



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



UMBERTO I
POLICLINICO DI ROMA

Celiac Disease and Gluten Sensitive Enteropathy

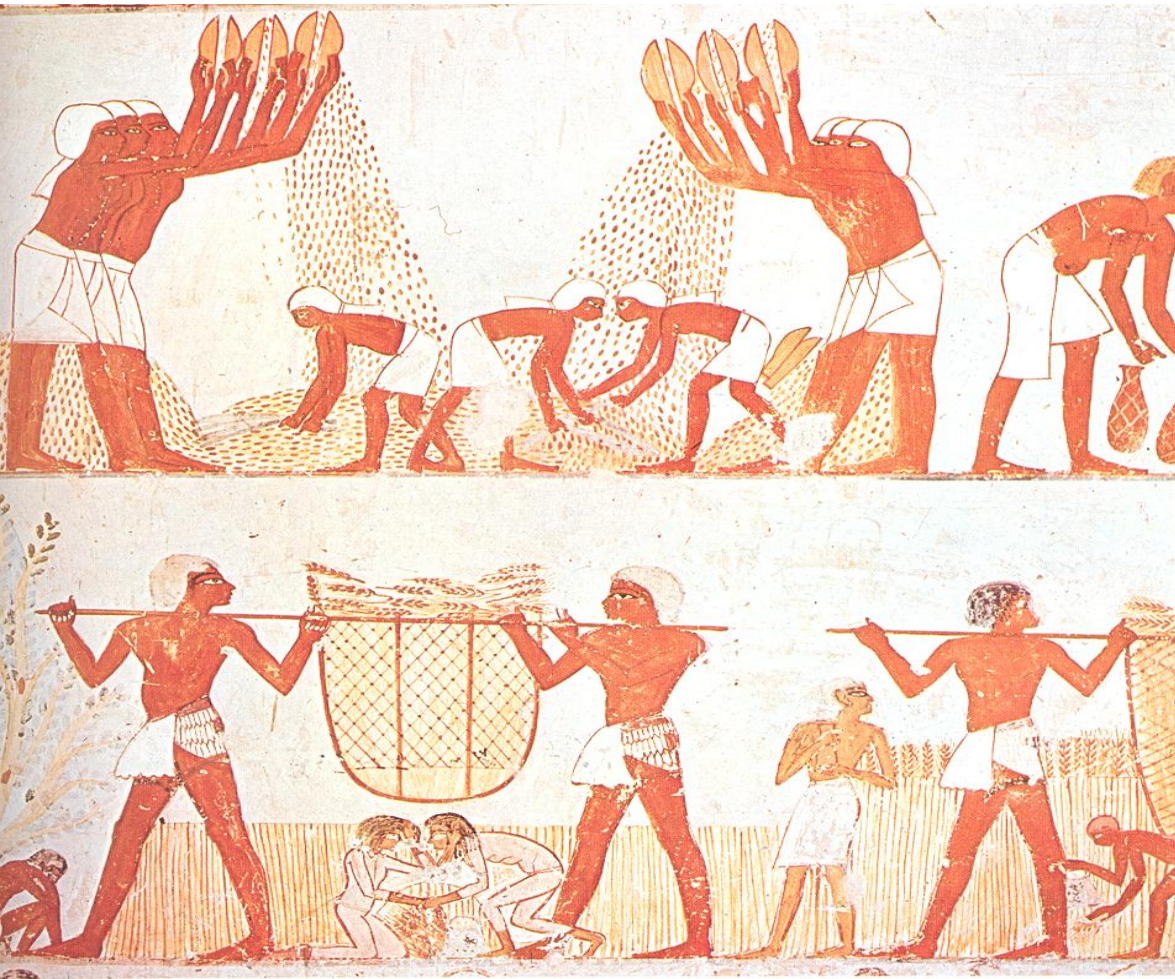
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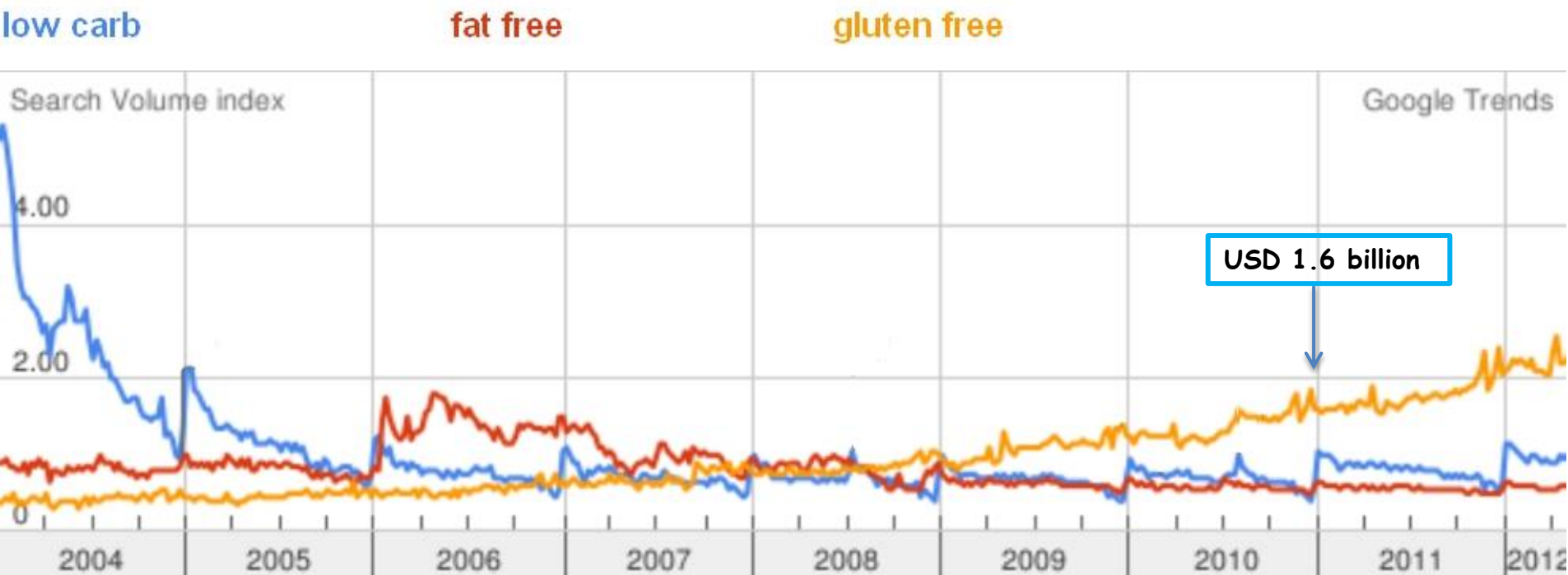
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Le grandi civiltà mediterranee (fenici, egizi, etruschi, romani, arabi) dipendevano dal grano

