbaugh KP**, Kaufmann GF. Exploitation of host signaling pathways by microbial quorum sensing signals. *Curr Opin Microbiol* 2012; **15**: 162-168 [PMID: 22204809 DOI: 10.1016/j.mib.2011.12.003]

32 **Wang G**, Huang S, Wang Y, Cai S, Yu H, Liu H, Zeng X, Zhang G, Qiao S. Bridging intestinal immunity and gut microbiota by metabolites. *Cell Mol Life Sci* 2019; **76**: 3917-3937 [PMID: 31250035 DOI: 10.1007/s00018-019-03190-6]

33 **Defoirdt T**. Quorum-Sensing Systems as Targets for Antivirulence Therapy. *Trends Microbiol* 2018; **26**: 313-328 [PMID: 29132819 DOI: 10.1016/j.tim.2017.10.005]

34 **Tobias NJ**, Brehm J, Kresovic D, Brameyer S, Bode HB, Heermann R. New Vocabulary for Bacterial Communication. *Chembiochem* 2020; **21**: 759-768 [PMID: 31709676 DOI: 10.1002/cbic.201900580]

35 **Agodi A**, Barchitta M, Cipresso R, Giaquinta L, Romeo MA, Denaro C. Pseudomonas aeruginosa carriage, colonization, and infection in ICU patients. *Intensive Care Med* 2007; **33**: 1155-1161 [PMID: 17503016 DOI: 10.1007/s00134-007-0671-6]

36 **Bertrand X**, Thouverez M, Talon D, Boillot A, Capellier G, Floriot C, Hélias JP. Endemicity, molecular diversity and colonisation routes of Pseudomonas aeruginosa in intensive care units. *Intensive Care Med* 2001; **27**: 1263-1268 [PMID: 11511937 DOI: 10.1007/s001340100979]

37 **Swearingen MC**, Sabag-Daigle A, Ahmer BM. Are there acyl-homoserine lactones within mammalian intestines? *J Bacteriol* 2013; **195**: 173-179 [PMID: 23144246 DOI: 10.1128/JB.01341-12]

38 **Kumari A**, Pasini P, Deo SK, Flomenhoft D, Shashidhar H, Daunert S. Biosensing systems for the detection of bacterial quorum signaling molecules. *Anal Chem* 2006; **78**: 7603-7609 [PMID: 17105149 DOI: 10.1021/ac061421n]

39 **Landman C**, Grill JP, Mallet JM, Marteau P, Humbert L, Le Balc'h E, Maubert MA, Perez K, Chaara W, Brot L, Beaugerie L, Sokol H, Thenet S, Rainteau D, Seksik P, Quévrain E; Saint Antoine IBD Network. Inter-kingdom effect on epithelial cells of the N-Acyl homoserine lactone 3-oxo-C12:2, a major quorum-sensing molecule from gut microbiota. *PLoS One* 2018; **13**: e0202587 [PMID: 30157234 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0202587]

40 **Kaper JB**, Sperandio V. Bacterial cell-to-cell signaling in the gastrointestinal tract. *Infect Immun* 2005; **73**: 3197-3209 [PMID: 15908344 DOI: 10.1128/iai.73.6.3197-3209.2005]

41 **Li Q**, Peng W, Wu J, Wang X, Ren Y, Li H, Peng Y, Tang X, Fu X. Autoinducer-2 of gut microbiota, a potential novel marker for human colorectal cancer, is associated with the activation of TNFSF9 signaling in macrophages. *Oncoimmunology* 2019; **8**: e1626192 [PMID: 31646072 DOI: 10.1080/2162402X.2019.1626192]

42 **Thompson JA**, Oliveira RA, Djukovic A, Ubeda C, Xavier KB. Manipulation of the quorum sensing signal AI-2 affects the antibiotic-treated gut microbiota. *Cell Rep* 2015; **10**: 1861-1871 [PMID: 25801025 DOI: 10.1016/j.celrep.2015.02.049]

43 **Darkoh C**, Plants-Paris K, Bishoff D, DuPont HL. Clostridium difficile Modulates the Gut Microbiota by Inducing the Production of Indole, an Interkingdom Signaling and Antimicrobial Molecule. *mSystems* 2019; **4** [PMID: 30944877 DOI: 10.1128/mSystems.00346-18]

44 **Chen J**, Ma M, Uzal FA, McClane BA. Host cell-induced signaling causes Clostridium perfringens to upregulate production of toxins important for intestinal infections. *Gut Microbes* 2014; **5**: 96-107 [PMID: 24061146 DOI: 10.4161/gmic.26419]

45 **Ismail AS**, Valastyan JS, Bassler BL. A Host-Produced Autoinducer-2 Mimic Activates Bacterial Quorum Sensing. *Cell Host Microbe* 2016; **19**: 470-480 [PMID: 26996306 DOI: 10.1016/j.chom.2016.02.020]

46 **Pinheiro J**, Lisboa J, Pombinho R, Carvalho F, Carreaux A, Brito C, Pöntinen A, Korkeala H, Dos Santos NMS, Morais-Cabral JH, Sousa S, Cabanes D. MouR controls the expression of the Listeria monocytogenes Agr system and mediates virulence. *Nucleic Acids Res* 2018; **46**: 9338-9352 [PMID: 30011022 DOI: 10.1093/nar/gky624]

47 **Turner JR**. Intestinal mucosal barrier function in health and disease. *Nat Rev Immunol* 2009; **9**: 799-809 [PMID: 19855405 DOI: 10.1038/nri2653]

48 **Bevins CL**, Salzman NH. Paneth cells, antimicrobial peptides and maintenance of intestinal homeostasis. *Nat Rev Microbiol* 2011; **9**: 356-368 [PMID: 21423246 DOI: 10.1038/nrmicro2546]

49 **Johansson ME**, Hansson GC. Immunological aspects of intestinal mucus and mucins. *Nat Rev Immunol* 2016; **16**: 639-649 [PMID: 27498766 DOI: 10.1038/nri.2016.88]

50 **Hooper LV**, Macpherson AJ. Immune adaptations that maintain homeostasis with the intestinal microbiota. *Nat Rev Immunol* 2010; **10**: 159-169 [PMID: 20182457 DOI: 10.1038/nri2710]

51 **Peterson LW**, Artis D. Intestinal epithelial cells: regulators of barrier function and immune homeostasis. *Nat Rev Immunol* 2014; **14**: 141-153 [PMID: 24566914 DOI: 10.1038/nri3608]

52 **Wang L**, Zhu L, Qin S. Gut Microbiota Modulation on Intestinal Mucosal Adaptive Immunity. *J Immunol Res* 2019; **2019**: 4735040 [PMID: 31687412 DOI: 10.1155/2019/4735040]

53 **Holm A**, Vikström E. Quorum sensing communication between bacteria and human cells: signals, targets, and functions. *Front Plant Sci* 2014; **5**: 309 [PMID: 25018766 DOI: 10.3389/fpls.2014.00309]

54 **Golovkine G**, Reboud E, Huber P. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Takes a Multi-Target Approach to Achieve Junction Breach. *Front Cell Infect Microbiol* 2017; **7**: 532 [PMID: 29379773 DOI: 10.3389/fcimb.2017.00532]

55 **Eum SY**, Jaraki D, Bertrand L, András IE, Toborek M. Disruption of epithelial barrier by quorum-sensing N-3-(oxododecanoyl)-homoserine lactone is mediated by matrix metalloproteinases. *Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol* 2014; **306**: G992-G1001 [PMID: 24742991 DOI: 10.1152/ajpgi.00016.2014]

56 **Halldorsson S**, Gudjonsson T, Gottfredsson M, Singh PK, Gudmundsson GH, Baldursson O. Azithromycin maintains airway epithelial integrity during Pseudomonas aeruginosa infection. *Am J Respir Cell Mol Biol* 2010; **42**: 62-68 [PMID: 19372247 DOI: 10.1165/rcmb.2008-0357OC]

57 **Schwarzer C**, Ravishankar B, Patanwala M, Shuai S, Fu Z, Illek B, Fischer H, Machen TE. Thapsigargin blocks Pseudomonas aeruginosa homoserine lactone-induced apoptosis in airway epithelia. *Am J Physiol Cell Physiol* 2014; **306**: C844-C855 [PMID: 24598360 DOI: 10.1152/ajpcell.00002.2014]

58 **Vikström E**, Bui L, Konradsson P, Magnusson KE. Role of calcium signalling and phosphorylations in disruption of the epithelial junctions by Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum sensing molecule. *Eur J Cell Biol* 2010; **89**: 584-597 [PMID: 20434232 DOI: 10.1016/j.ejcb.2010.03.002]

59 **Vikström E**, Bui L, Konradsson P, Magnusson KE. The junctional integrity of epithelial cells is modulated by Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum sensing molecule through phosphorylation-dependent mechanisms. *Exp Cell Res* 2009; **315**: 313-326 [PMID: 19038248 DOI: 10.1016/j.yexcr.2008.10.044]

60 **Vikström E**, Tafazoli F, Magnusson KE. Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum sensing molecule N-(3 oxododecanoyl)-l-homoserine lactone disrupts epithelial barrier integrity of Caco-2 cells. *FEBS Lett* 2006; **580**: 6921-6928 [PMID: 17157842 DOI: 10.1016/j.febslet.2006.11.057]

61 **Aguanno D**, Coquant G, Postal BG, Osinski C, Wieckowski M, Stockholm D, Grill JP, Carrière V, Seksik P, Thenet S. The intestinal quorum sensing 3-oxo-C12:2 Acyl homoserine lactone limits cytokine-induced tight junction disruption. *Tissue Barriers* 2020; **8**: 1832877 [PMID: 33100129 DOI: 10.1080/21688370.2020.1832877]

62 **Tao S**, Xiong Y, Han D, Pi Y, Zhang H, Wang J. N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-l-homoserine lactone disrupts intestinal epithelial barrier through triggering apoptosis and collapsing extracellular matrix and tight junction. *J Cell Physiol* 2021; **236**: 5771-5784 [PMID: 33400297 DOI: 10.1002/jcp.30261]

63 **Buckley A**, Turner JR. Cell Biology of Tight Junction Barrier Regulation and Mucosal Disease. *Cold Spring Harb Perspect Biol* 2018; **10** [PMID: 28507021 DOI: 10.1101/cshperspect.a029314]

64 **Su L**, Nalle SC, Shen L, Turner ES, Singh G, Breskin LA, Khramtsova EA, Khramtsova G, Tsai PY, Fu YX, Abraham C, Turner JR. TNFR2 activates MLCK-dependent tight junction dysregulation to cause apoptosis-mediated barrier loss and experimental colitis. *Gastroenterology* 2013; **145**: 407-415 [PMID: 23619146 DOI: 10.1053/j.gastro.2013.04.011]

