

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Identification of three bacterial species associated with increased appendicular lean mass: the HUNT study

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Supplementary Note 1. Representativity

Comparison of the participants who agreed to participate in the HUNT4 baseline visit with those that did not participate is described in the recent cohort description article.¹¹ Age, gender, appendicular lean mass (ALM; main outcome), and total lean mass for the HUNT 4 participants that participated in the feces sub-study and those that did not participate is described in Supplementary Table 12. Subjects with available feces samples were slightly older and included a higher proportion of women than subjects without available feces samples. Comparisons between the participants in the present study with performed quantitative PCR (qPCR) analyses showed that the subjects in the discovery cohort were representative of the subjects with available feces samples. The subjects in the replication cohort were younger and included a higher proportion of women than the pool of subjects with feces samples available (Supplementary Table 12). Individuals in the combined cohorts with qPCR analyses and bone mineral density data included a high proportion of women. When stratifying on gender, ALM and total lean mass was similar in all subgroups (Supplementary Table 12).

Supplementary Note 2. Assay design

For the assays of the three anabolic species identified in this study, bioinformatic analyses identified conserved and unique target regions. ThermoFischer Scientific (Waltham, MA, USA) developed specific and unique primers and probes targeting these amplicon regions. The target region for *C. comes* was

AAGAATTGCTGCATTCATTGTCAGGATATCTCCAATGTCACATTGGTTTTCACCTCGGTATT
CTTTCCCTTGATATAAGTATTCACTTCCCAGAACAGCATCTGTATCCGTCCTTCTTTACCGGT
AGCGCCTGCCAGATCAGCGTCCCTCACTTACCTGGTCTGCCCCGGACXTCATTATAATAGTAG
ATCATTCCGATCAGAACAGCTGTAGCAGGGCACAAAGAACACAGCCCCAGATATTTTTCTT
CTTCCAATCGCATCCGCCTCTTGATCTGTTAGATAGGAATAGTATCCCTGTTTCCAG
AAAACATACATCCTTTATTCTTTCGCGTGTCCGCATGGTTTCAGGATCTTTCTCCATCCGXG
ATACCTGCACCTGGGAAA. The target region for *E. ventriosum* was TTTATTCTGTGATGAGAACAGT
AATCTGCTGTATCCTTAAGGAATCCGCTTTATCCATCTGTTCTAATGCTTGTAAATAGCTTCCTG
AAGTTTGATTGTTTCCAATAGCAATACCGAATTCTCAGGTTCTGTCTTATCTGAAAATGCC
TTTCATACTGTCAAGGATTCTTGTACGAAACCGTCAGCAACAGTACTATCAACTACTGCAT
CAATTTCACCATTGTTAAGTGTAAAGCAAXTTAATAACTGTCTTGTACACTTCTACATT
AATAGTCTTGTGACTTGTATTCTGACATAAGCTGATCTGATGTTGTACCTTCTGTACACCAACT
GATTTCCGTCAAGATCCTTAAGCTGTTAATCTTAAGTCGCTACCCCTCTTAACTACTA. The
target region for *D. longicatena* was TCCGTTCCGGTATATCCGGATCACAGCCATGGTCTGCCGTAAATC
ATCAACATATCGTCGCCGATATTGCGAGGAATTCCCTAACTGTTCATCGAATCTCGTCAGTG
CTCCTGCATATCCTGCAATATCACGCCGGTGTCCATAGATCATATCCCCATCTACTAACGTTCACATA
GCAAAGTCCGTCAACTCTTCTGTATCTGATCGTCTTCCATATTCTTCTATTCCCTGAT
TCGGGTAGGTCTCCGTCACTCCCTGCCCTCAAAGATATCATAGATCTTCCGACACCGATCACATC
TTTCCTCTGTTAATGCATCCAACACCGTCTGTCGGCGGTGCAAGTGAAGTCATGCCGT
CTGATTGTCCTCGTAATTGGCCATGTTCCGATGAAATGGTCTGCGATCACTCTCCGACTCCGA
GATCTCCAGTCAGCATCTCTGGCAATCTTACAATATT. Further, assay information is given in
previous publications.^{1,2} The 50 validated qPCR assays can be ordered from ThermoFisher Scientific (catalogue number 4471120 Custom OpenArray and referring to specific Custom OpenArray ID name: BIOMEPM-001 ver 1).

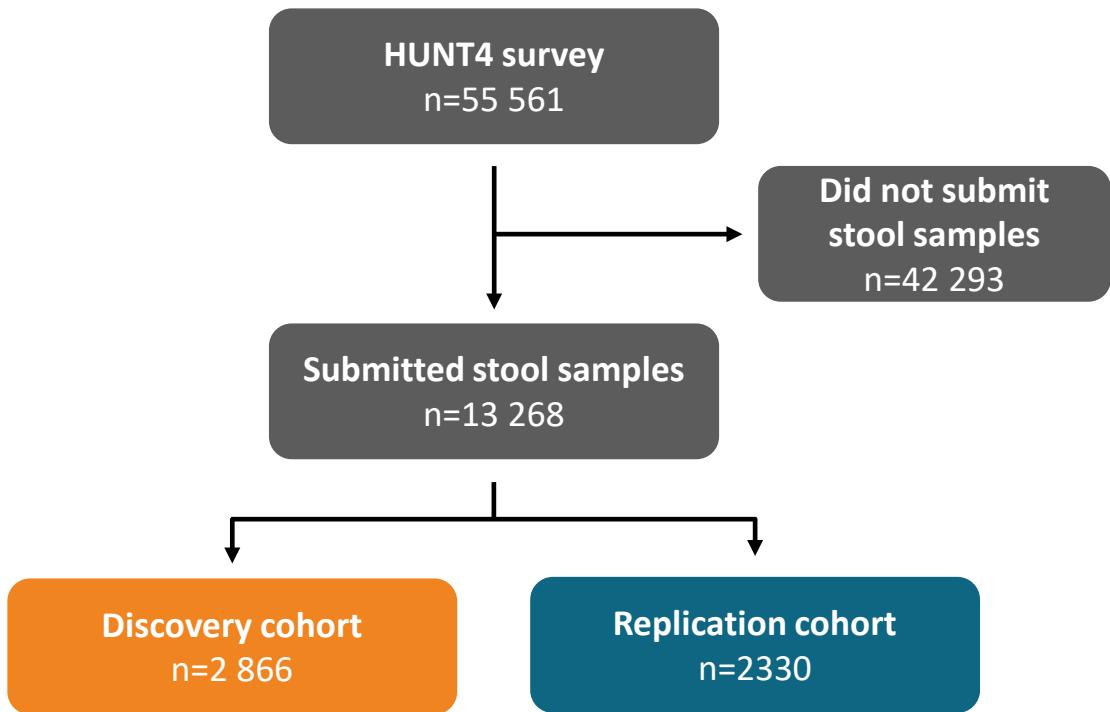
Supplementary Note 3. Comparison of the quantitative PCR analyses and metagenome sequencing

