



*Innovative Food Product  
Development Cycle:  
Frame for Stepping Up  
Research Excellence of FINS*



# Fermented food products in traditional food use and potential for use as functional foods: overcoming challenges and bottlenecks in production

Dr. Maria Hayes, TEAGASC



# Fermented Foods

## Fermented Foods Glossary

Hankering for some probiotics? Check out these 11 fermented foods.



**1. Yogurt:** A fermented milk product that can also be made from nondairy milks like almond, coconut, and soy. If you don't make your own, look for yogurt with live, active cultures.



**2. Tempeh:** Made from whole, fermented soybeans, tempeh has a nutty, smoky, mushroomlike flavor and is best eaten cooked. Because of its firm, chewy texture, tempeh is often used as a meat substitute. (For more, see [ELmag.com/tempeh](http://ELmag.com/tempeh).)



**3. Kombucha:** A lightly effervescent drink made from sweetened tea that's been fermented with a symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast (SCOBY). If you make it at home, vary the flavor by adding juices, fruit, or even chia seeds.

*'The processes required for fermented foods were present on earth when man appeared on the scene... When we study these foods, we are in fact studying the most intimate relationships between man, microbe and foods.'*

-Prof. Keith H. Steinkraus, Cornell University, 1993



**4. Miso:** A savory, complex soybean, rice, or barley paste fermented with a mold called *koji*. It is a good salt alternative in soups, sauces, spreads, salad dressings, and marinades.



**5. Fish sauce, tamari, and shrimp paste:** Found in Asian markets, these fermented products are great additions to salad dressings, marinades, and stir-fries.



**6. Sauerkraut:** Made by fermenting finely chopped cabbage, sauerkraut is simple to make. If you want to purchase it, look for a good-quality one sold in the refrigerated section of the grocery store.



**7. Kimchi:** Made of fermented cabbage or radishes, this spicy Korean condiment can be served alone, with rice or noodles, in soups, or even as a creative topper for burgers.



**8. Pickles:** Make your own or look for fermented pickles, which are in the refrigerated section. The pickles found in grocery aisles are made using heat and vinegar, both of which kill good bacteria.



**9. Kefir:** Fermented milk made with a yeast and bacterial fermentation starter called "grains," kefir is a thick-yet-pourable drink that's wonderful served on its own or with nuts and fruit.



**10. Sourdough:** Sourdough bread contains the bacteria *lactobacilli* that ferment the dough, give the bread its tangy flavor — and make it easier to digest than traditional yeast breads. Easy to make if you keep a starter on hand.

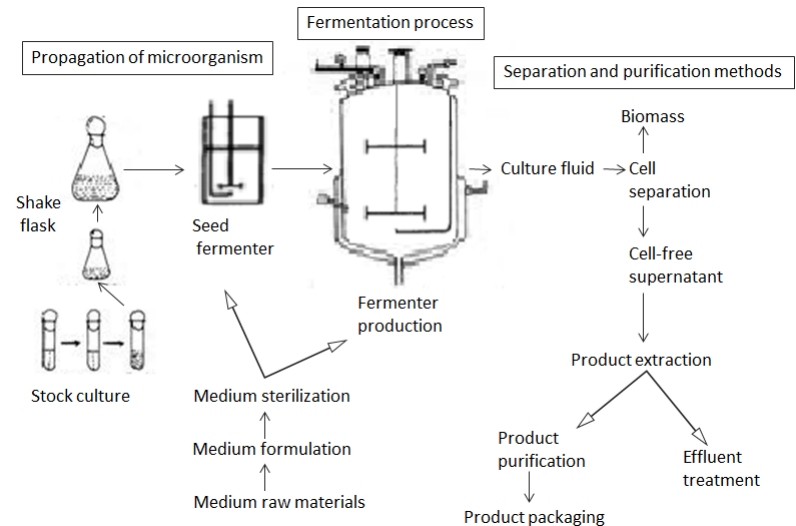


**11. Vinegar:** Made by fermenting wine, cider, or beer, vinegar can be splashed on many savory dishes for added tang and a nutrient boost. And after your meal, you can mix some with a little baking soda to clean the kitchen.



- The word fermentation is derived from the Latin verb *fevere* which means “to boil” and fermentation was defined by Louis Pasteur as “La vie sans l'air” (life without air) (Bourdichon et al., 2012).
- It involves transformation of organic substances into simpler compounds by the action of microorganisms including bacteria, yeasts, fungi and moulds (Hayes et al., 2007; Subramaniam and Vimala, 2012) often without air. Microorganisms produce enzymes that can break down organic molecules into smaller and often more bioactive molecules.
- The process can produce effervescence and heat and is the oldest form of biotechnology.

