

Gluten-Related Disorders in 2015

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Comer Children's Hospital

CELEBRATING  YEARS

Learning Objectives

- Distinguish between wheat allergy, celiac disease and non-celiac gluten sensitivity
- Analyze and define testing requirements to aid in the diagnosis of wheat allergy and gluten related disorders
- Advocate for accurate and timely diagnosis to improve patients quality of life
- Review literature to better understand the presentation of symptom, challenges of diagnosis and treatment options

"Gluten" - related disorders

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Wheat Allergy
~0.1%

Celiac Disease
1%

No gene associated
Largely IgE-mediated
Children and Bakers

HLA-DQ2, DQ8
Autoimmune disease
Any age

Respiratory, skin
symptoms

GI and extra-GI
symptoms

"Gluten" - related disorders

Wheat Allergy
~0.1%

Celiac Disease
1%

Non-celiac
Gluten Sensitivity
?%

No gene associated
Largely IgE-mediated
Children and Bakers

HLA-DQ2, DQ8
Autoimmune disease
Any age

No gene associated
Immune-mediated?
Mostly adults

Serum
specific IgE

CD autoantibodies
Biopsy

No
diagnostic marker

Wheat Allergy - Definition

A hypersensitivity reaction to wheat proteins mediated through immune mechanisms and involving mast cell activation.

The immune response can be IgE mediated, non-IgE mediated, or both.

Most commonly a **food** allergy, but wheat can become a sensitizer when the exposure occurs through the skin or through the airways (Baker's asthma)

Wheat Allergy

IgE-mediated reactions to wheat albumin, globulin, α gliadin

Respiratory Allergy

Asthma

Some forms (eg EoE) may be IgE-mediated

Food Allergy

GI manifestations

IgE-mediated reactions to ω -5 gliadin

WDEIA

Anaphylaxis

IgE-mediated reactions to ω -gliadin

Contact Urticaria

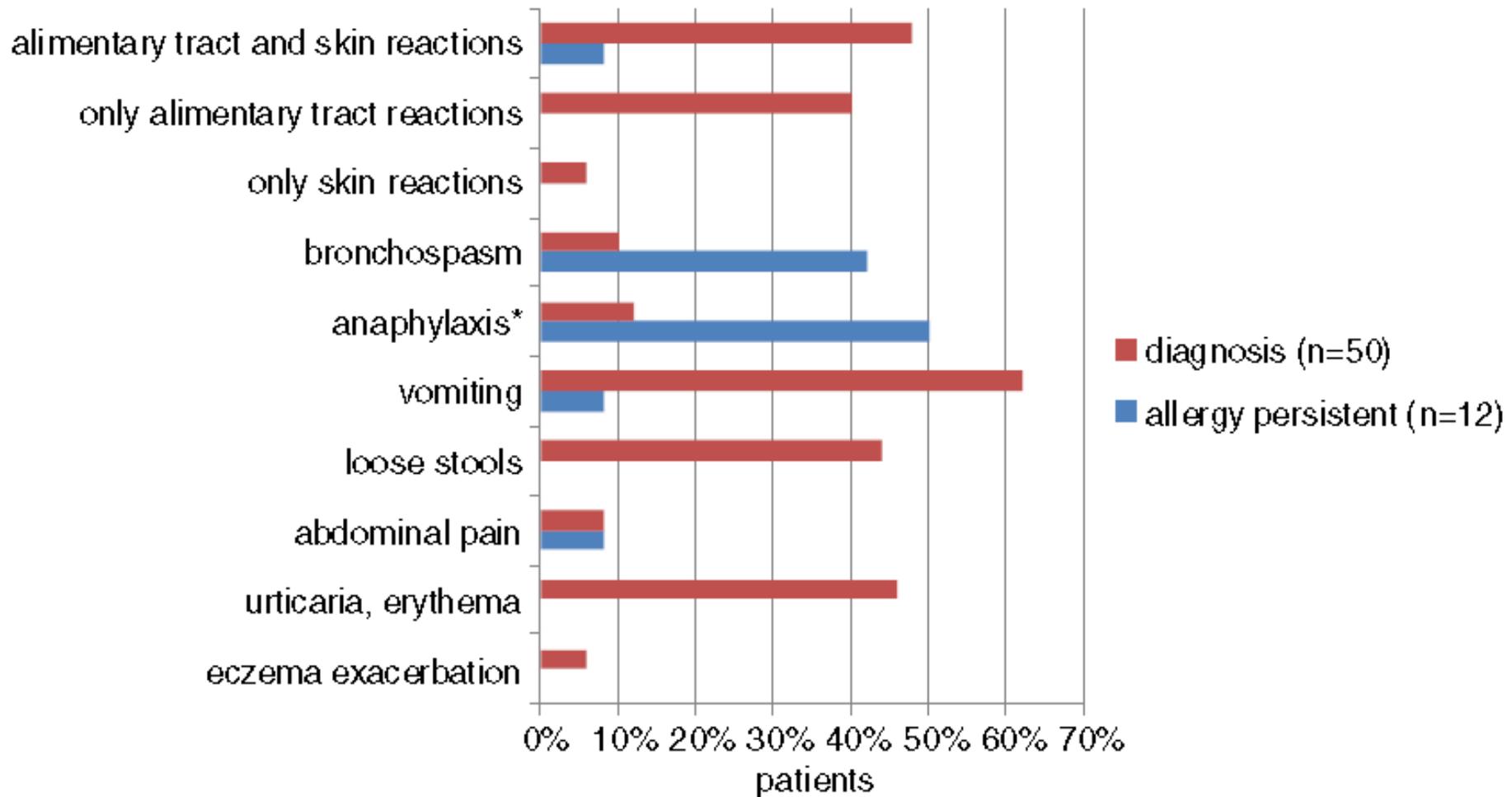
Skin lesions

Wheat Allergy in Children

Characteristics	No. (%) of patients; n = 50
Sex: male/female	32 (64)/18 (36)
Other atopic diseases*	
Eczema	39 (78)
Asthma	24 (48)
Allergic rhinitis	17 (34)
Eosinophyllic gastrointestinal disease*	6 (12)
Eosinophilic oesophagitis	5 (10)
Other food allergies*	
Milk	40 (80)
White egg	36 (72)
Soy	12 (24)
Fish	14 (28)
Peanut	25 (50)
Tree nuts	13 (26)
Number of food allergens:*	Median 4; range: 3-7
3	4 (8)
4	33 (66)
≥5	13 (26)
Family history of atopy	50 (100)
1 parents	9 (18)
Both parents	41 (82)
Siblings	24 (62)

*throughout the whole observation period.

Clinical Manifestations of Wheat Allergy in Children

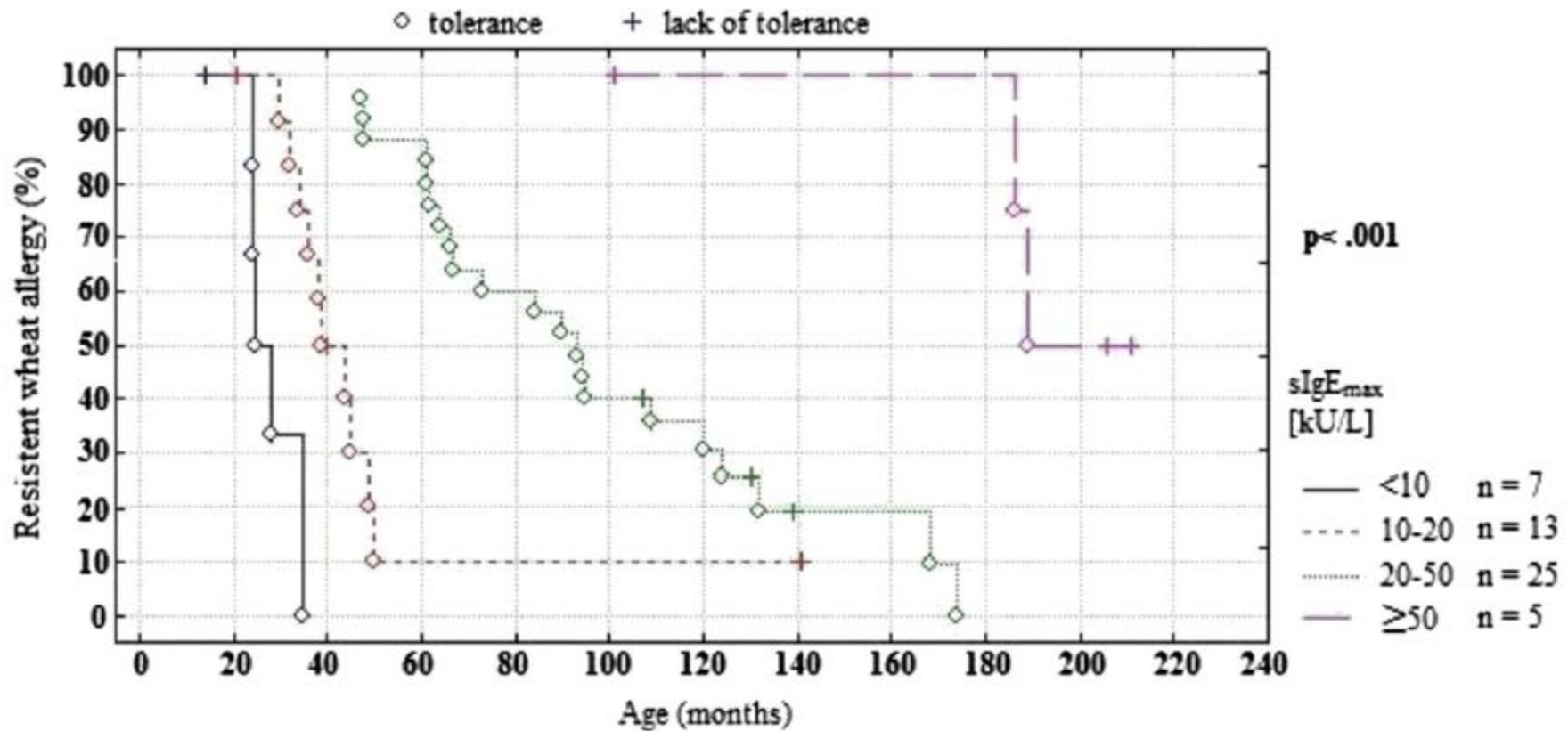


Median Wheat IgE levels in patients with persistent or resolved wheat allergy

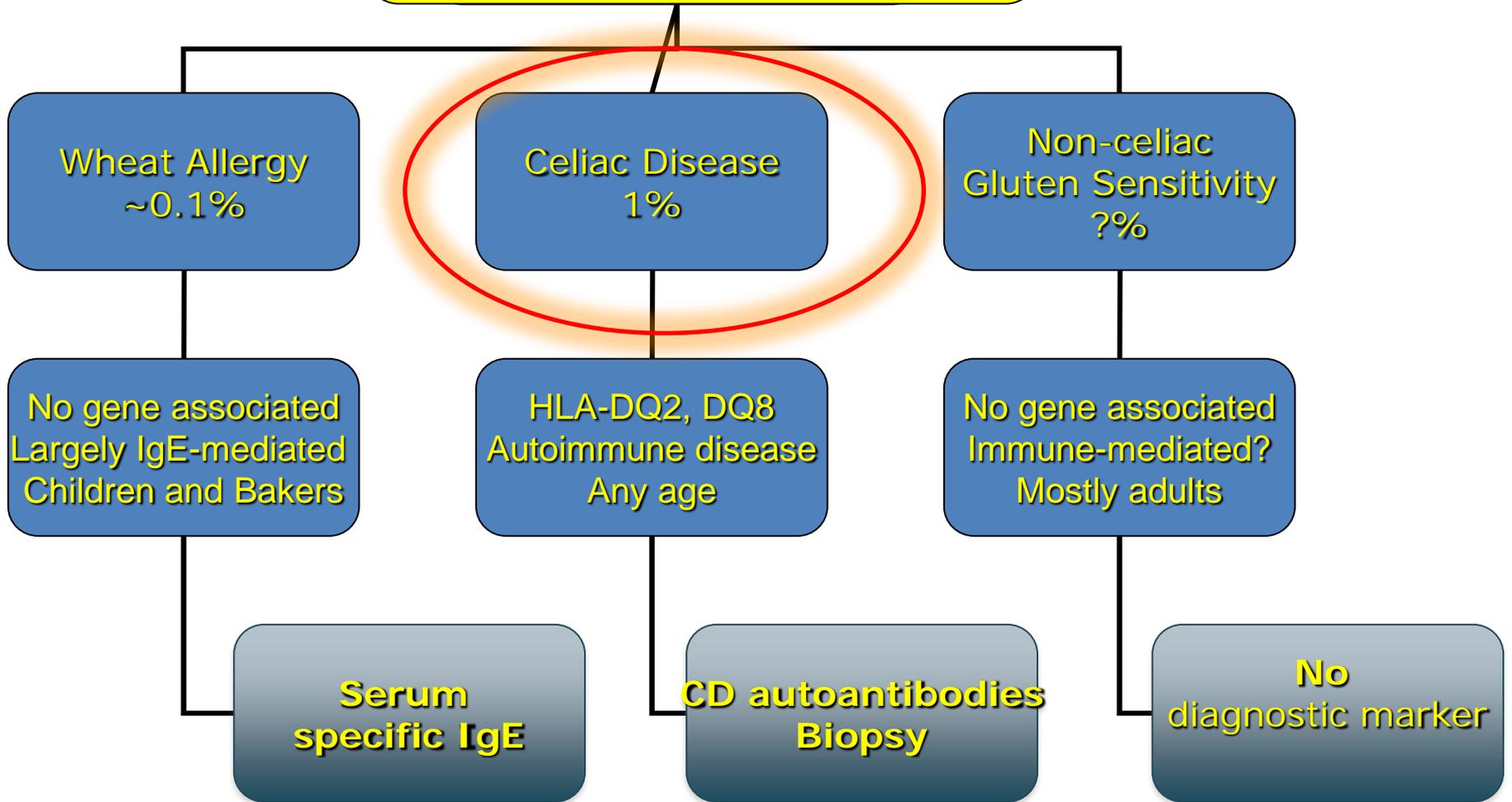
Age (years)	Wheat specific IgE (kU/L)		p value*
	Outgrown	Persistent	
0-2	9	19	.04
2-4	10	27	.03
4-6	7	49	.03
6-8	6	46	.04
8-10	6	42	.04
10-12	5	36	.05
12-14	4	35	.07
14-16	4	33	.14
16-18	4	30	.36

*Mann-Whitney test.

