



Princess Margaret Hospital for Children



# SOME IMMUNOLOGICAL ASPECTS...

Australasian Gastrointestinal Pathology Society AGM  
28 oct 2016

Andrew McLean-Tooke  
SCGH, Princess Margaret Hospitals and PathWest

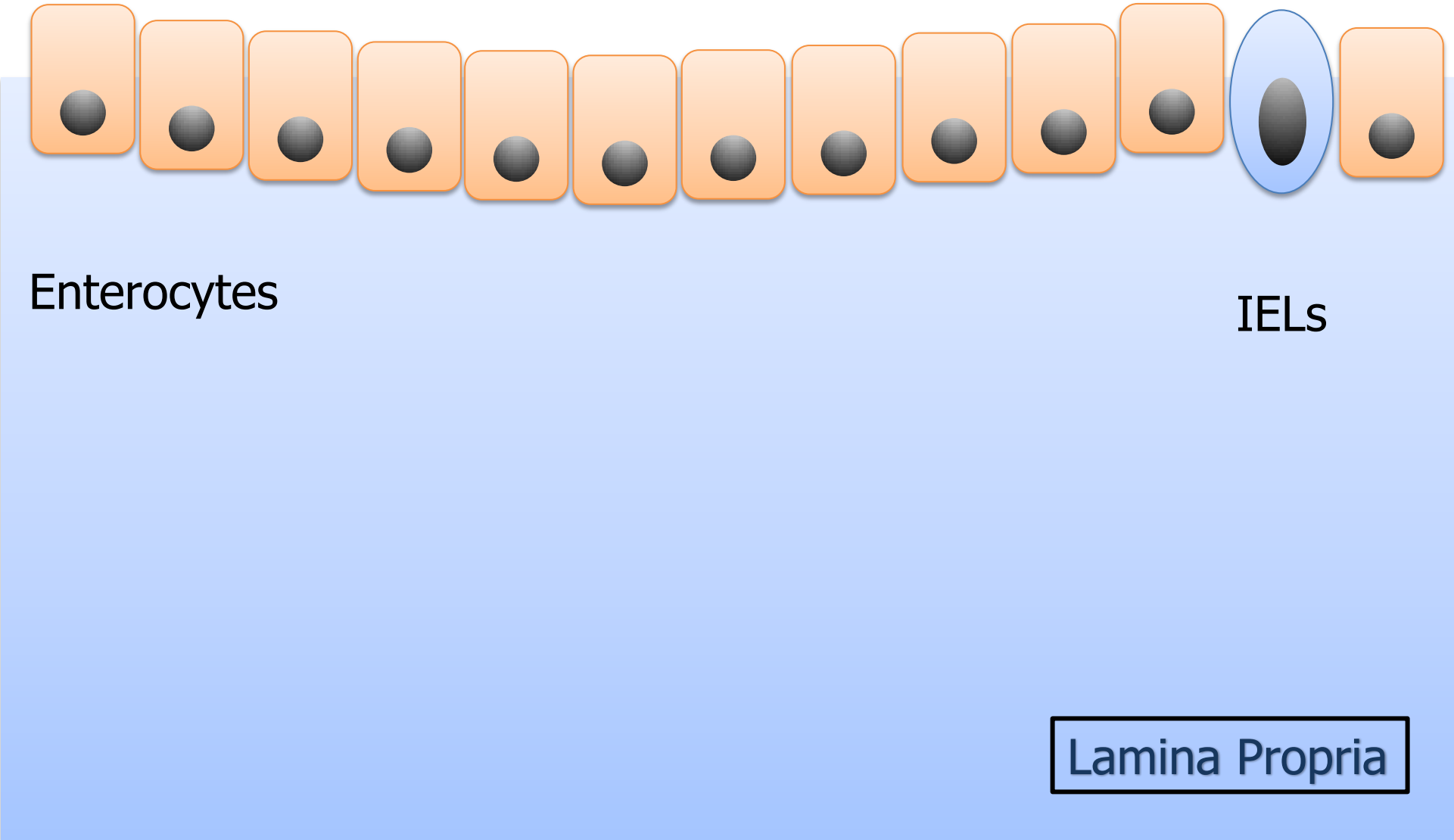
# Wheat and gluten

- Gluten is a protein mixture found in wheat
- Complex mixture
  - $\alpha/\beta$ -,  $\gamma$ - and  $\omega$ -gliadins
  - HMW and LMW glutenins
- Relatively resistant to digestive enzymes

# So what happens in CD?

- CD due to immune response to gluten
- Environmental and genetic risk factors
- Activation of immune cells in small bowel
- Malabsorption results in clinical symptoms
- Only known treatment is gluten avoidance

Gut lumen



Enterocytes

IELs

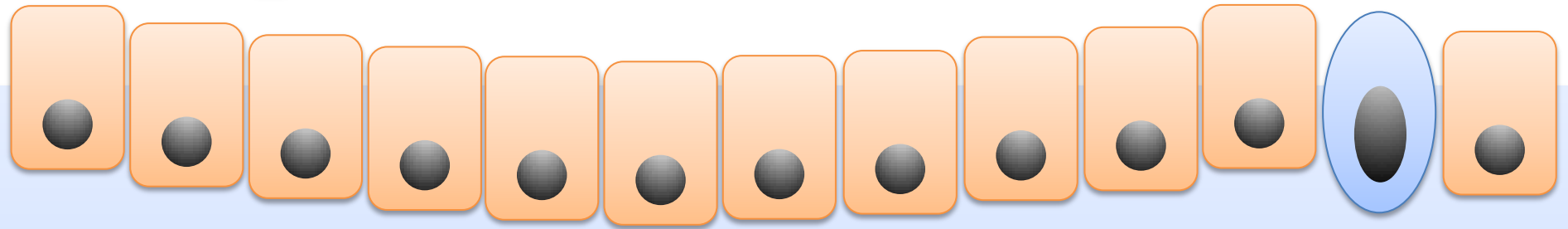
Lamina Propria

Gladians and  
glutenins

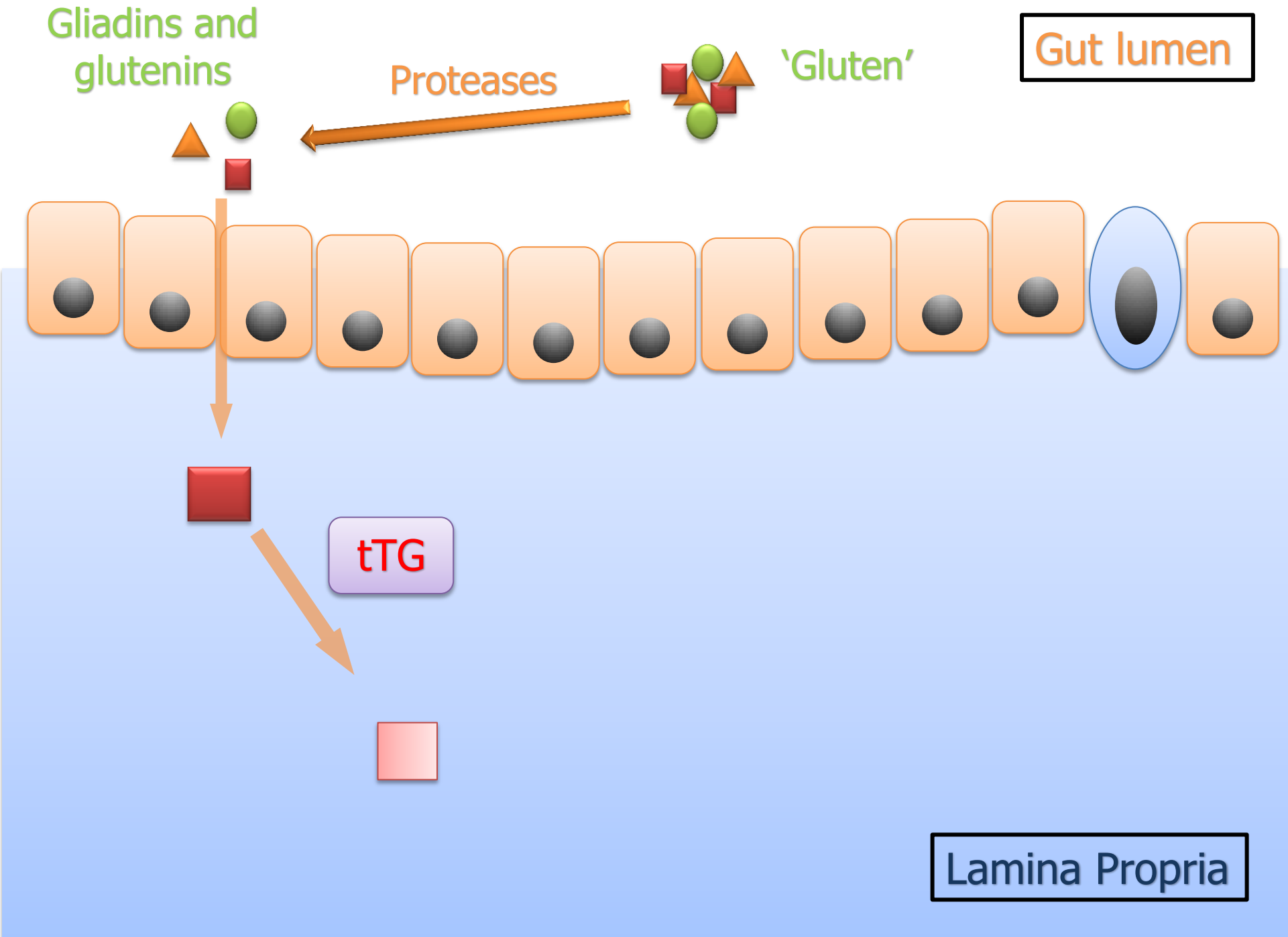
Proteases

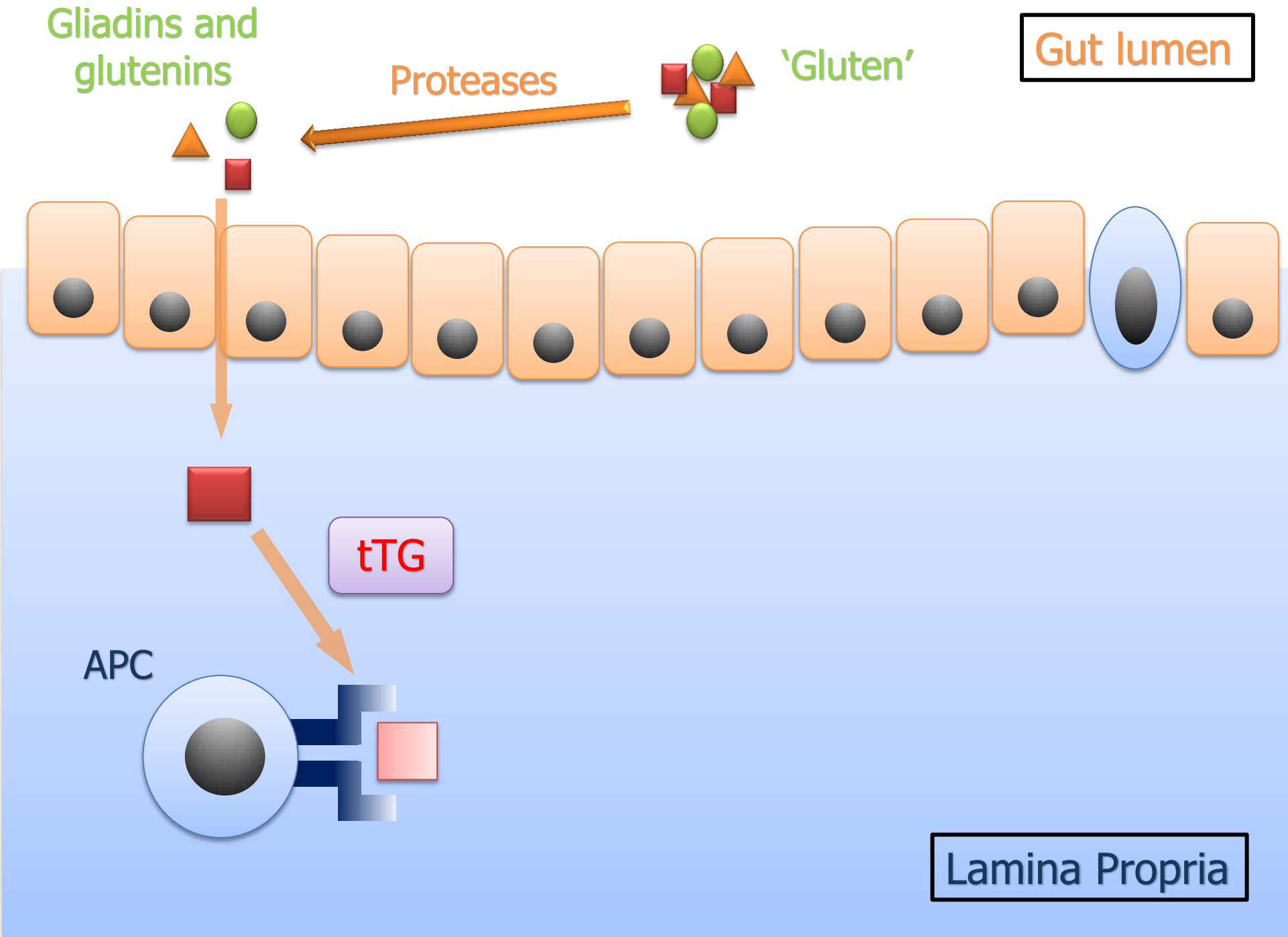
'Gluten'

