

# Investigating the Relationship between Gut Microbiota and the Development of Atopic Dermatitis in Dogs

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## Introduction

Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a common allergic skin disease in dogs, characterized by itching, inflammation, and recurrent skin infections. Recent research has suggested that the composition and diversity of the gut microbiota may play a significant role in the development of AD. The gut microbiota is a complex community of microorganisms that reside in the gastrointestinal tract, and it has been shown to be closely linked to the immune system, metabolism, and overall health of the host. In the case of AD, alterations in the gut microbiota may affect the immune system's response to allergens, leading to an increased risk of developing the disease. The investigation of the relationship between the gut microbiota and AD in dogs may provide insight into the underlying mechanisms of the disease and lead to the development of new treatment options. Several studies have explored the gut microbiota's role in AD in dogs, using various techniques such as metagenomics, microbial culture, and histopathology. These studies have identified potential changes in the gut microbiota of dogs with AD, including alterations in bacterial diversity, abundance of specific bacterial taxa, and functional pathways. However, further research is needed to establish a causal relationship between the gut microbiota and AD in dogs and to identify potential therapeutic interventions based on these findings [1].

## Description

Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a chronic inflammatory skin disease that affects both humans and dogs. It is characterized by pruritus (itching), erythema (redness), and skin lesions that can lead to secondary bacterial or fungal infections. The prevalence of AD in dogs has been reported to be between 3% and 15%, making it one of the most common skin diseases in dogs. The etiology of AD is multifactorial, and it is believed to involve complex interactions between genetic, environmental, and immunological factors. The immune system plays a crucial role in the development of AD, as it is responsible for recognizing and responding to potential allergens. In individuals with AD, the immune system overreacts to these allergens, leading to chronic inflammation and tissue damage. Recent research has suggested that alterations in the gut microbiota may contribute to the development of AD in dogs. The gut microbiota is a complex ecosystem of microorganisms that reside in the gastrointestinal tract and play a crucial role in maintaining host health [2].

Dysbiosis, or an imbalance in the gut microbiota, has been linked to a variety of diseases, including inflammatory bowel disease, obesity, and autoimmune disorders. Several studies have investigated the relationship

between the gut microbiota and AD in dogs. These studies have used various techniques such as metagenomics, microbial culture, and histopathology to identify potential changes in the gut microbiota of dogs with AD. However, further research is needed to establish a causal relationship between the gut microbiota and AD in dogs and to develop targeted therapeutic interventions based on these findings [3].

One proposed mechanism linking the gut microbiota to AD in dogs is the gut-skin axis. The gut and the skin are both barriers that protect the body from the external environment. The gut microbiota plays a vital role in maintaining the integrity of the gut barrier and modulating the immune system's response to potential allergens. Alterations in the gut microbiota can compromise the gut barrier's integrity and lead to the translocation of bacteria and bacterial components into the bloodstream, triggering an immune response. This immune response can then manifest in the skin as AD. Another proposed mechanism is the role of the gut microbiota in modulating the host's immune system. The gut microbiota is involved in the development and maturation of the immune system, particularly in the gut-associated lymphoid tissue. Alterations in the gut microbiota can lead to imbalances in immune cell populations and dysregulation of immune responses, potentially contributing to the development of AD [4].

To date, several studies have investigated the gut microbiota's role in AD in dogs, with varying results. Some studies have reported changes in the abundance and diversity of specific bacterial taxa, while others have not found significant differences. The differences in study findings may be due to variations in study design, sample size, and methodology. Overall, investigating the relationship between the gut microbiota and AD in dogs is an area of active research, with the potential to provide novel insights into the disease's etiology and treatment. Understanding the complex interactions between the gut microbiota and the immune system may lead to the development of targeted interventions that address the root cause of the disease and improve outcomes for affected dogs [5].

## Conclusion

In conclusion, atopic dermatitis (AD) is a common allergic skin disease in dogs that is characterized by itching, inflammation, and recurrent skin infections. The etiology of AD is multifactorial, and recent research has suggested that alterations in the gut microbiota may contribute to its development. The gut microbiota is a complex community of microorganisms that play a crucial role in maintaining host health and modulating the immune system's response to potential allergens. Several studies have investigated the relationship between the gut microbiota and AD in dogs, with varying results. However, the proposed mechanisms linking the gut microbiota to AD include the gut-skin axis and the role of the gut microbiota in modulating the host's immune system. Further research is needed to establish a causal relationship between the gut microbiota and AD in dogs and to develop targeted therapeutic interventions based on these findings.

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Received: 13 March 2023, Manuscript No. jvst-23-96026; Editor Assigned: 15 March 2023, PreQC No. P-96026; Reviewed: 29 March 2023, QC No. Q-96026; Revised: 04 April 2023, Manuscript No. R-96026; Published: 12 April 2023, DOI:10.37421/2157-7579.2023.14.173

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**How to cite this article:** Hogenesch, Harm. "Investigating the Relationship between Gut Microbiota and the Development of Atopic Dermatitis in Dogs." *J Vet Sci Techno* 14 (2023): 173.