

# Gut microbial conversion of food polyphenols and their impact on intestinal metabolism and endothelial stress: a combined *in vitro* approach

Ting Wu

Laboratory of Food Chemistry and Human Nutrition  
Department of Food Technology, Safety and Health

[john.vancamp@ugent.be](mailto:john.vancamp@ugent.be)  
[www.nutrifoodchem.ugent.be](http://www.nutrifoodchem.ugent.be)



## Polyphenols

Various health benefits



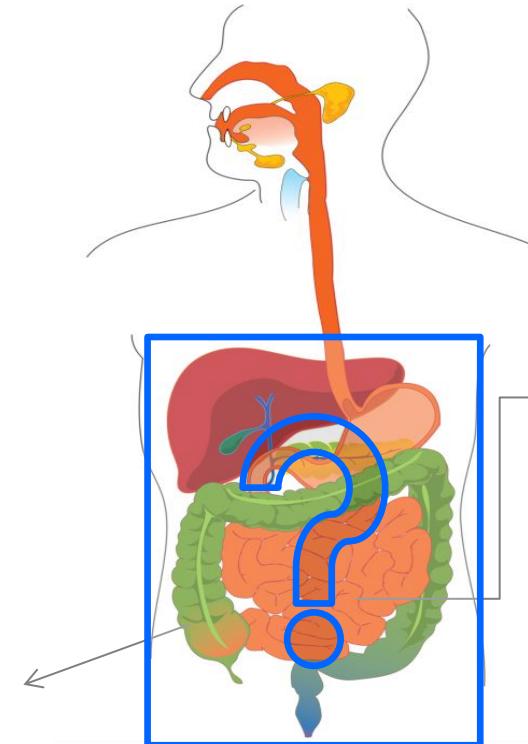
# Can the health benefits be achieved?

## Bioavailability

90–95%  
Microbiota



Major fractions



Only 5–10% is absorbed

How ?

