Navigating non-IgE-mediated food allergy

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Family Medicine Forum Forum en médecine familiale LE COLLÈGE DES THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE OF CANAD DU CANADA

Presenter Disclosure

Presenter: Moshe Ben-Shoshan MD, MSc

Relationships with financial sponsors:

- Any direct financial relationships, including receipt of honoraria: Humber River Hospital, Sanofi
- Membership on advisory boards or speakers' bureaus: Food Allergy Canada, Pfizer Canada, Novartis, Sanofi
- Patents for drugs or devices: N/A
- Other: Novartis, Sanofi clinical trials

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Presenter: Jennifer Gerdts

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Disclosure of Financial Support

Potential for conflict(s) of interest:

- Dr. Moshe Ben-Shoshan has received honorariums for advisory board meetings from Novartis whose Xolair[®] (omalizumab) product and from Sanofi whose Dupixent[®] (dupilumab) product are being discussed in this program.
- Food Allergy Canada receives funds from Novartis for consulting services and funds from Sanofi which support educational and awareness initiatives. Their products, Xolair[®] and Dupixent[®], respectively, are being discussed in this program.

Patient journey: non-IgE-mediated food allergy



Learning objectives



- Explain the differences between IgE- and non-IgE-mediated food allergies
- Differentiate the various medical conditions involving non-IgE-mediated food allergy
- Identify opportunities to improve outcomes for patients managing these conditions

Today's session

- Classifications of food allergy
- For the more common non-IgE-mediated food allergy conditions:
 - Pathogenesis, clinical picture, confirmatory tests, management approaches for these conditions
- Revisiting the patient journey
- Resources available to support your patients



Adverse reactions to foods



Non-IgEmediated food allergy conditions Food protein-induced allergic proctocolitis (FPIAP)

Food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome (FPIES)

Eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE)

Case #1

- 3-month-old with history of streaks of blood in stool
- Only breastfed (mother consumes dairy)
- Very fussy when eats
- No constipation, stool not hard

- Are additional investigations needed?
- How would you induce remission?
- What is the **probability for resolution**?



FPIAP: prevalence, risk factors, triggers, symptoms

- Prevalence in infants: varies from 0.16% to 17%
- Risk factors: eczema, first degree relative with food allergy
- Common triggers: cow's milk protein, soy protein
- Symptoms: bloody and mucous stools

FPIAP: diagnosis and management

- Diagnosis
 - Convincing history and resolution of symptoms with food avoidance
 - Confirmatory diagnostic testing (other than OFC) is lacking
 - Most guidelines require gross blood for diagnosis
 - Some guidelines suggest reintroduction or challenge to confirm symptom recurrence after symptoms resolve with elimination
- Management
 - Avoidance of the suspected food with interval challenge to assess for resolution (usually occurs in the first years of life)



Cow's milk was the first food eliminated from diet.*

In patients with no resolution of visible blood in stool within two weeks with cow's milk elimination, egg and beef were sequentially added to the elimination diet at two-week intervals.

If visible blood in stool persisted after beef elimination in the subsequent two weeks, wheat and nuts were eliminated together, in order to shorten the elimination period, which might otherwise be stressful for the family.



Challenges were started with the food which was eliminated last. If elimination diets were extended to wheat and nuts, these foods were challenged separately:

a) If visible blood in stool recurred, the relevant food was re-eliminated, and two weeks after symptom resolution, the challenge step was continued with the other foods in line.

b) If visible blood in stool did not recur, the patient continued to consume that food regularly and the OFC was performed after two weeks with the other foods in line.

Structured elimination and challenge steps

OFCs were performed four weeks after disappearance of blood in stool. In patients with atopic dermatitis, the elimination diet, moisturizer and topical steroids were applied first. Topical steroids were prescribed for seven days. A decrease of 10 scoring atopic dermatitis (SCORAD) points was considered to represent remission. After cessation of topical steroids, the OFCs were performed in patients who were able to maintain a 10-point reduction for 30 days while continuing the elimination diet and moisturizer application.

