



PRESS RELEASE

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Biological Blue Berets on a Mission for Skin and Body

Microflora on a mission to maintain balance between pathogens and protective barrier

Many bacteria play a special role in the protection of your health and your body. “In the battle between pathogens and our body’s defences, many bacteria have become a kind of ‘blue helmet’ force”, emphasises Prof. Dr. Christine Lang, microbiologist at the Technical University of Berlin. “They protect us and maintain a balance between dangerous and healthy bacteria.” Therefore, we should take all aspects into consideration when discussing bacteria. Cleanliness and health were often still presented as if they were incompatible with bacteria.

Christine Lang and 35 employees of her company Organobalance study the proprietary collection of some 8,000 strains of yeast and lactic acid bacteria for bacteria which are best suited as a peacekeeping force for a specific problem. “We have already discovered bacteria which impact positively on dental decay, the stomach bacteria *Helicobacter*, or skin conditions,” explains Christine Lang.

In collaboration with a dermatology practice in Berlin, the researchers were able to demonstrate that cultivating specific bacteria on the patients’ skin reduces itchiness and increases physical well-being. “A bacterial germinal layer on our skin is perfectly normal”, emphasises Christine Lang. Excessive washing or the use of antibacterial lotions and cosmetics affected our skin. By contrast, skincare involving bacteria was the right way to go. Suitable products are expected to be launched before the end of the year.

The employees of Organobalance discover healthy bacteria by analysing, in a specific screening process, the effects of and – crucially – interactions between the individual bacteria in their strain collection and the microbiome. “There’s not just a single bacterium on our skin, but a tremendous number of microorganisms, the microbiome, which constitute a healthy skin flora”, explains Christine Lang. It remains her task to define this ideal bacterial diversity before the biological blue beret mission can be launched.

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