



**Gemma Henderson**

Senior Scientist - Microbiome and Human Health Innovation  
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**Biography**

Microbes fulfil many important and diverse functions in our environment. With a background in both Human and Animal Health and Nutrition, my main interest is to shape and leverage the key role microbes play in the health and wellbeing of humans and livestock.

My expertise lies in studying the compositions and functions of complex microbiomes, comprised of fastidious, anaerobic bacteria and archaea, and assessing their roles in host microbial interactions. Having completed a PhD in 2008, with a focus on developing anaerobic bacteria as functional food ingredients, I then spent several years in New Zealand in the area of ruminant productivity and methane mitigation, before returning to Europe to my present role.

At Chr. Hansen, I lead the Microbiome Discovery platform that assesses the potential of next generation probiotic and therapeutic bacteria to improve food and health. This involves developing safety, health functionality, and production screening processes for anaerobic microorganisms.