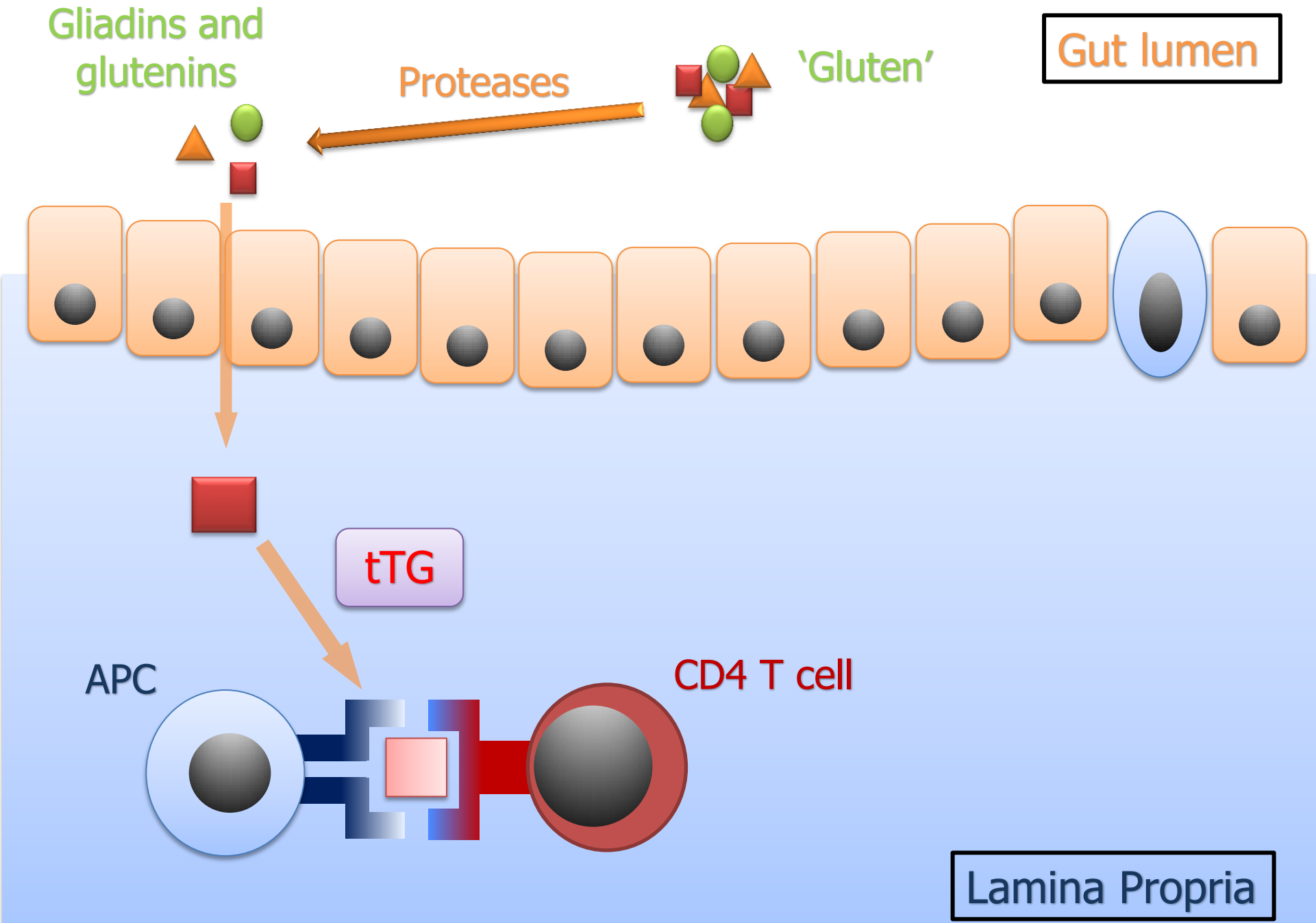
Gut lumen



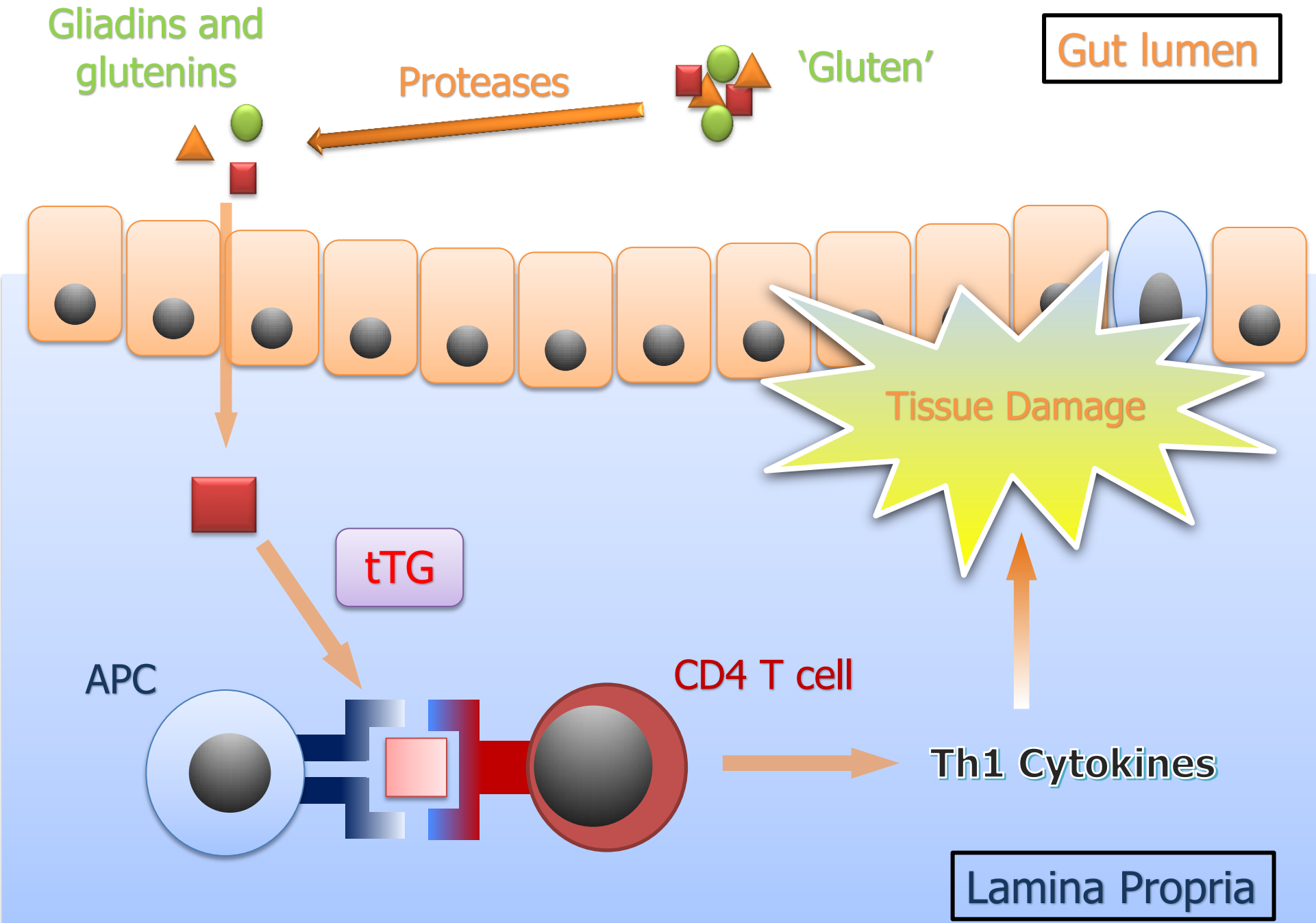
Lamina Propria







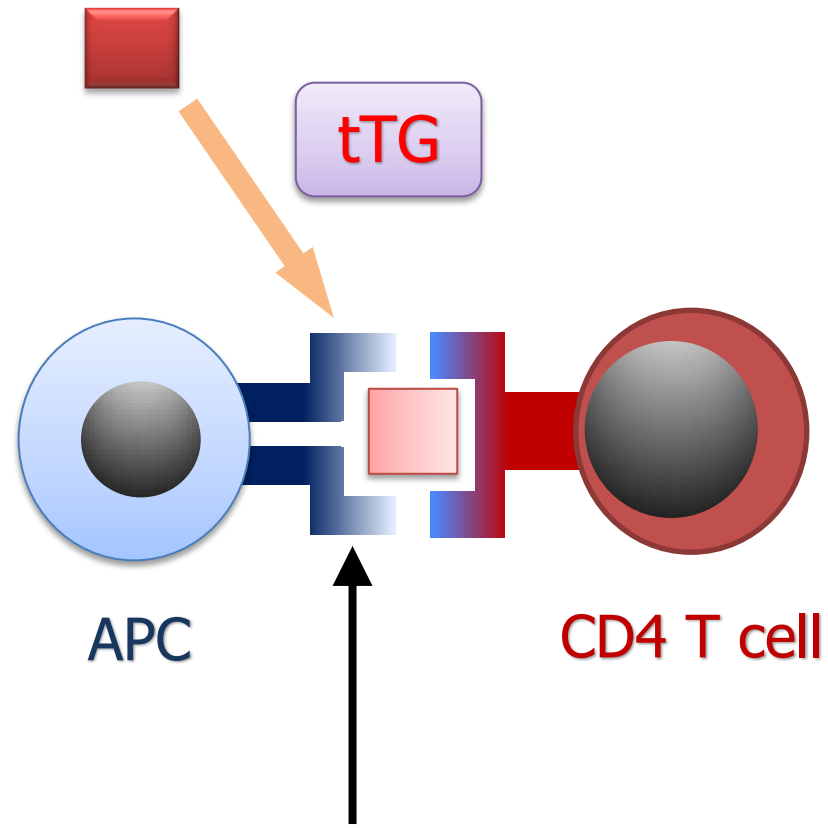




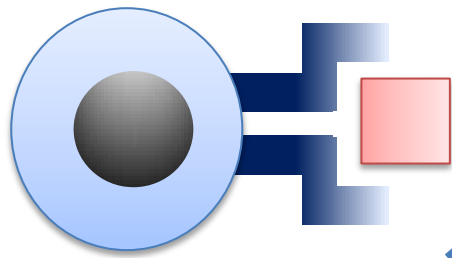
# Role of HLA

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- HLA-DQ molecules are critical in developing CD
- Certain HLA-DQ genetic variants almost invariably present
- These variants critical for response to gluten
- At least 41 non-HLA loci contribute to risk



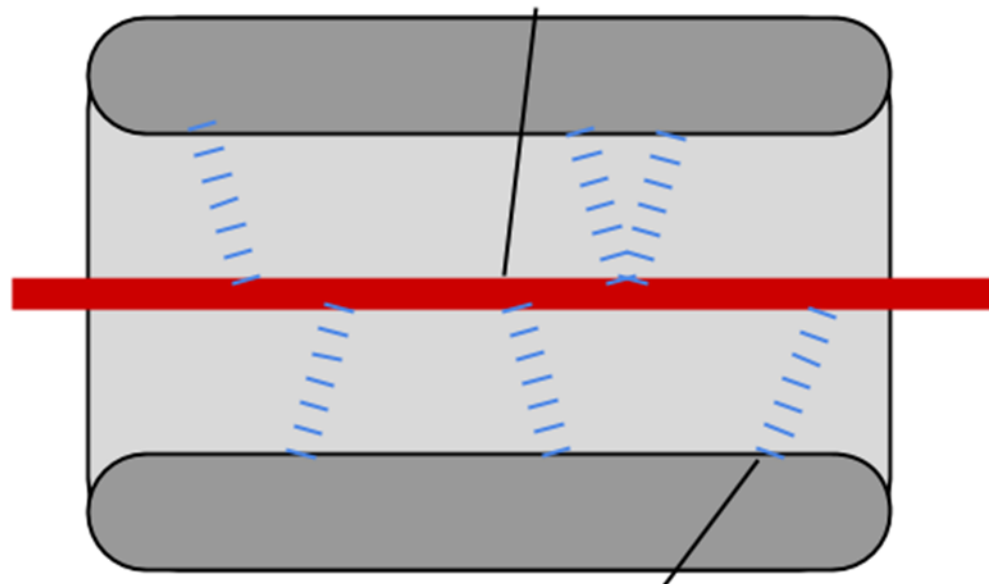
HLA molecule capable of recognising gluten peptides



