



Food Allergies and Health Equity: Challenges and Solutions

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- Ownership Interest: Yobee® Care, Inc.

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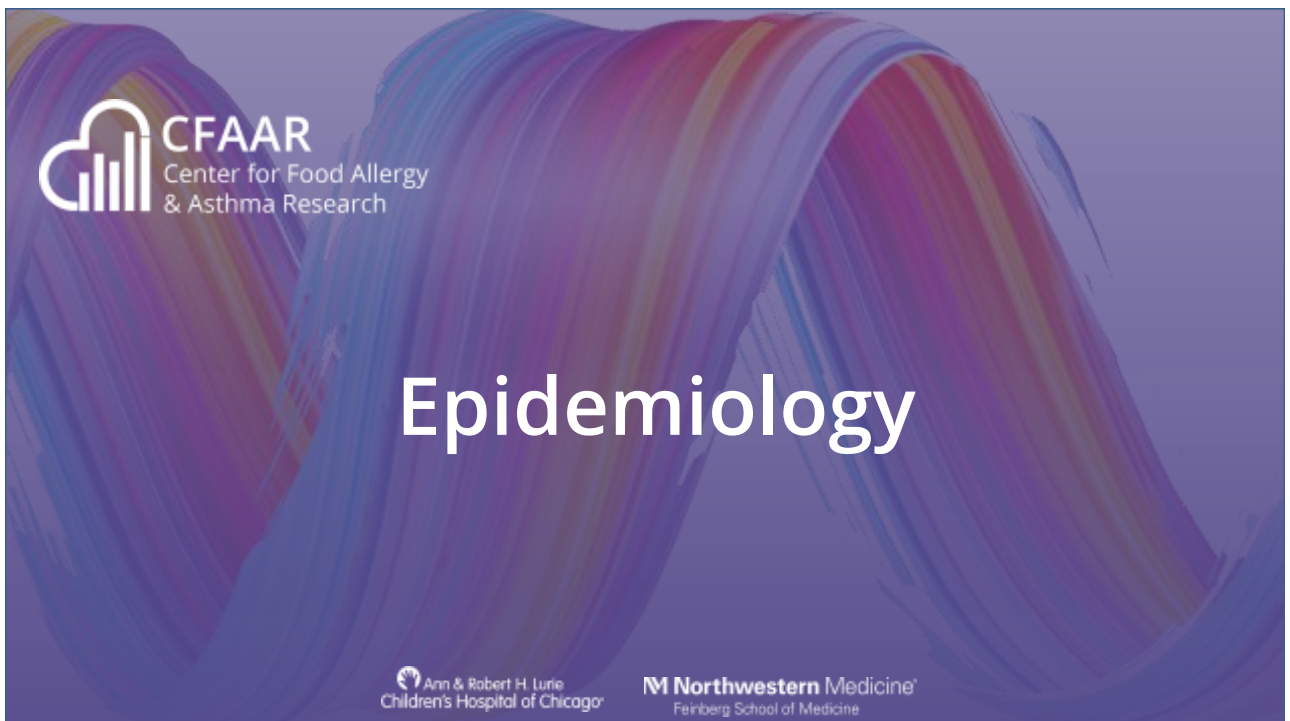
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Learning Objectives

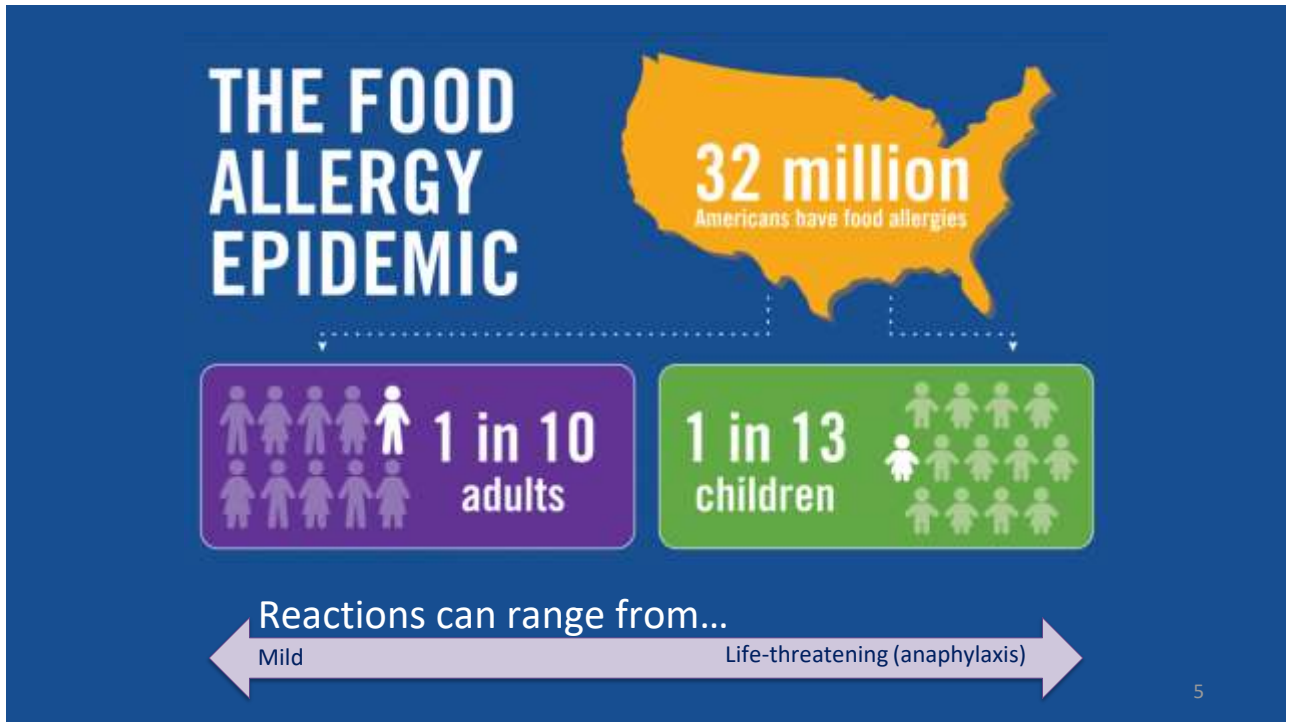
1. Understand racial disparities in food allergies.
2. Assess access to allergy care.
3. Discuss the importance of epinephrine in managing severe allergic reactions and strategies to improve its use.
4. Identify strategies to address and reduce racial disparities in food allergy diagnosis and treatment.



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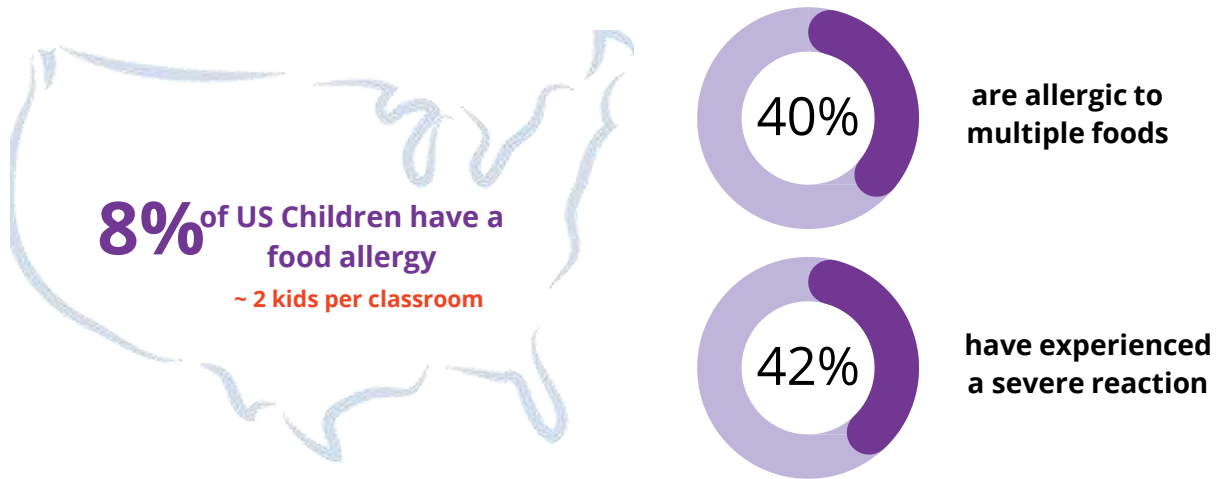
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The Public Health Impact of Parent-Reported Childhood Food Allergies in the United States

Ruchi S Gupta , Christopher M Warren, Bridget M Smith, Jesse A Blumenstock , Jialing Jiang , Matthew M Davis, Kari C Nadeau
 Pediatrics. 2019 Mar;143(3):e20183835. doi: 10.1542/peds.2018-3835.PMID: 30819972