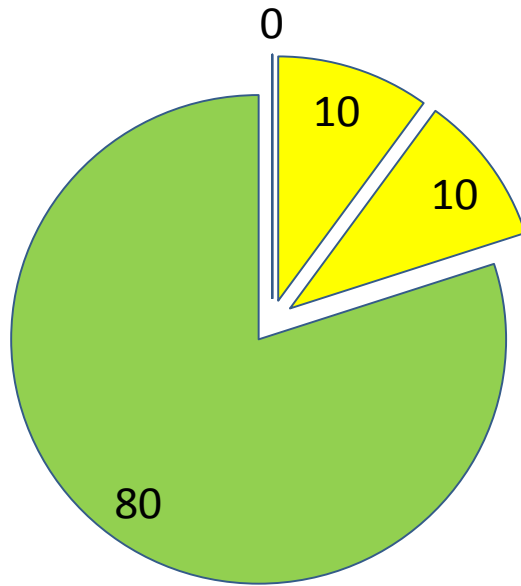


THE MARKET FOR *GLUTEN-FREE* FOOD



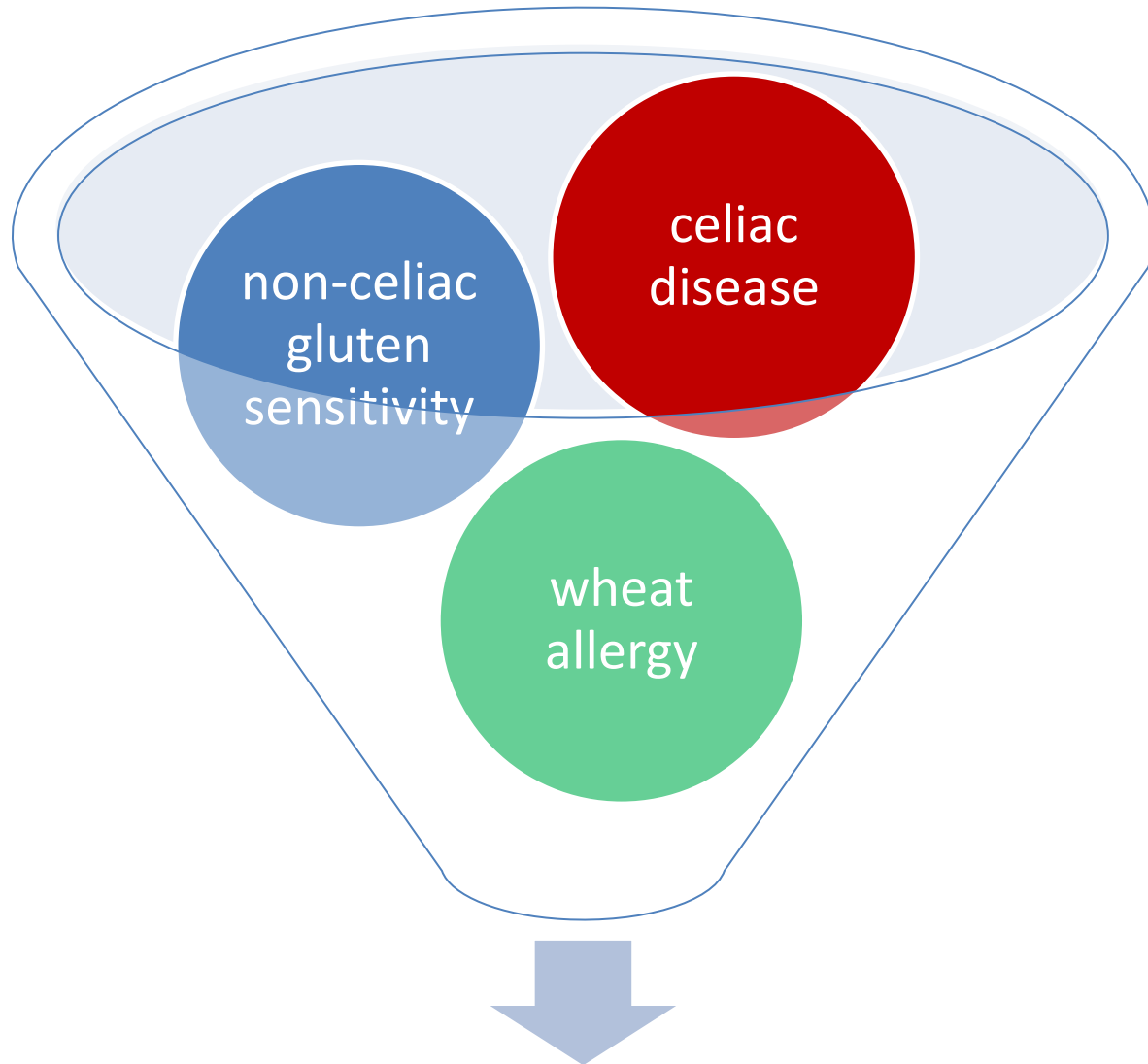
The demand for specialised gluten-free products has fuelled a global market approaching \$2.5 billion (US) in global sales annually

GLUTEN AVOIDANCE IN FBD PATIENTS



Percent of 1000 consecutive FBD Patients on gluten free diet based on:

- self diagnosis.
- unreliable tolerance tests.
- erroneous interpretation of anti gliadin Ab or genetic tests.



GLUTEN-RELATED DISORDERS

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WHEAT ALLERGY

Prevalence: $\approx 0.1 \%$

Gastrointestinal symptoms: diarrhea, abdominal pain, bloating

Extraintestinal symptoms: +++ dermatological lesions

Diagnosis: PRIST, RAST (wheat, barley, gluten, rye)

Therapy: Recede after a gluten-free diet

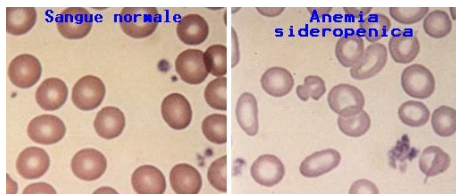




CELIAC DISEASE

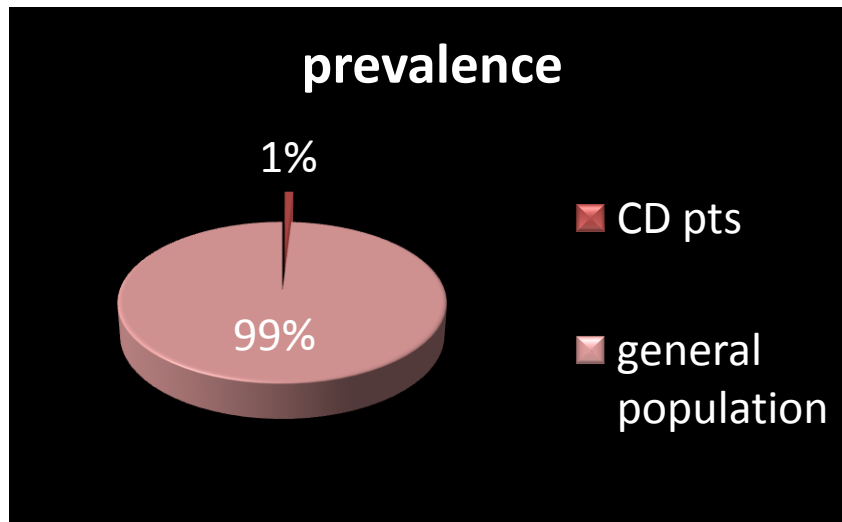
Celiac Disease (CD) is an **immune-mediated disease** dependent on **gluten** (a protein present in wheat, rye or barley).

Most individuals have **improvements within few weeks** after starting a gluten-free diet (GFD).



CELIAC DISEASE

- **PREVALENCE:** 1 %
- **GENETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY:** HLA DQ2 (>90%) and/or DQ8 (5%)
- **HISTOLOGICAL PICTURE (duodenal biopsy):** villous atrophy + crypt hyperplasia + lymphocytosis
- **SEROLOGICAL AB:** EMA, anti t-TG, AGA DGP (IgA and IgG)
- **DIAGNOSIS SUPPORT:** Organ culture of duodenal biopsy

