

# Phytogenics and resilience to intestinal infections

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**FIAAP**  
ANIMAL NUTRITION  
CONFERENCE **2018**

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- What is happening during intestinal infections?
- Gastrointestinal tract as first line of defense
- How do phytogenics support these functions

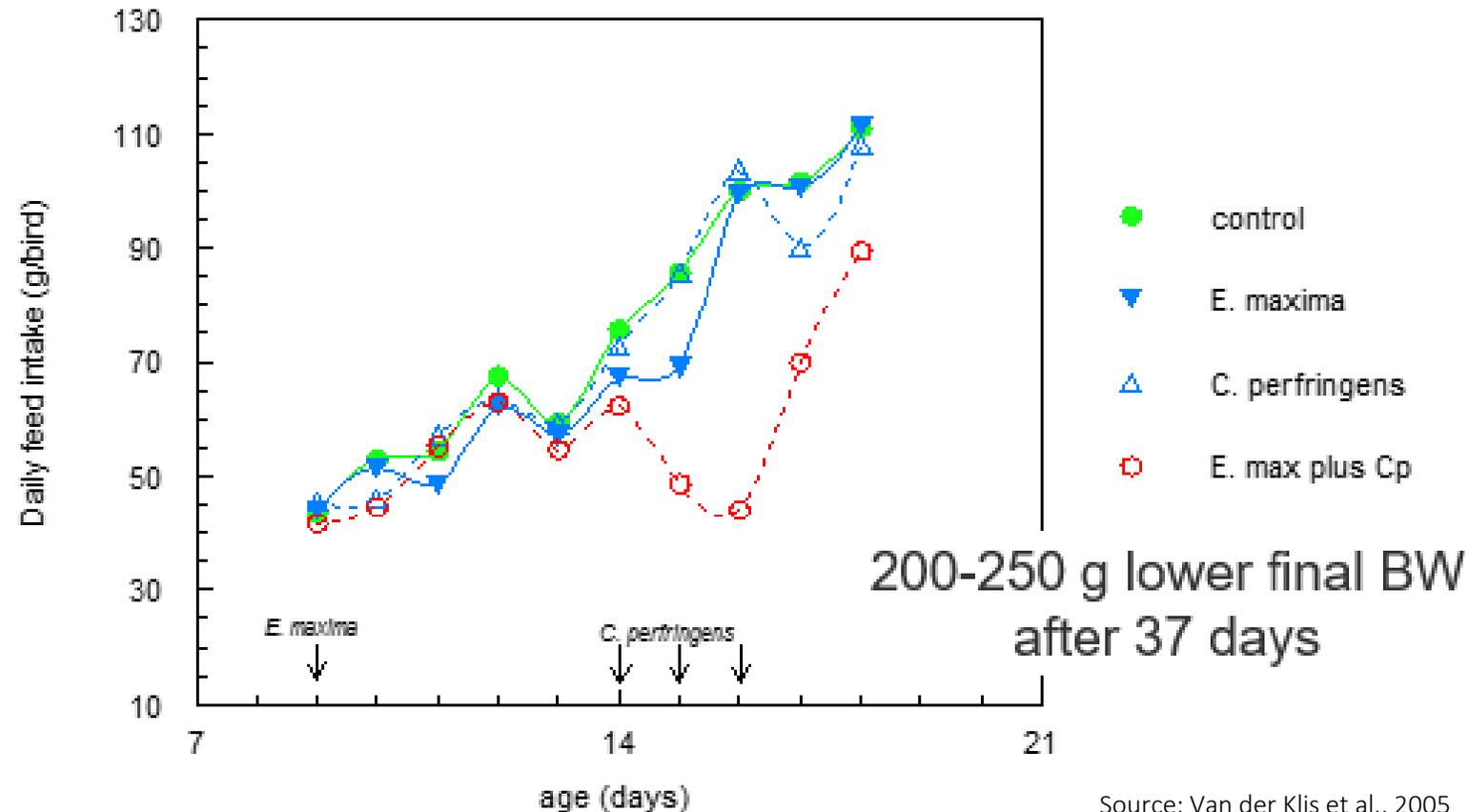
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# Effects of coccidiosis due to secondary bacterial infections



