The virome of the human gut: metagenomic analysis of changes associated with diet

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Diet, Genetic Factors, and the Gut Microbiome in Crohn's Disease

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COMBO: Cross-Sectional Study of Diet and Stool Microbiome

CAFE: Controlled Feeding Experiment

Study virome under controlled feeding

COMBO

97 subjects, assess diet with food frequency questionnaire, 24 hr. recall questionnaire454 tag sequencing of 16S regions



COMBO (selected)



Conclusions from COMBO

•At an FDR of 25%, ~30-40 nutrients correlated with changes in bacterial populations

•Correlations between food groups and Pyla detected, but considerable divergence among deeper taxa

•Correlated effects on microbiome among BMI, dietary fat, and percent calories from saturated fatty acids

•Though effects were significant, measured dietary effects accounted for a small fraction of the total variation among subjects

Follow up in CAFÉ: 1) fat versus fiber, 2) total calories

CAFE1: Controlled Feeding Experiment

- 10 healthy volunteers
- Randomized to high fat vs. low fat diet
- 10 day inpatient stay with same meals each day
- Caloric intake adjusted to maintain current weight
- Daily stool sample collection
- Rectal biopsies on days 1 and 10
- Sitz marker study to assess transit time
- Sequencing: 16S tags, shot-gun metagenomic sequencing of total DNA and viral DNA, targeted analysis of Archaea and Eukarya

Longitudinal analysis of microbiome under controlled feeding



Unweighted Unifrac

Graphic from QIIME

Conclusions from CAFÉ 1 and 2

- •Inter-individual variation predominates.
- •Bacterial populations change within 24 hours of initiating controlled diet.
- •High fat versus fiber has detectable effect (CAFE1), increased calories has detectable effect (CAFE2).
- •Considerable longitudinal drift during stay in hospital in all groups. Specific vitamins? Hospital environment?

Approaches to virome analysis

Multiple possible goals:

•Characterize overall viral communities

•Hunt for new viruses linked to disease

•Characterize populations of a specific virus

Viral Analysis on CAFE1 samples

- Purification of viral particles: filtration, CsCl gradient, DNAse digestion.
- Quantitative recovery of phage λ analyzed as a control
- Greatly reduced 16S rDNA
- Multiple displacement amplification
- Shot-gun sequencing, 454 Titanium, 992,309 reads, median length 380 nt

PID	Day 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Diet
2011	Х							Х	Low Fat
2012		Х					Х	Х	Low Fat
2016	Х	Х					Х	Х	High Fat
2020	Х	Х					Х	Х	Low Fat
2019	Х						Х		High Fat
1013	Х								Ad lib



Sybr gold staining

10¹⁰ phage per gram of stool

Assembly of viral sequence reads

- Newbler assembler
 40bp overlap
 90% sequence identity
- 7,175 contigs >500 bp
- 86.6% of reads in contigs
- Custom code to allow circular assembly
- PHACCS: median species richness 44 (range=19-785)







Gut virome characterization



Also found 22 CRISPR arrays, one example of CRISPR spacer targeting another virus in the same individual 14

Comparative metagenomics: viruses are parasites









Interpersonal variation

- Rows: samples
- Columns: contigs
- Clustering by individual



Variation associated with subject and diet

- People are more similar to themselves
- People on the same diet become more similar over time
- Specify the contigs involved



P values by label permutation

Procrustes analysis: covariation of host and viral communities



What determines phage abundance?

- Abundance of host?
- Lysogenic induction?



Host abundance

In some cases the abundance of phage does not correlate with apparent abundance of host: possibly indicative of differential induction?

Summary

- Variation in both bacterial and viral communities dominated by interpersonal variation
- Dietary intervention associated with altered composition of both bacterial and viral communities
- Metagenomic analysis over six subjects yielded 7000 viral contigs; 19-785 types per sample (minimum estimate)
- Both expected and novel functionality, one example being viral CRISPRs targeting other viruses

Credits

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