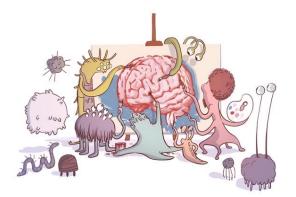
Annual meeting of the Pacific Northwest Neuropsychological Society, SAT March 9, 2024

Interactions between the Gut Microbiome and the Brain

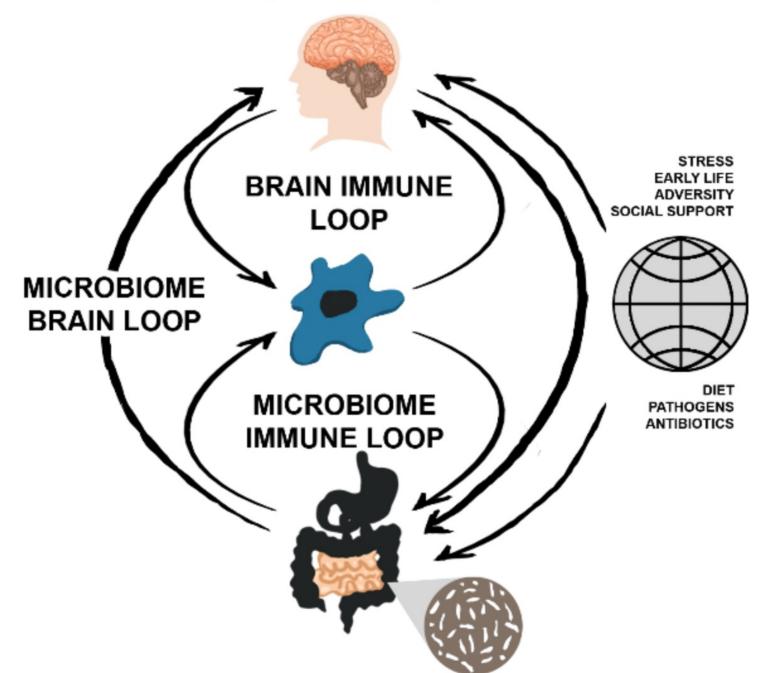
Emeran A. Mayer, MD



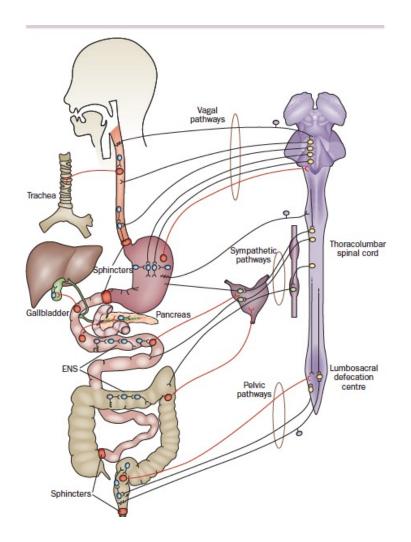
emeranmayer.com UCLACNS.org



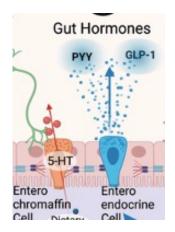
GUT FEELINGS, EMOTIONS, COGNITIONS



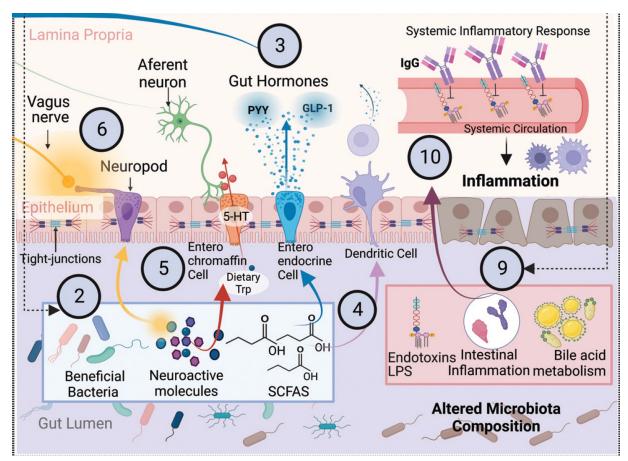
The Gut and the Central Nervous System are Closely Connected