Our major finding was that *C. comes*, *D. longicatena*, and *E. ventriosum* associated with ALM. To further validate the assays for these bacteria, we compared the quantitative PCR method with gold standard shotgun metagenome sequencing. The shotgun sequencing library was prepared using MGIEasy FS DNA Library Prep Set (MGI Tech Co., Ltd, China) following the manufacturer's instructions. The sample sequencing libraries together with PCR controls were pooled and sequenced using DNBSEQ-G400 (MGI Tech Co., Ltd) producing at least 20M reads (PE150) per sample. The sequencing reads were processed using StaG-mwc workflow³ (v0.4.0), which conducts reads quality trimming and filtering using fastp⁴ (version 0.20.0), host reads removal using Kraken 2⁵ (version 2.0.8_beta), and bacterial taxonomic profiling using MetaPhlAn2⁶ (version 2.9.21). Default parameters from the workflow were used for reads processing and taxonomic classification. The relative abundance value for the metagenomic sequencing data was calculated for the 50 species used in the qPCR assay. When evaluated in 130 samples, the quantitative PCR analysis and metagenome sequencing showed high correlation for these three bacteria (*C. comes*: r=0.99, P=3.2×10⁻¹⁵; *D. longicatena*: r=0.77, P=4.9×10⁻²⁷; *E. ventriosum*: r=0.95, P=2.1×10⁻⁶⁴).

Supplementary Note 4. Genotyping

DNA was obtained from blood and genotyping was performed using one of three Illumina HumanCoreExome arrays (Illumina, Inc., San Diego, CA, USA): 12 v.1.0, 12 v.1.1, and 24 with custom content (UM HUNT

Biobank v1.0) at the NTNU Genomic Core Facility (Trondheim, Norway).⁷ Samples were excluded if they had contamination > 2.5% as estimated with BAF Regress,⁸ large chromosomal copy number variants, lower call rate of a technical duplicate pair and twins, or gonosomal constellations other than XX and XY. Samples were also excluded if they failed to reach a 99% call rate or whose inferred sex contradicted the reported gender. Samples that passed quality control were analyzed in a second round of genotype calling following the Genome Studio quality control protocol.⁹ Genomic position, strand orientation, and the reference allele of genotyped variants were determined by aligning their probe sequences against the human genome (Genome Reference Consortium Human genome (build 37) and revised Cambridge Reference Sequence of the human mitochondrial DNA (GenBank ID NC_012920); <http://genome.ucsc.edu>, accessed Feb 9th 2022) using BLAT (build 2016).¹⁰ Variants were excluded if (1) their probe sequences could not be perfectly mapped to the reference genome, cluster separation was < 0.3, Gentrain score was < 0.15, showed deviations from Hardy Weinberg equilibrium in unrelated samples of European ancestry with p-value < 0.0001), their call rate was < 99%, or another assay with higher call rate genotyped the same variant. The genotyping resulted in approximately 600,000 genetic variants; following imputation (HRC V1.1), approximately 25 million gene variants were obtained.



Supplementary Figure 1. Flow chart.