Relationship of peak wheat IgE level to persistence of wheat allergy during the first 18 years of life

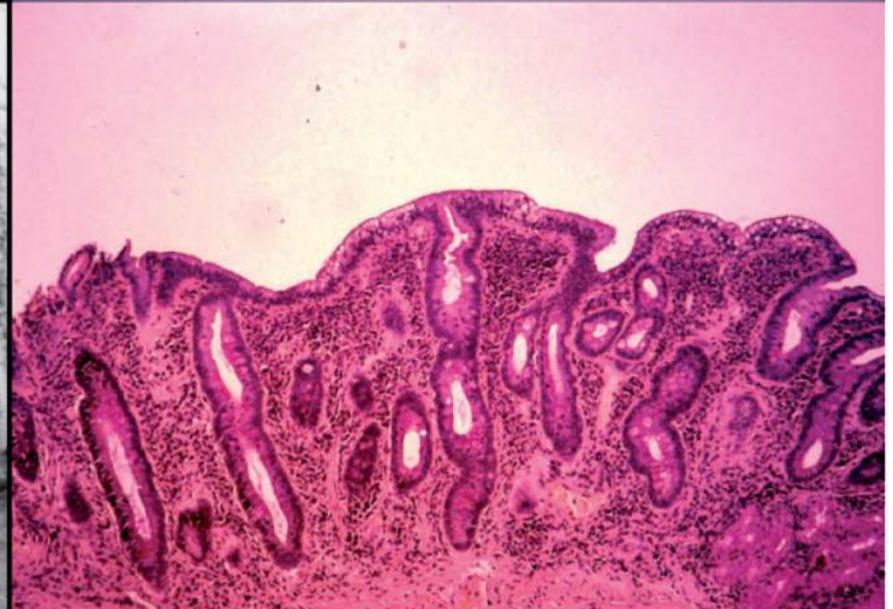
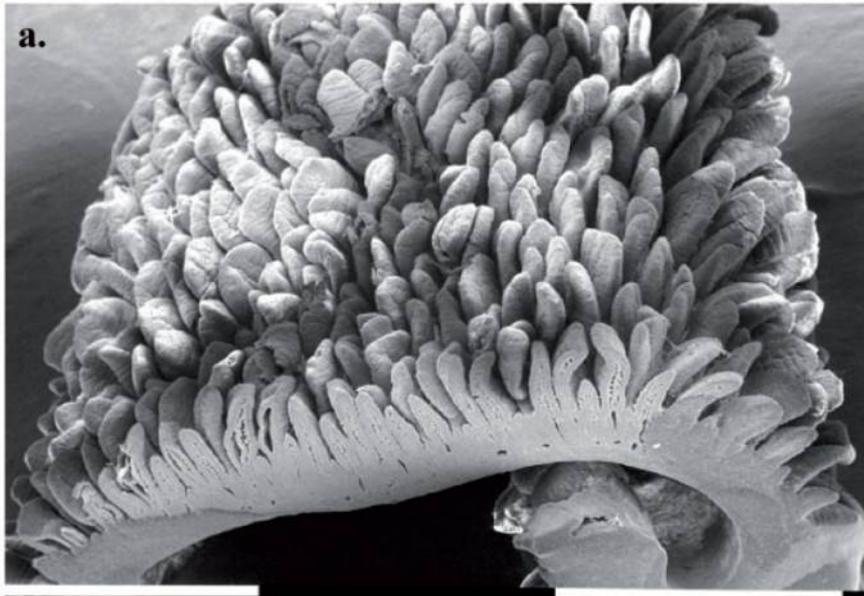


"Gluten" - related disorders



Celiac Disease

- An immune-mediated systemic disorder elicited by gluten and related prolamines in genetically susceptible individuals
- Characterized by a variable combination of:
 - Gluten-dependent clinical manifestations
 - CD-specific antibodies (autoantibodies against TG2, endomysial antibodies (EMA), and antibodies against deamidated forms of gliadin peptides (DGP)
 - HLA-DQ2 or HLA-DQ8 haplotypes; and
 - Enteropathy.



What Causes Celiac Disease?

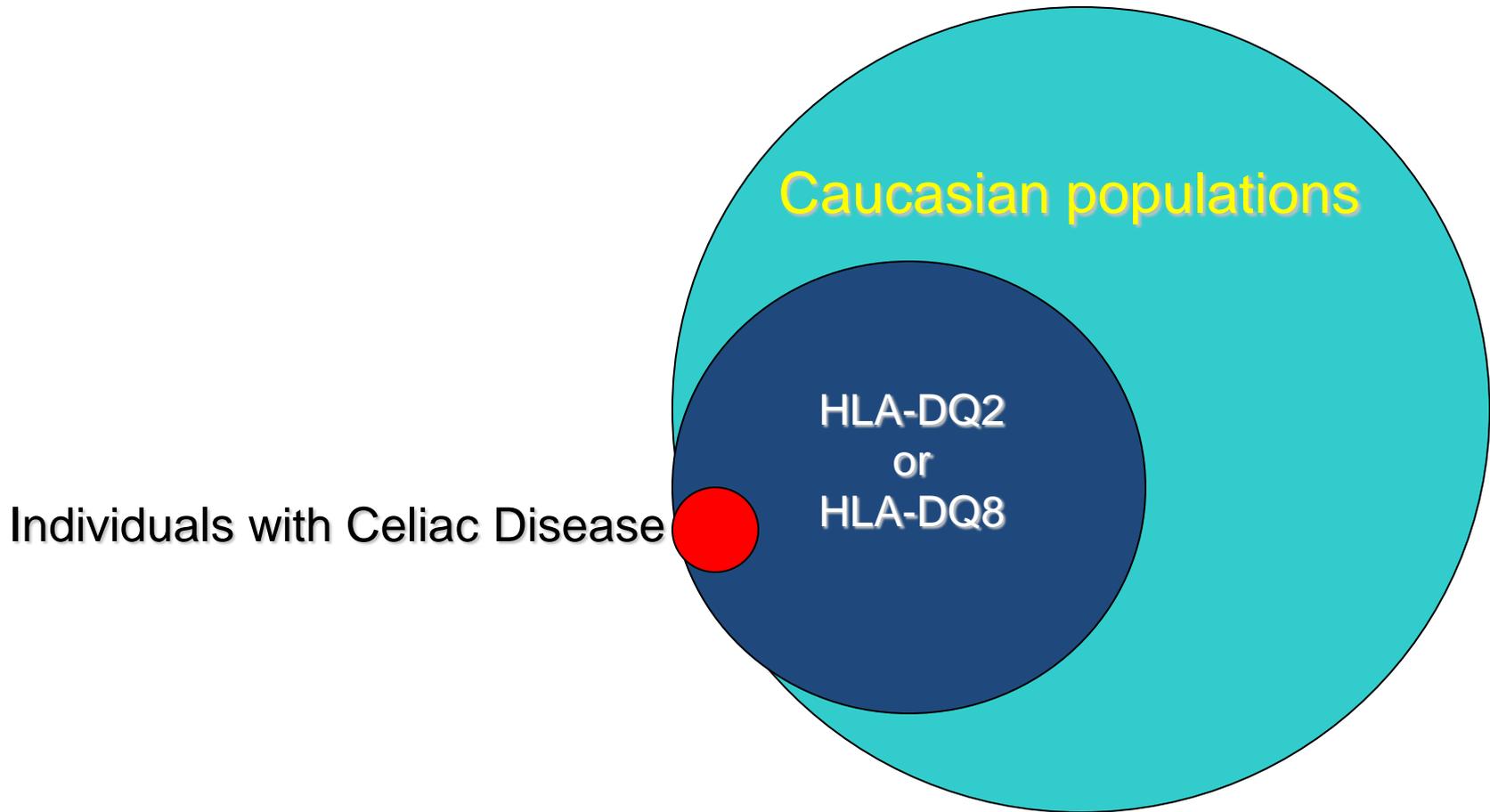


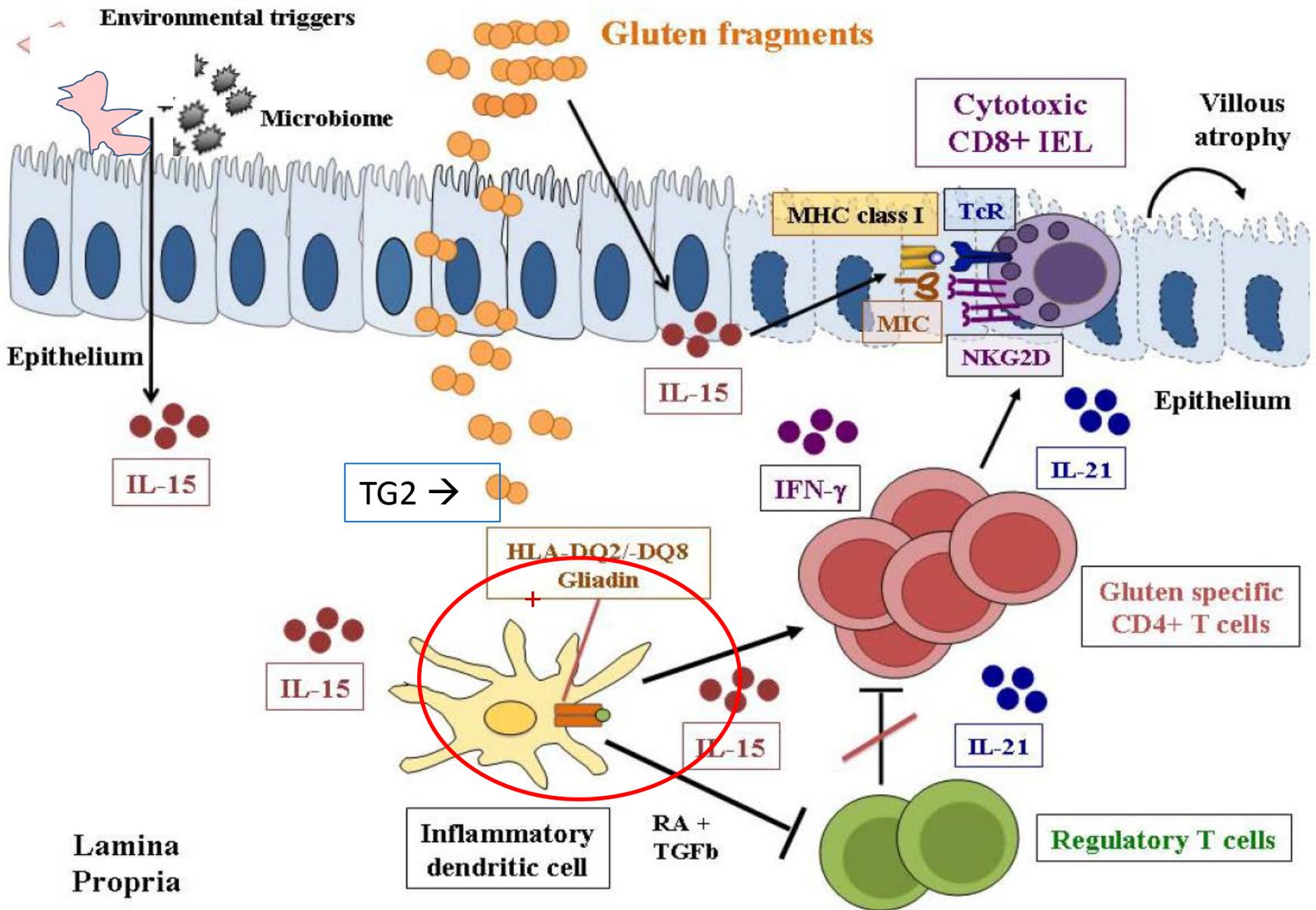
The Genes

- HLA-DQ2 (95% of celiacs)
- HLA-DQ8 (5% of celiacs)

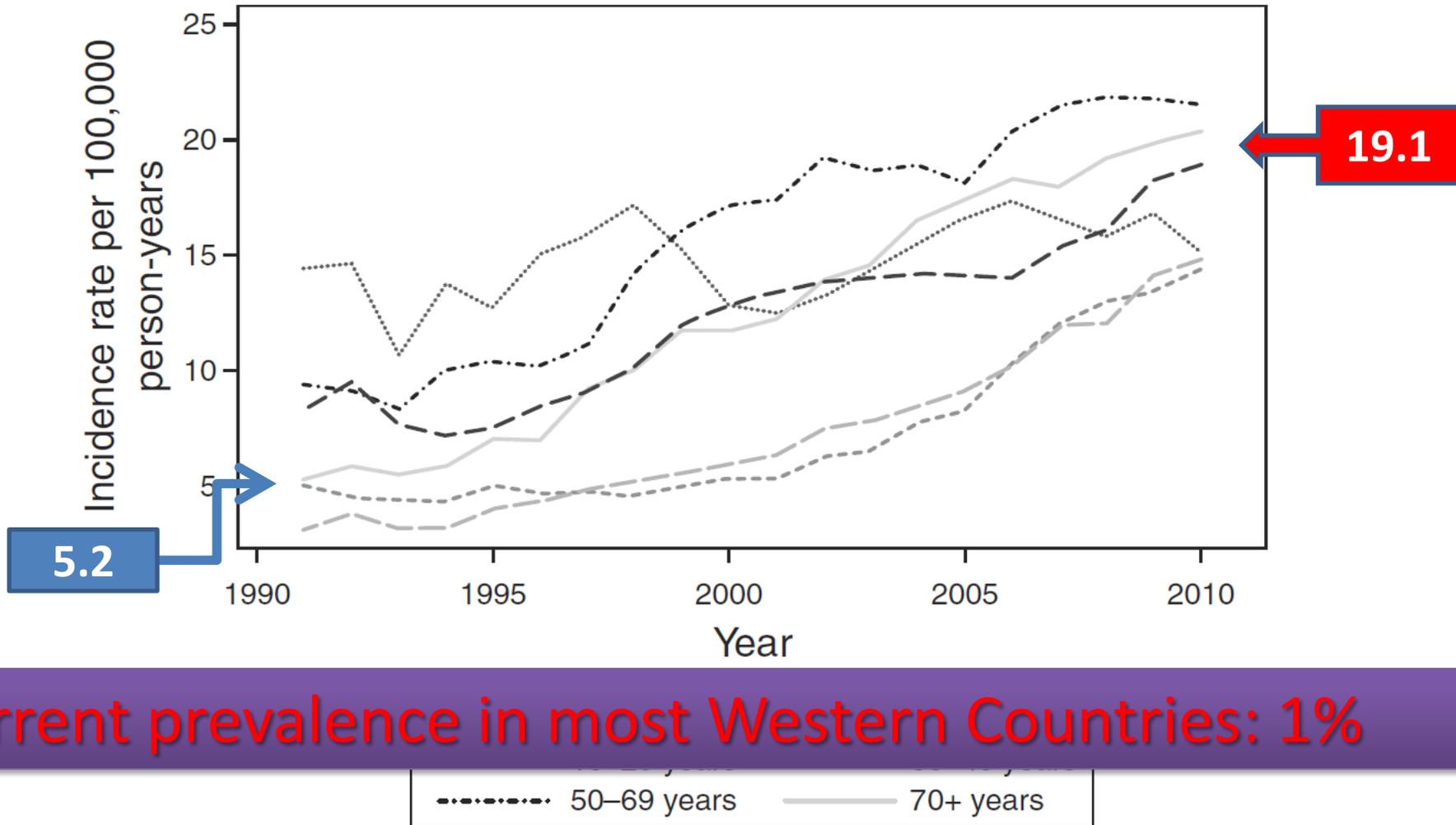
Note: You must have one of these genes to be celiac;
But if you have them, you may or may not develop celiac

DQ2 or DQ8 Necessary but Not Sufficient





Rapidly Increasing Incidence of CD



Current prevalence in most Western Countries: 1%

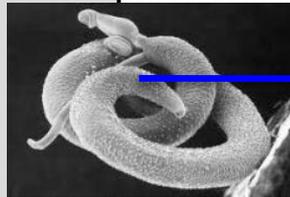
Antibiotics



Western Diet



Elimination of enteropathogens (*H. pylori*, Helminths)



Vaccines/reduced exposure to infections



C-sections /infant feeding (?)