Source: Van der Klis et al., 2005

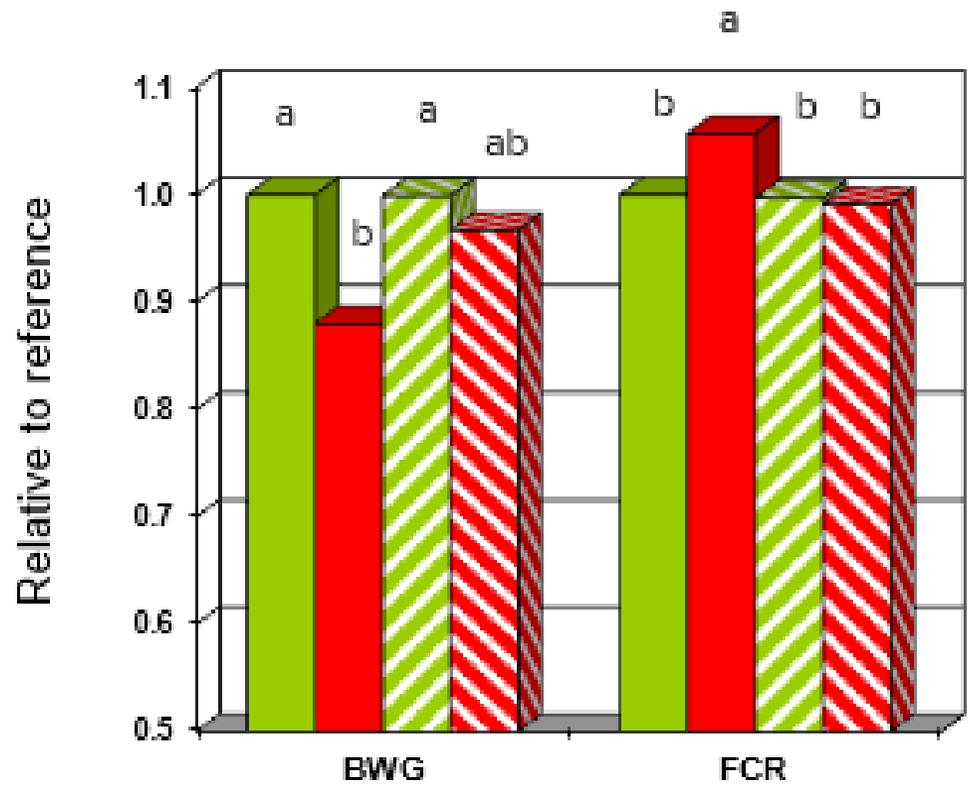
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# Anti-inflammatory effects



NE lesions (%)