Supplementary Table 1. Study characteristics

| | Discovery | | Replication | | Combined | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Women (n=1703) | Men (n=1163) | Women (n=1614) | Men (n=716) | Women (n=3317) | Men (n=1879) |
| Continous variable | Mean (SD) |
| Age (years) | 58.6 (14.1) | 62.9 (13.1) | 53.4 (13.9) | 54.7 (14.3) | 56.1 (14.2) | 59.7 (14.2) |
| Height (cm) | 164.9 (6.2) | 177.6 (6.6) | 166.0 (6.0) | 178.5 (6.9) | 165.4 (6.1) | 178 (6.7) |
| Weight (kg) | 74.2 (14.4) | 87.3 (13.9) | 72.1 (13.0) | 85.9 (13.9) | 73.1 (13.8) | 86.8 (13.9) |
| BMI (kg/m ²) | 27.3 (4.9) | 27.7 (4.0) | 26.2 (4.5) | 26.9 (4.1) | 26.7 (4.8) | 27.4 (4.0) |
| Appendicular lean mass (kg) | 19.0 (2.7) | 26.6 (3.5) | 19.2 (2.4) | 27.3 (3.5) | 19.1 (2.6) | 26.9 (3.5) |
| Total lean mass (kg) | 43.7 (5.6) | 59.8 (7.3) | 44.0 (5.1) | 61.0 (7.4) | 43.8 (5.4) | 60.3 (7.4) |
| Femoral neck BMD (g/cm ²) | 0.78 (0.12) ^h | 0.88 (0.14) ^h | 0.80 (0.12) ^h | 0.89 (0.14) ^g | 0.79 (0.12) ^j | 0.88 (0.14) ⁱ |
| Total hip BMD (g/cm ²) | 0.85 (0.13) ^h | 0.98 (0.15) ^h | 0.87 (0.13) ^h | 0.98 (0.14) ^g | 0.86 (0.13) ^j | 0.88 (0.14) ⁱ |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> relative abundance (%) | 0.7 (0.3-1.2) | 0.7 (0.3-1.3) | 0.7 (0.3-1.1) | 0.7 (0.3-1.2) | 0.7 (0.3-1.2) | 0.7 (0.3-1.3) |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> relative abundance (%) | 1.0 (0.5-1.8) | 1.1 (0.5-1.9) | 1.1 (0.6-1.8) | 1.1 (0.6-1.8) | 1.1 (0.5-1.8) | 1.1 (0.6-1.9) |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> relative abundance (%) | 0.1 (0.0-0.6) | 0.1 (0.0-0.6) | 0.2 (0.0-0.6) | 0.2 (0.0-0.6) | 0.1 (0.0-0.6) | 0.2 (0.0-0.6) |
| Categorical variables | n (%) |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> presence | 1512 (88.8) | 1061 (91.2) | 1465 (90.8) | 667 (93.2) | 2977 (89.8) | 1728 (92.0) |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> presence | 1547 (90.8) | 1070 (92.0) | 1484 (91.9) | 681 (95.1) | 3031 (91.4) | 1751 (93.2) |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> presence | 942 (55.3) | 684 (58.8) | 980 (60.7) | 488 (68.2) | 1922 (57.9) | 1172 (62.4) |
| Involuntary weight loss | 67 (4.1) ^c | 43 (3.9) ^d | 46 (2.9) ^d | 28 (4.0) ^b | 113 (3.5) ^t | 71 (3.9) ^c |
| Living in Norway at 1 year of age | 1638 (96.2) ^a | 1134 (97.6) ^a | 1547 (95.8) | 684 (95.5) | 3185 (96) ^a | 1818 (96.8) ^a |
| Chronic disease | 822 (48.9) ^c | 531 (46.5) ^c | 573 (36) ^c | 205 (28.8) ^a | 1395 (42.6) ^d | 736 (39.7) ^c |
| Use of prescription medication | 1225 (72.3) ^a | 846 (73.1) ^a | 770 (48.0) ^a | 195 (27.3) ^a | 1995 (60.5) ^b | 1041 (55.7) ^a |
| Current smoker | 160 (9.4) ^a | 65 (5.6) ^a | 138 (8.6) ^a | 43 (6.0) ^a | 298 (9.0) ^b | 108 (5.8) ^b |
| Stool consistency | f | e | e | d | f | f |
| Hard | 351 (22.0) | 156 (14.5) | 303 (19.9) | 87 (12.9) | 654 (21.0) | 243 (13.9) |
| Intermediate | 1072 (67.1) | 787 (73.1) | 1041 (68.4) | 493 (73.4) | 2113 (67.7) | 1280 (73.2) |
| Loose | 174 (10.9) | 134 (12.4) | 178 (11.7) | 92 (13.7) | 352 (11.3) | 226 (12.9) |
| Fruit/berries intake frequency | | | | | | |
| <1 time/week | 76 (4.5) | 96 (8.3) | 61 (3.8) | 56 (7.9) | 137 (4.2) | 152 (8.2) |
| 1-3 times/week | 472 (27.9) | 406 (35.3) | 449 (28.1) | 286 (40.2) | 921 (28.0) | 692 (37.1) |
| 4-6 times/week | 615 (36.4) | 402 (34.9) | 620 (38.8) | 236 (33.1) | 1235 (37.5) | 638 (34.2) |
| 7 or more times/week | 526 (31.1) | 247 (21.5) | 470 (29.4) | 134 (18.8) | 996 (30.3) | 381 (20.5) |
| Vegetables intake frequency | | | | | | |
| <1 time/week | 21 (1.2) | 29 (2.5) | 14 (0.9) | 15 (2.1) | 35 (1.1) | 44 (2.4) |
| 1-3 times/week | 274 (16.2) | 290 (25.3) | 284 (17.7) | 198 (27.7) | 558 (17.0) | 488 (26.2) |
| 4-6 times/week | 828 (49) | 606 (52.8) | 779 (48.7) | 369 (51.6) | 1607 (48.8) | 975 (52.3) |
| 7 or more times/week | 568 (33.6) | 223 (19.4) | 524 (32.7) | 133 (18.6) | 1092 (33.2) | 356 (19.1) |
| Red meat intake frequency | | | | | | |
| <1 time/week | 445 (26.5) | 218 (19.1) | 398 (24.8) | 127 (17.9) | 843 (25.7) | 345 (18.6) |
| 1-3 times/week | 1088 (64.9) | 819 (71.6) | 1054 (65.8) | 503 (70.9) | 2142 (65.3) | 1322 (71.3) |
| 4-6 times/week | 143 (8.5) | 98 (8.6) | 142 (8.9) | 72 (10.2) | 285 (8.7) | 170 (9.2) |
| 7 or more times/week | 1 (0.1) | 9 (0.8) | 8 (0.5) | 7 (1.0) | 9 (0.3) | 16 (0.9) |
| White meat intake frequency | | | | | | |
| <1 time/week | 695 (41.4) | 533 (46.6) | 574 (36) | 269 (38) | 1269 (38.8) | 802 (43.3) |
| 1-3 times/week | 909 (54.2) | 579 (50.6) | 951 (59.6) | 424 (60) | 1860 (56.8) | 1003 (54.2) |
| 4-6 times/week | 70 (4.2) | 29 (2.5) | 66 (4.1) | 14 (2) | 136 (4.2) | 43 (2.3) |
| 7 or more times/week | 4 (0.2) | 3 (0.3) | 4 (0.3) | 0 (0.0) | 8 (0.2) | 3 (0.2) |
| Processed meat intake frequency | | | | | | |
| <1 time/week | 530 (31.6) | 330 (28.7) | 442 (27.8) | 164 (23.1) | 972 (29.7) | 494 (26.6) |
| 1-3 times/week | 1074 (64.0) | 763 (66.4) | 1081 (68) | 502 (70.7) | 2155 (65.9) | 1265 (68) |
| 4-6 times/week | 74 (4.4) | 51 (4.4) | 66 (4.2) | 42 (5.9) | 140 (4.3) | 93 (5) |
| 7 or more times/week | 0 (0.0) | 5 (0.4) | 1 (0.1) | 2 (0.3) | 1 (0.0) | 7 (0.4) |
| Low-fat fish intake frequency | | | | | | |
| <1 time/week | 529 (31.3) | 309 (26.8) | 576 (36.0) | 250 (35) | 1105 (33.6) | 559 (29.9) |
| 1-3 times/week | 1071 (63.4) | 777 (67.3) | 956 (59.7) | 441 (61.8) | 2027 (61.6) | 1218 (65.2) |
| 4-6 times/week | 87 (5.1) | 63 (5.5) | 66 (4.1) | 23 (3.2) | 153 (4.6) | 86 (4.6) |
| 7 or more times/week | 3 (0.2) | 6 (0.5) | 4 (0.2) | 0 (0.0) | 7 (0.2) | 6 (0.3) |
| High-fat fish intake frequency | | | | | | |
| <1 time/week | 492 (29.1) | 360 (31.2) | 483 (30.1) | 248 (34.7) | 975 (29.6) | 608 (32.6) |
| 1-3 times/week | 1057 (62.5) | 690 (59.8) | 992 (61.8) | 422 (59.1) | 2049 (62.2) | 1112 (59.6) |
| 4-6 times/week | 121 (7.2) | 79 (6.9) | 118 (7.4) | 34 (4.8) | 239 (7.3) | 113 (6.1) |
| 7 or more times/week | 20 (1.2) | 24 (2.1) | 11 (0.7) | 10 (1.4) | 31 (0.9) | 34 (1.8) |
| Intake frequency of ≤6 glasses of alcohol | | | | | | |
| Never | 1132 (68.4) | 563 (49.6) | 971 (61.4) | 284 (39.9) | 2103 (65.0) | 847 (45.9) |
| Less than monthly | 446 (27) | 425 (37.4) | 518 (32.7) | 308 (43.3) | 964 (29.8) | 733 (39.7) |
| Monthly | 67 (4.1) | 119 (10.5) | 82 (5.2) | 97 (13.6) | 149 (4.6) | 216 (11.7) |
| Weekly | 7 (0.4) | 25 (2.2) | 10 (0.6) | 22 (3.1) | 17 (0.5) | 47 (2.5) |
| Daily | 2 (0.1) | 3 (0.3) | 1 (0.1) | 0 (0.0) | 3 (0.1) | 3 (0.2) |