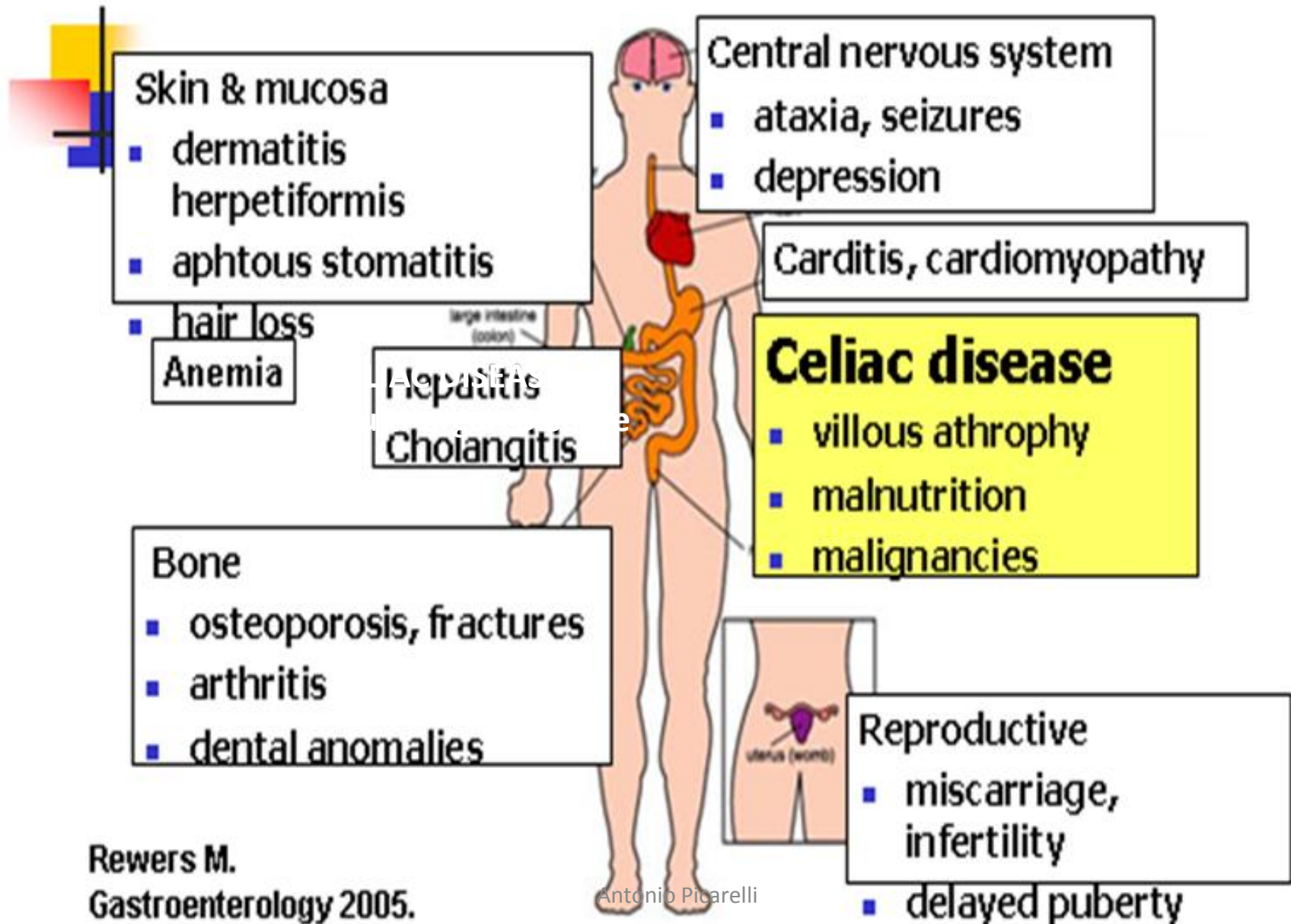


- **THERAPY:** gluten-free diet

Bao F et al. - Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2012
Cerf-Bensussan N - J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. 2003
Picarelli A et al. - Transl Res. 2013
Fasano A et al. - N Engl J Med. 2003

CELIAC DISEASE

Multi-Organ Disease



CELIAC DISEASE

Clinical Presentation

☐ Typical

☐ Atypical

- **Silent form:**
(asymptomatic, only **serological** and **histological** positive results)
- **Latent form**
(only **serological** positive results)
- **Potential form**
(**HLA**-DQ2 and/or HLA-DQ8 positive results)

CELIAC DISEASE

Clinical Features

Can Develop at Any Age.

- *Diarrhea* (> 200-300 g / 24h in adults)
- *Constipation*
- *Steatorrhea*
- *Asthenia*
- *Weight Loss*
- *Dyspepsia And Vomiting*
- *Stop Growth*
- *Iron Deficiency Anemia*
- *Osteoporosis*
- *Amenorrhea*
- *Poliabortivity*
- *Sterility*
- *Vitiligo*
- *Cerebellar Ataxia*
- *Tetanus Crisis*
- *Epilepsy*
- *Psoriasis*
- *Dermatitis Herpetiformis*



- *Alopecia*
- *Aphthous Stomatitis*
- *Peripheral Neuropathy*
- *Hypoplasia Of Tooth Enamel*

CELIAC DISEASE

Who Should Be Screen

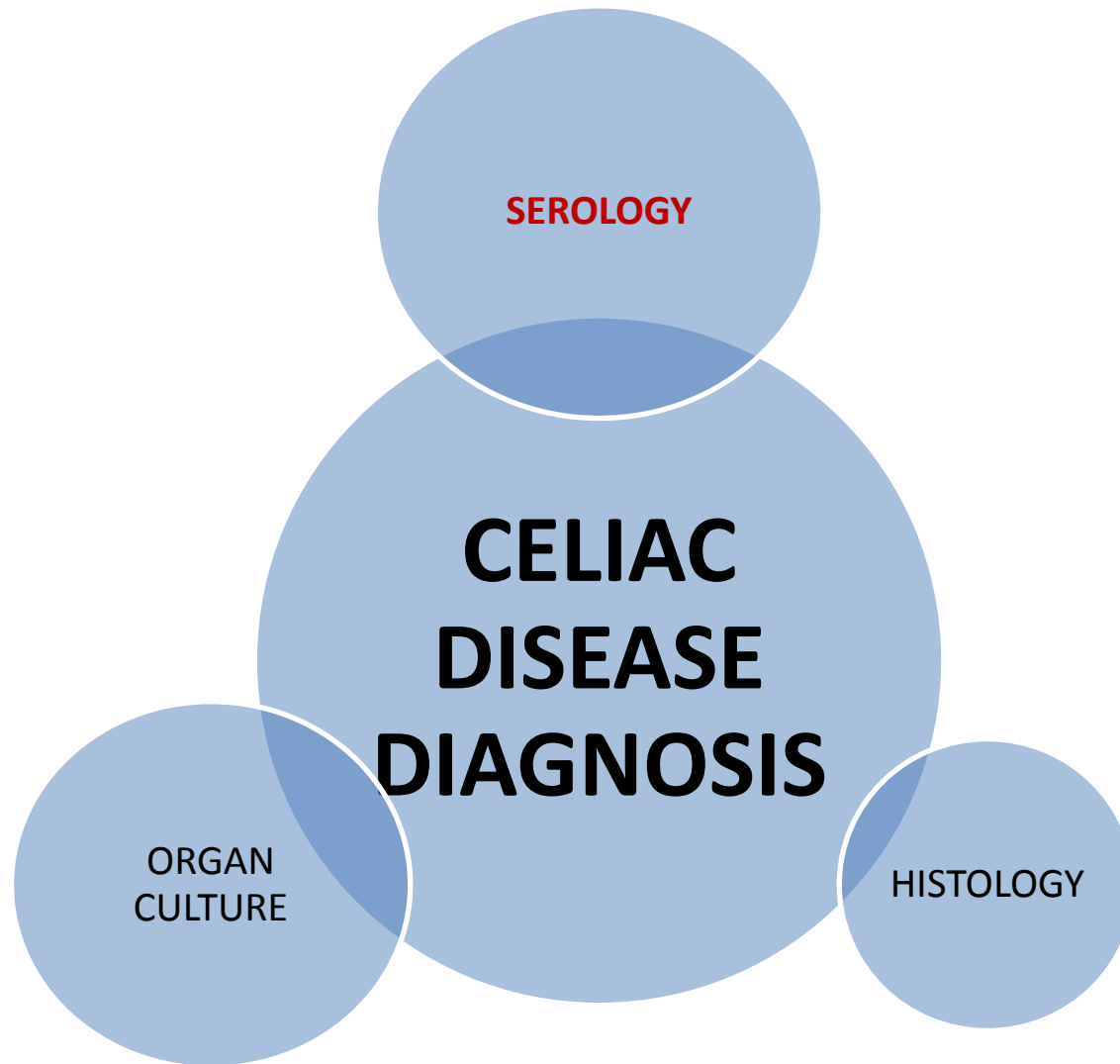
Table 1. Proposal for Serologic Screening for Celiac Disease in Adults

Screening recommended	Screening recommended, when subtle symptoms consistent with celiac disease are present	Screening not necessary
Malabsorption, isolated iron deficiency ^a Infertility Osteoporosis Ataxia and polyneuropathy Arthritis of unknown etiology Chronic liver disease of unknown etiology Suspicion of dermatitis herpetiformis (consider skin biopsy) Irritable bowel syndrome ^a Lactose intolerance	Family history of celiac disease Autoimmune thyroid disease Sjögren's syndrome Type I diabetes ^b Addison's disease Autoimmune endocrinologic diseases in general Any chronic gastrointestinal symptoms ^a	General population Acute or short-term gastrointestinal symptoms Atopic symptoms Type I diabetes ^c

^aConsider small intestinal biopsy when screening test is negative.