APC

Peptide Fragment

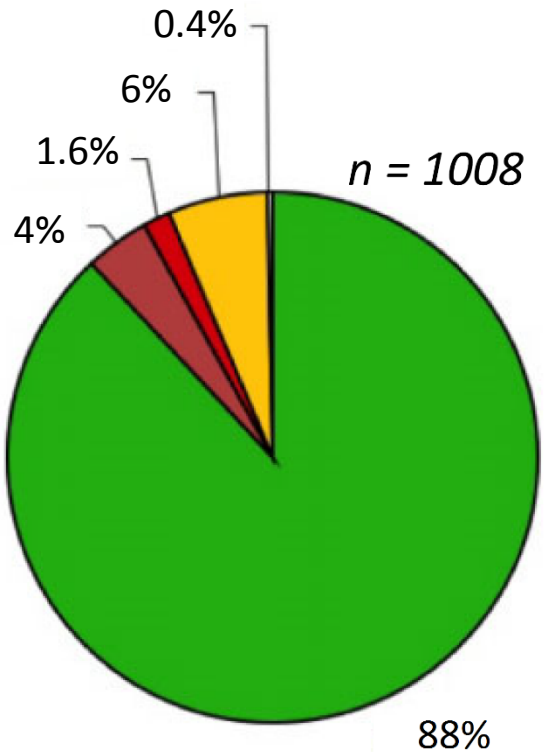
MHC  
Class II



Peptide binding groove

H and electrostatic bonds

Risk category	HLA genotypes	Absolute HLA risk (%)
Low risk	DQ7/DQ7	0.0000
	DQX/DQX	0.0433
	DQ7/DQX	0.0470
Intermediate risk	DQ2.2/DQX	0.1661
	DQ8/DQ7	0.2765
	DQ8/DQX	0.5326
	DQ2.5/DQ8	1.5769
	DQ2.2/DQ2.2	1.6366
	DQ8/DQ8	1.6366
	DQ2.5/DQ7	2.2587
	DQ2.5/DQX	2.6194
	DQ8/DQ2.2	2.9600
	DQ2.2/DQ7	3.7232
High risk	DQ2.5/DQ2.2	7.7079
	DQ2.5/DQ2.5	12.8137



■ HLA-DQ2.5 (A1:05, B1:02)

■ HLA-DQ2.2 (B1:02+)

■ HLA-DQA1\*05 (A1:05+)

■ HLA-DQ8 (DQA1:03, B1:03:02)

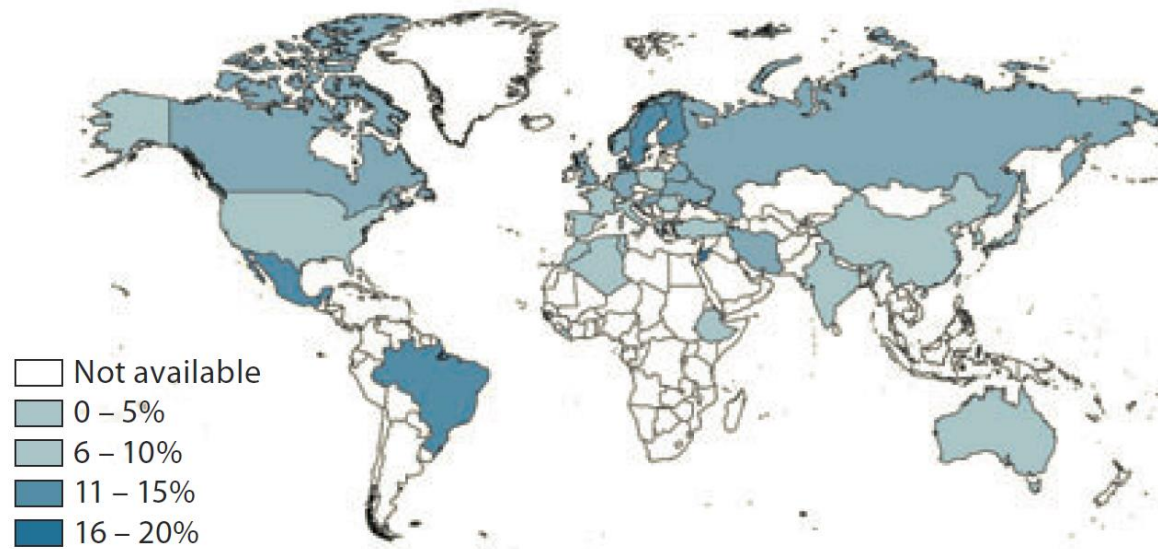
■ Other

HLA-DQ2.5 or variants

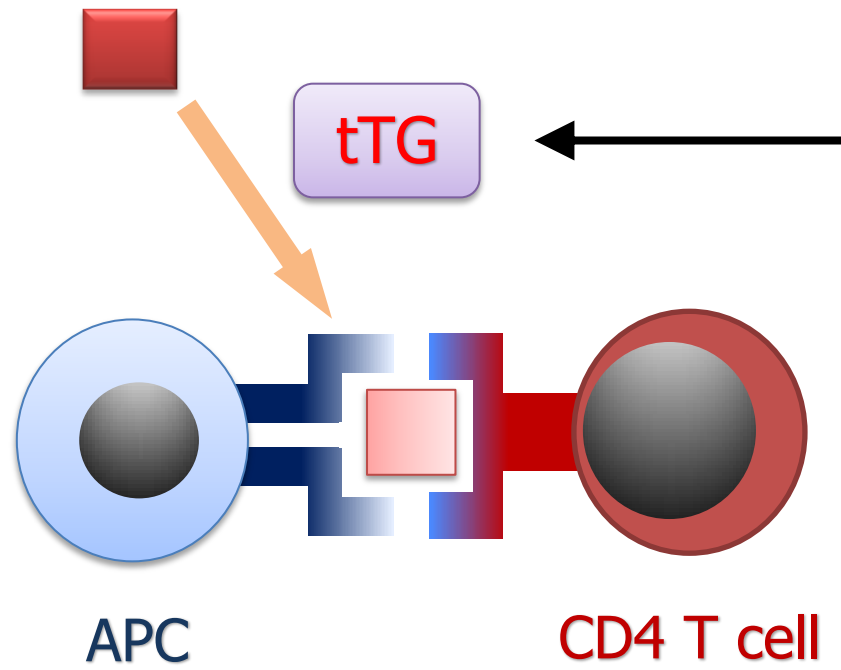
99.6% express HLA-DQ2.5 (or a variant) and/or HLA-DQ8



- Frequency of HLA-DQ2 haplotype



- Frequency of HLA-DQ8 haplotype

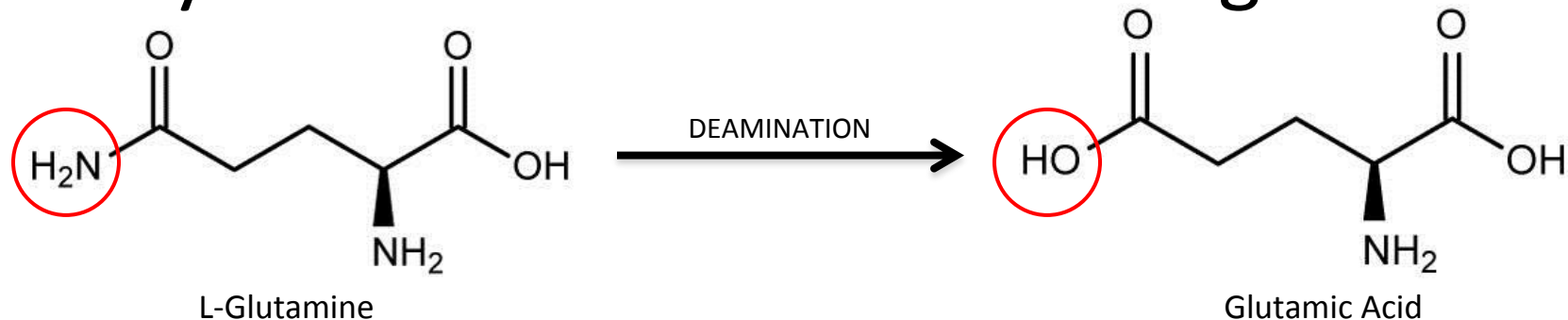


Modification of  
gluten peptides



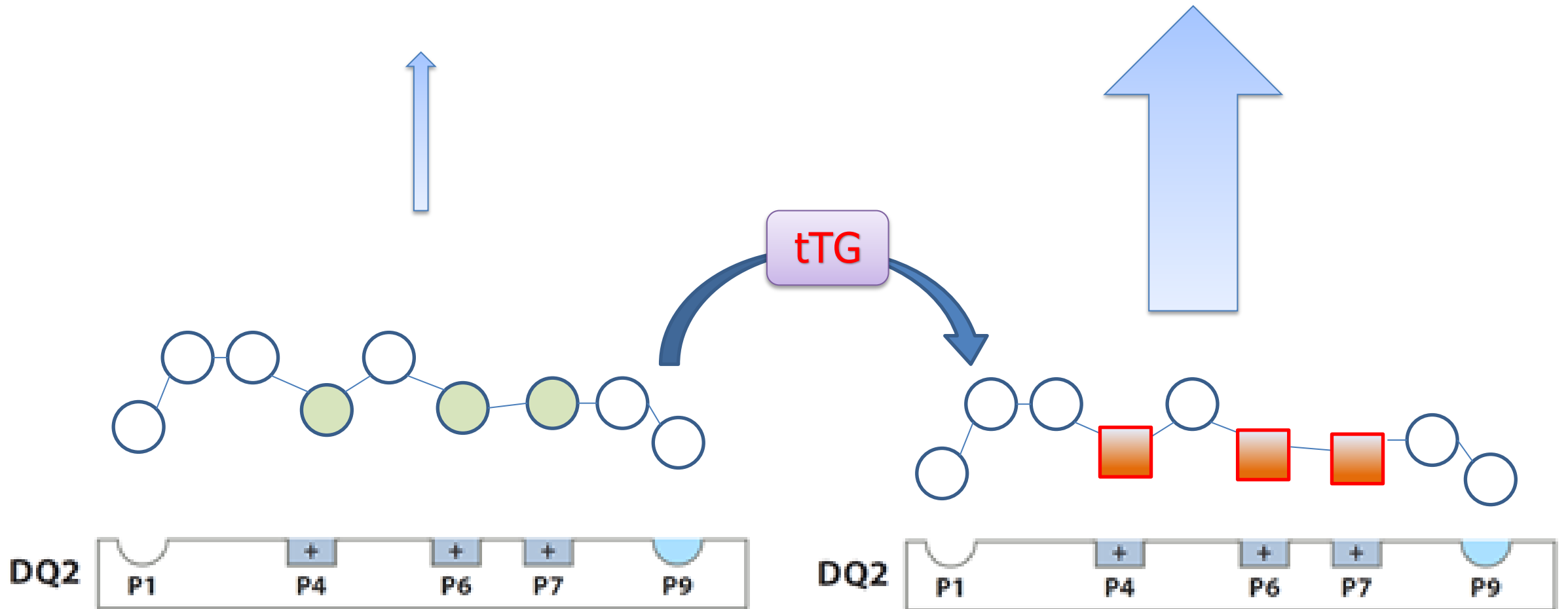
# Tissue Transglutaminase (tTG)

- Ubiquitous enzyme
- Cross links peptides
- Involved in tissue repair, ECM stabilisation, cell adhesion
- Also catalyses other reactions including deamidation

