

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S1590-8658(18)30717-5
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dld.2018.04.020>
Reference: YDLD 3738

To appear in: *Digestive and Liver Disease*

Received date: 19-10-2017
Accepted date: 17-4-2018

Please cite this article as: Bajaj JS, Barbara G, DuPont HL, Mearin F, Gasbarrini A, Tack J. New concepts on intestinal microbiota and the role of the non-absorbable antibiotics with special reference to rifaximin in digestive diseases. *Digestive and Liver Disease* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dld.2018.04.020>

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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.

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