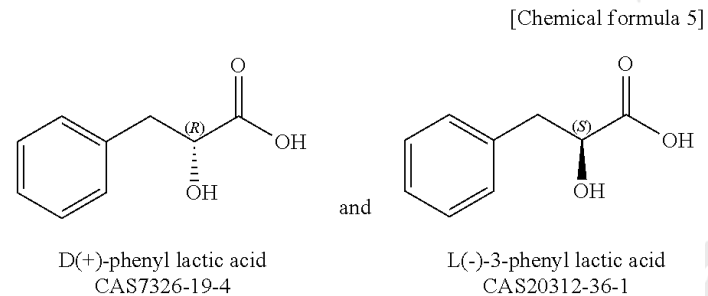
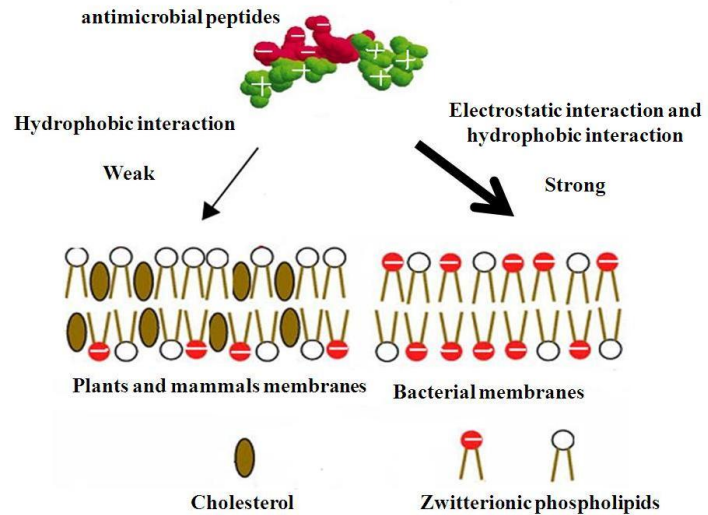
## Fermentation process





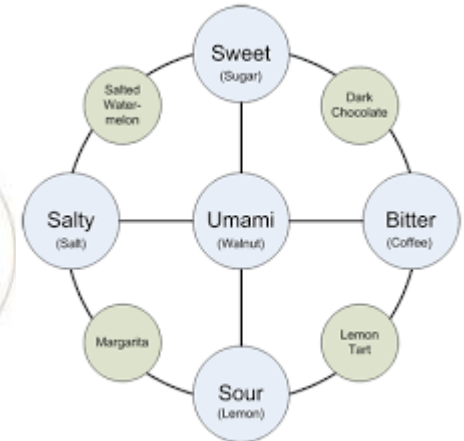
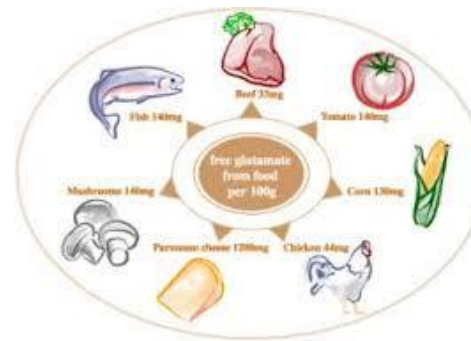
# Bioactive compounds including antimicrobial compounds produced during fermentation processes as secondary metabolites include:

- hydroxy acids such as phenyl lactic acid
- Hydroxy-phenyl lactic acid, indole lactic acid
  - alcohols such as phenyl-ethyl alcohol
- antimicrobial peptides



## FERMENTED MARINE PRODUCTS

- Fermentation of fish was first introduced as a means of preservation, and fish sauces and pastes or condiments are staples of the diets of people from Southeast Asian, Scandinavian, and within the Inuit cultures (Fitzgerald et al., 2015).
- Rakfish – found primarily in Norway and produced from freshwater fish including trout and charr
- In general, fermented fish products are served mainly as a salty and umami condiment that assists in the consumption of large quantities of rice (Ruddle and Ishige, 2010).





## FERMENTED MARINE PRODUCTS

- Hákarl – a fermented or cured shark product
- Rakfish – found primarily in Norway and produced from freshwater fish including trout and charr
- Swedish surströmming, produced from half-salted herring and traditionally consumed on thin bread known as tunnbröd
- *Lona ilish* is a salt fermented product produced from Indian shad (*Tenualosa ilisha*) a high-fat fish



## **FERMENTED MEAT PRODUCTS**

- Meat fermentation is a low energy, acidulation method (due to lactic acid production, low water activity, salt and drying) that results in preservation and distinctive properties that include colour, microbiological safety, palatability, tenderness and other desirable attributes
- Acidulation generally results from wild microorganisms/cultures which can lower pH. These microbial strains generally belong to the LAB.
- Spontaneously fermented meat products have a long tradition of production in certain regions of the world.
- The two major European producing and consuming countries for fermented meat products include Germany and France.



# FERMENTED MEAT PRODUCTS

## Traditional products

- Italian salami, Spanish salchichon and chorizo, Icelandic Slátur (blood sausage), Irish pig-blood derived black pudding (blood sausage), beef sticks, pepperoni and others including Bosnian sudžuk -a dry fermented beef sausage produced in a rural household near the town of Visoko in central Bosnia and Herzegovina

