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Effects of butyrate supplementation on energy metabolism and inflammation of dairy cows during the calving transition period

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Lauren is in her second year of graduate studies at the University of Alberta with a focus in dairy cow nutrition and physiology. Lauren previously completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Alberta where she conducted undergrad research investigating the effects of plane of nutrition on calf feed sorting behaviour, which has driven her current passion for ruminant nutrition. During her undergrad, Lauren also conducted research with Wageningen University and Trouw Nutrition in the Netherlands to evaluate the role of tonicity in oral electrolyte solutions for calf rehydration. More recently, Lauren visited Hiroshima University where she investigated the effects of feeding hay and calf starter as a mixture or as separate components to calves on intake, growth, and blood metabolite and hormone concentrations. Lauren's latest research is evaluating the mechanisms involved in hindgut inflammation and the impact on energy balance and metabolism. Lauren plans to continue in research after her current degree and aims to find methods to mitigate inflammation of the hindgut and improve energy status of transition dairy cows.