## FOOD BIOACTIVES

### POLYPHENOLS

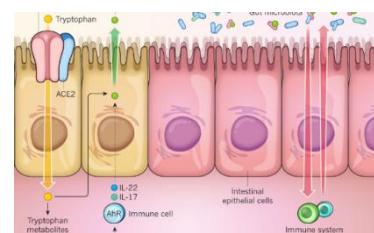


## IN VIVO

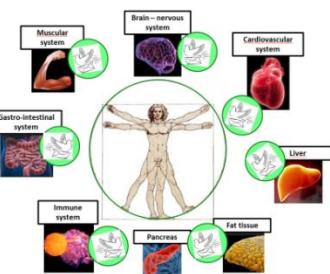
### DIGESTION



### ABSORPTION

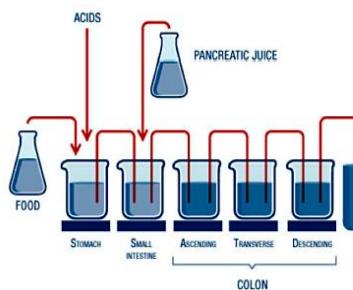


### BIOACTIVITY

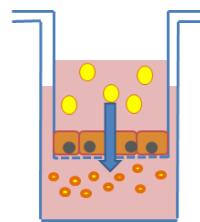


## IN VITRO

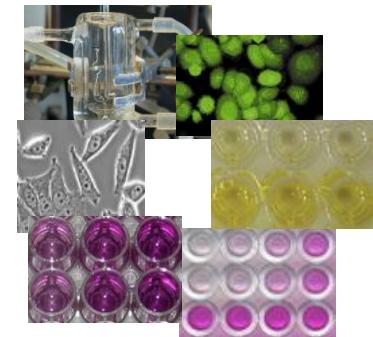
### SIMULATORS



### CACO-2 cells

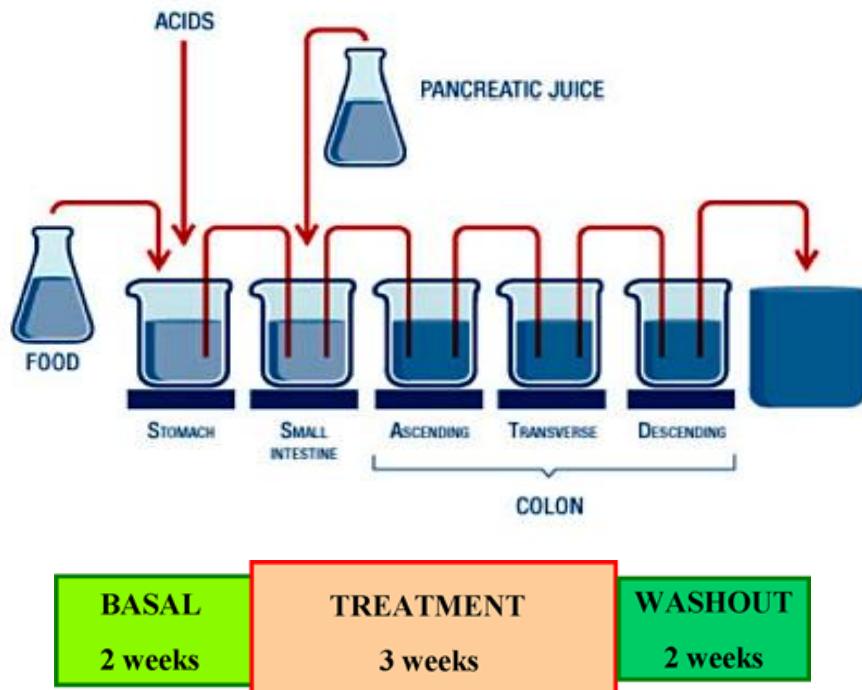


### BIO-ASSAYS

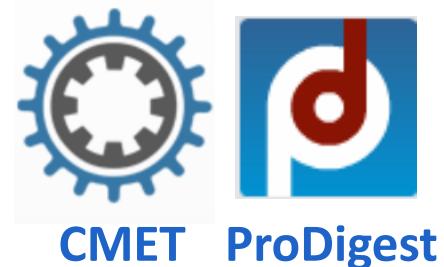


# SHIME®

... since 1993

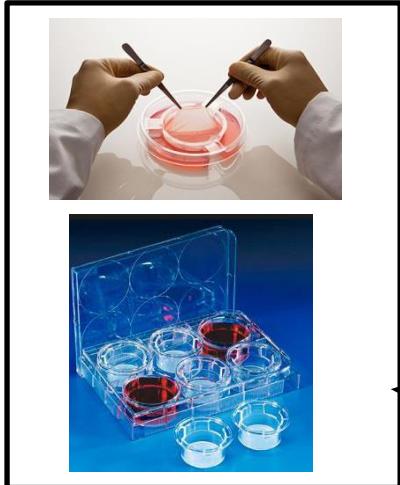


- Long-term
- Location of metabolism
- Microbial community

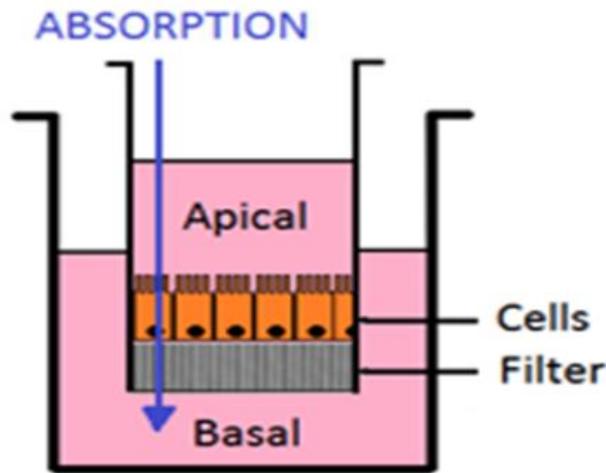