The Gut Connectome – The Second Most Complex Organ in the Body



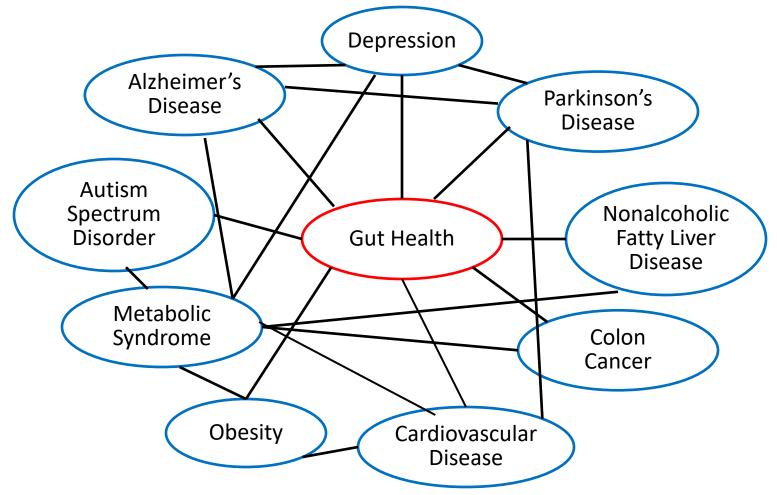
- 70% of immune system
- Enteric nervous system: 150 M neurons
- Glial and epithelial cells
- Extrinsic innervation
- Endocrine system
- Inhabitated by 100 T microbes



The Healthy Gut:

Coordinated interactions of neurons, immune cells, endocrine cells and luminal microbial organisms ("the gut connectome")

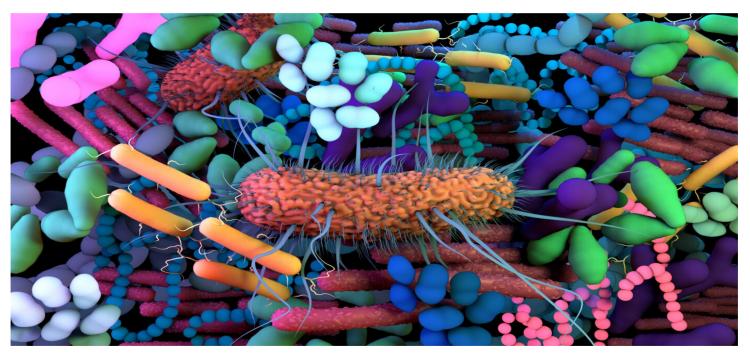
Gut Health is at the Center of the Chronic Non-Communicable Disease Network



