



FROM THE OFFICE OF DR.

If you have celiac disease

If you have been diagnosed with celiac disease, your doctor will refer you to a dietitian, who can help you follow a gluten-free diet. In general, this means avoiding all food products that contain wheat, barley, rye, and, at first, oats. Your dietitian will give you a list of foods to avoid. Some products are obvious, such as flour, cereals, crackers, and pasta. However, some gluten-containing foods may not be so obvious. These include*:

- Baked beans
- Chocolate bars
- Dry roasted nuts
- Icing and frosting
- Imitation bacon bits
- Imitation seafood
- Licorice
- Marinades
- Processed meats and poultry
- Roux
- Salad dressings
- Seasonings
- Soups
- Soy sauce

Since you are allergic to gluten, there is no safe level of gluten that you can consume. Most patients improve when they follow a strict gluten-free diet, but symptoms will return if you eat any gluten. Oats may be added back into the diet at low levels (2 ounces/day) once your symptoms have cleared up.

You may also have to avoid foods that contain lactose, such as milk, cheese, and yogurt. This is because the disease may have already damaged the lining of the

intestines, making it difficult to digest these foods. Like oats, lactose can be slowly added back into the diet once symptoms improve.

Your dietitian may also recommend vitamin and mineral supplements. Many patients need vitamins A, D, E, and K as well as iron, folate, calcium, and magnesium. However, don't start taking these on your own until you have talked about it with your dietitian, since it is possible to take too much of these.

For more information

American Celiac Society— Dietary Support Coalition

P.O. Box 23455
New Orleans, LA 70183-0455
504-737-3293
www.americanceleacsociety.org
e-mail: amerceliacsoc@yahoo.net

Celiac Disease Foundation

13251 Ventura Boulevard, #1
Studio City, CA 91604
818-990-2354
www.celiac.org
e-mail: cdf@celiac.org

Celiac Sprue Association

P.O. Box 31700
Omaha, NE 68131-0700
877-CSA-4CSA
(877-272-4272)
www.csaceliacs.org
e-mail: celiacs@csaceliacs.org

Gluten Intolerance Group of North America

15110 10th Avenue, SW.,
Suite A
Seattle, WA 98166
206-246-6652
www.gluten.net
e-mail: info@gluten.net

*List adapted from Case S. The gluten-free diet: how to provide effective education and resources. *Gastroenterology* 2005; 128:S128–S134, with permission from the American Gastroenterological Association.



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