# Caco-2 cell culture

Transwell®

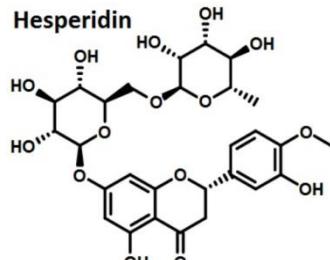


*In vitro* bioavailability and barrier studies



# Hesperidin-2S

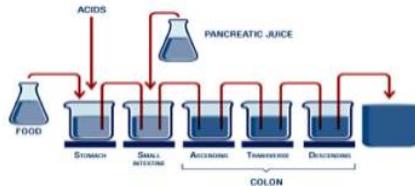
Same dose (500 mg/day)  
Same product



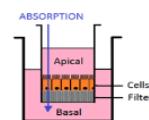
BioActor

# *IN VITRO*

## MICROBIAL CONVERSION: SHIME®



## **INTESTINAL TRANSPORT: Caco-2**

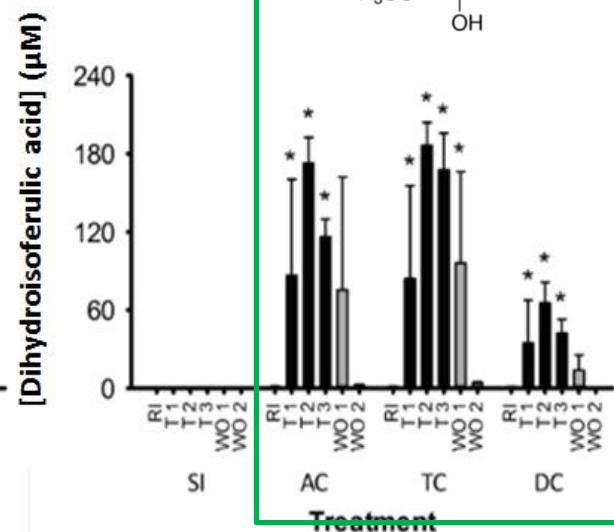
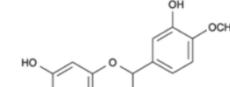
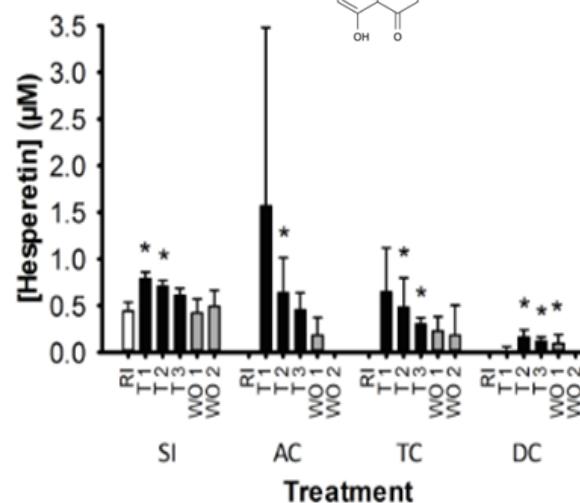
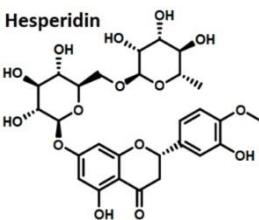
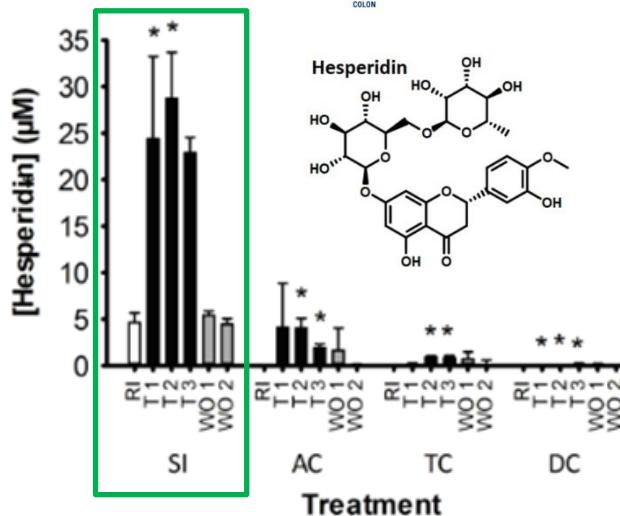
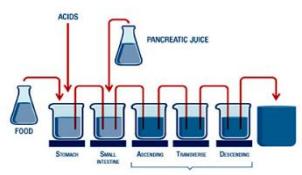


