

DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY OF THE NO-BIOPSY APPROACH FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF COELIAC DISEASE IN ADULTS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS

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A systematic review and meta-analysis of 13 studies (10,078 participants) evaluated the diagnostic accuracy of IgA anti-tissue transglutaminase antibody levels ≥ 10 times the upper limit of normal as a no-biopsy approach for diagnosing coeliac disease in adults.

KEY POINTS

- IgA-tTG $\geq 10 \times \text{ULN}$ demonstrated 100% specificity (95% CI, 98% - 100%) but only 52% sensitivity (95% CI, 41% - 62%) against duodenal biopsies (Marsh grade ≥ 2).
- The positive predictive value of the no-biopsy approach was 68%, 90%, 96%, and 99% when coeliac disease prevalence was 1%, 4%, 10%, and 30%, respectively.
- The pooled prevalence of biopsy-proven coeliac disease in the included studies was 60% (95% CI, 36% - 84%).
- The authors conclude that the no-biopsy approach may be suitable in secondary care settings with high pre-test probability, potentially avoiding biopsy in almost one-in-three referred patients.
- This evidence may inform future guideline development for diagnosing coeliac disease in adults.

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