## Types of fermented meat products







# FERMENTED PRODUCTS AND CORRESPONDING MICROBES



Fermented Product	Fermentation type	Reaction products	Principal starter/non-starter microorganisms
Kimchi	Heterofermentative lactococci, and homofermentative lactobacilli	Lactate, carbon dioxide, ethanol, and acetate, mannitol	<i>Leuconostoc mesenteroides</i> , <i>Lactobacillus sake</i> , <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> , <i>Streptococcus</i> spp., <i>Pediococcus</i> spp., <i>Weissella</i> spp., <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> and <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i>
Beer	Alcoholic fermentation	Carbon dioxide, ethanol, dextrin	<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> , <i>S. bayanus</i> , <i>S. pastorianus</i> , <i>S. paradoxus</i> , <i>Candida tropicalis</i>
Wine	Alcoholic, malolactic	Ethanol, malic acid	<i>Oenococcus oeni</i> , <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i>
Sourdough	Alcoholic, Heterofermentation	Ethanol and ethyl acetate, 2-methyl-propanol and 2/3-methyl-1-butanol, d/l-lactic and acetic acids	<i>Bifidobacterium pseudocatenulatum</i> , <i>Lactobacillus sanfrancisco</i> , <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> , <i>Lactobacillus pontis</i> , <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> , <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> , <i>Lactobacillus paralimentarius</i> , <i>Lactobacillus rossiae</i> , <i>Lactobacillus sanfranciscensis</i> , <i>Lactobacillus amylovorus</i> , , <i>Lactobacillus fermentum</i> , <i>Lactobacillus reuteri</i>
Cheese	Homolactic + Heterolactic	Lactic acid, propionic acid, acetic acid,	<i>Lactococcus lactis</i> , <i>Streptococcus thermophilus</i> , <i>Debaryomyces hansenii</i> , <i>Geotrichum candidum</i> <i>Penicillium camemberti</i> , <i>Arthrobacter arilaitensis</i> , <i>Brevibacterium aurantiacum</i> , <i>Brevibacterium linum</i> , <i>Corynebacterium casei</i> <i>Halomonas</i> spp., <i>Hafnia alvei</i> , <i>Leuconostoc</i> sp., <i>Psychrobacter</i> sp., <i>Kluyveromyces marxianus</i>
Kefir	Heterolactic	Alcohol, lactic acid	<i>Lactobacillus kefiranoformans</i> ssp. <i>kefirgranum</i> , <i>Lactobacillus parakefiri</i> , <i>Lactobacillus kefiri</i> , <i>Kluyveromyces marxianus</i> , <i>Kazachstania exigua</i> , <i>Rhodospiridium kratochvilovae</i> , <i>Streptococcaceae</i> (primarily <i>Lactococcus</i> spp.), <i>Gluconobacter japonicus</i> and <i>Lactobacillus uvarum</i> , <i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i> , <i>Acetobacter syzygii</i> , <i>Lactobacillus satsumensis</i>
Sauerkraut	Heterolactic + Homolactic	Acetic acid , Lactic acid	<i>Leuconostoc mesenteroides</i> , <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> , <i>Pediococcus acidilactici</i>
Fermented		Lactic acid	<i>Enterococcus faecium</i> , <i>Lactobacillus</i>

# Fermented vegetables

- The primary retail fermented vegetable products produced in the United States and Europe are cucumber, pickles, olives, and sauerkraut.
- Korean-style fermented cabbage, kimchi, is thought to have originated in the primitive pottery age from the natural fermentation of withered vegetables stored in seawater.
- Kimchi



Product name	Country	Major ingredients	Microorganisms	Usage
Sauerkraut	Germany	Cabbage, salt	<i>Leuconostoc mesenteroides</i> , <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> , <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i>	Salad, side dish
Kimchi	Korea	Korean cabbage, radish, various vegetables, salt	<i>L. mesenteroides</i> , <i>Lb. brevis</i> , <i>Lb. plantarum</i>	Salad, side dish
Dhamuoi	Vietnam	Cabbage, various vegetables	<i>L. mesenteroides</i> , <i>Lb. plantarum</i>	Salad, side dish
Dakguadong	Thailand	Mustard leaf, salt	<i>Lb. plantarum</i>	Salad, side dish
Burong mustasa	Philippines	Mustard	<i>Lb. brevis</i> , <i>Pediococcus cerevisiae</i>	Salad, side dish

## BIOACTIVITIES



- Arihara first described the use of probiotic bacteria in fermented meat products.
- Probiotics including bifidobacteria and LAB can provide organoleptic and nutritional advantages as well as health benefits to the fermented meat products.
- Several meat products containing probiotics with claims for health benefits have been commercialized.
- Salami containing three intestinal LAB (*Lactobacillus acidophilus*, *Lactobacillus casei* and *Bifidobacterium* spp.) was produced by a German company in 1998 and a meat spread containing an intestinal LAB (*Lactobacillus rhamnosus* FERM P-15120) was produced by a Japanese company.
- Fermented sausages are suitable for the incorporation of probiotic bacteria since mild or no heat treatment is usually required by dry fermented meat products, thus providing the suitable conditions required for the survival of probiotics.

# Fermented Functional Foods – Probiotics and Prebiotics

- Functional foods are foods that claim to promote human health over and above the provision of basic nutrition.
- First proposed in Japan – FOSHU\*\*
- **Probiotics** are defined as “living microorganisms that when consumed in adequate numbers confer a health benefit to the consumer.
- There is ongoing controversy as to whether cultures must be viable for efficacy in all cases.
- **Prebiotics** are non digestible food ingredients that beneficially affect the host by stimulating growth and/or activity of one or a limited number of bacteria in the colon, thus improving host health.
- **Synbiotic** is a term used when referring to a product that uses both prebiotics and probiotics in combination.
- Microorganisms may also indirectly impart health benefits through the production of bioactive metabolites referred to as **biogenics** in fermentation.

# History of Functional foods

- As far back as 76 AD the Roman historian Plinio advocated the use of fermented milks for treating gastrointestinal infections.
- Tissier (1900s) proposed that Bifidobacteria could be effective in preventing infections in infants as they were predominant in breast milk.
- However, Metchnikoff, developed the probiotic concept – he observed that the consumption of fermented milks could reverse putrefactive effects of the gut microflora.

