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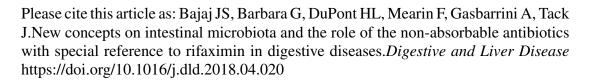
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New concepts on intestinal microbiota and the role of the non-absorbable antibiotics

with special reference to rifaximin in digestive diseases

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Abstract

Digestive diseases are a broad range of chronic disorders that substantially and negatively impact

the patients' quality of life. Here, we review our current understanding on the pathophysiology of

hepatic encephalopathy, irritable bowel syndrome, and diverticular disease, with a special focus

on the gut microbiota composition associated with these disorders. Furthermore, we review the

current clinical practise for their therapeutic treatments, including probiotics, diet change, non-

adsorbable disaccharides, and antibiotics. We highlight that broad-spectrum non-adsorbable

antibiotics, such as rifaximin, are quite effective and safe for the treatment of all essayed digestive

diseases.

1

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