Food Allergy: Molecular Basis and Clinical Practice

Volume Editors

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19 figures, 4 in color, and 56 tables, 2015
Contents

xv Preface
Ebisawa, M. (Sagamihara); Ballmer-Weber, B.K. (Zurich); Vieths, S. (Langen); Wood, R.A. (Baltimore, Md.)

Background

1 Historical Background, Definitions and Differential Diagnosis
Sampson, H.A. (New York, N.Y.)

1 Abstract
1 Historical Background
3 Definitions and Differential Diagnosis
5 Recent History and the Future
7 References

8 Immunological Basis of Food Allergy (IgE-Mediated, Non-IgE-Mediated, and Tolerance)
Kim, E.H.; Burks, W. (Chapel Hill, N.C.)

8 Abstract
8 Introduction
9 IgE-Mediated Food Allergy
11 Non-IgE-Mediated Food Allergy
12 Mixed-Immune Food Reactions
13 Oral Tolerance
14 Conclusion
16 References

18 Food Allergens: Molecular and Immunological Aspects, Allergen Databases and Cross-Reactivity
Lorenz, A.-R.; Scheurer, S.; Vieths, S. (Langen)

18 Abstract
19 Molecular Features of Food Allergens
19 Allergen Families
20 Allergen Databases
22 Class I Food Allergens/Class II Food Allergens
22 Class I Food Allergens
23 Class II Food Allergens
23 Resistance to Food Processing and Digestion
23 Thermal Stability of Allergens
24 Influence of Digestion on Allergic Reaction to Food Allergens
25 Influence of the Food Matrix on Digestion and Allergenicity of Food Allergens
Epidemiology: International Point of View, from Childhood to Adults, Food Allergens
Wong, G.W.K. (Hong Kong)

30 Abstract
30 Epidemiology of Food Allergy
31 Reported Food Allergy and Epidemiology Study Methodology
32 Prevalence of Common Food Allergies
36 Changing Prevalence of Food Allergy
36 References

Clinical Aspects

Food Allergy in Childhood (Infancy to School Age)
Bergmann, M.M.; Eigenmann, P.A. (Geneva)

38 Abstract
38 Introduction
39 IgE-Mediated (Immediate-Type) Food Allergy
39 Food-Induced Urticaria and Anaphylaxis
41 Food-Dependent Exercise-Induced Anaphylaxis
42 Oral Allergy Syndrome
42 Mixed IgE and Non-IgE-Mediated Food Allergy
42 Atopic Dermatitis and Food Allergy
43 Eosinophilic Gastroenteropathies (Esophagitis, Gastritis, Enteritis, and Gastroenteritis)
44 Non-IgE-Mediated Food Allergy
44 Food Protein-Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome
46 Food Protein-Induced Proctocolitis
47 Food Protein-Induced Enteropathy
47 Heiner Syndrome (Milk-Induced Pulmonary Disease)
48 Conclusions
48 References

Food Allergy in Adolescence and Adulthood
Ballmer-Weber, B.K. (Zurich)

51 Abstract
51 Introduction
52 Food Allergies Due to Cross-Reaction with Inhalant Allergens
52 Birch Pollen-Mediated Food Allergy
53 Mugwort Pollen-Mediated Food Allergy
54 Grass, Ragweed, and Plane Pollen-Mediated Food Allergy
54 Other Cross-Reactive Food Allergies
54 Allergic Reactions to Foods May Already Occur upon First Consumption
54 Sensitization to Galactose-Alpha-1,3-Galactose and Allergy to Red Meat
55 Clinical Symptoms
55 Local Oral Symptoms
55 Warning Signs for Impending Systemic Reactions
55 Food Allergy-Induced Systemic Reactions
56 Differential Diagnosis of Food Allergy in Adults
57 Lactose Intolerance
Contents

57 Fructose Malabsorption
57 Histamine Intolerance
57 References

59 Diagnosis and Management

59 Hints for Diagnosis
Poulsen, L.K. (Copenhagen)
59 Abstract
59 The Purpose of the Diagnosis
59 Is It Food Allergy?
61 Which Is the Culprit Food?
62 Which Allergens Are Involved?
62 How Much Is Too Much?
63 Prerequisites for Diagnosis
63 The Diagnostic Process
66 Who Should Perform the Diagnosis?
66 Conclusions
66 References

68 IgE-Related Examination in Food Allergy with Focus on Allergen Components
Borres, M.P. (Uppsala); Sato, S.; Ebisawa, M. (Sagamihara)
68 Abstract
68 How IgE-Mediated Food Allergy Is Diagnosed
69 Component-Resolved Diagnostics
69 Development of a Test for Allergen Components
69 Heat Stability in Proteins
71 Species-Specific and Cross- Reactive Proteins
72 New Allergen Component Test: An Emerging Field of Interest
73 Temporal Development of Allergen Components
74 Singleplex versus Multiplex Testing
75 Future Perspectives
75 Skin Prick Test
75 Basophil Activation Test
75 Mechanisms of Basophil Activation
76 Histamine Release Test
76 Expression of the Basophil Activation Markers CD63 and CD203c
76 Correlation of the Skin Prick Test and the Basophil Activation Test with Oral Immunotherapy
77 References

