

A test to easily determine if a child has coeliac disease

LOCATION: Granada.

DURATION: 1'41"

SUMMARY: A new non-invasive technique that allows health professionals to determine if a child has coeliac disease with a simple finger-stick. Researchers from the University of Granada have developed this new system through a study conducted with almost 200 children. The result was positive in 3% of the cases.

VTR:

A new non-invasive technique that allows health professionals to determine if a child has coeliac disease with a simple finger-stick. This fast technique has been developed by the University of Granada. A paediatrician from the health centre of the Granadian village of Maracena is the lead researcher of this study.

VEGA ALMAZÁN
Paediatrician and researcher

"A fast diagnosis test able to detect coeliac disease, a hair test. A fast, reliable and highly sensitive diagnosis tool that allows professionals to discard coeliac disease in case the result is negative."

Many times this disease isn't detected by the doctor or the patient. It is caused by gluten intolerance. These researchers detected that a 3% of the 198 children they had studied was affected by the disease, a rate that is higher than the European average.

VEGA ALMAZÁN
Paediatrician and researcher

"Many times there are cases that do not present conclusive evidence, and most of the times this leads to a late diagnosis."

MERCEDES TOVAR
Dir. Maracena Health Centre

"The diagnosed cases are just a small part of the existing cases, so it is important to detect the symptoms of the disease as soon as possible."

EDUARDO ORTEGA
Paediatrician

"It is a chronic disease. It is a disease that, logically, causes more problems or symptoms when diagnosed late."

The system used in this study doesn't need the intervention of a specialist. It is fast, and in children, it is a less invasive method than a blood analysis. This new device has been developed thanks to the collaboration of the Operon laboratory.

VEGA ALMAZÁN
Paediatrician and researcher

"A much easier technique, safer, which family doctors can carry out in their offices."

A negative result in this test avoids the need to carry out a blood analysis or refer the patient to a specialist.

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