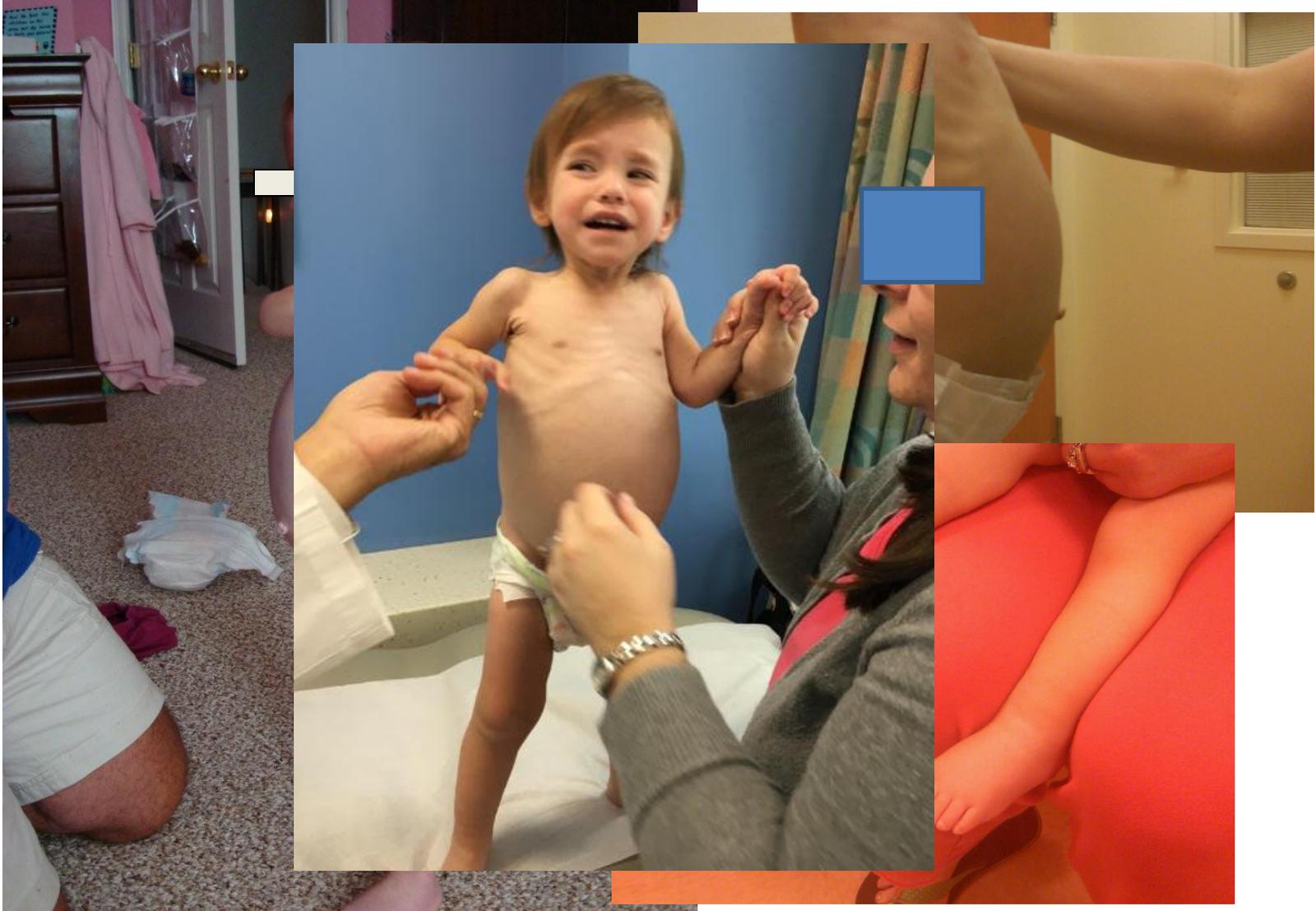
Changes in microbiota
"Dysbiosis"



* Celiac Disease
* Autoimmunity
* Food Allergies

Genetically susceptible individual

“Typical” Celiac Children



Clinical Presentations

	Serology (tTG or EMA)	Symptoms	Pathology
Symptomatic "Typical"	Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diarrhea • Abdominal Pain • Distention • Vomiting • Anorexia • Constipation 	Marsh 2-3
Symptomatic "Atypical"	Positive	Extra-intestinal	Marsh 1-3
Silent	Positive	None	Marsh 1-3
Potential	Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None • Gastrointestinal • Extra-intestinal 	Marsh 0-1

Possible Presentations

- GI (“Typical”) or Extra-GI (“Atypical”)
- Silent
 - Positive antibodies
 - Intestinal damage at biopsy
 - ***No symptoms***
- Potential
 - Positive antibodies
 - ***No intestinal damage at biopsy***
 - \pm Symptoms

Possible Presentations

- GI ("Typical") or Extra-GI ("Atypical")
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 - Positive antibodies
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 - \pm Symptoms

The “Typical” (GI) Presentations

- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Failure to thrive or weight loss
- Abdominal bloating/pain
- Constipation

Main "Atypical": Extra-Intestinal

- Malnutrition Related
 - Short stature
 - Delayed puberty
 - Iron-deficient anemia resistant to oral Fe
- Recurrent stomatitis
- Liver and biliary tract disease
 - Autoimmune Liver Disease
 - Benign hypertransaminasemia
- Skin disorders
 - Dermatitis Herpetiformis
 - Alopecia Areata
- Osteopenia/Osteoporosis
- Arthritis/Arthralgia
- Neurological problems
 - Headache
 - Peripheral Neuropathy
 - Seizures with occipital calcifications
 - Gluten Ataxia
- Behavioral changes & psychiatric disorders
 - Poor mood
 - Anxiety
 - Depression
- Women: sub-infertility

Main GI and Extra-GI manifestations

Atypical

Fe-Deficient Anemia

Osteopenia/Osteoporosis

Arthritis

Headaches

Dental enamel defects

Short stature

Typical

Weight loss

Abdominal Pain

Anorexia

Intussusception

Diarrhea

Failure to thrive

Vomiting

6mo

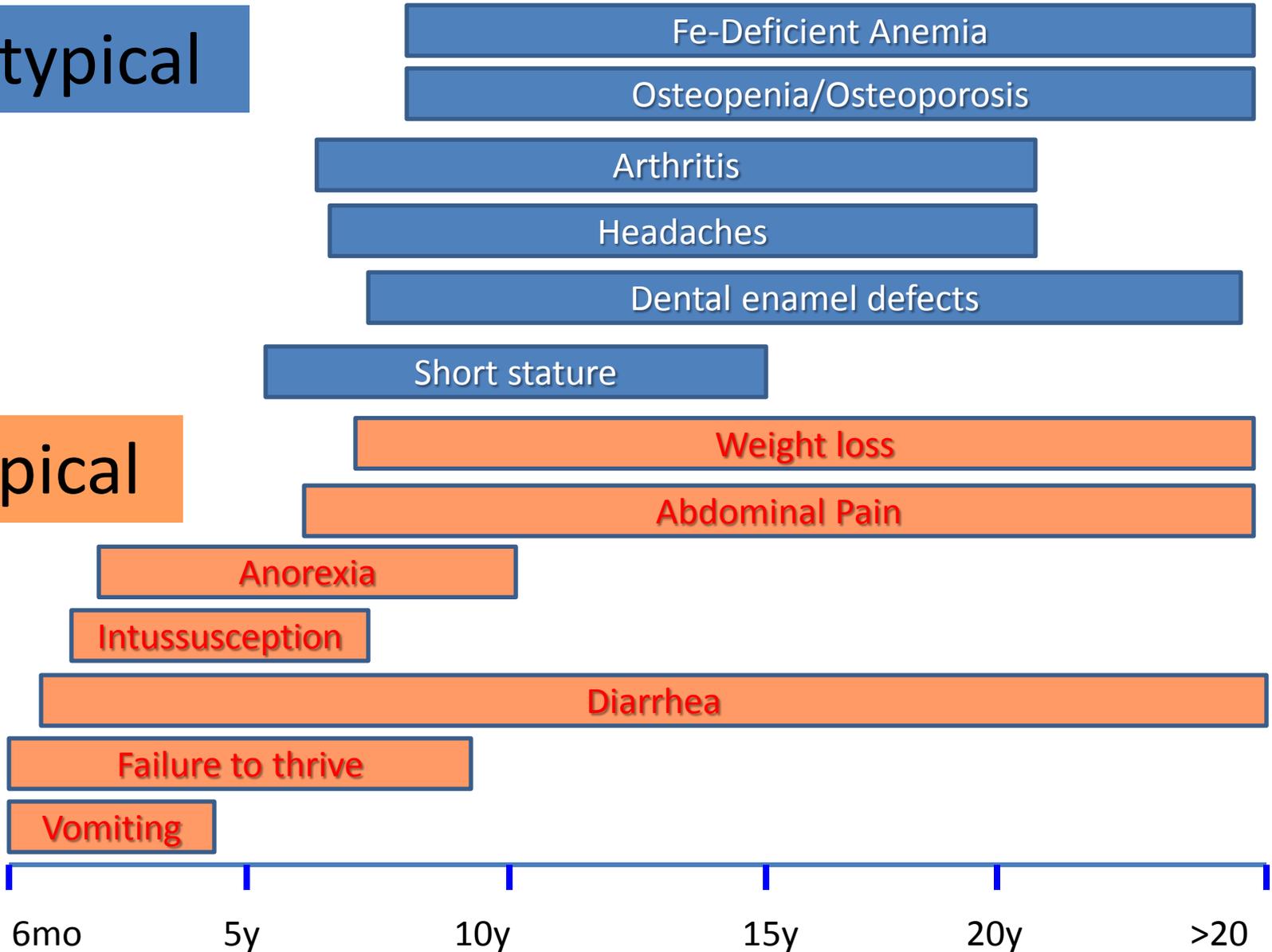
5y

10y

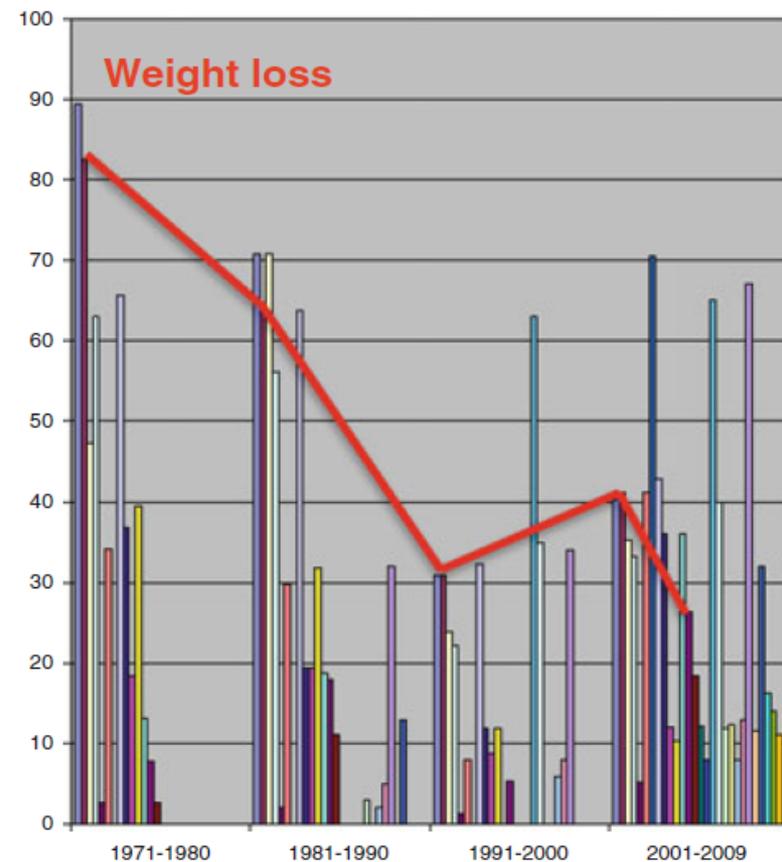
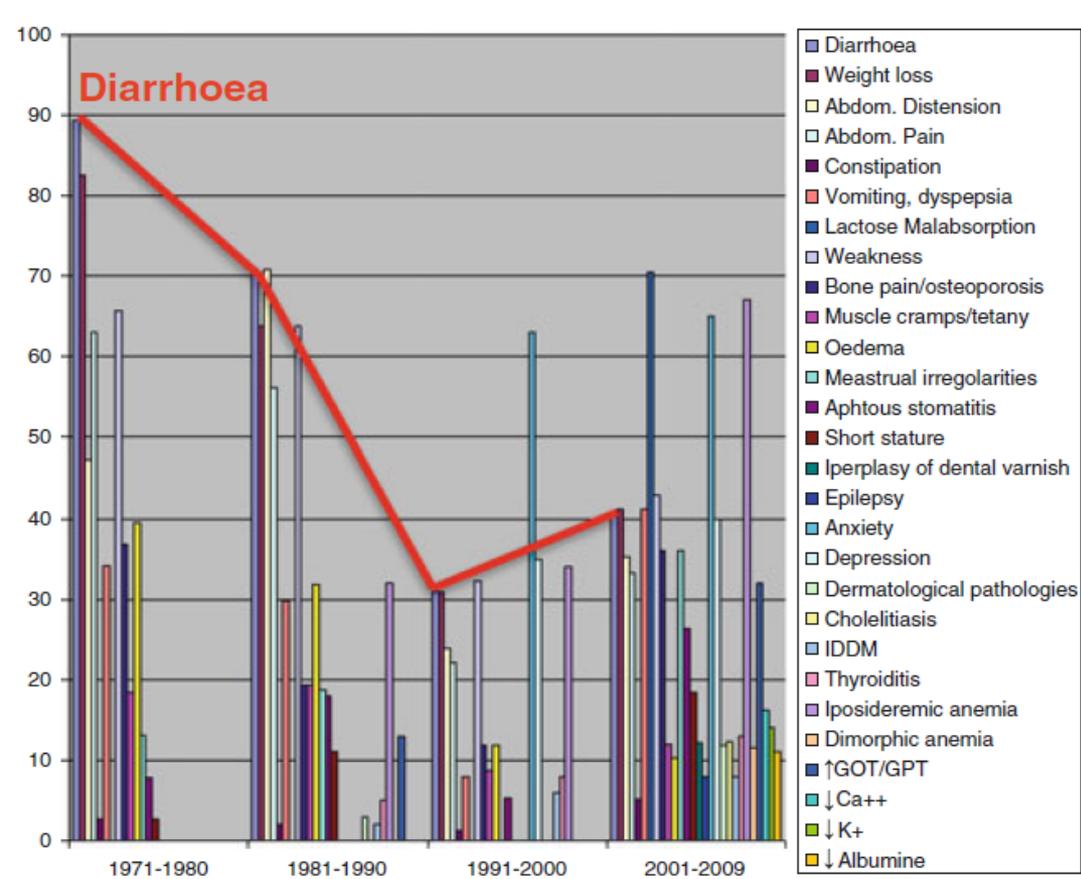
15y

20y

>20



The Decline of "Typical" CeD



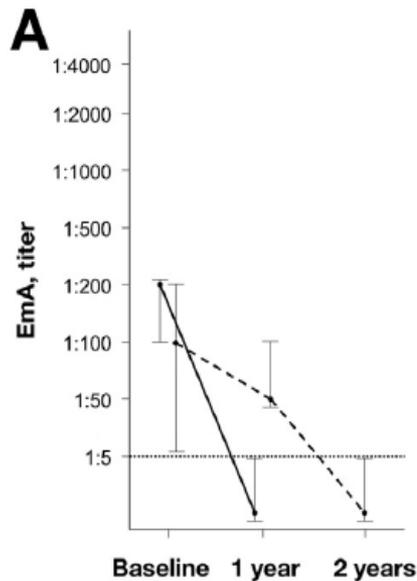
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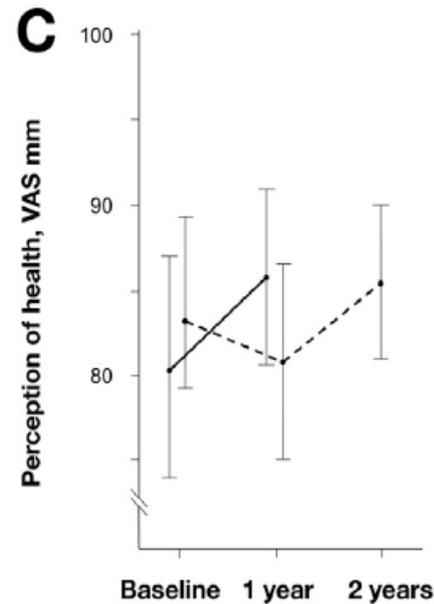
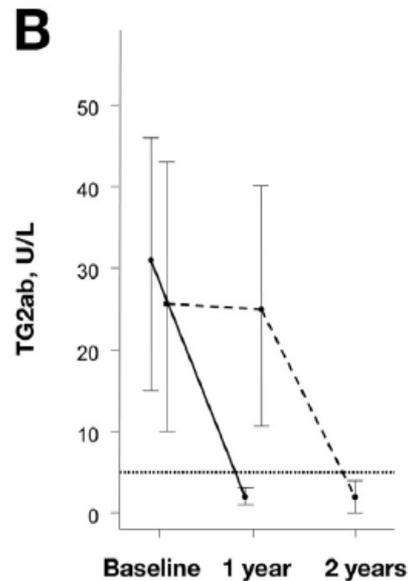
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- GI (“Typical”) or Extra-GI (“Atypical”)
- **Silent**
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 - \pm Symptoms

