



*“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”*

[Benjamin Franklin](#), American polymath

---

### The World through the Eyes of IPA

IPA is coming to a country near you. Promise!

- [George Paraskevagos](#), IPA Executive Director





### IPA Webinar in September

The third webinar in the new IPA series is slated for September 15<sup>th</sup> 2020. Based on the overwhelmingly positive response to the first two in the series (Immune Support and the Updated Taxonomy of Lactobacillus), you won't want to miss it. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for the stimulating agenda and expert speaker schedule in the August edition of *IPA inSight* newsletter.

*This webinar series is a free service produced and funded by the International Probiotics Association and provided by William Reed Business Media Ltd.*



### IPA Responds to “60 Minutes” Video

A widely viewed television program named “60 Minutes” recently posed the question “[Do Probiotics Actually Do Anything?](#)” To watch the 13- minute piece which aired on June 28, 2020 access it [here](#).

IPA with its Scientific Committee immediately addressed the concerns and inconsistencies in the segment.

#### Several of the points refuted are in regards to:

- Evidence for the benefit of probiotics in antibiotic-associated diarrhea
- Evidence for reduction in allergies
- Differentiation in placebo effect
- Controversial results with a commercial product
- Efficacy and safety of probiotics in infant formula

**Regulation** is also a controversial topic in the program. To refute the statement that probiotics are “not tightly regulated,” IPA discusses the regulatory models used in various countries.

In conclusion, IPA believes that the well-intended program falls short.

Read [IPA’s official response](#).

---

## "For those saying there are no clinical trials to support probiotics, have a seat" – IPA Chief

In the past few weeks, there have been misinformation regarding probiotics not having science. There are over 1,600 human clinical trials on probiotics listed in ClinicalTrials.gov and the WHO's trial database, according to a new analysis that seeks to address the misconception that there is no human data around probiotics.

Get the record straight, and read the IPA co-funded article [HERE!](#)

---

### High quality industry probiotic clinical research?

**Disclaimer:** *This post is roughly double my self-imposed word limit, but I felt this is an important topic to bring up; it has surfaced in many recent discussions and has been rattling around in my head for a few weeks now. I hope it is worth your time to read. :o)*

Any self-aware probiotic industry scientist knows that they are tainted. They are reminded of this perhaps daily. Despite having been groomed in the academic arena, the choice to move to a more practical application of science in a company means their research now has a 'black mark'. I would argue that most (responsible) industry scientists are far too aware of this and go above and beyond their means to find a balance and limit the influence of these biases when possible. It is a difficult line to walk when one has dedicated but limited resources with which to support a product dossier for a particular market with high quality, ethically sound, and robust research. This requires not only strong academic partnerships and a dedicated vision on the part of the company, but also a commitment on the highest corporate levels. Yet... science actually says that they can be successful!

Jump with me down the rabbit hole for a moment. A recent study entitled, "Global analysis of probiotic clinical trials", estimates that in the last two decades, [33.1% of clinical probiotic trials are funded by industry](#). In the case of probiotics in the management of acute diarrhea, a systematic review found that there was [no significant association between the source of funding and clinical outcomes](#) ( $P=0.491$ ). RCTs on probiotic infant formula also concluded that the [source of funding did not influence outcomes in favour of the sponsors' products](#). Industry-funded probiotic research has also been reported to have [higher quality](#) and [a lower risk of most sources of bias](#) than non-industry funded research. Of course there is the other side which is all too-often publicized, but it is worth a moment to seek the balanced viewpoint.

Historically, scientists who wanted to explore the natural world and answer big questions of their days (or their patrons) would be [supported by the rich](#). This practice had its obvious problems; a key promoter and champion of experimental science, Sir Francis Bacon, urged radical changes in the funding system of the day and succeeded in the push for more formalized scientific practices. Nowadays, the need for funding in research becomes a significant selective pressure on academics, and going forward a dilution of industry financing through an increased level of sponsorship from public sources seems unlikely. A candid 10-minute post by Professor Colin Hill on ["Academics working with industry"](#) provides one academic's perspective on how to work with industry.