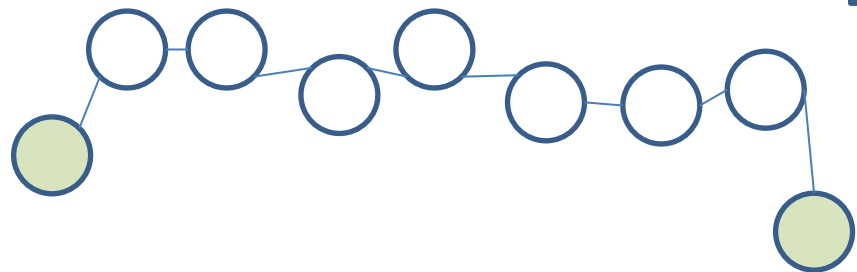


T cell receptor signal

T cell receptor signal



T cell receptor signal



DQ8

P1

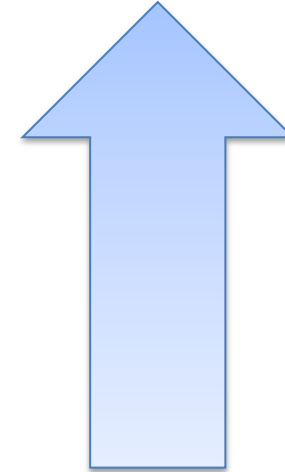
P4

P6

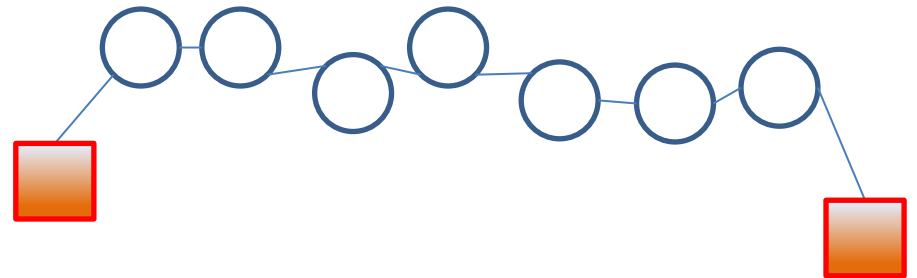
P7

P9

T cell receptor signal



tTG



DQ8

P1

P4

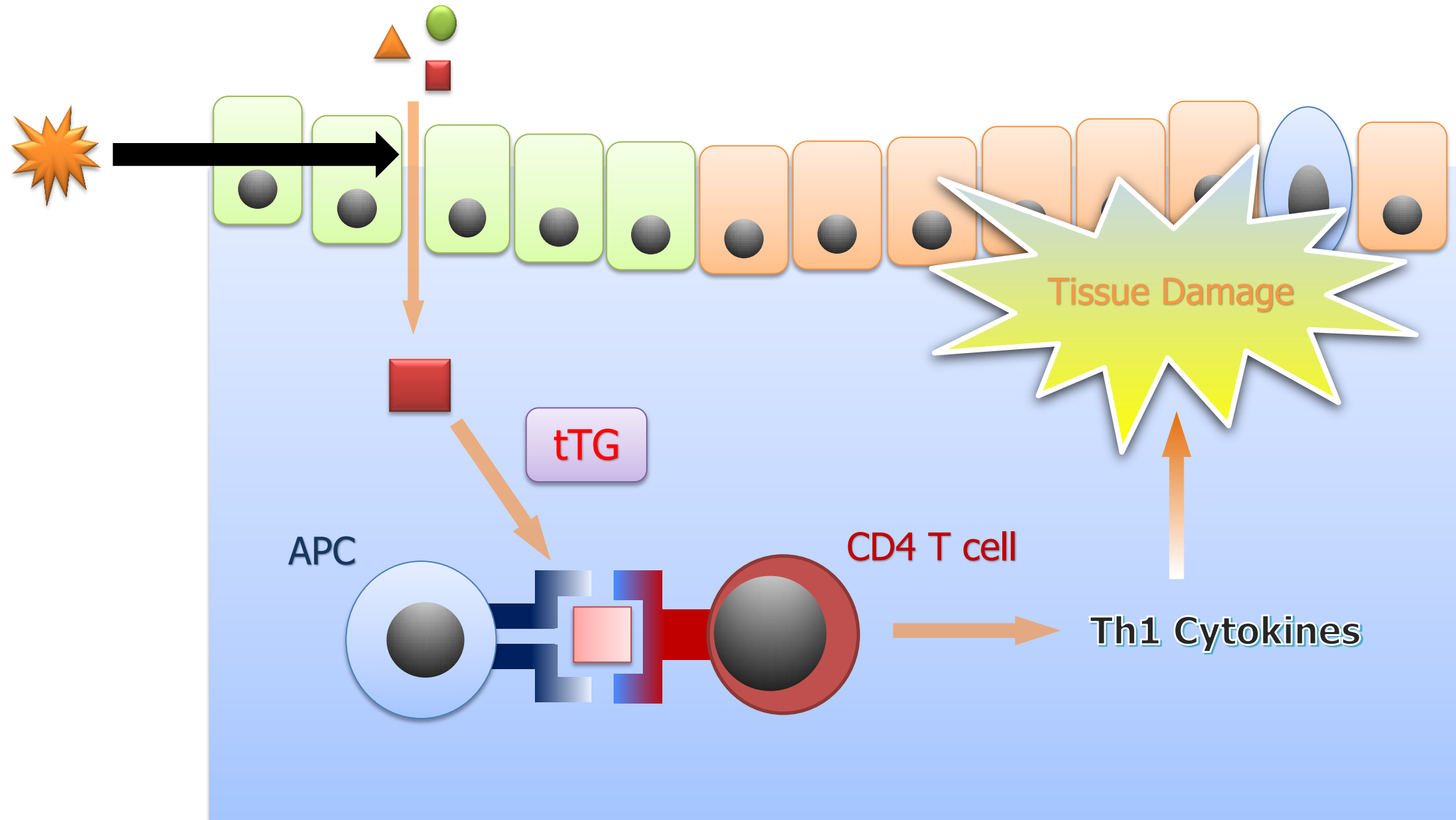
P6

P7

P9

EPITOPE	PEPTIDE-BINDING REGISTRY									EPITOPE	PEPTIDE-BINDING REGISTRY								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>DQ2.5 restricted epitopes</b>																			
DQ2.5-glia-α1a	P	F	P	Q	P	E	L	P	Y	DQ2.5-hor-2	P	Q	P	E	Q	P	F	P	Q
DQ2.5-glia-α1b	P	Y	P	Q	P	E	L	P	Y	DQ2.5-hor-3	P	I	P	E	Q	P	Q	P	Y
DQ2.5-glia-α2	P	Q	P	E	L	P	Y	P	Q	DQ2.5-sec-1	P	F	P	Q	P	E	Q	P	F
DQ2.5-glia-α3	F	R	P	E	Q	P	Y	P	Q	DQ2.5-sec-2	P	Q	P	E	Q	P	F	P	Q
DQ2.5-glia-γ1	P	Q	Q	S	F	P	E	Q	Q	DQ2.5-ave-1a	P	Y	P	E	Q	E	E	P	F
DQ2.5-glia-γ2	I	Q	P	E	Q	P	A	Q	L	DQ2.5-ave-1b	P	Y	P	E	Q	E	Q	P	F
DQ2.5-glia-γ3	Q	Q	P	E	Q	P	Y	P	Q	<b>DQ2.2 restricted epitopes</b>									
DQ2.5-glia-γ4a	S	Q	P	E	Q	E	F	P	Q	DQ2.2-glut-L1	P	F	S	E	Q	E	Q	P	V
DQ2.5-glia-γ4b	P	Q	P	E	Q	E	F	P	Q	<b>DQ8 restricted epitopes</b>									
DQ2.5-glia-γ4c	Q	Q	P	E	Q	P	F	P	Q	DQ8-glia-α1	E	G	S	F	Q	P	S	Q	E
DQ2.5-glia-γ4d	P	Q	P	E	Q	P	F	C	Q	DQ8-glia-γ1a	E	Q	P	Q	Q	P	F	P	Q
DQ2.5-glia-γ5	Q	Q	P	F	P	E	Q	P	Q	DQ8-glia-γ1b	E	Q	P	Q	Q	P	Y	P	E
DQ2.5-glia-ω1	P	F	P	Q	P	E	Q	P	F	DQ8-glut-H1	Q	G	Y	Y	P	T	S	P	Q
DQ2.5-glia-ω2	P	Q	P	E	Q	P	F	P	W	<b>DQ8.5 restricted epitopes</b>									
DQ2.5-glut-L1	P	F	S	E	Q	E	Q	P	V	DQ8.5-glia-α1	E	G	S	F	Q	P	A	Q	E
DQ2.5-glut-L2	F	S	Q	Q	Q	E	S	P	F	DQ8.5-glia-γ1	P	Q	Q	S	F	P	E	Q	E
DQ2.5-hor-1	P	F	P	Q	P	E	Q	P	F	DQ8.5-glut-H1	Q	G	Y	Y	P	T	S	P	Q

Gliadins and  
glutenins



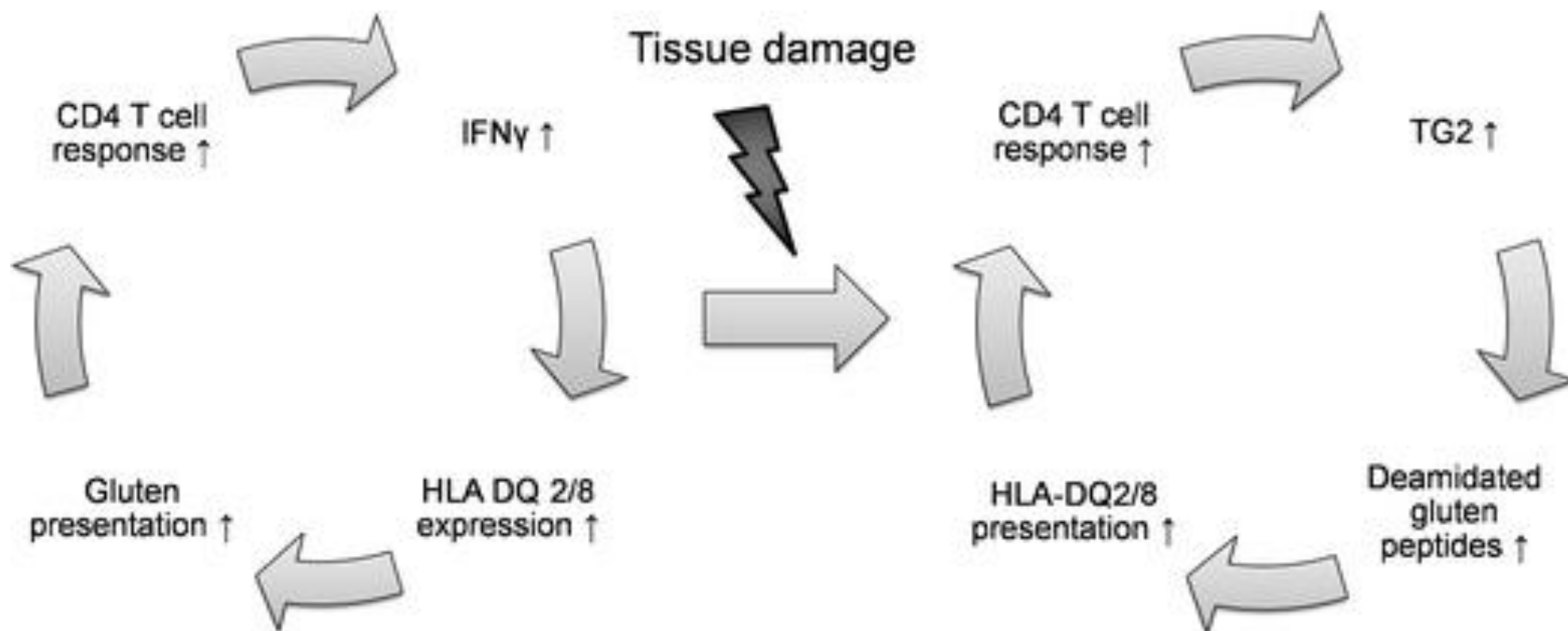
Tissue Damage

tTG

APC

CD4 T cell

Th1 Cytokines

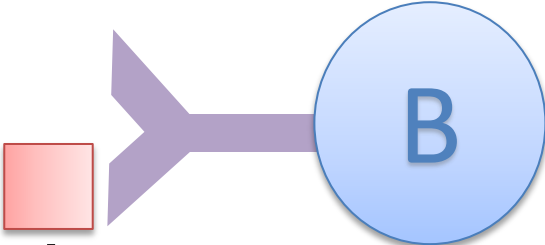


# Serological diagnosis of CD

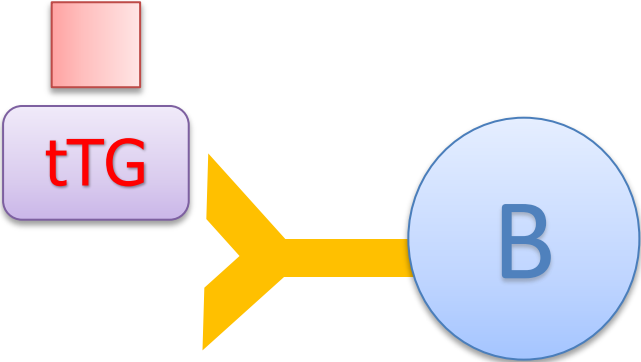
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- Serological assessment
  - Anti-EMA antibodies
  - Anti-tTG antibodies
  - Anti-DGP antibodies