The Mind Gut Immune Connection, 2021

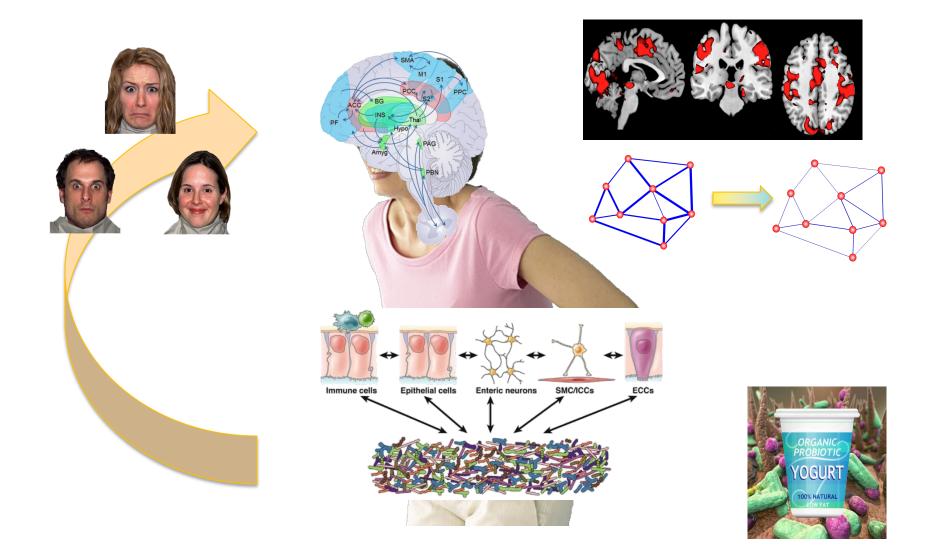
Brain Gut Microbiome 101

The Human Gut Microbiome



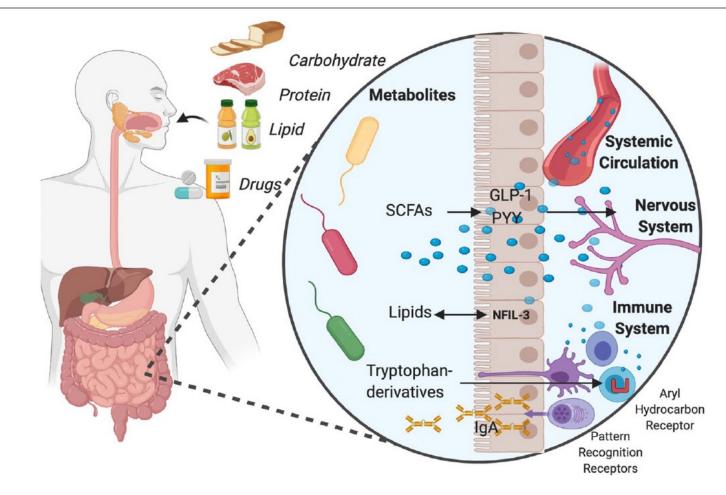
- Highest density of microbes in the human colon
- 100 trillion microorganisms (bacteria, archae, fungi), 40% of number of human cells; 10x > than neurons in the brain
- Holobiont Human organism and microbial species have lived in symbiosis for a million years
- Mutually beneficial interactions between host and gut microbiome influence human physiology, metabolism, nutrition and immune function

Microbes in the Gut Can Talk to the Brain



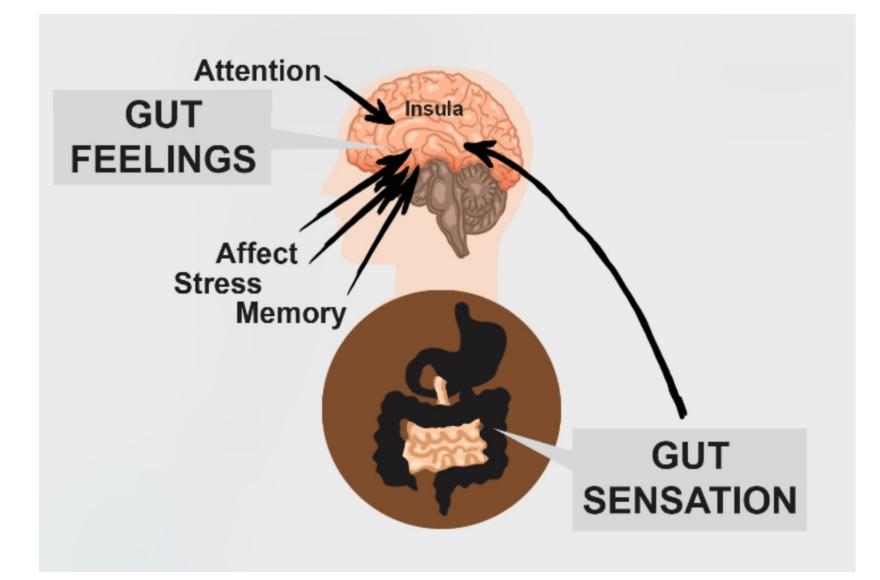
Tillisch, Mayer et al, Gastroenterology 2013

Biological Language 2.0: The Microbiome Translates Food Components into Thousands of Biologically Active Metabolites



