

Behçet's disease and celiac disease : is there a controversial link ?

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Dear Editor,

A large number of diseases have been reported to be associated with celiac disease, many with a probable immunological pathogenesis (1). Behçet's disease and celiac disease have the common feature of oral ulcer (1-3). In the literature, association between these two diseases is suggested and serological screening is advised for diagnosis of asymptomatic patients in a study group of 11 patients (4). On the other hand, another author reported absence of linkage between these two diseases in 52 patients with Behçet's disease (1).

The aim of that study is to clarify this controversial issue in our patients with Behçet's disease. As previously reported, the combination of anti-endomysium and anti-gliadin antibodies is most sensitive and specific diagnostic tests for diagnosis of celiac disease (5). Anti-gliadin antibody IgG, IgA, and anti-endomysial antibodies in our 20 patients with Behçet's disease were tested. The diagnosis of patients was fulfilled with the criterias

of Behçet's disease international study group (6). All the antibodies were found to be negative.

It can be concluded that there is no clear link between celiac disease and Behçet's disease.

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