



University of Toronto Medical Journal
Room 2171A
Medical Sciences Building
University of Toronto
1 King's College Circle
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5S 1A8
www.utmj.org

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to inform you that the University of Toronto Medical Journal (UTMJ) is currently accepting submissions for its upcoming issue on the **Microbiome**. The UTMJ (<http://www.utmj.org>) was established in 1923 and is Canada's oldest student-run peer-reviewed medical journal. The journal is open-access online and also has a circulation of approximately 1000 print copies per year.

Microbiome

The Spring 2015 Issue of the University of Toronto Medical Journal first considered the Human Microbiome, exploring this burgeoning field and its potential applications in clinical medicine. Since this issue, our understanding of the microbiome, and the field of microbiology more broadly, has exploded. The microbiome, understood as the genetic material of the microbes living on and within our bodies, contributes to essential processes such as food digestion, immune regulation, and the production of vitamins. Many pathological processes, such as autoimmune diseases, are associated with dysbiotic states. While past research has largely focused on understanding the microbiome and performing clinical procedures to restore healthy microbiota, newer studies have begun to uncover and explore the role of the microbiota in diagnosing and treating novel conditions, such as cancer. With a dramatic increase in microbiome research, researchers and clinicians must navigate an onslaught of new information and how to meaningfully translate these discoveries into clinical practice.

In the Spring Issue of the University of Toronto Medical Journal, we will address the important topic of the microbiome. We believe that this issue will bring forth many areas that are worth exploring, including but not limited to the known understanding of how the microbiome affects immunity and contributes to disease, novel associations between dysbiotic states and disease, how antibiotics affect the microbiome, the ethical issues around sample collection and privacy in mapping the human microbiome, as well as how the public will understand discoveries about the microbiome. We encourage submissions from students, researchers and policy makers with various perspectives so that we can present a balanced, objective, and comprehensive discussion on this important and timely topic. We hope that this issue will inform our international readership about the current understanding of the microbiome and identify priorities for future research.



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We are currently accepting submissions to the following sections of the UTMJ:

- Original Basic, Clinical or Epidemiological Research
- Perspective Articles and Commentaries
- Reviews
- Medical Education
- Case Reports

The deadline for article submissions is **February 17, 2020**. Articles can be submitted through our website at www.utmj.org. The UTMJ also accepts submissions on topics outside of the current theme of the Microbiome on a rolling basis.

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to reading your submissions.

Yours sincerely,

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