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A Metabolic Pattern of Influenza A Virus Infected *Sus scrofa*: Perturbations on Eicosanoids and Gut Metabolism

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Introduction:

- Acute infections of the upper respiratory tract are associated with 4 million deaths per year one of the most frequently causes of death world wide¹.
- **Influenza A virus** infections in combination with secondary bacterial (*S. aureus*, *S. pneumoniae*) infections can lead to even higher mortality rates.
- The **pig** as a new animal model is **more close to humans** (microbiome, genetics, immune system, organ structure and function²) compared to mouse or cell culture experiments.

→ **Hypothesis I: Are there infection-related perturbations in the pig fecal metabolome?**

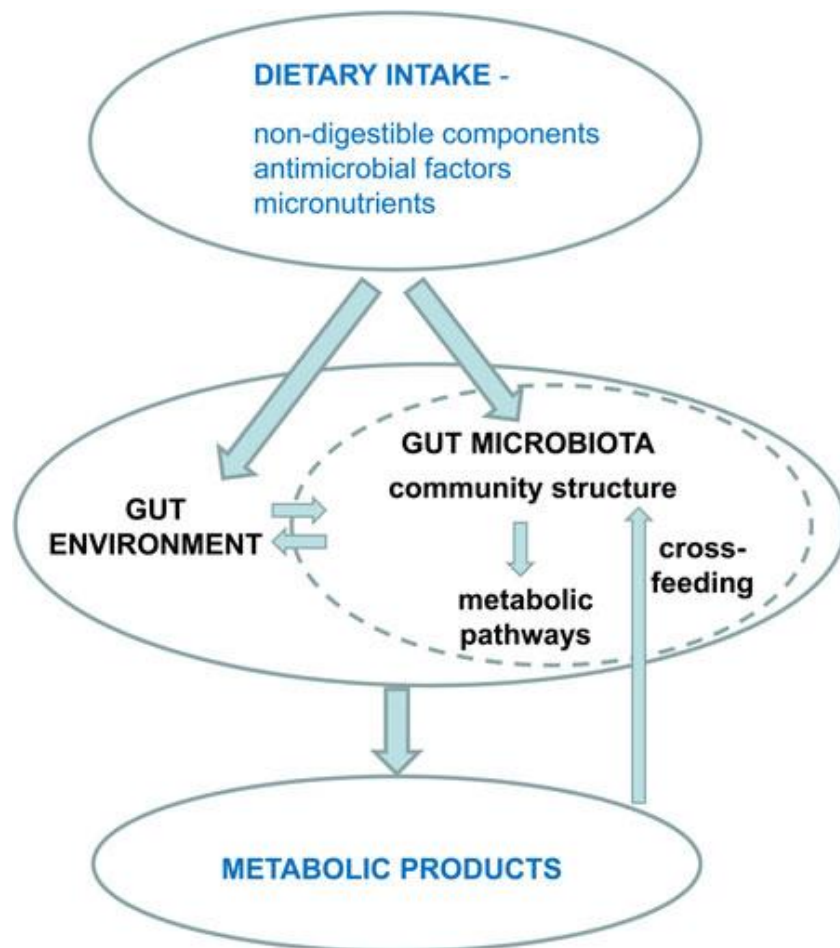
→ **Hypothesis II: Is the eicosanoid profile altered in infected pigs?**

¹ Walker CL, Rudan I, Liu L *et al.* Global burden of childhood pneumonia and diarrhoea. *Lancet* 381(9875), 1405-1416 (2013).

² Meurens F, Summerfield A, Nauwynck H, Saif L, Gerdtts V. The pig: a model for human infectious diseases. *Trends Microbiol* 20(1), 50-57 (2012).

³ Kamada N, Seo SU, Chen GY, Nunez G. Role of the gut microbiota in immunity and inflammatory disease. *Nat Rev Immunol* 13(5), 321-335 (2013).