The battle for funding is unfortunately still a sizable part of what it takes to get science done today. But take heart all robust science champions! You no longer have to bend the knee and present wondrous gifts to satisfy the whims of your capricious patrons to further the scientific cause. Industry funding can be a responsible option if you are so inclined.

Until August,



*Jesse*





### Chill Out with Popsicles

Popsicles made with [kombucha](#), [kefir](#) and [yogurt](#) may boost the probiotic content in your family's diet. Plus they are incredibly easy—and fun—to make. Read [IPA's new blog](#) for yummy recipes and quick facts about possible health benefits.



### Taxonomy, Updated

or [here](#) and [here](#).”

Microbiologist Dr. Bruno Pot explains the why and how of the changes to the Lactobacillus classifications. “If you want to know the new genus name of your old bug, you can do it [here](#),



### Respiratory Microbes and Lung Inflammation

Probiotics have been shown to be of some benefit with viral infections of the upper respiratory tract. Read [IPA's blog](#) about microbes and relevant research on the COVID-19 virus.



### COVID-19: A Role for Probiotics in Immunity?

And in case you missed it, another recent article by IPA dives into the evidence for probiotic benefit in viruses, predominantly influenza.



Vitafoods Asia has been cancelled, but will return next year on September 22-23, 2021.



With the current world situation, SupplySide West schedule for October 27-30, 2020 has been cancelled, but will return next year on October 2021. In the mean time, please stay put for an alternative 2020 event.



In light of the ongoing uncertainty around the COVID-19 public health crisis, the IPA World Congress + Probiota Americas 2020 has been cancelled, but will return June 16-18, 2021 in Washington, D.C.

George Paraskevacos, IPA's Executive Director, commented:  
"Until then, IPA will continue to be the Global Voice of Probiotics® during these challenging times and wish our members and industry friend's good health."

For more information, please click [HERE](#).

---

## Coming Up?

*Nothing is certain in these times, but we continue to hope.*

### Conferences, Events & Shows

#### [Probiota Asia](#)

November 11-13, 2020

Shanghai, China

<https://www.probiotaasia.com/>

#### [Food ingredients + Natural ingredients Europe](#)

December 1-3, 2020

Frankfurt, Germany

<https://www.figlobal.com/fieurope/>

#### [Probiota Americas + World Congress](#)

June 16-18, 2021

Washington DC, United States

<https://www.probiotaamericas.com/>

### Digital Events

#### [Vitafoods Virtual Expo](#)

NEW interactive event for the entire nutraceuticals community

September 7-11, 2020

<https://bit.ly/3fUswPm>

#### IPA Third FREE Webinar

September 15, 2020 11 AM EDT

Registration link : coming soon !

#### IPA ECC Webinar

*101 Probiotics*

September, 2020

Registration link : coming soon !

#### IPA Fourth & Final FREE Webinar

October 13, 2020 11 AM EDT

Registration link : coming soon !

#### [IPA World Congress + Probiota Americas: Digital Summit](#)

November 10-12, 2020

<https://www.probiotaamericas.com/>

---

IPA invites you to join our global network. Learn the [10 Key Reasons to Join the IPA Community](#): In addition to meeting interesting people, you gain a stake in standards, regulations, IPA elections, and promotion of synbiotics across the globe. And as a bonus, IPA's logo is yours to splash out your website with excellence.



### One last thing

Covid-19 remains a formidable threat across the globe.

Until the ultimate prevention arrives as a vaccine, wear a mask and social distance.

And as always: exercise regularly, eat healthfully and enrich your gut microbes with [synbiotics](#).

**Join today!**

---

We'd love to hear from you.



---

*Copyright © 2020 International Probiotics Association #38 All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list