# Fermented foods and live probiotic cultures

- Certain microbial culture consumption exerts health benefits in the GI tract, as well as the respiratory and urogenital tracts.
- Effective in treatment/prevention of conditions including irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, depressed immune function, cancer and genitourinary tract infections.
- The effective dose is unknown but high numbers of bacteria that are viable are recommended for efficacy of probiotic foods.
- In Japan, the Fermented Milks and Lactic Acid Bacteria Beverage association demand a minimum number of  $10^7$  colony forming units (CFU/ml) of probiotic microorganisms at the end of shelf-life.



Italian varieties



Emmental

**CHEESE**

# Challenges in development of fermented functional foods?

- Probiotic cultures have to be suitable for large-scale industrial production and processing
- They must maintain good viability during storage
- Problem, as probiotic cultures are from the gut originally and are sensitive to stresses including oxygen, heat and acid exposure.
- They may perform poorly in food environments
- Yoghurts and fermented milks are the most common probiotic foods available as well as cheese

# Probiotic powdered ingredient development

- Dried preparation of live probiotic cultures are most convenient for long-term preservation and use in functional food applications.
- Freeze-drying is frequently used
- However, freezing and drying can lead to cell injury and decreased viability in some instances
- It is gentler than spray-drying but is more expensive and time-consuming
- Strain selection is important in terms of drying and storage and some probiotic strains exhibit better survival rates than others.





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# Fermented foods for delivery of probiotics

- Cheese offers an attractive food-based delivery vehicle for probiotic cultures and biogenic substances such as conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) and bioactive peptides.
- Compared to many other fermented foods it has a relatively high pH and fat content, a solid consistency and a higher buffering capacity.
- Together these features probably afford improved protection of biological activity during manufacture, storage and gastrointestinal transit.



# Bioactivities produced by hydrolysates and fermentates of dairy products



## Hydrolysed or fermented product

Sour milk  
 Sour milk  
 Yoghurt  
 Yoghurt  
 Yoghurt  
 Yoghurt  
 Yoghurt  
 Quarg  
 Dahi  
 Parmesan, Reggiana cheeses  
 Comte cheese  
 Cheddar cheese  
 Mozzarella, Italico cheeses  
 Crescenza, Gorgonzola cheeses  
 Edam, Emmental, 'Festivo' cheeses  
 Feta, Swiss, Cheddar, Edam, Camembert cheeses  
 Feta, Swiss, Cheddar, Edam, Camembert cheeses  
 Feta, Swiss, Cheddar, Edam, Camembert cheeses  
 Feta, Swiss, Cheddar, Edam, Camembert cheeses  
 Gouda cheese, Havarti cheese  
 Calpis® sour milk, Calpis Co. Japan  
 Evolus® sour milk, Valio, Finland  
 Whey Protein Hydrolysate (Biozate 1), Davisco, USA.  
 Casein hydrolysate containing the C12 peptide DMV, Holland

## Observed bioactivity

Phosphopeptides  
 Antihypertensive properties  
 ACE-inhibitory activity  
 Immunomodulatory  
 Antihypertensive properties  
 Antiamnesic  
 Microbiocidal  
 Antithrombotic  
 ACE-inhibitory activity  
 ACE-inhibitory activity  
 Opioid activity  
 Phosphopeptides  
 Phosphopeptides  
 ACE-inhibitory activity  
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 ACE-inhibitory activity  
 Immunomodulatory  
 Antiamnesic  
 Opioid activity  
 ACE-inhibitory activity  
 ACE-inhibitory activity, antihypertensive  
 ACE-inhibitory activity, antihypertensive  
 Antihypertensive properties  
 Antihypertensive properties



## COMMON MEAT PEPTIDES

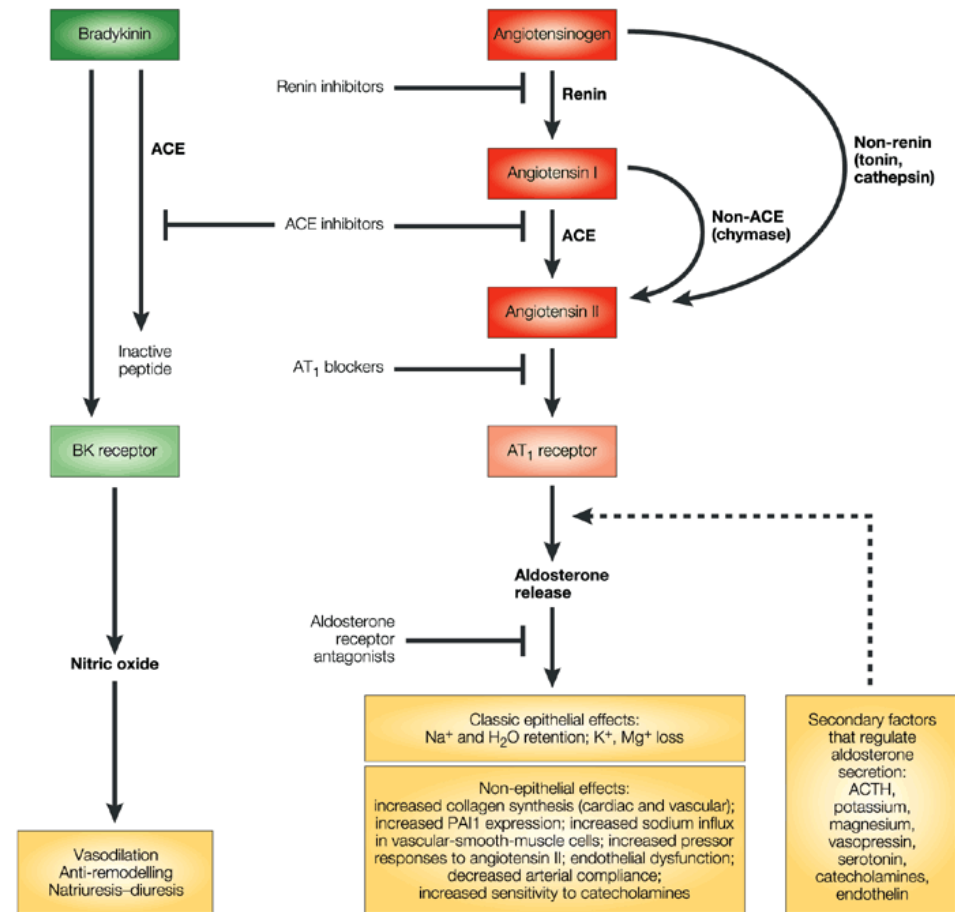
- Several endogenous antioxidant peptides are abundant in meats
- Carnosine ( $\beta$ -alanyl-L-histidine)
- Anserine (N- $\beta$ -alanyl-1-methyl-L-histidine)
- L-Carnitine ( $\beta$ -hydroxy- $\gamma$ -trimethyl amino butyric acid)



