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Summary

# A GUT MICROBIOME-DERIVED RISK SCORE IS ASSOCIATED WITH FUTURE CANCER DIAGNOSIS IN A DUTCH POPULATION-BASED COHORT

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**A 28-species gut microbiome risk score developed from pre-diagnostic stool samples was independently associated with future cancer risk in a Dutch population cohort with up to 10 years follow-up.**

## KEY POINTS

- Among 5,997 adults from the LifeLines Biobank, 245 developed cancer during follow-up (median 7 years, maximum 10 years) while 5,752 remained cancer-free.
- The microbiome risk score was associated with incident cancer (HR=1.60, P<0.001) after adjusting for age, sex, BMI, smoking, baseline disease status, diet, and Bristol stool scale.
- The score was associated with multiple cancer types including respiratory, skin, male reproductive, and gastrointestinal cancers, suggesting the association is not confined to gastrointestinal malignancies.
- The score distinguished prevalent cancer from cancer-free controls in external validation data (P<0.001) and in an independent Finnish cohort (FinnRisk).
- The score showed no detectable associations with non-cancer diseases at baseline or with future development of cardiovascular, immune-mediated inflammatory diseases, or obesity.

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