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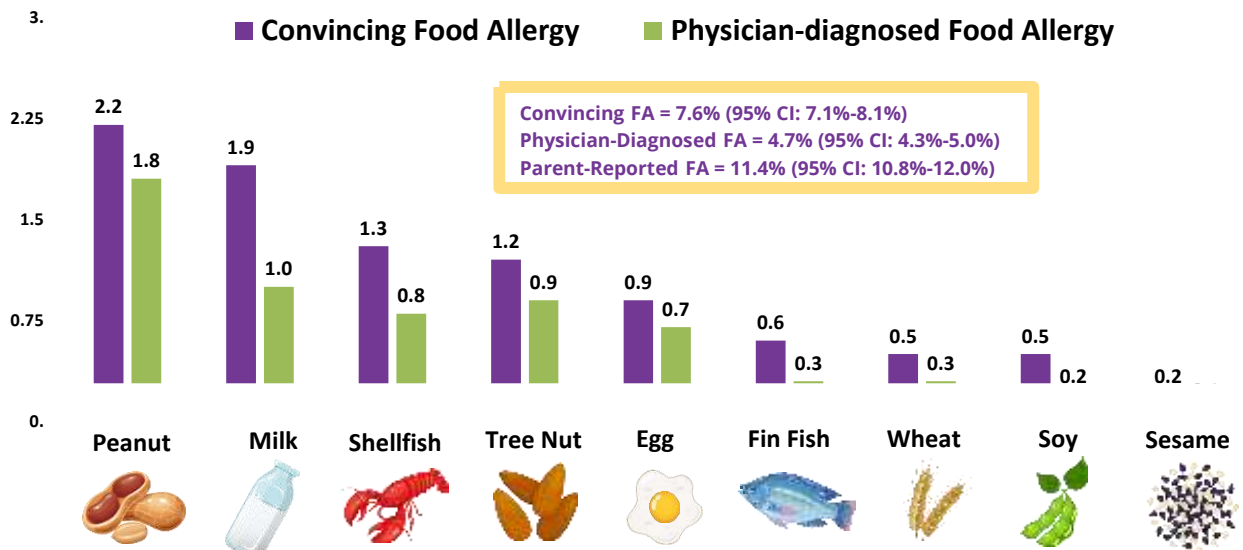
Childhood Food Allergy Prevalence in the U.S.



Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Blumenstock JA, Jiang J, Davis MM, Nadeau KC. The Public Health Impact of Parent-Reported Childhood Food Allergies in the United States. Pediatrics 2018-1235

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Childhood Food Allergy Prevalence in the U.S.



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Food Allergen Prevalence by Age



	Peanut	Tree Nut	Milk	Shellfish	Egg	Fin Fish	Wheat	Soy	Sesame
<1 Year	20.2%	9.0%	53.0%	7.1%	13.5%	2.6%	14.9%	15.4%	4.6%
1 Y	24.6%	8.0%	37.8%	5.1%	22.8%	6.4%	6.0%	16.6%	4.9%
2 Y	24.5%	10.9%	43.5%	11.5%	14.1%	6.0%	9.9%	8.6%	2.3%
3-5 Y	25.1%	15.9%	33.6%	13.0%	15.0%	6.2%	6.6%	6.9%	2.7%
6-10 Y	32.8%	17.6%	24.4%	18.4%	10.8%	7.8%	6.4%	6.5%	3.3%
11-13 Y	30.5%	21.3%	14.9%	20.2%	12.8%	7.1%	6.2%	3.6%	1.8%
>14 Y	29.5%	13.3%	16.0%	21.3%	6.6%	7.9%	5.4%	3.0%	2.1%

Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Blumenstock JA, Jiang J, Davis MM, Nadeau KC. The Public Health Impact of Parent-Reported Childhood Food Allergies in the United States. Pediatrics 2018;1235

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Patterns of Convincing Multi-Food Allergy Among US Children

	Peanut	Tree Nut	Sesame	Milk	Egg	Fin Fish	Shellfish	Soy	Wheat
Peanut	100	61	55	15	29	38	25	33	22
Tree Nut	33	100	44	9	18	24	14	24	18
Sesame	5	8	100	3	6	9	5	11	13
Milk	13	15	23	100	35	15	11	37	43
Egg	12	13	26	17	100	20	11	25	21
Fin Fish	9	11	23	4	12	100	24	14	12
Shellfish	15	15	31	7	16	57	100	20	21
Soy	7	10	26	9	13	12	7	100	26
Wheat	5	8	31	11	12	11	8	27	100

(% of children with convincing column allergy who are also allergic to the row allergen)

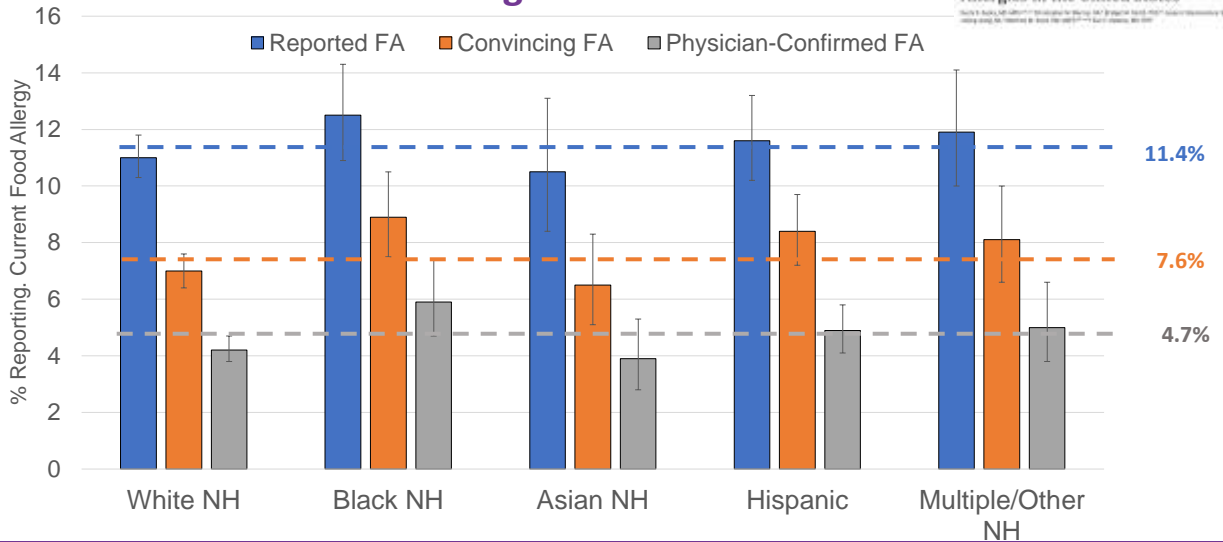


Warren CM, Aktas ON, Manalo LJ, Bartell TR, Gupta RS. The epidemiology of multifood allergy in the United States: A population-based study. Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology. 2023 May 1;130(5):637-48.

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Racial and Ethnic Differences in Current Food Allergy Prevalence among US Children

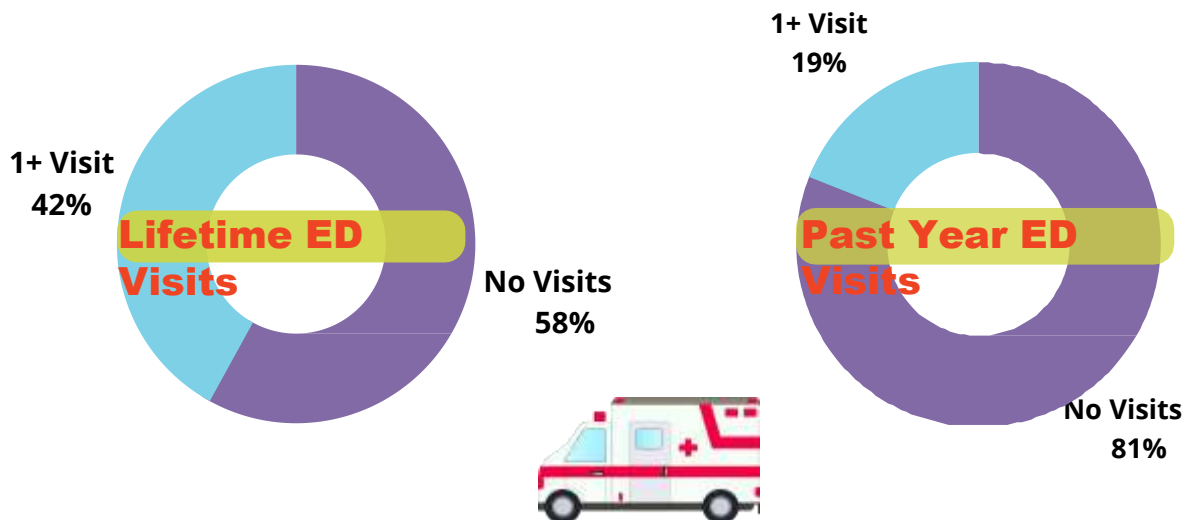
PEDIATRICS
The Public Health Impact of
Parent-Reported Childhood Food
Allergies in the United States



Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Blumenstock JA, Jiang J, Davis MM, Nadeau KC. The Public Health Impact of Parent-Reported Childhood Food Allergies in the United States. Pediatrics 2018-1235

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Pediatric FA Emergency Department Visits

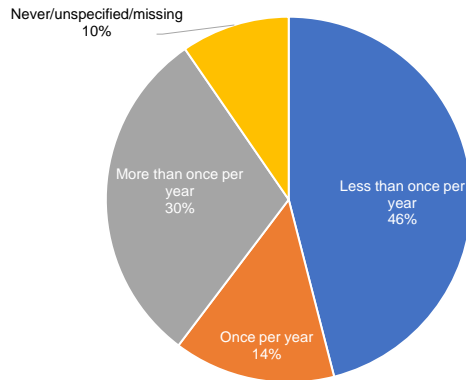


Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Blumenstock JA, Jiang J, Davis MM, Nadeau KC. The Public Health Impact of Parent-Reported Childhood Food Allergies in the United States. Pediatrics 2018-1235

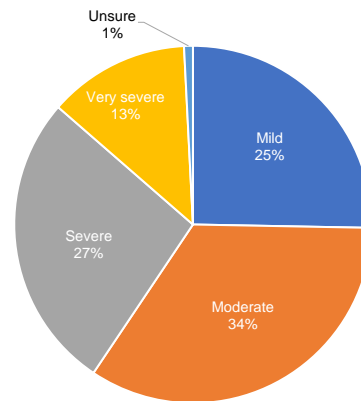
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Parent-Reported Reaction History

National Patient Registry



Average Number of Reactions



Perceived Severity of Most Recent Reaction



Fierstein, J. L., Brown, D., Gupta, R., & Bilaver, L. (2021). Understanding Food-Related Allergic Reactions Through a US National Patient Registry. *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice*, 9(1), 206-21

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Pediatric Atopic Comorbidities

Rates of physician-diagnosed atopic conditions were **significantly higher among children with convincing FA** compared with other children

Physician Diagnosed Comorbid Conditions	All Children	Children with FA	P-Value
Asthma	12.2 (11.4–13.0)	32.6 (29.5–35.9)*	<.001*
Atopic Dermatitis	5.9 (5.3–6.5)*	14.9 (12.5–17.7)*	<.001*
Eosinophilic Esophagitis (EoE)	0.2 (0.10–0.2)*	0.7 (0.4–1.1)*	<.001*
Allergic Rhinitis	12.8 (12.0–13.6)*	30.4 (27.6–33.4)*	<.001*
Other Chronic Condition	4.2 (3.7–4.7)*	10.1 (8.2–12.3)*	<.001*



Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Blumenstock JA, Jiang J, Davis MM, Nadeau KC. The Public Health Impact of Parent-Reported Childhood Food Allergies in the United States. *Pediatrics* 2018-1235

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Prevalence and Severity of Food Allergies Among US Adults

Ruchi S Gupta, Christopher M Warren, Bridget M Smith, Jialing Jiang, Jesse A Blumenstock, Matthew M Davis, Robert P Schleimer, Kari C Nadeau

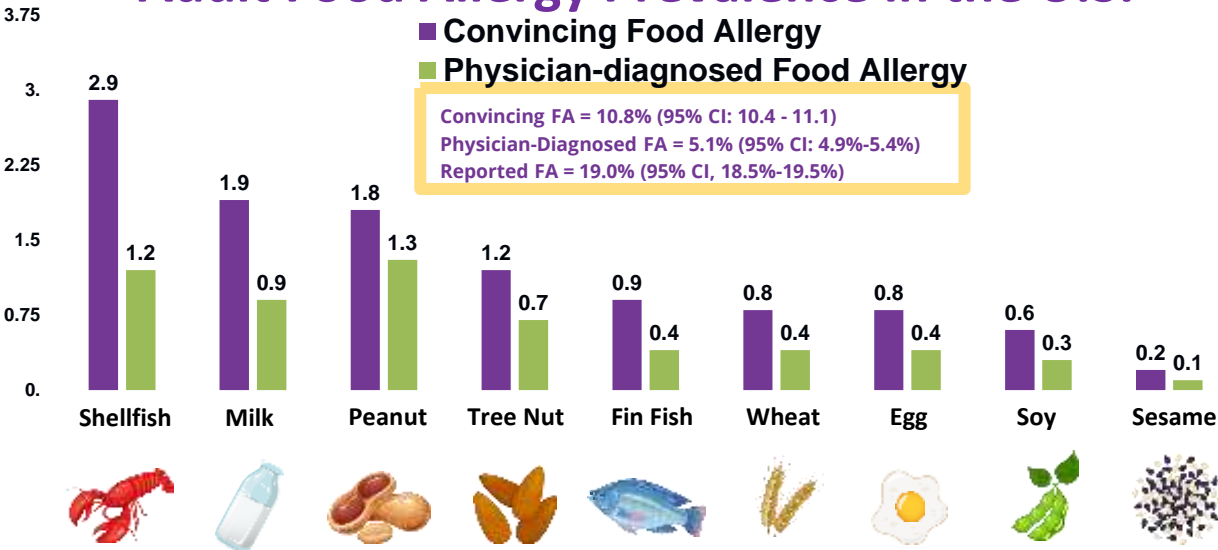
JAMA Network OPEN. 2019 Jan 4;2(1):e185630. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2018.5630.

Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Jiang J, Blumenstock JA, Davis MM, et al. Prevalence and Severity of Food Allergies Among US Adults. JAMA Netw Open. 2019 Jan 4;2(1):e185630. PMID: 30646188



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Adult Food Allergy Prevalence in the U.S.



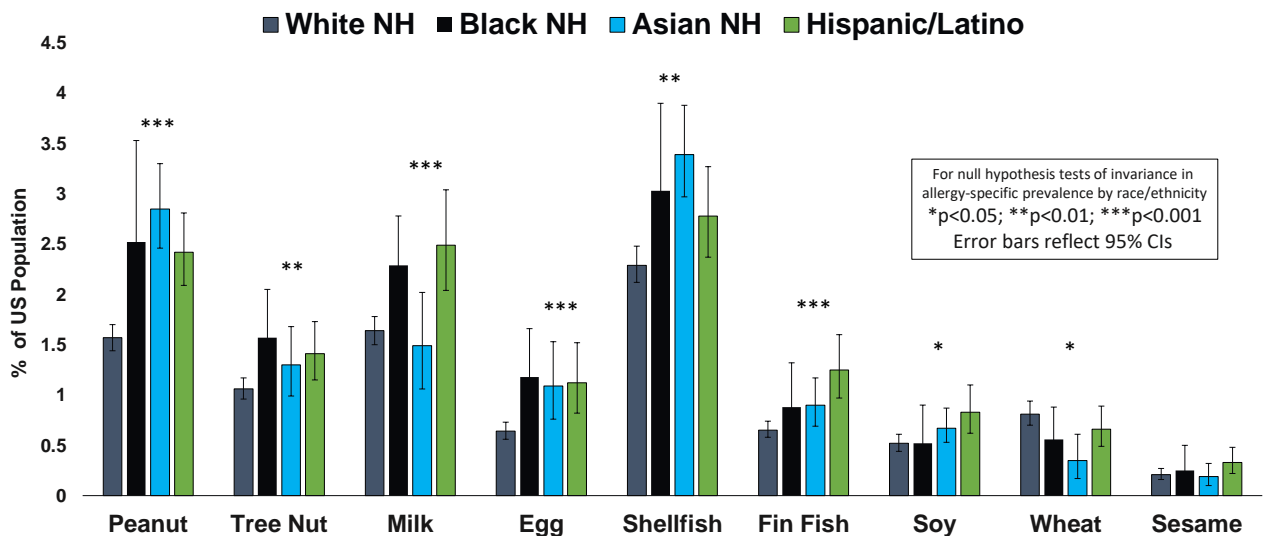
Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Jiang J, Blumenstock JA, Davis MM, Schleimer RP, Nadeau KC. Prevalence and Severity of Food Allergies Among US Adults. JAMA Network Open. 2019;2(1):e185630.

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Top Allergens by Race/Ethnicity



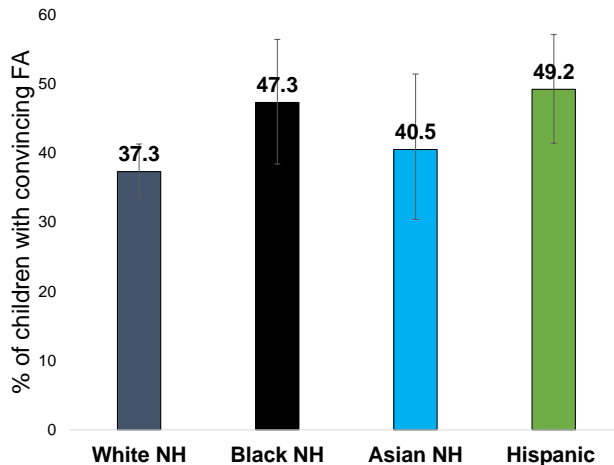
Peanut, Milk, Shellfish, Finfish allergy are significantly higher among minority populations compared to White Americans

Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith B, Jiang J, Blumenstock J, Davis MM, Schleimer R, Nadeau K. Estimates of the Distribution, Determinants, and Severity of Food Allergies Among US Adults. *JAMA Network OPEN* 2019. Jan 4;2(1):e185630.

