



Press release
Paris, 4th March 2026

Obesity:

The Microbiome at the Intersection of Nutrition and Pharma

In a groundbreaking report *Microbiome & Obesity: A Seventure Perspective on the Next Healthcare Frontier*, Isabelle de Cremoux, CEO of Seventure Partners, analyzes the potential of the gut microbiome as a cornerstone for sustainable and personalized obesity management

With more than one billion people living with obesity worldwide—and its economic burden projected to reach \$4.32 trillion annually by 2035—obesity remains one of the most pressing global health challenges of the 21st century. While GLP-1–based pharmacotherapies dominate headlines, Seventure Partners—a pioneering venture capital firm specializing in health, nutrition, and microbiome innovation through its dedicated Health for Life Capital funds—is releasing a scientific report that synthesizes global advances in gut microbiome research in obesity and metabolic health, highlighting its potential to serve as a foundation for sustainable, personalized therapeutic strategies that complement and extend conventional drug-based treatments.

A Global Health and Economic Crisis

According to the World Health Organization, 2.5 billion adults were overweight in 2022, including 890 million living with obesity. The World Obesity Atlas 2025 reports that this number has now surpassed one billion. If current trends continue, the WHO projects that 60% of adults will be affected by 2050. The World Obesity Federation estimates that the economic impact of overweight and obesity—including healthcare costs, lost productivity, and premature mortality—will reach \$4.32 trillion annually by 2035, equivalent to nearly 3% of global GDP, comparable to the economic impact of COVID-19 in 2020.

In this context, GLP-1 (glucagon-like peptide-1) agonists have been hailed as a major breakthrough. The global market for these treatments is expected to reach \$105 billion by 2030. However, this therapeutic class, as promising as it may be, also presents certain limitations that the scientific community is documenting with increasing precision.



The Limitations of Exclusively Drug based Approaches

The Seventure Partners report highlights several unmet needs with current GLP-1 treatments. Clinical studies reveal that fewer than 50% of patients continue their treatment beyond 12 weeks, raising the critical question of result durability. Weight loss effects remain contingent on continuous medication use.

Furthermore, these therapies profoundly alter the intestinal ecosystem. GLP-1 agonists change how food transits through the gut and its fermentation patterns, which can disrupt microbiome composition. Other documented effects include loss of muscle mass (not just fat mass), frequent gastrointestinal disorders, and nutritional deficiencies linked to reduced appetite.

"These findings do not call into question the proven benefits of GLP-1s, but they underscore the need for complementary and supplementary approaches to ensure healthy and sustainable weight loss over the long term," the report states.

The Microbiome: An Underutilized Physiological Lever

This is precisely where the gut microbiome offers major opportunities. GLP-1 is not just a pharmaceutical molecule—it is a hormone naturally produced by L-cells in the intestine. And this production is directly modulated by the microbiome.

Recent scientific research demonstrates that gut microbiome metabolites—particularly short-chain fatty acids (SCFAs)—naturally stimulate GLP-1 secretion. In other words, a healthy microbiome can activate the same metabolic pathways as medications, through physiological mechanisms.

The Seventure Partners report thus identifies the microbiome as a cornerstone of holistic, sustainable therapeutic strategies guided by precision medicine. This approach does not aim to replace existing treatments but to complement them and optimize their long-term effectiveness.

A Rapidly Maturing Market

This convergence of microbiome and metabolism is opening a high-growth market segment. According to analyses by ResearchAndMarkets and Global Industry Analysts, the global microbiome therapeutics market is expected to grow from \$1.4 billion in 2024 to \$21.5 billion by 2030, representing annual growth of nearly 57%. The obesity segment shows one of the strongest dynamics with a CAGR of 56.8%, alongside opportunities in oncology, chronic and age-related diseases, and gut-brain axis applications (neurodegenerative diseases, mental health, etc.).

For comparison, the GLP-1 agonist market is expected to reach \$105 billion by 2030 (Morgan Stanley). The 1-to-5 ratio between these two markets illustrates both the maturity of pharmacological approaches and the significant catch-up potential of microbiome-based solutions.

Europe shows annual growth of 35.4% in this segment (Grand View Research), driven notably by public-private partnerships and the European Commission's 2025 Biotechnology Roadmap, which prioritizes microbial therapeutics for health and sustainability.

A Broad Range of Therapeutic Innovations

Isabelle de Cremoux's analysis maps the various product categories under development in this field: fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT), Microbiome Restoration Therapy (MRT), live biotherapeutic products (LBPs), next-generation probiotics, prebiotics, postbiotics, and functional dietary fibers.