DGP specific B cell



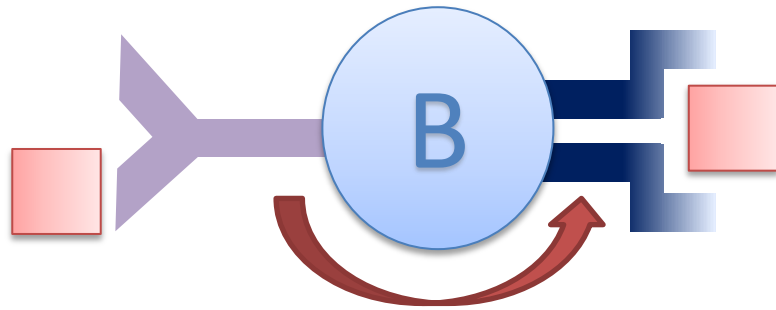
Deamidated gluten peptide



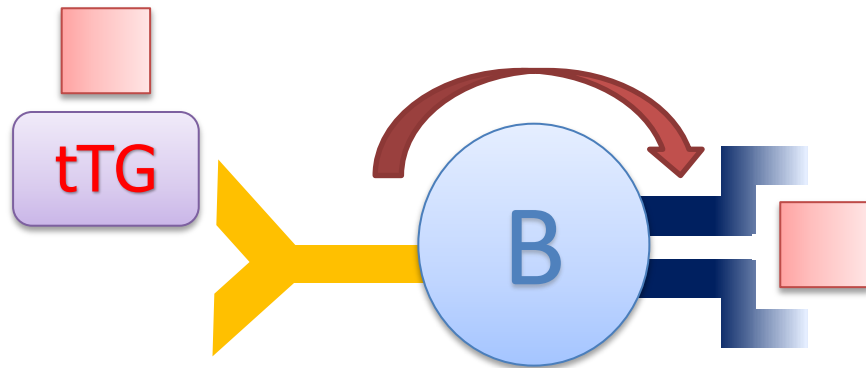
TTG specific B cell



DGP specific B cell



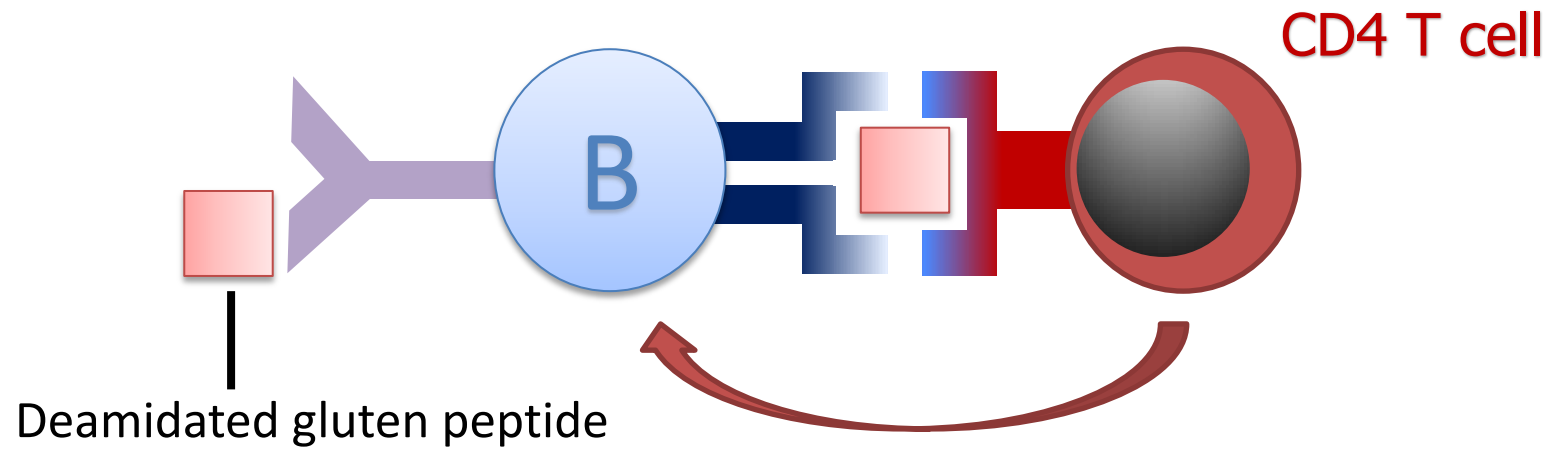
- Immunoglobulin/antigen complex internalised and broken down



- Peptides presented on surface with HLA Class II

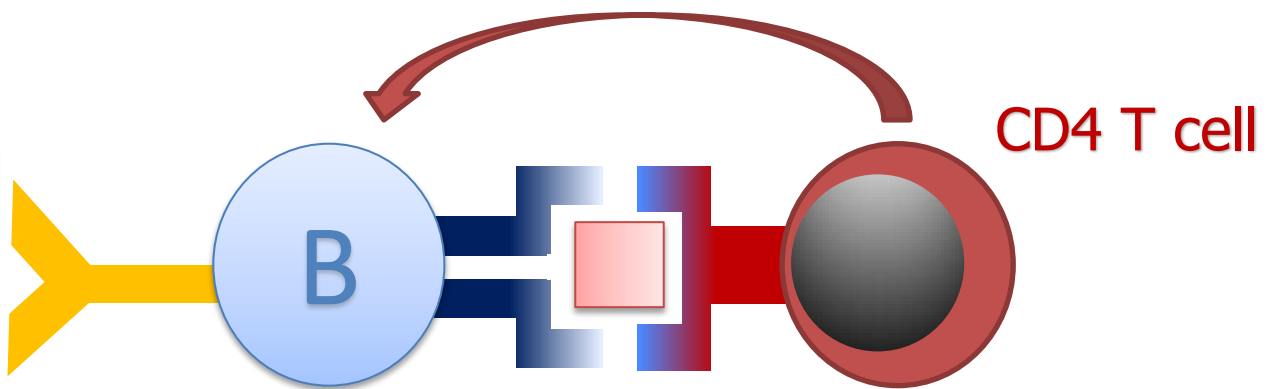
TTG specific B cell

DGP specific B cell



Deamidated gluten peptide

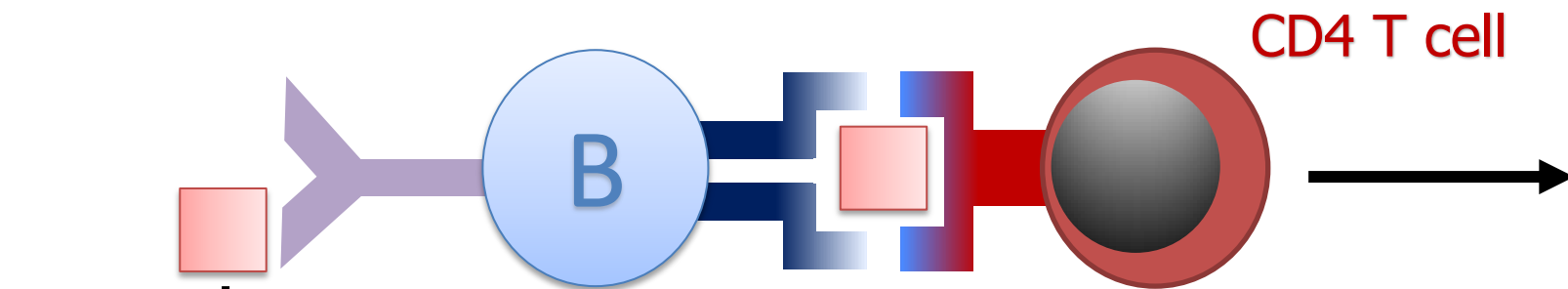
tTG



TTG specific B cell

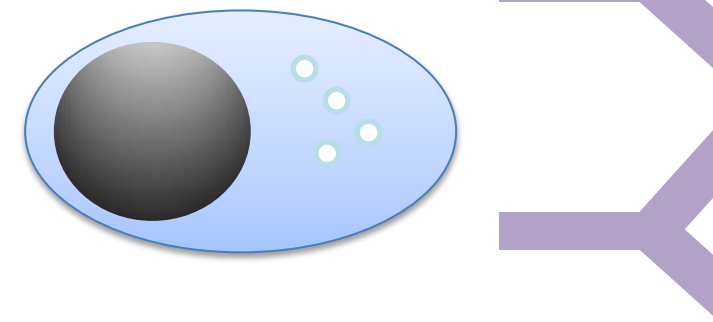
- Gluten specific T cells “see” the gluten peptides
- Provide ‘help’ to B cells activating them

DGP specific B cell



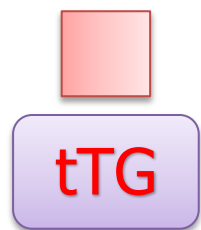
CD4 T cell

DGP antibodies

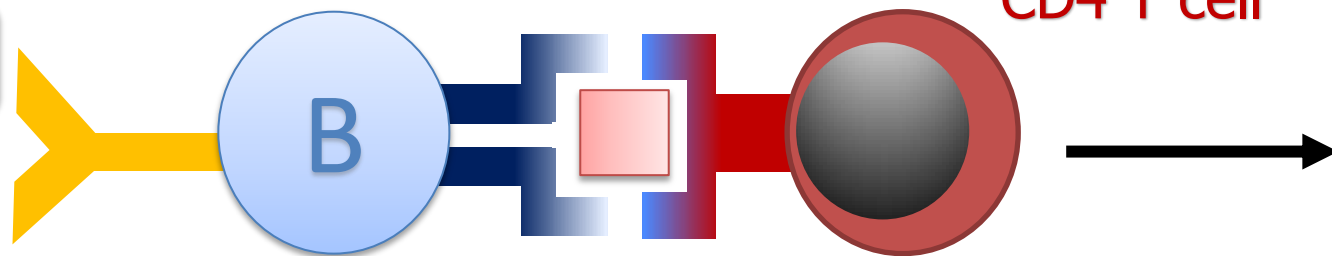


Antibody secreting  
B cells

Deamidated gluten peptide

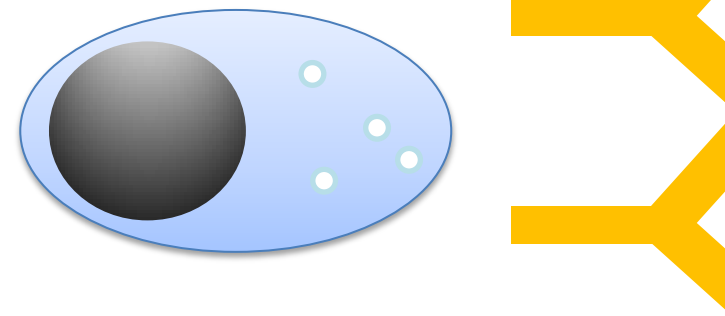


TTG specific B cell

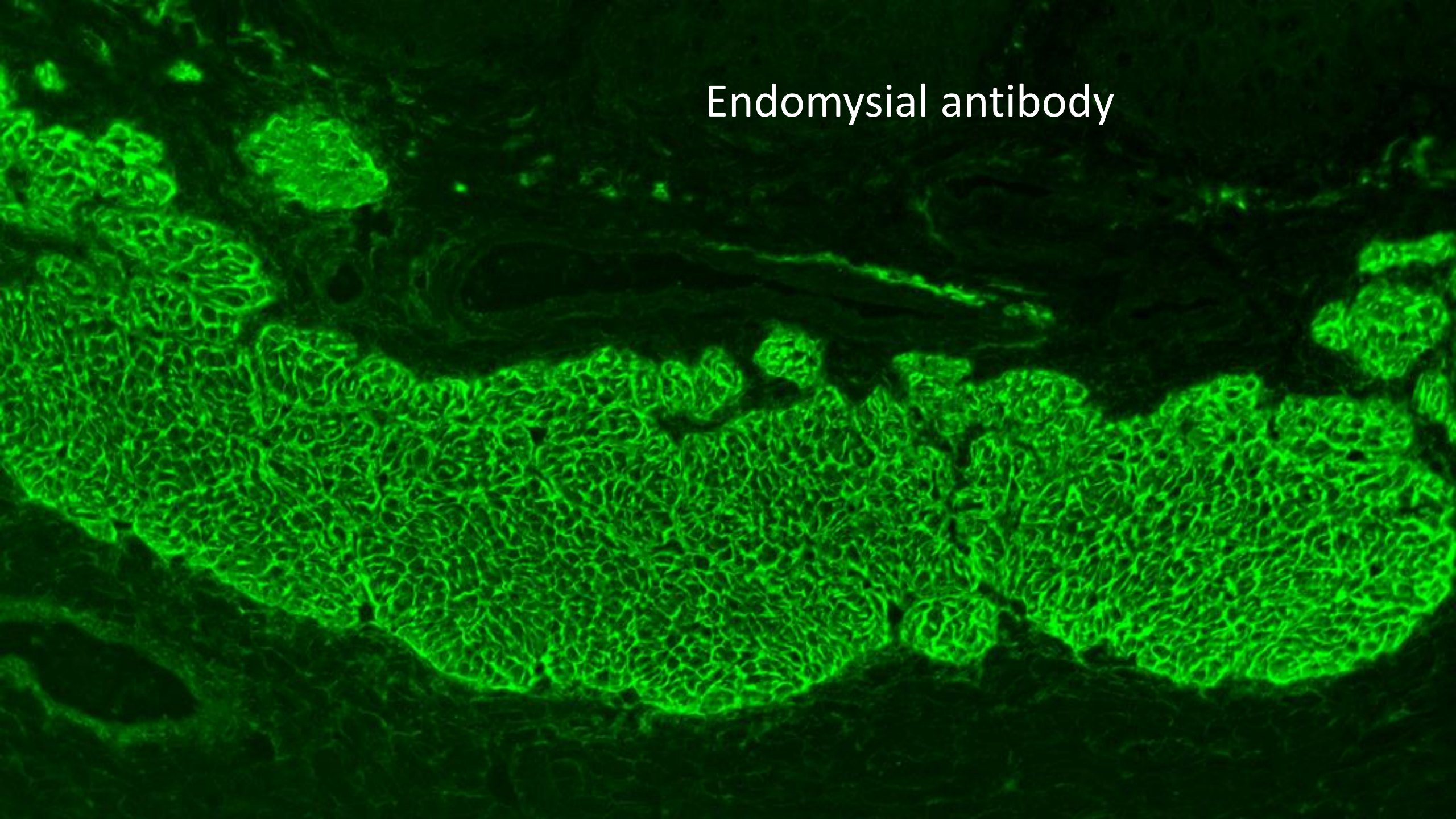


CD4 T cell

TTG antibodies



Endomysial antibody



# TTG antibodies

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- Identified as major target of EMA antibodies
- Allowed development of ELISA based systems
- IgA tTG antibodies mainstay of many algorithms