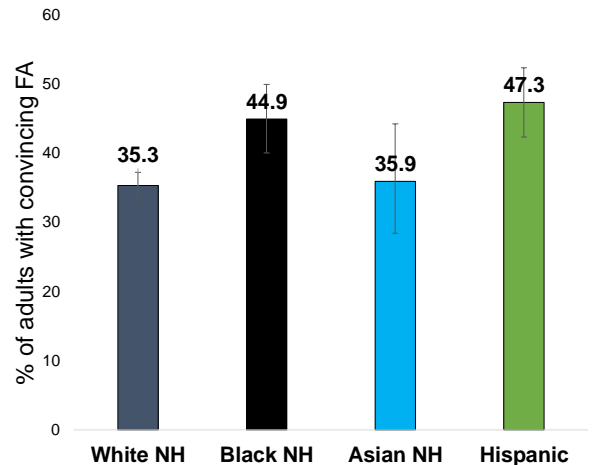
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Lifetime FA-related Emergency Department Visits Higher in Black and Hispanic Populations

US Children



US Adults



Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Blumenstock JA, Jiang J, Davis MM, Nadeau KC. The Public Health Impact of Parent-Reported Childhood Food Allergies in the United States. *Pediatrics* 2018;1235
 Gupta RS, Warren CM, Smith BM, Jiang J, Blumenstock JA, Davis MM, Schleimer RP, Nadeau KC. Prevalence and Severity of Food Allergies Among US Adults. *JAMA Network Open*. 2019;2(1):e185630.

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Retrospective Analysis Uncovers Pronounced Racial Differences in Food Allergy Phenotype and Health Care Utilization

Original Article

Racial Differences in Food Allergy Phenotype and Health Care Utilization among US Children

Mahboobeh Mahdavinia, MD, PhD¹, Susan R. Fox, PA¹, Bridget M. Smith, PhD^{2,3,4}, Christine James, MD¹, Erica L. Palmisano, MD², Aisha Mohammed, MD², Zeeshan Zahid, MD², Amal H. Assa'ad, MD², Mary C. Tobin, MD², and Ruchi S. Gupta, MD, MPH^{1,2} *Chicago and Hines, Ill; and Cincinnati, Ohio*

What is already known about this topic? There is a paucity of data in the epidemiology of food allergy (FA) as it relates to race and/or ethnicity. The limited existing data show that African American children are at an increased risk for FA and its associated morbidities, and there are no data on Hispanic children with FA.

What does this article add to our knowledge? We found that African American (AA) and Hispanic children had different food allergen profiles, higher rates of associated atopic conditions, and increased rates of FA-associated anaphylaxis and emergency department visits than white children.

How does this study impact current management guidelines? The higher rates of asthma and anaphylaxis among minority children are concerning, especially when considered in the context of increased anaphylaxis in AA children. These findings highlight the need for culturally sensitive educational programs to improve FA outcomes in these children.

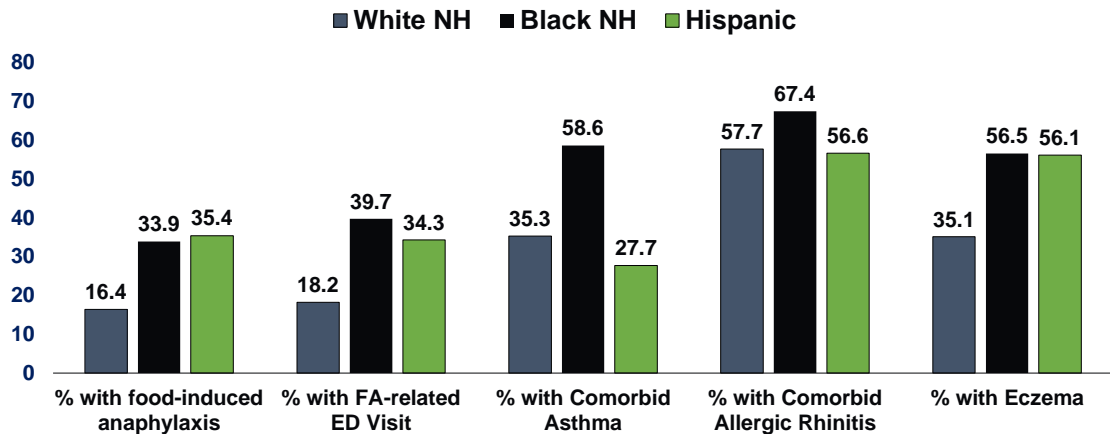
- Multi-center, retrospective cohort study of children aged 0-17 years with FA seen in allergy/immunology clinics at 2 US urban tertiary care centers
- N=817: 35% Black, 12% Hispanic, 53% non-Hispanic white



Mahdavinia M, et al. (2017). "Racial Differences in Food Allergy Phenotype and Health Care Utilization among US Children." *J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract* 5(2): 352-357 e351.

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Racial Differences in Food Allergy Phenotype and Health Care Utilization



Mahdavinia M, et al. (2017). "Racial Differences in Food Allergy Phenotype and Health Care Utilization among US Children." *J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract* 5(2): 352-357 e351.

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FORWARD

- Original 5-year, multi-site, NIH/NIAID funded R01 study (R01 ID #AI130348) to examine food allergies in White, Black, and Hispanic/Latinx populations
- Clinical EMR data extraction, quarterly surveys, biospecimen collection
- **Goal:** Understand differences in food allergy phenotypes/endotypes, diagnosis, management, quality of life by race/ethnicity in order to improve equitable care



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iREACH: NIH/NIAID U01AI138907

Goal:

To improve pediatric clinician adherence to the early introduction guidelines to ultimately reduce peanut allergy incidence

Details:

- Practice-based, randomized controlled trial in Illinois
- Study Period: Five Years 7/1/2019 - 6/30/2024



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Study Aims



Primary Aim:

To determine the effectiveness of the iREACH intervention in increasing pediatric clinician adherence to the PPA Guidelines.

Secondary Aim:

To determine the effectiveness of iREACH intervention in decreasing the incidence of peanut allergy in children by age 2.5 years old.



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Clinician Training Modules



Training video summarizes the guidelines, a clinical decision support tool, and classifications of eczema

CME & MOC opportunities were offered to iREACH participants to encourage participation



<https://feinberg.northwestern.edu/sites/cfaar/resources/video-library.html#IREACH>

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Atopic Derm Scorecard



Infant Atopic Dermatitis Severity Scorecard - iGA-AQ™ with examples	
0	Clear: No inflammatory signs of atopic dermatitis.
1	Almost Clear: Barely perceptible erythema, barely perceptible induration/papulation, and/or minimal lichenification.
2	Mild Slight but definite erythema (pink), slight but definite induration/papulation, and/or slight but definite lichenification. No oozing or crusting.
3	Moderate Clearly perceptible erythema (red red), clearly perceptible induration/papulation, and/or clearly perceptible lichenification. Oozing and crusting may be present.
4	Severe Marked erythema (deep or bright red), marked induration/papulation, and/or marked lichenification. Disease is widespread in extent. Oozing or crusting may be present.

Scorecard to assist physicians in classifying eczema severity in diverse skin tones



Infant Atopic Dermatitis Severity Scorecard

SCAN ME



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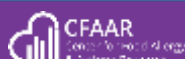
Intervention in Well Child Care (WCC): Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Tool



What is the iREACH intervention?

An EHR-integrated CDS tool embedded in:

- 4- and 6-month WCC templates to support pediatrician decision-making.
- 9- month WCC templates to ask parents about inclusion of peanut products in their child's diet.