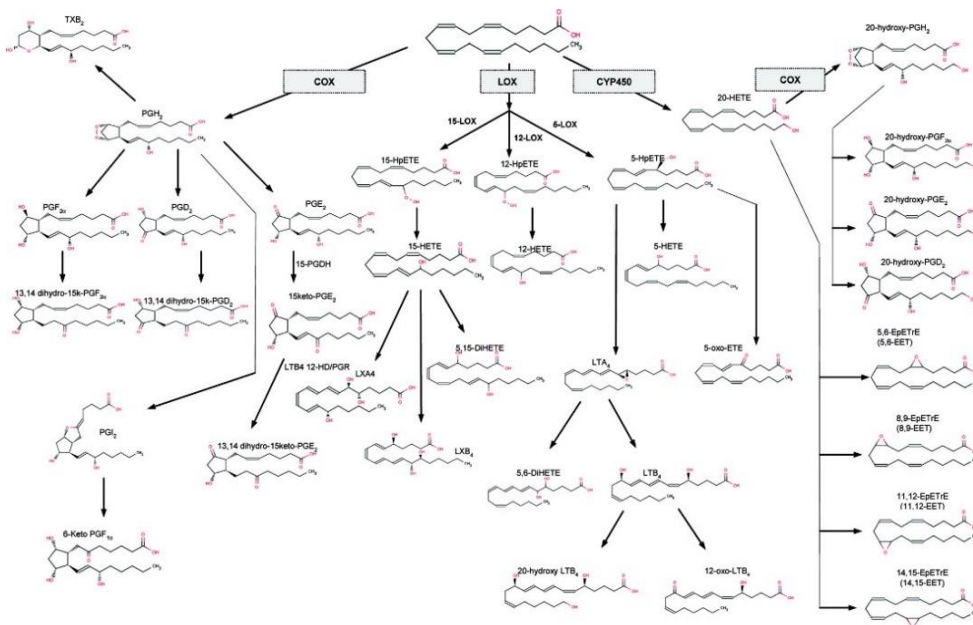
Hypothesis I: Interplay between host and microbiota



- protocol optimization for homogenization and extraction of metabolites from fecal material
- GC-MS and $^1\text{H-NMR}$ measurement
- difficult distinction between metabolites from **gut microbiota** (e.g. short chain fatty acids) and **host metabolites**
- **aim: specific metabolic pattern related to infection diseases (mono-infection and co-infection)**

Flint et al: Links between diet, gut microbiota composition and gut metabolism, The Nutrition Society, 2015

Hypothesis II: Role of oxidated lipids (eicosanoids) in infection



- eicosanoids are part of the immune response (activation **and** resolving)
- play a role in: inflammation, fever, allergy, pain, cell growth or blood pressure
- extraction and purification steps¹ needed for LC-MS/MS measurement using dynamic multiple reaction monitoring
- **aim: eicosanoid profile as marker for immune response (mono-infection and co-infection)**

Figure: Masoodi et al: Comprehensive Lipidomics Analysis of Bioactive Lipids in Complex Regulatory Networks, *Anal. Chem.* (2010)
¹Gomolka *et al.* Analysis of omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acid-derived lipid metabolite formation in human and mouse blood samples. *Prostaglandins Other Lipid Mediat.* 94, 81–87 (2011)

Infection experiment conditions:

animals

- Group of pigs (german landrace) from a commercial
- high health status (negative tested for influenza infection)
- control and infection group
- free access to water and standard diet

infection

- Influenza A virus
- nasal administration

sample material

- fecal material, lung, spleen, blood plasma and bronchoalveolar lavage [BAL]

