

one year after treatment and almost without exception all have had more normal defecations after, than before, treatment.

3. The use of lactose during and after ingestion of *B. acidophilus* does much to enhance the beneficial effects.

4. A transformation of the intestinal flora from a proteolytic to an aciduric type as shown by microscopic and plate counts may generally be induced. Such transformation is usually accompanied by almost daily defecations regardless of the severity of the constipation.

5. Two cases of diarrhea have been successfully treated by the ingestion of *B. acidophilus*.

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Studies on the nature of bacillus acidophilus therapy.

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1. In order to study the influence of physical and chemical factors, *B. acidophilus* milk was centrifuged and run through a Mandler diatomaceous filter. Thus the chemical constituents were little altered. When fed to constipated patients it was practically without effect. Regular *B. acidophilus* milk ingested subsequently resulted in an increase in the number of normal defecations.

2. *B. acidophilus* milk was sterilized and lactic acid added, thus again approximating the original chemical composition. When fed to constipated patients, little change was noted. Regular *B. acidophilus* milk ingested subsequently resulted in an increase in the number of normal defecations.

3. These data indicate that *B. acidophilus* therapy is essentially bacteriological rather than physical or chemical in nature.