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Results: Low Risk Infants

- Pediatric clinician adherence to the guidelines:
 - **80% of infants in intervention arm**
 - **26% of infants in control arm**
- Adjusted odds ratio for training and CDS tools increasing pediatric clinician adherence to guidelines:
 - **Low risk infants: 22.1 ($p < 0.001$)**



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Results: High Risk Infants

- Pediatric clinician adherence to the guidelines:
 - **17% of infants in intervention arm**
 - **8% of infants in control arm**
- Adjusted odd ratio for training and CDS tools increasing pediatric clinician adherence to guidelines:
 - **High risk infants: 3.7 ($p = 0.0256$)**



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Results: High Risk Infants



	Intervention	Control
Received Correct Recommendation (s)	17 %	8 %
Referred to Allergy	9.8 %	8 %
Ordered peanut sIgE	6.8 %	0 %
Both referral and sIgE	0.4 %	0 %
Recommended peanut introduction	69 %	49 %
Received any recommendation (s)	86 %	57 %
No recommendation (s)	14 %	43 %



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Conclusions

- Training was effective in **improving knowledge** of the PPA guidelines
- The intervention was effective in **increasing pediatric clinician adherence** to the PPA guidelines
- Future analyses will measure effectiveness of the intervention in reducing peanut allergy incidence by 2.5 years of age



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National Food Allergy Caregiver Survey

Objective:

- To understand current parent/caregiver attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors regarding introduction of key allergenic solids during infancy

Methods:

- Surveyed nationally representative sample of caregivers of children aged 7 months to 3.5 years old
- Interviews conducted in English & Spanish via web and phone
- 3,062 interviews completed between January 21 and February 15, 2021



Warren CM, Samady W, Nimmagadda S, Venter C, Jiang J, Zaslavsky J, Ibrahim K, Vincent E, Gupta RS. Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviors Regarding Peanut Protein Introduction During Infancy—a US population-based survey of parents/caregivers. Presented at 2022 Meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies

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Demographics

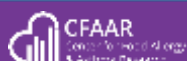
N=3,062

Predominately 30-44 year old caregivers

- 49.4% White NH
- 27.9% Hispanic/Latino
- 13.9% Black
- High school graduate
- Annual income <\$30,000

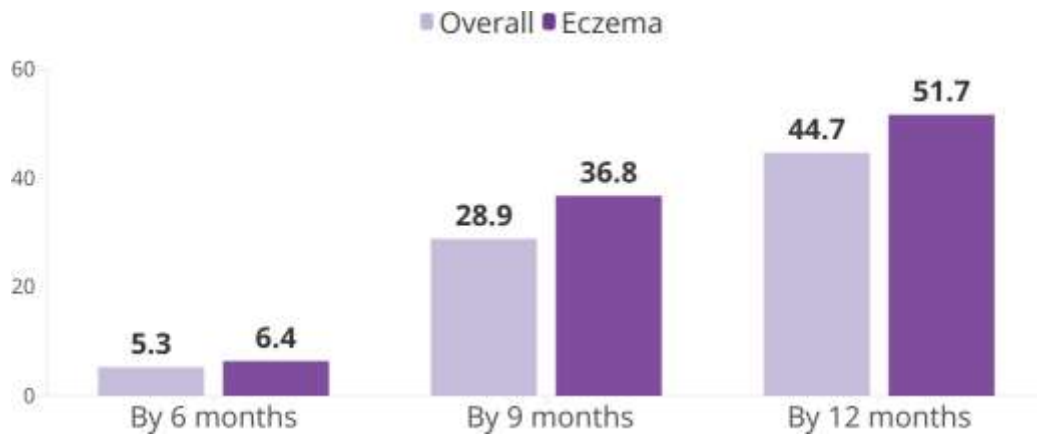
Of all respondents, **328** had a child with eczema

	All Respondents N (%)
Race/Ethnicity	
White, NH	1513 (49.4)
Black, NH	425 (13.9)
Other, NH	44 (1.4)
Hispanic	855 (27.9)
2+, NH	96 (3.1)
Asian, NH	128 (4.2)
Education level	
<High School	442 (14.4)
High School Grad	863 (28.2)
Vocational Tech School	751 (24.5)
Bachelor's Degree	611 (19.9)
Postgraduate/Professional	395 (12.9)
Annual Household Income	
<\$30,000	1006 (32.8)
\$30,000-\$59,999	776 (25.3)
\$60,000-\$99,999	704 (23.0)
\$100,000+	576 (18.8)



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Time of Peanut Introduction



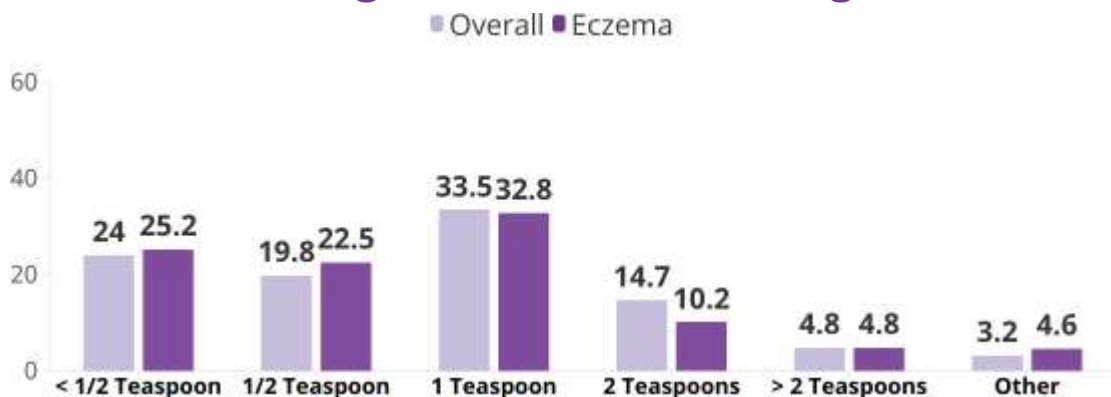
Overall, less than half of caregivers are introducing peanuts to their infants by age 1



Warren CM, Samady W, Nimmagadda S, Venter C, Jiang J, Zaslavsky J, Ibrahim K, Vincent E, Gupta RS. Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviors Regarding Peanut Protein Introduction During Infancy—a US population-based survey of parents/caregivers. Presented at 2022 Meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies

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Quantity of peanut fed during typical feeding during 1st month of feeding?



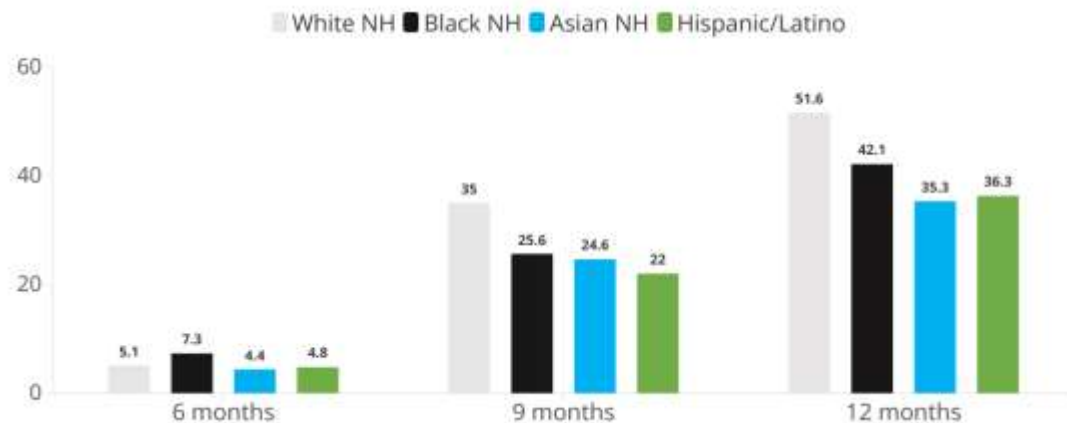
Only 15% of respondents introduced the recommended amount



Warren CM, Samady W, Nimmagadda S, Venter C, Jiang J, Zaslavsky J, Ibrahim K, Vincent E, Gupta RS. Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviors Regarding Peanut Protein Introduction During Infancy—a US population-based survey of parents/caregivers. Presented at 2022 Meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies

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Timing of Peanut Introduction by Race / Ethnicity



The rates of peanut introduction by 6 months are low for all races
White families significantly more likely to introduce peanuts by 12 months



Warren CM, Samady W, Nimmagadda S, Venter C, Jiang J, Zaslavsky J, Ibrahim K, Vincent E, Gupta RS. Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviors Regarding Peanut Protein Introduction During Infancy—a US population-based survey of parents/caregivers. Presented at 2022 Meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies

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**Prevention:
What Can We Do?**

CFAAR
Center for Food Allergy & Asthma Research

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Northwestern Medicine
Feinberg School of Medicine

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Improve Accuracy in Atopic Dermatitis Diagnosis

- Utilize AD severity score card with diverse skin tones for **improved detection of infants at high-risk for FA development**
- Visit** <https://eczemainskinofcolor.org/> for resources to help physicians differentiate eczema on skin of color from other skin diseases. *Developed by ACAAI and AAN*



ECZEMA
in Skin of Color

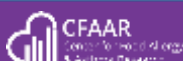


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Share Prevention Guideline Resources with Pediatric Clinicians

- Educational videos on PPA guidelines and eczema severity categorization
- Early introduction clinic flyer
- Clinician workflow handout
- Eczema classification handout

Available on the CFAAR website



SCAN ME



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Increase Caregiver Knowledge and Confidence in Early Introduction

- Discuss the process and share resources on early introduction with new parents
- Available in English and Spanish on the CFAAR website

Feeding Your Baby Solid Foods

When? Babies become interested in solid foods around ages 4 to 6 months. How will I know if they are ready? Shows good head and neck control. Can sit upright with little to no support. Opens mouth when offered baby food. Tries to grab food, toys, or other objects.

