

**Contribution from Beneo  
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**Oligofructose and inulin: Increase of faecal *Bifidobacterium spp.***

Rao et al. (2001), by Kolida et al. (2007), and Bouhnik et al. (2007) published randomized, controlled human dietary intervention studies that were not taken into account in the SACN report. In the first publication, significantly increased numbers of faecal *Bifidobacterium spp.* were reported after oligofructose supplementation with 5 grams per day. In the latter two studies, this effect was reported after inulin supplementation with 5 grams per day. Various other relevant references are missing in the evaluation by SACN, especially concerning the effects of inulin on faecal *Bifidobacterium spp.*. Including all relevant references in a renewed evaluation of the effects of oligofructose and inulin on numbers of faecal *Bifidobacterium spp.* should lead to the conclusion that a daily dose of 5 grams of either oligofructose or inulin is effective for increasing numbers of faecal *Bifidobacterium spp.*. As a consequence, the corresponding sections in Chapter 9. of the report should be adapted.