# Bifidobacterium animalis subsp. lactis (BB-12®)

*Bifidobacterium animalis subsp. lactis (BB-12®) is the world's best documented Bifidobacterium.*

### Facts about Bifidobacterium animalis subsp. lactis (BB-12®)

- Identified as Bifidobacterium animalis subsp. lactis
- Strain deposit number: DSM15954
- Originates from Chr. Hansen's collection of dairy cultures
- BB-12® is a registered trademark of Chr. Hansen A/S
- Used worldwide since 1985 as an ingredient in food and dietary supplements, with no reported consumer illness or injury
- Tested in clinical studies in persons ranging from new-born preterm infants to the elderly in doses up to at least 100 billion CFU/day, with no reported serious adverse event

## The world's best documented probiotic Bifidobacterium

Used in food and dietary supplements since 1985, described in more than 360[1] scientific publications and backed by more than 1651 clinical studies, Bifidobacterium animalis subsp. lactis (BB-12®) is the world's best documented Bifidobacterium.

Bifidobacterium (BB-12®) has received a Generally Recognized As Safe (GRAS) status by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the US. In Europe, Bifidobacterium animalis has been granted Qualified Presumption of Safety (QPS) status since 2007 by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) - a status granted on species level.

### Clinical studies

The large number of clinical studies and scientific publications indicate that the BB-12®probiotic strain – alone or in combination with other of our probiotic strains – may have beneficial effects regarding the gastrointestinal and immune areas.

### The BB-12® probiotic strain:

- May reduce the risk of an upset stomach[2.]
- May enhance the immune response[3]
- May reduce respiratory tract infections[4]
- May support bowel function[5]
- May reduce crying, fussiness and irritability in infants[6]
- May alleviate symptoms of skin irritation[7]

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BB12® Probiotics

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# Bifidobacterium animalis subsp. Lactis BB12® enhances Intestinal antibody response in formula-fed infants: A ramdomized, double-blind, controlled trial.

Holscher HD[1], Czerkies LA, Cekola P, Litov R, Benbow M, Santema S, Alexander DD, Perez V, Sun S, Saavedra JM, Tappenden .

## ABSTRACT

***BACKGROUND:***
Addition of probiotics to infant formula may positively affect immune function in nonexclusively breastfed infants. This study aimed to investigate the effect of infant starter formula containing the probiotic Bifidobacterium animalis subspecies lactis (BB12) on intestinal immunity and inflammation.

***METHODS:***
Six-week-old healthy, full-term infants (n = 172) were enrolled in a prospective, randomized, double-blind, controlled clinical trial with 2 groups studied in parallel to a breastfed comparison group. Formula-fed (FF) infants were randomized to partially hydrolyzed whey formula (CON) or the same formula containing 10(6) colony-forming units (CFU) Bb12/g (PRO) for 6 weeks. Fecal secretory IgA (sIgA), calprotectin, lactate, and stool pH were assessed at baseline, 2 weeks, and 6 weeks. Anti-poliovirus-specific IgA and anti-rotavirus-specific IgA were assessed at 2 and 6 weeks.

***RESULTS:***
Among vaginally delivered FF infants, PRO consumption increased (P < .05) fecal sIgA compared to CON. Anti-poliovirus-specific IgA concentration increased (P < .05) in all infants consuming PRO, whereas anti-rotavirus-specific IgA tended to increase (P = .056) with PRO consumption in cesarean-delivered infants. Anthropometrics and tolerance did not differ significantly between FF infants.

***CONCLUSIONS:***
Infants consuming formula with Bb12 produced feces with detectable presence of Bb12 and augmented sIgA concentration. Furthermore, cesarean-delivered infants consuming Bb12 had heightened immune response, as evidenced by increased anti-rotavirus- and anti-poliovirus-specific IgA following immunization. These results demonstrate that negative immune-related effects of not breastfeeding and cesarean delivery can be mitigated by including Bb12 in infant formula, thereby providing infants a safe, dietary, immune-modulating bacterial introduction.

*[PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]*

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