Continuous parameters are given as mean (standard deviation, SD) except for the relative abundance of bacteria where data are median (interquartile range). Categorical variables are given as number of events (%). Missing n: ^a≤ 10, ^b11-20, ^c21-28, ^d32-55, ^e56-92, ^f104-198, ^g414, ^h754-999, ⁱ1168, ^j1878-1883

Supplementary Table 2. Associations between microbes and appendicular mass in the discovery cohort

| Kingdom | Domain | Phylum | Class | Order | Family | Genus | Species | % detectable | Microbial abundance (binary) vs appendicular lean mass (n=2866) | | | | | Microbial abundance (quartile) vs appendicular lean mass (n=2866) | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|--------------|--|------|-------|-------|----------------|--|------|-------|-------|----------------|
| | | | | | | | | | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P |
| | | | | | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Actinobacteria | Actinobacteria | Bifidobacteriales | Bifidobacteriaceae | Bifidobacterium | <i>Bifidobacterium adolescentis</i> | 52.7 | 0.09 | 0.07 | -0.05 | 0.23 | 0.211 | 0.03 | 0.03 | -0.03 | 0.09 | 0.266 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Actinobacteria | Actinobacteria | Bifidobacteriales | Bifidobacteriaceae | Bifidobacterium | <i>Bifidobacterium angulatum</i> | 2.5 | < 10% frequency | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Actinobacteria | Actinobacteria | Bifidobacteriales | Bifidobacteriaceae | Bifidobacterium | <i>Bifidobacterium bifidum</i> | 23.7 | 0.01 | 0.08 | -0.15 | 0.18 | 0.867 | -0.03 | 0.04 | -0.10 | 0.05 | 0.465 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Actinobacteria | Actinobacteria | Bifidobacteriales | Bifidobacteriaceae | Bifidobacterium | <i>Bifidobacterium catenulatum</i> | 10.2 | 0.11 | 0.12 | -0.12 | 0.34 | 0.351 | 0.03 | 0.05 | -0.07 | 0.14 | 0.515 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Actinobacteria | Actinobacteria | Bifidobacteriales | Bifidobacteriaceae | Bifidobacterium | <i>Bifidobacterium longum</i> | 82.3 | 0.07 | 0.09 | -0.11 | 0.25 | 0.469 | -0.04 | 0.03 | -0.11 | 0.02 | 0.189 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Actinobacteria | Actinobacteria | Bifidobacteriales | Bifidobacteriaceae | Bifidobacterium | <i>Bifidobacterium pseudocatenulatum</i> | 17.0 | -0.10 | 0.09 | -0.28 | 0.09 | 0.296 | -0.06 | 0.04 | -0.14 | 0.02 | 0.155 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Actinobacteria | Actinobacteria | Coriobacteriales | Coriobacteriaceae | Collinsella | <i>Collinsella aerofaciens</i> | 81.6 | 0.27 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.45 | 0.003 | 0.06 | 0.03 | -0.01 | 0.12 | 0.093 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Bacteroides | <i>Bacteroides caccae</i> | 71.4 | 0.17 | 0.08 | 0.02 | 0.32 | 0.031 | -0.01 | 0.03 | -0.07 | 0.05 | 0.835 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Bacteroides | <i>Bacteroides cellulosilyticus</i> | 48.4 | 0.15 | 0.07 | 0.01 | 0.29 | 0.031 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.00 | 0.12 | 0.061 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Bacteroides | <i>Bacteroides eggerthii</i> | 22.5 | 0.08 | 0.08 | -0.08 | 0.25 | 0.326 | 0.05 | 0.04 | -0.03 | 0.12 | 0.194 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Bacteroides | <i>Bacteroides finegoldii</i> | 14.6 | 0.03 | 0.10 | -0.17 | 0.23 | 0.772 | 0.02 | 0.05 | -0.07 | 0.11 | 0.631 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Bacteroides | <i>Bacteroides ovatus</i> | 77.9 | 0.10 | 0.09 | -0.07 | 0.27 | 0.242 | 0.01 | 0.03 | -0.06 | 0.07 | 0.831 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Bacteroides | <i>Bacteroides stercorisoris</i> | 1.0 | < 10% frequency | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Bacteroides | <i>Bacteroides thetaiaomicron</i> | 76.0 | 0.16 | 0.08 | 0.00 | 0.33 | 0.047 | -0.03 | 0.03 | -0.09 | 0.04 | 0.403 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Bacteroides | <i>Bacteroides xylinisolvans</i> | 67.3 | 0.19 | 0.08 | 0.05 | 0.34 | 0.010 | 0.01 | 0.03 | -0.05 | 0.07 | 0.854 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Phocaeicola | <i>Phocaeicola dorei</i> | 73.2 | 0.18 | 0.08 | 0.02 | 0.34 | 0.025 | -0.01 | 0.03 | -0.07 | 0.05 | 0.839 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Phocaeicola | <i>Phocaeicola massiliensis</i> | 28.3 | 0.19 | 0.08 | 0.04 | 0.35 | 0.014 | 0.09 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.16 | 0.013 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Bacteroidaceae | Phocaeicola | <i>Phocaeicola vulgaris</i> | 86.4 | 0.06 | 0.10 | -0.15 | 0.26 | 0.583 | 0.05 | 0.03 | -0.02 | 0.11 | 0.185 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Porphyromonadaceae | Barnesiella | <i>Barnesiella intestinohominis</i> | 67.4 | 0.11 | 0.08 | -0.04 | 0.25 | 0.159 | 0.00 | 0.03 | -0.06 | 0.06 | 0.983 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Porphyromonadaceae | Parabacteroides | <i>Parabacteroides distasonis</i> | 88.2 | 0.16 | 0.11 | -0.06 | 0.37 | 0.152 | -0.04 | 0.04 | -0.11 | 0.03 | 0.279 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Porphyromonadaceae | Parabacteroides | <i>Parabacteroides merdae</i> | 70.7 | 0.20 | 0.08 | 0.04 | 0.35 | 0.012 | 0.05 | 0.03 | -0.01 | 0.11 | 0.132 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Prevotellaceae | Prevotella | <i>Prevotella copri</i> | 48.7 | 0.18 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.31 | 0.013 | 0.08 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.14 | 0.012 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Rikenellaceae | Alistipes | <i>Alistipes finegoldii</i> | 12.2 | 0.18 | 0.11 | -0.03 | 0.40 | 0.090 | 0.05 | 0.05 | -0.05 | 0.15 | 0.310 