	1 dpi	2 dpi
NINT	0	0
INT	68	61
NI+ aspirin	0	0
I+ aspirin	52	60

■ NINT  
■ INT  
▨ NI+ aspirin  
▨ I+ aspirin

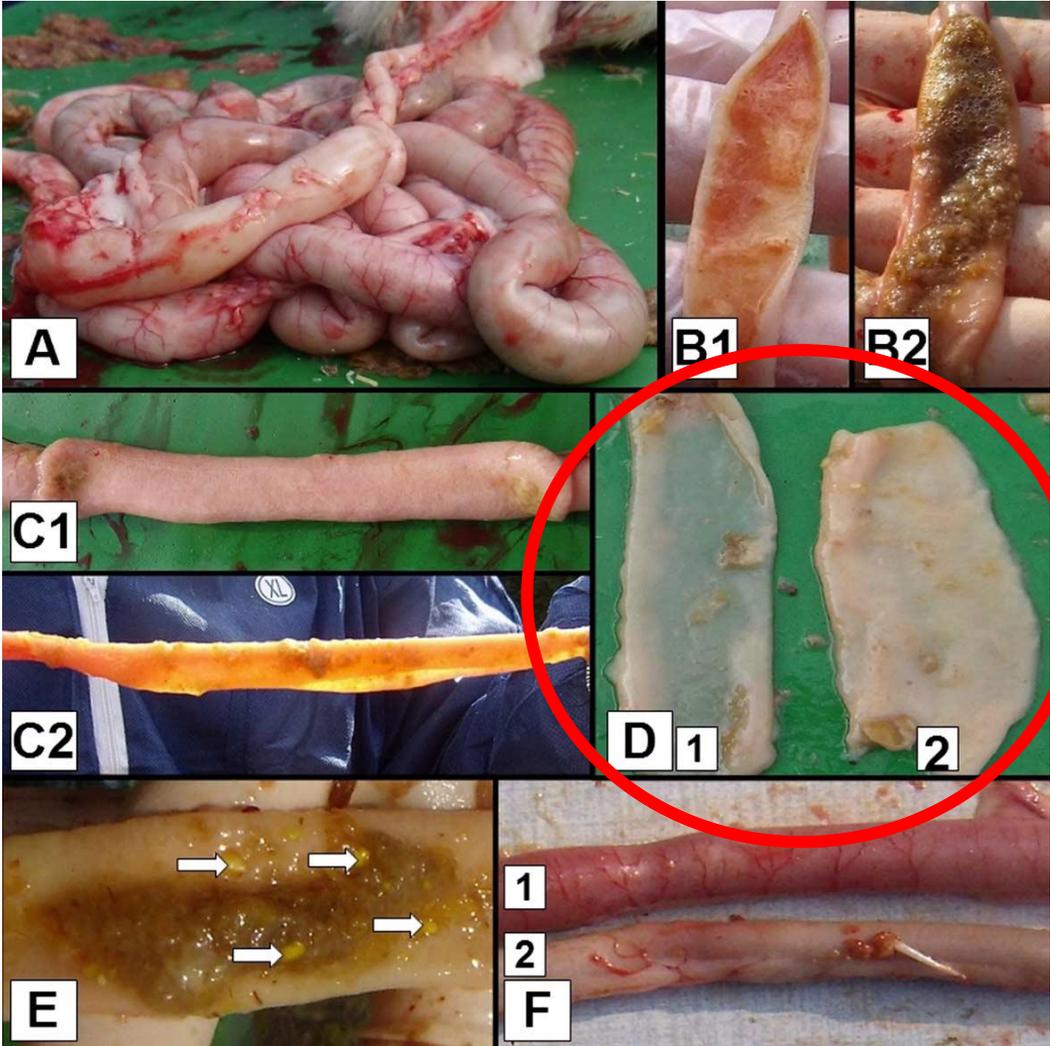
NE: Necrotic enteritidis: D9 E.maxima; D14,15 Cpf  
NINT is reference (100%)

Source: Van der Klis, 2012

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# Dysbacteriosis/ subclinical enteritis



- Gut ballooning
- Orange mucoid and foamy contents
- 1. Good tonus;  
2. Lack of tonus
- 1. Thin GI wall  
2. Normal GI wall
- Undigested feed in colon
- 1. Inflammation  
2. No inflammation

Source: Teirlynck et al (2011)



Integrity and absorption  
Gizzard function  
(Anti)peristalsis  
Retention time

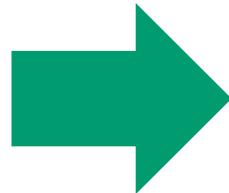
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# Intestinal challenges:

## Major challenges:

- Coccidiosis
- Dysbacteriosis
- Necrotic enteritis



NE: A typical  
250 g BW loss at d35

## Consequences:

- Reduced weight gain
- Poor uniformity
- Wet litter
  
- Inflammation:
  - reduced feed intake
  - body tissue degradation
- Impaired intestinal integrity
- Bacterial translocation
- Reduced nutrient digestibility
- Reduced food safety