FPIAP: resolution

- Atopic dermatitis (AD) (OR 3.02, 95% CI 1.2-7.6, p=0.019) and an eosinophil count ≥300 cells/µL (OR 3.32, 95% CI 1.32-8.33, p=0.01) identified as risk factors for multiple food allergens causing FPIAP
- Blood and mucus in stool disappeared in a median three days (IQR: 1-14.5 days) and 30 days (IQR: 8-75 days), respectively
- A two-week duration of elimination for blood in stool is sufficient to reach a judgment of suspected foods for FPIAP
- Resolution
 - Breastfed: majority resolve with maternal elimination diet (no milk 50%, no milk/soy 40%, no milk/soy/egg 10%)
 - Formula-fed: 80% resolved on extensively hydrolyzed formulas, 20% on amino acid-based formulas
- Often successful reintroduction after 6 months elimination diet

Case #2

- 6-month-old male
- Tried oat cereal, 2h later he experienced severe emesis and diarrhea
- Assessed in the ER and found to be dehydrated
- Treated with oral rehydration (intravenous access was difficult)
- A small amount of oat was introduced again into the diet a few days later. After an hour, he began vomiting with bloody, profuse diarrhea
- He was evaluated in the ER and treated with intravenous fluids
- Are additional investigations needed?
- How would you **induce remission**?
- What is the **probability for resolution**?

FPIES: incidence, triggers, symptoms

- Incidence: 15.4 / 100,000 infants less than 2 years old
- Increase in total FPIES cases noted (possibly greater awareness)
- Most frequently reported triggers in children: cow's milk, fish, egg, grains, soy
- 65-80% of children have FPIES to a single food, most commonly cow's milk
- Most infants do not react to food allergens present in maternal breast milk
- Symptoms: severe vomiting and diarrhea
 - Sometimes accompanied by dehydration, lethargy, changes in blood pressure and body temperature, failure to thrive (in some cases)
 - Usually presenting 1-4 hours after ingestion

FPIES classification: Acute

Intermittent / low dose allergen ingestion

- Mainly infants
- Severe symptoms
- 1 major >= 3 minor

Major diagnostic criteria:

• Vomiting 1-4h after ingestion and no symptoms consistent with IgE mediated allergy

Minor diagnostic criteria:

- At least 2x vomiting
- Repetitive vomiting 1-4h after another food
- Extreme lethargy Pallor Need for ER visit
 - Need for IV fluids Diarrhea within 24h
 - Hypotension Hypothermia

FPIES classification: Chronic

Frequent / high dose ingestion

- Mainly **neonates**
- Mild symptoms, intermittent vomiting, failure to thrive
 - Resolution of symptoms within days of elimination and acute recurrence with re-introduction (vomiting within 1-4h and diarrhea within 24h)

Severe chronic: intermittent but progressive vomiting(+/- metabolic acidosis / dehydration)

Mild chronic (lower quantity): intermittent diarrhea, poor weight gain

FPIES can also affect adults

- Some patients experience symptoms in adulthood (no symptoms in childhood)
- Most common trigger in adolescents and adults: crustaceans

FPIES: diagnosis and management

- Diagnosis
 - Convincing history and resolution of symptoms with food avoidance
 - Confirmatory diagnostic testing (other than OFC) is lacking
- Management
 - Avoidance of the suspected food with interval challenge to assess for resolution (usually occurs in the first years of life)

Could we apply a food ladder for FPIES?



- 21 patients with mild-to-moderate FPIES to egg (no history of lethargy or intravenous fluid administration)
- Started on the Canadian Egg Ladder
- 19 patients (90.5%) completed the ladder, tolerating a serving size amount of cooked egg, over a median duration of 7 months

Management of acute FPIES

- Acute FPIES reactions can be expected to resolve in 4-12 hours after onset (vs 3-10 days after avoiding the trigger for chronic FPIES reactions)
- Mild reactions typically resolve with oral rehydration
- Moderate to severe reactions can require aggressive fluid resuscitations with repeated saline boluses
- Corticosteroids have also been recommended for patients with severe symptoms
- Ondansetron (Zofran[®]), a serotonin 5-HT3 receptor antagonist, has been approved in pediatric populations to prevent nausea and vomiting

