

COLONOSCOPIC ANTIGEN PROVOCATION: RESULTS OF AN ONGOING STUDY IN PATIENTS WITH IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME

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Poster

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Colonoscopic food antigen provocation testing detected local mucosal reactions to wheat, gluten, soy, or milk in seven of ten IBS patients with food-related symptoms and no true allergies.

KEY POINTS

- In this interim analysis of ten IBS patients (nine female, median age 45 years, moderate to severe symptoms), colonoscopic antigen provocation testing was positive in seven patients, with reactions to one or two food antigens per patient.
- Gluten provoked positive mucosal edema reactions in five patients, soy in three, wheat in two, and milk in one; all patients had food-related IBS symptoms but tested negative for food allergies.
- Testing involved blinded injection of 200 µL food antigen solutions into rectal mucosa, with reactions assessed at 12 minutes by two independent endoscopists using a semiquantitative scale.
- The positive control (histamine) was positive in eight patients and the negative control (saline) produced no positive reactions, supporting test validity.
- The findings suggest a subset of IBS patients may have local intestinal immune responses to food antigens; further research is planned on mechanisms and clinical relevance.

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