# Bioassays for heart health

## ACE-I inhibition

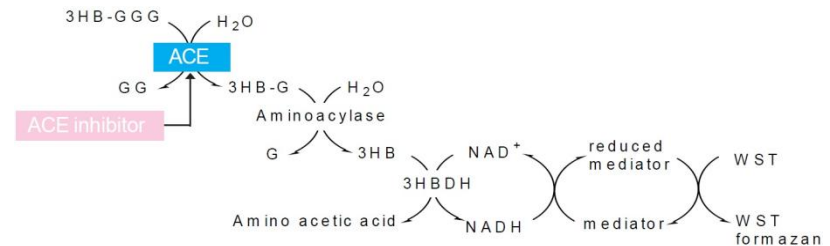
- Angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE-1) is a metalloprotease with two isoforms.
- Its main function is to hydrolyse angiotensin I into angiotensin II and convert a vasodilator to a vasoconstrictor.
- Can inhibit ACE-I
- *In vitro* use a colorimetric assay and read absorbance at 450 nm using a positive control (Captopril)
- ACE works in the Renin-Angiotensin system, which is one of the mechanisms of blood pressure control, to convert Angiotensin I to the vasopressor Angiotensin II. This enzyme also contributes to elevated blood pressure due to its role in breaking down the antihypertensive peptide Bradykinin.



# ACE-I inhibition assay

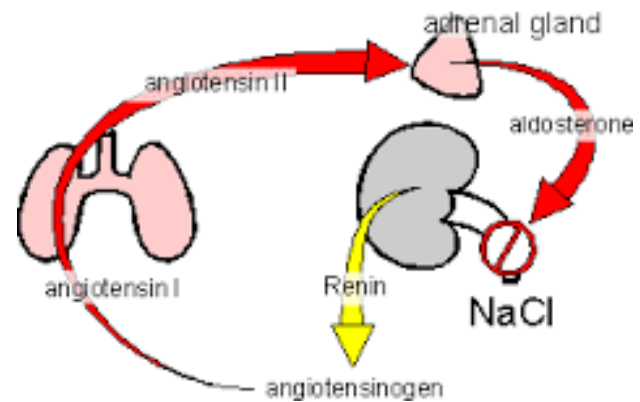
- In recent years, food and supplements containing ingredients that block ACE-I have received attention for their use in preventing high blood pressure.
- The conventional method of measuring ACE-I inhibition employs the synthetic substrate Hippuryl-His-Leu. Hippuric acid from the synthetic substrate is extracted with ethyl acetate, condensed, re-dissolved, and then read at an absorbance of 228 nm. This method is cumbersome and measurement is subjected to error due to residual ethyl acetate.
- Kit enzymatically detects 3-Hydroxybutyric acid (3HB), which is made from 3-Hydroxybutyryl-Gly-Gly-Gly (3HB-GGG). 96 well format, it is possible to test multiple samples at one time
- Spectrophotometric method (Abs 450 nm)
- % inhibition =  $(\text{Abs. Blank 1} - \text{Abs. Blank 2}) / (\text{Abs. Blank 1} - \text{Abs. sample}) \times 100$

Principle of the assay system to determine ACE activity or inhibition activity



# Renin inhibition assay

- Renin is an aspartyl protease of approximately 40 kDa that is released in active form from renal juxtaglomerular cells in response to sodium depletion, decreased blood volume and blood pressure, and b-adrenergic stimulation.
- Renin catalyzes the initial and rate limiting step in the renin-angiotensin system (RAS) pathway, converting angiotensinogen into angiotensin I.
- Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) subsequently converts angiotensin I to angiotensin II, which is a potent vasoconstrictor.
- A convenient assay in a 96-well format.
- The assay utilizes a renin-based synthetic peptide substrate which incorporates the fluorophore EDANS at one end and an EDAN-quenching molecule (Dabcyl) at the other end.
- After cleavage by renin, the peptide-EDANS product is released yielding bright fluorescence which can be easily analyzed using excitation wavelengths of 335-345 nm and emission wavelengths of 485-510 nm.
- Fluorometric method



## Heart Health Peptides from Macroalgae and Their Potential Use in Functional Foods

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<sup>5</sup>Department of Pharmaceutical and Biological Chemistry, School of Pharmacy, University of London, 29-39 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AX, United Kingdom

**ABSTRACT:** Macroalgae have for centuries been consumed whole among the East Asian populations of China, Korea, and Japan.