Long-term FPIES management

- Elimination of the trigger food(s)
- Plans for dietary advancement
- Treatment of symptoms at presentation or on re-exposure
- Monitoring for FPIES resolution

In the United States:

Diagnostic challenges are usually attempted within 12-18 months after the most recent reaction

FPIES: resolution

Patients	Development of tolerance
Patients with CM-induced FPIES, soy-induced FPIES, or both	Average = 1 year
Patients with grain-induced FPIES	Average = 3 years
Patients with other solid food-induced FPIES	Average = 3.5 years

Case #3

- 10-month-old referred due to suspected cow's milk allergy
- This infant was fed with a cow's milk-based formula for the first 2 months of age
- Due to symptoms of infantile colic (episodes of crying or fussing most frequently after a feeding), he was switched to a cow's milk hydrolysate-based formula at the age of 2 months
- At the age of 5 months, he was reintroduced twice to cereals with cow's milk-based formula
- Within minutes afterwards, he developed facial flushing, hives and angioedema of the wrists and ankles
- Was the **use of milk hydrolysate** justified?
- Could the use of hydrolysate **contribute** to an IgE-mediated allergy?



Some facts

- Many lactation consultants, paediatricians and family physicians advocate maternal elimination diets to maintain breastfeeding benefits in infants with colic
- Colic and fussiness: not likely to be isolated manifestations of cow's milk allergy
- Infantile colic: benign clinical course and usually resolves by 3 months of age
- Recent studies: food elimination may increase the risk of IgE-mediated food allergy



Randomized trial of early infant formula introduction to prevent cow's milk allergy

Overview of the SPADE study



Case #4

- 18-year-old male with known peanut allergy undergoing oral immunotherapy for peanut for the last 2 years
- In last year, symptoms of severe food impaction
- Sensation of choking that exacerbated after starting peanut OIT
- Active despite topical steroids and high dose PPI
- Significant progressive eosinophilia (AEC 2.11)
- Signs of extensive disease (lower GI Sx, weight loss)
- Severe atopic history (AR, AD, asthma, food allergies)
- Are additional investigations needed?
- How would you **induce remission**?
- Would you consider **biologic therapy**? If so, which one?

EoE: definition and triggers

- EoE is a chronic immune-mediated esophageal disease
- With EoE, large numbers of eosinophils (white blood cell) collect in the esophagus
- Too many eosinophils in the esophagus is not normal
- Dietary and environmental triggers (foods most commonly associated with EoE are milk, wheat, egg, soy)



Type 2 inflammation and EoE development



Rising trends of EoE: incidence and prevalence



Prevalence = ~1 / 2000 (US)

Dellon ES and Hirano I, Gastroenterology 2018;154(2):319-332.e3 Arias A et al, Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2016;43(1):3-15



EoE: demographics



- EoE affects both children and adults
- Can develop at any age, including infancy
- Affects mostly males

Davis B and Rothenberg M, Annu Rev Pathol 2016;11:365-93 Liacouras CA et al, JACI 2011;128(1):3-20.e6

EoE: late manifestation of the atopic march?



Co-occurrence of EoE and food allergy (FA)

- EoE in general population: 0.04%
- EoE in patients with FA: 4.7% (100X increase)
- > 2/3 of EoE patients have an IgE-mediated FA



EoE: symptoms vary with age

Common Symptoms

Who Is Affected

	Infant	Child	Adult
Reflux that does not respond to meds	\checkmark	~	\checkmark
Trouble swallowing	×	~	~
Food gets stuck in the throat	×	~	\checkmark
Upset stomach or throwing up	~	~	\checkmark
Poor growth, poor appetite or weight loss	\checkmark	~	Rarely
Belly or chest pain	X	~	Uncommon
Not willing or able to eat	~	~	X
Trouble sleeping due to chest or belly pain or reflux	~	~	×

Patients may form adaptive eating habits (e.g., chewing excessively, drinking lots of fluids) to deal with symptoms

Image: Eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) – AGA GI Patient Center (gastro.org)

EoE progression from inflammation to fibrosis



EoE: diagnosis

- Symptoms of esophageal dysfunction
- ≥15 eos/HPF
 - ≥ 1 biopsy specimen
 - 2-4 biopsies taken from proximal, medium and distal esophagus
 (5 biopsies = 100% Sn vs 1 = 50% Sn)
- Exclusion of other causes of esophageal eosinophilia
Back to case 4: oral immunotherapy (OIT) and EoE



- 10-30% have EoE-like symptoms
- 5% diagnosed with EoE
- Chicken or the egg?