timepoints

- 0, 2, 4, 7, 14 dpi for feces
- 4, 7, 14 and 31 dpi for tissues and body fluids

replicates

- 4 for fecal material
- at least 5 for infected tissues and body fluids

Results: Analysis of fecal material

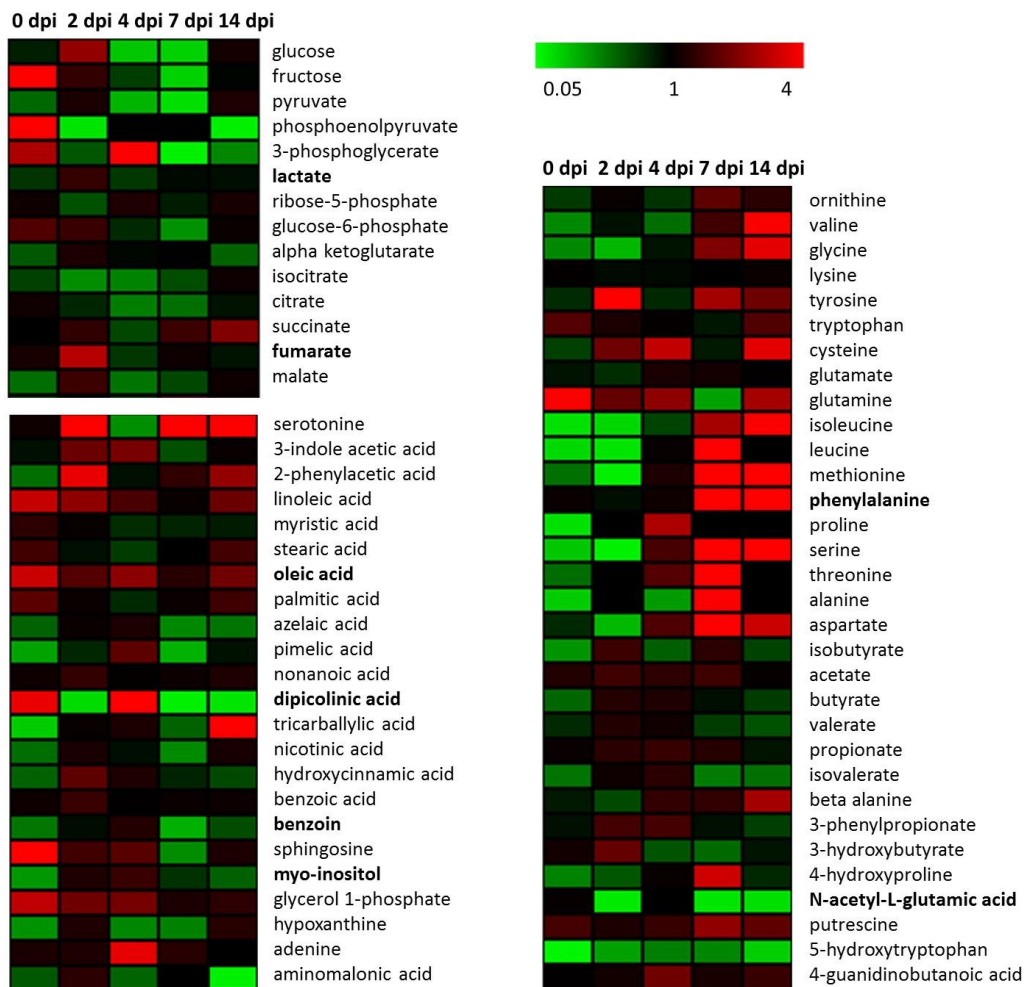


Figure 1. Heatmap displaying fold changes (infection/control) of all detected metabolites from ¹H-NMR and GC-MS analysis of feces. Bold names of metabolites indicate significant changes (p<0.01, unpaired t test) for at least one time point.