## Isolation and Characterization of Bioactive Pro-Peptides with *in Vitro* Renin Inhibitory Activities from the Macroalga *Palmaria palmata*

Ciarán Fitzgerald,<sup>†</sup> Leticia Mora-Soler,<sup>†,‡</sup> Eimear Gallagher,<sup>§</sup> Paula O'Connor,<sup>||</sup> Jose Prieto,<sup>‡</sup> Anna Soler-Vila,<sup>¶</sup> and Maria Hayes<sup>\*†</sup>

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<sup>||</sup>Irish Seaweed Research Group, Ryan Institute, Environmental, Marine and Energy Research, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland

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## Potential of a Renin Inhibitory Peptide from the Red Seaweed *Palmaria palmata* as a Functional Food Ingredient Following Confirmation and Characterization of a Hypotensive Effect in Spontaneously Hypertensive Rats

Ciarán Fitzgerald,<sup>\*†</sup> Rotimi E. Aluko,<sup>‡</sup> Mohammad Hossain,<sup>†</sup> Dilip K. Rai,<sup>†</sup> and Maria Hayes<sup>†</sup>

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<sup>‡</sup>Department of Human Nutritional Sciences, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg R3T 2N2, Canada

**ABSTRACT:** This work examined the resistance of the renin inhibitory, tridecapeptide IRLIIVLMPILMA derived previously from a *Palmaria palmata* papain hydrolysate, during gastrointestinal (GI) transit. Following simulated GI digestion, breakdown products were identified using mass spectrometry analysis and the known renin and angiotensin I converting enzyme inhibitory dipeptide IR was identified. *In vivo* animal studies using spontaneously hypertensive rats (SHRs) were used to confirm the antihypertensive effects of both the tridecapeptide IRLIIVLMPILMA and the seaweed protein hydrolysate from which this peptide was isolated. After 24 h, the SHR group fed the *P. palmata* protein hydrolysate recorded a drop of 34 mm Hg in systolic blood pressure (SBP) from 187 ( $\pm 0.25$ ) to 153 ( $\pm 0.64$ ) mm Hg SBP, while the group fed the tridecapeptide IRLIIVLMPILMA presented a drop of 33 mm Hg in blood pressure from 187 ( $\pm 0.95$ ) to 154 ( $\pm 0.94$ ) mm Hg SBP compared to the SBP recorded at time zero. The results of this study indicate that the seaweed protein derived hydrolysate has potential for use as antihypertensive agents and that the tridecapeptide is cleaved and activated to the dipeptide IR when it travels through the GI tract. Both the hydrolysate and peptide reduced SHR blood pressure when administered orally over a 24 h period.

**KEYWORDS:** *in vitro* simulated gastrointestinal digestion, spontaneously hypertensive rats, renin inhibitory peptides, red macroalga

