

## **An Andalusian method to detect gluten in the diet has convinced Harvard**

**LOCATION:** Seville

**DURATION:** 1'35"

**SUMMARY:** Consisting of immunochromatographic strips, similar to pregnancy tests, that change colour when they detect gluten in a sample of the patient's stool. Like this, in only minutes, you are able to know if by mistake or carelessness you have consumed gluten. It is a creation by the Department of Microbiology and Parasitology at the University of Seville. The importance of this new system lies in the speed, in its simplicity, and in the major reliability against the blood tests that were taken until now. It has awakened the interest of U.S hospitals for its implementation and has opened the doors for Andalusian scientists to collaborate in its development with Harvard University.

### **VTR:**

Scientists at the University of Seville work daily to better the lives of patients with gluten intolerancies. Also they have created something that has awoken the interest of Harvard.

**CAROLINA SOUSA**  
**Professor of the University**  
**of Seville**

*"Similar to pregnancy tests, when you see a line that means that you have consumed gluten. 25 minutes."*

Why is this important news? To understand it you have to know that coeliac disease affects 1% of the population. It is the intolerance of gluten, to some proteins that are naturally in the majority of cereals, but also in 80% of processed foods.

**CAROLINA SOUSA**  
**Professor of the University**  
**of Seville**

*"Because gluten is a thickener".*

Severe digestive problems, fatigue, growth disorders...Those are the symptoms. The only treatment is to eliminate completely gluten from your diet. Either way...

**ISABEL COMINO**  
**Researcher of the University**  
**of Seville**

*"It may include more severe problems such as liver cancer, lymphoma..."*

This is why it is so important for the patient to check if, by carelessness or mistake, gluten is in their diet. That's what makes this simple and, most importantly, more reliable method so relevant.

**CAROLINA SOUSA**  
**Professor of the University**  
**of Seville**

*"We identify if there is gluten in the feces. Simply there's no possibility for false positives. No possible way."*

The strip comes in contact with the sample and, in minutes, we know if.... It's a positive case. Until now they have used blood analysis, more uncomfortable methods and with numerous false positives. This new system has opened doors to collaborate with Harvard University.

**CAROLINA SOUSA**  
**Catedrática de la US**

*"And they are very interested in implementing it not only in research but also in many hospitals that are already interested in implementing this technique."*

Science that works to achieve the wellness of everyone, anywhere in the world, and that comes from Andalusia.