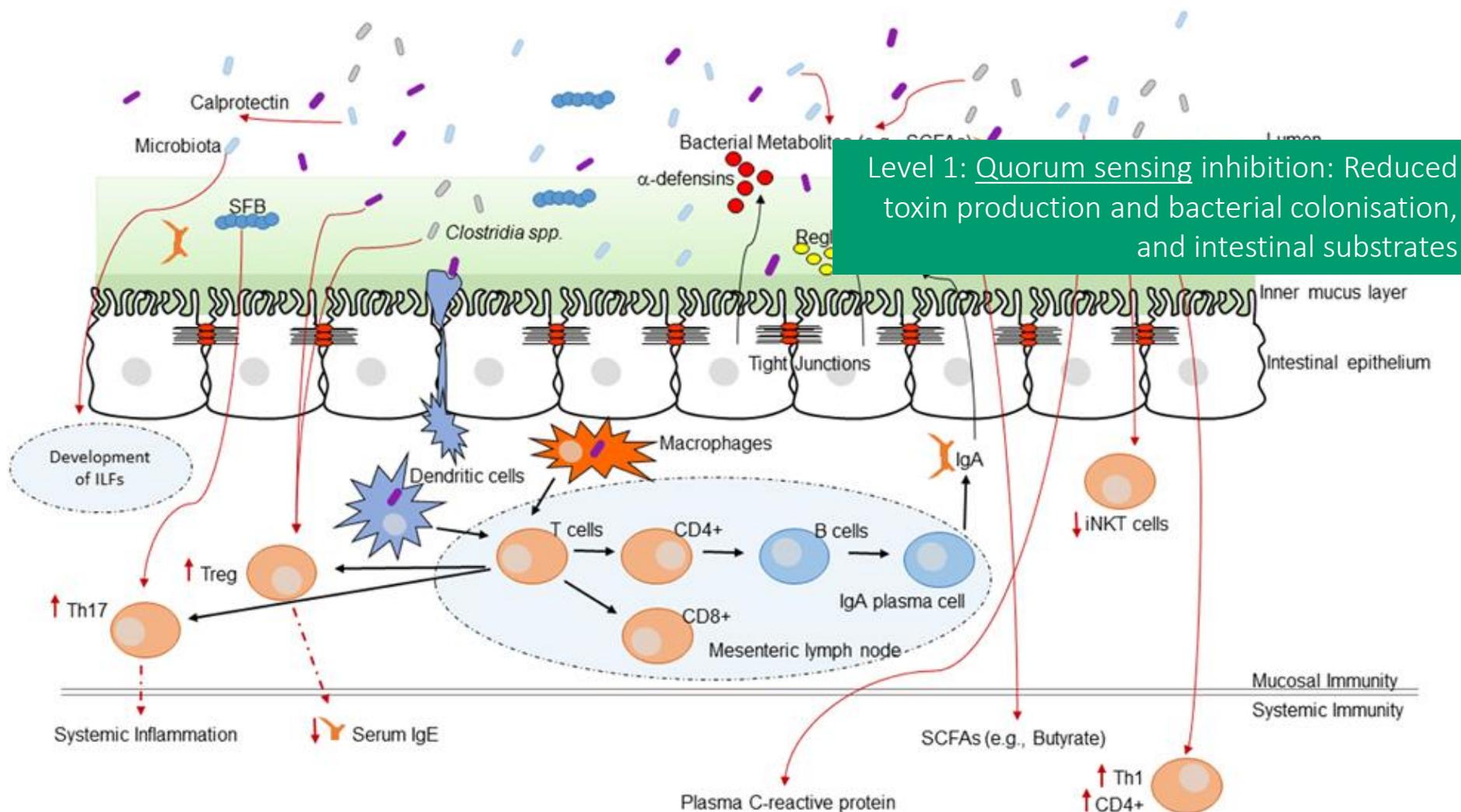
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# First line of defence?