What? **Recommended First Foods**

- Start with one-ingredient foods like fortified baby cereal, fruit, or vegetable.
- First offer the puree. Then try a mashed consistency as your baby becomes used to different textures.
- Introduce one-ingredient foods. Add a new food with a vegetable, meat, or fruit your baby gets used to one-ingredient foods.
- DO NOT add any sugar, salt, or spices to baby food.
- DO NOT give any cow's milk, juice, or honey until after the first birthday. Honey may contain deadly bacteria and cause infant botulism.

CHOKING HAZARDS TO AVOID UNTIL AGE 4+ YEARS Hard, round, or sticky foods like nuts, grapes, raw carrots, candy, balloons, popcorn.

How? **Instructions for Feeding**

- Place your baby in a secure high chair and stop with them the whole time to watch her feeding.
- Introduce one new food at a time. First offer small amounts on a spoon. Then start increasing based on your baby's appetite.
- Start with one meal per day. Then increase to three meals as your baby grows.
- Continue giving breastmilk or formula during your baby's first year of life.
- Slowly offer a variety of foods as your baby becomes used to new flavors.

If your baby seems distressed before your baby accepts a new solid food, be patient and ask your doctor if you have any concerns.

Adding Peanut Protein to Your Baby's Diet

Read the general instructions for feeding peanut-containing foods to your baby. After introducing peanut-containing foods, add a little more your infant's regular diet to keep your baby's diet balanced. If your baby has severe eczema or an egg allergy, please wait to give peanut-containing foods until your doctor says it's okay.

How To Introduce Offer a small amount* of smooth peanut butter on the tip of a baby spoon. Wait 10 minutes to see how your baby responds. If there is no allergic reaction but instead, continue feeding your baby.

Allergic Reaction Signs Mild symptoms include new rash or hives, especially around the mouth. Severe symptoms include:

- Up to tongue swelling
- Wheezing or trouble breathing
- Stomach pain
- Diarrhea
- Severe allergic reaction

If you suspect an allergic reaction, call your doctor or 911.

Recipe #1: Smooth Peanut Butter Pudding

1. Measure 2 tablespoons of smooth peanut butter.
2. Add 2.0 tablespoons of hot water and stir until whole, smooth, and blended. Let it sit for 5 minutes.
3. Add more hot water to make the mixture as thick as your baby likes.
4. Serve up to 2 ounces per serving.

Recipe #2: Smooth Peanut Butter Pudding

1. Measure 2 tablespoons of smooth peanut butter.
2. Add 2.0 tablespoons of whole or vegetable oil and stir until whole, smooth, and blended. Let it sit for 5 minutes.
3. Add more oil to make the mixture as thick as your baby likes.
4. Serve up to 2 ounces per serving.

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Improve Equitable Access to Safe and Nutritious Foods

- Encourage USDA to expand food packages in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to include recommended allergens for early introduction.

USDA Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

PROPOSED UPDATES TO THE WIC FOOD PACKAGES

OVERVIEW WIC is a federal public health program, proven to help women, infants, and young children thrive. USDA's Food and Nutrition Service is recommending certain food updates to the food provided to WIC participants to best meet their nutritional needs and foster healthy growth and development. Some of the proposed changes are highlighted below.

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT Increase support for mothers who breastfeed, but not exclusively, to help them support individual breastfeeding goals.

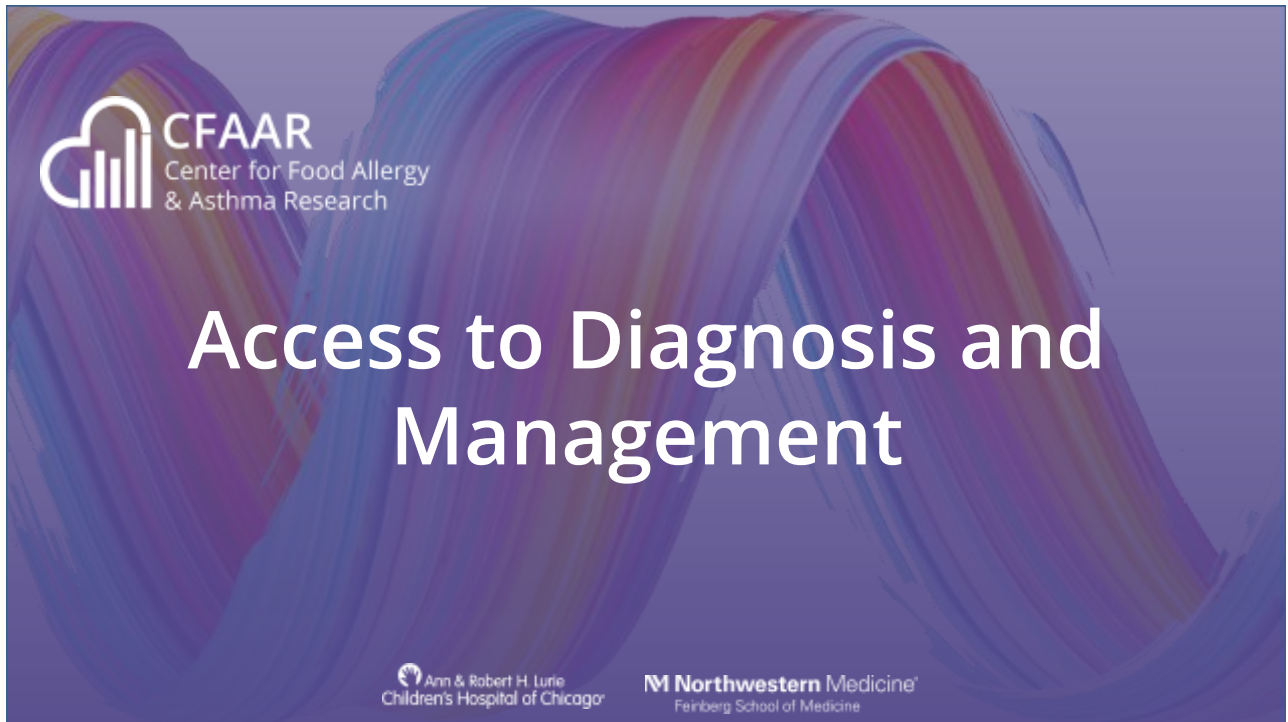
SEAFOOD Increase access to seafood to help meet the latest dietary guidelines.

DAIRY AND EGGS Provide more options, such as different sizes of yogurt containers or soft-boiled egg options for milk or butter for eggs.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES Increase fruit and vegetable benefits by 3-4x. Focus on whole fruit, and increase variety of fruits, vegetables, and legumes offered.

GRAINS Expand whole grain options to include things like quinoa, rice, oatmeal, and whole wheat bread.

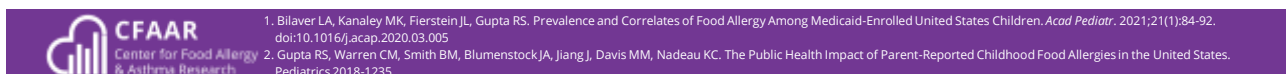
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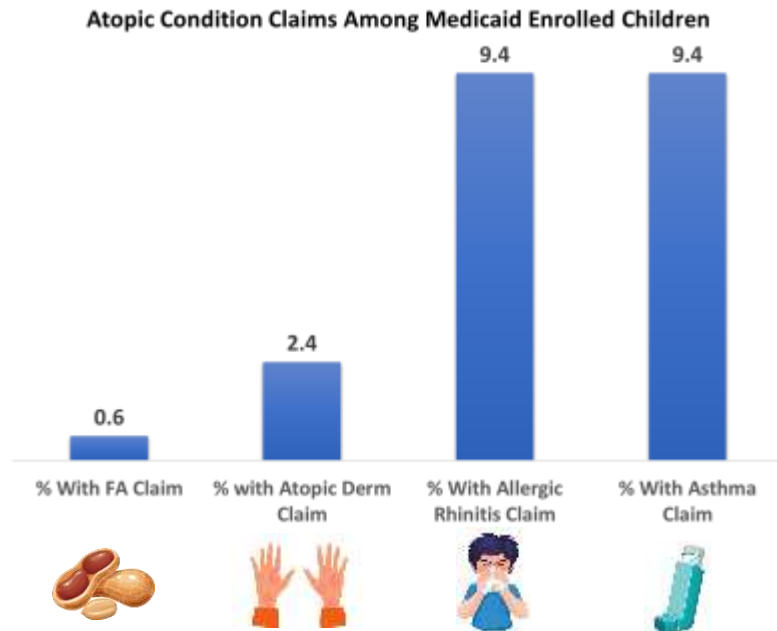
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Diagnosis

