



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Breaking Barriers: Exploring Dietary Factors Influencing Gut Function for Cattle

G.B. Penner, BSA, MSc, PhD, P.Ag
Professor and Centennial Enhancement Chair in Ruminant Nutritional Physiology
Department of Animal and Poultry Science, University of Saskatchewan

www.usask.ca

1



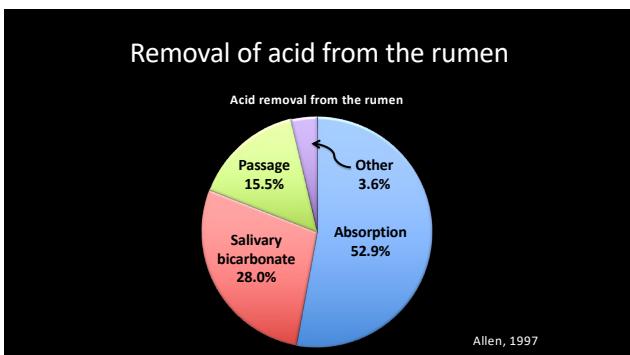
Critical roles of a healthy gastrointestinal tract

- Absorptive and secretory
 - Feed digestion
 - Digesta passage
 - Regulates luminal pH
 - Nutrient absorption
 - Urea recycling
- Barrier
 - First arm of the immune response
 - Prevents pathogen and antigen translocation
 - Intrinsic, extrinsic, immunological (Jutte, 2011)
- Communicative
 - Facilitates cross-talk between host and microbiota
 - Nutrient sensing and signaling
 - Gut peptides (ghrelin, GIP, GLP1, GLP2, PYY, etc.)



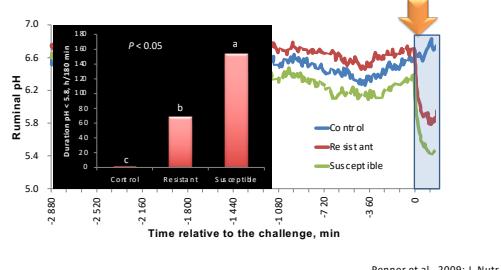
www.usask.ca

2



3

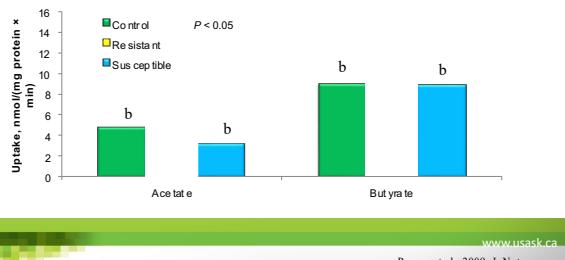
SCFA absorption promotes regulation of ruminal pH



