

By :
Dr. Upasana, Assistant Professor, Department of Home Science, Mahila College Dalmianagar, Rohtas, VKSU, Ara, Bihar

## FOOD ALLERGY

What is Food Allergy


A food allergy is when the body's immune system reacts unusually to specific foods. Although allergic reactions are often mild, they can be very serious. A food allergy is an abnormal immune response to food. This typically occurs within minutes to several hours of exposure. A food intolerance and food poisoning are separate conditions, not due to an immune response.

Food
allergen
s


CRUSTACEANS


GLUTEN

EGGS
8 Major Allergens known to cause the most cases of food hypersensitivities


TREE NUTS

## Allergy Symptoms

##  <br> Itching.



## Prevalence and

 Natural History of Food Allergy- Perception by the public: 20-25\%
- Confirmed allergy (oral challenge)
- Adults: 3-4\%
- Infants/young children: 6-8\%
- Specific Allergens
- Dependent upon societal eating and cooking patterns
- Prevalence is higher in those with:
- Atomic dermatitis
- Certain pollen allergies
- Latex allergy

| Food | Children | Adult |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Milk | 2.5 | 0.3 |
| Egg | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| Soya | $0.3-0.4$ | 0.04 |
| Peanuts | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| Tree nuts | 0.2 | 0.5 |
| Crustaceans | 0.1 | 2.0 |
| Fish | 0.1 | 0.4 |

## Estimated Prevalence of Food Allergy

## Diagnosis of Food Allergy



DIET
HISTORIES


DIET
ELIMINATIO N


SKIN TESTS
BLOOD TESTS

Labels is a way to prevent Food Allergy

Food labels help
us in predicting
the foods or
identifying foods
that causes
allergic
reactions.
Domestic or
imported packaged food should have
a label that
lists whether the product contains one of the top 8


# Thank 

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