Journal of Immunology Research

Hindawi

Special Issue on

Immunological Disorders Associated with Gluten Ingestion: Coeliac Disease and Beyond

CALL FOR PAPERS

Coeliac disease is an autoimmune disorder, occurring in genetically predisposed individuals, triggered by the ingestion of dietary gluten, the major protein component in wheat and other related cereals. In many areas of the world, coeliac disease is one of the commonest lifelong disorders affecting around 1% of the general population. Indeed, coeliac disease research is changing rapidly as gluten-related disorders have gradually emerged as an epidemiologically relevant phenomenon with a global prevalence.

Among immunological disorders associated with gluten ingestion, coeliac disease and wheat allergy have been extensively studied, although they are not the only entities, as noncoeliac gluten sensitivity has been recently rediscovered and appears to be a very common disorder, in particular in the USA. The pathogenesis of gluten-related disorders includes different immunological mechanisms involving both adaptive immune responses that eventually lead to T-cell but also B-cell immunity. Nevertheless, the role of the innate immune system as well as of nonimmune cells cannot be disregarded in the pathogenic mechanisms. However, whatever mechanism is involved in the triggering of gluten-related disorders, a lifelong strict gluten-free diet is the only current available treatment. There is therefore an increasing need to expand our current knowledge of the effect of the gluten-free diet on gluten-related disorders, including patient management after diet instauration and adherence to the diet and/or ways to monitor it. Similarly, the pathogenic similarities and differences between all gluten-related disorders and the impact of the gluten-free diet on such patients cannot be disregarded.

In this special issue, we will address these points. Here, we aim to gain depth into the current understanding and management of gluten-related disorders.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Novel findings providing a deeper insight into the pathogenic mechanisms underlying gluten-related disorders including coeliac disease, wheat allergy, and noncoeliac gluten sensitivity and the closely related disorders such as dermatitis herpetiformis and gluten ataxia
- Studies describing the clinical and pathogenic similarities and differences among different gluten-related disorders but also between them and other gastrointestinal disorders
- Differential effects of the gluten-free diet on alternative gluten-related disorders
- Potential therapeutic strategies based on immunopathogenesis of the disorders
- Clinical and pathogenic follow-up of patients with gluten-related disorders on the gluten-free diet and/or compliancy to the diet

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Manuscript Due
Friday, 13 January 2017

First Round of Reviews
Friday, 7 April 2017

Publication Date
Friday, 2 June 2017