

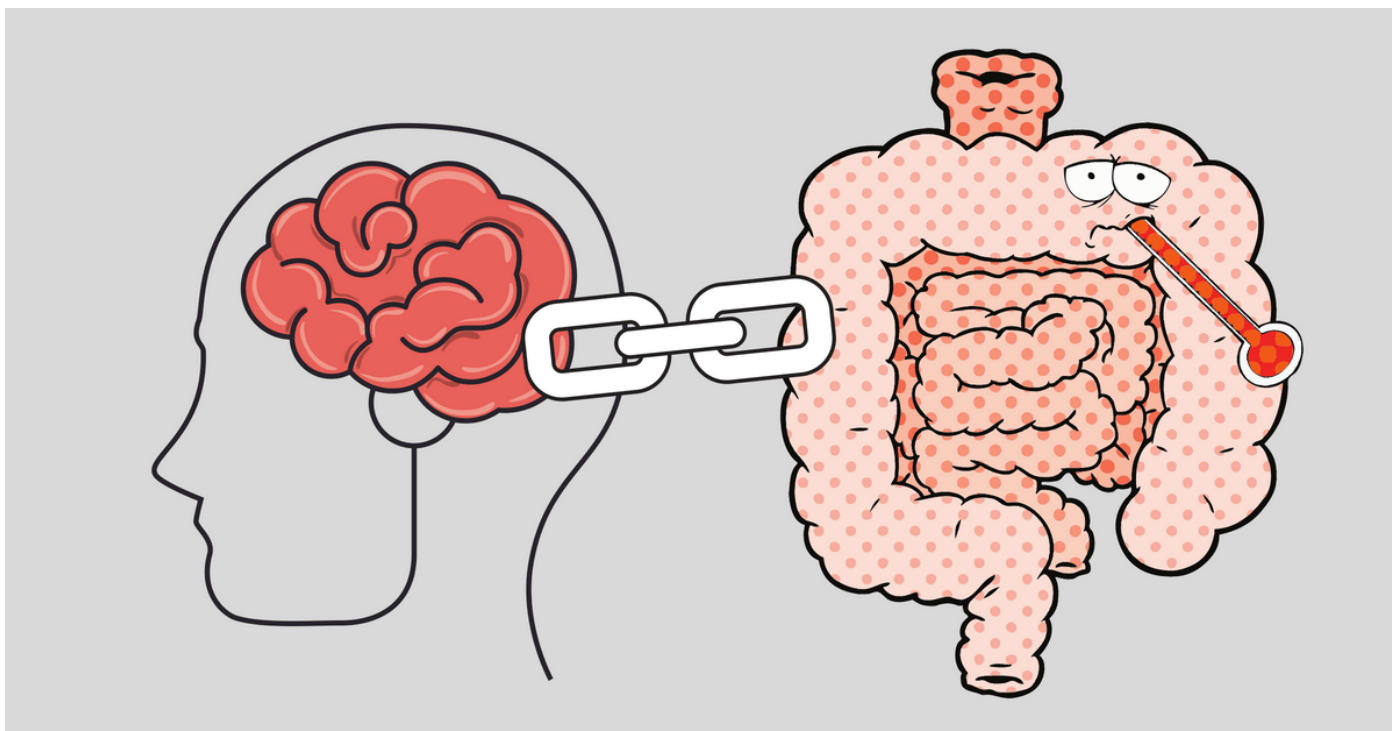
The Brain-Gut Connection

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When we are hungry, our gut sends signals to the brain and we eat food. Thus, the gut and brain might be related. Well, there may be more to the brain-gut connection. Researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) have discovered the crosstalk between brain cells and immune cells. They have also suggested an association between the gut and neurological diseases. According to them, the microbiota in the gut can influence the microglial cells that form an essential part of the immune system. These microglial cells help in getting rid of damaged cells and clearing the Central Nervous System (CNS). But they also produce chemicals that have neurotoxic effect on another kind of cells called astrocytes. This condition may result in neurological disorders. Researchers have observed this effect in both animal and human models and consider this as a path breaking discovery in neurological research.

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