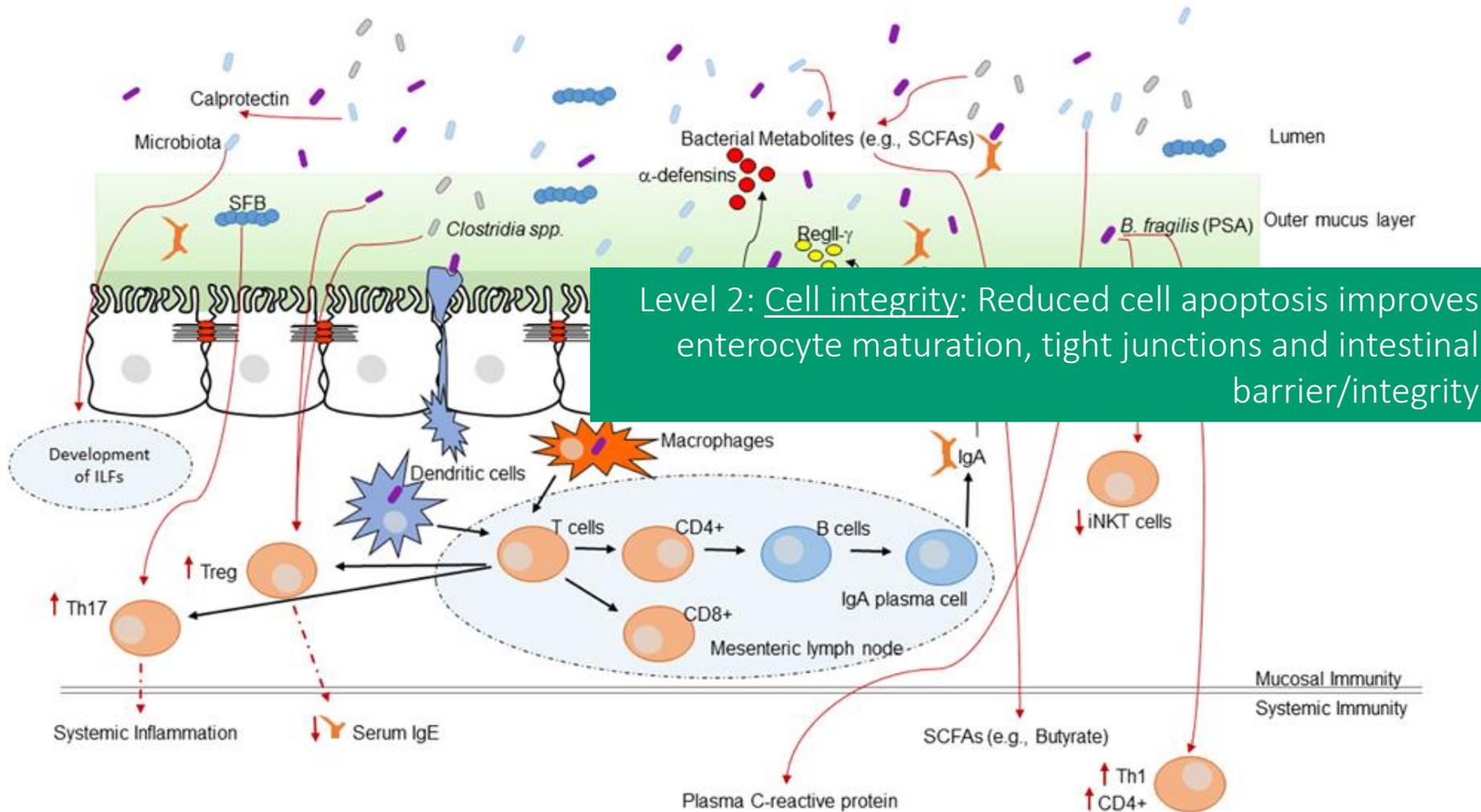
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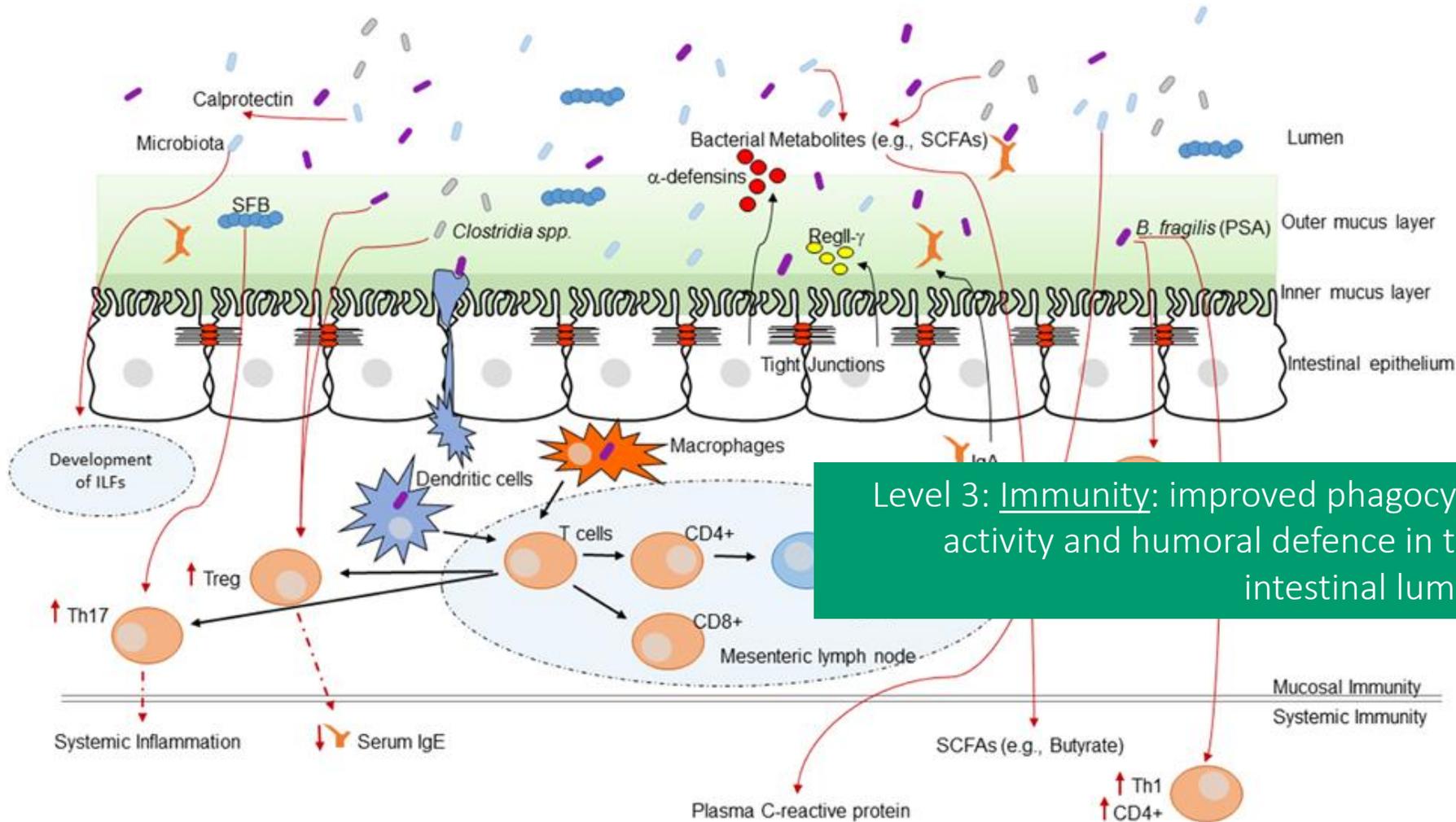
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# First line of defence?



