

# 2021 EquiSUMMIT

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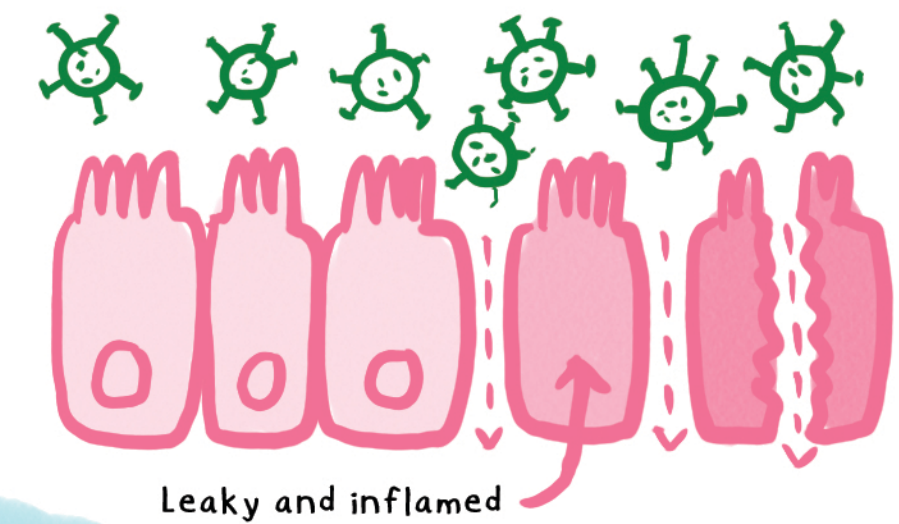
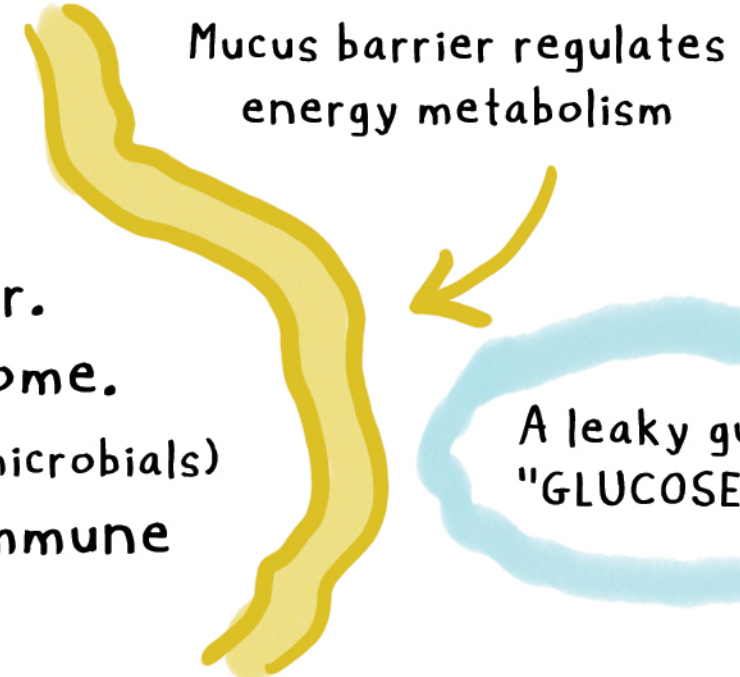
"All disease begins in the gut."  
 - Hippocrates  
 - Dr. Ken Kopp



## LEAKY GUT = LEAKY BRAIN!

### INTESTINAL FUNCTIONS:

Protective barrier.  
 Houses the microbiome.  
 (trillions to quadrillions of microbes)  
 70% of the horse's immune system!



A leaky gut is a "GLUCOSE SINK"

What causes leaky gut?  
 = **STRESS!** =  
 (Heat, physical, emotional)

## HEALTHY GUT = HEALTHY HORSE

### Maximizing horse performance:

1. Genetics
2. Training
3. Management
4. **NUTRITION**



COMMON STRESSORS include exercise / performance, transport and heat stress.



## LEAKY GUT is often accompanied by a TEMPERAMENT change

Defining the SENIOR horse: old age is not synonymous with the term geriatric

**PH** Diet influences the pH of the Hindgut and the diversity of the microbial community!

Mechanical processing does NOT change digestibility of hay

FUNCTIONAL NUTRITION is the support of specific parts of the body



Be **PROACTIVE** instead of **REACTIVE** when it comes to leaky gut



"Inflamm-aging"  
 inflammation increases with age

The taller the forage, the less digestible it is.



Grain in the Hindgut is like high schoolers and beer ... something bad is going to happen!

- Dr. Stephen Duren

Normal forage intake = 1.8 to 2.5% of body weight

Modern horse diet:  
 Cereal grain based  
 Rapid intake  
 Fed at chest height



The equine gut microbiome acts as another organ that's crucial for health



Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS) is a common endocrine disease of horses and ponies where the body produces too much insulin

### Benefits of forage: exercise and socialization

Sponsored by:

Saliva helps buffer stomach acid - the more time chewing the more saliva is produced

Research has shown lower fecal diversity in horses with Fecal Water Syndrome

PPID is a common hormonal disturbance mostly in older horses and ponies

## NO GUT, NO HORSE

FOCUS on FEEDING the microbiome