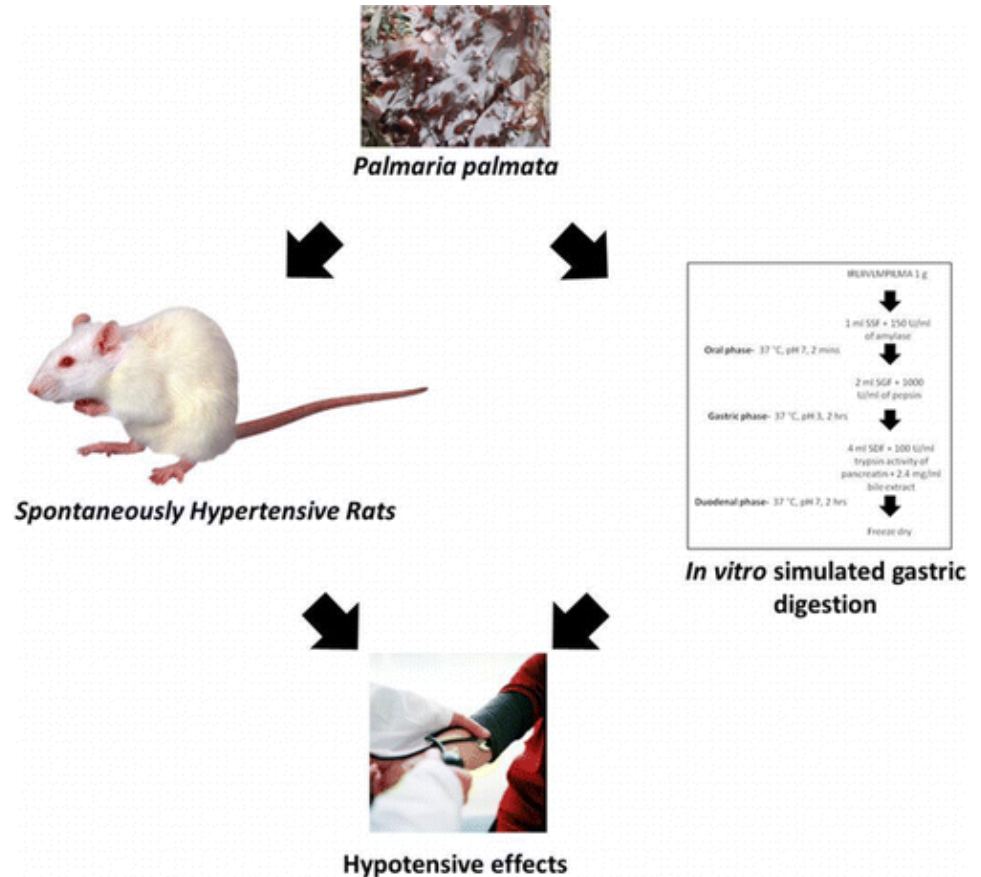
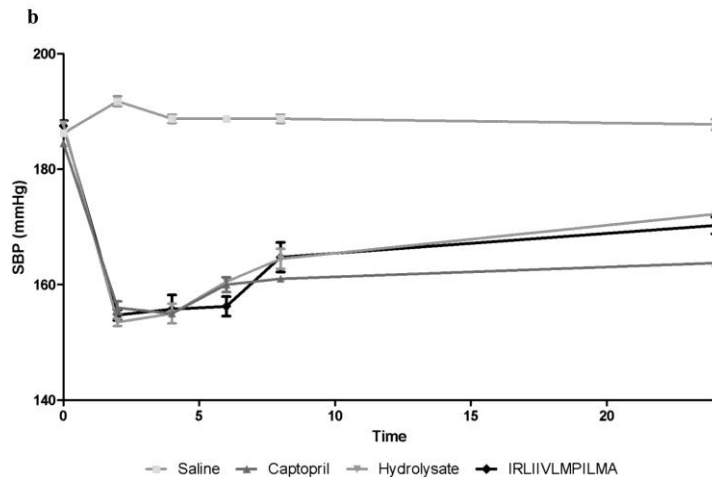
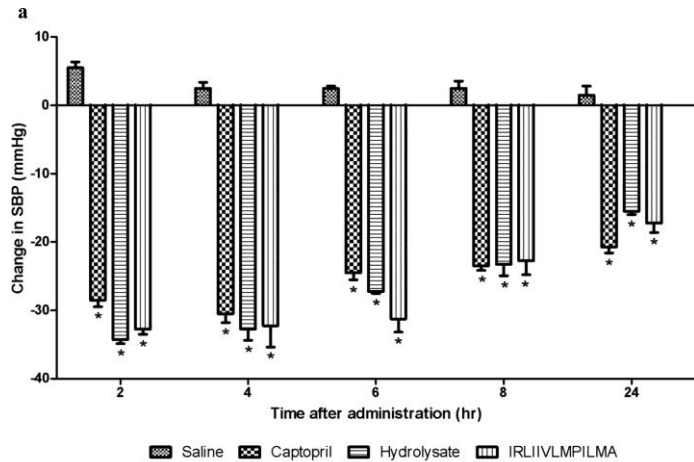