Level 3: Immunity: improved phagocytic activity and humoral defence in the intestinal lumen

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# In summary:

## Reduced pathogen load:

### Nutritional measures:

- Protein digestibility
- Amino acid profile
- Energy source
- Insoluble fibre
- Feed particle size

### Pathogenicity:

- Antibacterial effects
- Quorum sensing inhibition



## Improved intestinal defence:

- Physical barrier – intestinal integrity
- Reduce intestinal oxidation and inflammation
- Improve humoral and cellular immunity

# Phytogenics: What are those?

produced by plants

## Definition:

*'Plant-derived, natural bio-active compounds'*

*(e.g. Puvaca et al. (2013))*

Secondary metabolites, comprise

- essential oils,
- herb extracts,
- oleoresins,
- tannins
- flavonoids, and
- saponins

complex chemicals made by plants that are not essential to the life of the **plant**.

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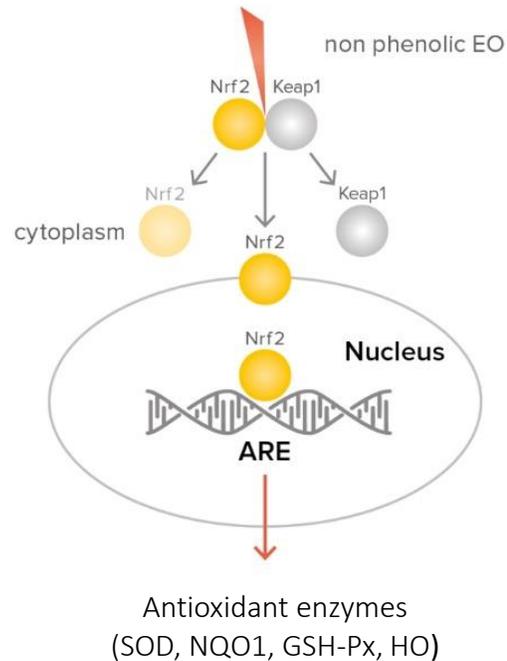
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# Phytochemicals and anti-oxidant effects

## Indirect

Stimulation of synthesis of anti-oxidant enzymes



Turmeric, oregano, thyme and rosemary oil increased anti-oxidant enzyme production in jejunal mucosa (Mueller et al., 2012)