4

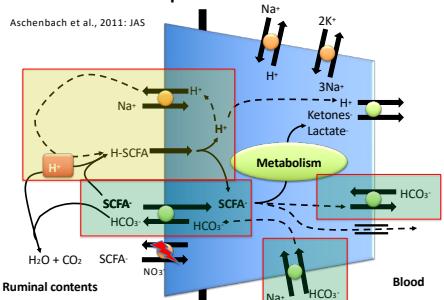


Lambs resistant to ruminal acidosis have greater SCFA absorption

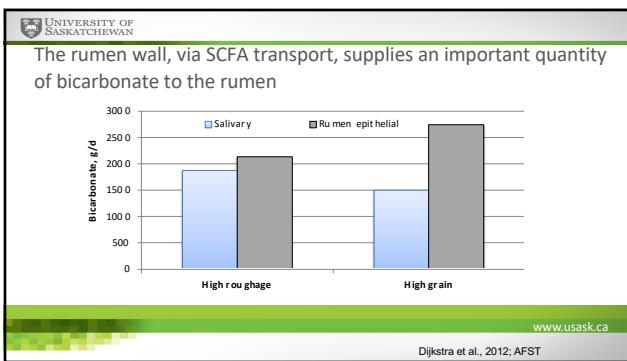


5

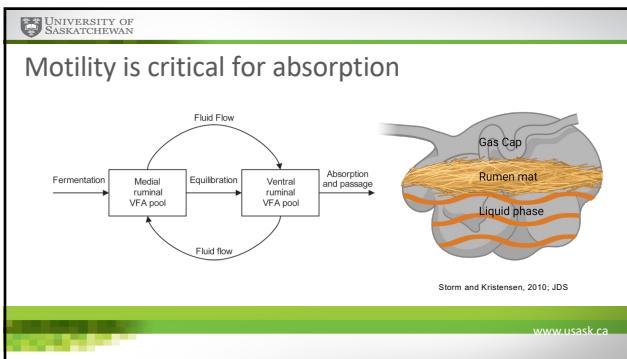
SCFA absorption and H⁺ removal



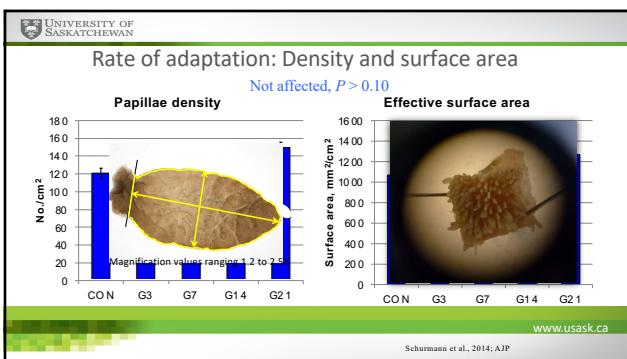
6



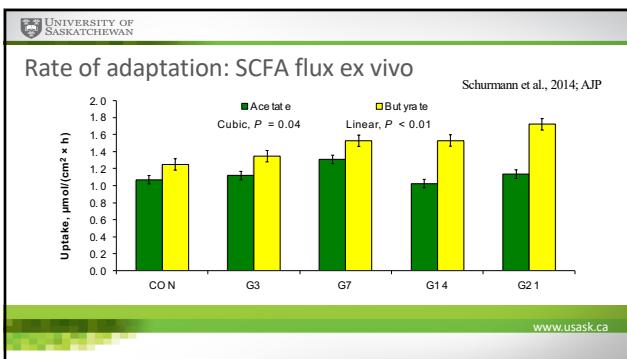
7



