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**Table S1** Quantitative-PCR primer information

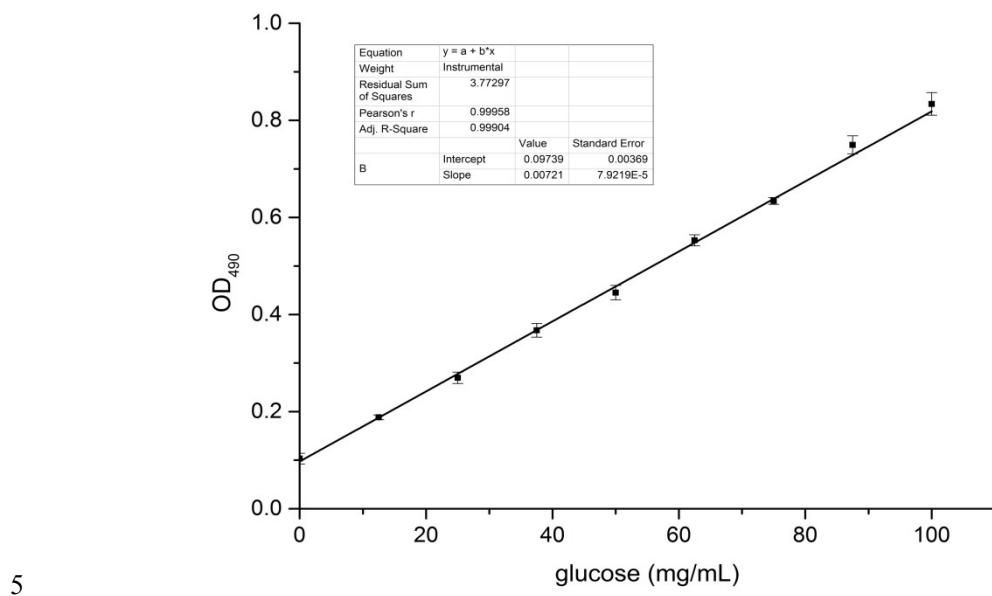
Phylum	Primer sequence (5'-3')	Tm (°C)	Amplicon length (bp)
Bacteroidetes	Forward: GTTTAATTGATGATACGCGAG Reverse: TTAASCCGACACCTCACGG	60	122
Firmicutes	Forward: GGAGYATGTGGTTAACCGAAGCA Reverse: AGCTGACGACAACCATGCAC	60	126
Actinobacteria	Forward: TGTAGCGGTGGAATGCGC Reverse: AATTAAGCCACATGCTCCGCT	60	227
Delta- and Gamma proteobacteria	Forward: GCTAACGCATTAAGTRYCCCC Reverse: GCCATGCRGCACCTGTCT	60	189
Candidatus	Forward: AAGAGAACTGTGCCTCGG	60	187
Saccharibacteria	Reverse: GCGTAAGGGAAATACTGACC		
Tenericutes	Forward: ATGTGTAGCGGTAAAATGCGTAA Reverse: CMTACTTGCGTACGTACTACT	60	200

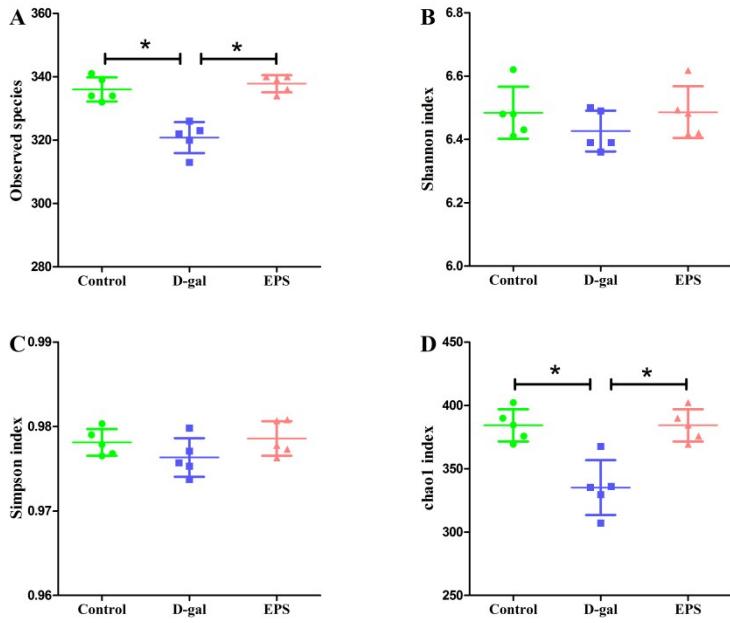
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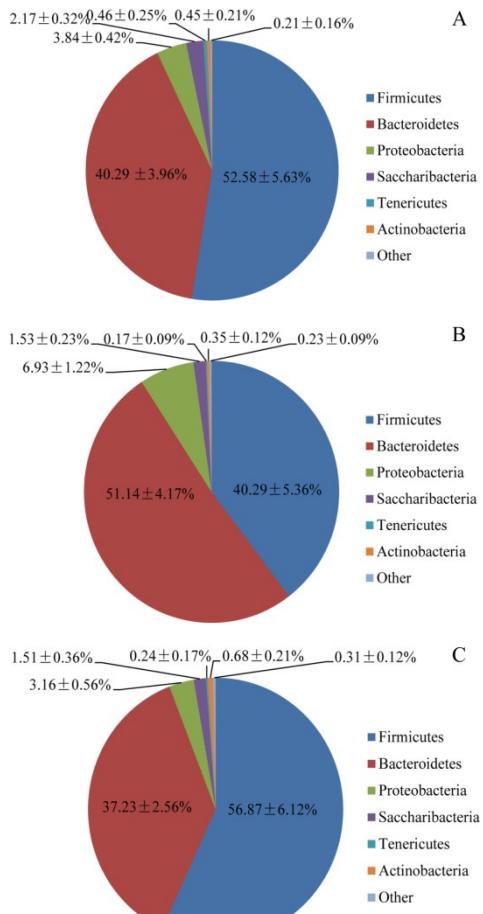
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4 **Fig. S1** The crude exopolysaccharide (EPS) produced by *L. helveticus* KLDS1.8701.





8 **Fig. S3** Influences of EPS supplementation on gut microbiota  $\alpha$ -diversity. (A) Observed-species  
9 index; (B) Shannon index; (C) Simpson index; and (D) chao 1 index. All data are expressed as  
10 mean  $\pm$  SD. \* $p < 0.05$ : significantly different compared with D-gal model mice.



11

12 **Fig. S4** qPCR analyses of the phylum level in the cecal contents among all groups. **(A)** The  
 13 control group; **(B)** The D-gal group; and **(C)** The EPS group. All data are expressed as mean ± SD.