79 Non-IgE-Related Diagnostic Methods (LST, Patch Test)
Matsumoto, K. (Tokyo)
79 Abstract
79 Introduction
80 Lymphocyte Stimulation Test
80 Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells
81 Antigens
81 Culture System
81 Measurements
81 Interpretation
82 Future Perspectives
82 Patch Test/Atopy Patch Test
82 Indication for Testing
83 Atopy Patch Test Methods
83  Food Antigens
83  Reading of Atopy Patch Test Results
83  Atopy Patch Test for Non-IgE-Mediated Gastrointestinal Allergy
83  Epicutaneous IgE Sensitization and Antigen Absorption via the Skin
84  Future Perspectives
84  References

87  Diagnostic Elimination Diets and Oral Food Provocation
Wood, R.A. (Baltimore, Md.)
87  Abstract
87  Introduction
87  Elimination Diets
88  Oral Challenge Testing
89  Methodology
89  Open Challenges
89  Single-Blind Challenges
90  Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Challenges
90  Challenge Settings and Procedures
92  Dosing Strategies
93  Risk and Treatment of Oral Food Challenges
94  Summary
94  References

96  Pharmacological Management of Acute Food-Allergic Reactions
Richards, S.; Tang, M. (Melbourne, Vic.)
96  Abstract
96  Introduction
98  Pharmacological Management of IgE-Mediated, Food-Induced Acute Allergic Reactions
98  Mild to Moderate Reactions
99  Anaphylaxis
99  Adrenaline
101  Adjunctive Therapies
102  Subsequent Management of IgE-Mediated Food-Induced Allergic Reactions
102  Observation
103  Risk Minimisation
103  Pharmacological Management of Non-IgE-Mediated Food-Induced Allergic Reactions
104  Conclusions
104  References

106  Oral Immunotherapy and Potential Treatment
Sato, S.; Yanagida, N.; Ebisawa, M. (Sagamihara)
106  Abstract
106  Introduction
106  Oral Immunotherapy for Food Allergy
106  Efficacy and Safety of Oral Immunotherapy
108  Factors Affecting Safety of Oral Immunotherapy
108  Mechanisms of and Immunologic Responses to Oral Immunotherapy
109  Clinical Use of Oral Immunotherapy
109  Desensitization and Permanent Tolerance
110  Optimal Dose and Duration of Oral Immunotherapy
110  Novel Treatment for Food Allergy
110  Sublingual Immunotherapy
111  Anti-IgE Monoclonal Antibodies (Omalizumab) for Food Allergy
Allergen-Based Food Allergies

114 Cow’s Milk Allergy in Children and Adults
Fiocchi, A.; Dahdah, L. (Rome); Albarini, M.; Martelli, A. (Milan)

   Abstract
   Introduction
   Epidemiology
   Pathogenesis
   Allergens
   Clinical Manifestations
   Immediate Reactions
   Delayed Reactions
   Diagnosis
   Clinical Evaluation
   Diagnostic Tests
   IgE-Mediated CMA
   Non-IgE-Mediated CMA
   Elimination-Challenge Testing
   Natural History
   Treatment of Cow’s Milk Allergy
   Avoidance of Cow’s Milk Protein
   Alternative Formulae (Milk Substitutes)
   Oral Immunotherapy
   Follow-Up
   A Very Common Clinical Case
   Conclusions
   References

124 Hen’s Egg Allergy
Urisu, A.; Kondo, Y. (Nagoya); Tsuge, I. (Toyoake)

   Abstract
   Introduction
   Symptoms
   Allergenic Components of Egg White
   Allergenic Components of Egg Yolk
   Diagnosis
   Natural History
   Management and Therapy
   Oral Immunotherapy to Egg Allergy
   Clinical Case
   Acknowledgments
   References

131 Peanut and Tree Nut Allergy
Cox, A.; Sicherer, S.H. (New York, N.Y.)

   Abstract
   Introduction
   Epidemiology
### Fruit and Vegetable Allergy

Fernández-Rivas, M. (Madrid)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>162</td>
<td>Abstract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>163</td>
<td>Epidemiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>163</td>
<td>Pathogenesis: Allergen Sensitisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>166</td>
<td>Allergens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>166</td>
<td>Clinical Symptoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>167</td>
<td>Diagnosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>168</td>
<td>Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>169</td>
<td>References</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Gastrointestinal Food Allergies

