#29 - SERUM CONCENTRATION OF SOLUBLE APOPTOSIS-ASSOCIATED MOLECULES IN ADULT CELIAC DISEASE

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Introduction: The exact role of soluble apoptosis-related mediators in celiac disease is still not fully understood. It is possible that serum sFas-sFasL may have a role in the pathogenesis of celiac disease.

Objective: In this study, we assess the circulating soluble Fas and Fas ligand levels in celiac disease.

Methods: The study included 50 newly-diagnosed celiac disease adults and 25 non-celiac adults as control. The circulating sFas and sFasL levels were assessed by ELISA kits. All duodenal mucosal histological parameters were evaluated, classified and graded histological lesions according to the criteria proposed by our group. The serum sFas and sFasL levels and duodenal histological results were then analyzed using appropriate statistical methods.

Results: The mean age of 50 adults with celiac disease was 31.28 ± 12.83 (range, 15-62) years, with a M:F :: 1:1. In adult celiac disease mean serum sFas was significantly lower (p <0.001) than non-celiac control. However, mean serum sFasL was significantly higher (p = 0.018) than non-celiac control. One way ANOVA indicated no relationship between grade of duodenal mucosal damage and concentration of serum sFas. On the other hand One way ANOVA indicated a statistically significant relationship between different grades of duodenal mucosal damage and sFasL.

Conclusions: The concentration of serum soluble Fas and FasL are significantly altered in celiac disease. Altered serum sFas does not correlate with grades of duodenal mucosal lesions. Further studies are required to see any relation between membrane-bound Fas or FasL and grades of duodenal mucosal lesions which may help to understand pathogenesis of celiac disease.