65 **Thoo L**, Noti M, Krebs P. Keep calm: the intestinal barrier at the interface of peace and war. *Cell Death Dis* 2019; **10**: 849 [PMID: 31699962 DOI: 10.1038/s41419-019-2086-z]

66 **France MM**, Turner JR. The mucosal barrier at a glance. *J Cell Sci* 2017; **130**: 307-314 [PMID: 28062847 DOI: 10.1242/jcs.193482]

67 **Tao S**, Luo Y, Bin He, Liu J, Qian X, Ni Y, Zhao R. Paraoxonase 2 modulates a proapoptotic function in LS174T cells in response to quorum sensing molecule N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone. *Sci Rep* 2016; **6**: 28778 [PMID: 27364593 DOI: 10.1038/srep28778]

68 **Tao S**, Niu L, Cai L, Geng Y, Hua C, Ni Y, Zhao R. N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-l-homoserine lactone modulates mitochondrial function and suppresses proliferation in intestinal goblet cells. *Life Sci* 2018; **201**: 81-88 [PMID: 29596921 DOI: 10.1016/j.lfs.2018.03.049]

69 **Tao S**, Sun Q, Cai L, Geng Y, Hua C, Ni Y, Zhao R. Caspase-1-dependent mechanism mediating the harmful impacts of the quorum-sensing molecule N-(3-oxo-dodecanoyl)-l-homoserine lactone on the intestinal cells. *J Cell Physiol* 2019; **234**: 3621-3633 [PMID: 30471106 DOI: 10.1002/jcp.27132]

70 **Taguchi R**, Tanaka S, Joe GH, Maseda H, Nomura N, Ohnishi J, Ishizuka S, Shimizu H, Miyazaki H. Mucin 3 is involved in intestinal epithelial cell apoptosis *via* N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone-induced suppression of Akt phosphorylation. *Am J Physiol Cell Physiol* 2014; **307**: C162-C168 [PMID: 24848113 DOI: 10.1152/ajpcell.00271.2013]

71 **Sturm A**, Dignass AU. Epithelial restitution and wound healing in inflammatory bowel disease. *World J Gastroenterol* 2008; **14**: 348-353 [PMID: 18200658 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.14.348]

72 **Karlsson T**, Turkina MV, Yakymenko O, Magnusson KE, Vikström E. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa N-acylhomoserine lactone quorum sensing molecules target IQGAP1 and modulate epithelial cell migration. *PLoS Pathog* 2012; **8**: e1002953 [PMID: 23071436 DOI: 10.1371/journal.ppat.1002953]

73 **Charlton TS**, de Nys R, Netting A, Kumar N, Hentzer M, Givskov M, Kjelleberg S. A novel and sensitive method for the quantification of N-3-oxoacyl homoserine lactones using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry: application to a model bacterial biofilm. *Environ Microbiol* 2000; **2**: 530-541 [PMID: 11233161 DOI: 10.1046/j.1462-2920.2000.00136.x]

74 **Fujiya M**, Musch MW, Nakagawa Y, Hu S, Alverdy J, Kohgo Y, Schneewind O, Jabri B, Chang EB. The Bacillus subtilis quorum-sensing molecule CSF contributes to intestinal homeostasis *via* OCTN2, a host cell membrane transporter. *Cell Host Microbe* 2007; **1**: 299-308 [PMID: 18005709 DOI: 10.1016/j.chom.2007.05.004]

75 **Petrof EO**, Ciancio MJ, Chang EB. Role and regulation of intestinal epithelial heat shock proteins in health and disease. *Chin J Dig Dis* 2004; **5**: 45-50 [PMID: 15612656 DOI: 10.1111/j.1443-9573.2004.00154.x]

76 **Bansal T**, Alaniz RC, Wood TK, Jayaraman A. The bacterial signal indole increases epithelial-cell tight-junction resistance and attenuates indicators of inflammation. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2010; **107**: 228-233 [PMID: 19966295 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.0906112107]

77 **Shimada Y**, Kinoshita M, Harada K, Mizutani M, Masahata K, Kayama H, Takeda K. Commensal bacteria-dependent indole production enhances epithelial barrier function in the colon. *PLoS One* 2013; **8**: e80604 [PMID: 24278294 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0080604]

78 **Shin JH**, Lee YK, Shon WJ, Kim B, Jeon CO, Cho JY, Morse HC 3rd, Choi EY, Shin DM. Gut microorganisms and their metabolites modulate the severity of acute colitis in a tryptophan metabolism-dependent manner. *Eur J Nutr* 2020; **59**: 3591-3601 [PMID: 32055962 DOI: 10.1007/s00394-020-02194-4]

79 **Venkatesh M**, Mukherjee S, Wang H, Li H, Sun K, Benechet AP, Qiu Z, Maher L, Redinbo MR, Phillips RS, Fleet JC, Kortagere S, Mukherjee P, Fasano A, Le Ven J, Nicholson JK, Dumas ME, Khanna KM, Mani S. Symbiotic bacterial metabolites regulate gastrointestinal barrier function *via* the xenobiotic sensor PXR and Toll-like receptor 4. *Immunity* 2014; **41**: 296-310 [PMID: 25065623 DOI: 10.1016/j.immuni.2014.06.014]

80 **Vyhlídalová B**, Krasulová K, Pečinková P, Marcalíková A, Vrzal R, Zemánková L, Vančo J, Trávníček Z, Vondráček J, Karasová M, Mani S, Dvořák Z. Gut Microbial Catabolites of Tryptophan Are Ligands and Agonists of the Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor: A Detailed Characterization. *Int J Mol Sci* 2020; **21** [PMID: 32283770 DOI: 10.3390/ijms21072614]

81 **Lamas B**, Richard ML, Leducq V, Pham HP, Michel ML, Da Costa G, Bridonneau C, Jegou S, Hoffmann TW, Natividad JM, Brot L, Taleb S, Couturier-Maillard A, Nion-Larmurier I, Merabtene F, Seksik P, Bourrier A, Cosnes J, Ryffel B, Beaugerie L, Launay JM, Langella P, Xavier RJ, Sokol H. CARD9 impacts colitis by altering gut microbiota metabolism of tryptophan into aryl hydrocarbon receptor ligands. *Nat Med* 2016; **22**: 598-605 [PMID: 27158904 DOI: 10.1038/nm.4102]

82 **Natividad JM**, Agus A, Planchais J, Lamas B, Jarry AC, Martin R, Michel ML, Chong-Nguyen C, Roussel R, Straube M, Jegou S, McQuitty C, Le Gall M, da Costa G, Lecornet E, Michaudel C, Modoux M, Glodt J, Bridonneau C, Sovran B, Dupraz L, Bado A, Richard ML, Langella P, Hansel B, Launay JM, Xavier RJ, Duboc H, Sokol H. Impaired Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor Ligand Production by the Gut Microbiota Is a Key Factor in Metabolic Syndrome. *Cell Metab* 2018; **28**: 737-749.e4 [PMID: 30057068 DOI: 10.1016/j.cmet.2018.07.001]

83 **Zelante T**, Iannitti RG, Cunha C, De Luca A, Giovannini G, Pieraccini G, Zecchi R, D'Angelo C, Massi-Benedetti C, Fallarino F, Carvalho A, Puccetti P, Romani L. Tryptophan catabolites from microbiota engage aryl hydrocarbon receptor and balance mucosal reactivity *via* interleukin-22. *Immunity* 2013; **39**: 372-385 [PMID: 23973224 DOI: 10.1016/j.immuni.2013.08.003]

84 **Han B**, Sheng B, Zhang Z, Pu A, Yin J, Wang Q, Yang K, Sun L, Yu M, Qiu Y, Xiao W, Yang H. Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor Activation in Intestinal Obstruction Ameliorates Intestinal Barrier Dysfunction Via Suppression of MLCK-MLC Phosphorylation Pathway. *Shock* 2016; **46**: 319-328 [PMID: 26939041 DOI: 10.1097/SHK.0000000000000594]

85 **Postal BG**, Ghezzal S, Aguanno D, André S, Garbin K, Genser L, Brot-Laroche E, Poitou C, Soula H, Leturque A, Clément K, Carrière V. AhR activation defends gut barrier integrity against damage occurring in obesity. *Mol Metab* 2020; **39**: 101007 [PMID: 32360426 DOI: 10.1016/j.molmet.2020.101007]

86 **Yu M**, Wang Q, Ma Y, Li L, Yu K, Zhang Z, Chen G, Li X, Xiao W, Xu P, Yang H. Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor Activation Modulates Intestinal Epithelial Barrier Function by Maintaining Tight Junction Integrity. *Int J Biol Sci* 2018; **14**: 69-77 [PMID: 29483826 DOI: 10.7150/ijbs.22259]

87 **Ziegler N**, Awwad K, Fisslthaler B, Reis M, Devraj K, Corada M, Minardi SP, Dejana E, Plate KH, Fleming I, Liebner S. β-Catenin Is Required for Endothelial Cyp1b1 Regulation Influencing Metabolic Barrier Function. *J Neurosci* 2016; **36**: 8921-8935 [PMID: 27559173 DOI: 10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0148-16.2016]

88 **Taleb S**. Tryptophan Dietary Impacts Gut Barrier and Metabolic Diseases. *Front Immunol* 2019; **10**: 2113 [PMID: 31552046 DOI: 10.3389/fimmu.2019.02113]

89 **Wang J**, Wang P, Tian H, Tian F, Zhang Y, Zhang L, Gao X, Wang X. Aryl hydrocarbon receptor/IL-22/Stat3 signaling pathway is involved in the modulation of intestinal mucosa antimicrobial molecules by commensal microbiota in mice. *Innate Immun* 2018; **24**: 297-306 [PMID: 29976114 DOI: 10.1177/1753425918785016]

90 **Cotton JA**, Platnich JM, Muruve DA, Jijon HB, Buret AG, Beck PL. Interleukin-8 in gastrointestinal inflammation and malignancy: induction and clinical consequences. *Int J Interferon Cytokine Mediat Res* 2016; **8**: 13-34 [DOI: 10.2147/IJICMR.S63682]

91 **Ghezzal S**, Postal BG, Quevrain E, Brot L, Seksik P, Leturque A, Thenet S, Carrière V. Palmitic acid damages gut epithelium integrity and initiates inflammatory cytokine production. *Biochim Biophys Acta Mol Cell Biol Lipids* 2020; **1865**: 158530 [PMID: 31647994 DOI: 10.1016/j.bbalip.2019.158530]