# DGP antibodies

- Gliadin peptides antibodies poor specificity
- Abs to deamidated gliadin peptides a higher specificity systems
- IgG to DGP better than IgG to tTG
- Benefit in children <2yrs

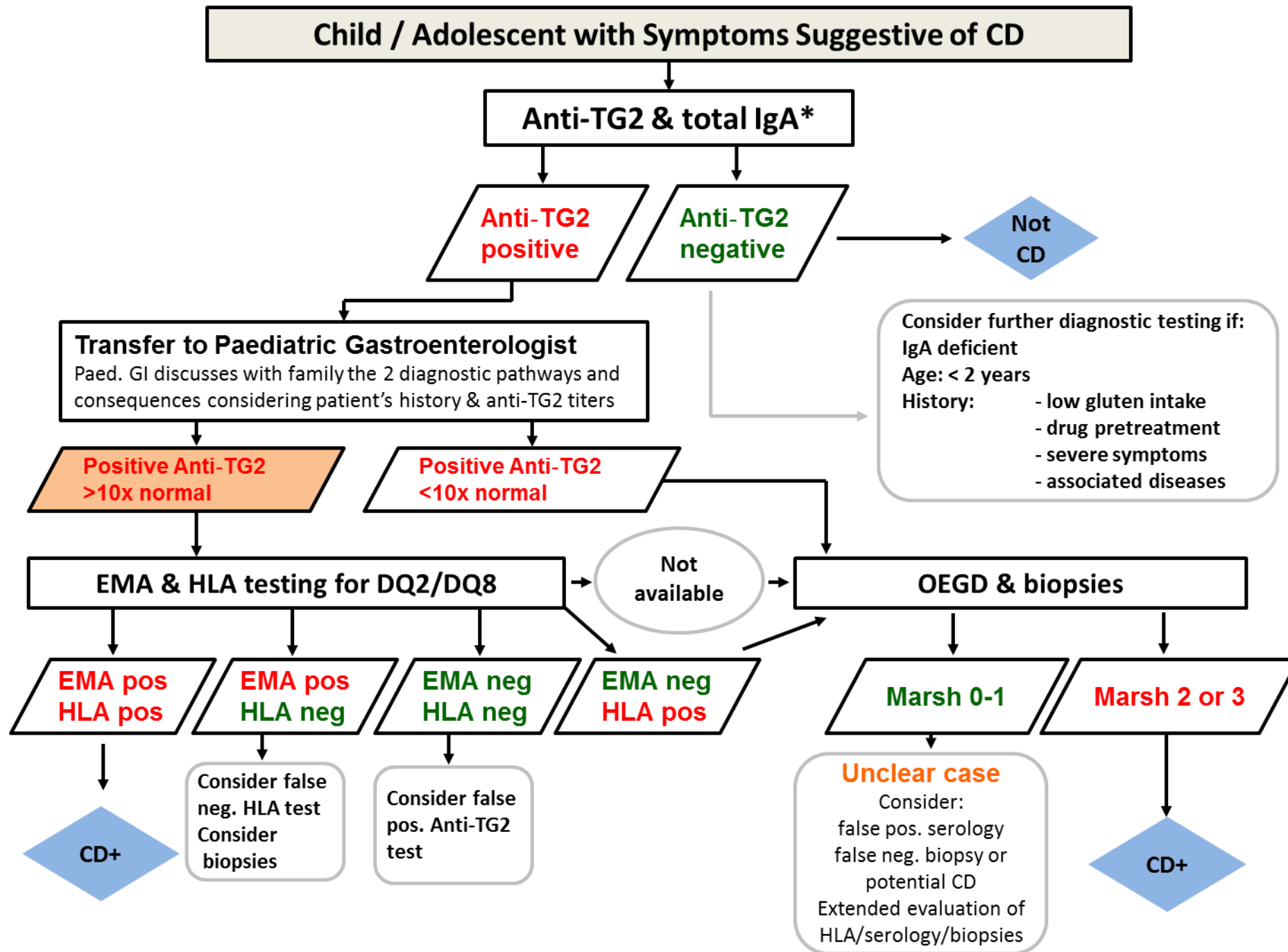
# Revised ESPGHAN Guidelines 2012

## European Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition Guidelines for the Diagnosis of Coeliac Disease

*\*S. Husby, †S. Koletzko, ‡I.R. Korponay-Szabó, §M.L. Mearin, ||A. Phillips, ¶R. Shamir,  
#R. Troncone, \*\*K. Giersiepen, ††D. Branski, ‡‡C. Catassi, §§M. Leigeman, ||||M. Mäki,  
¶¶C. Ribes-Koninckx, ##A. Ventura, and \*\*\*\*K.P. Zimmer, for the ESPGHAN Working Group on  
Coeliac Disease Diagnosis, on behalf of the ESPGHAN Gastroenterology Committee*



Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology  
and Nutrition 2012;54: 136–160





## Letter to the Editor

*Am J Gastroenterol* 2015; 110:1504–1505; doi:10.1038/ajg.2015.242

### Should ESPGHAN Guidelines for Serologic Diagnosis of Celiac Disease be Used in Adults? A Prospective Analysis in an Adult Patient Cohort With High Pretest Probability

Emilia Sugai PhD<sup>1</sup>, Hui J Hwang MD<sup>1</sup>, Horacio Vázquez MD<sup>1</sup>, María L Moreno MD<sup>1</sup>, Florencia Costa MD<sup>1</sup>, Gabriela Longarini MD<sup>1</sup>, María I Pinto-Sánchez MD<sup>1,2</sup>, Sonia Niveloni MD<sup>1</sup>, Edgardo Smecuol MD<sup>1</sup>, Roberto M Mazure MD<sup>1</sup>, Elena F Verdu MD<sup>2</sup>, Eduardo Mauriño MD<sup>1</sup> and Julio C Bai MD<sup>1,3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Farncombe Family Digestive Research Institute, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

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**Letter**

Original Scientific Paper

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Celia  
in ar

**The presence of anti-endomysial antibodies and the level of anti-tissue transglutaminases can be used to diagnose adult coeliac disease without duodenal biopsy**



Emilia  
L More  
Sánchez  
M Maz

R. Tortora<sup>1,\*</sup>, N. Imperatore<sup>1</sup>, P. Capone<sup>1</sup>,  
G. D. De Palma<sup>2</sup>, G. De Stefano<sup>1</sup>, N.  
Gerbino<sup>1</sup>, N. Caporaso<sup>1</sup> and A. Rispo<sup>1</sup>

Issue

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Buenos A  
<sup>2</sup>Farncon  
<sup>3</sup>Universi

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Correspo  
Gastroen



Alimentary Pharmacology &  
Therapeutics

Volume 40, Issue 10, pages  
1223–1229, November 2014

# Alimentary Pharmacology

## Identification of a serum transglutaminase threshold value for the noninvasive diagnosis of symptomatic adult celiac disease patients: a retrospective study

Authors

[Authors and affiliations](#)

Marco Di Tola, Mariacatia Marino, Simone Goetze, Rossella Casale, Sara Di Nardi, Raffaele Borghini, Giuseppe Donati, Antonio Tiberti, Antonio Picarelli 

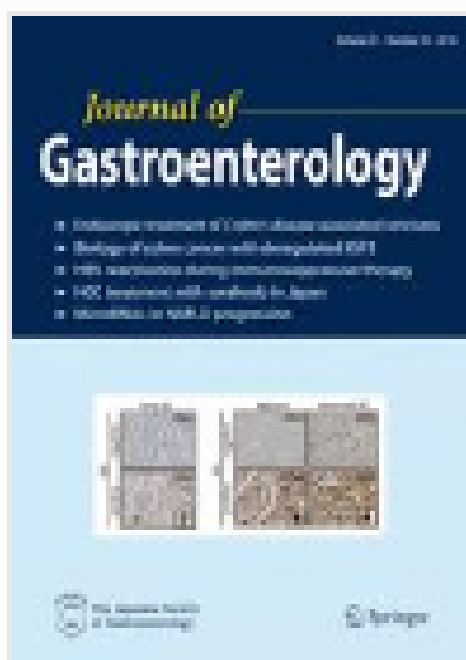
Original Article—Alimentary Tract

First Online: [29 February 2016](#)

DOI: [10.1007/s00535-016-1188-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00535-016-1188-y)

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Letter

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Celiac  
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Emilia  
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Sánchez  
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G. D.

Gerb

Version

DOI:

© 201

Child / Adolescent with Symptoms Suggestive of CD

Anti-TG2 & total IgA\*

Anti-TG2 positive

Anti-TG2 negative

Not CD

Transfer to Paediatric Gastroenterologist  
Paed. GI discusses with family the 2 diagnostic pathways and patient's history & anti-TG2 titers

Consider further diagnostic testing if:  
IgA deficient  
Age: < 2 years  
History:  
- low gluten intake  
- drug pretreatment  
- severe symptoms  
- associated diseases

Positive Anti-TG2 >10x normal

Positive Anti-TG2 <10x normal

EMA & HLA testing for DQ2/DQ8

Not available

OEGD & biopsies

EMA pos HLA pos

EMA pos HLA neg

EMA neg HLA neg

EMA neg HLA pos

Marsh 0-1

Marsh 2 or 3

CD+

Consider false neg. HLA test  
Consider biopsies

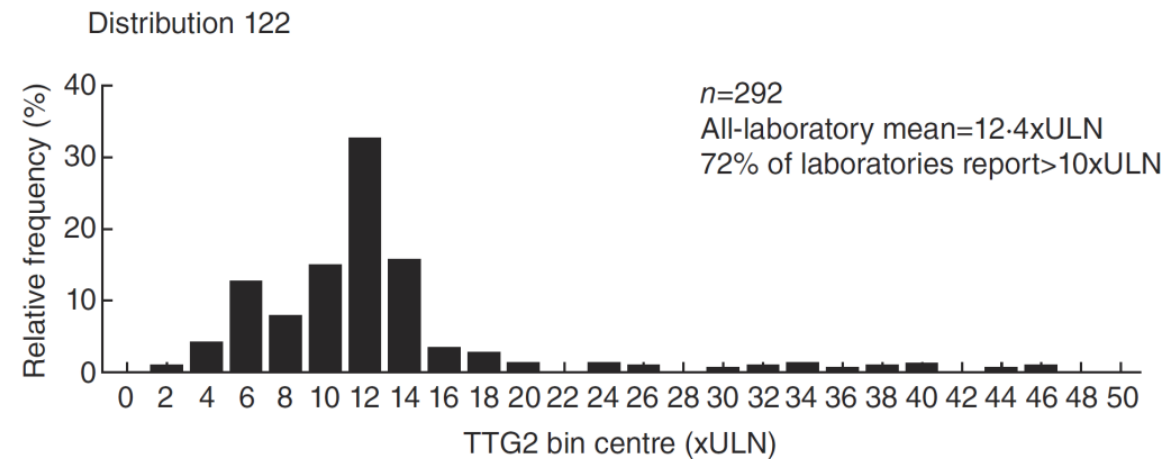
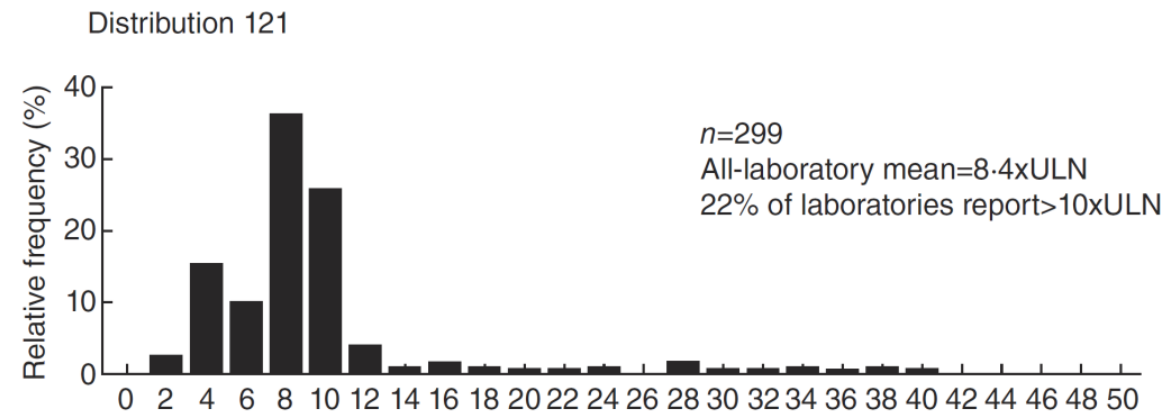
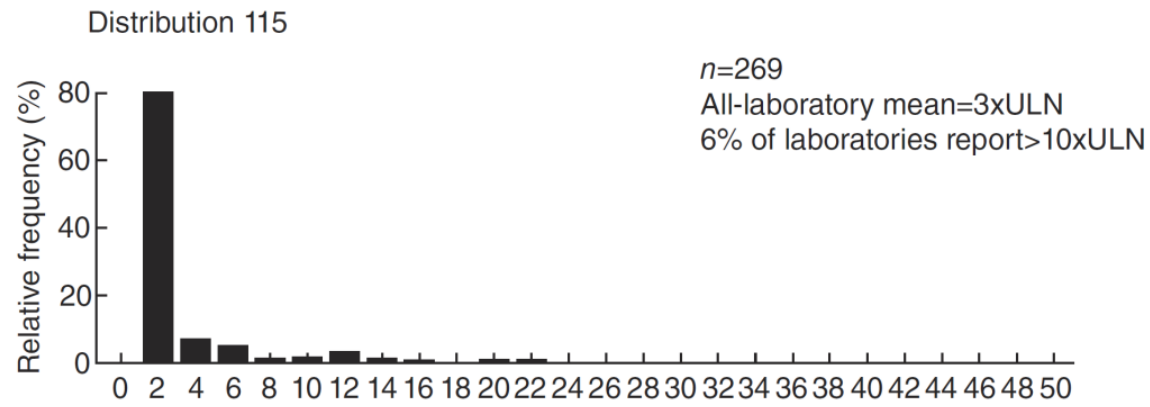
Consider false pos. Anti-TG2 test