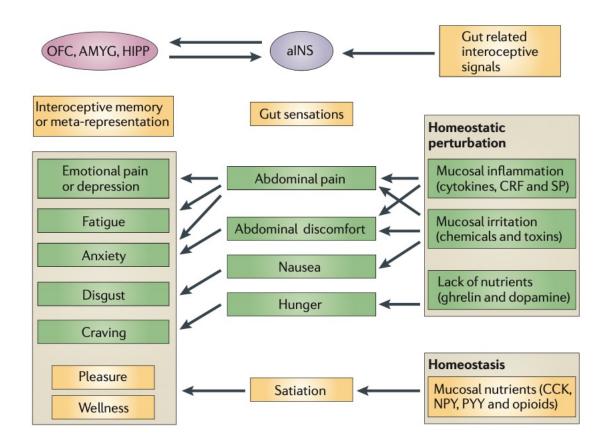
Cox et al. Genome Medicine 2022

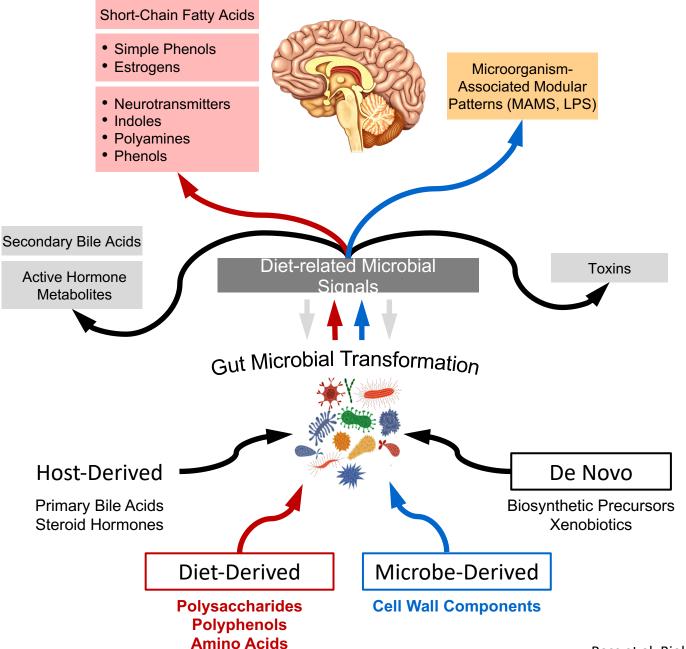
How the Gut talks to the Brain



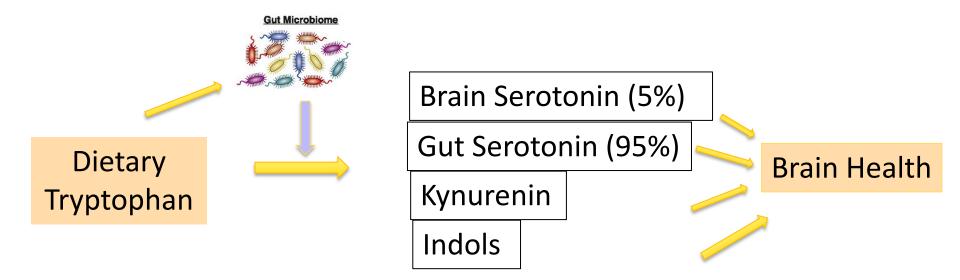
Gut feelings: the emerging biology of gut-brain communication

Emeran A. Mayer

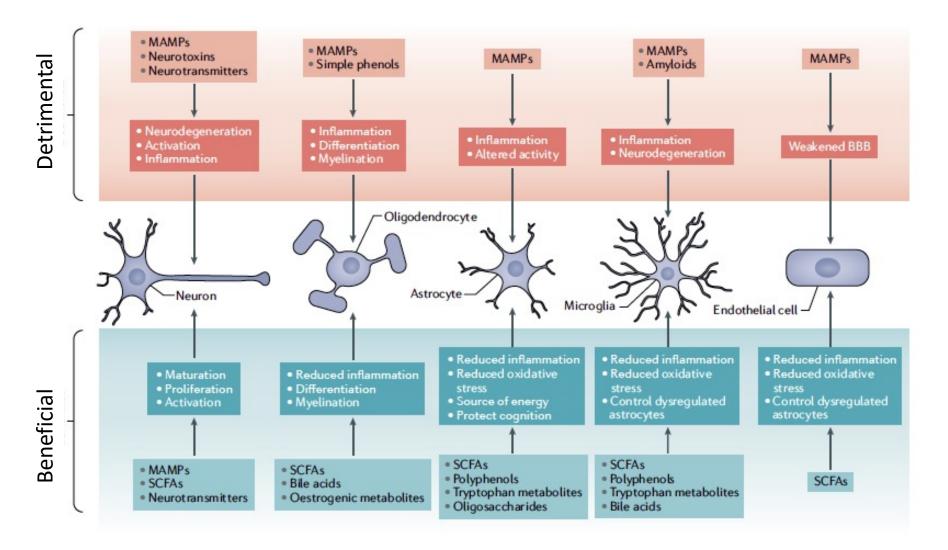




Example Tryptophan: The Microbiome Turns Dietary Tryptophan into Brain Modulating Molecules