^bWith symptoms indicative of celiac disease.

^cWithout any symptoms indicative of celiac disease.



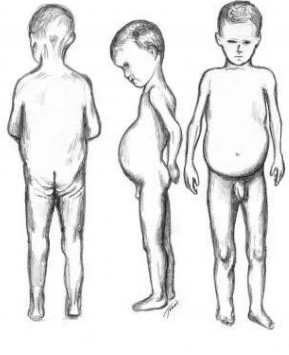
Update on serologic testing in celiac disease.

Leffler DA, Schuppan D.

Table 1. Summary of test characteristics of celiac serologies

Test	Sensitivity (reported range) (%)	Specificity (reported range) (%)	Positive predictive value(%),pretest probability of 5%	Negative predictive value (%), pretest probability of 5%
IgA AGA	85 (57–100)	90 (47–94)	18	99
IgG AGA	85 (42–100)	80 (50–94)	31	99
EMA	95 (86–100)	99 (97–100)	83	99
IgA anti-tTG ^a	98 (78–100)	98 (90–100)	72	99
IgG anti-tTG ^b	70 (45–95)	95 (94–100)	42	99
IgA anti-DGP	88 (74–100)	95 (90–99)	44	99
IgG anti-DGP	80 (63–95)	98 (90–99)	68	99
IgA/IgG anti-DGP	97 (75–99)	95 (87–100)	51	99

Is it possible to diagnose CD without duodenal biopsy ? (1)



The new ESPGHAN 2012 guidelines for diagnosis of **pediatric CD** avoid biopsy if:

- HLA DQ2/DQ8+
- symptomatic (gluten-related)
- EMA+ / anti-tTG+ (ULN >x10)

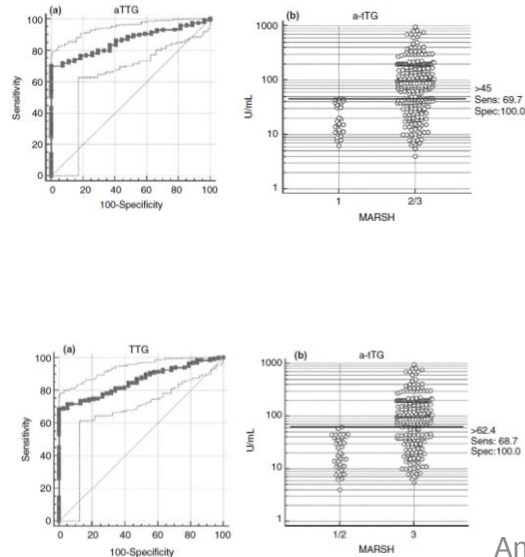


Figure 1

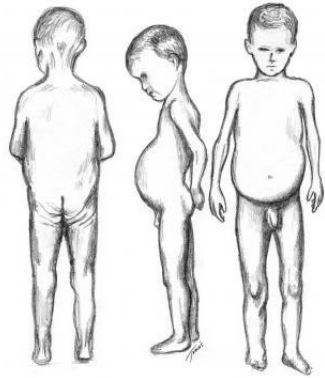
a-tTG 45 U/mL (**ULN x6.4**) → **Marsh ≥2**

Figure 2

a-tTG 62.4 U/mL (**ULN x8.9**) → **Marsh 3**

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Is it possible to diagnose CD without duodenal biopsy ? (1)



The new ESPGHAN 2012 guidelines for diagnosis of **pediatric CD** avoid biopsy if:

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ADULT CD brothers

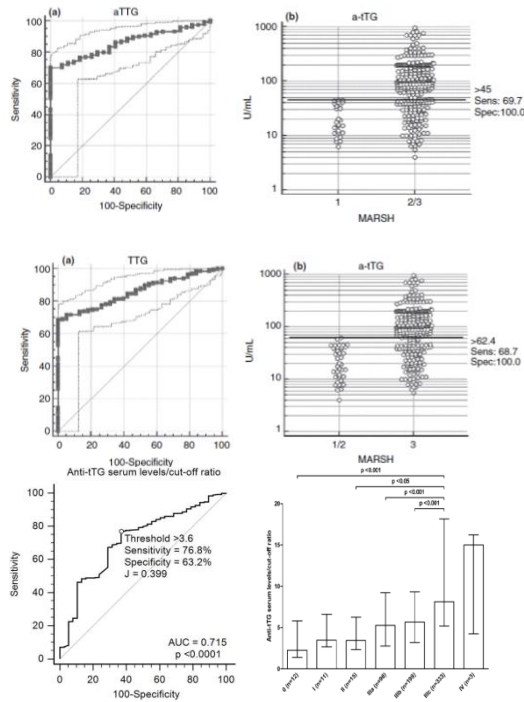


Figure 1
a-tTG 45 U/mL (**ULN x6.4**) → Marsh ≥2

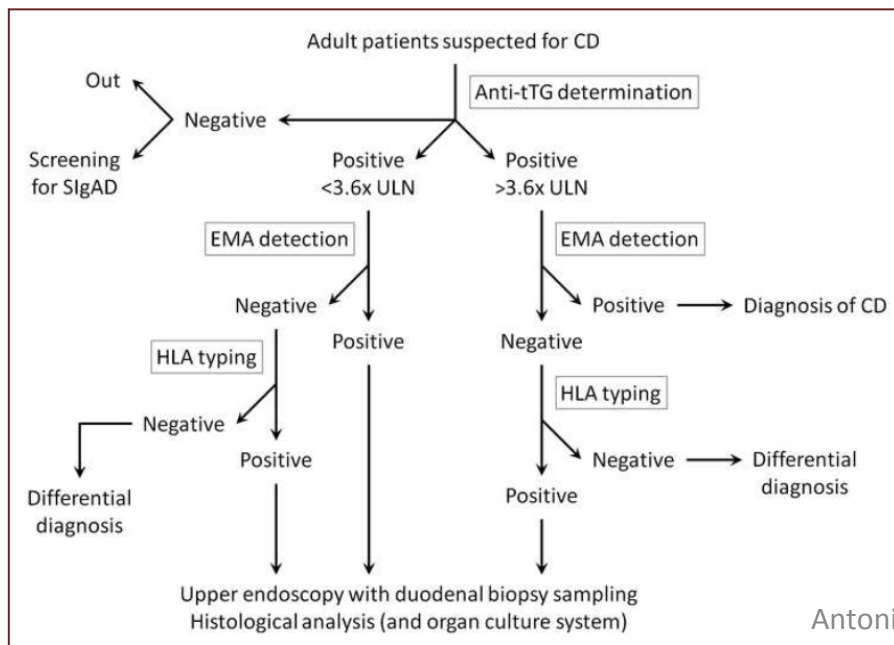
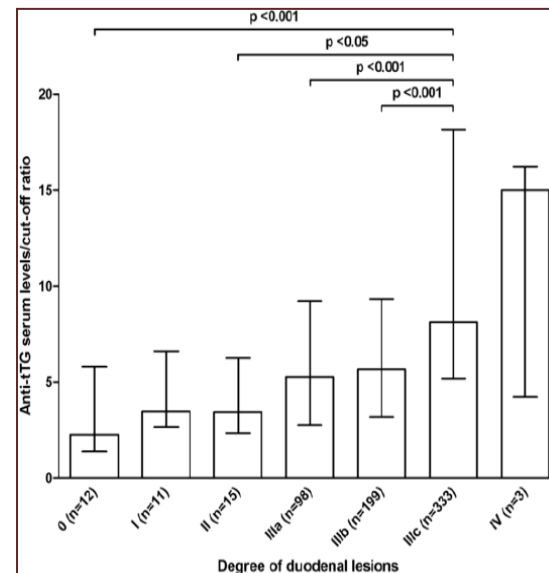
Figure 2
a-tTG 62.4 U/mL (**ULN x8.9**) → Marsh 3

