

RESEARCHERS AT THE CITY OF HOPE CANCER CENTER SEEK ADULTS WITH CELIAC DISEASE

Adults that have been diagnosed with Celiac Disease are being sought for a study to identify factors associated with the development of Celiac Disease. The study is being conducted by The City of Hope Cancer Center in Duarte, California. The study is funded through the NIH.

The study is designed to identify factors associated with celiac disease and to find genes that may predispose individuals and their relatives to develop this condition. The discovery of such genes may one day lead to better diagnosis, treatment, and possibly even prevention of celiac disease. Researchers are testing several hypotheses in the study. 1) Celiac disease is a complex disease with both environmental and genetic components; a) Celiac disease has involvement of genes involved in both innate and adaptive immunity, as well as in gut permeability; b) Celiac disease is caused by gluten intolerance, with additional triggers possibly involving viral, inflammation, or hormonal changes; 2) Genes involved in susceptibility to celiac disease are the same as those involved in other auto-immune diseases; 3) Individuals at high risk of celiac disease need to be tested more than once as the disease can develop with age or environmental triggers; 4) Untreated celiac disease cases have an increased risk to develop additional autoimmune diseases.

To qualify to participate in the study, you must be formally diagnosed with Celiac Disease by small bowel biopsy. Participants will be asked to provide a blood sample, complete a questionnaire, and provide medical records regarding their celiac diagnosis. There is no cost to participate. Necessary materials to have the blood drawn by the individual's doctor, clinic, or lab will be sent to participants. The study will pay for the cost of the blood draw, as well as overnight shipping to the lab. ***Participants will receive free antibody testing and be compensated \$25 for their time to complete the questionnaire and provide a blood sample.***

To participate in the study, or for further information, please contact Maryam Pirnazar at the City of Hope at 626-471-9262 or toll-free at 866-356-9962 or e-mail at mpirnazar@coh.org