

Is your child out of sorts?

'Is your child out of sorts?' is the theme of Coeliac Awareness Week 2010 which runs from 13-20 March.

Coeliac disease affects at least one in 100 children in Australia today and four out of five children with the disease are not diagnosed. Because it is one of the most under-diagnosed conditions of our time, it is often called 'the hidden epidemic'.

The 2010 campaign stresses that early diagnosis and medical treatment are very important because this is a serious condition which can be extremely detrimental over time if not treated properly. For example, untreated coeliac disease can lead to severe complications later in life such as early onset osteoporosis, liver disease, cancer and infertility. The campaign explains that medical diagnosis of coeliac disease is very simple and treatment is highly successful. It urges parents to ask their GP for a coeliac test immediately if their child has any symptoms that could be due to coeliac disease. These include:

- A bloated stomach
- Diarrhoea and/or constipation
- General tummy upsets and/or vomiting
- Tiredness and lack of stamina
- Anaemia
- Slow physical or mental development
- Failure to thrive
- Difficulty in concentrating at home or at school
- A general feeling of being 'out of sorts'



One of the campaign's key messages is that parents should not diagnose their children themselves and should not eliminate gluten from their diet without medical advice.

Members of the public can ring the Coeliac Awareness Hotline for a free brochure about coeliac disease in children on 1300 273 272.



The Coeliac Research Fund

The Coeliac Research Fund Limited (CRF) was founded to make a difference - to change the lives of those with coeliac disease, both diagnosed and undiagnosed. By collaboratively working with coeliac societies, health care professionals, researchers and those with an interest in the management of coeliac disease, the Coeliac Research Fund Limited is committed to effecting change.

CRF is proactively:

- Liaising closely with patient advocacy and health professional groups in Australia and overseas to improve the lives of people affected by coeliac disease;
- Building awareness through targeted awareness campaigns to the general public, health professionals and those with coeliac disease;
- Disseminating best evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for coeliac disease; and
- Ensuring that research in coeliac disease is resourced and addresses innovative solutions to cure, prevent, or improve upon current management of coeliac disease.

The Coeliac Society Australia provides ongoing support for people who are diagnosed with coeliac disease.

www.coeliacsociety.com.au



1300 990 273

info@coeliacresearchfund.org

www.coeliacresearchfund.org

"Coeliac Disease in 2010"

a Finnish perspective
and a way forward for
Australia

An invitation to a breakfast seminar
with Professor Markku Mäki

Proudly presented by:



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The Coeliac Society

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biography



Professor Markku Mäki, MD, PhD, Chair and Professor of Paediatrics at the University of Tampere and Tampere University Hospital in Finland, is one of the world's foremost innovative opinion leaders in coeliac disease.

More than two decades ago, he joined the Finnish Coeliac Society and began research that was inspired by the needs of coeliac sufferers. Professor Mäki was soon leading a multi-disciplinary Coeliac Disease Study Group including paediatricians, primary care physicians, internists, dentists, dermatologists, neurologists, epidemiologists and life science researchers. The outcome of his group research is the understanding of the broad clinical spectrum of gluten-induced disease entities, the correct use of serologic biomarker tests and a rapid point of care test in the primary health care, leading to a 20-fold increase of diagnosed coeliac disease in adults in Finland.

Professor Mäki was elected as the President of the nationwide Finnish Coeliac Society and he is still the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board. He is a permanent member of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters and the President of Finland granted him the honour of Knight, First Class, of the Order of the White Rose of Finland in 2006. Professor Mäki has published over 200 scientific articles on coeliac disease in international journals, many of which have made significant contribution to the understanding of coeliac disease.

time and place

Time: 7.15am registration for 7.30am – 9.00am
Date: Friday 12 March 2010
Perth venue: Burswood Convention Complex
Botanical Rooms 2 and 3
The Great Eastern Highway
Burswood WA 6100

event details:

This seminar will be of particular interest to GPs, practice nurses, dietitians, pharmacists and those working in the health sector.

This event will have three key components including:

Professor Markku Mäki Presentation

This is a unique opportunity to hear Professor Mäki present as he tours Australia for the first time to promote Coeliac Awareness Week. His presentation will include a discussion on how Finland improved its diagnosis rates; key findings from the Finnish model; the prevalence of coeliac disease; new research and future directions.

State Based Research Update

What is happening in your state? A presentation on the latest state based research from one of your local research groups.

Family Case Study

How does coeliac disease impact a family? A case study about a family in your community whose child has coeliac disease.

rsvp ...

This breakfast is being funded by the CRF and sponsors. There is no fee for attendance.

Please RSVP by Monday 1 March 2010. We will confirm your attendance therefore full details are required. If you are not able to attend please pass this invitation to a colleague.

Please complete your full details and fax to: (03) 5968 5670

or mail to: PO Box 494 Emerald VIC. 3782
or email your name, address, contact number, dietary requirements and venue choice to: admin@coeliacresearchfund.org

YES, I would like to attend the breakfast with Professor Mäki (please tick appropriate venue below):

- Perth – Friday 12 March 2010
- Brisbane – Wednesday 17 March 2010
- Sydney – Thursday 18 March 2010
- Melbourne – Friday 19 March 2010

Name:

Address:

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..... Postcode.....

Email:

Telephone: Mobile

Daytime

Evening.....

Special dietary requirements?

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