Prevalence of FA diagnosis among Medicaid-enrolled US children is **substantially lower (0.6%)** compared to previous national estimates using parent surveys (7.6%) and reports of physician confirmation of food allergy (4.7%)



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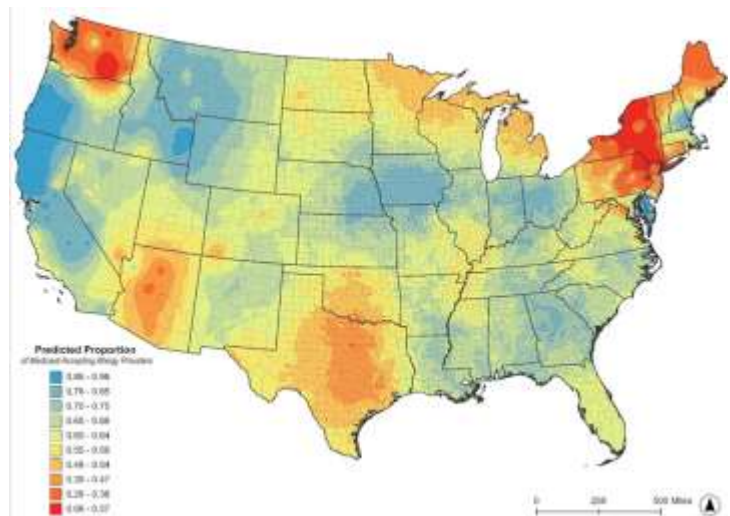


Bilaver LA, Kanaley MK, Fierstein JL, Gupta RS. Prevalence and Correlates of Food Allergy Among Medicaid-Enrolled United States Children. *Acad Pediatr.* 2021;21(1):84-92. doi:10.1016/j.acap.2020.03.005

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Medicaid-Accepting Allergists

- Only 55.5% of allergists accept Medicaid nationwide



Ho FO, Zheng C, Frazier M, Nimmagadda SR, Gupta RS, Bilaver LA. Geographic variability of Medicaid acceptance among allergists in the US. *Am J Manag Care.* 2024;30(8):374-379. doi:10.37765/ajmc.2024.89588

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Access to Care

Medicaid-enrolled U.S. children with FA less likely to receive guideline-informed care

Children of color and those living in high poverty counties were:

- Less likely to have visited an allergist for FA or receive diagnostic testing
- More likely to have an FA-related ED visit compared with White children and those not living in a high-poverty county



Kanaley MK, Dyer AA, Negris OR, Fierstein JL, Ciaccio CE, Gupta RS, Bilaver LA. Guideline-informed care among Medicaid-enrolled children with food allergy. *Am J Manag Care*. 2020 Dec;26(12):505-512. doi: 10.37765/ajmc.2020.88538. PMID: 33315325.

49

Outcomes and Factors Associated with Pre-Hospital Treatment of Pediatric Anaphylaxis

Children with Medicaid received pre-ED EPI **less frequently** than children with private insurance (24.5% v. 43.8%, $p=.001$).

Medicaid insurance was associated with **decreased likelihood of pre-hospital EPI** (OR .33 [95% CI .16-.66]).



Tranor JL, Pittsenbarger ZE, Joshi D, Adler MD, Smith B, Gupta RS. Outcomes and Factors Associated With Prehospital Treatment of Pediatric Anaphylaxis. *Pediatr Emerg Care*. 2020 Jun 15. doi: 10.1097/PEC.0000000000002146. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 32544141.

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Economic Impact of Food Allergy

Overall Economic Cost



\$ 24.8 Billion

Direct Medical Costs



\$ 4.3 Billion

Family Cost



\$ 20.5 Billion
\$4,184 per year/per child



Gupta R, Holdford D, Bilaver L, Dyer A, Holl JL, Meltzer D. The economic impact of childhood food allergy in the United States. JAMA pediatrics. 2013 Nov 1;167(11):1026-31.

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Out-of-Pocket Costs

Variable	% Reporting Cost (SE)	Mean Direct Out-of-Pocket Costs, US\$ (SE)	Cost Per Child, US\$	Overall Annual Cost (in Millions), US\$
Non-traditional medicine	15 (1.6)	123 (30)	19	110
Costs associated with special diets and allergen-free food	37.7 (2.0)	756 (59)	285	1689
Additional/change in childcare	6.7 (0.8)	2158 (323)	145	857
Legal guidance	2.3 (0.6)	402 (122)	9	55
Counseling or mental health services	4.5 (0.7)	571 (123)	26	152
Special summer camp	3 (0.7)	702 (183)	21	125
A change in schools was needed due to food allergy	4.2 (0.7)	2611 (497)	110	650
Other expenses (e.g., cleaning supplies)	9.5 (1.1)	396 (86)	36	216
Any out-of-pocket costs	74.3 (2.1)	1252 (90)	931	5516

Out-of-pocket costs: medical costs borne by patient associated with the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of food allergies. Includes all costs associated with protecting the child from exposure to allergens, including special childcare arrangements. The out-of-pocket costs exclude the top 1% of reported costs in each category.



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Gupta R, Holdford D, Bilaver L, Dyer A, Holl JL, Meltzer D. The economic impact of childhood food allergy in the United States. JAMA pediatrics. 2013 Nov 1;167(11):1026-31.

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Comparing WTP & Measure of Actual Cost

Characteristic	Annual Costs, US\$			
	Total (in Billions)	Per Child	95% CI	
			Total (in Billions)	Per Child
Willingness to Pay (WTP)	20.8	3504	(15.7-25.7)	(2652-4344)
Costs borne by families				
Out-of-pocket treatment	5.5	931	(4.7-6.4)	(793-1080)
Lost labor productivity	0.77	130	(0.53-1.0)	(89-175)
Opportunity	14.2	2399	(10.5-18.4)	(1771-3104)
Total				
Direct medical costs	4.3	724	(2.8-6.3)	(472-1063)
Reported costs borne by families	20.5	3457	(16.7-24.9)	(2816-4208)
Reported costs	24.8	4184	(20.6-29.4)	(3475-4960)



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Gupta R, Holdford D, Bilaver L, Dyer A, Holl JL, Meltzer D. The economic impact of childhood food allergy in the United States. JAMA pediatrics. 2013 Nov 1;167(11):1026-31.

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Direct Out-of-Pocket Costs by Household Income

Type of Cost	Mean Annual Costs (SE), US\$		
	<\$50K	\$50K-99K	≥\$100K
Total Direct Costs borne by health care system	1374 (274)	1024 (125)	940 (128)
ER and Hospitalization costs*	1021 (209)	434 (106)	416 (94)
Specialist costs**	228 (21)	330 (27)	311 (18)
Total Out-of-Pocket Costs borne by families	3174 (858)	3434 (658)	5062 (1168)
Medication costs***	171 (26)	275 (30)	366 (44)
Special food costs	744 (216)	941 (230)	1545 (347)

*p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001 for F-test of equality of means across groups.

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Bilaver, L. A., Kester, K. M., Smith, B. M., & Gupta, R. S. (2016). Socioeconomic Disparities in the Economic Impact of Childhood Food Allergy. *Pediatrics*, 137(5), e20153678. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2015-3678>