92 **Peyrottes A**, Coquant G, Brot L, Rainteau D, Seksik P, Grill JP, Mallet JM. Anti-Inflammatory Effects of Analogues of *N*-Acyl Homoserine Lactones on Eukaryotic Cells. *Int J Mol Sci* 2020; **21** [PMID: 33322538 DOI: 10.3390/ijms21249448]

93 **Turkina MV**, Vikström E. Bacteria-Host Crosstalk: Sensing of the Quorum in the Context of Pseudomonas aeruginosa Infections. *J Innate Immun* 2019; **11**: 263-279 [PMID: 30428481 DOI: 10.1159/000494069]

94 **Telford G**, Wheeler D, Williams P, Tomkins PT, Appleby P, Sewell H, Stewart GS, Bycroft BW, Pritchard DI. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing signal molecule N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone has immunomodulatory activity. *Infect Immun* 1998; **66**: 36-42 [PMID: 9423836 DOI: 10.1128/IAI.66.1.36-42.1998]

95 **Smith RS**, Harris SG, Phipps R, Iglewski B. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing molecule N-(3-oxododecanoyl)homoserine lactone contributes to virulence and induces inflammation in vivo. *J Bacteriol* 2002; **184**: 1132-1139 [PMID: 11807074 DOI: 10.1128/jb.184.4.1132-1139.2002]

96 **Ritchie AJ**, Jansson A, Stallberg J, Nilsson P, Lysaght P, Cooley MA. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing molecule N-3-(oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone inhibits T-cell differentiation and cytokine production by a mechanism involving an early step in T-cell activation. *Infect Immun* 2005; **73**: 1648-1655 [PMID: 15731065 DOI: 10.1128/iai.73.3.1648-1655.2005]

97 **Kim K**, Kim SH, Lépine F, Cho YH, Lee GR. Global gene expression analysis on the target genes of PQS and HHQ in J774A.1 monocyte/macrophage cells. *Microb Pathog* 2010; **49**: 174-180 [PMID: 20595074 DOI: 10.1016/j.micpath.2010.05.009]

98 **Lin J**, Cheng J, Wang Y, Shen X. The *Pseudomonas* Quinolone Signal (PQS): Not Just for Quorum Sensing Anymore. *Front Cell Infect Microbiol* 2018; **8**: 230 [PMID: 30023354 DOI: 10.3389/fcimb.2018.00230]

99 **Li Y**, Zhou H, Zhang Y, Chen C, Huang B, Qu P, Zeng J, Shunmei E, Zhang X, Liu J. N-3-(oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone promotes the induction of regulatory T-cells by preventing human dendritic cell maturation. *Exp Biol Med (Maywood)* 2015; **240**: 896-903 [PMID: 25749498 DOI: 10.1177/1535370214564742]

100 **Skindersoe ME**, Zeuthen LH, Brix S, Fink LN, Lazenby J, Whittall C, Williams P, Diggle SP, Froekiaer H, Cooley M, Givskov M. Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing signal molecules interfere with dendritic cell-induced T-cell proliferation. *FEMS Immunol Med Microbiol* 2009; **55**: 335-345 [PMID: 19187218 DOI: 10.1111/j.1574-695X.2008.00533.x]

101 **Jacobi CA**, Schiffner F, Henkel M, Waibel M, Stork B, Daubrawa M, Eberl L, Gregor M, Wesselborg S. Effects of bacterial N-acyl homoserine lactones on human Jurkat T lymphocytes-OdDHL induces apoptosis *via* the mitochondrial pathway. *Int J Med Microbiol* 2009; **299**: 509-519 [PMID: 19464950 DOI: 10.1016/j.ijmm.2009.03.005]

102 **Tateda K**, Ishii Y, Horikawa M, Matsumoto T, Miyairi S, Pechere JC, Standiford TJ, Ishiguro M, Yamaguchi K. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa autoinducer N-3-oxododecanoyl homoserine lactone accelerates apoptosis in macrophages and neutrophils. *Infect Immun* 2003; **71**: 5785-5793 [PMID: 14500500 DOI: 10.1128/iai.71.10.5785-5793.2003]

103 **Kim K**, Kim YU, Koh BH, Hwang SS, Kim SH, Lépine F, Cho YH, Lee GR. HHQ and PQS, two Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing molecules, down-regulate the innate immune responses through the nuclear factor-kappaB pathway. *Immunology* 2010; **129**: 578-588 [PMID: 20102415 DOI: 10.1111/j.1365-2567.2009.03160.x]

104 **Kravchenko VV**, Kaufmann GF, Mathison JC, Scott DA, Katz AZ, Grauer DC, Lehmann M, Meijler MM, Janda KD, Ulevitch RJ. Modulation of gene expression *via* disruption of NF-kappaB signaling by a bacterial small molecule. *Science* 2008; **321**: 259-263 [PMID: 18566250 DOI: 10.1126/science.1156499]

105 **Kravchenko VV**, Kaufmann GF, Mathison JC, Scott DA, Katz AZ, Wood MR, Brogan AP, Lehmann M, Mee JM, Iwata K, Pan Q, Fearns C, Knaus UG, Meijler MM, Janda KD, Ulevitch RJ. N-(3-oxo-acyl)homoserine lactones signal cell activation through a mechanism distinct from the canonical pathogen-associated molecular pattern recognition receptor pathways. *J Biol Chem* 2006; **281**: 28822-28830 [PMID: 16893899 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M606613200]

106 **Wu R**, Li X, Ma N, Jin X, Yuan X, Qu C, Tang H, Liu Z, Zhang Z. Bacterial Quorum Sensing Molecules Promote Allergic Airway Inflammation by Activating the Retinoic Acid Response. *iScience* 2020; **23**: 101288 [PMID: 32622265 DOI: 10.1016/j.isci.2020.101288]

107 **Vikström E**, Magnusson KE, Pivoriūnas A. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing molecule N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone stimulates phagocytic activity in human macrophages through the p38 MAPK pathway. *Microbes Infect* 2005; **7**: 1512-1518 [PMID: 16039899 DOI: 10.1016/j.micinf.2005.05.012]

108 **Gaida MM**, Dapunt U, Hänsch GM. Sensing developing biofilms: the bitter receptor T2R38 on myeloid cells. *Pathog Dis* 2016; **74** [PMID: 26782143 DOI: 10.1093/femspd/ftw004]

109 **Lee RJ**, Xiong G, Kofonow JM, Chen B, Lysenko A, Jiang P, Abraham V, Doghramji L, Adappa ND, Palmer JN, Kennedy DW, Beauchamp GK, Doulias PT, Ischiropoulos H, Kreindler JL, Reed DR, Cohen NA. T2R38 taste receptor polymorphisms underlie susceptibility to upper respiratory infection. *J Clin Invest* 2012; **122**: 4145-4159 [PMID: 23041624 DOI: 10.1172/JCI64240]

110 **Tizzano M**, Gulbransen BD, Vandenbeuch A, Clapp TR, Herman JP, Sibhatu HM, Churchill ME, Silver WL, Kinnamon SC, Finger TE. Nasal chemosensory cells use bitter taste signaling to detect irritants and bacterial signals. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2010; **107**: 3210-3215 [PMID: 20133764 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.0911934107]

111 **Rozengurt E**. Taste receptors in the gastrointestinal tract. I. Bitter taste receptors and alpha-gustducin in the mammalian gut. *Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol* 2006; **291**: G171-G177 [PMID: 16710053 DOI: 10.1152/ajpgi.00073.2006]

112 **Carrai M**, Steinke V, Vodicka P, Pardini B, Rahner N, Holinski-Feder E, Morak M, Schackert HK, Görgens H, Stemmler S, Betz B, Kloor M, Engel C, Büttner R, Naccarati A, Vodickova L, Novotny J, Stein A, Hemminki K, Propping P, Försti A, Canzian F, Barale R, Campa D. Association between TAS2R38 gene polymorphisms and colorectal cancer risk: a case-control study in two independent populations of Caucasian origin. *PLoS One* 2011; **6**: e20464 [PMID: 21674048 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0020464]

113 **Cohen LJ**, Esterhazy D, Kim SH, Lemetre C, Aguilar RR, Gordon EA, Pickard AJ, Cross JR, Emiliano AB, Han SM, Chu J, Vila-Farres X, Kaplitt J, Rogoz A, Calle PY, Hunter C, Bitok JK, Brady SF. Commensal bacteria make GPCR ligands that mimic human signalling molecules. *Nature* 2017; **549**: 48-53 [PMID: 28854168 DOI: 10.1038/nature23874]

114 **Cooley M**, Chhabra SR, Williams P. N-Acylhomoserine lactone-mediated quorum sensing: a twist in the tail and a blow for host immunity. *Chem Biol* 2008; **15**: 1141-1147 [PMID: 19022174 DOI: 10.1016/j.chembiol.2008.10.010]

115 **Jahoor A**, Patel R, Bryan A, Do C, Krier J, Watters C, Wahli W, Li G, Williams SC, Rumbaugh KP. Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors mediate host cell proinflammatory responses to Pseudomonas aeruginosa autoinducer. *J Bacteriol* 2008; **190**: 4408-4415 [PMID: 18178738 DOI: 10.1128/JB.01444-07]

116 **Moura-Alves P**, Puyskens A, Stinn A, Klemm M, Guhlich-Bornhof U, Dorhoi A, Furkert J, Kreuchwig A, Protze J, Lozza L, Pei G, Saikali P, Perdomo C, Mollenkopf HJ, Hurwitz R, Kirschhoefer F, Brenner-Weiss G, Weiner J 3rd, Oschkinat H, Kolbe M, Krause G, Kaufmann SHE. Host monitoring of quorum sensing during *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection. *Science* 2019; **366** [PMID: 31857448 DOI: 10.1126/science.aaw1629]

117 **Lamas B**, Natividad JM, Sokol H. Aryl hydrocarbon receptor and intestinal immunity. *Mucosal Immunol* 2018; **11**: 1024-1038 [PMID: 29626198 DOI: 10.1038/s41385-018-0019-2]

118 **Trikha P**, Lee DA. The role of AhR in transcriptional regulation of immune cell development and function. *Biochim Biophys Acta Rev Cancer* 2020; **1873**: 188335 [PMID: 31816350 DOI: 10.1016/j.bbcan.2019.188335]

119 **Li H**, Li X, Song C, Zhang Y, Wang Z, Liu Z, Wei H, Yu J. Autoinducer-2 Facilitates *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* PAO1 Pathogenicity *in Vitro* and *in Vivo*. *Front Microbiol* 2017; **8**: 1944 [PMID: 29089927 DOI: 10.3389/fmicb.2017.01944]