Figure 3
(**ULN x3.6**) → Marsh 3

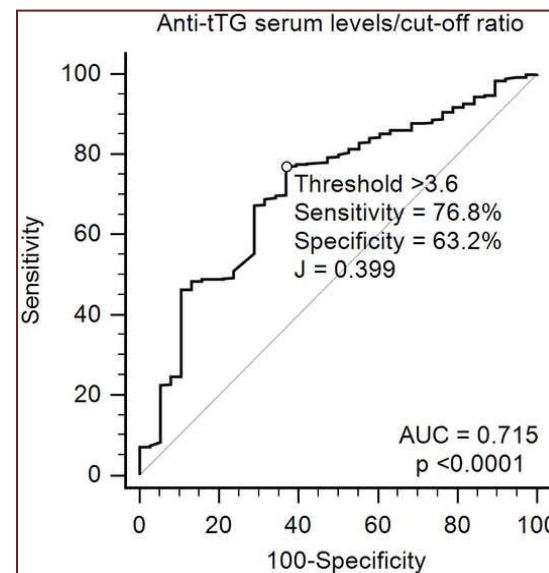
Is it possible to diagnose CD without duodenal biopsy ? (2)

Table 1– Diagnostic performance of anti-tTG serum levels/cut-off ratio obtained using different threshold values

Diagnostic performance	Anti-tTG serum levels/cut-off ratio	
	Threshold value >3.6	Threshold value >10
Sensitivity % (95% CI)	76.8 (73.3 – 80.0)	33.5 (29.8 – 37.3)
Specificity % (95% CI)	63.2 (46.0 – 78.2)	89.5 (75.2 – 97.1)
Youden index	0.399	0.230
PPV % (95% CI)	97.2 (95.4 – 98.5)	98.1 (95.3 – 99.5)
NPV % (95% CI)	14.0 (9.2 – 20.2)	7.5 (5.2 – 10.3)
Diagnostic accuracy % (95% CI)	76.0 (72.6 – 79.1)	36.7 (33.1 – 40.4)



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Ab detection **MUST BE PERFORMED:**



- on a gluten containing diet

Ab detection **SHOULD NOT BE PERFORMED:**



- on a gluten free diet
- during immunosuppressive therapy

IMPORTANT !

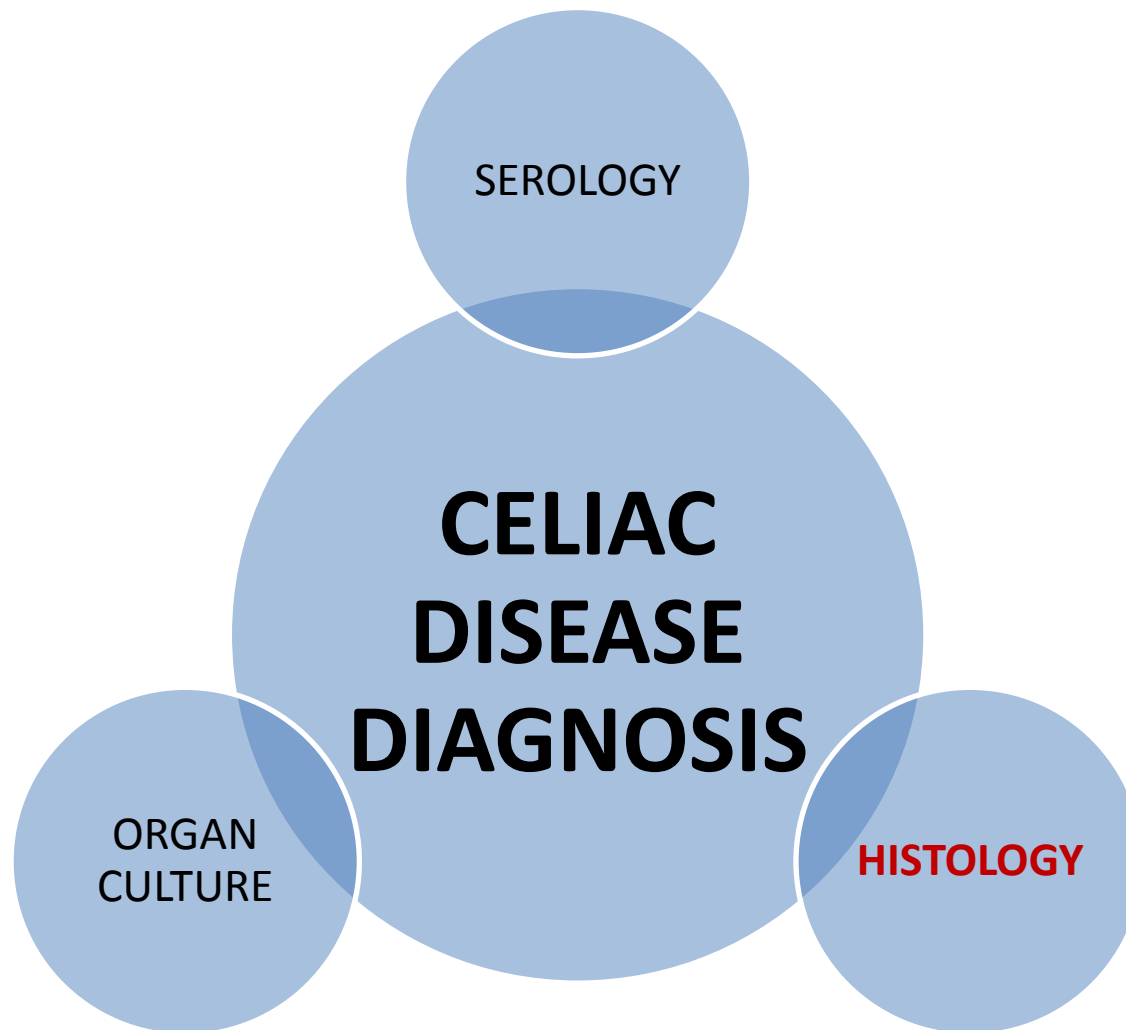
Gluten challenge (reintroduction)
necessary if gluten free diet have been
already started.

Tortora R. et al. - Am J Gastroenterol 2011

It is mandatory to be very confident while making diagnosis of CD because its treatment consists of an **absolute and lifetime gluten-free diet (GFD)**.

