



Preface

New Developments in Celiac Disease



Benjamin Lebwohl, MD, MS Peter H.R. Green, MD
Editors

The world of celiac disease is changing rapidly. From the mid-twentieth century forward, celiac disease was understood as an illness primarily affecting children, exclusively affecting the small intestine, and treated by life-long gluten restriction, with no other therapies on the horizon. In recent years, these aspects of celiac disease have been upended. This issue of *Gastroenterology Clinics of North America* documents the current state of understanding celiac disease during this time of major change.

The first portion of this collection features articles on the epidemiology of celiac disease, clinical features, aspects of diagnosis including histopathology, and a detailed description of the current treatment, the gluten-free diet. These articles cover the changing presentation of celiac disease, which is now recognized to develop de novo at any age, and the various systemic manifestations of this condition. The second portion of these articles discusses areas on the frontier of celiac disease research, including the rise in celiac disease incidence in Asia, studies of the interplay of celiac disease with the intestinal microbiome, and breakthroughs in the diagnosis and treatment of refractory celiac disease. An article on nondietary therapies for celiac disease covers a broad array of pharmacologic agents that are in various stages of development, including clinical trials. A concluding article focuses on nonceliac gluten sensitivity, an entity whose etiology and pathogenesis largely elude our understanding, but whose biology has begun to be studied with increasing scientific rigor.

We are grateful to the contributors of the articles comprising this issue, an international group of experts who have dedicated much time and effort to committing the latest in celiac disease research to the page. We would also like to thank Sara Watkins for her diligent editorial assistance and high standards when editing these articles. Most importantly, we acknowledge the irreplaceable contributions of our patients, who have volunteered to participate in research studies, shared their perspective and

insights of living with celiac disease, and inspired us to spend our daily work in this scientific, medical, and ultimately humanistic venture.

Benjamin Lebwohl, MD, MS
The Celiac Disease Center at
Columbia University
180 Fort Washington Avenue, Suite 936
New York, NY 10032, USA

Peter H.R. Green, MD
Celiac Disease Center at
Columbia University
180 Fort Washington Avenue, Suite 936
New York, NY 10032, USA

E-mail addresses:

BL114@columbia.edu (B. Lebwohl)
PG11@columbia.edu (P.H.R. Green)