120 **Walters M**, Sperandio V. Autoinducer 3 and epinephrine signaling in the kinetics of locus of enterocyte effacement gene expression in enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli. *Infect Immun* 2006; **74**: 5445-5455 [PMID: 16988219 DOI: 10.1128/IAI.00099-06]

121 **De Spiegeleer A**, Elewaut D, Van Den Noortgate N, Janssens Y, Debunne N, Van Langenhove S, Govindarajan S, De Spiegeleer B, Wynendaele E. Quorum sensing molecules as a novel microbial factor impacting muscle cells. *Biochim Biophys Acta Mol Basis Dis* 2020; **1866**: 165646 [PMID: 31870715 DOI: 10.1016/j.bbadis.2019.165646]

122 **Wynendaele E**, Verbeke F, Stalmans S, Gevaert B, Janssens Y, Van De Wiele C, Peremans K, Burvenich C, De Spiegeleer B. Quorum Sensing Peptides Selectively Penetrate the Blood-Brain Barrier. *PLoS One* 2015; **10**: e0142071 [PMID: 26536593 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0142071]

123 **Gao J**, Xu K, Liu H, Liu G, Bai M, Peng C, Li T, Yin Y. Impact of the Gut Microbiota on Intestinal Immunity Mediated by Tryptophan Metabolism. *Front Cell Infect Microbiol* 2018; **8**: 13 [PMID: 29468141 DOI: 10.3389/fcimb.2018.00013]

124 **Roager HM**, Licht TR. Microbial tryptophan catabolites in health and disease. *Nat Commun* 2018; **9**: 3294 [PMID: 30120222 DOI: 10.1038/s41467-018-05470-4]

125 **Alexeev EE**, Lanis JM, Kao DJ, Campbell EL, Kelly CJ, Battista KD, Gerich ME, Jenkins BR, Walk ST, Kominsky DJ, Colgan SP. Microbiota-Derived Indole Metabolites Promote Human and Murine Intestinal Homeostasis through Regulation of Interleukin-10 Receptor. *Am J Pathol* 2018; **188**: 1183-1194 [PMID: 29454749 DOI: 10.1016/j.ajpath.2018.01.011]

126 **Dong F**, Perdew GH. The aryl hydrocarbon receptor as a mediator of host-microbiota interplay. *Gut Microbes* 2020; **12**: 1859812 [PMID: 33382356 DOI: 10.1080/19490976.2020.1859812]

127 **Lamas B**, Hernandez-Galan L, Galipeau HJ, Constante M, Clarizio A, Jury J, Breyner NM, Caminero A, Rueda G, Hayes CL, McCarville JL, Bermudez Brito M, Planchais J, Rolhion N, Murray JA, Langella P, Loonen LMP, Wells JM, Bercik P, Sokol H, Verdu EF. Aryl hydrocarbon receptor ligand production by the gut microbiota is decreased in celiac disease leading to intestinal inflammation. *Sci Transl Med* 2020; **12** [PMID: 33087499 DOI: 10.1126/scitranslmed.aba0624]

128 **Sears CL**, Garrett WS. Microbes, microbiota, and colon cancer. *Cell Host Microbe* 2014; **15**: 317-328 [PMID: 24629338 DOI: 10.1016/j.chom.2014.02.007]

129 **Greten FR**, Grivennikov SI. Inflammation and Cancer: Triggers, Mechanisms, and Consequences. *Immunity* 2019; **51**: 27-41 [PMID: 31315034 DOI: 10.1016/j.immuni.2019.06.025]

130 **Schwabe RF**, Jobin C. The microbiome and cancer. *Nat Rev Cancer* 2013; **13**: 800-812 [PMID: 24132111 DOI: 10.1038/nrc3610]

131 **Tjalsma H**, Boleij A, Marchesi JR, Dutilh BE. A bacterial driver-passenger model for colorectal cancer: beyond the usual suspects. *Nat Rev Microbiol* 2012; **10**: 575-582 [PMID: 22728587 DOI: 10.1038/nrmicro2819]

132 **Wu S**, Rhee KJ, Albesiano E, Rabizadeh S, Wu X, Yen HR, Huso DL, Brancati FL, Wick E, McAllister F, Housseau F, Pardoll DM, Sears CL. A human colonic commensal promotes colon tumorigenesis *via* activation of T helper type 17 T cell responses. *Nat Med* 2009; **15**: 1016-1022 [PMID: 19701202 DOI: 10.1038/nm.2015]

133 **Castellarin M**, Warren RL, Freeman JD, Dreolini L, Krzywinski M, Strauss J, Barnes R, Watson P, Allen-Vercoe E, Moore RA, Holt RA. Fusobacterium nucleatum infection is prevalent in human colorectal carcinoma. *Genome Res* 2012; **22**: 299-306 [PMID: 22009989 DOI: 10.1101/gr.126516.111]

134 **Dejea CM**, Wick EC, Hechenbleikner EM, White JR, Mark Welch JL, Rossetti BJ, Peterson SN, Snesrud EC, Borisy GG, Lazarev M, Stein E, Vadivelu J, Roslani AC, Malik AA, Wanyiri JW, Goh KL, Thevambiga I, Fu K, Wan F, Llosa N, Housseau F, Romans K, Wu X, McAllister FM, Wu S, Vogelstein B, Kinzler KW, Pardoll DM, Sears CL. Microbiota organization is a distinct feature of proximal colorectal cancers. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2014; **111**: 18321-18326 [PMID: 25489084 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1406199111]

135 **Kostic AD**, Gevers D, Pedamallu CS, Michaud M, Duke F, Earl AM, Ojesina AI, Jung J, Bass AJ, Tabernero J, Baselga J, Liu C, Shivdasani RA, Ogino S, Birren BW, Huttenhower C, Garrett WS, Meyerson M. Genomic analysis identifies association of Fusobacterium with colorectal carcinoma. *Genome Res* 2012; **22**: 292-298 [PMID: 22009990 DOI: 10.1101/gr.126573.111]

136 **Li S**, Konstantinov SR, Smits R, Peppelenbosch MP. Bacterial Biofilms in Colorectal Cancer Initiation and Progression. *Trends Mol Med* 2017; **23**: 18-30 [PMID: 27986421 DOI: 10.1016/j.molmed.2016.11.004]

137 **Wu J**, Li K, Peng W, Li H, Li Q, Wang X, Peng Y, Tang X, Fu X. Autoinducer-2 of Fusobacterium nucleatum promotes macrophage M1 polarization *via* TNFSF9/IL-1β signaling. *Int Immunopharmacol* 2019; **74**: 105724 [PMID: 31272064 DOI: 10.1016/j.intimp.2019.105724]

138 **Bearson BL**, Bearson SM. The role of the QseC quorum-sensing sensor kinase in colonization and norepinephrine-enhanced motility of Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium. *Microb Pathog* 2008; **44**: 271-278 [PMID: 17997077 DOI: 10.1016/j.micpath.2007.10.001]

139 **Luqman A**, Kharisma VD, Ruiz RA, Götz F. In Silico and in Vitro Study of Trace Amines (TA) and Dopamine (DOP) Interaction with Human Alpha 1-Adrenergic Receptor and the Bacterial Adrenergic Receptor QseC. *Cell Physiol Biochem* 2020; **54**: 888-898 [PMID: 32930525 DOI: 10.33594/000000276]

140 **Lyte M**. The role of microbial endocrinology in infectious disease. *J Endocrinol* 1993; **137**: 343-345 [PMID: 8371072 DOI: 10.1677/joe.0.1370343]

141 **Grandclément C**, Tannières M, Moréra S, Dessaux Y, Faure D. Quorum quenching: role in nature and applied developments. *FEMS Microbiol Rev* 2016; **40**: 86-116 [PMID: 26432822 DOI: 10.1093/femsre/fuv038]

142 **Teiber JF**, Horke S, Haines DC, Chowdhary PK, Xiao J, Kramer GL, Haley RW, Draganov DI. Dominant role of paraoxonases in inactivation of the Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing signal N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone. *Infect Immun* 2008; **76**: 2512-2519 [PMID: 18347034 DOI: 10.1128/IAI.01606-07]

143 **Levy E**, Trudel K, Bendayan M, Seidman E, Delvin E, Elchebly M, Lavoie JC, Precourt LP, Amre D, Sinnett D. Biological role, protein expression, subcellular localization, and oxidative stress response of paraoxonase 2 in the intestine of humans and rats. *Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol* 2007; **293**: G1252-G1261 [PMID: 17916643 DOI: 10.1152/ajpgi.00369.2007]

144 **Rothem L**, Hartman C, Dahan A, Lachter J, Eliakim R, Shamir R. Paraoxonases are associated with intestinal inflammatory diseases and intracellularly localized to the endoplasmic reticulum. *Free Radic Biol Med* 2007; **43**: 730-739 [PMID: 17664137 DOI: 10.1016/j.freeradbiomed.2007.05.003]

145 **Karban A**, Hartman C, Eliakim R, Waterman M, Nesher S, Barnett-Griness O, Shamir R. Paraoxonase (PON)1 192R allele carriage is associated with reduced risk of inflammatory bowel disease. *Dig Dis Sci* 2007; **52**: 2707-2715 [PMID: 17436100 DOI: 10.1007/s10620-006-9700-5]

146 **Britton RA**, Young VB. Role of the intestinal microbiota in resistance to colonization by Clostridium difficile. *Gastroenterology* 2014; **146**: 1547-1553 [PMID: 24503131 DOI: 10.1053/j.gastro.2014.01.059]

147 **Maeda Y**, Kurakawa T, Umemoto E, Motooka D, Ito Y, Gotoh K, Hirota K, Matsushita M, Furuta Y, Narazaki M, Sakaguchi N, Kayama H, Nakamura S, Iida T, Saeki Y, Kumanogoh A, Sakaguchi S, Takeda K. Dysbiosis Contributes to Arthritis Development *via* Activation of Autoreactive T Cells in the Intestine. *Arthritis Rheumatol* 2016; **68**: 2646-2661 [PMID: 27333153 DOI: 10.1002/art.39783]

148 **Quévrain E**, Maubert MA, Michon C, Chain F, Marquant R, Tailhades J, Miquel S, Carlier L, Bermúdez-Humarán LG, Pigneur B, Lequin O, Kharrat P, Thomas G, Rainteau D, Aubry C, Breyner N, Afonso C, Lavielle S, Grill JP, Chassaing G, Chatel JM, Trugnan G, Xavier R, Langella P, Sokol H, Seksik P. Identification of an anti-inflammatory protein from Faecalibacterium prausnitzii, a commensal bacterium deficient in Crohn's disease. *Gut* 2016; **65**: 415-425 [PMID: 26045134 DOI: 10.1136/gutjnl-2014-307649]