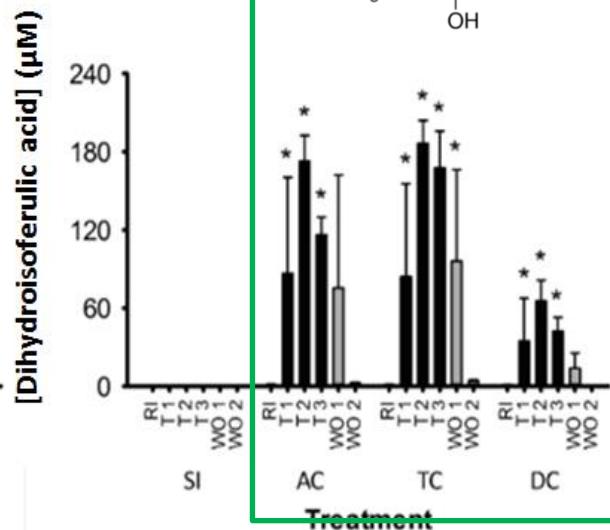
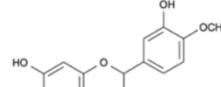
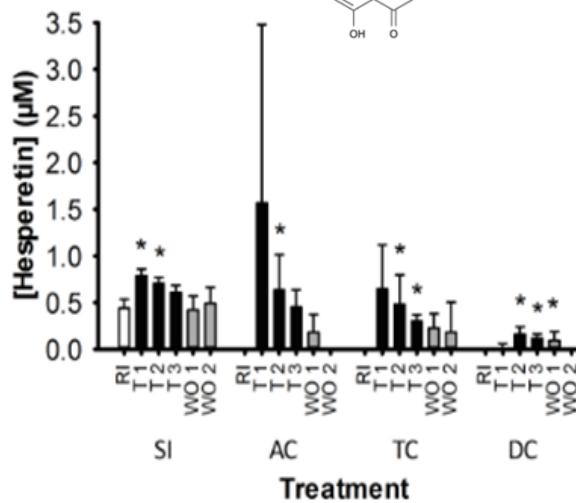
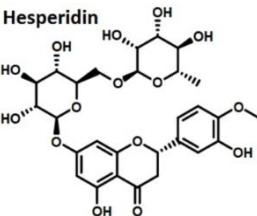
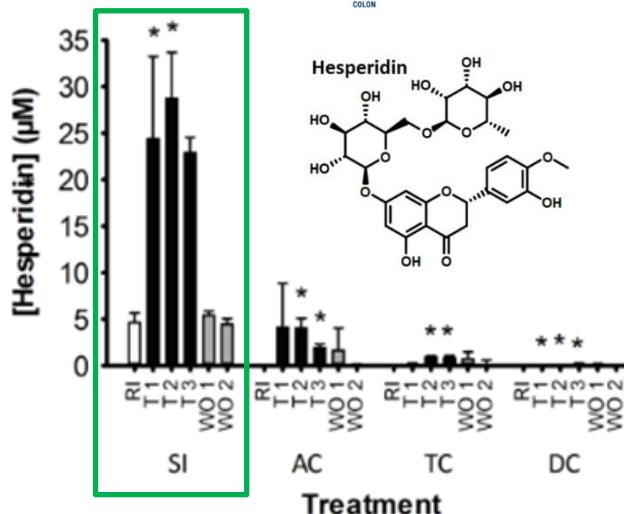
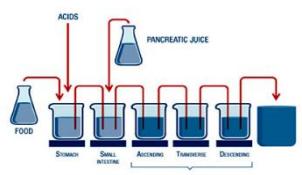
IN VIVO