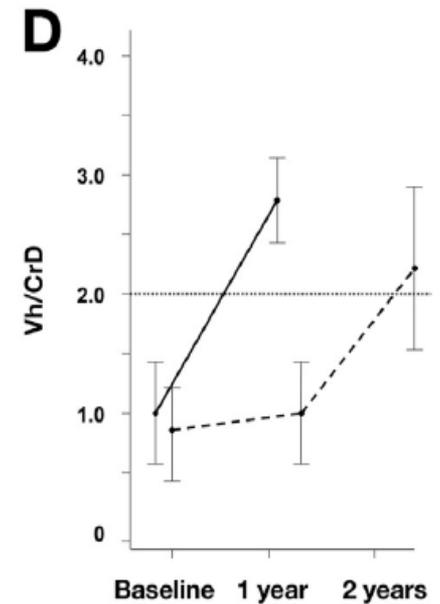
Silent CeD: to treat or not to treat



Autoantibodies

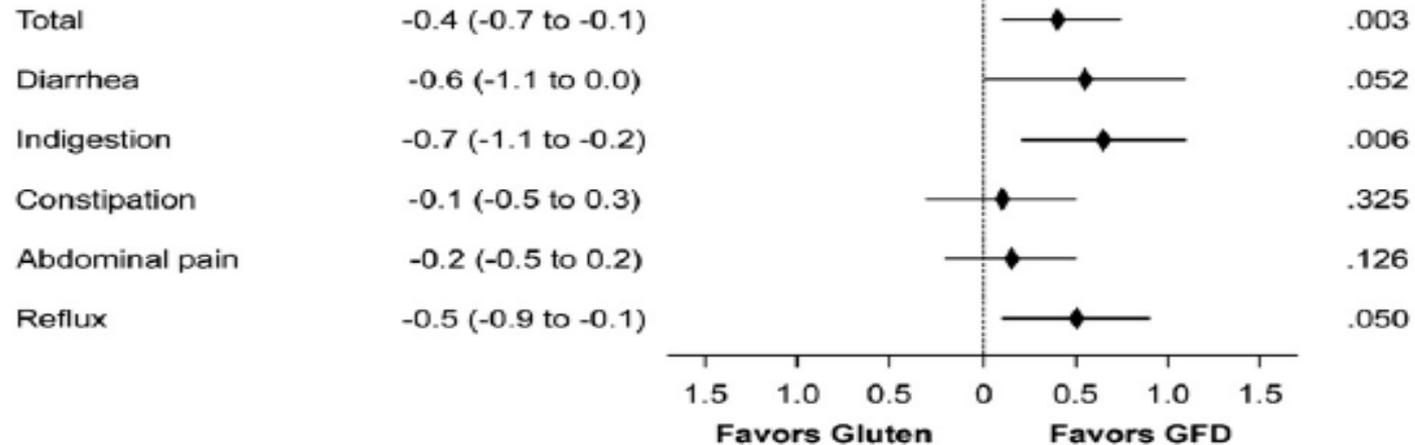


Health perception

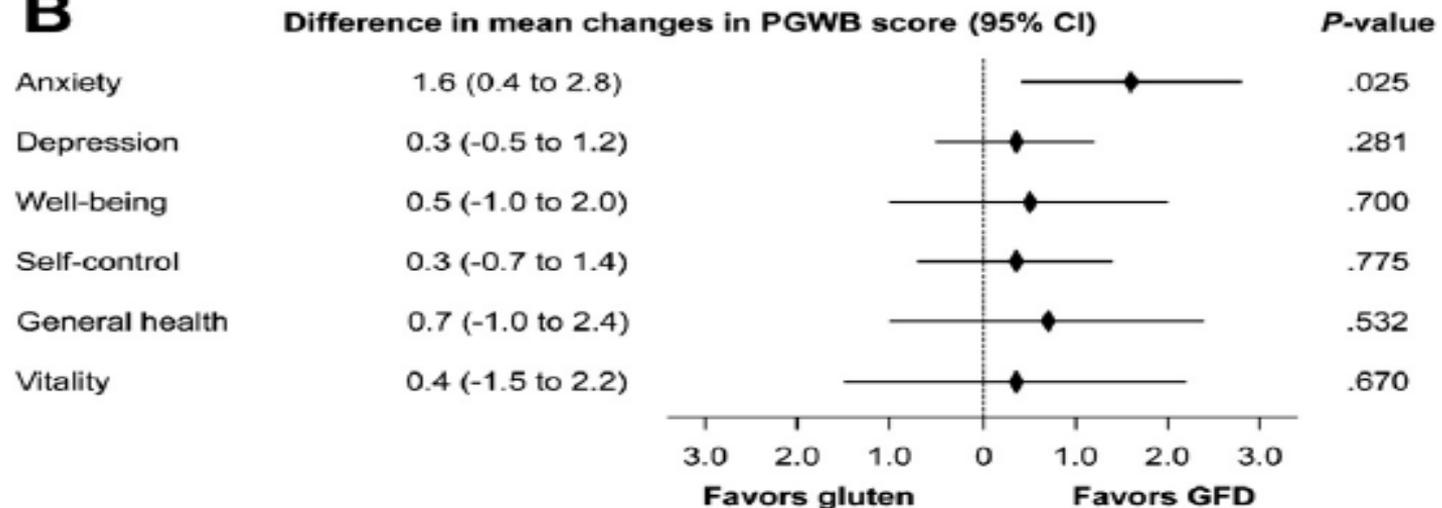


Biopsy

Silent CeD: to treat or not to treat

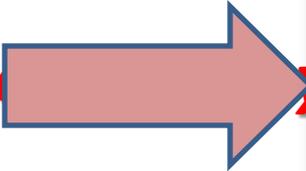


B



Possible Presentations

- GI (“Typical”) or Extra-GI (“Atypical”)
- Silent
 - Positive antibodies
 - Intestinal damage at biopsy
 - ***No symptoms***
- **Potential**
 - Positive antibodies
 - ***No intestinal damage***
 - ***± Symptoms***



If left on gluten,
almost 50% become
full-blown celiacs in 3-
5 years

Who Should be Tested?

- **Children and adolescents with otherwise unexplained GI symptoms and signs :**
 - Chronic or intermittent diarrhea
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Chronic abdominal pain, cramping or distension
 - Chronic constipation
 - Failure to thrive, weight loss, stunted growth
 - Recurrent aphthous stomatitis
- **Children and adolescents with otherwise unexplained Extra-GI symptoms and signs :**
 - Short Stature; delayed puberty, amenorrhea
 - Iron-deficiency anemia, chronic fatigue
 - Dermatitis Herpetiformis–like rash
 - Fracture with inadequate traumas/osteopenia/osteoporosis
 - Abnormal liver biochemistry (elevated AST, ALT)

Who Should be Tested?

- **Asymptomatic children and adolescents at increased risk for CD such as:**
 - Type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM)
 - Autoimmune thyroid disease
 - Down syndrome
 - Turner syndrome
 - Williams syndrome
 - Selective immunoglobulin A (IgA) deficiency
 - Autoimmune liver disease
 - First-degree relatives with CD (*overall prevalence 8.1%, varying from 13% in sisters, daughters to 3% in parents*)

Celiac-specific Antibodies: the Best Biomarkers

	Positive likelihood ratio	Negative likelihood ratio
EMA /IgA	31.8 <i>(18.6-54.3)</i>	0.067 <i>(0.038-0.118)</i>
Anti-TG2 /IgA	21.8 <i>(12.9-36.8)</i>	0.060 <i>(0.040-0.090)</i>
Anti-DGP /IgG	13.6 <i>(8.1-22.8)</i>	0.061 <i>(0.017-0.221)</i>
Anti-DGP /IgA	9.4 <i>(6.8-13.1)</i>	0.121 <i>(0.072-0.203)</i>
AGA /IgA	7.3 <i>(4.5-11.8)</i>	0.186 <i>(0.095-0.362)</i>

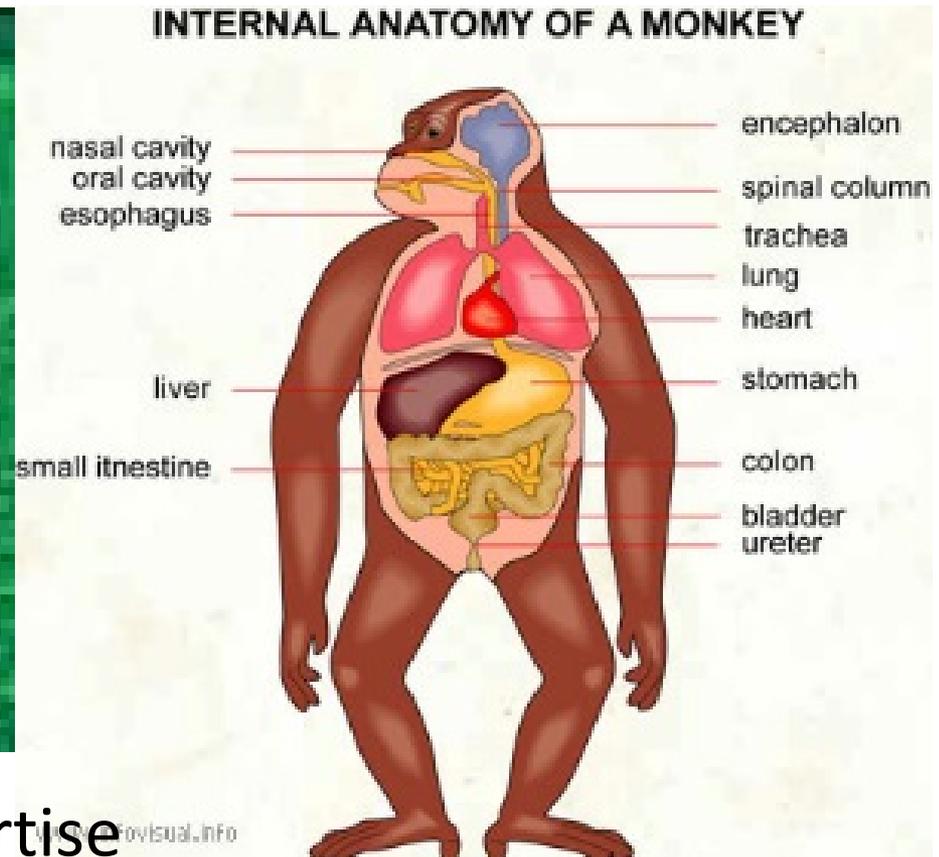
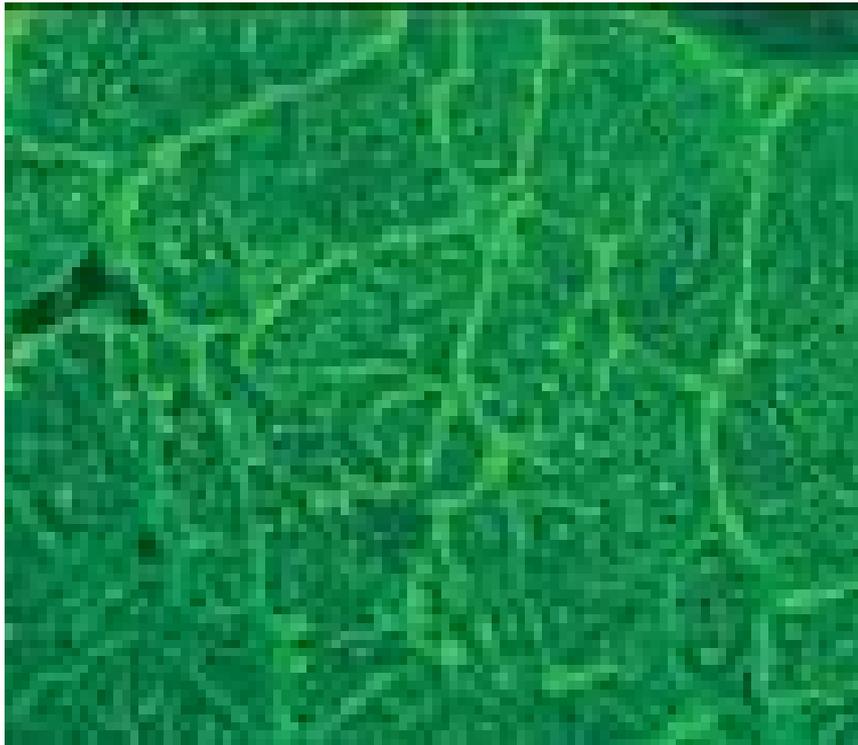
How to Test for Celiac Disease

- **Serum anti-Tissue Transglutaminase IgA (TTG)**
 - Sensitivity: **98%** (74-100%) - beware of IgA-deficient! (*)
 - Specificity: **97%** (78-100% - correlating with titers)
 - *Beware of low titers: false positive often found in other conditions*
- **Serum anti-Endomysium Antibodies IgA (EMA)**
 - Low to moderate sensitivity (around 85%)
 - **High specificity: 98.2% (97-100%)**

(*) IgA deficient is a subject who has less than 20 mg/dl of total serum IgA :
TTG-IgG should be performed **only** in these cases

Note: There is a very good correlation between serum titers of TTG-IgA or EMA
and tissue damage - Husby S et al., JPGN 2012

Why anti-EMA is Not the Best Initial Test to Screen for Celiac Disease?



- Requires technical expertise
- Observer-dependent
- Costly and ecologically unfriendly

Careful!

