

COMPARISON OF THE PRODUCTION OF SHORT CHAIN FATTY ACIDS (SCFA) BETWEEN PATIENTS WITH INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE AND HEALTHY INDIVIDUALS

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Poster

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A Brazilian study of 94 IBD patients and 63 healthy controls found significantly higher fecal short-chain fatty acid concentrations in IBD patients across all measured SCFAs.

KEY POINTS

- Fecal SCFA levels were significantly elevated in IBD patients compared to healthy controls for acetic acid (0.32 ± 0.18 vs 0.12 ± 0.11 , $p < 0.0001$), propionic acid (0.24 ± 0.10 vs 0.15 ± 0.09 , $p < 0.0001$), butyric acid (0.19 ± 0.11 vs 0.39 ± 0.25 , $p < 0.0001$), and total SCFA (0.75 ± 0.32 vs 0.39 ± 0.25 , $p < 0.0001$).
- The study used gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry to analyze fecal samples from participants who had not used antibiotics, prebiotics, probiotics, or symbiotics in the preceding 4 weeks.
- The authors hypothesize that elevated fecal SCFA in IBD may reflect impaired intestinal absorption due to inflammation, and suggest blood SCFA measurement would be needed to confirm this interpretation.
- This work addresses a gap in IBD microbiota research, where SCFA profiles remain understudied despite extensive investigation of intestinal microbiota composition.

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