An Update on the Gut Microbiome and the Use of Probiotics for Disease Prevention in Preterm Infants

Hyun Ju Lee^{*}

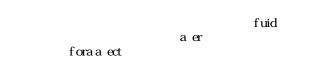
*Corresponding author: Hyun Ju Lee, Department of Pediatrics, Hanyang University Seoul Hospital, 17 Haengdang-dong, Seongdong-gu, Seoul 133-792, Korea, Tel: 82-2-2290-8399; E-mail: blesslee77@hanyang.ac.kr

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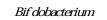
Abstract

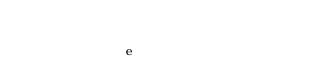
Very low birth weight infants (VLBWIs) are at high risk for inflammatory diseases including necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC) or neonatal sepsis, which are primary causes of neonatal mortality. The intestinal microbiota plays an essential role in maintaining local immune homeostasis and enhancing the intestinal barrier in preterm infants; however, appropriate intestinal colonization with normal flora after birth is interrupted by immature













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