Mammals, Milk and Microbes – The Role of Milk in the Establishment and Function of the Neonate gut Microbiome

“Human milk guides the microbial composition of the developing infant gastrointestinal tract. Breast fed infants are often dominated by bifidobacterial species that catabolize milk glycans and lower fecal pH. Disruption of this enrichment results in dysbiosis which can negatively impact the health and development of neonates.”

Human Milk Oligosaccharides and Health of Infants in Africa

“Breast feeding strongly protects against infant infection in low-income countries and there is some evidence that HMOs may play a contributory role however the field would benefit from much more research especially using detailed longitudinal cohorts.”