## HUMAN INTERVENTION STUDY



# BIOAVAILABILITY

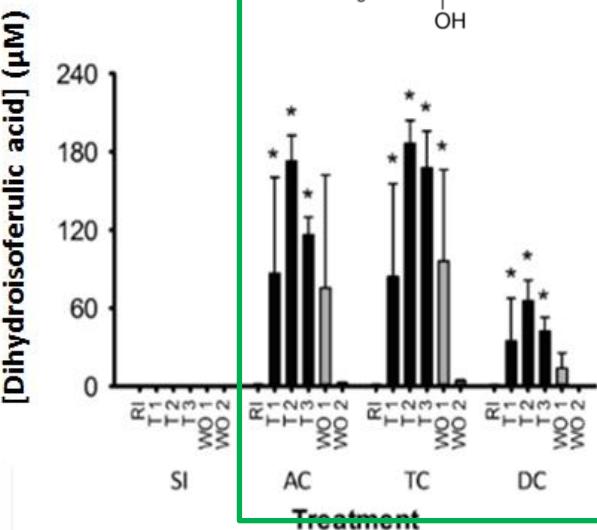
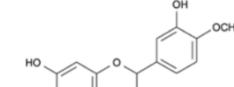
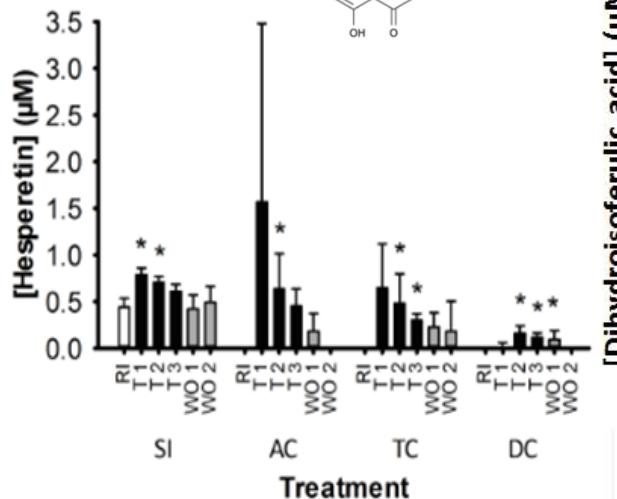
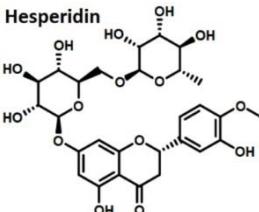
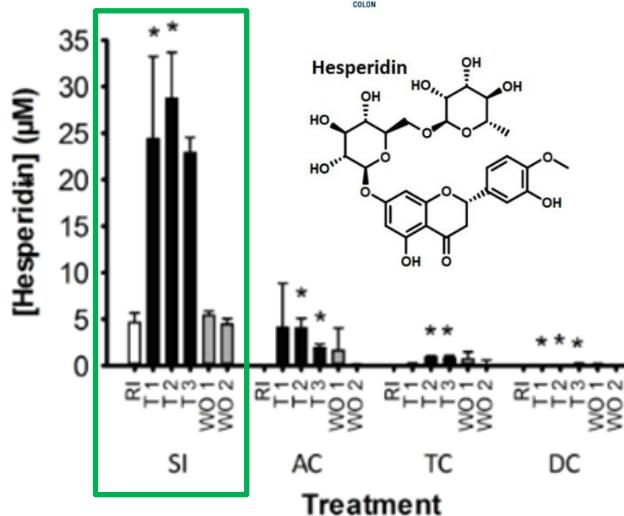
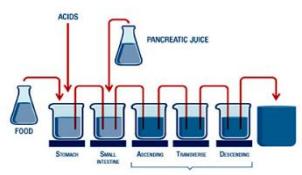




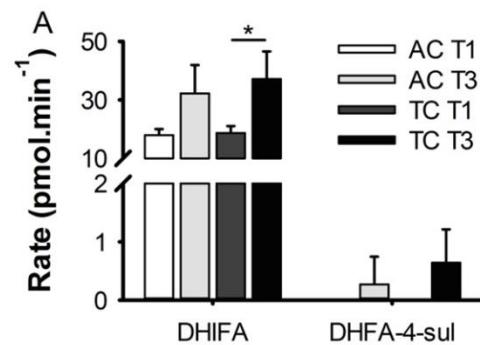
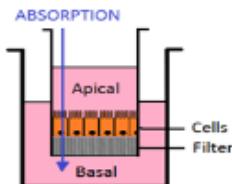
### **Concentration (% of total metabolites)**