Heine, R.G. (Melbourne, Vic.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>171</td>
<td>Abstract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>172</td>
<td>Clinical Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>172</td>
<td>Food Protein-Induced Enteropathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>172</td>
<td>Food Protein-Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>173</td>
<td>Food Protein-Induced Proctocolitis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>173</td>
<td>Multiple Food Protein Intolerance of Infancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>174</td>
<td>Food Protein-Induced Gastrointestinal Motility Disorders in Infants and Young Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>174</td>
<td>Gastro-Oesophageal Reflux Disease in Infancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>174</td>
<td>Constipation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175</td>
<td>Infantile Colic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175</td>
<td>Carbohydrate Malabsorption and Food Intolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>176</td>
<td>Lactose Intolerance/Malabsorption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>176</td>
<td>Coeliac Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>176</td>
<td>Diagnostic Evaluation and Differential Diagnosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>177</td>
<td>Dietary Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>177</td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>178</td>
<td>References</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Atopic Eczema and Food Allergy

Wassmann, A. (Hannover/Hamburg); Werfel, T. (Hannover)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>181</td>
<td>Abstract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>181</td>
<td>Prevalence and Natural History of Food Allergies in Atopic Eczema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>182</td>
<td>Clinical Reaction Patterns to Foods in Patients with Atopic Eczema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>183</td>
<td>Allergens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>183</td>
<td>Pathogenesis of Food Allergy in Atopic Eczema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>183</td>
<td>Epidermal Barrier Dysfunction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>184</td>
<td>Gut Barrier Dysfunction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>184</td>
<td>Immune Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>185</td>
<td>Diagnosis of Food Allergy in Atopic Eczema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>186</td>
<td>In vitro Diagnostics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>186</td>
<td>In vivo Diagnostics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>186</td>
<td>Skin Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>187</td>
<td>Oral Food Challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>188</td>
<td>References</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
191 **Anaphylaxis in Food Allergy**  
Pesek, R.D.; Jones, S.M. (Little Rock, Ark.)

191 Abstract
191 Introduction
192 Diagnosis
193 Laboratory Evaluation
194 Management of Anaphylaxis
194  Acute Management
196  Long-Term Management and Prevention
196 Food-Dependent Exercise-Induced Anaphylaxis
197 Summary
197 References

199 **Eosinophilic Oesophagitis**  
Heine, R.G.; Allen, K.J. (Melbourne, Vic.)

199 Abstract
199 Introduction
200 Epidemiology
200 Clinical Presentation in Children and Adults
200  Distinguishing Eosinophilic Oesophagitis from Gastro-Oesophageal Reflux Disease
201 Eosinophilic Oesophagitis in Patients with Coeliac Disease
201 Mechanisms of Disease
202 Diagnostic Evaluation
202 Natural History and Complications
203 Treatment
203  Proton Pump Inhibitors
203  Elimination Diets
203  Elemental Diet
203  Targeted Elimination Diets
204  Empiric Elimination Diet
204  Corticosteroids
205  Other Immune-Modulating Agents
205  Endoscopic Oesophageal Food Disimpaction and Dilatation of Strictures
205 Conclusion and Future Directions
205 References

209 **Nutritional Aspects and Diets in Food Allergy**  
Nowak-Węgrzyn, A.; Groetch, M. (New York, N.Y.)

209 Abstract
209 Elimination Diet in Food Allergy Diagnosis
210 Elimination Diet in Food Allergy Management
210 Loopholes in the Labeling Laws
211 Changing Paradigms in the Management of Milk and Egg Allergy: Baked Milk and Egg Diet
212 The Effects of Allergen Avoidance on Nutrition in Children
213  Cow's Milk Allergy
215  Grains
216  Soy, Egg, Peanut, Tree Nut, Fish and Shellfish Allergies
216 Nutritional Impact of Specific Food-Allergic Disorders
216 Feeding and Developmental Needs
218 Nutritional Issues in Adults with Food Allergy
219 Summary
219 References
Although food allergy was first described a long time ago, as outlined in the chapter 'Historical background, definitions, and differential diagnosis', only in recent times has it started to be recognized as one of the major allergic diseases. In the past 50 years since the discovery of IgE by Dr. K. Ishizaka, we have experienced a steep increase in the prevalence of allergic diseases. The prevalence of food allergy around the world has not yet been clarified in detail. It is quite obvious that we have faced a rapid increase in patients with food allergy in both childhood and adulthood in most developed countries in the past 3 decades. The number of publications on food allergy reached 100/year in 1971 based on a PubMed search, and it went up to 500/year at the beginning of the 21st century and finally to more than 1,200/year in 2014. It is clear that food allergy research is currently a very hot topic among academics and that issues related to food allergy attract a lot of attention. We have collaborated with distinguished, world-class professionals on food allergy research and practice to put this book together. The topics are very practical and applicable to your practice. We hope that this book on food allergy will help clinicians, academics, and paramedics to better understand current food allergy practice and research.

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