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Bacteroidetes | Bacteroidia | Bacteroidales | Rikenellaceae | Alistipes | <i>Alistipes putredinis</i> | 80.1 | 0.17 | 0.09 | 0.00 | 0.34 | 0.055 | 0.03 | 0.03 | -0.03 | 0.10 | 0.297 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Bacilli | Lactobacillales | Lactobacillaceae | Lactobacillus | <i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i> | 6.7 | < 10% frequency | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Bacilli | Lactobacillales | Lactobacillaceae | Lactobacillus | <i>Lactobacillus paracasei</i> | 8.0 | < 10% frequency | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Bacilli | Lactobacillales | Lactobacillaceae | Ligilactobacillus | <i>Ligilactobacillus ruminis</i> | 4.7 | < 10% frequency | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Bacilli | Lactobacillales | Streptococcaceae | Streptococcus | <i>Streptococcus thermophilus</i> | 48.3 | 0.15 | 0.07 | 0.01 | 0.28 | 0.040 | 0.05 | 0.03 | -0.01 | 0.11 | 0.097 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Christensenellaceae | Christensenella | <i>Christensenella minuta</i> | 11.3 | -0.25 | 0.11 | -0.47 | -0.03 | 0.024 | -0.10 | 0.05 | -0.19 | -0.01 | 0.027 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Clostridiaceae | Clostridium | <i>Clostridium leptum</i> | 80.6 | -0.22 | 0.09 | -0.39 | -0.04 | 0.014 | -0.07 | 0.03 | -0.13 | -0.01 | 0.033 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Clostridiaceae | Clostridium | <i>Clostridium scindens</i> | 14.5 | -0.31 | 0.10 | -0.51 | -0.12 | 0.002 | -0.13 | 0.04 | -0.22 | -0.04 | 0.003 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Eubacteriaceae | Eubacterium | <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | 56.7 | 0.36 | 0.07 | 0.22 | 0.50 | 5.2E-07 | 0.11 | 0.03 | 0.06 | 0.17 | 1.5E-04 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Lachnospiraceae | Anaerobutyricum | <i>Anaerobutyricum hallii</i> | 38.8 | 0.09 | 0.07 | -0.06 | 0.23 | 0.235 | 0.03 | 0.03 | -0.03 | 0.09 | 0.362 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Lachnospiraceae | Blautia | <i>Blautia hydrogenotrophica</i> | 13.0 | -0.22 | 0.11 | -0.43 | -0.02 | 0.035 | -0.13 | 0.05 | -0.22 | -0.03 | 0.008 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Lachnospiraceae | Coprococcus | <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | 89.8 | 0.57 | 0.12 | 0.34 | 0.80 | 1.1E-06 | 0.17 | 0.04 | 0.10 | 0.24 | 1.5E-06 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Lachnospiraceae | Dorea | <i>Dorea formicigenans</i> | 83.8 | 0.24 | 0.10 | 0.05 | 0.43 | 0.012 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.062 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Lachnospiraceae | Dorea | <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | 91.3 | 0.46 | 0.13 | 0.22 | 0.71 | 2.1E-04 | 0.12 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.19 | 1.1E-03 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Lachnospiraceae | Mediterraneibacter | <i>Ruminococcus gnavus</i> | 34.9 | -0.28 | 0.07 | -0.42 | -0.13 | 1.9E-04 | -0.13 | 0.03 | -0.20 | -0.07 | 4.5E-05 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Lachnospiraceae | Roseburia | <i>Roseburia hominis</i> | 85.9 | -0.05 | 0.10 | -0.25 | 0.15 | 0.613 | 0.00 | 0.03 | -0.07 | 0.07 | 0.978 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Lachnospiraceae | Roseburia | <i>Roseburia intestinalis</i> | 86.5 | 0.17 | 0.10 | -0.03 | 0.38 | 0.095 | 0.03 | 0.03 | -0.04 | 0.10 | 0.418 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Ruminococcaceae | Faecalibacterium | <i>Faecalibacterium prausnitzii</i> | 83.8 | 0.27 | 0.10 | 0.08 | 0.46 | 0.005 | 0.05 | 0.03 | -0.02 | 0.11 | 0.179 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Clostridiales | Ruminococcaceae | Subdoligranulum | <i>Subdoligranulum variabile</i> | 0.4 | < 10% frequency | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Eubacteriales | Clostridiaceae | Clostridium | <i>Clostridium ramosum</i> | 15.7 | -0.35 | 0.10 | -0.54 | -0.16 | 2.8E-04 | -0.14 | 0.04 | -0.22 | -0.05 | 0.002 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Eubacteriales | Lachnospiraceae | Agathobacter | <i>Agathobacter rectalis</i> | 97.0 | 0.26 | 0.21 | -0.15 | 0.67 | 0.216 | 0.02 | 0.04 | -0.06 | 0.10 | 0.574 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Firmicutes | Clostridia | Eubacteriales | Lachnospiraceae | Lachnospira | <i>Lachnospira eligens</i> | 81.0 | 0.14 | 0.09 | -0.04 | 0.31 | 0.135 | -0.01 | 0.03 | -0.07 | 0.05 | 0.754 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Proteobacteria | Beta Proteobacteria | Burkholderiales | Sutterellaceae | Sutterella | <i>Sutterella wadsworthensis</i> | 46.4 | 0.17 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.31 | 0.017 | 0.04 | 0.03 | -0.02 | 0.10 | 0.163 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Proteobacteria | Gammaproteobacteria | Enterobacteriales | Enterobacteriaceae | Escherichia | <i>Escherichia coli</i> | 57.1 | -0.03 | 0.07 | -0.17 | 0.11 | 0.707 | -0.04 | 0.03 | -0.10 | 0.02 | 0.174 |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Proteobacteria | Gammaproteobacteria | Enterobacteriales | Enterobacteriaceae | Klebsiella | <i>Klebsiella variola</i> | 2.6 | < 10% frequency | | | | | < 10% frequency | | | | |
| Bacteria | Bacteria | Verrucomicrobia | Verrucomicrobiae | Verrucomicrobiales | Akkermansiaceae | Akkermansia | <i>Akkermansia muciniphila</i> | 74.0 | -0.04 | 0.08 | -0.20 | 0.12 | 0.645 | -0.05 | 0.03 | -0.11 | 0.01 | 0.098 |
| Euryarchaeota | Archaea | Euryarchaeota | Methanobacteria | Methanobacteriales | Methanobacteriaceae | Methanobrevibacter | <i>Methanobrevibacter smithii</i> | 46.9 | -0.09 | 0.07 | -0.23 | 0.05 | 0.194 | -0.09 | 0.03 | -0.15 | -0.02 | 0.006 |