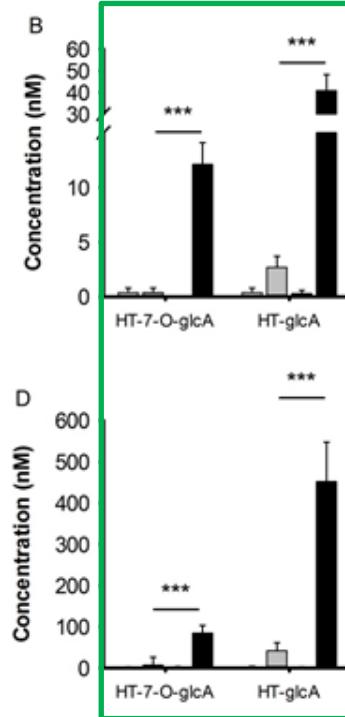
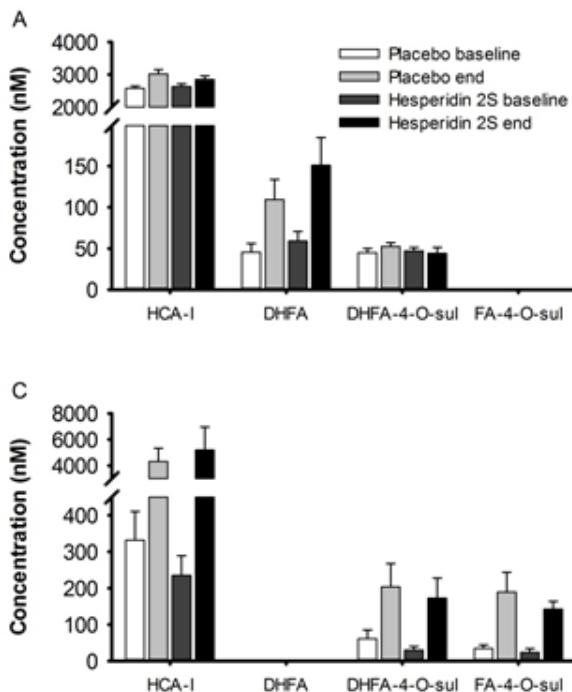
Vessel	Hesperidin	Hesperetin	DHCA	DHFA	DHIFA	4-OH-PA
SI	95	1.3	1	0	0	3
AC	3	1	39	0.8	43	13
TC	1	0	39	0.6	45	15
DC	1	0	7	0.5	73	19

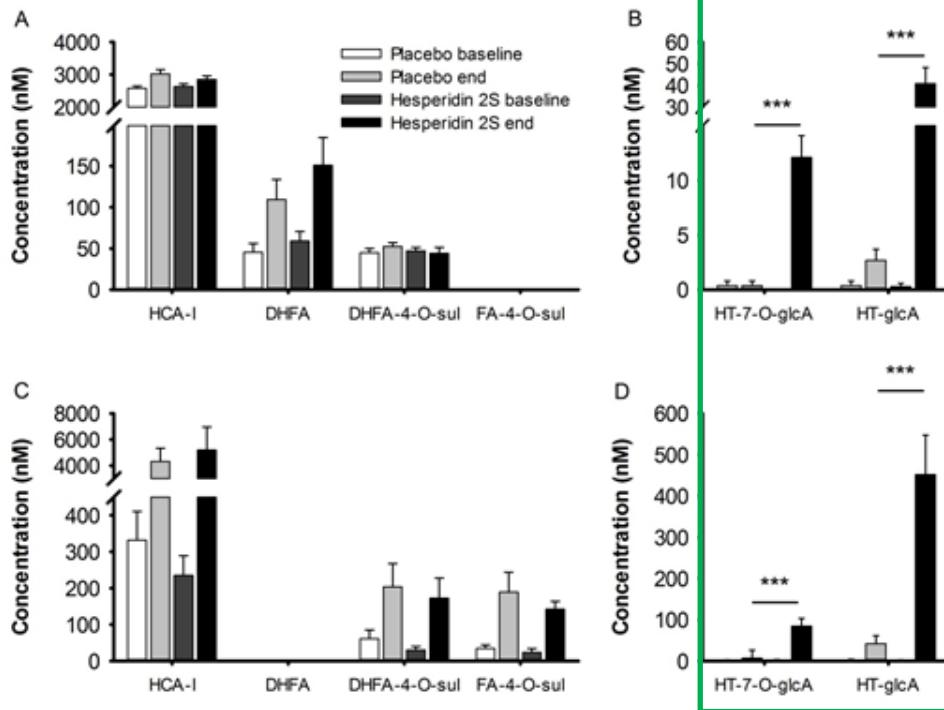
Van Rymenant et al. (2018) Mol Nutr Food Res