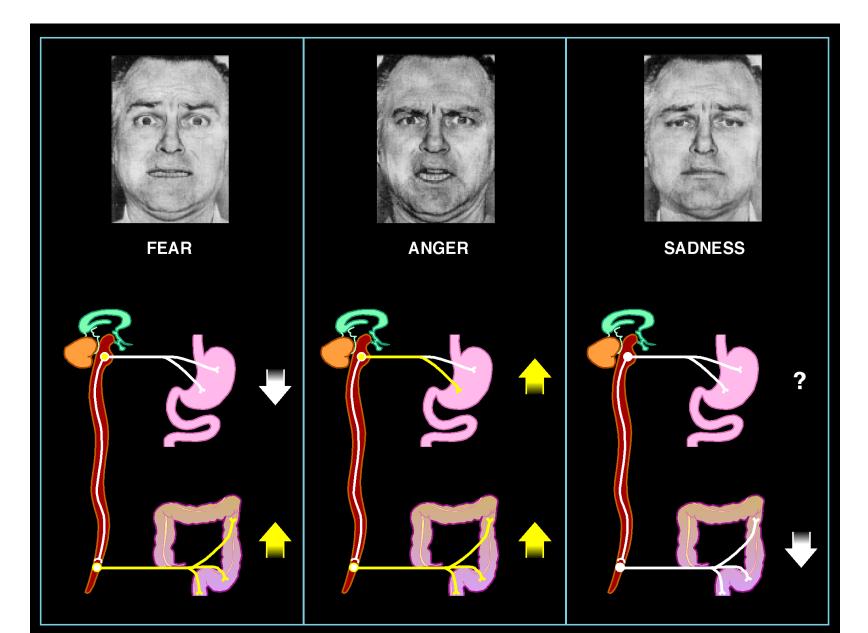
The Yin and Yang of Gut Microbe to Brain Signaling -Inflammatory and Antiinflammatory Influences on the Brain



Needham BD et al, Nature Reviews Neurosci, 2020

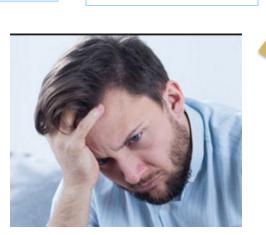
How the Brain talks to the Gut

The Brain Talks to the Gut



Stress and Emotion Modulation of Gut Microbial Behavior

Psychosocial Stress



Anxiety, fear

Anger

Sadness

Stress-induced changes of microbial environment:

- GI motility (regional alterations in intestinal transit)
- Intestinal fluid and mucus secretion (biofilm?)
- Gastric/bile acid secretion
- Paneth cell secretion (antimicrobials)
- Enteroendocrine cell function
- Intraintestinal pH
- Immune modulation
- Epithelial and blood brain barrier permeability



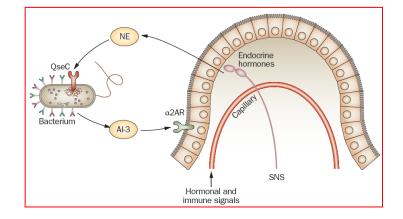
Rhee et al. NRGH 2009

Stress and Emotion Modulation of Gut Microbial Behavior



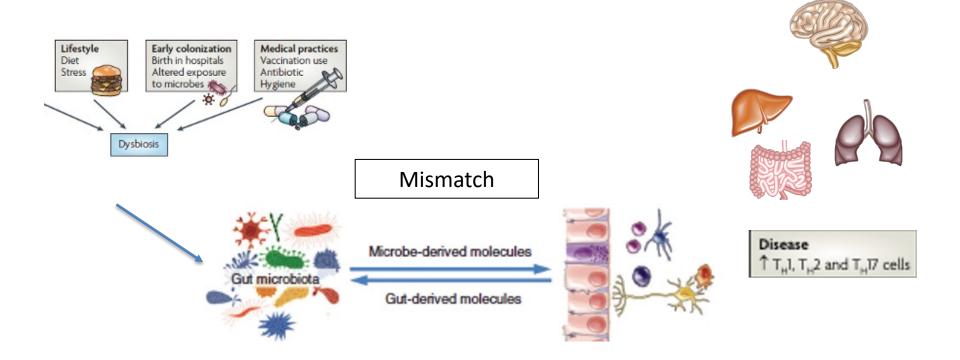
Direct stress-induced effects on microbiota:

- Noradrenergic signaling
- Stress induced signaling molecules released into gut lumen (5-HT, opioids, others?)