*Palmaria palmata* (Linneaus)  
Weber & Mohr



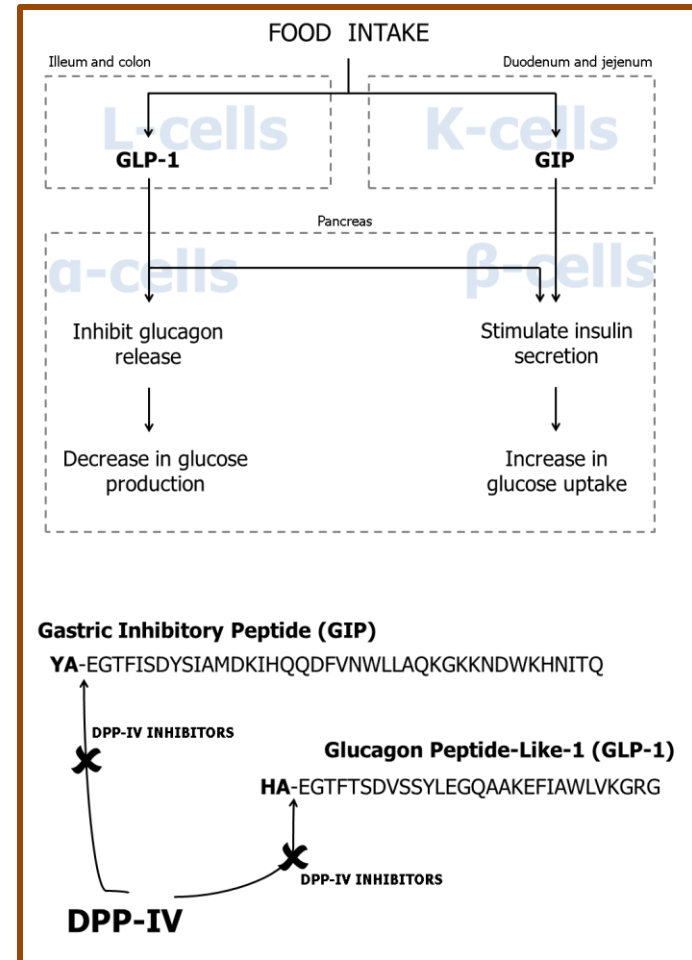


# Renin inhibitory hydrolysate and peptide : *in vivo*



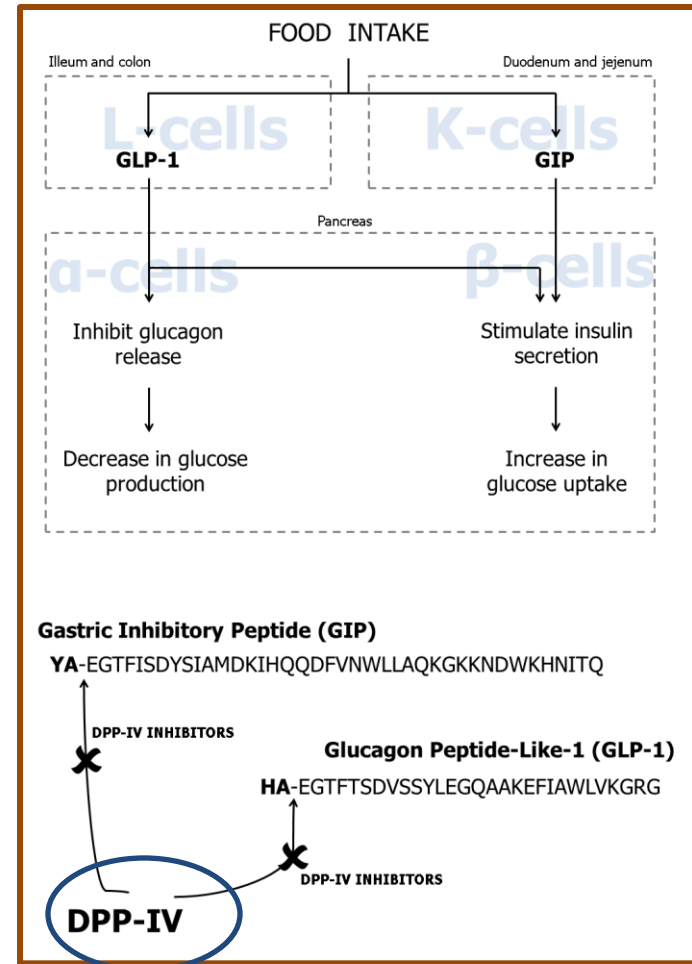
# DPP-IV inhibition assay (Diabetes, hearth health)

- Dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DPP-IV) known also as CD26, adenosine deaminase complexing protein 2.
- Membrane bound glycoprotein.
- Present on the surface of most cells.
- Immune regulation, signal transduction and apoptosis.
- Soluble form found in human serum and seminal fluid
- Cleaves X-proline and X-alanine dipeptide at the N-terminus of polypeptides

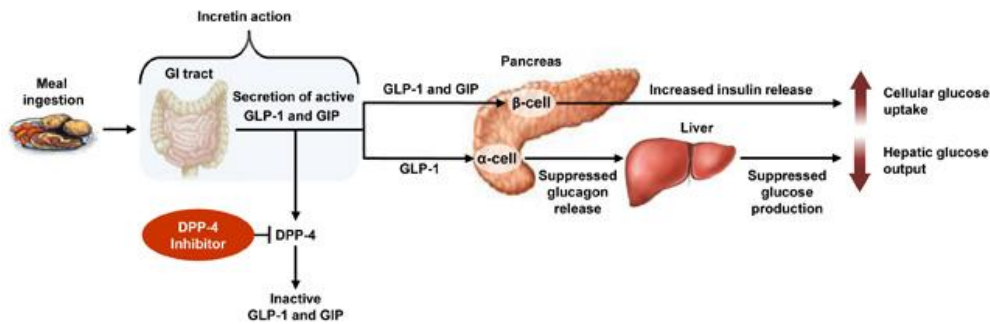


# DPP-IV inhibition assay (Diabetes, hearth health)

- Inhibitors of DPP-IV considered oral anti-diabetic agents
- Promote glucose homeostasis by inhibiting DPP-IV
- DPP-IV is the enzyme responsible for degrading two key gluco-regulatory hormones GIP and GLP-1



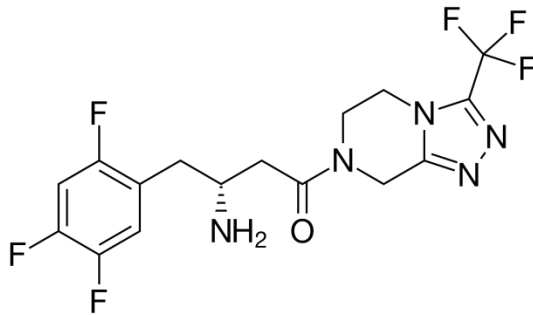
## DPP-IV inhibition assay (Diabetes, hearth health)



- Glucose dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP).
- Glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1).
- GLP-1 extends the action of insulin while suppressing the release of glucagon.
- DPP-IV also involved in tumour biology.
- Useful marker for various cancers.
- Level increased or decrease in subjects in serum or on the cell surface.

# DPP-IV inhibition assay

- Carried out using the fluorogenic substrate Gly-Pro-Aminomethylcoumarin (AMC).
- Cleavage of peptide bond by DPP releases the free AMC group.
- Fluorescence analysed at excitation wavelength 350nm-360 nm and emission wavelength of 450-465 nm.
- 96 well plate assay format can be used.
- Positive control sitagliptin.



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This presentation reflects only the opinion of authors and not the opinion of European Commission.



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