149 **Sokol H**, Seksik P, Furet JP, Firmesse O, Nion-Larmurier I, Beaugerie L, Cosnes J, Corthier G, Marteau P, Doré J. Low counts of Faecalibacterium prausnitzii in colitis microbiota. *Inflamm Bowel Dis* 2009; **15**: 1183-1189 [PMID: 19235886 DOI: 10.1002/ibd.20903]

150 **Sokol H**, Jegou S, McQuitty C, Straub M, Leducq V, Landman C, Kirchgesner J, Le Gall G, Bourrier A, Nion-Larmurier I, Cosnes J, Seksik P, Richard ML, Beaugerie L. Specificities of the intestinal microbiota in patients with inflammatory bowel disease and Clostridium difficile infection. *Gut Microbes* 2018; **9**: 55-60 [PMID: 28786749 DOI: 10.1080/19490976.2017.1361092]

151 **Vich Vila A**, Imhann F, Collij V, Jankipersadsing SA, Gurry T, Mujagic Z, Kurilshikov A, Bonder MJ, Jiang X, Tigchelaar EF, Dekens J, Peters V, Voskuil MD, Visschedijk MC, van Dullemen HM, Keszthelyi D, Swertz MA, Franke L, Alberts R, Festen EAM, Dijkstra G, Masclee AAM, Hofker MH, Xavier RJ, Alm EJ, Fu J, Wijmenga C, Jonkers DMAE, Zhernakova A, Weersma RK. Gut microbiota composition and functional changes in inflammatory bowel disease and irritable bowel syndrome. *Sci Transl Med* 2018; **10** [PMID: 30567928 DOI: 10.1126/scitranslmed.aap8914]

152 **Cammarota G**, Ianiro G, Kelly CR, Mullish BH, Allegretti JR, Kassam Z, Putignani L, Fischer M, Keller JJ, Costello SP, Sokol H, Kump P, Satokari R, Kahn SA, Kao D, Arkkila P, Kuijper EJ, Vehreschild MJG, Pintus C, Lopetuso L, Masucci L, Scaldaferri F, Terveer EM, Nieuwdorp M, López-Sanromán A, Kupcinskas J, Hart A, Tilg H, Gasbarrini A. International consensus conference on stool banking for faecal microbiota transplantation in clinical practice. *Gut* 2019; **68**: 2111-2121 [PMID: 31563878 DOI: 10.1136/gutjnl-2019-319548]

153 **van Nood E**, Vrieze A, Nieuwdorp M, Fuentes S, Zoetendal EG, de Vos WM, Visser CE, Kuijper EJ, Bartelsman JF, Tijssen JG, Speelman P, Dijkgraaf MG, Keller JJ. Duodenal infusion of donor feces for recurrent Clostridium difficile. *N Engl J Med* 2013; **368**: 407-415 [PMID: 23323867 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1205037]

154 **Wu S**, Liu J, Liu C, Yang A, Qiao J. Quorum sensing for population-level control of bacteria and potential therapeutic applications. *Cell Mol Life Sci* 2020; **77**: 1319-1343 [PMID: 31612240 DOI: 10.1007/s00018-019-03326-8]

155 **Novick RP**, Projan SJ, Kornblum J, Ross HF, Ji G, Kreiswirth B, Vandenesch F, Moghazeh S. The agr P2 operon: an autocatalytic sensory transduction system in Staphylococcus aureus. *Mol Gen Genet* 1995; **248**: 446-458 [PMID: 7565609 DOI: 10.1007/BF02191645]

156 **Autret N**, Raynaud C, Dubail I, Berche P, Charbit A. Identification of the agr locus of Listeria monocytogenes: role in bacterial virulence. *Infect Immun* 2003; **71**: 4463-4471 [PMID: 12874326 DOI: 10.1128/IAI.71.8.4463-4471.2003]

157 **Ohtani K**, Yuan Y, Hassan S, Wang R, Wang Y, Shimizu T. Virulence gene regulation by the agr system in Clostridium perfringens. *J Bacteriol* 2009; **191**: 3919-3927 [PMID: 19363118 DOI: 10.1128/JB.01455-08]

158 **Sifri CD**, Mylonakis E, Singh KV, Qin X, Garsin DA, Murray BE, Ausubel FM, Calderwood SB. Virulence effect of Enterococcus faecalis protease genes and the quorum-sensing locus fsr in Caenorhabditis elegans and mice. *Infect Immun* 2002; **70**: 5647-5650 [PMID: 12228293 DOI: 10.1128/iai.70.10.5647-5650.2002]

159 **Magnuson R**, Solomon J, Grossman AD. Biochemical and genetic characterization of a competence pheromone from B. subtilis. *Cell* 1994; **77**: 207-216 [PMID: 8168130 DOI: 10.1016/0092-8674(94)90313-1]

160 **Mok KC**, Wingreen NS, Bassler BL. Vibrio harveyi quorum sensing: a coincidence detector for two autoinducers controls gene expression. *EMBO J* 2003; **22**: 870-881 [PMID: 12574123 DOI: 10.1093/emboj/cdg085]

161 **Waters CM**, Bassler BL. The Vibrio harveyi quorum-sensing system uses shared regulatory components to discriminate between multiple autoinducers. *Genes Dev* 2006; **20**: 2754-2767 [PMID: 17015436 DOI: 10.1101/gad.1466506]

162 **Gambello MJ**, Iglewski BH. Cloning and characterization of the Pseudomonas aeruginosa lasR gene, a transcriptional activator of elastase expression. *J Bacteriol* 1991; **173**: 3000-3009 [PMID: 1902216 DOI: 10.1128/jb.173.9.3000-3009.1991]

163 **Gambello MJ**, Kaye S, Iglewski BH. LasR of Pseudomonas aeruginosa is a transcriptional activator of the alkaline protease gene (apr) and an enhancer of exotoxin A expression. *Infect Immun* 1993; **61**: 1180-1184 [PMID: 8454322 DOI: 10.1128/iai.61.4.1180-1184.1993]

164 **Winson MK**, Camara M, Latifi A, Foglino M, Chhabra SR, Daykin M, Bally M, Chapon V, Salmond GP, Bycroft BW. Multiple N-acyl-L-homoserine lactone signal molecules regulate production of virulence determinants and secondary metabolites in Pseudomonas aeruginosa. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 1995; **92**: 9427-9431 [PMID: 7568146 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.92.20.9427]

165 **Chapon-Hervé V**, Akrim M, Latifi A, Williams P, Lazdunski A, Bally M. Regulation of the xcp secretion pathway by multiple quorum-sensing modulons in Pseudomonas aeruginosa. *Mol Microbiol* 1997; **24**: 1169-1178 [PMID: 9218766 DOI: 10.1046/j.1365-2958.1997.4271794.x]

166 **Pesci EC**, Milbank JB, Pearson JP, McKnight S, Kende AS, Greenberg EP, Iglewski BH. Quinolone signaling in the cell-to-cell communication system of Pseudomonas aeruginosa. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 1999; **96**: 11229-11234 [PMID: 10500159 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.96.20.11229]

167 **Gallagher LA**, McKnight SL, Kuznetsova MS, Pesci EC, Manoil C. Functions required for extracellular quinolone signaling by Pseudomonas aeruginosa. *J Bacteriol* 2002; **184**: 6472-6480 [PMID: 12426334 DOI: 10.1128/jb.184.23.6472-6480.2002]

168 **Bredenbruch F**, Geffers R, Nimtz M, Buer J, Häussler S. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa quinolone signal (PQS) has an iron-chelating activity. *Environ Microbiol* 2006; **8**: 1318-1329 [PMID: 16872396 DOI: 10.1111/j.1462-2920.2006.01025.x]

169 **Diggle SP**, Matthijs S, Wright VJ, Fletcher MP, Chhabra SR, Lamont IL, Kong X, Hider RC, Cornelis P, Cámara M, Williams P. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa 4-quinolone signal molecules HHQ and PQS play multifunctional roles in quorum sensing and iron entrapment. *Chem Biol* 2007; **14**: 87-96 [PMID: 17254955 DOI: 10.1016/j.chembiol.2006.11.014]

170 **Cao H**, Krishnan G, Goumnerov B, Tsongalis J, Tompkins R, Rahme LG. A quorum sensing-associated virulence gene of Pseudomonas aeruginosa encodes a LysR-like transcription regulator with a unique self-regulatory mechanism. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2001; **98**: 14613-14618 [PMID: 11724939 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.251465298]

171 **Diggle SP**, Winzer K, Chhabra SR, Worrall KE, Cámara M, Williams P. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa quinolone signal molecule overcomes the cell density-dependency of the quorum sensing hierarchy, regulates rhl-dependent genes at the onset of stationary phase and can be produced in the absence of LasR. *Mol Microbiol* 2003; **50**: 29-43 [PMID: 14507361 DOI: 10.1046/j.1365-2958.2003.03672.x]

172 **Lee J**, Wu J, Deng Y, Wang J, Wang C, Wang J, Chang C, Dong Y, Williams P, Zhang LH. A cell-cell communication signal integrates quorum sensing and stress response. *Nat Chem Biol* 2013; **9**: 339-343 [PMID: 23542643 DOI: 10.1038/nchembio.1225]

173 **Ng WL**, Perez LJ, Wei Y, Kraml C, Semmelhack MF, Bassler BL. Signal production and detection specificity in Vibrio CqsA/CqsS quorum-sensing systems. *Mol Microbiol* 2011; **79**: 1407-1417 [PMID: 21219472 DOI: 10.1111/j.1365-2958.2011.07548.x]

174 **Walters M**, Sperandio V. Quorum sensing in Escherichia coli and Salmonella. *Int J Med Microbiol* 2006; **296**: 125-131 [PMID: 16487745 DOI: 10.1016/j.ijmm.2006.01.041]

175 **Schauder S**, Shokat K, Surette MG, Bassler BL. The LuxS family of bacterial autoinducers: biosynthesis of a novel quorum-sensing signal molecule. *Mol Microbiol* 2001; **41**: 463-476 [PMID: 11489131 DOI: 10.1046/j.1365-2958.2001.02532.x]

176 **Zhu J**, Miller MB, Vance RE, Dziejman M, Bassler BL, Mekalanos JJ. Quorum-sensing regulators control virulence gene expression in Vibrio cholerae. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2002; **99**: 3129-3134 [PMID: 11854465 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.052694299]

177 **Hammer BK**, Bassler BL. Quorum sensing controls biofilm formation in Vibrio cholerae. *Mol Microbiol* 2003; **50**: 101-104 [PMID: 14507367 DOI: 10.1046/j.1365-2958.2003.03688.x]