Linear regressions (for microbes with >10% frequency in the discovery cohort) including bacterial relative abundance as exposure and appendicular lean mass as outcome, adjusted for age, gender, height, and body fat mass. The tests were 2-sided. The relative abundance data were divided into 2 (binary) or 4 quartiles (quartiles), with all the non-detectable values in the first quartile. The data from the linear regression are presented as the estimated associations (β values in kg/microbial quartile or binary step with standard error of mean [SE] and 95% confidence intervals [CIs]). Undetectable values are represented as 0. Bonferroni correction was used to adjust for multiple comparisons and 0.0012 (0.05/43) was considered significant; significant results are in bold. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 3. Associations between microbial species and appendicular lean mass without adjustment for body fat mass

| | Microbial abundance (binary) | | | | | Microbial abundance (quartiles) | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------|-------|------|---------|---------------------------------|------|-------|------|---------|
| | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P |
| <i>Clostridium ramosum</i> | -0.15 | 0.11 | -0.37 | 0.06 | 0.16 | -0.06 | 0.05 | -0.16 | 0.04 | 0.23 |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | 0.47 | 0.13 | 0.21 | 0.73 | 4.3E-04 | 0.14 | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.22 | 4.3E-04 |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | 0.40 | 0.14 | 0.13 | 0.68 | 4.6E-03 | 0.09 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.17 | 0.028 |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | 0.34 | 0.08 | 0.18 | 0.50 | 3.3E-05 | 0.08 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.15 | 0.017 |
| <i>Ruminococcus gnavus</i> | -0.05 | 0.08 | -0.21 | 0.12 | 0.59 | -0.02 | 0.04 | -0.10 | 0.05 | 0.54 |

Microbial species significantly associated (passing Bonferroni correction) with appendicular lean mass using the basic model (adjusted for gender, age, height, and body fat mass) were further analyzed using the basic model without body fat mass adjustment. The tests were 2-sided. The relative abundance data were divided into 2 (binary) or 4 (quartile) quantiles, with all the non-detectable values in the first quantile, and analyzed using linear regression. The β values are given in kg/microbial quartile or binary step. Bacterial species in bold were significantly associated with appendicular lean mass and thus fulfilled the criteria for being eligible for replication. n=2866. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 4. Replication of significant associations between the presence of microbial species and appendicular lean mass using binary data

| | Discovery (n=2866) | | | | | Replication (n=2330) | | | | | Combined (n=5196) | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------|------|------|---------|-------------------------|------|------|------|---------|----------------------|------|------|------|---------|
| | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | 0.57 | 0.12 | 0.34 | 0.80 | 1.1E-06 | 0.35 | 0.14 | 0.08 | 0.62 | 1.1E-02 | 0.48 | 0.09 | 0.30 | 0.65 | 7.9E-08 |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | 0.46 | 0.13 | 0.22 | 0.71 | 2.1E-04 | 0.40 | 0.15 | 0.11 | 0.69 | 7.3E-03 | 0.45 | 0.10 | 0.26 | 0.64 | 3.1E-06 |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | 0.36 | 0.07 | 0.22 | 0.50 | 5.2E-07 | 0.17 | 0.08 | 0.01 | 0.33 | 3.2E-02 | 0.28 | 0.05 | 0.18 | 0.39 | 1.1E-07 |

Replication of associations in the discovery cohort using linear regressions with relative abundance of microbial species (as binary data, i.e. presence/absence) as exposure and appendicular lean mass as the outcome, adjusted for age, gender, height, and body fat mass (and cohort- and batch-specific covariates when needed, i.e. basic adjustment) for the discovery, replication, and combined cohorts. The tests were 2-sided. The β values are given in kg for presence of microbes. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 5. Replication of significant associations between relative abundance of microbial species and appendicular lean mass using quartile data

| | Discovery (n=2866) | | | | | Replication (n=2330) | | | | | Combined (n=5196) | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------|------|------|---------|-------------------------|-------|-------|------|---------|----------------------|------|------|------|---------|
| | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | 0.17 | 0.04 | 0.10 | 0.24 | 1.5E-06 | 0.07 | 0.040 | -0.01 | 0.15 | 7.8E-02 | 0.13 | 0.03 | 0.08 | 0.18 | 1.2E-06 |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | 0.12 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.19 | 1.1E-03 | 0.14 | 0.040 | 0.06 | 0.21 | 8.5E-04 | 0.13 | 0.03 | 0.08 | 0.18 | 2.1E-06 |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | 0.11 | 0.03 | 0.06 | 0.17 | 1.5E-04 | 0.01 | 0.033 | -0.06 | 0.07 | 8.8E-01 | 0.07 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.11 | 2.0E-03 |

Replication of associations in the discovery cohort using linear regressions with relative abundance of microbial species (in quartiles) as exposure and appendicular lean mass as the outcome, adjusted for age, gender, height, and body fat mass (and cohort- and batch specific covariates when needed, i.e. basic adjustment) for the discovery, replication, and combined cohorts. The tests were 2-sided. The microbial relative abundance data was divided into quartiles, with all the non-detectable values in the first quartile. The β values are given in kg/microbial quartile. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 6. Sensitivity analyses of significant associations between relative abundance of microbial species and appendicular lean mass using CLR-transformed data

| | Discovery (n=2866) | | | | | Replication (n=2330) | | | | | Combined (n=5196) | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------|------|------|---------|-------------------------|------|-------|------|---------|----------------------|------|------|------|---------|
| | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | 0.17 | 0.03 | 0.10 | 0.23 | 9.4E-07 | 0.09 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.17 | 2.7E-02 | 0.14 | 0.03 | 0.08 | 0.19 | 1.8E-07 |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | 0.11 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.18 | 8.5E-04 | 0.13 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.21 | 1.2E-03 | 0.12 | 0.03 | 0.07 | 0.17 | 2.4E-06 |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | 0.15 | 0.03 | 0.08 | 0.22 | 1.7E-05 | 0.02 | 0.04 | -0.05 | 0.10 | 5.7E-01 | 0.10 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.15 | 1.8E-04 |