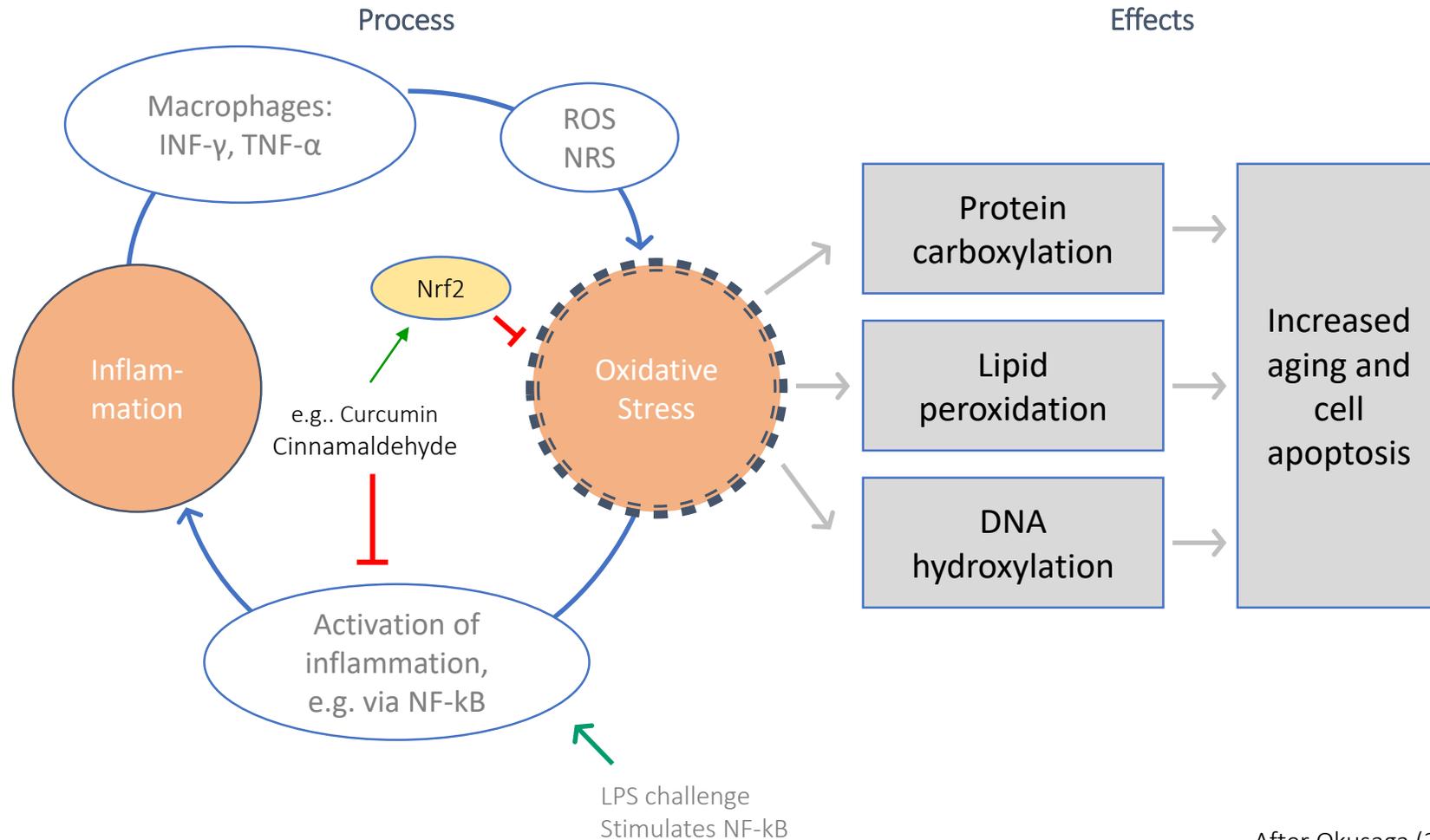
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# Phytochemicals break the oxidation/ inflammation cascade



After Okusaga (2014)

