

FREQUENCY OF CELIAC DISEASE IN CHILDREN WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES IN CRETE

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Introduction: A relationship between type 1 diabetes and autoimmune disorders has been already suggested. The frequency of celiac disease in a population of children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes was investigated in Crete.

Population and methods: The population consisted of 24 children and adolescents (10 males and 14 females) with type 1 diabetes. The age ranged from 5 to 21.5 years and the age at diagnosis had been 1.3 to 15 years. Serum samples were analysed for IgA and IgG gliadin and for IgA endomysium antibodies (EmA)

Results: Two girls were positive for both EmA and IgA and IgG gliadin antibodies. Three children (1 male and 2 female) were negative for EmA antibodies, but positive either for IgA or for IgG gliadin antibodies. Of these 3 children, one was already on treatment for celiac disease. The remaining 19 children were negative.

Table1 Conclusions: 5/24 (22%) of the children in this study presented with a serological evidence of celiac disease. This is a quite high proportion and comes in accordance with previous studies indicating high rates of celiac disease among individuals with type 1 diabetes.

Children (N)	EmA antibodies	IgA gliadin antibodies	IgG gliadin antibodies
2	+	+	+
1	-	+	-
2	-	-	+
19	-	-	-

Table 1