Other causes of elevated TTG-IgA

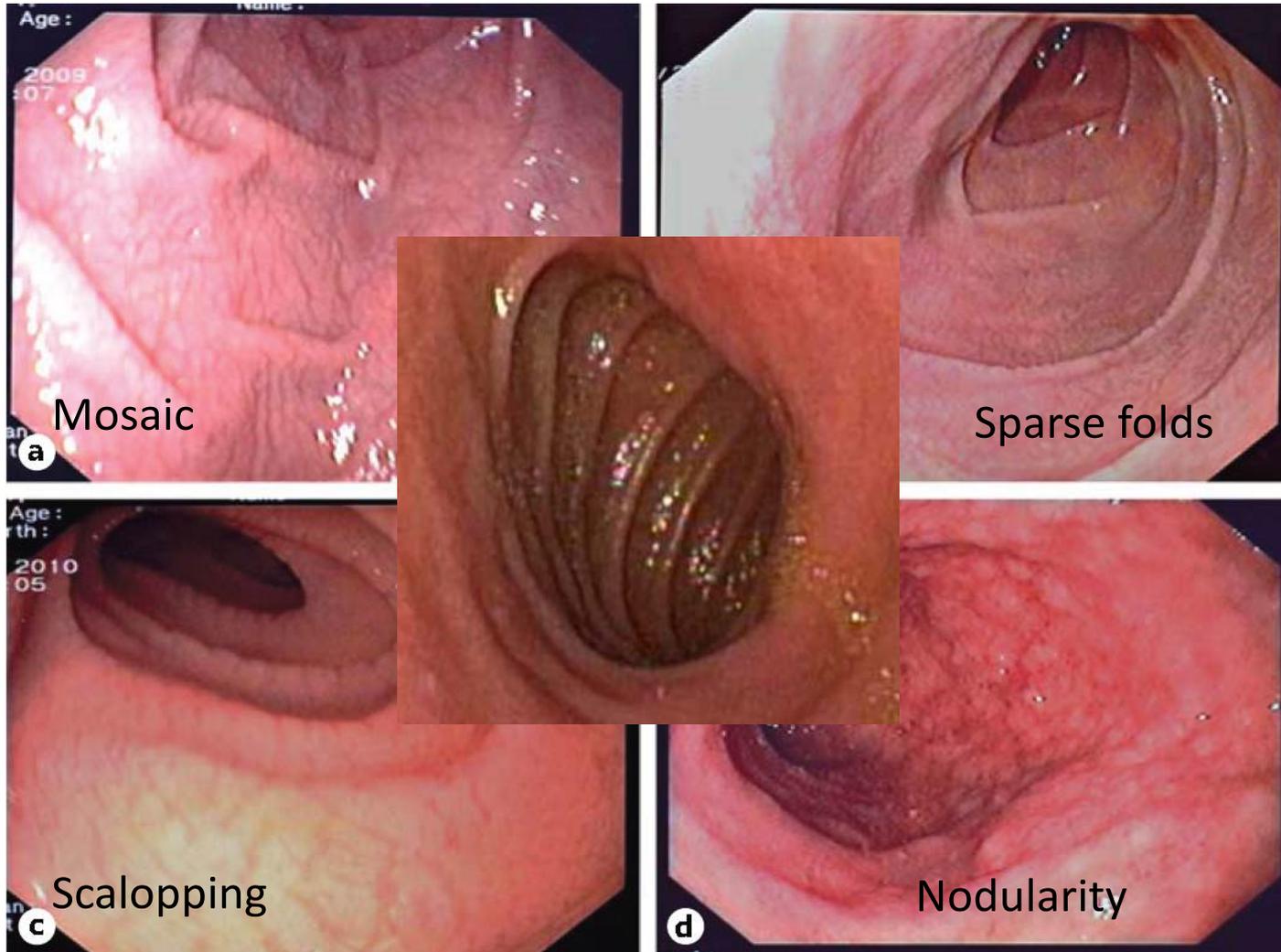
- Liver Disease
- Any Autoimmune Condition (esp. T1DM!)
- Crohn's disease
- Tumors
- Viral Infections

Deamidated Gliadin Peptides (DGP)

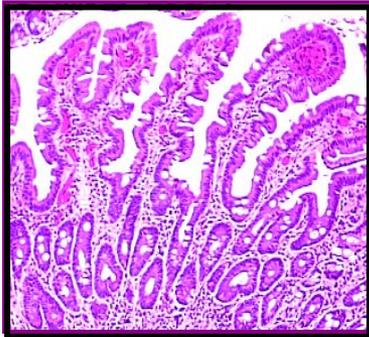
- DGP: sensitivity and specificity in screening for celiac disease similar to TTG-IgA
- DGP-IgG: better sensitivity and specificity than DGP-IgA
- DGP more often positive than TTG-IgA in very young children (below age 2), making them the preferred screening test for this age group

All serological tests for CD depend for diagnostic reliability on the patient being on gluten!
Testing for serology someone who has been for ≥ 6 weeks on a strict gluten-free diet (GFD) is a common mistake that must be avoided, as levels of antibodies begin to decline 2-3 weeks after beginning GFD, and if the titers were only moderately elevated to being with, they may well be completely normal after 6 weeks on a GFD!

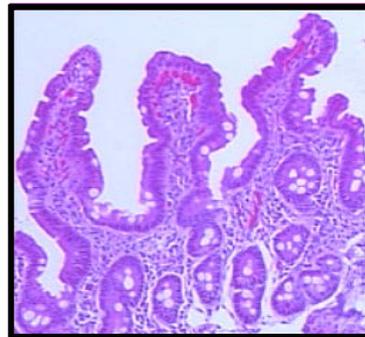
Endoscopic Changes in Celiac Disease



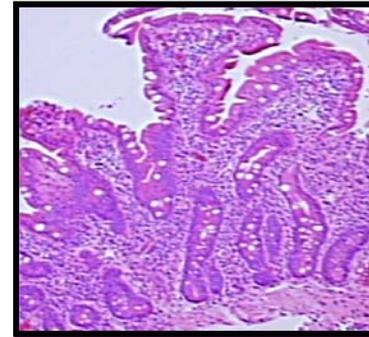
Mucosal damage is progressive: the Marsh scoring system



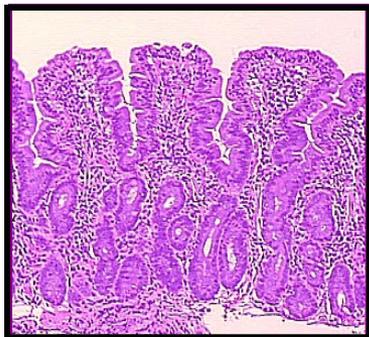
Normal 0



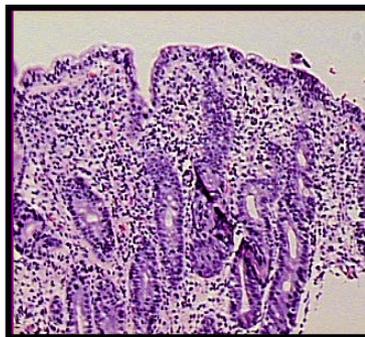
Infiltrative 1



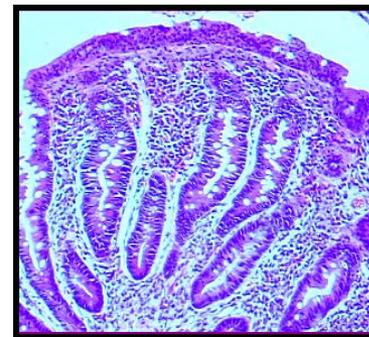
Hyperplastic 2



Partial atrophy 3a

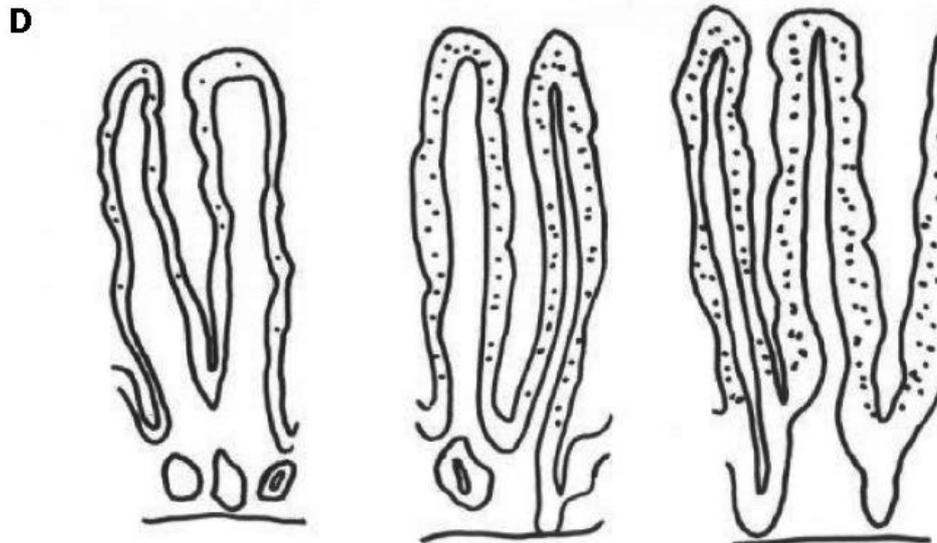
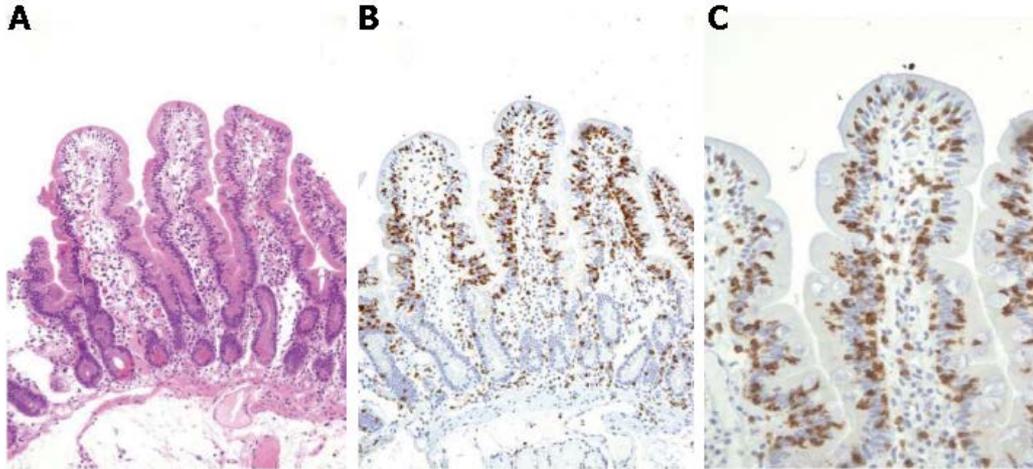


Subtotal atrophy 3b



Total atrophy 3c

Microscopic Enteritis (Marsh 1-2)



Marsh 0

Marsh I

Marsh II

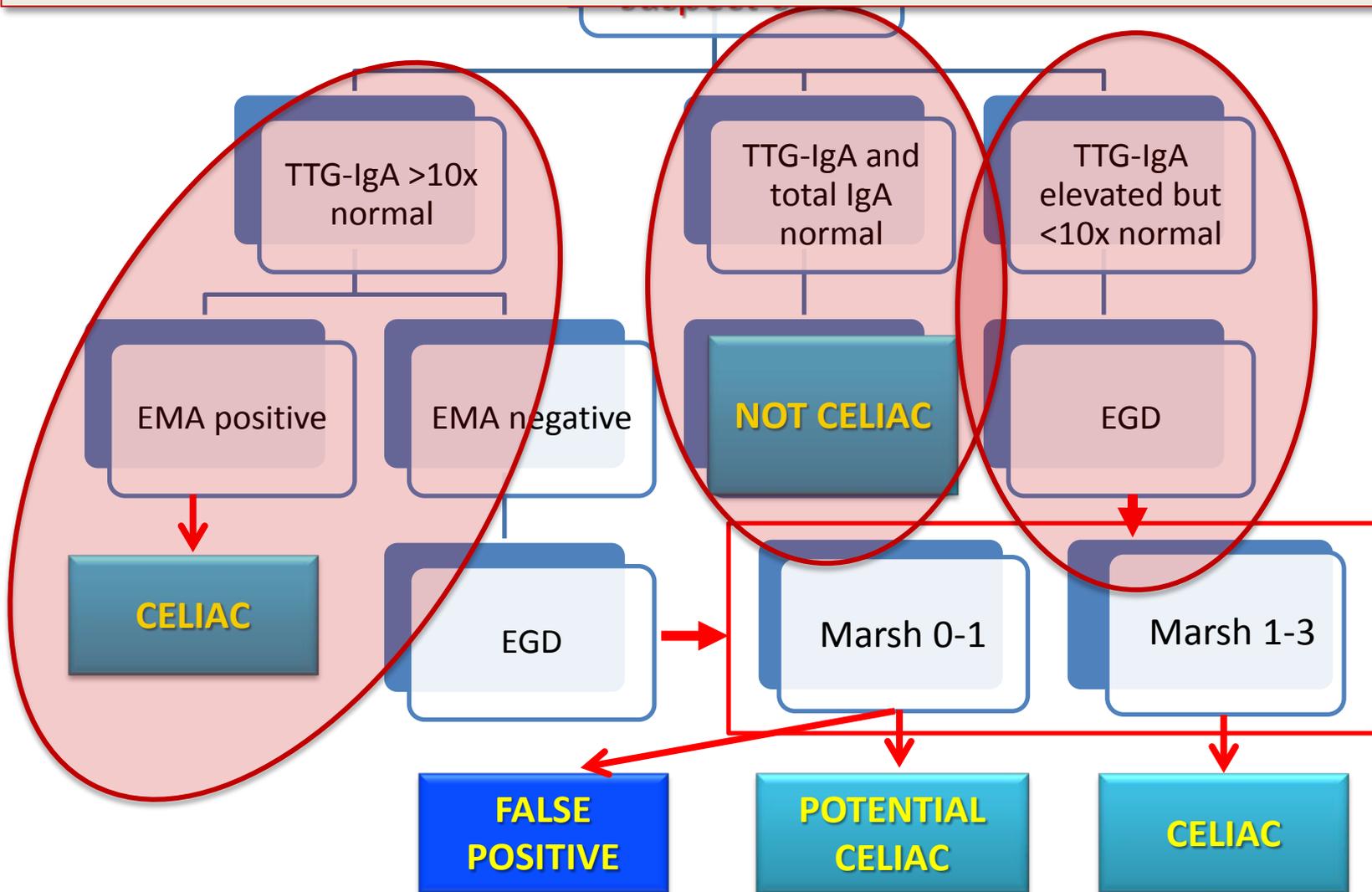
Causes of Microscopic Enteritis

	Conditions	Ref.
	Coeliac disease	[7-8]
	Non coeliac gluten sensitivity	[52-53]
	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	[15,57]
	Other infections, parasites	[92]
	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs	[64]
	Bacterial overgrowth	[58-60]
	Common variable immunodeficiency	[13]
	Eosinophilic gastroenteritis	[90]
	Collageneous gastroenteritis	[1]
	Microvillous inclusion disease	[12]
	Autoimmune enteropathy	[68]
	Autoimmune disorders	[2,15,68]
	Irritable bowel syndrome	[3,75]
	Inflammatory bowel disease	[16]
	Food allergy	[93]
	Food intolerances	[76]
	Idiopathic	[94]

Can we diagnose celiac disease
without the histology?