Concentration (% of total metabolites)						
Vessel	Hesperidin	Hesperetin	DHCA	DHFA	DHIFA	4-OH-PA
SI	95	1.3	1	0	0	3
AC	3	1	39	0.8	43	13
TC	1	0	39	0.6	45	15
DC	1	0	7	0.5	73	19







## Conclusions:

- \* Similar metabolites, microbiome dependent, phenolic selective transport
- \* **BUT:** *in vitro*: overestimation small phenolics

## Solution:

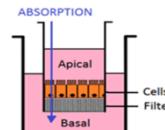
Continuous absorption

# Food matrix and polymerisation



## Aronia juice

Basal



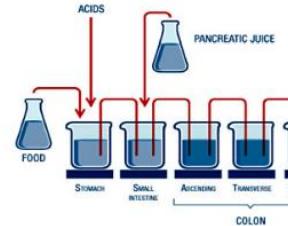
Cyanidin-3-O-galactoside  
Epicatechin  
Quercetin-3-O-rutinoside  
Quercetin-3-O-galacatoside  
Quercetin-3-O-glucoside  
Quinic acid  
Chlorogenic acid  
Caffeic acid  
Hydrocaffeic acid

SHIME recovery(%)

	SI	AC	TC	DC
Cyanidin-3-O-galactoside	$6.7 \pm 0.1^c$	$17 \pm 1^c$	-	-
Epicatechin	-	-	-	$22 \pm 0.9^c$
Quercetin-3-O-rutinoside	$5.4 \pm 1.3^c$	$16 \pm 8^b$	-	-
Quercetin-3-O-galacatoside	$6.0 \pm 1.6^b$	$27 \pm 6^{bc}$	-	-
Quercetin-3-O-glucoside	-	-	-	-
Quinic acid	$7.3 \pm 2.8^c$	-	-	-
Chlorogenic acid	$5.7 \pm 2.0^c$	$13 \pm 1^c$	-	-
Caffeic acid	-	$21 \pm 3^c$	-	-
Hydrocaffeic acid	-	$16 \pm 4^b$	$7.8 \pm 1.3^b$	-

Anthocyanins  
Phenolic acids:  
**PROXIMAL**

Procyanidins:  
**DISTAL**



CONTROL  
1 Weeks

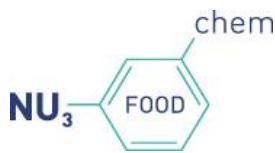
PLACEBO  
2 Weeks

TREATMENT  
2 Weeks

# Conclusions

- **Microbial digestion** strongly impacts **bioavailability** and **bioactivity** of polyphenols
- **Advanced models** may improve **physiological relevance**

# Acknowledgement



Dr. Evelien Van Rymenant



Dr. Charlotte Grootaert



Prof. John Van Camp



Prof. Guy Smagghe



Prof. Katleen Raes



Prof. Tom Van de Wiele



Dr. Sam Possemiers



Ir. Judit Pitart



Dr. Stefan Voorspoels



Dr. Griet Jacobs



Dr. Nevena Vidovic



Prof. Maria Glibetic



Dr. Bouke Salden

# **THANK YOU!**

# **QUESTIONS?**