Results: Eicosanoid profile

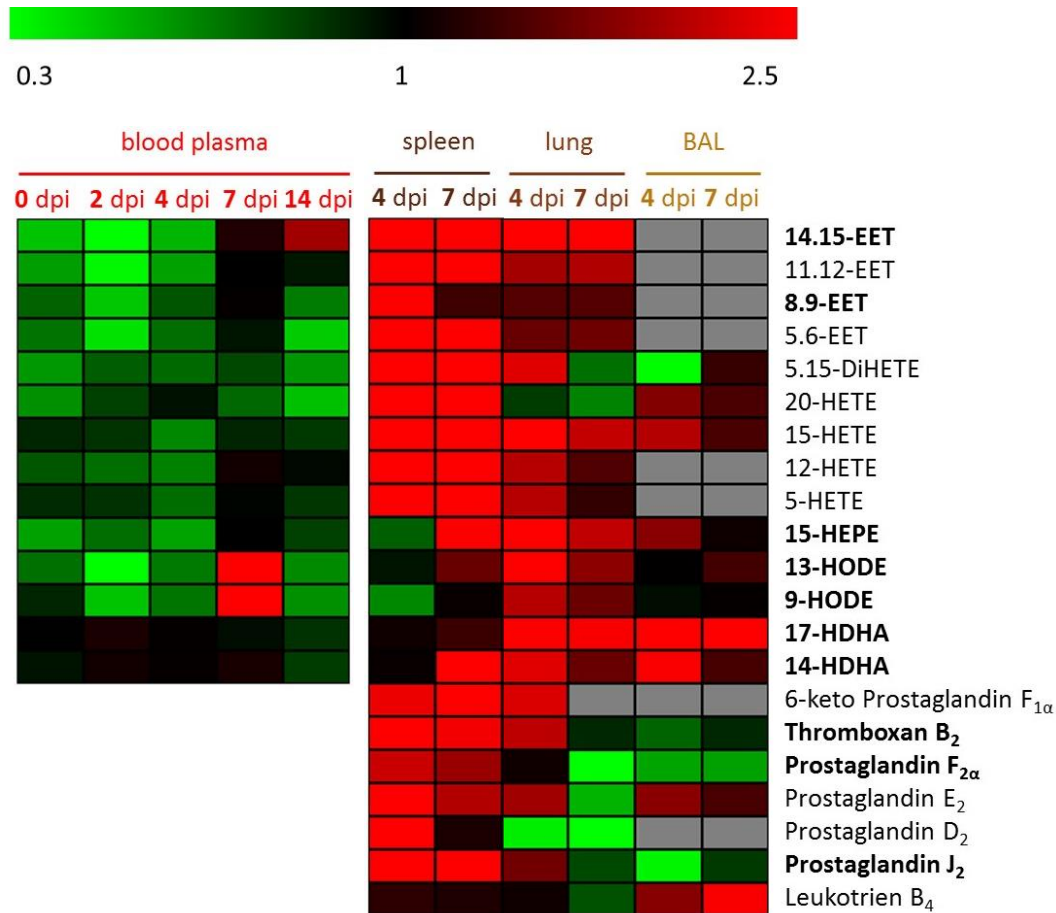


Figure 2. Heatmap displaying fold changes (infection/control) of detected eicosanoids from LC-MS/MS measurement of organ and biofluid. Bold names of eicosanoids indicate significant changes ($p < 0.05$, unpaired t test) during infection at least in one sample type and time point. Grey fields: below quantification limit.

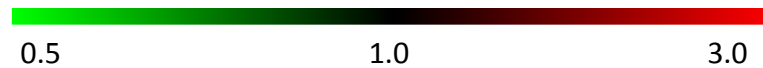
Discussion:

- Pigs infected with a low pfu of Influenza virus **didn't show any clinical scoring** (like increased temperature, body weight loss), but a positive virus titer.
- Analysis of fecal metabolome reveals a **high dynamic range** for detected metabolites concerning **time and single animal**.
- Eicosanoid profiling delivers a hint for **activated immune response in the spleen** at 4dpi (increased level of pro-inflammatory prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ and thromboxane B_2).
- **Increased level of anti-inflammatory 17-HDHA** in the lung could be an evidence for resolution of the immune response at 4 dpi. This lipid is also known to mediate specific antibodies against Influenza A.

Eicosanoid analysis in cell culture and mice experiments infected with *S. pneumoniae* strains

	cell culture	mouse
host strain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16-HBE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B6 mice
infection	<p><i>S. pneumoniae</i></p>	<p><i>S. pneumoniae</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • colonization (low dose) • acute infection (high dose)
replicates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 (control and infection) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 for control after 7 days • 10 for colonization at 7 dpi • 12 for infection at 2 dpi

16-HBE cells infected with *S. pneumoniae*



Epoxyeicosatetraenoic acids (EET)

Hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acids (HETE)

Others

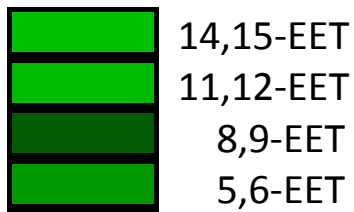


Figure 3. Heatmaps displaying fold changes (infection/control) of detected eicosanoids from LC-MS/MS measurement normalized for 1×10^7 cells. Bold names of eicosanoids indicate significant changes ($p < 0.1$, multiple t test, Holm-Sidak correction) during infection.