The new ESPGHAN guidelines

ESPGHAN diagnostic scheme



Decline of specific antibodies on the GFD

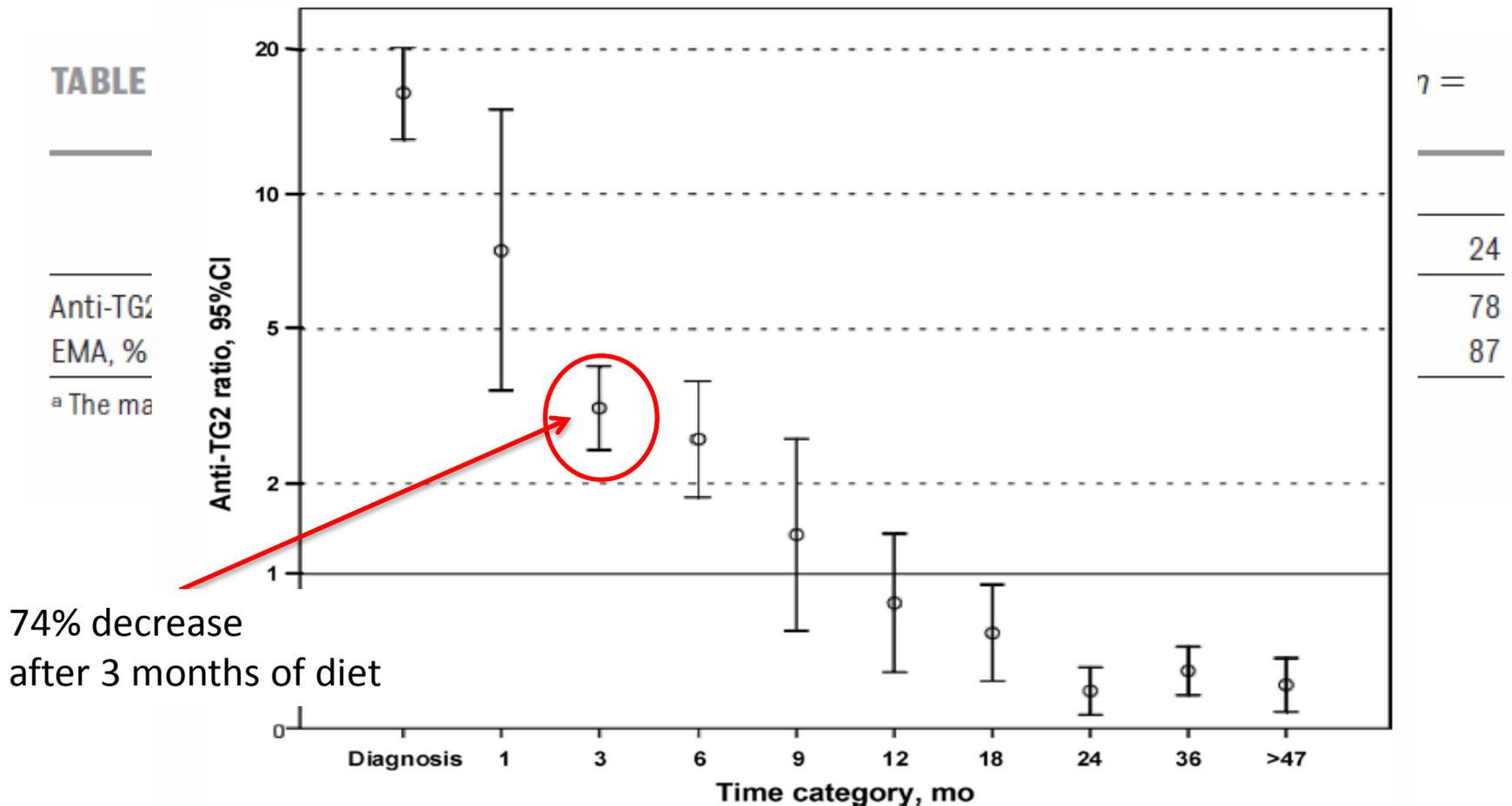


FIGURE 2

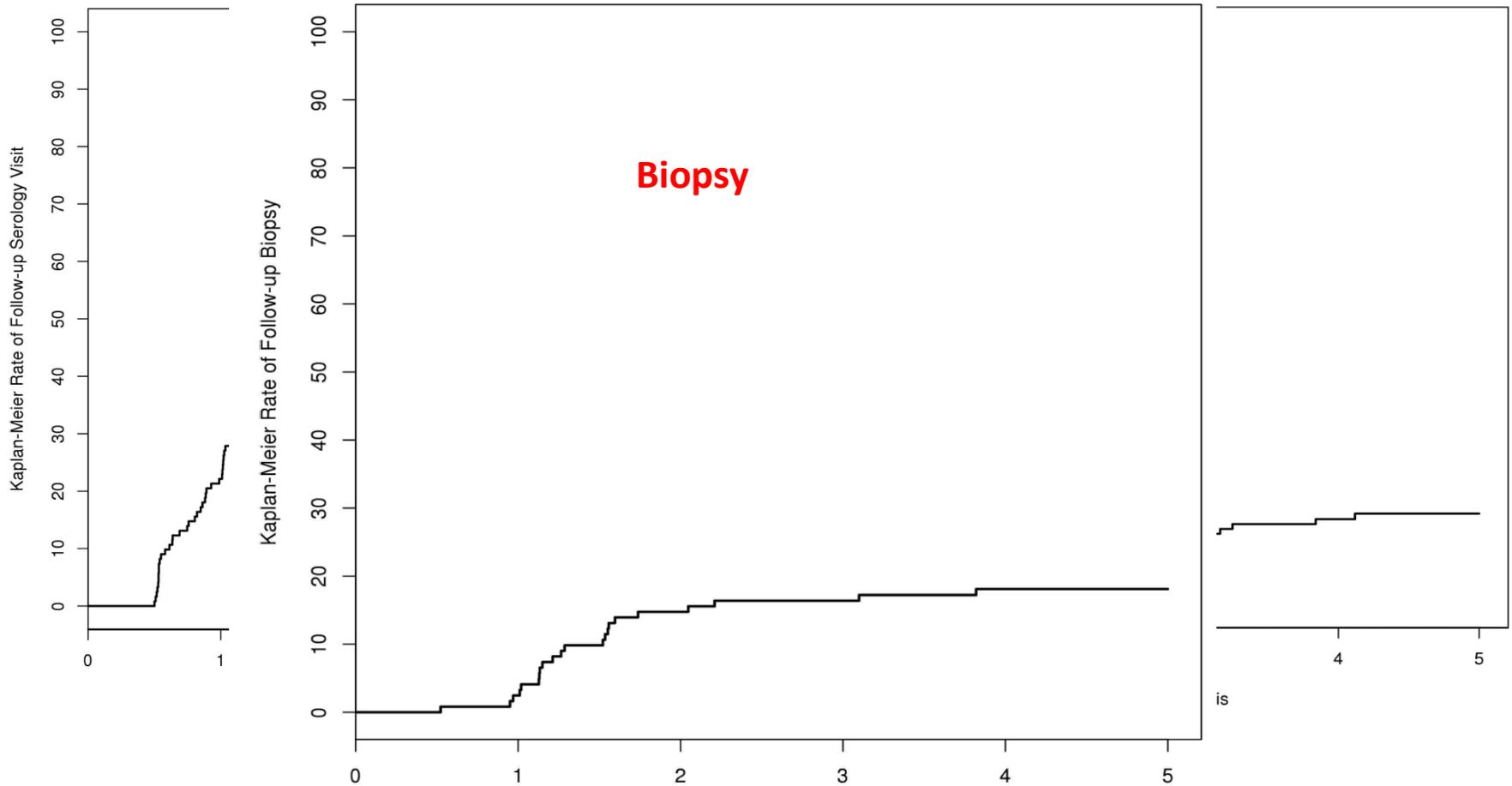
Mean anti-TG2 levels (ratio, 95% CI) in children with CD on a gluten-free diet (in months).

Follow-up of Celiac Patients

	At diagnosis	At 3-6 months	Every 1-2 years	
EMA	●			
TTG-IgA	●	●	●	
DGP-IgG	●	●	●	
CBC	●			
Fe studies	●	●		
TSH+T4	●			
Vitamin D	●	●		
Dietitian review	●	●	●	
Cholesterol	●	●	●	
BMD	●		●	

+ Timely colon cancer screening

Follow-up often Inadequate





**GLUTEN
FREE**

What is 20 ppm?

- *0.002% gluten or 2 mg/100gm*
- *20 mg gluten per 1 kg of food*
- *One minute in two years!*

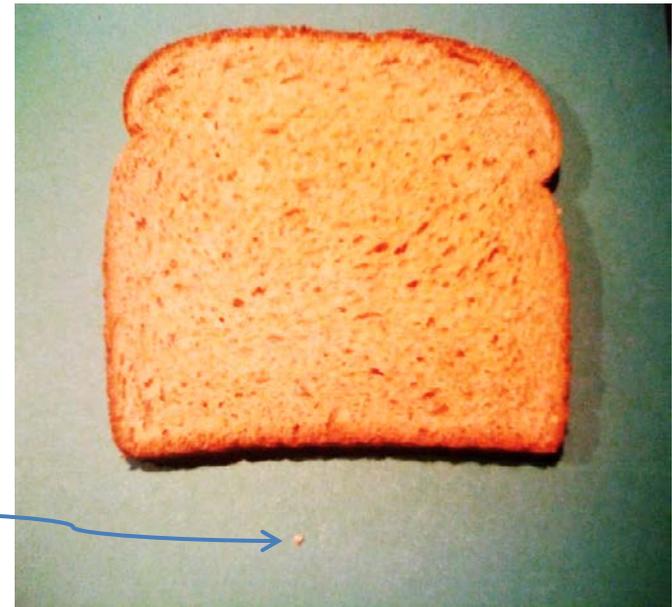
- Study determined how much gluten may be tolerated
- 0, 10 or 50 mg gluten daily for 90 days

Conclusion:

