



Colostrum bioactives: Nature's first super food

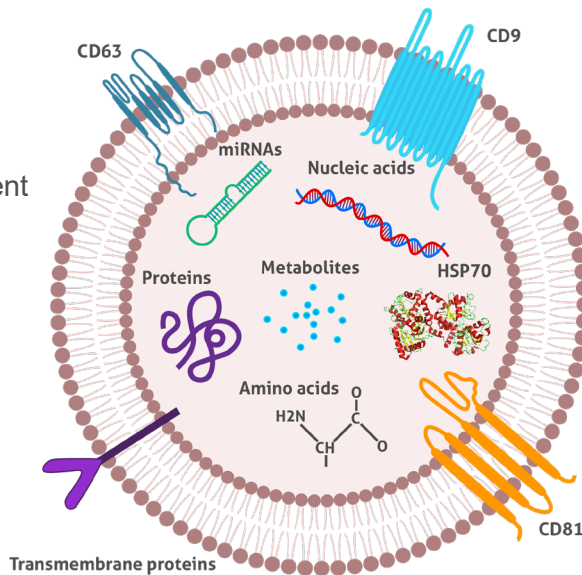
In addition to proteins, fats, minerals, and vitamins, bovine colostrum is rich in bioactive compounds and signaling molecules, including short **non-coding** RNA (ncRNA) that can be free-floating or encapsulated in exosomes. The bioactive components of colostrum are both immunologically and nutritionally irreplaceable.

Exosomes: Tiny messengers of cellular communication and health

Exosomes are extracellular nanovesicles produced by all cells, measuring around 40 to 160 nm in diameter, and are carriers of nucleic acids, proteins, lipids, and metabolites. These tiny vesicles play a crucial role in intercellular communication, acting as mediators for both nearby and distant cell interactions in both health and disease (modified from Cintio et al; 2020).

Roles in biological processes

- Angiogenesis
- Coagulation
- Immune system development and regulation
- Antigen presentation
- Inflammation
- Cell proliferation
- Cell differentiation
- Apoptosis



Roles in diseases

- Cancer
- Neurodegenerative diseases
- Infections
- Autoimmune diseases

Figure 1 from Cintio et al, 2020. The roles and contents of exosomes (modified from Kalluri and LeBleu, 2020).

Exosomes are membrane-bound vesicles that appear round or cup-shaped under a transmission electron microscope [1]. They are formed through a process involving the double invagination of the plasma membrane.

Noncoding RNA: Genetic Messengers and Their Impact on Infant Development

Protein-coding regions make up less than 2% of the mammalian genome. As a result, a large portion of the genome is transcribed as noncoding RNA (ncRNA) (Dysin et al., 2021). Bovine colostrum is rich in noncoding RNA, including MicroRNA (miRNA), small RNA molecules that provide a natural mechanism for transferring genetic material to infants.

A total of 389 miRNAs have been identified in bovine colostrum (Ma et al., 2022). These miRNAs are predicted to target 2,655 genes linked to cellular processes, environmental information processing, and organismal systems. For example, miR-148a, which is highly expressed in bovine milk exosomes, can withstand gastric digestion and be absorbed by intestinal cells. It downregulates DNA methyltransferase 1, a gene involved in epigenetic regulation.



Bioactive molecules of bovine colostrum – Immune Milk Trypsin inhibitor content in colostrum and it's function

The expression profiles of miRNA in colostrum are not influenced by the concentrations of immunoglobulin G (IgG) (Ma et al., 2022). This indicates that the presence of miRNA in colostrum remains unaffected by IgG levels. miRNA regulates the expression of bioactive components in colostrum and is concentrated in small extracellular vesicles called exosomes, which shield them from degradation.

MacLeay et al. (2023) recently suggested that certain miRNAs play a role in regulating growth and development from birth to first lactation. Additionally, associations between miRNA levels and various diseases have been observed in livestock. These findings highlight the critical importance of circulating miRNAs in early life.

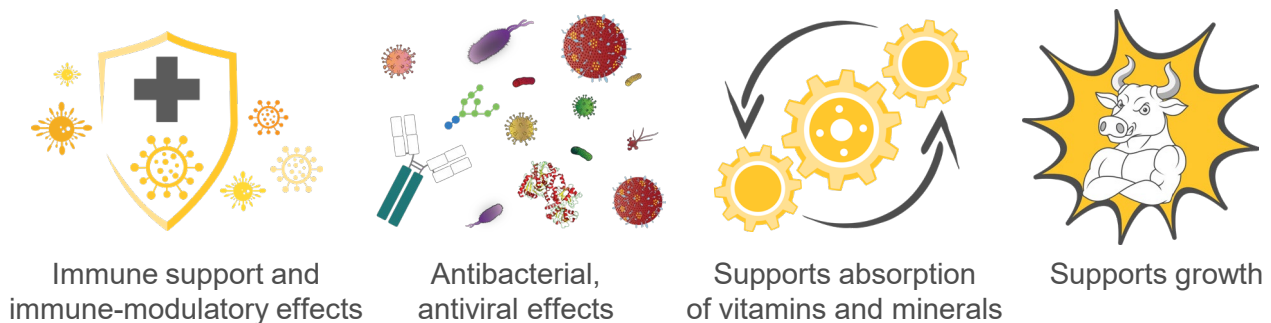
Take home message

Bovine colostrum is rich in noncoding RNA, particularly miRNA, which are small RNA molecules. These miRNAs regulate the expression of bioactive components in colostrum and are concentrated in small extracellular vesicles known as exosomes. The levels of miRNA in colostrum remain unaffected by the amount of immunoglobulin G (IgG) present. miRNAs play a role in regulating growth and development from birth to the first lactation and are associated with various disease pathways. Ongoing research aims to further clarify the key functions of miRNA.

Unlock the potential of Immune Milk: your ultimate solution for healthy calves

Immune Milk is a premium bovine colostrum powder meticulously developed to revolutionize calf health and immunity. It naturally contains all miRNA molecules, which can withstand freezing, dissolving, and pasteurization processes.

Benefits of Immune Milk



Choose Immune Milk today and unlock the potential of nature to nurture healthier and productive calves.

References:

Cintio, M.; Polacchini, G.; Scarsella, E.; Montanari, T.; Stefanon, B.; Colitti, M. MicroRNA Milk Exosomes: From Cellular Regulator to Genomic Marker. *Animals* **2020**, *10*, 1126. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani10071126>; Dysin, A.P.; Barkova, O.Y.; Pozovnikova, M.V. The Role of microRNAs in the Mammary Gland Development, Health, and Function of Cattle, Goats, and Sheep. *Non-Coding RNA* **2021**, *7*, 78. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ncrna7040078>; T. Ma, W. Li, Y. Chen, E.R. Cobo, C. Windeyer, L. Gamsjäger, Q. Diao, Y. Tu, L.L. Guan, Assessment of microRNA profiles in small extracellular vesicles isolated from bovine colostrum with different immunoglobulin G concentrations, *JDS Communications*, Volume 3, Issue 5, 2022, Pages 328-333, <https://doi.org/10.3168/jdsc.2022-0225>; MacLeay M, Banos G, Donadeu FX (2023) Association of plasma miRNAs with early life performance and aging in dairy cattle. *PLoS ONE* 18(7): e0288343. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0288343> Raghu Kalluri, Valerie S. LeBleu. The biology, function, and biomedical applications of exosomes. *Science* **367**, eaau6977(2020). DOI:10.1126/science.aau6977