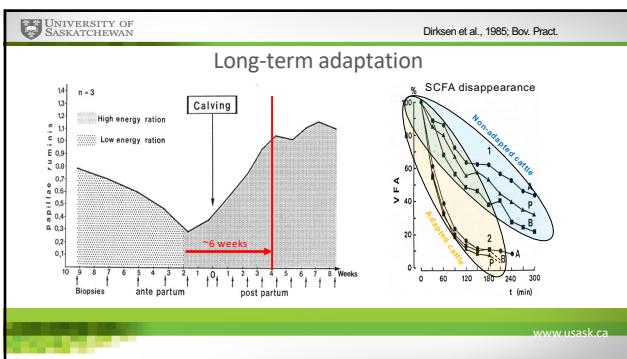
8



9



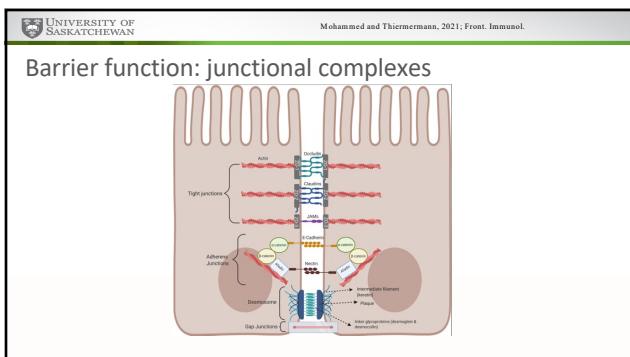
10



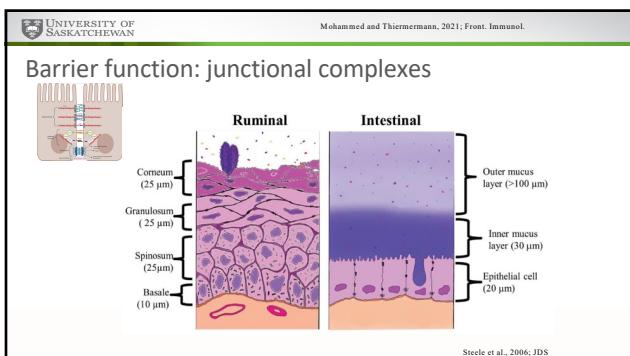
11



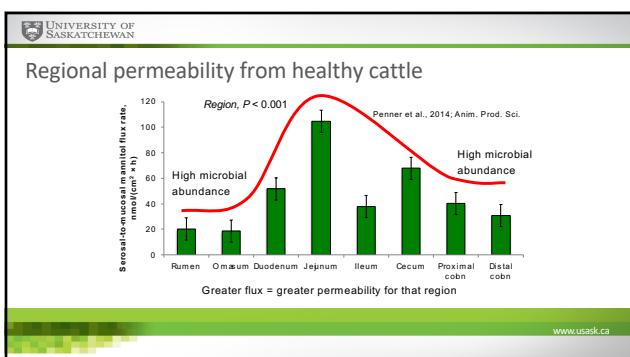
12



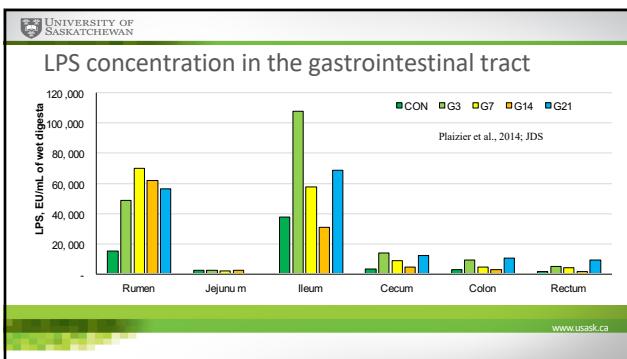
13



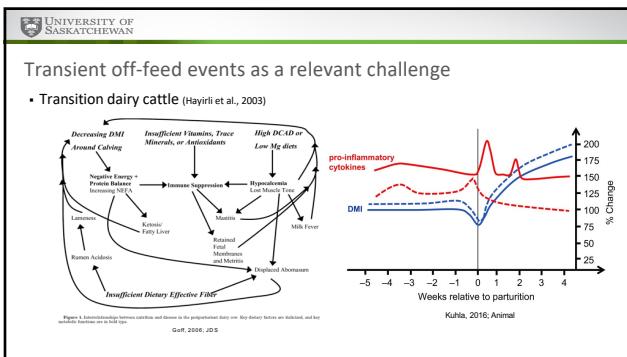
14



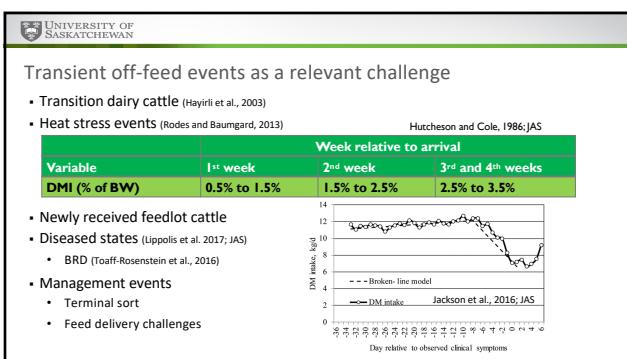
15