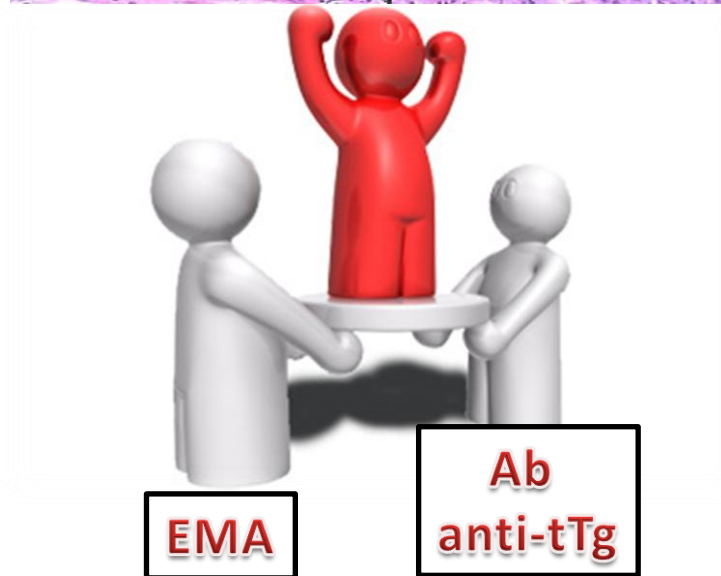
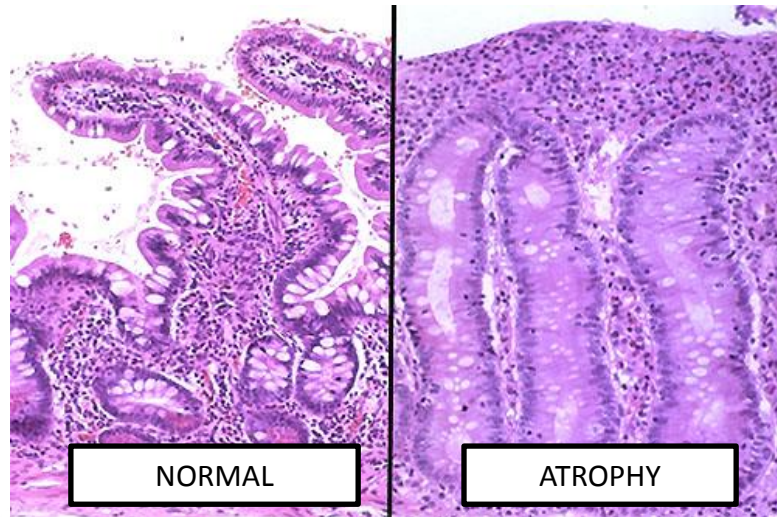
The use of **non-standardized food intolerance tests** and/or the **absence of a correct diagnostic work-up** can be **misleading**.

Mazzarella G. et al. – Gastroenterology 2008.



HISTOLOGY:

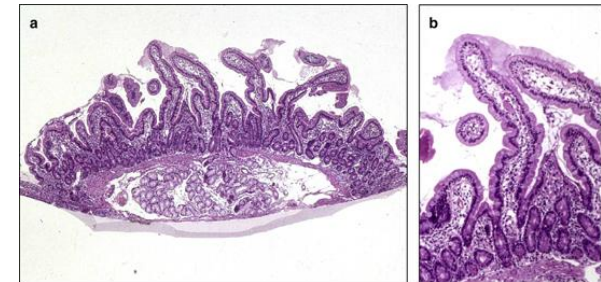
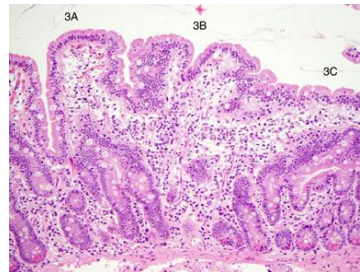
Gold standard for CD diagnosis → duodenal mucosa atrophy



LIMITS OF HISTOLOGY



- Sampling site (**patchy lesions**)
 - Variability **within the same** biopsy
 - **Cutting** technique/**orientations**



- Specific **experience** level of the histologist
- **lack of uniformity** in the use of Marsh–Oberhuber classification

The Spectrum of Intestinal Non-celiac Villous Atrophy

- Giardiasis



- Viral enteritis

- Whipple disease

- Tropical sprue



- **Adult autoimmune enteropathy**

(serum Ab against enterocytes or goblet cells; Anti-transglutaminase antibodies in 1/3 pts;



- **Hypogammaglobulinemia**

- **Common variable immunodeficiency (CVID)**



(chorionic plasmocytic rarefaction, nodular lymphoid hyperplasia, serum protein electrophoresis, frequent upper respiratory tract infections)



- Crohn's disease

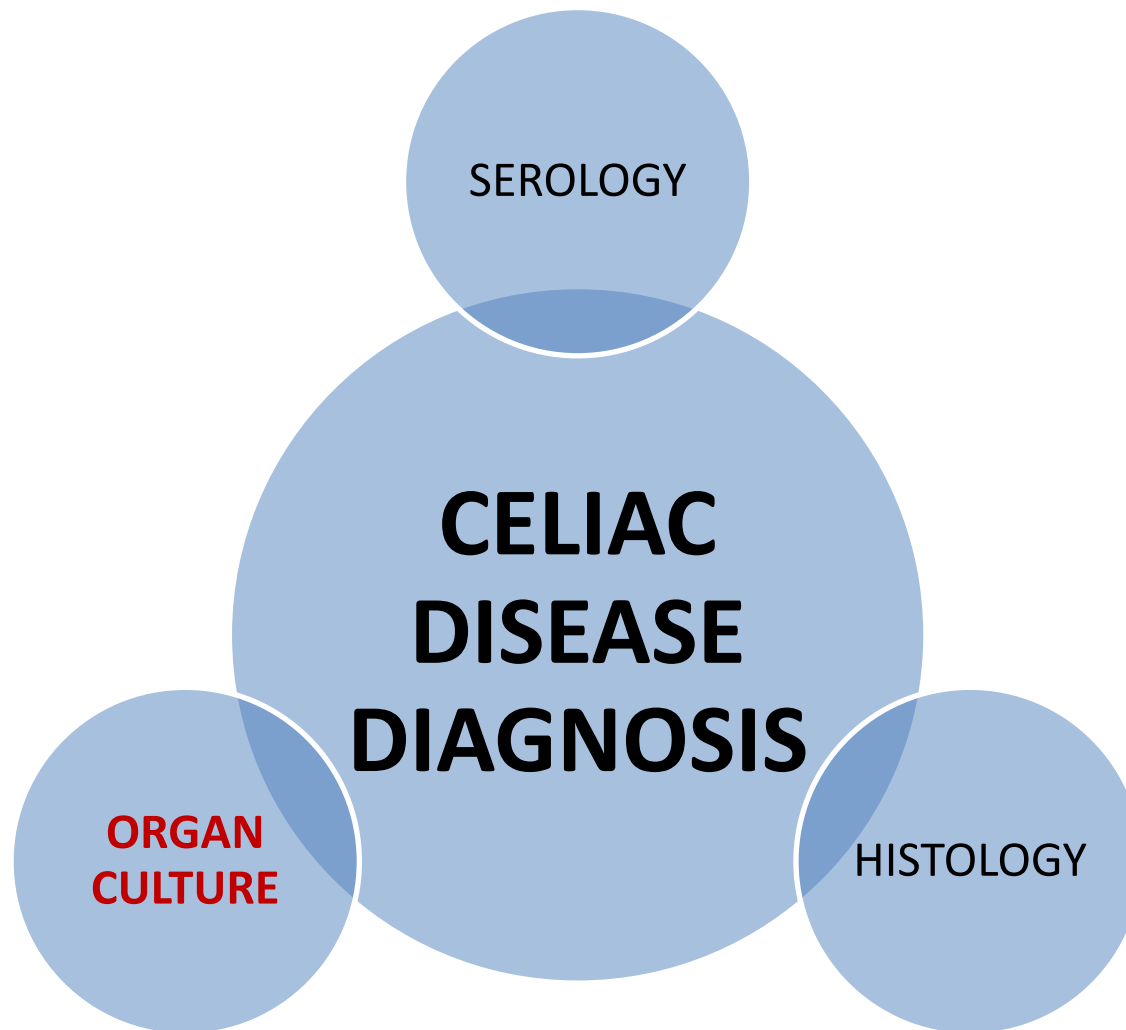
- Peptic duodenitis

- Collagenous sprue



- **Mycophenolate mofetil**

- **Olmesartan**



NEW DIAGNOSTIC OPPORTUNITY:

Cultural gluten challenge of duodenal biopsies

in patients:

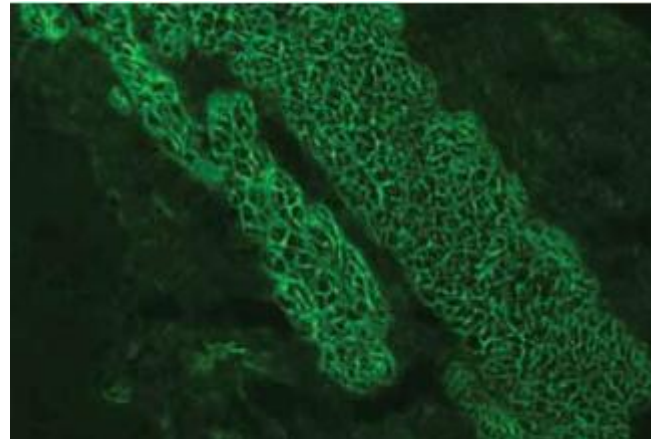
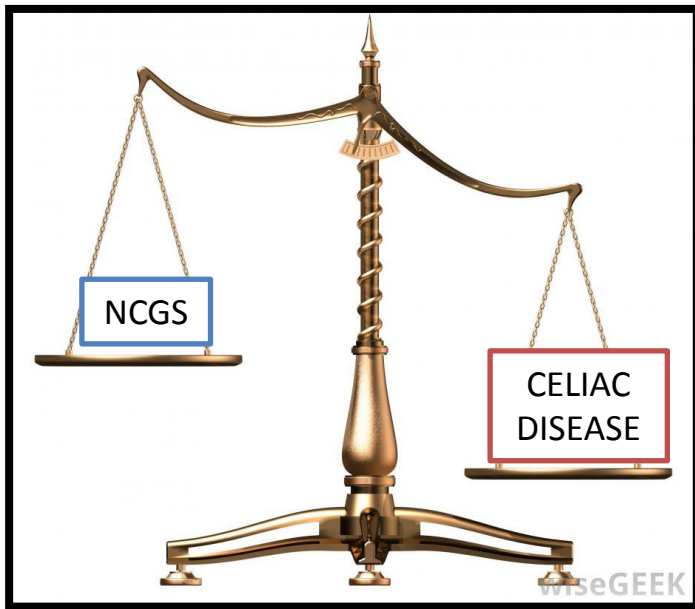
- with **atypical** CD
- already on a **GFD**
- in need of diagnostic **confirmation**

Khalesi M. et al. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. 2015

ARE WE DIAGNOSING TOO MANY PEOPLE WITH NON-CELIAC GLUTEN SENSITIVITY (NCGS)?

USEFULNESS OF THE ORGAN CULTURE SYSTEM:

- gluten-related signs and symptoms
- **doubtful** serological EMA and anti-tTG IgA
- histology **not diagnostic** for CD
- HLA DQ2+
- **clear positive** EMA and anti-tTG IgA of II PD biopsy cultures



CD - causes of persistent symptoms

- Most common **causes of persistent symptoms** (**despite serological/histological negative results for CD**):
 - constipation (low fiber in GFD)
 - lactose/fructose intolerance
 - Ni-containing foods adverse effect
 - microscopic colitis
 - FODMAPs
 - IBS
- And don't forget....
 - NSAIDs
 - infection
 - Crohn's Disease
 - Intestinal non-celiac villous atrophy
 - Microbiota/bacterial overgrowth



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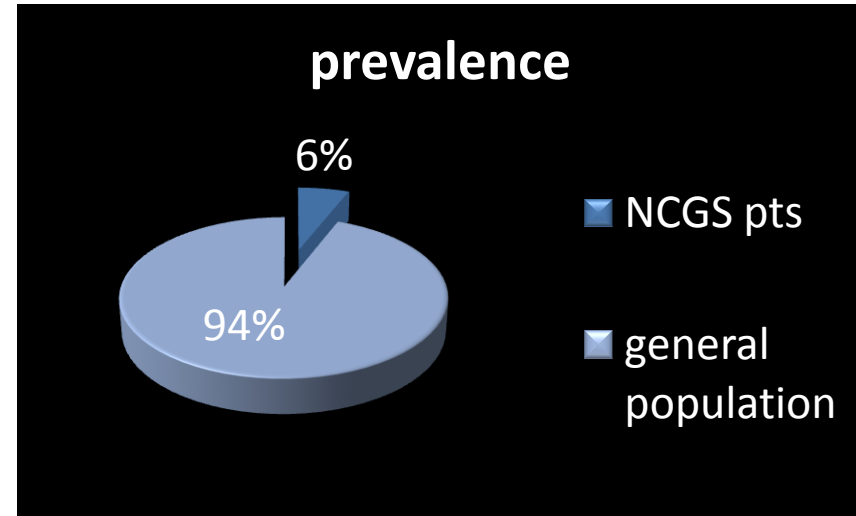
NON-CELIAC GLUTEN SENSITIVITY

- **PREVALENCE:** 6 %
- **IgG AGA (+):** only 56,4%
- **HLA DQ2 and/or DQ8:** less than 50%
- **HISTOLOGICAL PICTURE** (duodenal biopsy):
often no specific alterations

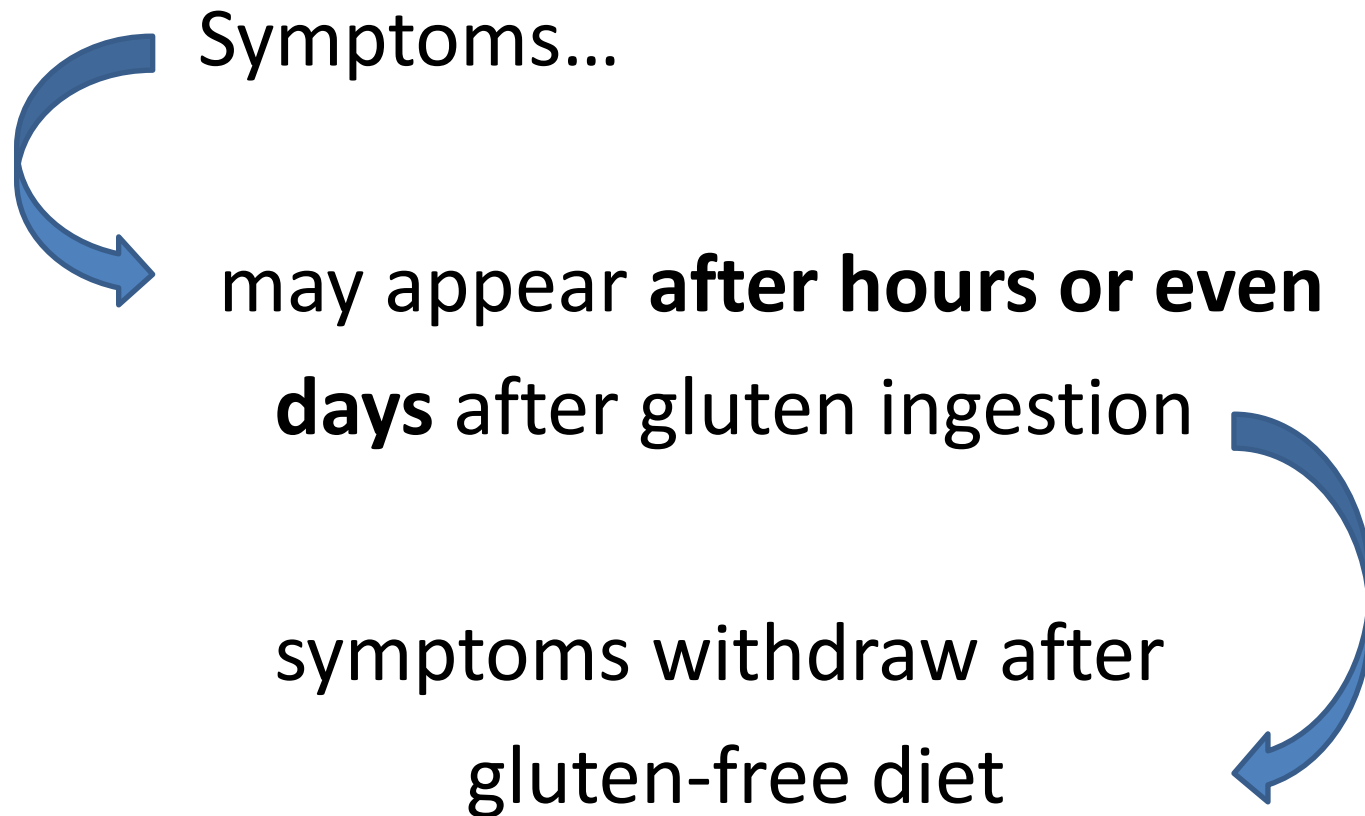
MANIFESTATIONS

Intestinal	Extraintestinal
diarrhea	headache
abdominal pain	Foggy mind
bloating	attention-deficit/ hyperactivity disorder
	ataxia
	recurrent oral ulceration
	psoriasis