Mice infected with *S. pneumoniae*

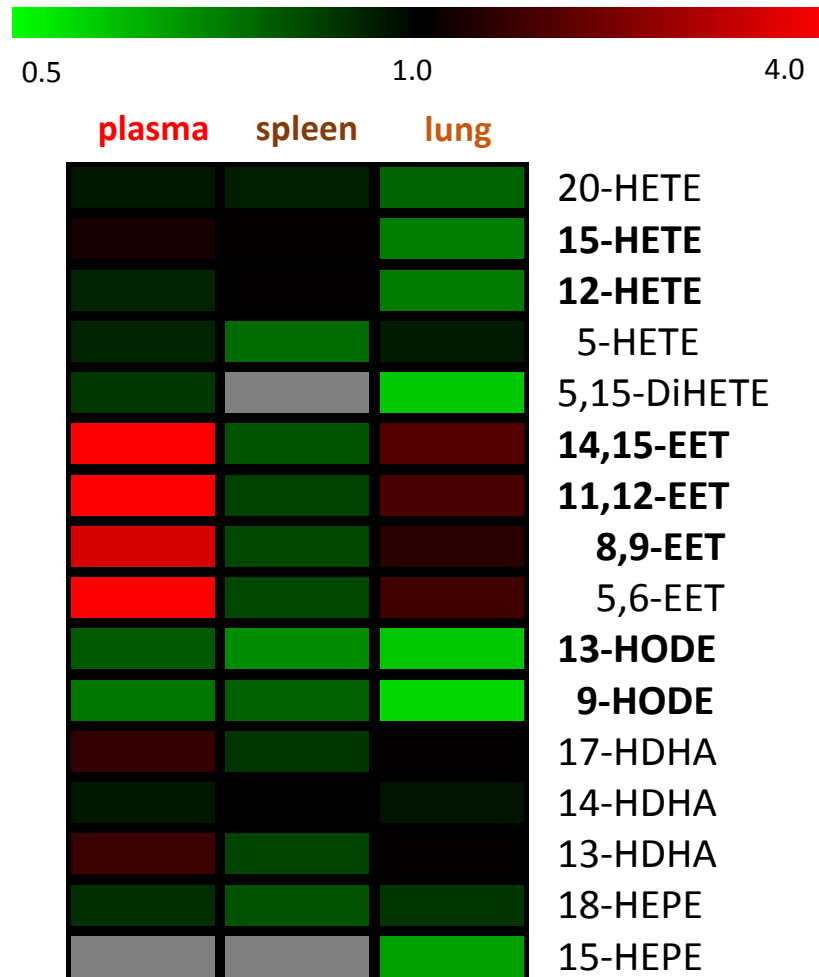


Figure 4. Heatmaps displaying fold changes (infection/control) of detected eicosanoids from LC-MS/MS measurement. Bold names of eicosanoids indicate significant changes ($p < 0.05$, multiple t test) during infection at least in one sample type.

Discussion and summary:

Cell culture:

- Infection with *S. pneumoniae* leads to **numerous changes in the eicosanoid profile** of 16-HBE cells.
 - increase of different anti-inflammatory lipid mediators like 13-HODE and 17-HDHA
 - strong **activation of 5-LOX pathway**

Mice:

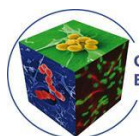
- Colonization of mice with *S. pneumoniae* has no influence on the eicosanoid profile
- Acute infection of mice influences the amount of eicosanoids.
 - **high levels of anti-inflammatory EETs in plasma samples**
 - perturbations in the HETEs level for spleen and lung tissue

Outlook:

- pig mono-infection experiment with high pathenogenic bacteria
 - **co-infection** with virus and bacteria in pigs
 - virus mono-infection experiments in cell culture and mice
 - **co-infections** with virus and bacteria in cell culture and mice
 - MSI to localize special lipid mediators in mice lung and spleen
- Metabolomics to elucidate host pathogen interaction (multi-omics approach)
- Is there an impact on the microbiota?
- How is the immune system stimulated by the infections?
- Are there differences between the host metabolome of mono-and co-infections?

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