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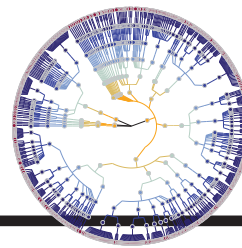
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ON THE COVER



Artist's interpretation of a person's gut microbiota. Many factors contribute to the overall health of the microbiota: the bacteria themselves (depicted as either "good" or "bad" in

blue and red, respectively), parasitic worms, viruses, food, medications, and our genetics, among other factors. Recent research on the microbiota and how it may be manipulated for better health is highlighted in a special section beginning on page 530. *Illustration: Nigel Sussman*

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