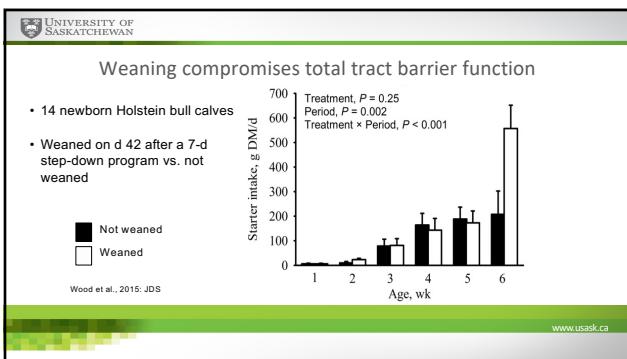
16



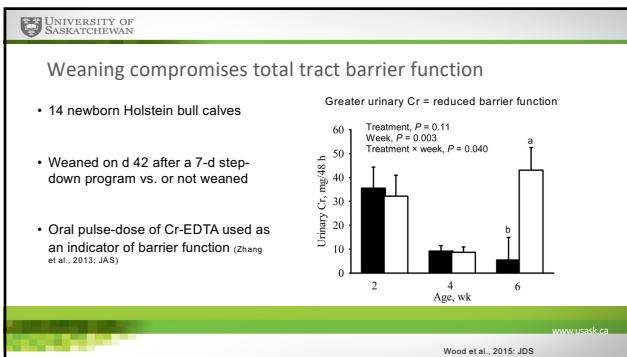
17



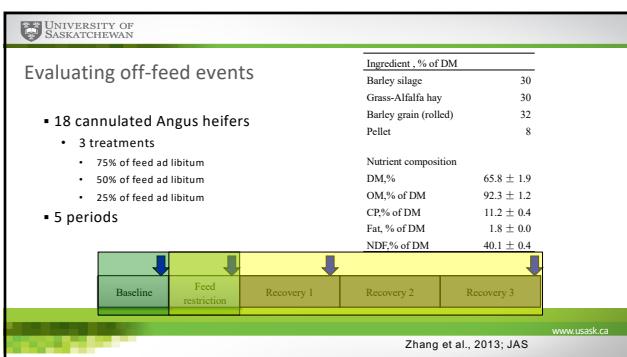
18



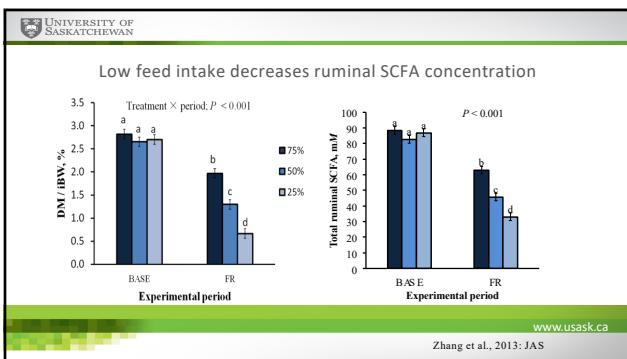
19



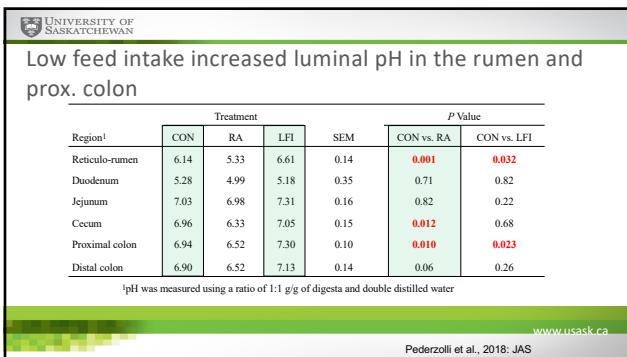
20



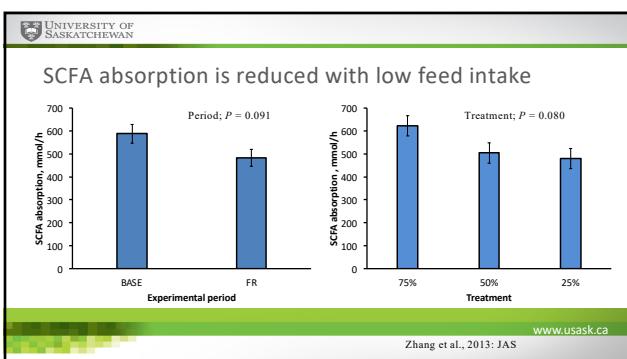
21



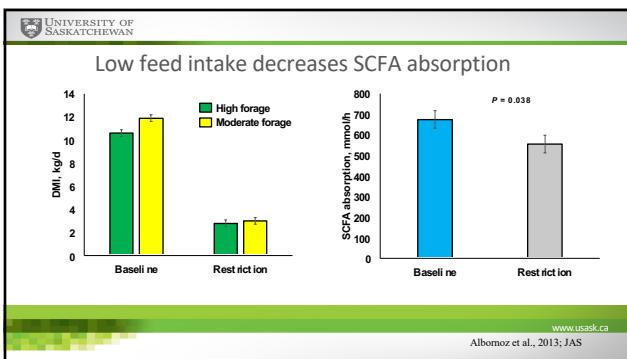
22