Sensitivity analyses of associations in the discovery and replication cohorts using linear regressions with CLR-transformed relative abundance of microbial species as exposure and appendicular lean mass as the outcome, adjusted for age, gender, height, and body fat mass (and cohort- and batch-specific covariates when needed, i.e. basic adjustment) for the discovery, replication, and combined cohorts. The tests were 2-sided. The β values are given in kg/standard deviation CLR-transformed relative abundance. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 7. Associations for the presence of *Coprococcus comes*, *Dorea longicatena*, and *Eubacterium ventriosum* with appendicular lean mass and total lean mass after different adjustments

| | Appendicular mass | | | | | Total lean mass | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------|------|------|---------|-----------------|------|------|------|---------|------|
| | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | N |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Basic model | 0.48 | 0.09 | 0.30 | 0.65 | 7.9E-08 | 0.97 | 0.18 | 0.61 | 1.34 | 1.3E-07 | 5196 |
| Intermediate model | 0.45 | 0.09 | 0.27 | 0.63 | 1.6E-06 | 0.93 | 0.19 | 0.55 | 1.31 | 1.9E-06 | 4773 |
| Full model | 0.43 | 0.10 | 0.24 | 0.61 | 1.0E-05 | 0.88 | 0.20 | 0.49 | 1.27 | 1.1E-05 | 4535 |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Basic model | 0.45 | 0.10 | 0.26 | 0.64 | 3.1E-06 | 0.91 | 0.20 | 0.52 | 1.30 | 4.9E-06 | 5196 |
| Intermediate model | 0.42 | 0.10 | 0.22 | 0.62 | 3.3E-05 | 0.86 | 0.21 | 0.45 | 1.27 | 4.4E-05 | 4773 |
| Full model | 0.38 | 0.10 | 0.18 | 0.59 | 2.1E-04 | 0.78 | 0.21 | 0.36 | 1.20 | 2.9E-04 | 4535 |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Basic model | 0.28 | 0.05 | 0.18 | 0.39 | 1.1E-07 | 0.57 | 0.11 | 0.35 | 0.78 | 2.8E-07 | 5196 |
| Intermediate model | 0.25 | 0.06 | 0.14 | 0.36 | 4.7E-06 | 0.52 | 0.11 | 0.29 | 0.74 | 7.0E-06 | 4773 |
| Full model | 0.22 | 0.06 | 0.11 | 0.33 | 8.0E-05 | 0.46 | 0.12 | 0.23 | 0.69 | 9.9E-05 | 4535 |

The linear regressions for the combined cohort (discovery and replication cohorts) included presence or absence of *Dorea longicatena*, *Coprococcus comes*, or *Eubacterium ventriosum* as exposure and appendicular lean mass or total lean mass as the outcome. The tests were 2-sided. Adjustments were: the basic model – age, gender, height, body fat mass, and cohort- and batch-specific covariates; the intermediate model – basic model plus chronic disease, smoking status, stool consistency, and use of prescription medication; and the full model – intermediate model plus alcohol and food intake frequency. The β values are given in kg for presence of microbes. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 8. Stratified associations for the presence of *Coprococcus comes*, *Dorea longicatena*, and *Eubacterium ventriosum* with appendicular lean mass and total lean mass

| | β | Appendicular lean mass | | | | P | Total lean mass | | | | | N |
|-------------------------------|---------|------------------------|-------|-------|---------|---|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------|
| | | SE | LCI | UCI | | | SE | LCI | UCI | P | | |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All | 0.168 | 0.030 | 0.110 | 0.226 | 1.7E-08 | | 0.164 | 0.029 | 0.106 | 0.221 | 2.3E-08 | 5196 |
| Women | 0.173 | 0.035 | 0.104 | 0.242 | 9.5E-07 | | 0.171 | 0.035 | 0.103 | 0.239 | 8.8E-07 | 3317 |
| Men | 0.139 | 0.054 | 0.033 | 0.246 | 1.0E-02 | | 0.135 | 0.054 | 0.030 | 0.240 | 1.2E-02 | 1879 |
| Young | 0.165 | 0.043 | 0.080 | 0.251 | 1.4E-04 | | 0.167 | 0.043 | 0.084 | 0.251 | 8.9E-05 | 2591 |
| Old | 0.164 | 0.039 | 0.088 | 0.240 | 2.6E-05 | | 0.156 | 0.039 | 0.080 | 0.233 | 6.1E-05 | 2605 |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All | 0.164 | 0.032 | 0.101 | 0.227 | 3.2E-07 | | 0.159 | 0.032 | 0.098 | 0.221 | 4.6E-07 | 5196 |
| Women | 0.154 | 0.038 | 0.079 | 0.228 | 5.8E-05 | | 0.150 | 0.038 | 0.076 | 0.223 | 6.8E-05 | 3317 |
| Men | 0.163 | 0.058 | 0.048 | 0.277 | 5.4E-03 | | 0.161 | 0.058 | 0.047 | 0.274 | 5.5E-03 | 1879 |
| Young | 0.152 | 0.050 | 0.054 | 0.250 | 2.3E-03 | | 0.152 | 0.049 | 0.056 | 0.248 | 1.9E-03 | 2591 |
| Old | 0.140 | 0.040 | 0.062 | 0.218 | 4.3E-04 | | 0.137 | 0.040 | 0.059 | 0.215 | 5.6E-04 | 2605 |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All | 0.090 | 0.018 | 0.056 | 0.125 | 3.5E-07 | | 0.086 | 0.017 | 0.052 | 0.120 | 9.4E-07 | 5196 |
| Women | 0.081 | 0.022 | 0.039 | 0.124 | 1.8E-04 | | 0.076 | 0.021 | 0.034 | 0.118 | 3.8E-04 | 3317 |
| Men | 0.105 | 0.030 | 0.045 | 0.164 | 6.0E-04 | | 0.102 | 0.030 | 0.043 | 0.161 | 7.6E-04 | 1879 |
| Young | 0.102 | 0.026 | 0.050 | 0.154 | 1.1E-04 | | 0.098 | 0.026 | 0.047 | 0.149 | 1.6E-04 | 2591 |
| Old | 0.064 | 0.023 | 0.019 | 0.109 | 5.1E-03 | | 0.062 | 0.023 | 0.017 | 0.107 | 7.2E-03 | 2605 |

Linear regressions with presence or absence of microbial species as exposure and appendicular lean mass and total lean mass as the outcome, adjusted for age, gender, height, body fat mass, and cohort- and batch-specific covariates for the combined cohorts. The tests were 2-sided. The β values are given in standard deviations for the presence of microbes. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 9. Combined model evaluating the associations between the presence of *Coprococcus comes*, *Dorea longicatena*, and *Eubacterium ventriosum* and lean mass

| | Appendicular lean mass | | | | | Total lean mass | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|---------|-----------------|------|------|------|---------|
| | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P |
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | 0.33 | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.52 | 6.1E-04 | 0.67 | 0.20 | 0.28 | 1.06 | 7.0E-04 |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | 0.24 | 0.10 | 0.04 | 0.44 | 2.1E-02 | 0.49 | 0.21 | 0.06 | 0.91 | 2.4E-02 |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | 0.21 | 0.05 | 0.11 | 0.32 | 9.4E-05 | 0.43 | 0.11 | 0.20 | 0.65 | 1.8E-04 |