178 **Bansal T**, Jesudhasan P, Pillai S, Wood TK, Jayaraman A. Temporal regulation of enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli virulence mediated by autoinducer-2. *Appl Microbiol Biotechnol* 2008; **78**: 811-819 [PMID: 18256823 DOI: 10.1007/s00253-008-1359-8]

179 **Choi J**, Shin D, Kim M, Park J, Lim S, Ryu S. LsrR-mediated quorum sensing controls invasiveness of Salmonella typhimurium by regulating SPI-1 and flagella genes. *PLoS One* 2012; **7**: e37059 [PMID: 22623980 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0037059]

180 **Bao L**, Yu J, Zhong H, Huang D, Lu Q. Expression of toll-like receptors in T lymphocytes stimulated with N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone from Pseudomonas aeruginosa. *APMIS* 2017; **125**: 553-557 [PMID: 28418096 DOI: 10.1111/apm.12690]

181 **Glucksam-Galnoy Y**, Sananes R, Silberstein N, Krief P, Kravchenko VV, Meijler MM, Zor T. The bacterial quorum-sensing signal molecule N-3-oxo-dodecanoyl-L-homoserine lactone reciprocally modulates pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokines in activated macrophages. *J Immunol* 2013; **191**: 337-344 [PMID: 23720811 DOI: 10.4049/jimmunol.1300368]

182 **Zhang J**, Gong F, Li L, Zhao M, Song J. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* quorum-sensing molecule N-(3-oxododecanoyl) homoserine lactone attenuates lipopolysaccharide-induced inflammation by activating the unfolded protein response. *Biomed Rep* 2014; **2**: 233-238 [PMID: 24649102 DOI: 10.3892/br.2014.225]

183 **Holm A**, Magnusson KE, Vikström E. Pseudomonas aeruginosa N-3-oxo-dodecanoyl-homoserine Lactone Elicits Changes in Cell Volume, Morphology, and AQP9 Characteristics in Macrophages. *Front Cell Infect Microbiol* 2016; **6**: 32 [PMID: 27047801 DOI: 10.3389/fcimb.2016.00032]

184 **Krishnan S**, Ding Y, Saedi N, Choi M, Sridharan GV, Sherr DH, Yarmush ML, Alaniz RC, Jayaraman A, Lee K. Gut Microbiota-Derived Tryptophan Metabolites Modulate Inflammatory Response in Hepatocytes and Macrophages. *Cell Rep* 2018; **23**: 1099-1111 [PMID: 29694888 DOI: 10.1016/j.celrep.2018.03.109]

185 **Boontham P**, Robins A, Chandran P, Pritchard D, Cámara M, Williams P, Chuthapisith S, McKechnie A, Rowlands BJ, Eremin O. Significant immunomodulatory effects of Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing signal molecules: possible link in human sepsis. *Clin Sci (Lond)* 2008; **115**: 343-351 [PMID: 18363571 DOI: 10.1042/CS20080018]

186 **Karlsson T**, Musse F, Magnusson KE, Vikström E. N-Acylhomoserine lactones are potent neutrophil chemoattractants that act *via* calcium mobilization and actin remodeling. *J Leukoc Biol* 2012; **91**: 15-26 [PMID: 21807742 DOI: 10.1189/jlb.0111034]

187 **Zimmermann S**, Wagner C, Müller W, Brenner-Weiss G, Hug F, Prior B, Obst U, Hänsch GM. Induction of neutrophil chemotaxis by the quorum-sensing molecule N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone. *Infect Immun* 2006; **74**: 5687-5692 [PMID: 16988244 DOI: 10.1128/iai.01940-05]

188 **Singh PK**, Yadav VK, Kalia M, Sharma D, Pandey D, Agarwal V. Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing molecule N-(3-oxo-dodecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone triggers mitochondrial dysfunction and apoptosis in neutrophils through calcium signaling. *Med Microbiol Immunol* 2019; **208**: 855-868 [PMID: 31377870 DOI: 10.1007/s00430-019-00631-8]

189 **Wagner C**, Zimmermann S, Brenner-Weiss G, Hug F, Prior B, Obst U, Hänsch GM. The quorum-sensing molecule N-3-oxododecanoyl homoserine lactone (3OC12-HSL) enhances the host defence by activating human polymorphonuclear neutrophils (PMN). *Anal Bioanal Chem* 2007; **387**: 481-487 [PMID: 16906383 DOI: 10.1007/s00216-006-0698-5]

190 **Gupta RK**, Chhibber S, Harjai K. Acyl homoserine lactones from culture supernatants of Pseudomonas aeruginosa accelerate host immunomodulation. *PLoS One* 2011; **6**: e20860 [PMID: 21698201 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0020860]

191 **Hooi DS**, Bycroft BW, Chhabra SR, Williams P, Pritchard DI. Differential immune modulatory activity of Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing signal molecules. *Infect Immun* 2004; **72**: 6463-6470 [PMID: 15501777 DOI: 10.1128/IAI.72.11.6463-6470.2004]

192 **Cervantes-Barragan L**, Chai JN, Tianero MD, Di Luccia B, Ahern PP, Merriman J, Cortez VS, Caparon MG, Donia MS, Gilfillan S, Cella M, Gordon JI, Hsieh CS, Colonna M. *Lactobacillus reuteri* induces gut intraepithelial CD4+CD8αα+ T cells. *Science* 2017; **357**: 806-810 [PMID: 28775213 DOI: 10.1126/science.aah5825]

193 **Aoki R**, Aoki-Yoshida A, Suzuki C, Takayama Y. Indole-3-Pyruvic Acid, an Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor Activator, Suppresses Experimental Colitis in Mice. *J Immunol* 2018; **201**: 3683-3693 [PMID: 30429284 DOI: 10.4049/jimmunol.1701734]

194 **Ritchie AJ**, Yam AO, Tanabe KM, Rice SA, Cooley MA. Modification of *in vivo* and *in vitro* T- and B-cell-mediated immune responses by the Pseudomonas aeruginosa quorum-sensing molecule N-(3-oxododecanoyl)-L-homoserine lactone. *Infect Immun* 2003; **71**: 4421-4431 [PMID: 12874321 DOI: 10.1128/iai.71.8.4421-4431.2003]

195 **Smith RS**, Fedyk ER, Springer TA, Mukaida N, Iglewski BH, Phipps RP. IL-8 production in human lung fibroblasts and epithelial cells activated by the Pseudomonas autoinducer N-3-oxododecanoyl homoserine lactone is transcriptionally regulated by NF-kappa B and activator protein-2. *J Immunol* 2001; **167**: 366-374 [PMID: 11418672 DOI: 10.4049/jimmunol.167.1.366]

**Footnotes**

**Conflict-of-interest statement:** Seksik P reports consulting fees from Abbvie, Takeda, Merck-MSD, Pfizer, Astellas, Janssen and Biocodex and grants from Biocodex and Janssen. These COIs are unrelated to the current presentation. All other authors declare no conflict of interests for this article.

**Open-Access:** This article is an open-access article that was selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. It is distributed in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially, and license their derivative works on different terms, provided the original work is properly cited and the use is non-commercial. See: http://creativecommons.org/Licenses/by-nc/4.0/

**Manuscript source:** Invited manuscript

**Corresponding Author's Membership in Professional Societies:** French National Society of Gastroenterology; European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation.