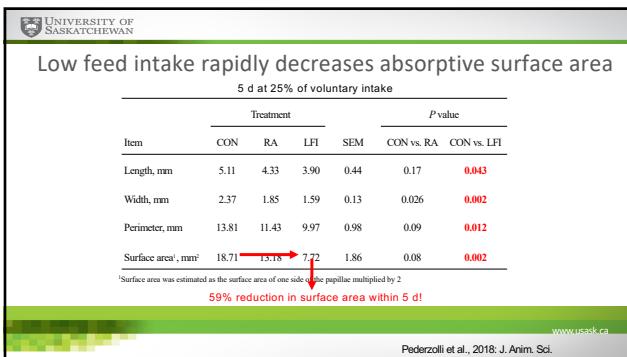
23



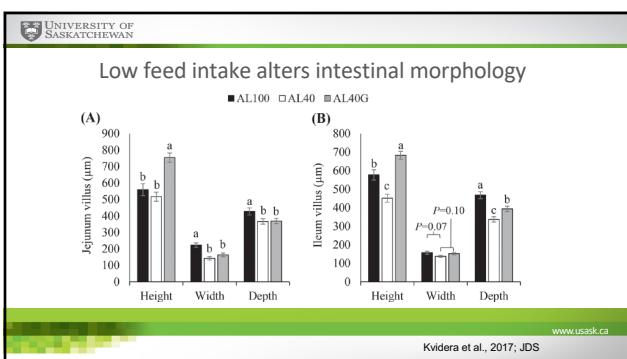
24



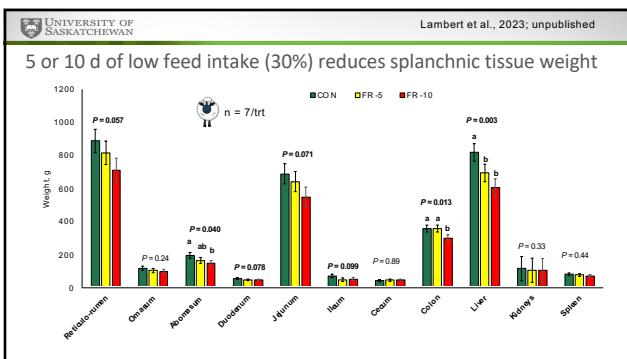
25



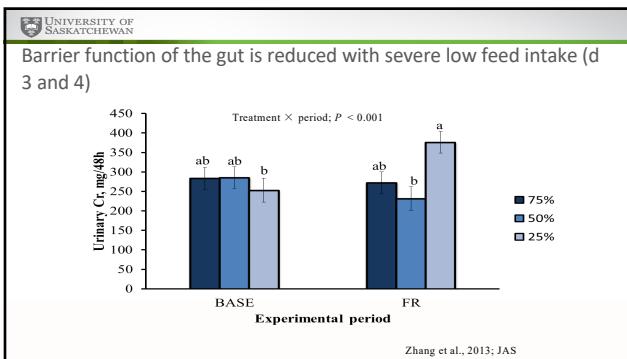
26



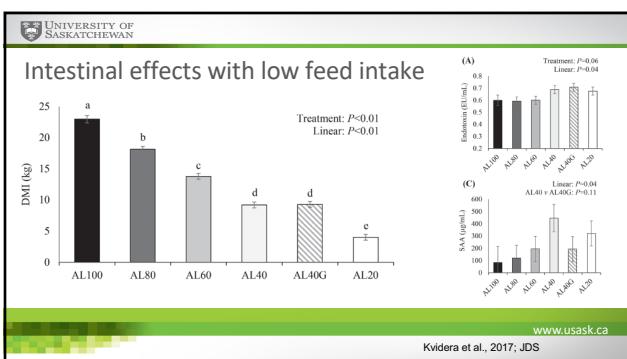
27



28



29



30

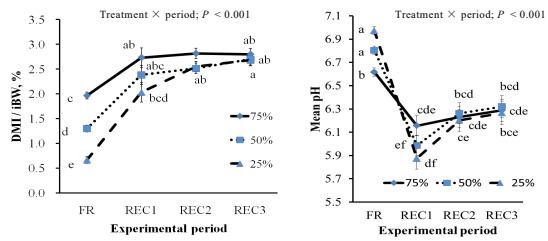
Is there a cost to this inflammation?