These innovations follow distinct regulatory pathways and offer complementary mechanisms of action.

A key finding emerges from the report: the need for personalized approaches. The variability in individual responses to microbiome-based treatments requires consideration of each patient's baseline microbiome composition and functions. This heralds the advent of precision medicine applied to obesity.

Research Priorities to Be Strengthened

The report also identifies priority research areas to accelerate the clinical translation of these approaches: filling remaining mechanistic gaps, prioritizing randomized clinical trials in humans over animal experimentation, and standardizing methodologies for microbiome data collection and analysis.



"The gut microbiome represents a major innovation opportunity in obesity treatment. Not as an isolated solution, but as the cornerstone of holistic, sustainable therapeutic strategies guided by precision medicine. Our conviction, forged through more than ten years of investment in this field, is that the future of obesity treatment will involve the intelligent integration of pharmacological and microbiome-based approaches." Isabelle de Cremoux, CEO of Seventure Partners

Key Figures

- 1+ billion adults living with obesity worldwide in 2024 (World Obesity Atlas 2025)
- \$4.32 trillion: projected annual economic impact by 2035 — nearly 3% of global GDP (World Obesity Federation)
- \$990 billion: current annual cost to global health systems — 13% of healthcare spending (World Obesity Federation)
- \$21.5 billion: projected global microbiome therapeutics market by 2030 (vs. \$1.4B in 2024)
- 56.8%: annual growth rate of the obesity segment in the microbiome market
- \$105 billion: projected global GLP-1 agonist market by 2030 (Morgan Stanley)

The full report *"Microbiome & Obesity: A Seventure Perspective on the Next Healthcare Frontier"* is available upon request at this mail address: microbiomeReport@healthforlifecapital.com

About Seventure Partners

Seventure Partners is a long-term capital investor that actively supports innovative companies aiming to generate positive outcomes for people, society, sustainability, and the planet.

With approximately 1 billion euros in net commitments under management as of year-end 2025, Seventure is a leading European venture capital firm that has been investing since 1997 in high-growth innovative companies across two main areas: (i) life sciences (biotechnology, healthcare and digital health, nutrition, foodtech, bioeconomy, blue economy (ocean and water), aquaculture, animal health, agriculture, sports and wellness) with a particular focus on microbiome-related innovations within a One Health framework, across Europe, Asia, and North America; and (ii) digital technologies (fintech, retailtech, cybersecurity, etc.) in Western Europe.

Investment tickets range from 500,000 euros to 10 million euros per round and up to 20 million euros per company, spanning seed, venture capital, growth, IPO, development capital, and LBO stages.

In Life Sciences, Seventure primarily invests in "classic" approaches such as drugs, medical devices, and diagnostics, as well as industrial biotechnology, alongside "beyond the pill" sectors including digital and connected health, prevention, wellness, personalized medicine, nutrition, and food—with a particular interest in MICROBIOME discoveries and Bio-Industry applications.

With Health for Life Capital I, II, and III and its co-investment funds, Seventure is the global leader in MICROBIOME investment, with more than 30 portfolio companies to date.

More information: www.seventure.fr

X: @SeventureP

[LinkedIn](#)

About Health for Life Capital™ Funds

With Health for Life Capital I, II, and III (three successor funds totaling 160 million euros, 250 million euros, and a soon-to-be-announced amount in total commitments) and its co-investment funds, Seventure is the global leader in MICROBIOME investment, with more than 30 portfolio companies to date. Examples include Enterome, Eligo Bioscience, MaaT Pharma, and TargEDys in France, as well as The Akkermansia Company (formerly A-Mansia Biotech), BiomX, Cambrooke, Microbiotica, Siolta Therapeutics, Vedanta Biosciences, Axial Therapeutics (now Vertero Therapeutics), Citryll, Abalos, and others. Seventure is also among the earliest investors in BIO-INDUSTRY and FOODTECH, with portfolio companies including Mycotechnology, One.Bio (formerly BCD), and Foodsmart in the U.S., as well as Polaris, Standing Ovation, and LaVieFoods in France.

The Health for Life Capital funds have attracted financial investors, family offices, and prestigious strategic industrial partners (Danone, Novartis, Tereos, Tornier, Lesaffre, Bel, Unigrains, two major U.S. agri-food multinationals, etc.) as well as entrepreneurs.

Press Contacts

Seventure Partners

Isabelle de Cremoux

CEO et Managing partner

Email: isabelle.decremoux@seventure.fr

Agence Yucatan

Caroline Prince-Albagnac

Tel: +33 1 53 63 27 35

Email: cprince@yucatan.fr

microbiomeReport@healthforlifecapital.com