- 50 mg or more of gluten induced villous damage

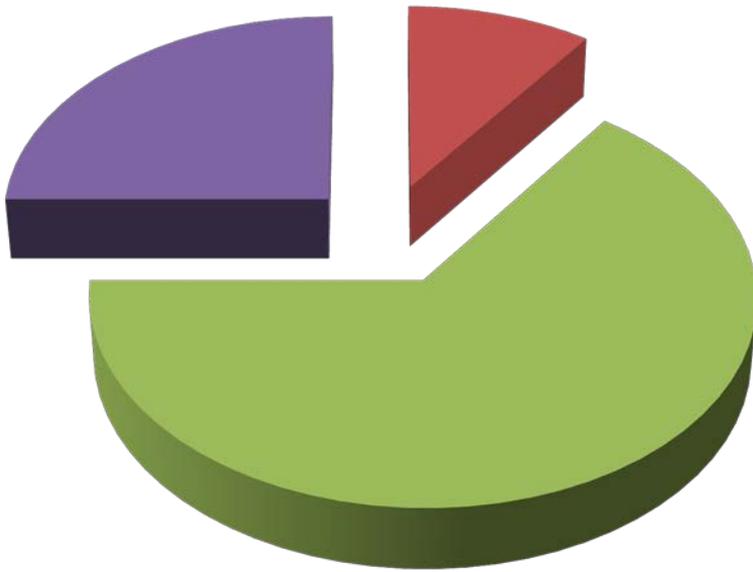
Catassi C, Am J Clin Nutr 2007;85:160

50 mg
gluten

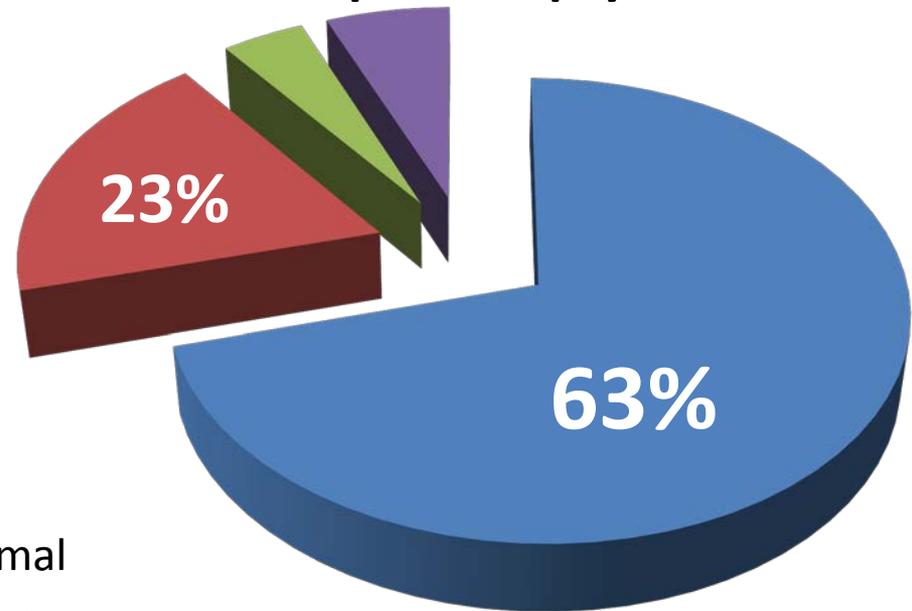


Healing of Intestine in Children

First biopsy

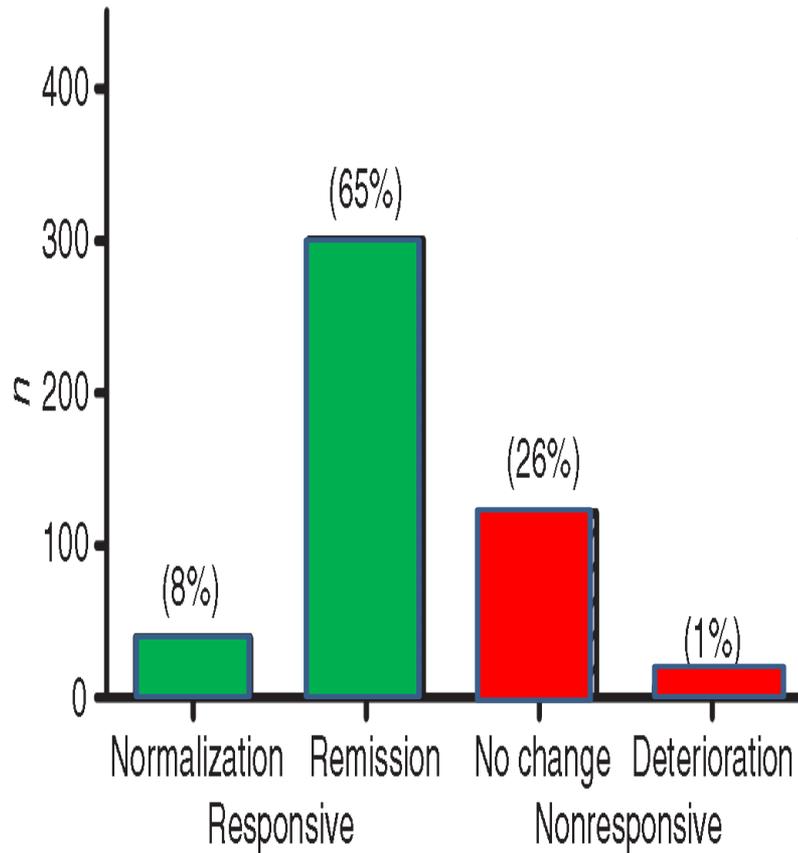


Repeat Biopsy

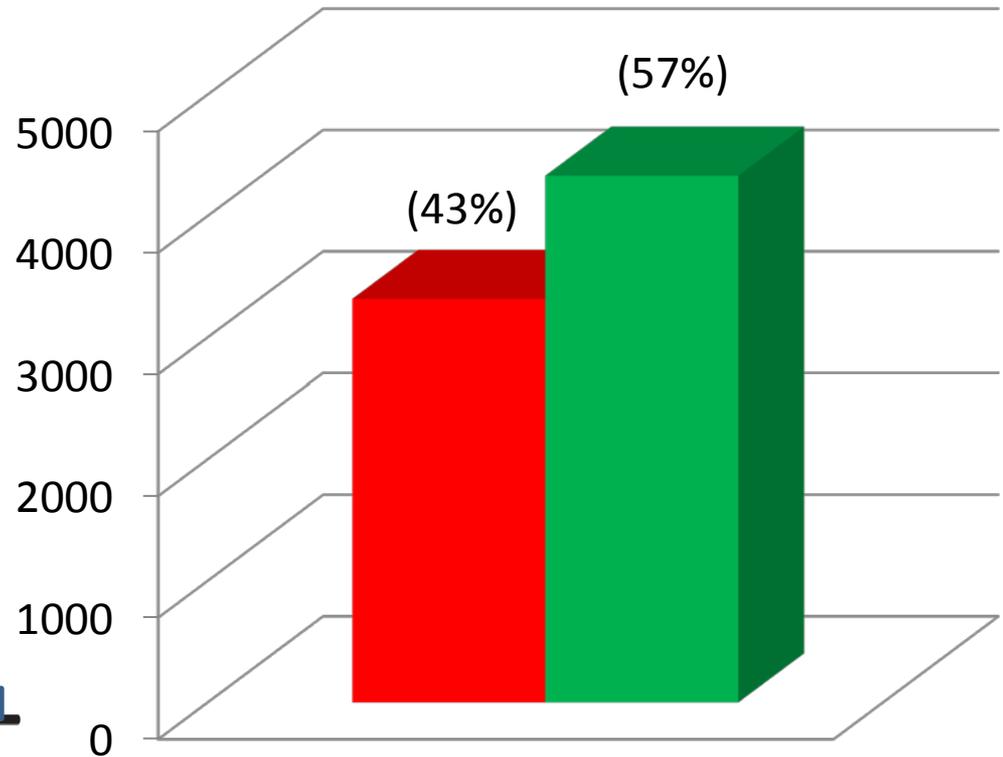


- Normal
- Marsh I
- Marsh 3b
- Marsh 3c

Healing of Intestine in Adults

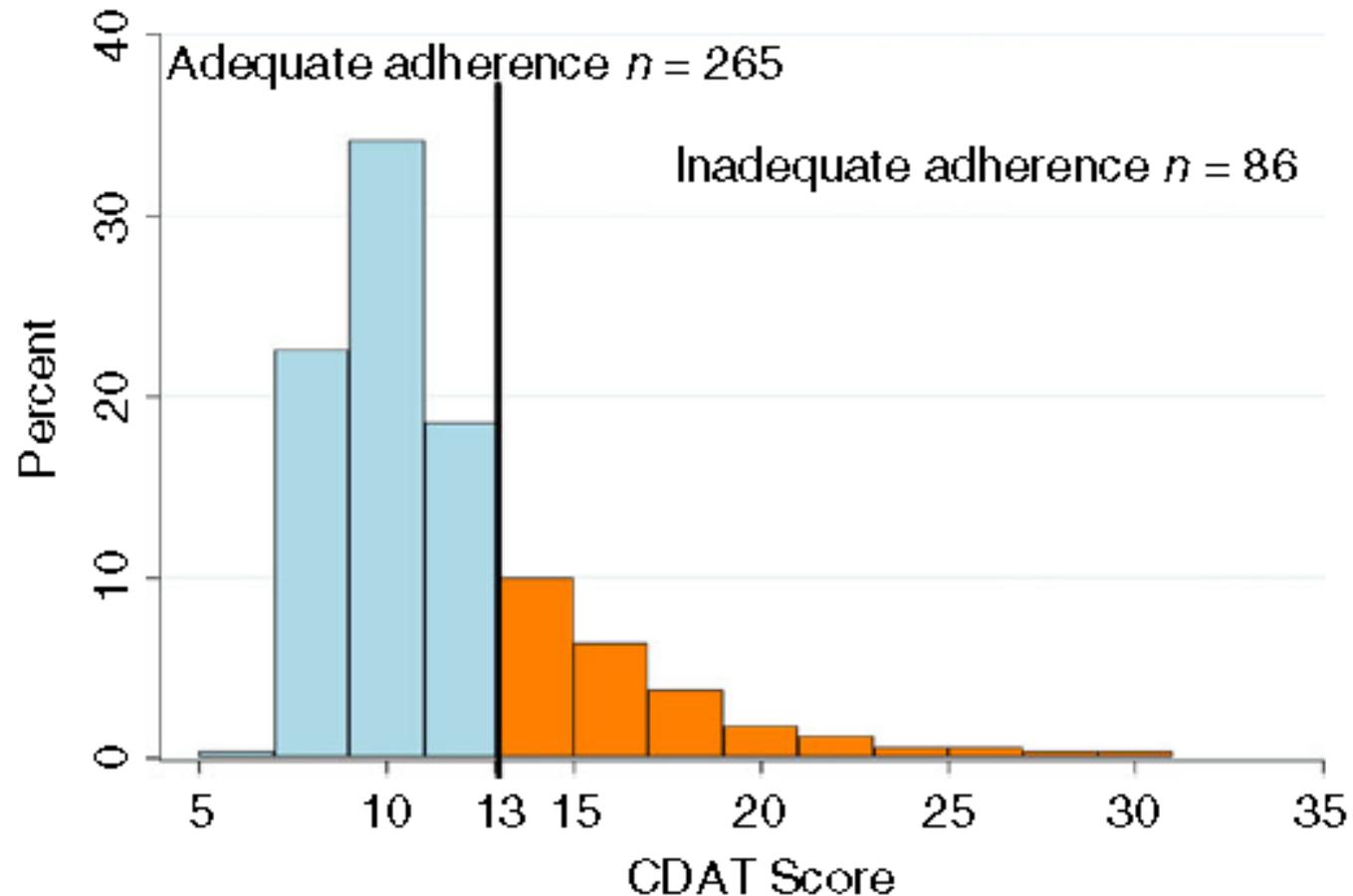


Lanzini A et al., Alim Pharmacol Ther 2009
Only adults

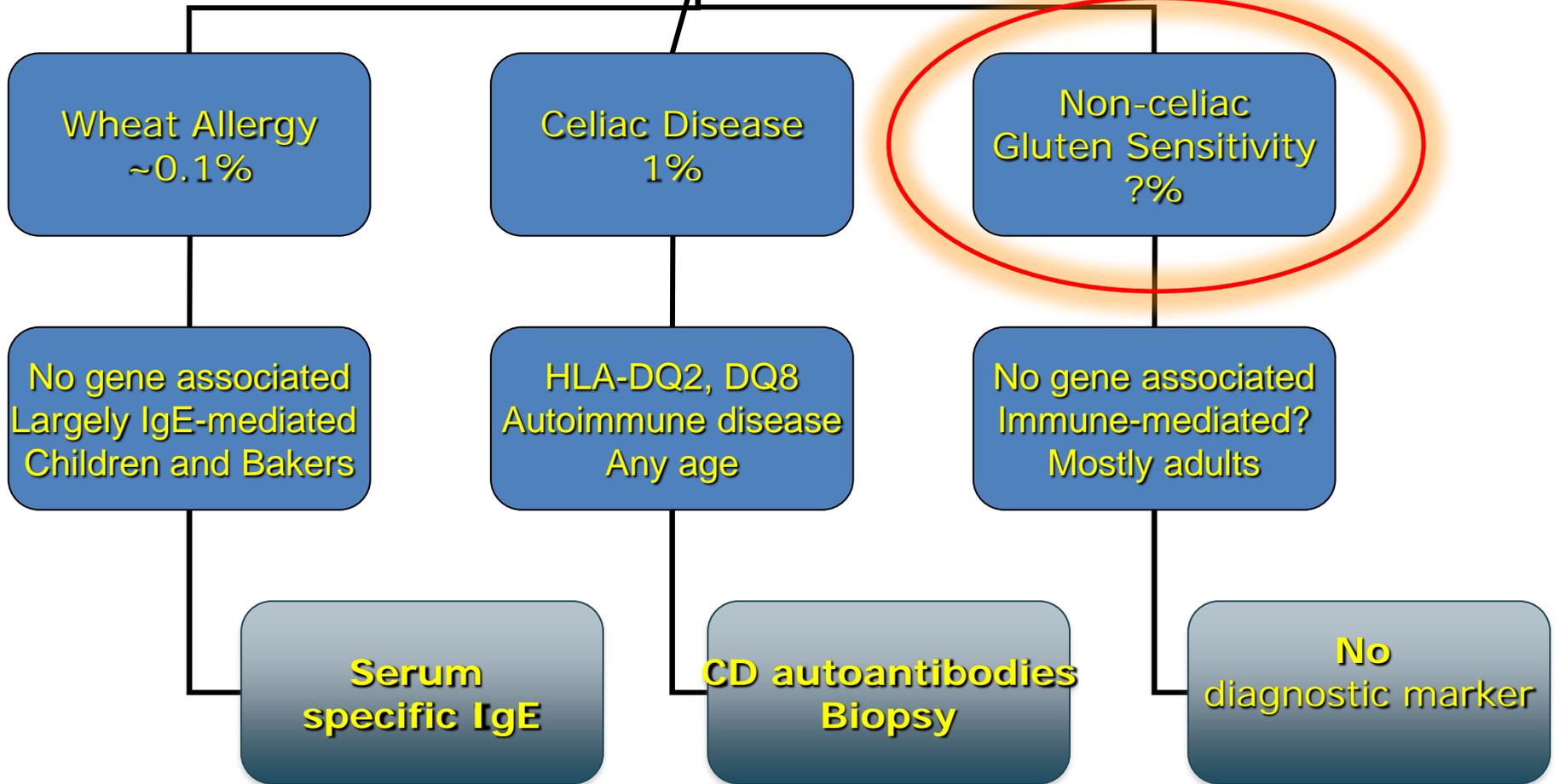


Lebwohl B. et al., Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2014
Adults and Children

Adherence to GFD in adults



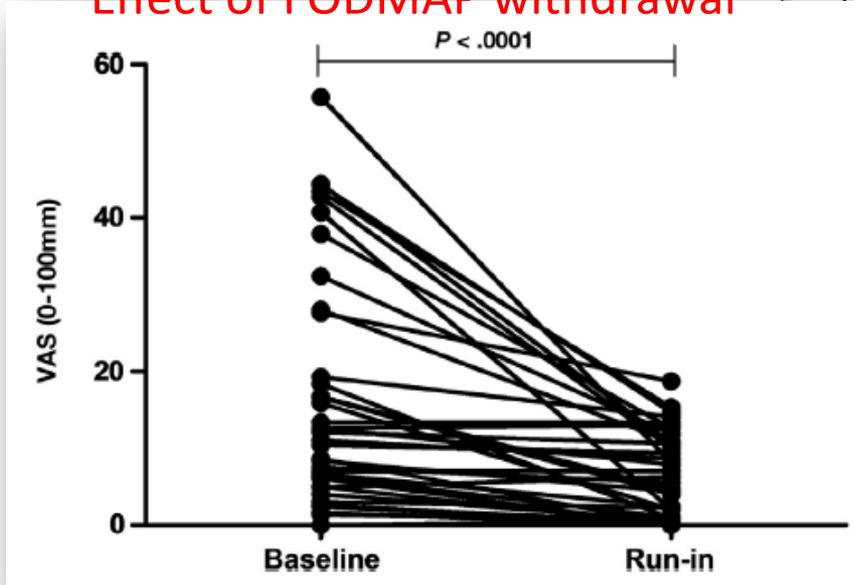
"Gluten" - related disorders



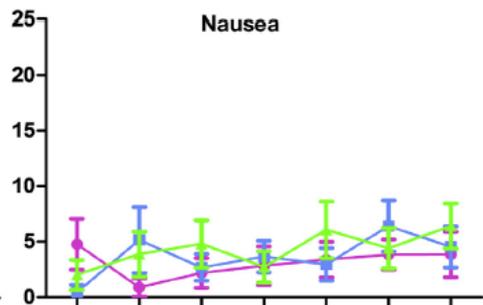
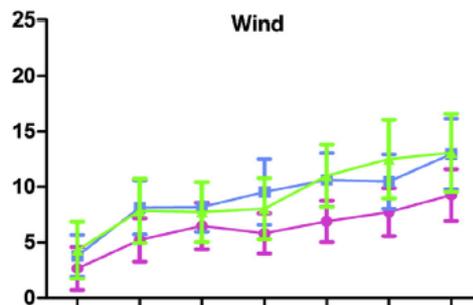
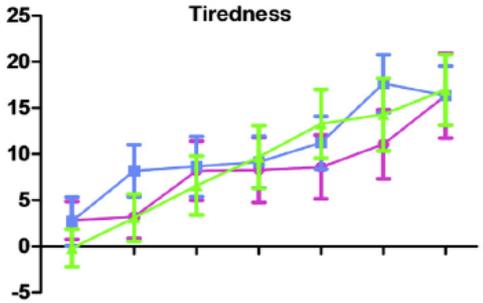
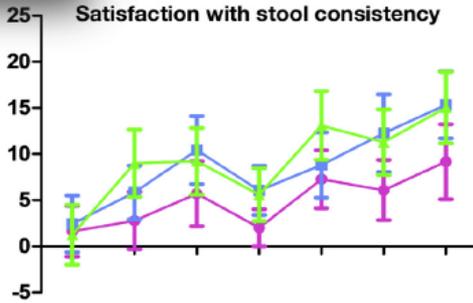
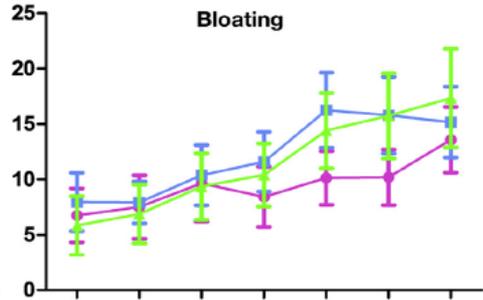
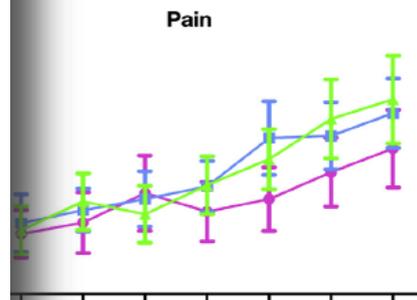
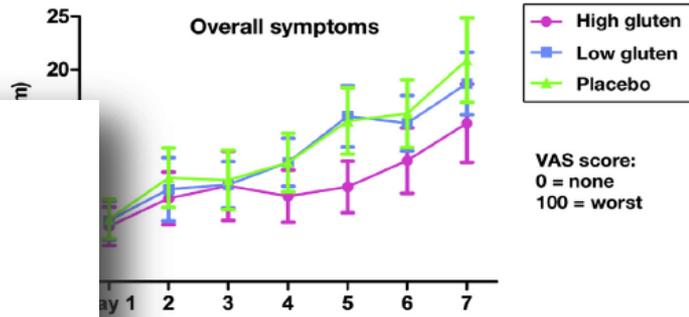


Biesekierski JR et al., Gastroenterology 2013

Effect of FODMAP withdrawal



No effect of gluten



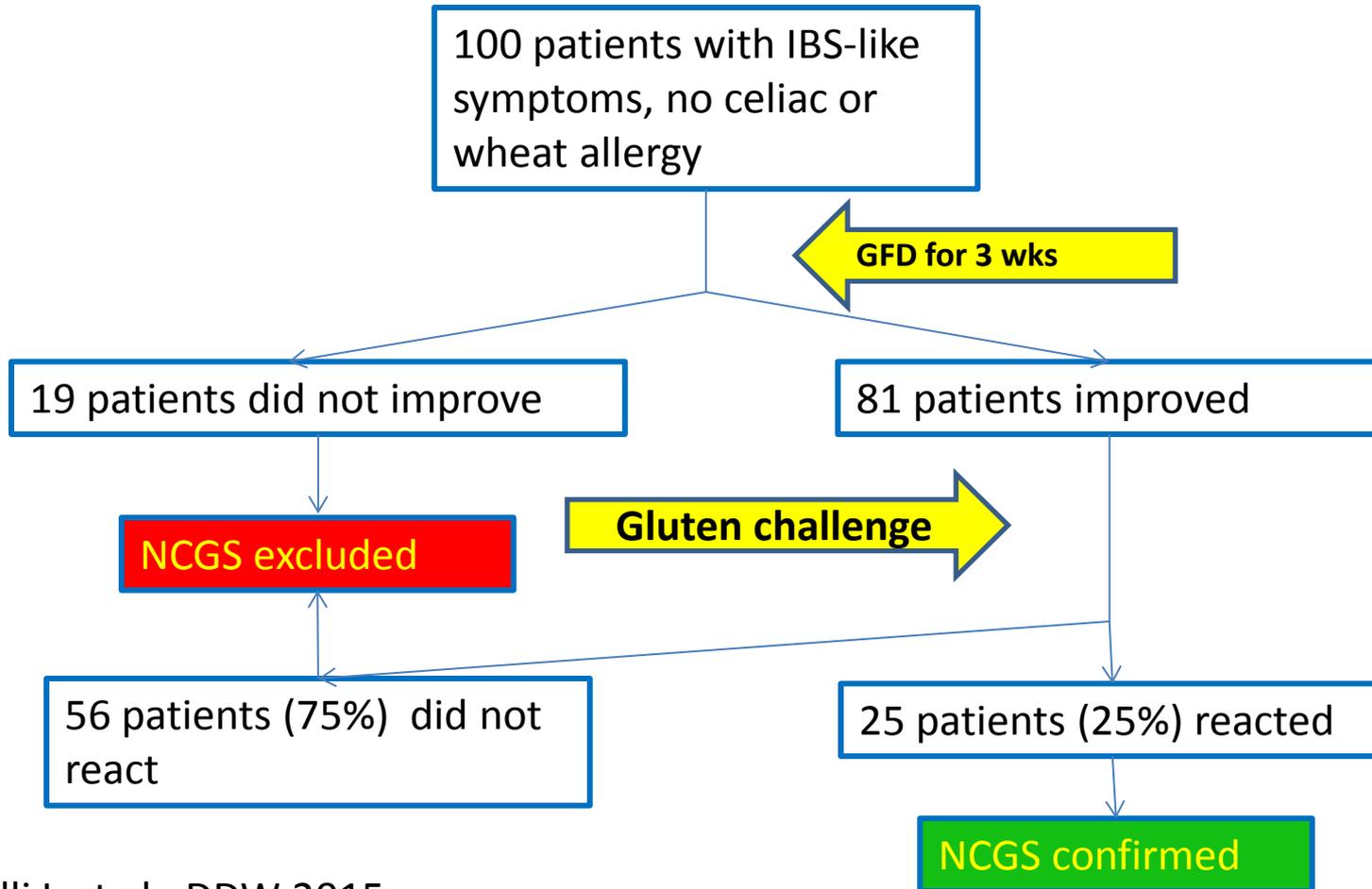
So: Is it **Gluten** or Not?

