

## **Title: THE RISK OF INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE IS INCREASED IN COELIAC DISEASE BUT NOT IN DERMATITIS HERPETIFORMIS**

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### **Abstract**

While an association between coeliac disease and inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) has been acknowledged, there remains limited research on the subject. Comorbidities are also known to differ between the phenotypes of coeliac disease and the risk of IBD in coeliac disease's extraintestinal manifestation, dermatitis herpetiformis (DH), has been previously studied mainly through case reports. This study aimed to compare the risk of IBD between coeliac disease and DH patients and references. The study population consisted of 1072 coeliac disease and 368 DH patients with biopsy proven diagnosis performed between the years 1969 and 2000. For each coeliac disease and DH patient three reference individuals matched with age, sex and place of residence were obtained from the population register. Cox proportional hazard model was used for assessing the risk for studied diseases.

The risk of IBD was higher in coeliac patients than references (HR 2.64, 95% CI 1.717-4.048), with heightened risk in both colitis ulcerosa (HR 2.731, 95% CI 1.624-4.594) and Crohn's disease (HR 2.415, 95% CI 1.130-5.169). The risk for IBD did not statistically differ between DH patients and their references (HR 1.719, 95% CI 0.752-3.928).

In conclusion, coeliac disease but not DH is associated with increased risk for IBD.