

CLINICAL FEATURES OF GLUTEN-RELATED DISORDERS AMONG PEDIATRIC PATIENTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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A comparative study of 100 pediatric patients in Uzbekistan found distinct clinical and laboratory profiles across three gluten-related diseases: celiac disease, wheat allergy, and non-celiac gluten sensitivity.

KEY POINTS

- Celiac disease patients showed the most severe physical development deficits with median SD of height -2.16, weight -2.69, and BMI -1.29, compared to milder deficits in wheat allergy and non-celiac gluten sensitivity.
- Diarrhea was most common in celiac disease (76.0%), while wheat allergy patients more frequently presented with abdominal pain (55.9%), bloating (85.3%), and atopic dermatitis (23.5%).
- Low total protein levels were found in 60.0% of celiac disease patients versus only 8.8% in wheat allergy and 2.5% in non-celiac gluten sensitivity, and celiac disease patients had the lowest serum calcium levels (median 1.7 ± 0.03).
- Despite celiac disease showing the most severe growth and nutritional deficits, gastrointestinal symptoms were common across all three gluten-related disease types in this pediatric cohort.

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