Unclear case  
Consider:  
false pos. serology  
false neg. biopsy or potential CD  
Extended evaluation of HLA/serology/biopsies

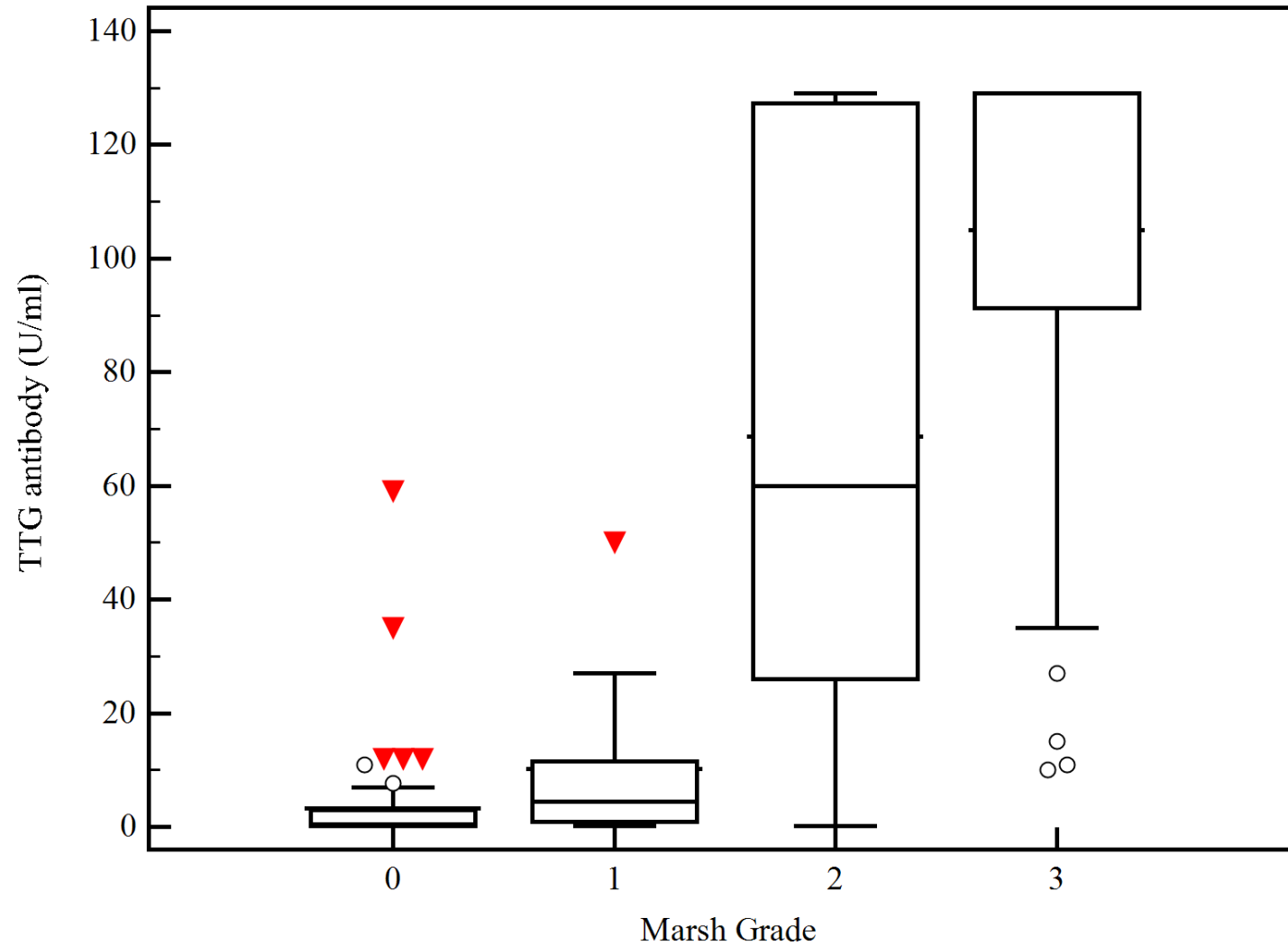
CD+

	Method	Valid returns	All-laboratory mean (0.21×ULN)	Lowest (×ULN)	Highest (×ULN)	Proportion > 10 × ULN	Proportion < 10 × ULN
Distribution 115	All methods	269	3.0	1.5	21.8	6%	94%
	Inova	27	8.4	1.5	21.8	55.6%	44.4%
	Phadia 250	154	2.3	1.6	3.4	0.0%	100.0%
	Orgentec	41	1.5	1.1	1.8	0.0%	100.0%
	Euroimmun	17	5.1	3.7	7.1	0.0%	100.0%
	Phadia Varelista	18	1.5	1.0	2.8	0.0%	100.0%
	Aesku	12	3.9	1.5	7.5	0.0%	100.0%
Distribution 121	All methods	299	8.4	1.6	39.7	22%	78%
	Inova	31	19.3	6.1	39.7	58.1%	41.9%
	Phadia 250	168	8.7	2.8	12.1	14.3%	85.7%
	Orgentec	43	4.7	3.0	7.4	0.0%	100.0%
	Euroimmun	20	10.0	7.3	28.0	95.0%	5.0%
	Phadia Varelista	23	4.9	2.6	11.4	4.3%	95.7%
	Aesku	14	8.1	1.6	18.7	28.6%	71.4%
Distribution 122	All methods	292	12.4	1.4	45.3	72%	28%
	Inova	29	25.5	8.8	45.3	96.6%	3.4%
	Phadia 250	165	12.1	1.4	17.4	89.7%	10.3%
	Orgentec	42	6.0	3.3	9.4	0.0%	100.0%
	Euroimmun	19	14.0	10.0	44.5	100.0%	0.0%
	Phadia Varelista	24	8.7	3.4	18.2	29.2%	70.8%
	Aesku	13	13.5	1.9	24.4	69.2%	30.8%

	Method	Valid returns	All-laboratory mean (0.21×ULN)	Lowest (×ULN)	Highest (×ULN)	Proportion > 10 × ULN	Proportion < 10 × ULN
Distribution 115	All methods	269	3.0	1.5	21.8	6%	94%
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	Orgentec	43	4.7	3.0	7.4	0.0%	100.0%
	Euroimmun	20	10.0	7.3	28.0	95.0%	5.0%
	Phadia Varelista	23	4.9	2.6	11.4	0.0%	100.0%
	Aesku	14	8.1	1.6	18.7	28.6%	71.4%
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	Inova	29	25.5	8.8	45.3	96.6%	3.4%
	Phadia 250	165	12.1	1.4	17.4	22.4%	77.6%
	Orgentec	42	6.0	3.3	9.4	0.0%	100.0%
	Euroimmun	19	14.0	10.0	44.5	100.0%	0.0%
	Phadia Varelista	24	8.7	3.4	18.2	29.2%	70.8%
	Aesku	13	13.5	1.9	24.4	69.2%	30.8%