**Peer-review started:** March 16, 2021

**First decision:** August 9, 2021

**Article in press:** October 27, 2021

**Specialty type:** Gastroenterology and hepatology

**Country/Territory of origin:** France

**Peer-review report’s scientific quality classification**

Grade A (Excellent): 0

Grade B (Very good): B

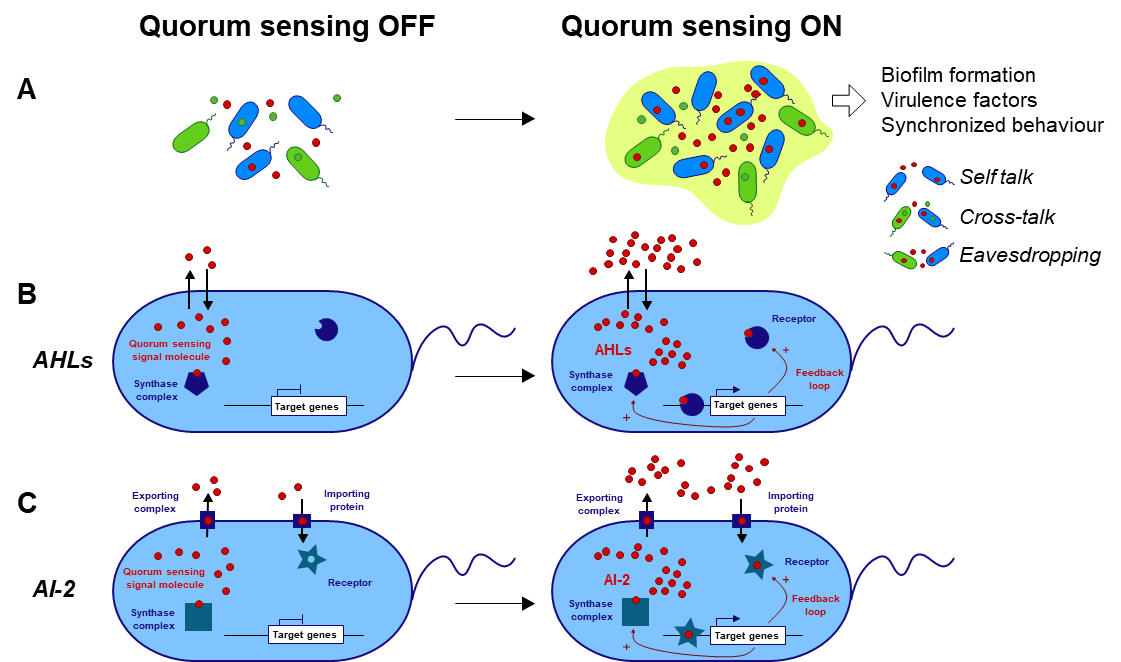
Grade C (Good): 0

Grade D (Fair): 0

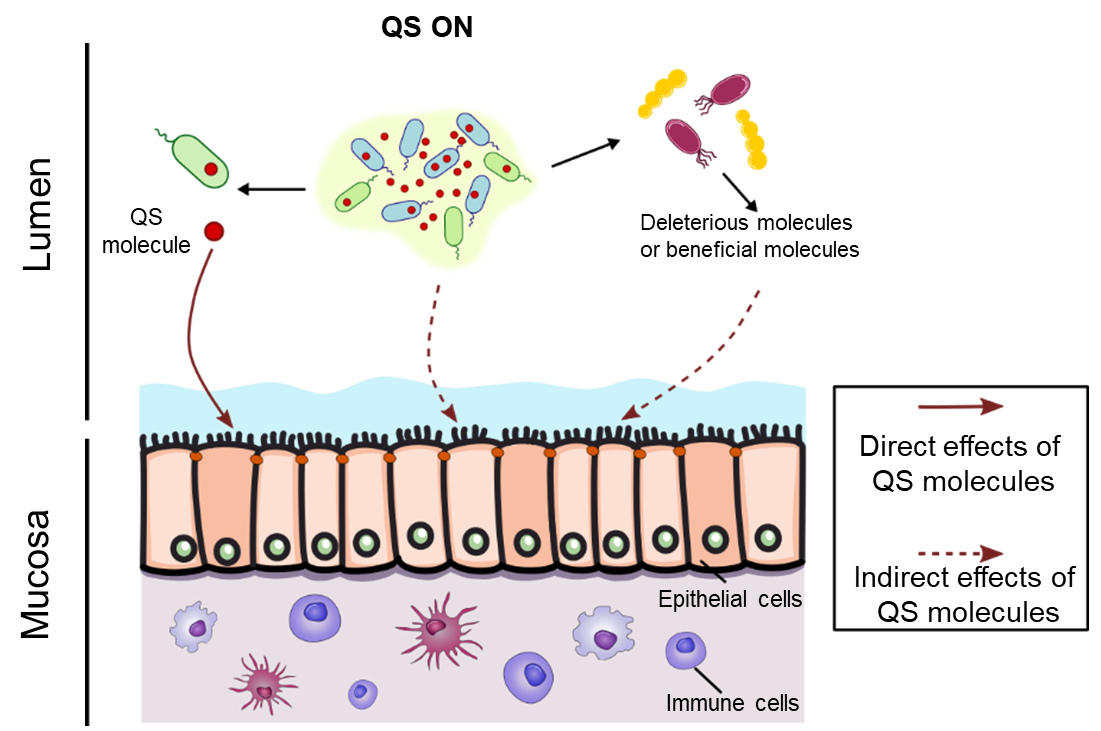
Grade E (Poor): 0

**P-Reviewer:** Dai YC **S-Editor:** Gao CC **L-Editor:** A **P-Editor:** Gao CC

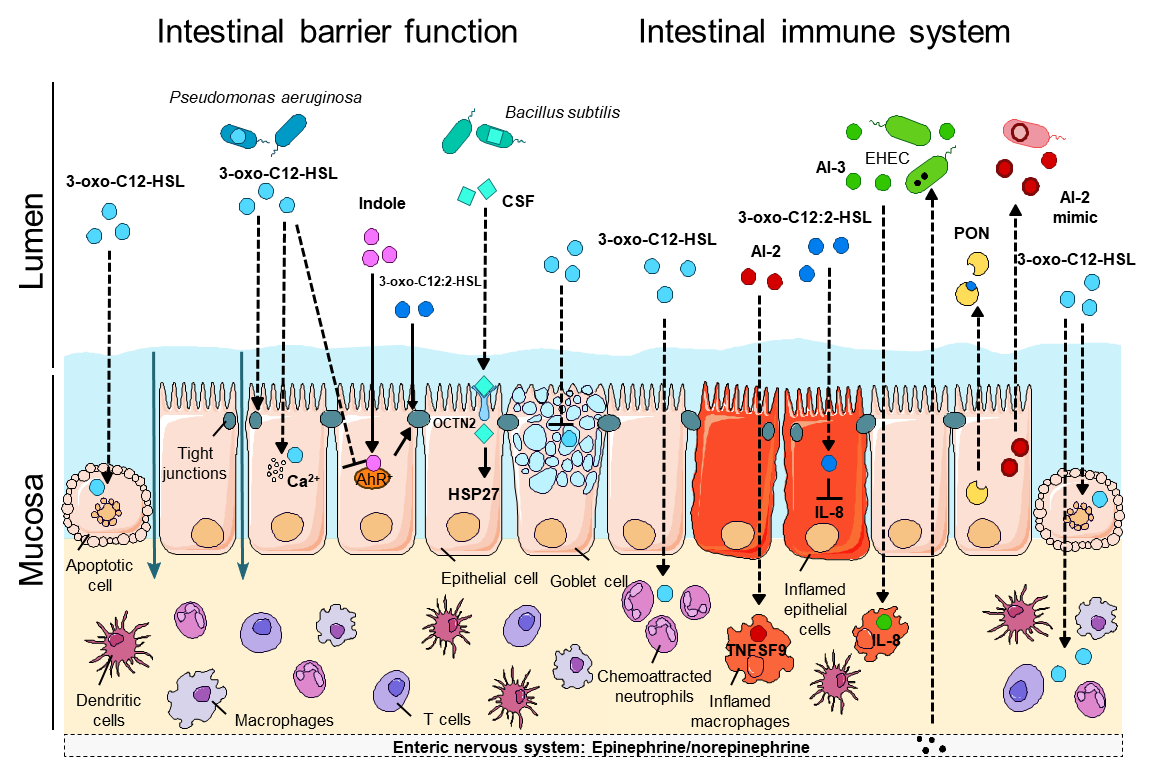
**Figure Legends**



**Figure 1 Main known mechanisms of quorum sensing activation in bacteria.** A: Quorum sensing (QS) signaling depends on the release of autoinducers (AIs) in the environment. Above a threshold concentration depending on bacterial density, QS is activated and triggers gene expression. QS can be classified into three categories: self-talk (*i.e.*, one species “talking” to itself), crosstalk (*i.e.*, different species communicating using common AI), and eavesdropping, which refers to “listening” by species unable to produce AI by itself; B: The acyl-homoserine lactone (AHL) used by Gram-negative bacteria is produced by the synthase complex, and AHL can freely diffuse through the membrane. AHL is recognized by its intracellular receptor, and the complex binds to target gene regulatory elements; C: The AI-2 system is used by both Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria. AI-2 needs a transporter protein to exit and enter the cell. For both AHLs and AI-2, there is a positive feedback loop, allowing the expression of the synthase complex and receptor of AIs. AHL: Acyl-homoserine lactone; AI: Autoinducer.

****

**Figure 2 Interkingdom dialog between bacteria and the host through quorum sensing molecules.** When reaching a threshold concentration within a bacterial community,quorum sensing (QS) autoinducers synchronize group behaviors such as virulence and attachment-effacement strategies as in enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli*, thus indirectly affecting the host (dotted line arrow, middle). QS molecules can impact the host through direct contacts (full arrow, left) with host cells, such as epithelial or immune cells, as has been extensively shown for the *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* QS molecule 3-oxo-C12-HSL, which freely enters mammalian cells. In addition, QS molecules can indirectly modify the host (dotted line arrow, right) through effects on other bacterial populations with different metabolic properties. QS: Quorum sensing.



**Figure 3 Effects of quorum sensing molecules on intestinal barrier function (see Table 2) and on the immune response (see Table 3).** The *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* quorum sensing (QS) molecule 3-oxo-C12-HSL induces apoptosis in various cell types, including epithelial cells, promoting a breach in the intestinal barrier. In addition, 3-oxo-C12-HSL disrupts tight junctions, thus leading to increased paracellular permeability, and affects mucin production. Conversely, intestinal acyl-homoserine lactone 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL and the tryptophan metabolite indole protect tight junctions. *Bacillus subtilis* CSF, which binds to OCTN2, also promotes intestinal barrier integrity by reducing cell death through activation of HSP27 signaling. While 3-oxo-C12-HSL stimulates chemoattraction and phagocytosis in neutrophils and induces cell death, its pro- or anti-inflammatory effects on immune cells are more complex (see Table 3). Autoinducers (AI)-2 and AI-3 both exert proinflammatory effects on macrophages by inducing the expression of the immune mediators TNSF9 and interleukin (IL)-8, respectively, whereas 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL reduces IL-8 production by epithelial cells. It remains to be clarified how all these QS molecules could cross the intestinal barrier and/or reach immune cells *in vivo* in a physiological context, as illustrated by dotted lines. Last, just as QS molecules can impact eukaryotic cells, the host can interfere with QS: the hormones epinephrine/norepinephrine bind to the AI-3 receptor in EHEC; intestinal epithelial cells secrete an AI-2 mimic in addition to paraoxonase (PON) enzymes degrading homoserine lactones. CSF: Competence and sporulation factor; AI: Autoinducer; PON: Paraoxonase; AhR: Aryl hydrocarbon receptor; IL: Interleukin.

**Table 1 Examples of bacterial quorum sensing autoinducer and corresponding systems**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **AI** | **Example of producing bacteria** | **QS system** | **Bacterial QS-regulated processes** | **Ref.** |
| Gram + | AI peptide | *Staphylococcus aureus* | *agr* | Virulence | Novick *et al*[155] |
| *Listeria monocytogenes* | *agr* | Virulence | Autret *et al*[156] |
| *Clostridium perfringens* | *agr* | Virulence | Ohtani *et al*[157] |
| *Enterococcus faecalis* | *FsR* | Virulence | Sifri *et al*[158] |
| *Bacillus subtilis* | *com* | Competence | Magnuson *et al*[159] |
| γ-butyrolactone | *Streptomyces* genus | *scb* | Antibiotics | Takano *et al*[13] |
| *scg* | Metabolism | Du *et al*[14] |
| Gram - | AI-1 (acyl-homoserine lactones) | *Vibrio fischeri* | LuxI/LuxR | Luminescence | Engebrecht *et al*[16] |
| *Vibrio harveyi* | LuxLM/LuxN | Luminescence | Mok *et al*[160] |
| Virulence | Waters and Bassler[161] |
| *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* | LasI/LasR | Virulence and Biofilm | Gambello and Iglewski[162], Gambello *et al*[163], Winson *et al*[164], and Chapon-Hervé *et al*[165] |
| RhlI/RhlR |
| PQS | *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* | PqsABCD/PqsR | QS regulation | Pesci *et al*[166] |
| Pyocyanin | Gallagher *et al*[167] |
| Iron homeostasis | Bredenbruch *et al*[168] and Diggle *et al*[169] |
| Virulence | Gallagher*et al*[167] and Cao *et al*[170] |
| Biofilm | Diggle*et al*[171] |
| IQS | *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* | AmbBCDE/IqsR | Response to stress | Lee *et al*[172] |
| CAI | *Vibrio (cholerae)* | CqsA/CqsS | Virulence | Ng *et al*[173] |
| AI-3 | EHEC O157:H7 | Qse/QseBC | Attachment-effacement | Sperandio *et al*[19], Walters *et al*[21], and Kim *et al*[22] |
| EPEC O26:H11 | Qse/unknown | Unknown | Kim *et al*[22], Kaper and Sperandio[40] |
| AIEC LF82 | Qse/unknown | Unknown | Kim *et al*[22] |
| *Escherichia coli* MG1655 | Unknown | Unknown | Kim *et al*[22] |
| *Escherichia coli* BW25113 | Unknown | Unknown | Kim *et al*[22] |
| *Salmonella enterica* | Qse/unknown | Unknown | Kim *et al*[22], Kaper and Sperandio[40], and Walters and Sperandio[174] |
| *Shigella flexneri* | Qse/unknown | Unknown | Kim *et al*[22], Kaper and Sperandio[40], and Walters and Sperandio[174] |
| *Yersinia sp.* | Qse/unknown | Unknown | Kim *et al*[22], Kaper and Sperandio[40], and Walters and Sperandio[174] |
| Gram + and - | AI-2 | *Vibrio harveyi* | LuxS/LuxPQ | Bioluminescence, TSS, protease | Surette *et al*[24], Mok *et al*[160], and Schauder *et al*[175] |
| *Vibrio cholerae* | LuxS/LuxPQ | Virulence and Biofilm | Schauder *et al*[175], Zhu *et al*[176],Hammer and Bassler[177] |
| *Enterococcus faecalis* | LuxS/LuxPQ | Unknown | Surette *et al*[24], and Schauder *et al*[175] |
| *EHEC* | LuxS/LsrB (?) | Attachment-effacement | Schauder *et al*[175], and Bansal *et al*[178] |
| *Salmonella enterica* | LuxS/LsrB | Pathogenicity and invasion | Miller *et al*[26], Schauder *et al*[175], and Choi *et al*[179] |