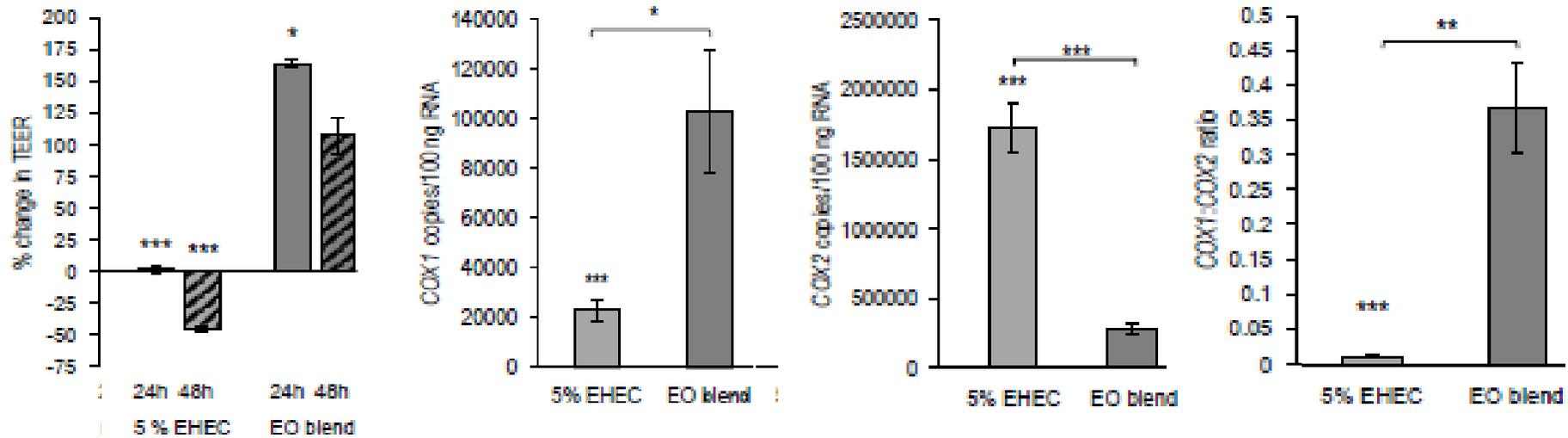
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# Thymol & cinnamaldehyde in Caco-2 cells



Essential oil blend (thymol 15 mg/l; cinnamaldehyde 5 mg/l) prevented adverse effects of E. coli O157:H7 (EHEC) cell free metabolites in Caco-2 cells on tight junction integrity, COX-1 (homeostasis/mucosal protection) and COX-2 (pro-inflammatory response via prostaglandins) induced gene expression.

adapted from Putaala et al. (2017)

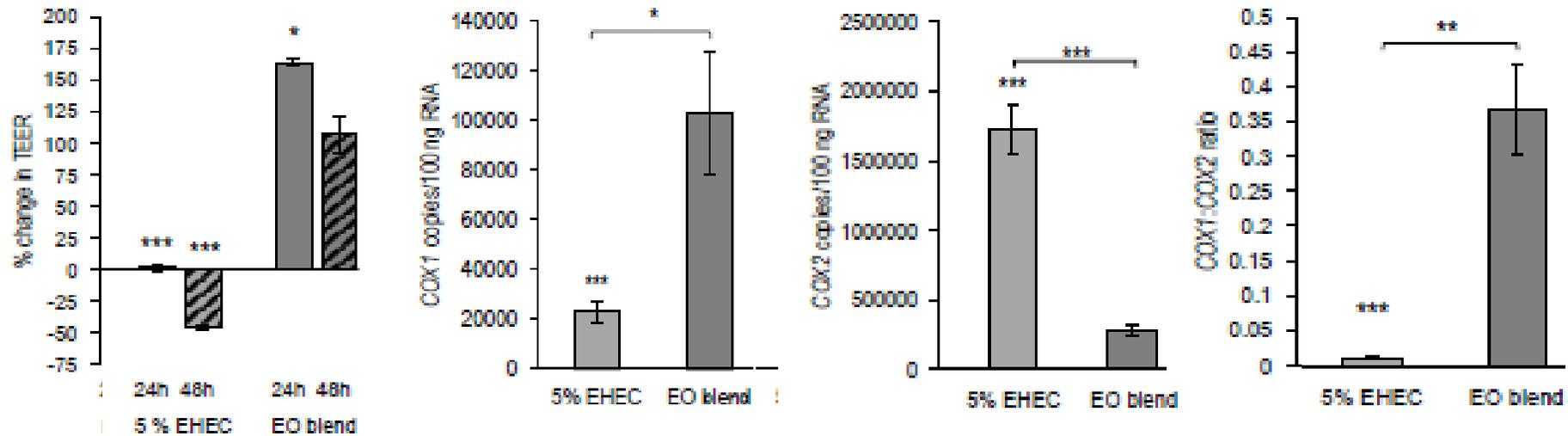
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# Take home messages

Phytogenics are a broad class of secondary plant metabolites with diverse physiological functions:

- Reduce pathogenicity of microbiota via quorum sensing inhibition
- Local anti-oxidant and anti-inflammatory effects improve intestinal integrity
- Improve enterocyte maturation
- Increase enzyme production and nutrient transport across the intestine

Effects depend on (combination of) actives and dose level!

