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Gut environment and socioeconomic status: a study of children in urban area of Makassar

Amaruddin, A.I.

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift getiteld.

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1. BCG scar size at 10 months of age varies according to socioeconomic status (SES) of the infant and total IgE and leptin levels at birth play a modifying role in the relationship between SES and reactions to BCG vaccine (this thesis).
2. Bee and wasp venom sensitization is prevalent in Indonesian schoolchildren but the sensitization to these venoms appears to have little clinical relevance (This thesis).
3. SES has been found to be the main driver of differences in gut microbiota composition, in particular that of *Escherichia-Shigella*, *Prevotella*, and *Lactobacillus* (This thesis).
4. High Lactulose Mannitol Ratio (LMR) and Intestinal Fatty Acid Binding Protein (IFABP) in the low SES children indicate that intestinal barrier function and integrity may be compromised in children with low-SES compared to those with high-SES (This thesis).
5. Amongst BCG-vaccinated children, having a BCG scar was associated with markedly better survival compared with not having a BCG scar (CS Benn, Journal of Internal Medicine, 2020).
6. The human gut microbiome's composition is largely determined by the environment rather than host genetics (Rotschild, Nature, 2018).
7. The intestinal barrier plays a vital role in protecting the humans organism from the invasion of microorganisms and toxins while also allowing for the absorption of essential fluids and nutrients (König et al, Clinical and Translational Gastroenterology, 2016).
8. Elevated gut permeability allows the transfer of proinflammatory antigens, metabolites and microbes from the gut lumen to intestinal mucosa and the bloodstream, which, in turn, stimulates an inflammatory response (Camilleri, Gut 2019 and Ghosh, Cell Moll, Gastroenterol Hepatol, 2021).
9. Regular communication helps to bridge the physical distance and allows for emotional support and involvement in each other's lives, which is crucial for a strong mother-child and even husband-wife relationship.
10. Each person pursues their goal of interest, but you shall race toward doing good (My father).
11. Sacrifice in life is not exceptional. If you don't sacrifice, what you want becomes the sacrifice.
12. Studying stool samples from newborns and children is like going on a treasure hunt, some interesting (*unexpected*) results may appear.