

## 354 Celiac Disease

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**Definition/  
cut-off value**

Also known as:

- Celiac Sprue
- Gluten Enteropathy
- Non-tropical Sprue

Inflammatory condition of the small intestine precipitated by the ingestion of wheat in individuals with certain genetic make-up.

Presence of Celiac Disease diagnosed by a physician as self reported by applicant/participant/caregiver; or as reported or documented by a physician or someone working under physician's orders.

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**Participant  
category and  
priority level**

Category	Priority
Pregnant Women	I
Breastfeeding Women	I
Non-Breastfeeding Women	III, IV, V, or
Infants	VI
Children	I III

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**Justification**

Individuals need to eliminate all wheat from their diets. Wheat in the diet can cause diarrhea, weight loss, failure to thrive and possibly malabsorption of protein, carbohydrates, and fat (1,2). Nutrition counseling can help individuals meet nutrient needs on a wheat-free diet.

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**References**

1. Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics: The intestinal tract and accessory organs. New York; 1991. p. 219-258.
  2. Semrod, CE. Celiac disease and gluten sensitivity. Columbia University Division of Gastroenterology. Available at: <http://www.cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/gi/celiac.html>. 1995.
  3. Institute of Medicine. WIC nutrition risk criteria a scientific assessment. National Academy Press, Washington, D.C.;1996. p. 192-193
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### **Clarification**

Self-reporting of a diagnosis by a medical professional should not be confused with self-diagnosis, where a person simply claims to have or to have had a medical condition without any reference to professional diagnosis. A self-reported medical diagnosis (“My doctor says that I have/my son or daughter has...”) should prompt the CPA to validate the presence of the condition by asking more pointed questions related to that diagnosis.

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