Rate	Discontinuation (any reason), %	SPR-EoE, %			EoE (biopsy), %	Discontinuation cause, %	
		Organ system GI symptoms	Specific symptom			SPR-EoE	EoE or SPR-EoE
			Abdominal pain	Vomiting			
Overall	14	34	32	12	5.3	4.7	5.6
Egg	11	NDb	28	17	4.2	2.7	3.1
Milk	12	18	30	1	5.4	3.9	4.6
Peanut	16	56	40	20	5.2	6.7	8.5

EoE: goals of treatment





- Minimal symptoms

 (complete absence of dysphagia without any dietary avoidance based on food texture)
- Minimal histologic activity (0 eos/hpf)
- Minimal endoscopy activity (absence of endoscopic features of inflammation furrows, exudate, or edema and an esophageal diameter > 20 mm)



Proposed algorithm for EoE in clinical practice

*In patients with persistent symptoms under anti-inflammatory therapy, endoscopic dilation should be considered ** After response to any empiric 6-week diet, all food groups should be reintroduced individually, with an endoscopy performed following each food challenge. The final goal is a long-term removal solely of foods proven to induce EoE *** Refer the patient to an EoE center

EoE: summary of recommendations

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

AGA Institute and the Joint Task Force on Allergy-Immunology
Practice Parameters Clinical Guidelines for the Management of
Eosinophilic Esophagitis

Recommendation	Strength	Quality of evidence
Topical steroids	Strong	Moderate
PPIs in symptomatic EoE	Conditional	Very low
Topical steroids over systemic steroids	Conditional	Moderate
Elemental diet	Conditional	Moderate
6-FED	Conditional	Low quality
Allergy testing based - FED	Conditional	Very low quality
Maintenance with topical steroids	Conditional	Very low quality
Dilation if stricture present	Conditional	Very low quality

EoE: management

Which option is best?	Factor in:		
	Consideration of EoE severity and patient ability to start treatment		
	Shared decision making		
	Response evaluated by repeat endoscopy		

Medical therapy

- Proton pump inhibitors
- Topical corticosteroids
- Monoclonal antibodies

Diet therapy

• Elemental

•

- Empiric (food elimination diet)
 - 1,2,4,6-FED
 - Step-up vs step-down approach
- Allergy testing directed

Dilation

 Endoscopic procedure widens the esophagus to allow food to pass more comfortably

EoE: therapies indicated for use

- Budesonide orodispersable tablets (BOT)
 - Canada & Europe
 - Trials: EOS-1 (remission) & EOS-2 (maintenance)
- Dupilumab
 - US (2022)
 - Canada (2023)
- All other therapies are off-label
 - PPI
 - Swallowed fluticasone
 - Budenoside slurry



EoE: biologic therapies targeting T2 inflammation



Conclusion and key points

- Non-IgE-mediated food allergies can be associated with severe clinical manifestations
- Studies suggest increased prevalence
- Diagnosis is challenging and does not rely on skin tests / IgE levels
- Main pathogenic mechanisms unclear although likely a chronic, T2-inflammatory, allergic disease (mainly in the case of EoE)
- Unlike EOE, FPIAP and FPIES often resolve spontaneously with age
- Multiple potential targets for novel EoE treatments with role of biologics in algorithms to be defined

Emotional journey of patients with EoE



EoE resources at foodallergycanada.ca/EoE





recorded webinar: adult focus

recorded webinar: pediatric focus

patient sheets

More topics at foodallergycanada.ca/webinars





recorded webinar: non-IgE-mediated cow's milk allergy

recorded webinar: IgE-mediated cow's milk allergy

Free FPIES webinar this month

What is FPIES and how do you manage it?

November 27, 2023 at 12pm EST

Expert speaker: Dr. Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn

Visit foodallergycanada.ca/events to register



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