

Sorting the 'gluten 3'

Characteristic	Celiac disease (CD)	Gluten sensitivity (GS)	Wheat allergy (WA)
Time interval between gluten exposure and onset of symptoms	Weeks to years	Hours to days	Minutes to hours
Pathogenesis	Autoimmunity (innate and adaptive immunity)	Immunity? (Innate immunity?)	Allergic immune response
HLA	HLA DQ2/8 restricted (~97% positive cases)	Not HLA DQ2/8 restricted (50% DQ2/8 positive cases)	Not HLA DQ2/8 restricted (35%–40% positive cases as in the general population)
Autoantibodies	Almost always present	Always absent	Always absent
Enteropathy	Almost always present	Always absent (slight increase in intraepithelial lymphocytes)	Always absent (eosinophils in the lamina propria)
Symptoms	Both intestinal and extraintestinal (indistinguishable from GS and WA with GI symptoms)	Both intestinal and extraintestinal (indistinguishable from CD and WA with GI symptoms)	Both intestinal and extraintestinal (indistinguishable from CD and GS when presenting with GI symptoms)

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