- **THERAPY:** gluten-free diet



NON-CELIAC GLUTEN SENSITIVITY



Non-Celiac Gluten Sensitivity and Celiac Disease Comorbidity For Autoimmune Diseases

	Type 1 Diabetes	Autoimmune Thyroiditis
Non-Celiac Gluten sensitivity	0	1%
Celiac Disease	5-10%	12.5%

Outcome della Gluten Sensitivity

**Ipotizzata assenza di
comorbimidità
autoimmune (?)**

**Ipotizzata assenza di
evoluzione
in linfoma
ed adenocarcinoma
del tenue (?)**

**Non esisterebbe
il problema
della contaminazione**

Intestinal, Systemic And Oral Gluten-related Alterations In Patients With Non-celiac Gluten Sensitivity

Study: 60 NCGS patients, 20 untreated CD, 20 treated CD and 20 healthy volunteers were recruited. The differential diagnosis among gluten-related disorders was performed by serological, allergy and histological tools. NCGS patients were also subjected to anti-gliadin antibody (AGA) detection and HLA typing. All participants underwent oral mucosa patch test for gluten (GOMPT), while oral provocation test (OPT) for gluten was performed in 26 NCGS patients.

Results: 6/60 (10%) NCGS patients showed IgG AGA positive results, while 45/60 (75%) carried HLA-DQ2 and/or -DQ8 genes. GOMPT showed positive results in 45/60 (75%) NCGS patients, 3/20 (15%) untreated CD, 5/20 (25%) treated CD and in no healthy volunteer. No significant difference was found between the severity of symptoms reported by NCGS patients subjected to OPT with gluten-containing croissants and those who underwent OPT with gluten-free croissants.



Figure 1 – Local lesions at 2 hours from the application of GOMPT
Blisters of the upper lip mucosa (arrows) after administration of GOMPT in two NCGS patients [A,B]. No lesion of the upper lip mucosa after application of GOMPT in a healthy control [C].

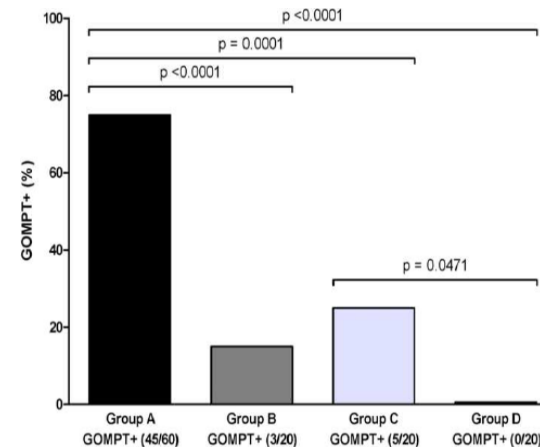
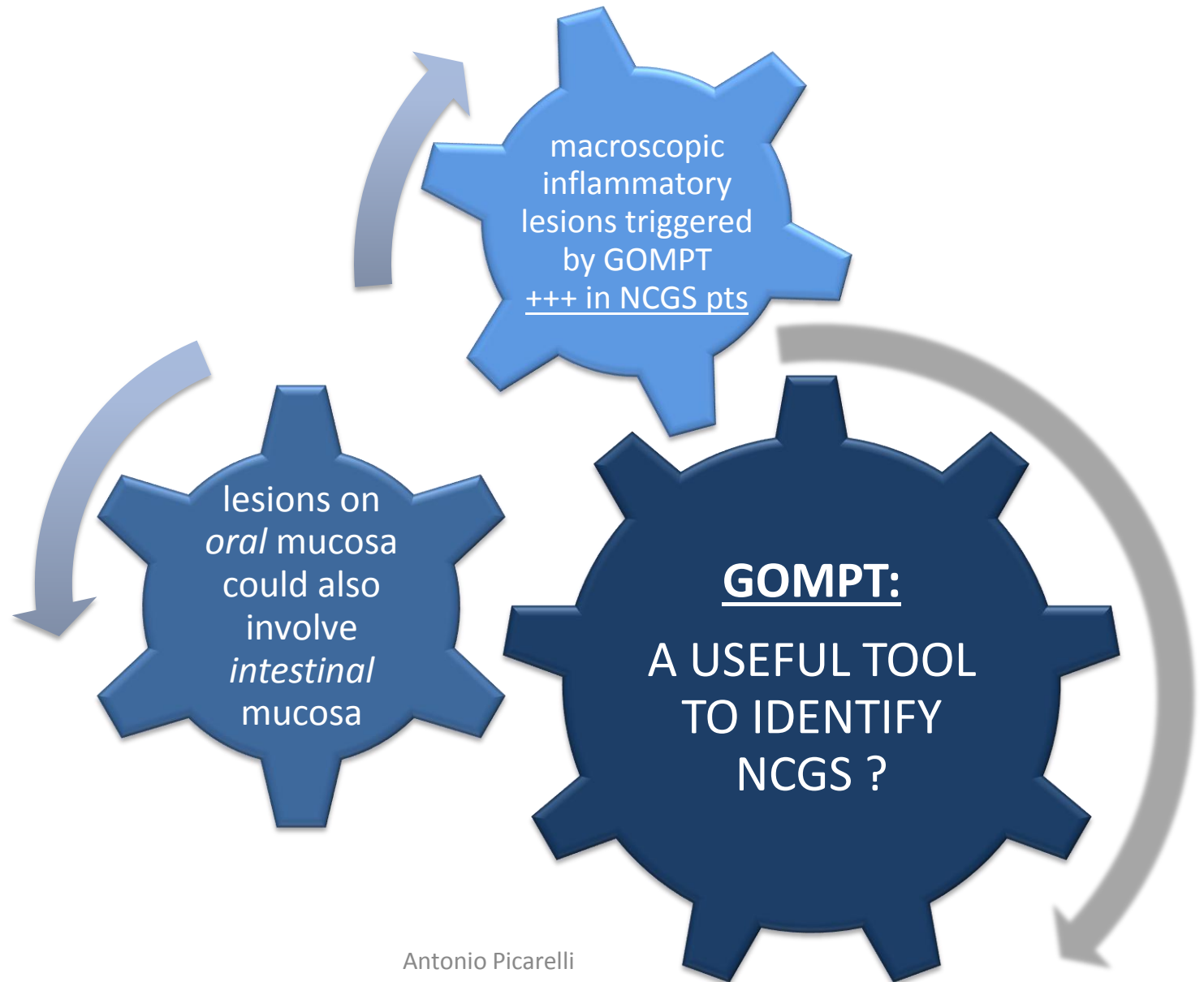


Figure 2 – GOMPT results in the four studied groups

Group A: NCGS pts
Group B: untreated CD pts
Group C: treated CD pts
Group D: healthy pts

Conclusions: GOMPT seems to be a specific tool for NCGS diagnosis, although further investigations are needed to overcome limits due to the small population studied and to contextualize GOMPT false positive results.

...and DISCUSSION





**THANK YOU
FOR
YOUR
ATTENTION!**