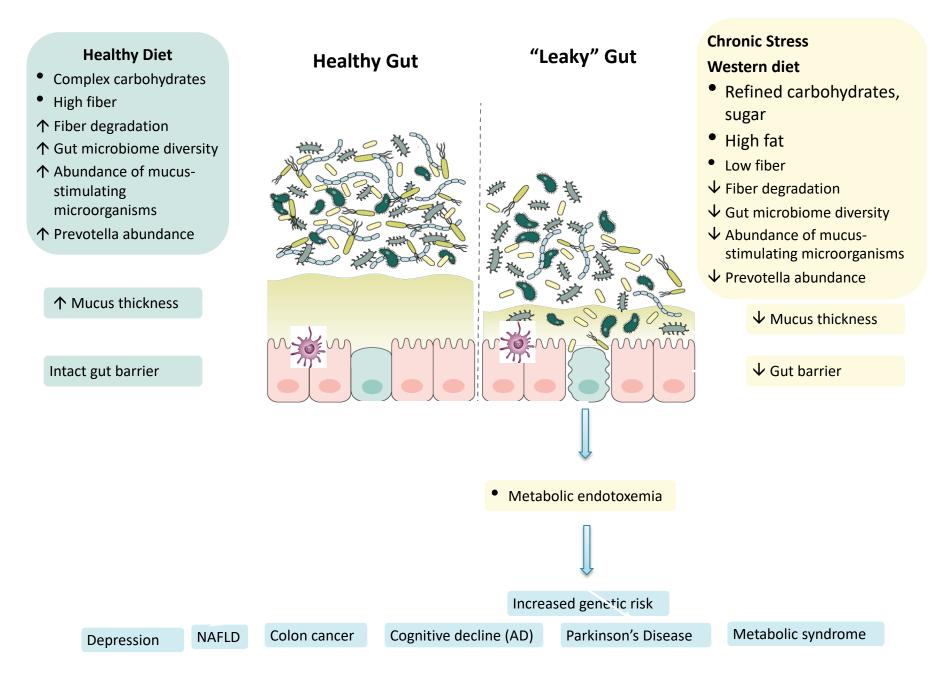


The Influence of Lifestyle on BGM Interactions

Poor Gut Health Can Have Widespread Effects on the Body



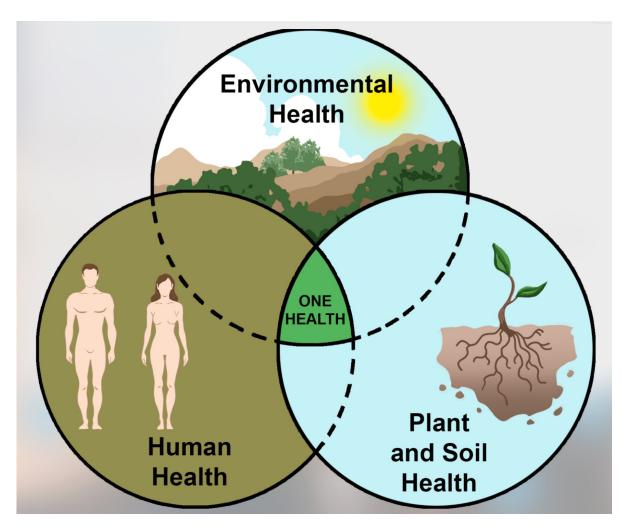
Immune system activation, metabolic endotoxemia; disease in vulnerable individuals



Mayer, Osadchyi, Gupta, Nature Rev Gastro Hepatol 2020

Diet and BGM Interactions

What is the Relationship Between Gut Health & the Health of the Planet?



Mayer EA. The Gut Immune Connection, 2021

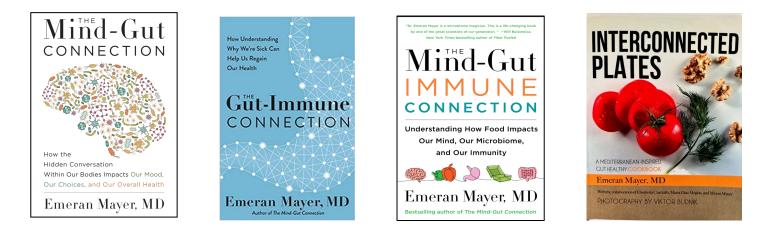
Is Microbiome Science Causing a Fundamental Transformation of Our View of Health and Wellness?



Science is a series of peaceful interludes punctuated by intellectually violent revolutions ... in each of which one conceptual world view is replaced by another..

The Structure of Scientific Revolutions, Thomas S. Kuhn, 1962

Thank You!



Learn much more about Brain Gut Microbiome Immune Interactions at:

emeranmayer.com

Sign up for:

• *the weekly* **Mind Gut Connection Newsletter**