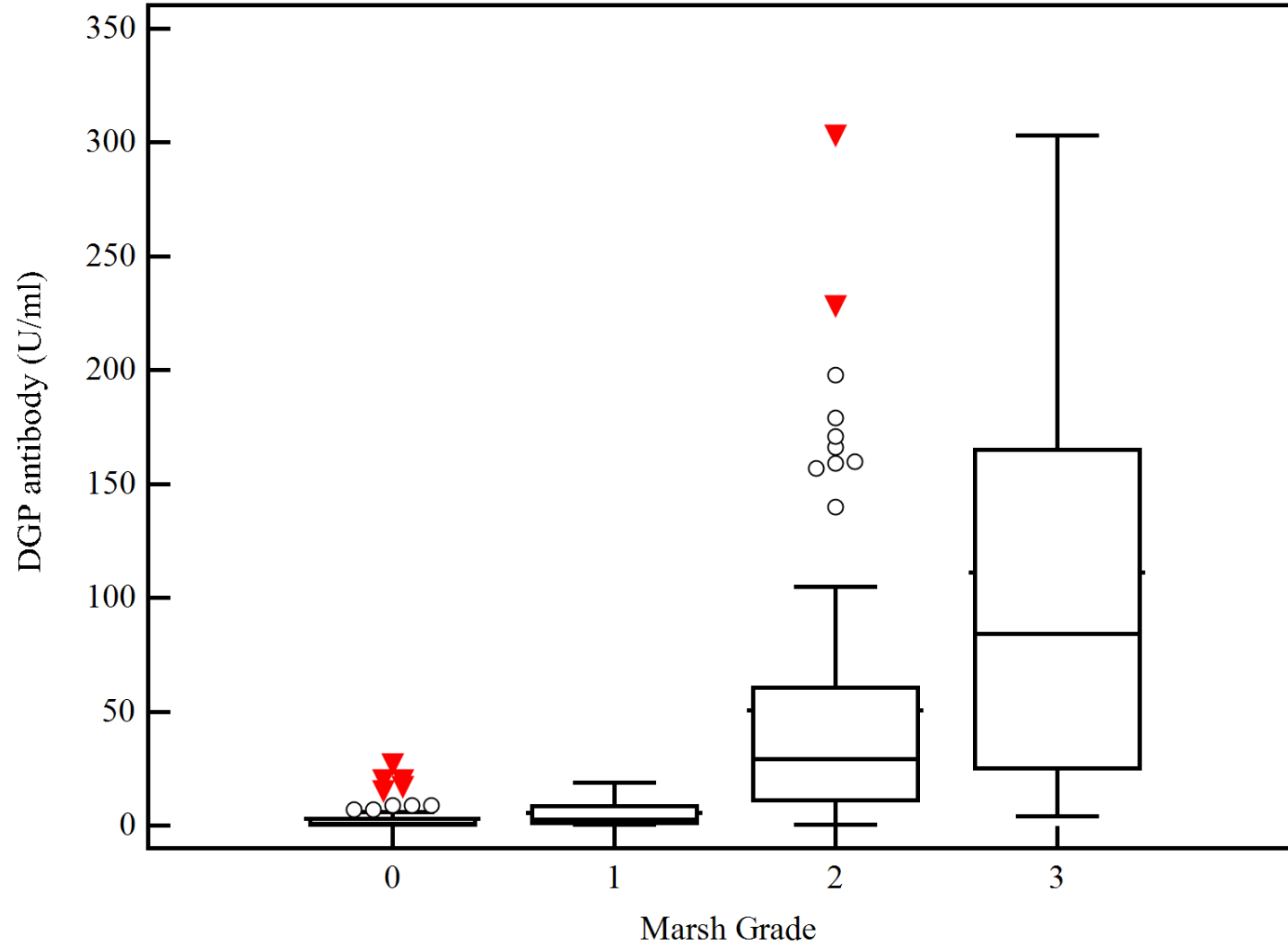


# IgA TTG level correlates with histology

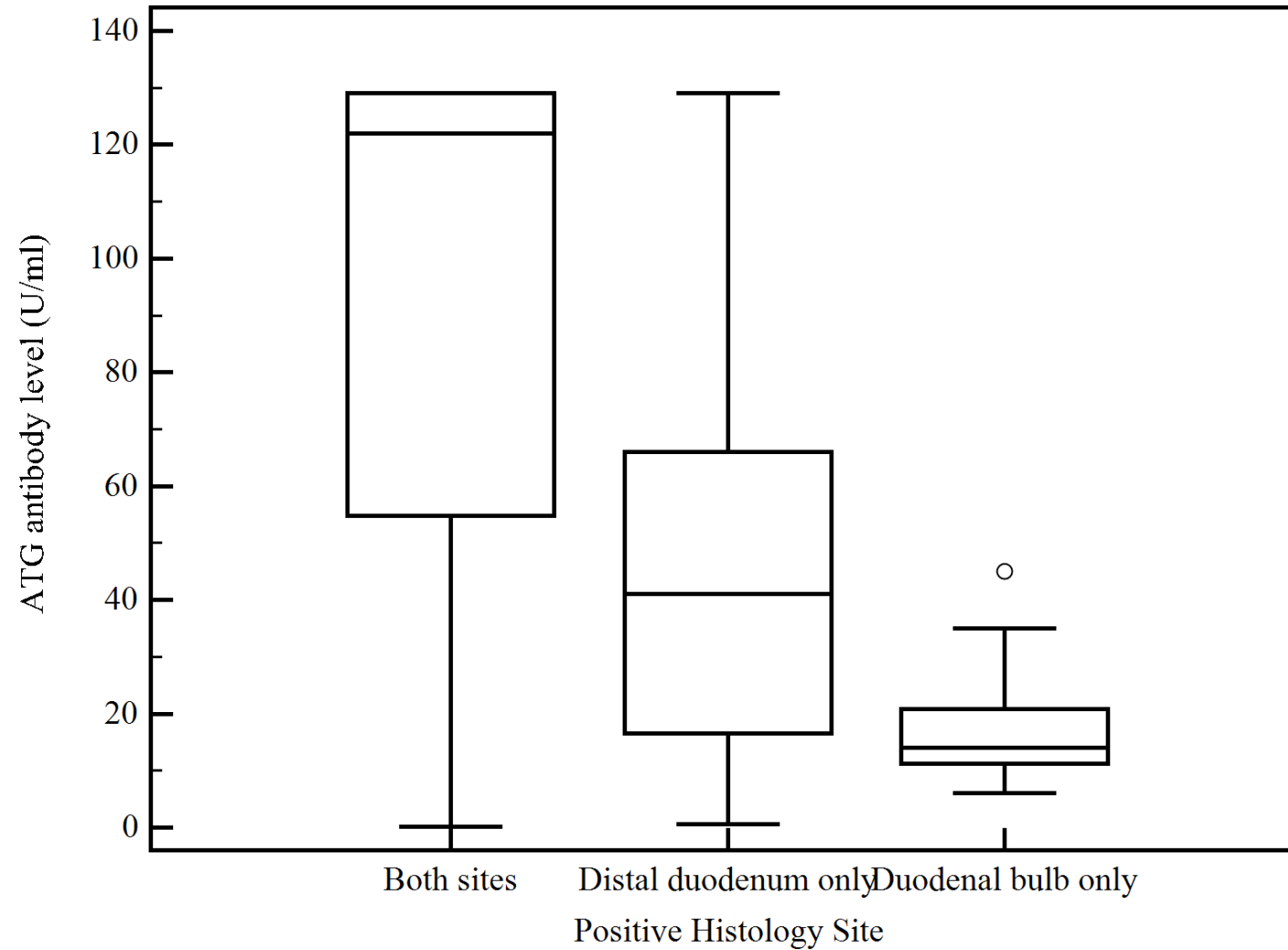




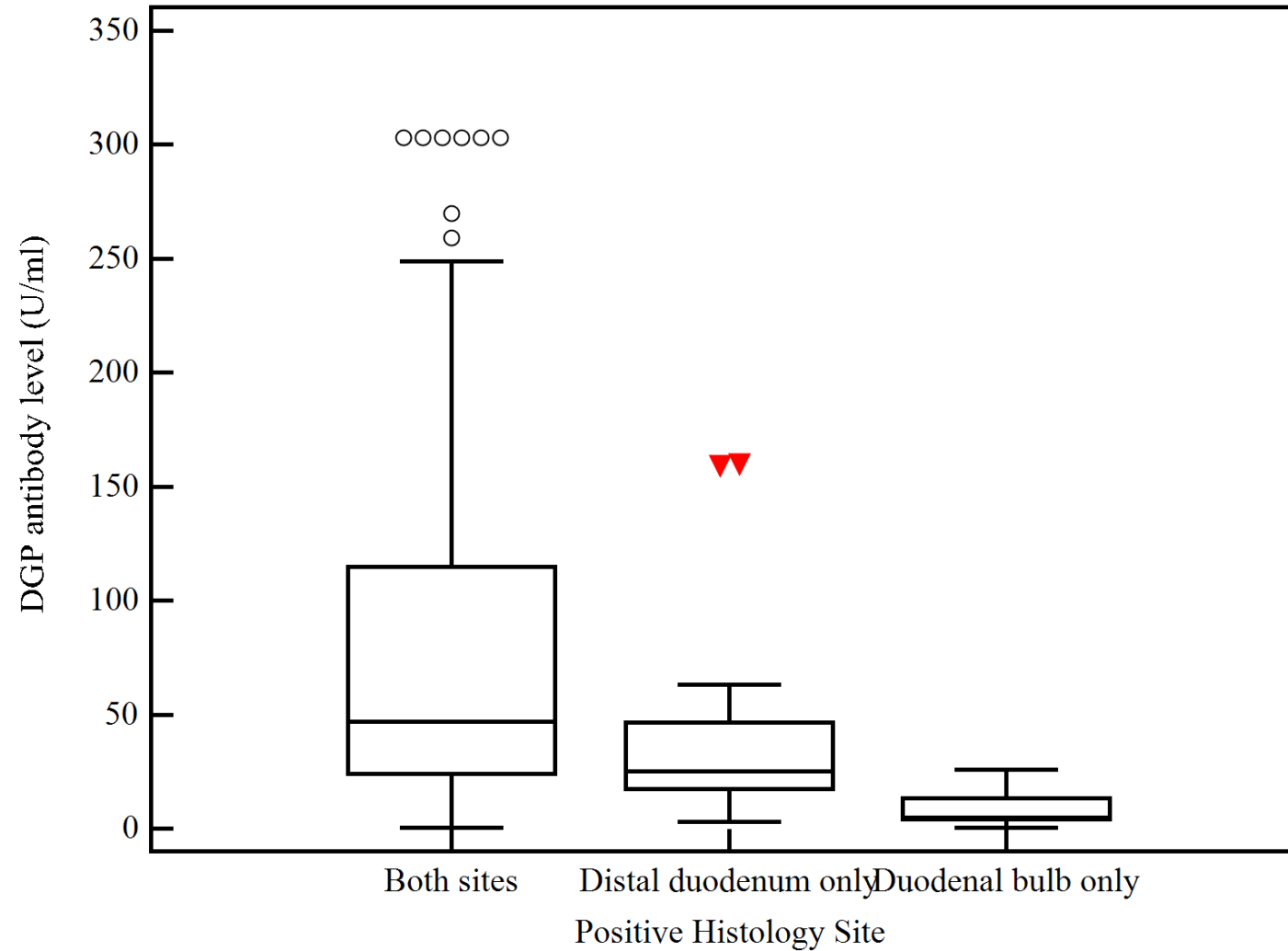
# IgG DGP level correlates with histology

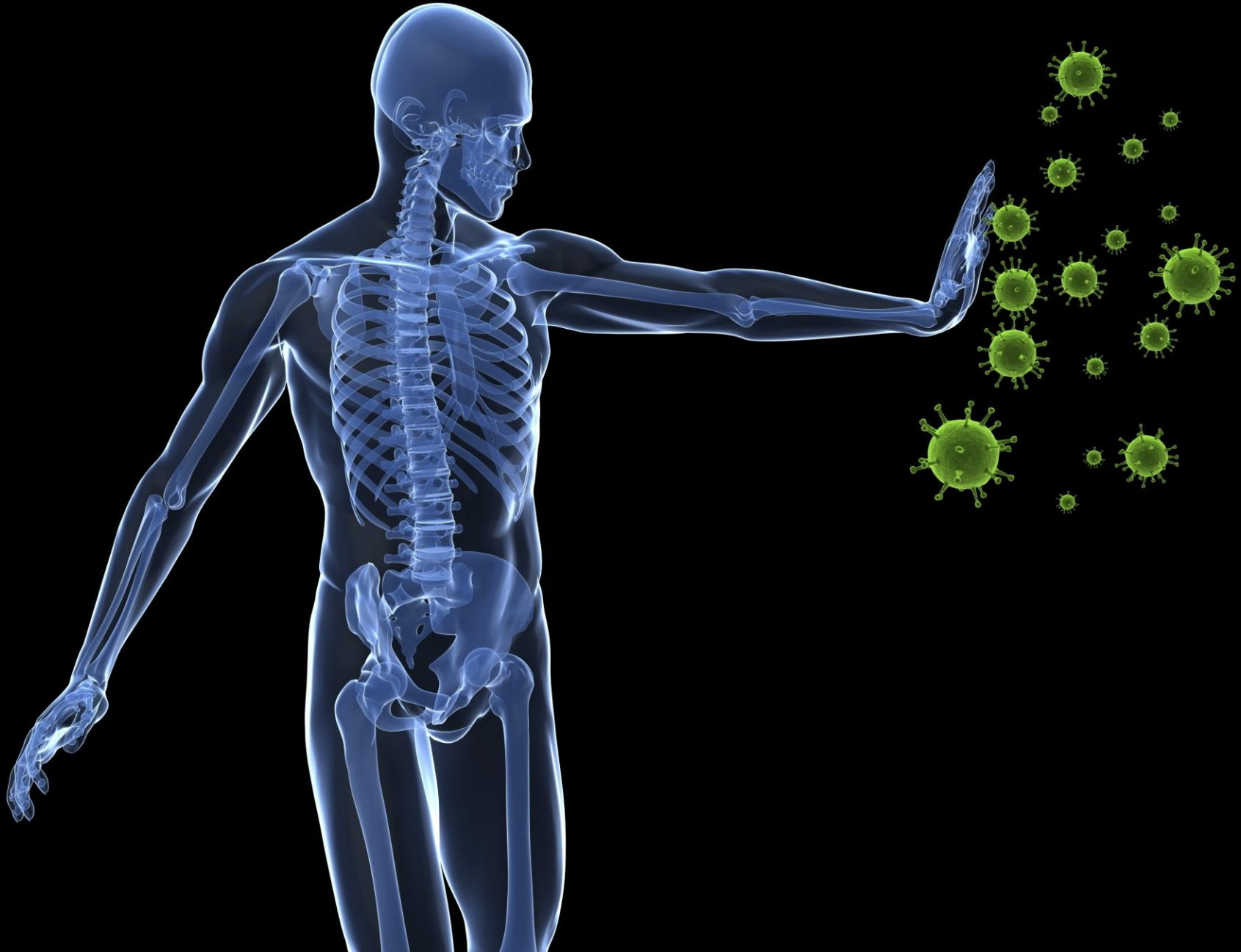


# IgA TTG lower in single site positive



# IgG DGP lower in single site positive





# Common Variable Immunodeficiency (CVID)

- Relatively **common immunodeficiency** with **variable** levels of immunoglobulins and clinical course between patients
- Most frequent clinically symptomatic PID
- Prevalence between 1:10,000 and 1:50,000
- Some genes have been identified but most cases remain unidentified

# CVID definition

- Low immunoglobulins of at least 2 isotypes (IgG and either IgA or IgM)
- Associated with poor specific antibody responses:
- Poor antibody response to vaccines and/or absent isohaemagglutinins
- Disease onset may occur at any age – most in adulthood

# CVID definition

- Infections – most common (90%) with sinopulmonary, ear and gastrointestinal infections
- GI (up to 50%) – chronic diarrhoea, malabsorption
- Lymphophadenopathy or splenomegaly (50%)
- Autoimmunity (30%)
- Granulomas (10-30%) – lungs, liver, other
- Malignancy – increased incidence of lymphoma and gastric cancer

# CVID enteropathy

- Seen in up to 10-30%
- Associated with atrophic gastritis 80%
- May have distinctive features:
  - ▣ Absence/paucity of intestinal plasma cells
  - ▣ Diffuse follicular lymphoid hyperplasia
  - ▣ GVH-like crypt apoptosis
  - ▣ Neutrophil infiltration
  - ▣ IEL infiltrate CD8+ T cell enriched



# CVID enteropathy

- Serologic studies are not helpful
- May be presenting feature
- Small numbers improve on GFD
- Patients with severe disease may benefit from Budesonide