Combined linear regression model including presence or absence of *Dorea longicatena*, *Coprococcus comes*, and *Eubacterium ventriosum* as exposures and appendicular lean mass or total lean mass as the outcomes. The tests were 2-sided. Adjustments – age, gender, height, body fat mass, and cohort- and batch-specific covariates. The b values are given in kg for presence of microbes. n=5196. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 10. Associations between anabolic species count and lean mass in individuals living in Norway at 1 year of age

| | Appendicular lean mass | | | | | Total lean mass | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------|
| | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | β | SE | LCI | UCI | P | N |
| All | 0.052 | 0.007 | 0.038 | 0.066 | 5.6E-13 | 0.050 | 0.007 | 0.036 | 0.064 | 2.2E-12 | 5196 |
| Living in Norway at 1 year of age | 0.053 | 0.007 | 0.039 | 0.068 | 5.7E-13 | 0.051 | 0.007 | 0.036 | 0.065 | 2.8E-12 | 5003 |

Linear regressions with anabolic species count as exposure and appendicular lean mass and total lean mass as the outcome, adjusted for age, gender, height, body fat mass, and cohort- and batch-specific covariates. The tests were 2-sided. The β values are given in standard deviations per anabolic species count. SE, standard error; LCI, lower 95% confidence interval; UCI, upper 95% confidence interval

Supplementary Table 11. Correlation between anabolic bacterial species and circulating metabolites

| Metabolite | Spearman's rho | p-value |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| <i>Coprococcus comes</i> | | |
| Negative associations | | |
| p-cresol sulfate | -0.16 | 1.72E-46 |
| phenylacetate | -0.14 | 5.09E-39 |
| p-cresol glucuronide | -0.13 | 7.32E-35 |
| 5-hydroxyhexanoate | -0.13 | 1.91E-32 |
| Positive associations | | |
| cortolone glucuronide (1) | 0.12 | 4.54E-29 |
| metabolonic lactone sulfate | 0.12 | 8.85E-27 |
| N-stearoyl-sphingosine (d18:1/18:0) | 0.11 | 1.44E-22 |
| 4-hydroxyglutamate | 0.10 | 9.14E-21 |
| <i>Dorea longicatena</i> | | |
| Negative associations | | |
| p-cresol sulfate | -0.15 | 1.07E-42 |
| 3b-hydroxy-5-cholenic acid | -0.13 | 2.47E-32 |
| p-cresol glucuronide | -0.12 | 2.72E-28 |
| 5-hydroxyhexanoate | -0.12 | 2.69E-28 |
| Positive associations | | |
| 2-piperidinone | 0.16 | 3.55E-50 |
| ursodeoxycholate | 0.14 | 8.41E-36 |
| metabolonic lactone sulfate | 0.12 | 1.21E-29 |
| cortolone glucuronide (1) | 0.11 | 5.99E-24 |
| <i>Eubacterium ventriosum</i> | | |
| Negative associations | | |
| phenylacetylglutamine | -0.10 | 2.29E-21 |
| p-cresol sulfate | -0.10 | 1.88E-19 |
| p-cresol glucuronide | -0.10 | 1.27E-19 |
| phenylacetate | -0.10 | 1.28E-18 |
| Positive associations | | |
| 1,5-anhydroglucitol (1,5-AG) | 0.07 | 7.32E-11 |
| xanthurenone | 0.06 | 5.08E-09 |
| indolepropionate | 0.06 | 4.77E-09 |
| 2-piperidinone | 0.06 | 5.15E-08 |

Table shows top 4 negative and top 4 positive correlations (2-sided) per bacteria from the dataset by Dekkers et al (Nat Commun 2022). Ranking is based on Spearman's rho for negative and positive associations, respectively, among the 1052 annotated metabolites out of the 1321 total metabolites. n=8583

Supplementary Table 12. Descriptives comparing the different subgroups of the HUNT4 study

| | HUNT4 (n=55561) | Individuals without feces samples (n=42293) | Individuals with feces samples (n=13268) | Discovery (n=2866) | Replication (n=2330) | Combined (n=5196) | Combined cohort with BMD data (n=1028) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|
| All | | | | | | | |
| Women (%), n ^a | 55.0 (30534) | 53.1 (22440) | 61.0 (8094) | 59.4 (1703) | 69.3 (1614) | 63.8 (3317) | 71.4 (734) |
| Age (yr) | 54.9 (17.8) | 53.5 (18.6) | 59.6 (14.2) | 60.3 (13.9) | 53.8 (14.0) | 57.4 (14.3) | 60.7 (12.3) |
| Appendicular lean mass (kg) | 22.8 (5.2) ^b | 23.1 (5.3) ^c | 22.0 (4.8) ^d | 22.1 (4.8) | 21.7 (4.7) | 21.9 (4.8) | 21.2 (4.6) |
| Total lean mass (kg) | 51.6 (10.9) ^b | 52.2 (11.1) ^c | 50.0 (10.2) ^d | 50.2 (10.2) | 49.2 (9.8) | 49.8 (10.0) | 48.4 (9.8) |
| Women | | | | | | | |
| Age (yr) | 54.6 (18.1) | 53.2 (19.1) | 58.4 (14.4) | 58.6 (14.1) | 53.4 (13.9) | 56.1 (14.2) | 60.1 (12.5) |
| Appendicular lean mass (kg) | 19.0 (2.7) ^e | 19.1 (2.8) ^f | 18.9 (2.5) ^g | 19.0 (2.7) | 19.2 (2.4) | 19.1 (2.6) | 18.9 (2.4) |
| Total lean mass (kg) | 43.8 (5.7) ^e | 43.8 (5.8) ^f | 43.6 (5.4) ^g | 43.7 (5.6) | 44.0 (5.1) | 43.8 (5.4) | 43.4 (5.1) |
| Men | | | | | | | |
| Age (yr) | 55.3 (17.5) | 53.7 (18.0) | 61.6 (13.6) | 62.9 (13.1) | 54.7 (14.3) | 59.7 (14.2) | 62.3 (11.8) |
| Appendicular lean mass (kg) | 27.3 (3.8) ^h | 27.4 (3.8) ⁱ | 26.8 (3.5) ^j | 26.6 (3.5) | 27.3 (3.5) | 26.9 (3.5) | 27.1 (3.5) |
| Total lean mass (kg) | 61.0 (7.9) ^h | 61.3 (8.0) ⁱ | 60.2 (7.4) ^j | 59.8 (7.3) | 61.0 (7.4) | 60.3 (7.4) | 60.8 (7.2) |

Data are mean (standard deviation), unless otherwise specified.^aData are % (n), missing n = ^b4399, ^c3901, ^d498, ^e2673, ^f2375, ^g298, ^h1726,

ⁱ1526, ^j200

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