- Intravenous LPS induces glucose utilization of ~1 kg/12 h (Kvidera et al., 2017)
- Intravenous LPS dramatically increases liver amino acid uptake (McNeil et al., 2016)
 - Acute phase proteins
 - Plasma proteins
 - Lymphocyte protein synthesis
- Intentionally-induced leaky gut (Briggs et al., 2021)
 - Decreased HCW, ribeye area, yield grade

www.usask.ca

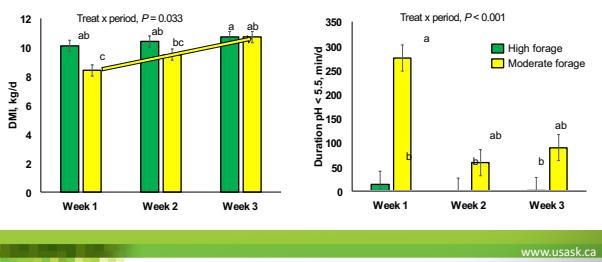
31

Ad libitum feeding after low feed intake induces low ruminal pH

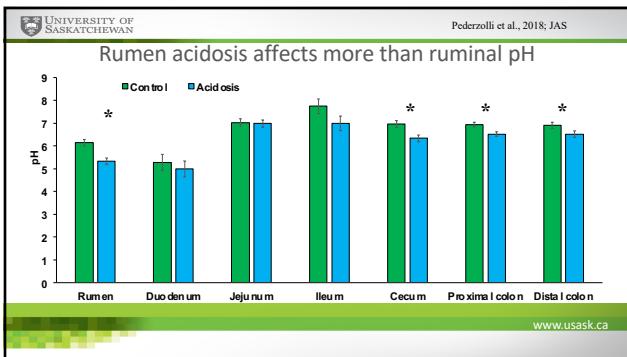


32

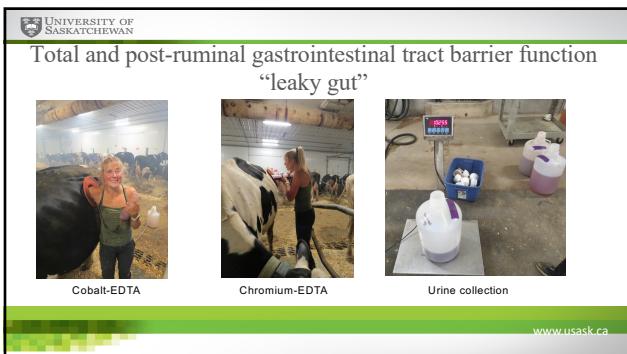
Feeding a high forage diet improves recovery



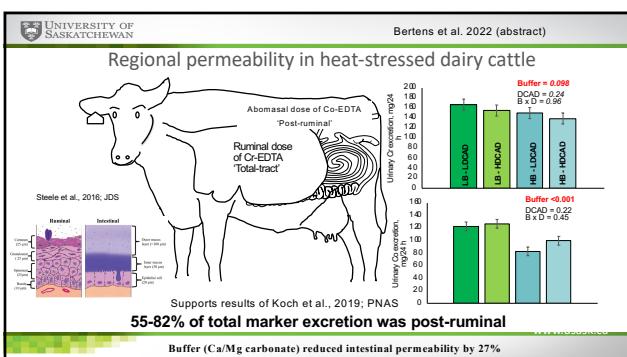
33



34

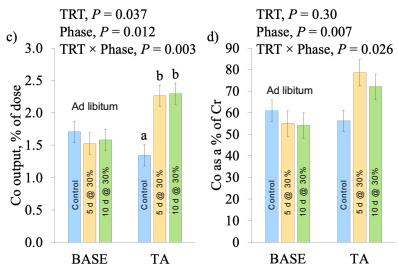


35

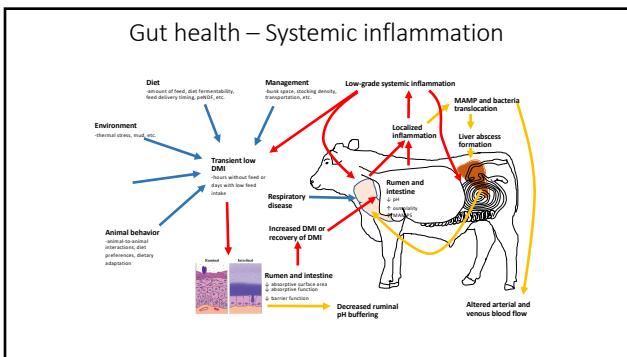


36

Low feed intake increases intestinal permeability not ruminal



37



38

Conclusions

- A healthy gut requires a consistent supply of nutrients
- GIT responds to low feed intake
 - Reduced nutrient supply and gut surface area
 - Reduced nutrient absorption
 - Increases risk for ruminal acidosis as they rebuild DMI
 - Reduced barrier function
 - Increased risk for inflammation
- Little is known regarding factors that promote recovery

39



Acknowledgements



www.usask.ca
