

ATOPY AND OTHER (FOOD) HYPERSENSITIVITIES IN NON-CELIAC WHEAT SENSITIVITY: SHOULD WE RECLASSIFY THESE PATIENTS AS 'ALLERGIC'? A RETROSPECTIVE CASE-CONTROL STUDY

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A retrospective multicenter study found that non-celiac wheat sensitivity patients have significantly higher rates of atopic diseases, multiple food hypersensitivities, and self-reported milk intolerance compared to celiac disease and functional gastrointestinal disorder patients.

KEY POINTS

- Atopic disease prevalence was 32.8% in NCWS versus 19.3% in celiac disease and 21.5% in IBS/FD patients ($P=.001$ for both comparisons)
- Multiple food hypersensitivities occurred in 39.8% and self-reported milk intolerance in 65.9% of NCWS patients, both significantly higher than controls ($P<.001$)
- Graminaceae hypersensitivity (70.1%) and nickel allergic contact dermatitis (17.8%) were more frequent in NCWS compared to both control groups
- Multiple logistic regression identified coexistent atopic disease (OR 1.481), multiple food hypersensitivities (OR 3.882), and self-reported milk intolerance (OR 2.259) as associated with NCWS diagnosis
- The authors suggest these hypersensitivity features might support differential diagnosis between NCWS and functional gastrointestinal disorders when part of a broader diagnostic panel

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