Celiac Disease Program



Each year, the Celiac Disease Program at Boston Children's Hospital provides care for hundreds of children with celiac disease and gluten sensitivity. Our multidisciplinary approach focuses on accurate diagnosis and management, along with specialized education and support to help your child and family successfully navigate the challenges of celiac disease at all stages of childhood development.

Our core philosophy is that every child with celiac disease can thrive on a gluten-free diet with ongoing support from their medical care team throughout their childhood, and within their own communities. We strive to help children with celiac disease maintain gluten avoidance while reducing stressors associated with gluten exposure risks in everyday life.

Our highly experienced team includes gastroenterologists, dietitians, clinical social workers, nurses, and community advocates. We work collaboratively to provide comprehensive care to children, adolescents, and young adults living with celiac disease.

Leading the way in clinical care

We provide diagnostic testing and ongoing management of celiac disease to children with celiac disease and gluten sensitivity. We see new patient consultations and second opinion cases from throughout New England and other national and international locations. Some of our program highlights include:

- Long term monitoring for complications of celiac disease (including non-responsive celiac disease, other autoimmune diseases, foodrelated anxiety, and disordered eating).
- First in the nation to offer specialized group nutrition education classes on the gluten-free diet.
- One-on-one celiac disease-specific nutrition consultation with registered dietitians with specialist expertise in gluten-free diets.
- Developmentally targeted workshops for ongoing education and support as your child learns to manage their gluten-free diet independently.
- Specialized education and support services for children with both type
 1 diabetes and celiac disease.

Leading the way in innovation/research

Our treatment of celiac disease is informed by our research which helps to advance the understanding of celiac disease development, diagnosis, and management. Recent and current projects include:

- Characterization of the epidemiology of nonresponsive celiac disease in children.
- Clinical trials of the use of gluten immunogenic peptides for monitoring gluten-free diet adherence.
- Leading the development of a standardized gluten exposure risk assessment for children following a gluten-free diet.

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- Application of modern molecular and image analysis methods to interpret small intestinal biopsies from patients with celiac disease.
- Evaluation of noninvasive biomarkers of celiac disease activity for diagnosis and follow-up.

Leading the way in support, education, and advocacy

We recognize the importance of connecting families to learn from one another. That's why we run the Celiac Kids Connection, the only celiac disease support group solely focused on kids and families. Our group, which includes nearly 500 families living with this disease in New England and across the country, provides a networking community of support, education, and advocacy for families with children diagnosed with celiac disease.

In addition to the Celiac Kids Connection support group, our offerings include:

- Weekly school support sessions to help families set up a 504 plan for their child at school.
- Weekly new-to-celiac family meet-up opportunities.
- Peer-to-peer support and parent-to-parent support.
- A monthly e-newsletter and quarterly printed newsletter.
- Ongoing medical education activities, including a multidisciplinary case conference series.
- · Cooking and nutrition education classes.
- Food and self-advocacy focused story-times for young children.
- Food assistance program for families experiencing food insecurity.
- Monthly educational webinars for patients and families.

Contact us

617-355-6058

bostonchildrens.org/celiac

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