Number of studies so far published on NCGS that utilized pure gluten (not wheat) to challenge:

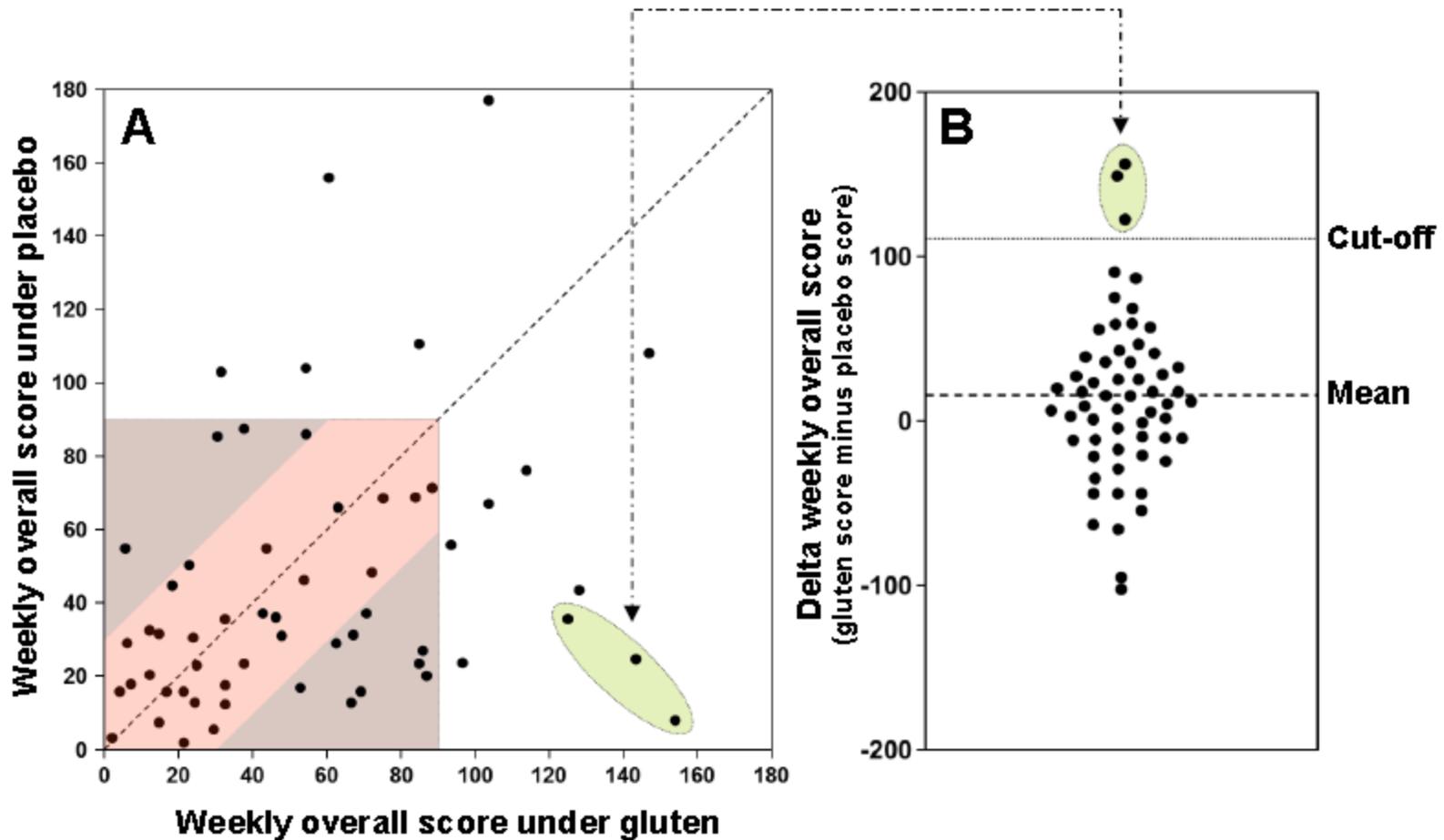
0 (Zero)

"Of note, no study on NCGS has specifically used as the re-challenging agent gluten or gliadin" – Molina-Infante J et al., *Aliment Pharmacol Ther* April 2015

The "GLUTOX" Trial: A Randomized, Double Blind, Placebo Controlled Crossover Study on "Non-Celiac Gluten Sensitivity"



The only published study testing the effect of gluten in NCGS



Nonceliac Gluten Sensitivity or Wheat Intolerance Syndrome?

Stefano Guandalini, MD¹, and Isabel Polanco, MD²

The increase in world-wide consumption of a Mediterranean diet, which includes a wide range of wheat-based foods, has possibly contributed to an alarming rise in the incidence of wheat (gluten?)-related disorders.^{1,2} Gluten, the main protein complex in wheat, barley, and rye, is a mixture of alcohol-insoluble (“glutenins”) and alcohol-soluble (“gliadins”) proteins.³ Gliadins are a group of proline and glutamine-rich proteins resistant to digestion in the gastrointestinal tract.

Gluten consumption has been linked to a wide range of

systemic manifestations were most commonly tiredness, headache, fibromyalgia-like joint/muscle pain, leg or arm numbness, ‘foggy mind,’ dermatitis or skin rash, depression, anxiety, and anemia. Of note, in this study, 95% of patients reported the appearance of symptoms every time or often after the ingestion of gluten containing food. In more than one-half of these patients, the symptoms occurred within 6 hours after gluten ingestion; in about 40%, between 6 and 24 hours after ingestion; and only in less than 10%, more than 24 hours after ingestion. Similar data had been published

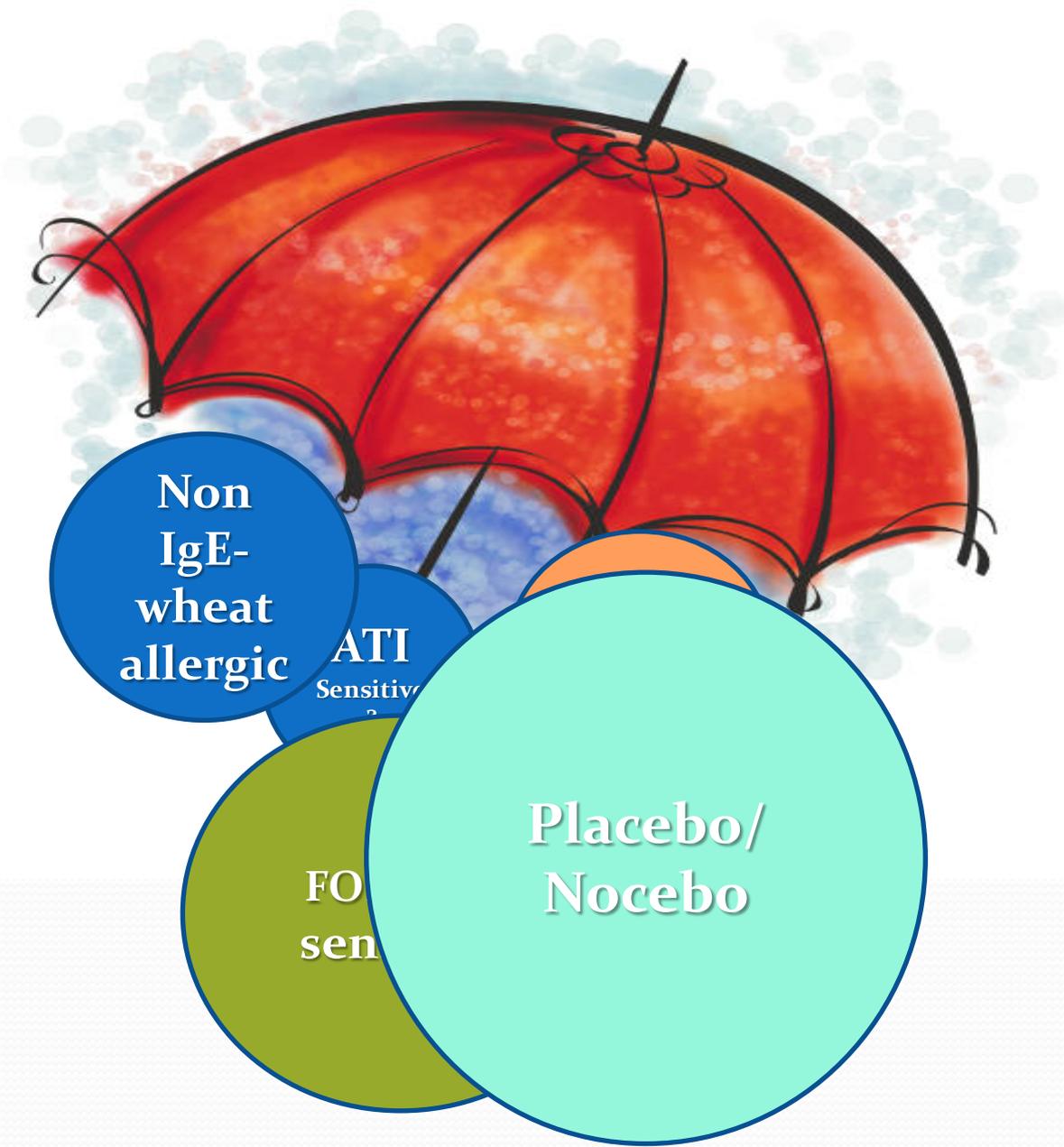


WHEAT INTOLERANCE SYNDROME

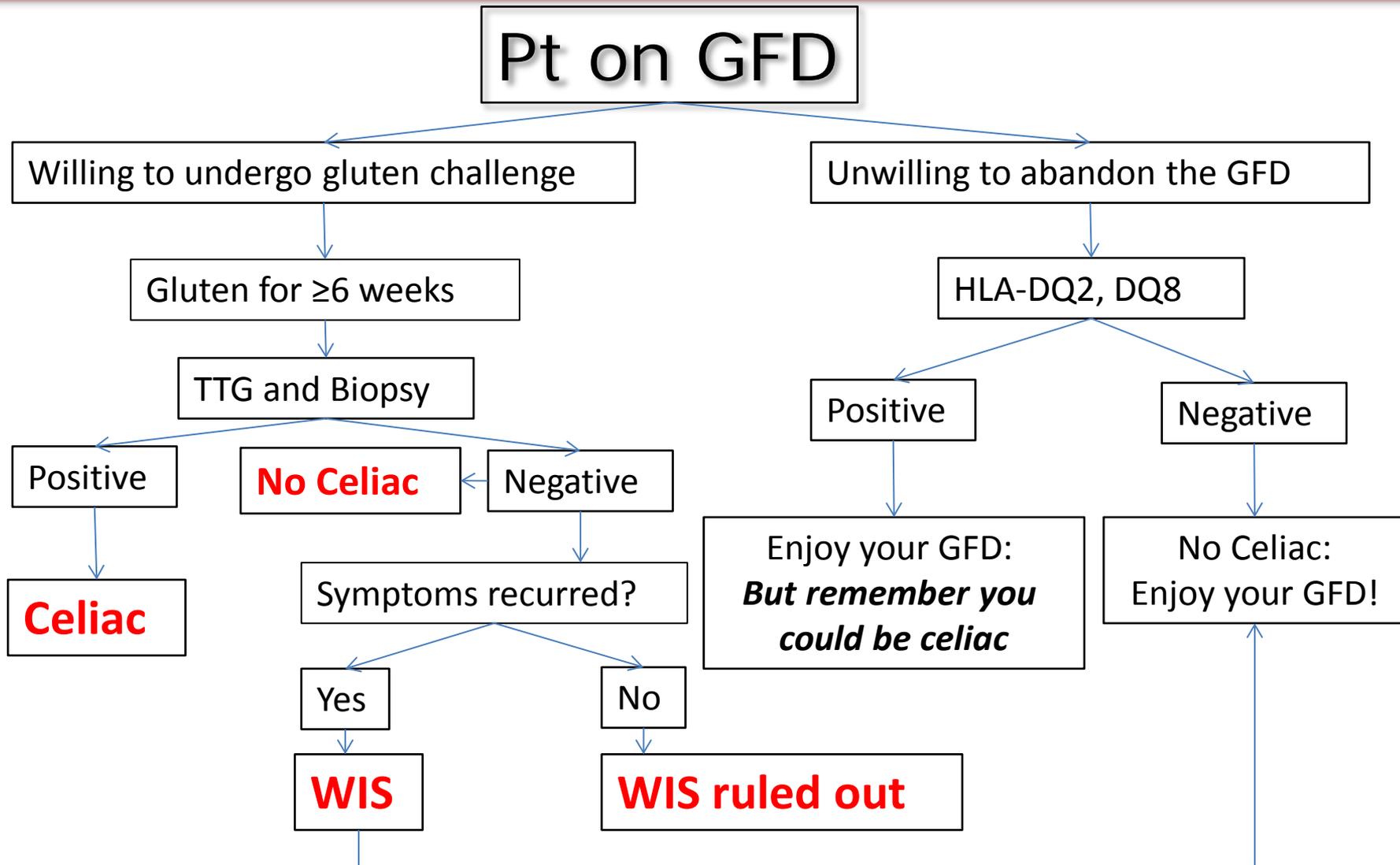
Guandalini S and Polanco I, J Pediatr 2015

The

ndrome:



WIS – A Practical Approach



In conclusion

- Wheat Allergy
 - More common in children
 - Mostly IgE-mediated
- Celiac disease:
 - Fast increasing prevalence
 - Changing patterns of presentations
 - Celiac serology needed for diagnosis and follow-up
 - GFD more effective in children than in adults
- NCGS (or better "Wheat Intolerance Syndrome")
 - No diagnostic marker available
 - Likely a mixture of various conditions



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Thank you