AI: Autoinducer; AIEC: Adherent-invasive *Escherichia coli*; AIP: AutoInducer peptides; CAI: Cholera autoinducer-1; EHEC: Enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli*; EPEC: Enteropathogenic *Escherichia coli*; IQS: Integrated quorum sensing; PQS: Pseudomonas quinolone signal; QS: Quorum sensing.

**Table 2 Effects of quorum sensing molecules on different parameters of the intestinal epithelial barrier function**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **QS molecule** | **Effects** | **Ref.** |
| **Effects on the intestinal epithelial migration** | | |
| 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Increased migration at low concentrations (1.5-12 μmol/L) *vs* inhibition at 200 μmol/L | Karlsson *et al*[72] |
| Interaction with IQGAP1 and increase in Rac1/Cdc42 (1.5-200 μmol/L) | Karlsson *et al*[72] |
| **Effects on the intestinal epithelial permeability and intercellular junctions** | | |
| 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Increased permeability to ions and macromolecules (100-400 μmol/L) | Eum *et al*[55], Vikström *et al*[58-60], and Aguanno *et al*[61] |
| Activation of p38 and p42/44 and calcium signaling (100-200 μmol/L) | Vikström *et al*[58-60] |
| Decreased expression levels of tight junction genes (100-400 μmol/L); Disassembly of tight and adherens junctions (modification of their phosphorylation status and involvement of MMP-2 and -3) | Eum *et al*[55], Vikström *et al*[58-60], and Aguanno *et al*[61] |
| Decreased levels of tight junction proteins occludin and tricellulin (100-400 μmol/L) | Eum *et al*[55] |
| Decreased protein levels of extracellular matrix and tight junction proteins (400 μmol/L) | Tao *et al*[62] |
| 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL | No deleterious effects on permeability  Protection of tight junction integrity and maintenance of junctional complexes at the plasma membrane under pro-inflammatory conditions | Landman *et al*[39] and Aguanno *et al*[61] |
| 3-oxo-C14-HSL | Decreased protein levels of extracellular matrix and tight junction proteins (400 μmol/L) | Tao *et al*[62] |
| Indole and indole derivatives | Decreased permeability to ions and increased expression of genes coding tight junction and cytoskeleton proteins | Bansal *et al*[76] and Shimada *et al*[77] |
| Decreased permeability to macromolecules | Venkatesh *et al*[79] |
| Increased transcripts levels of genes coding tight junction proteins | Shin *et al*[78] |
| **Effects on the mucus layer components** | | |
| 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Decreased MUC3 mRNA levels (30 μmol/L) | Taguchi *et al*[70] |
| Decrease in Muc2 production in goblet cell-like cell line (100 μmol/L) *vs* increase in colonic cell line (400 μmol/L) | Tao *et al*[67] |
| Indole | Increased expression of genes involved in the production of mucins | Bansal *et al*[76] |
| **Effects on intestinal epithelial cell viability** | | |
| 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Mitochondrial dysfunction and induction of apoptosis in goblet cell-like cell line (100 μmol/L) and in colonic cell line (30-100 μmol/L) | Tao *et al*[67-69], and Taguchi *et al*[70] |
| Induction of apoptosis, mitochondrial dysfunction, oxidative stress and blocking of cell cycle (400 μmol/L) | Tao *et al*[62] |
| 3-oxo-C14-HSL | Induction of apoptosis, mitochondrial dysfunction, oxidative stress and blocking of cell cycle (400 μmol/L) | Eum *et al*[55], Vikström *et al*[58-60], Aguanno *et al*[61], and Tao *et al*[62] |
| CSF | Reduction of oxidative stress-induced cell death and loss of the epithelial barrier (involving HSP27 and p38/MAPK pathway) | Fujiya *et al*[74] |

CSF: Competence and sporulation factor; HSL: Homoserine lactones; HSP27: Heat shock protein 27; IQGAP1: IQ motif containing GTPase activating protein 1; MAPK: Mitogen-activated protein kinase; MMP-2/-3: Matrix metalloproteinase-2/-3; MUC: Mucin; QS: Quorum sensing; Rac1/Cdc42: Ras-related C3 botulinum toxin substrate 1/cell division control protein 42 homolog.

**Table 3 Effects of quorum sensing molecules on inflammation in different cell types**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cell type** | **QS molecule** | **Effects** | **Ref.** |
| **Effects on innate immune cells** | | | |
| Macrophages | 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Anti-inflammatory effects on IL-12 and TNFα (0.1-100 μmol/L) | Telford *et al*[94] |
| Increased TLR2 and TLR4 expression and decreased TNFα production (1-100 μmol/L) | Bao *et al*[180] |
| Pro-apoptotic effects (12-50 μmol/L) | Tateda *et al*[102] |
| Increased phagocytosis (100 μmol/L) | Vikström *et al*[107] |
| NF-κB inhibition (4.7 μmol/L) | Kravchenko *et al*[104] |
| Dose-dependent anti-inflammatory effects (1-50 μmol/L) | Kravchenko *et al*[105] |
| Involvement in p38/MAPK signaling (1-100 μmol/L) | Kravchenko *et al*[105], Vikström *et al*[107], Glucksam-Galnoy *et al*[181] |
| Activation of the Unfolded Protein Response (6.25-100 μmol/L) | Zhang *et al*[182] |
| Change in cell volume and shape (10-50 μmol/L) | Holm *et al*[183] |
| Indole derivatives | Prevents the induction of pro-inflammatory cytokines | Krishnan *et al*[184] |
| AI-2 | Induction of the expression of cytokines, chemokines and TNFSF9 | Li *et al*[41] |
| Monocytes | AI-3 and analogues | Increase in IL-8 secretion | Kim *et al*[22] |
| Dendritic cells | 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Pro-apoptotic effects (100 μmol/L) | Boontham *et al*[185] |
| No effect on IL-10 secretion (5-30 μmol/L) | Skindersoe *et al*[100] |
| Increased IL-10 production (5-100 μmol/L) | Li *et al*[99] |
| Decreased IL-12 secretion (5-100 μmol/L) | Li *et al*[99] and Skindersoe *et al*[100] |
| Increased induction of Treg (5-100 μmol/L) | Li *et al*[99] |
| Neutrophils | 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Chemoattraction (0.01-100 μmol/L) | Karlsson *et al*[186] and Zimmermann *et al*[187] |
| Activation of MAPK signaling (12-50 μmol/L) | Tateda *et al*[102] and Singh *et al*[188] |
| Increased phagocytosis (10 μmol/L) | Wagner *et al*[189] |
| Pro-apoptotic effects (12-50 μmol/L) | Tateda *et al*[102] |
| **Effects on adaptive immune cells** | | | |
| T cells | 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Inhibition of proliferation and activation (0.1-100 μmol/L) | Telford *et al*[94], Boontham *et al*[185], Gupta *et al*[190], and Hooi *et al*[191] |
| Activation of naïve T cells towards Th1 phenotype (5 μmol/L) | Smith *et al*[95] |
| Decreased secretion of IL-4 and IFN-γ (5 μmol/L) | Ritchie *et al*[96] |
| Induction of apoptosis *via* the mitochondria pathway (100 μmol/L) | Jacobi *et al*[101] |
| Induction of Treg (1-50 μmol/L) | Li *et al*[99] |
| Indole derivatives | Re-programming into tolerogenic T cells | Cervantes-Barragan *et al*[192] |
| Promotion of differentiation towards a regulatory type 1 phenotype | Aoki *et al*[193] |
| B cells | 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Modulation of immunoglobulin production (0.1-100 μmol/L) | Telford *et al*[94] and Ritchie *et al*[194] |
| ILC | Indole derivatives | Promotion of IL-22 production | Zelante *et al*[83] |
| **Effects on epithelial cells** | | | |
| Pulmonary tract epithelial cells | 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Induction of IL-8 production and NF-κB activation (100 μmol/L) | Smith *et al*[195] |
| Increased expression levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines | Jahoor *et al*[115] |
| Intestinal epithelial cells | 3-oxo-C12-HSL | Mitigation (1-10 μmol/L) or aggravation (> 50 μmol/L) of IL-8 expression induction | Peyrottes *et al*[92] |
| 3-oxo-C12:2-HSL | Attenuation of the induction of IL-8 expression (5-50 μmol/L) | Landman *et al*[39] |

AI: Autoinducer; B cells: Lymphocytes B; HSL: Homoserine lactones; IFN-γ: Interferon-γ; IL: Interleukin; ILC: Innate lymphoid cells; MAPK: Mitogen-activated protein kinase; NF-κB: Nuclear factor-kappa B; QS: Quorum sensing; T cells: Lymphocytes T; Th: T helper; TLR: Toll like receptors; TNFα: Tumor necrosis factor-α; Treg: Regulatory T cells.



Published by **Baishideng Publishing Group Inc**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA

**Telephone:** +1-925-3991568

**E-mail:** bpgoffice@wjgnet.com

**Help Desk:** https://www.f6publishing.com/helpdesk

https://www.wjgnet.com



**© 2021 Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. All rights reserved.**