## STRONG CHILDREN'S RESEARCH CENTER Summer 20 19 Research Scholar

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## **ABSTRACT**

## Title:

Comparison of Infant Fecal Bifidobacterium spp. and Bifidobacterium longum subsp. infantis Proportions Between Cohorts at High and Low Risk for Allergy

## Background:

Interest in the infant gut microbiome has recently come of age as these early colonizers helpset the stage for proper host immune system development. Qut microbiome diversity is considered to be important for priming the infants' mucosal and systemic immunity. The prevalence of food allergies among children under the age of 18has greatly increased by 18% from 1997 to 2007<sup>1,2</sup>. However, fewer than 1% of the Old Order Mennonites (OOM) in Penn Yan, the Yates County