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Families with Low Income

Spend 2.5x more on FA **ED Visits and hospitalizations**

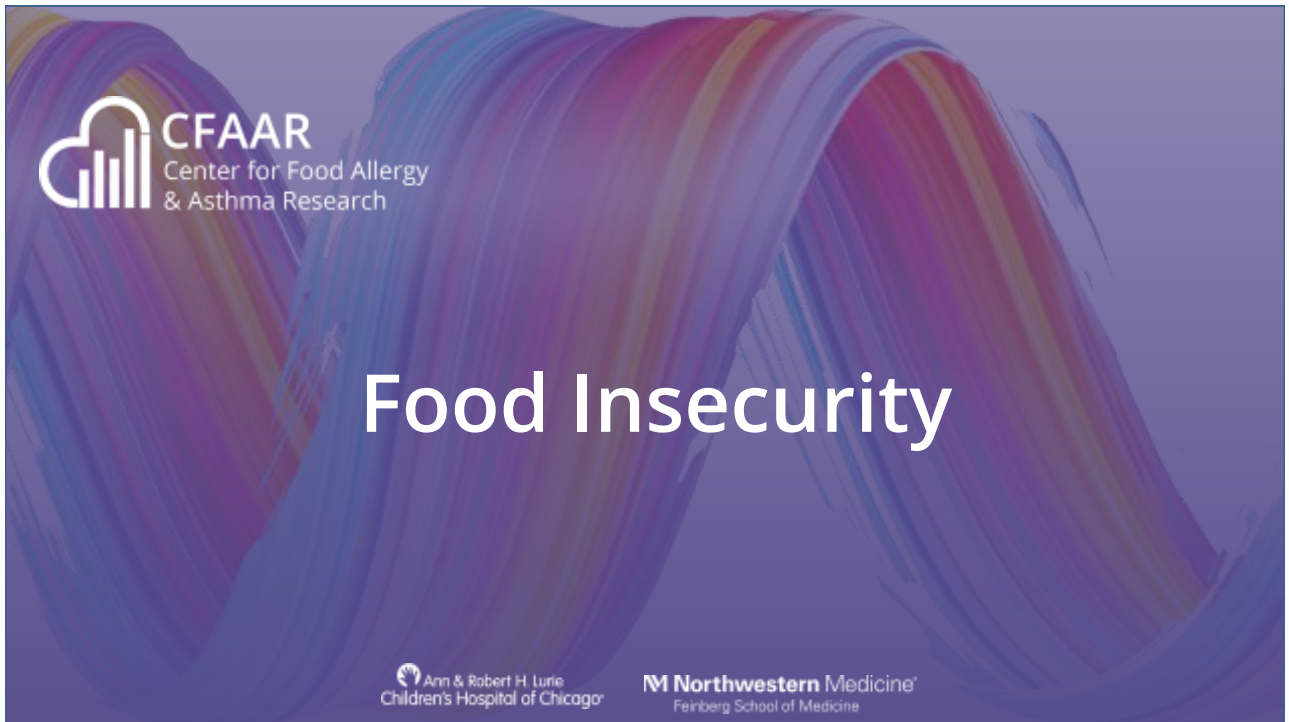
Spend less on **specialty** visits

Spend less on out-of-pocket costs for **medications**



Bilaver, L. A., Kester, K. M., Smith, B. M., & Gupta, R. S. (2016). Socioeconomic Disparities in the Economic Impact of Childhood Food Allergy. *Pediatrics*, 137(5), e20153678. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2015-3678>

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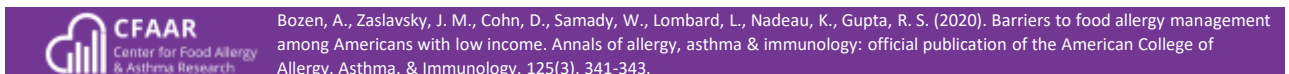


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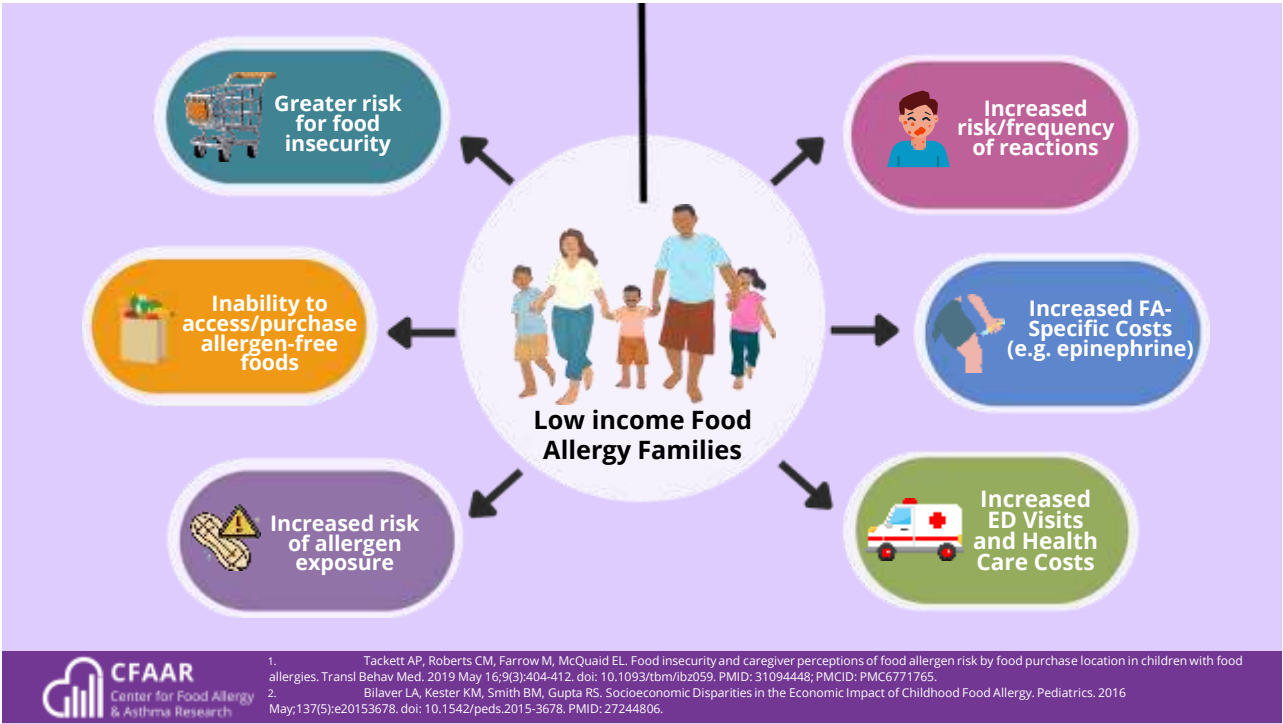
Food Insecurity



"I would say the biggest challenge is finding food that fits all of his restrictions"



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Access to Care and Safe Foods: What Can We Do?

Ann & Robert H. Lurie
Children's Hospital of Chicago

Northwestern Medicine
Feinberg School of Medicine

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Incorporate Food Insecurity Screening into Clinic Workflow

• Existing food insecurity instruments include:

- U.S. Household Food Security Survey Module (USDA)
- Six-Item Short Form of the Food Security Survey Module (USDA)
- American Academy of Pediatrics Recommended Hunger Vital Sign™

Example questions to include from Hunger Vital Sign™:

1. In the past 12 months, we worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more.
 - Often true
 - Sometimes true
 - Never true
2. In the past 12 months, the food we bought just did not last and we did not have money to get more.
 - Often true
 - Sometimes true
 - Never true



Hager, E. R., Quigg, A. M., Black, M. M., Coleman, S. M., Heeren, T., Rose-Jacobs, R., Cook, J. T., Ettinger de Cuba, S. E., Casey, P. H., Chilton, M., Cutts, D. B., Meyers A. F., Frank, D. A. (2010). Development and Validity of a 2-Item Screen to Identify Families at Risk for Food Insecurity. *Pediatrics*, 126(1), 26-32. doi:10.1542/peds.2009-3146.

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Identify Opportunities for Partnerships and Referrals

• Connect with food pantries who serve patients with FA

- <https://foodequalityinitiative.org/>
- <https://freefrommarket.com/contact-us/>
- <https://fooddiversity.org/>
- <https://securingsafefood.org/>



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Join Working Groups and Advocate for Policy Change

Working Groups:

- ACAAI and AAAAI Working Group

Advocate for policy changes:

- Strengthening federal nutrition programs
- Fewer restrictions on substitutions in the WIC program with more offerings of allergy-friendly foods and nutritionally equivalent offerings
- Insurance coverage on food as medicine



Brown, E., Das, R., Brewer, A. G., Martinez, E., Bilaver, L. A., & Gupta, R. S. (2020). Food Insecure and Allergic in a Pandemic: A Vulnerable Population. The journal of allergy and clinical immunology. In practice, 8(7), 2149–2151

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Create an Allergy and Anaphylaxis Action Plan

- Every child with food allergies needs an action plan
- The action plan addresses recommended treatment in case of an allergic reaction and is signed by the parent and student's physician
- Should have a new action plan every annual visit



SCAN ME



https://downloads.aap.org/HC/AAP_Allergy_and_Anaphylaxis_Emergency_Plan.pdf

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Share Management Tools: Food Allergy Passport

Personalized tool that helps caregivers and children manage their food allergies more easily and with greater confidence.

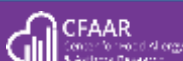
Available for free on CFAAR website.
Create your own/share with patients:
www.foodallergypassport.com

After filling out personalized FA Passport™, it can be printed or sent via email.



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Share Management Tools: Food Allergy Workbook



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Share Management Tools: Peer-to-Peer Educational Videos



K – 3rd Grade



4th - 7th Grade



8th - 12th Grade

Available at cfaar.northwestern.edu




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Provide Resources for Patients



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Management Options

Ann & Robert H. Lurie
Children's Hospital of Chicago

Northwestern Medicine
Feinberg School of Medicine

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Formula Recommendations for CMA

1. Extensively Hydrolyzed formula
2. Amino Acid Based Formula
3. Soy formula

Only an eHF and AAF are considered
Hypoallergenic



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When to use eHF vs AAF

Guideline	Anaphylaxis	Atopic Dermatitis	EoE	GERD	FPIES	Proctocolitis
DRACMA	AAF	eHF	AAF	eHF	eHF	eHF
ESPGHAN	AAF	eHF	AAF	eHF	eHF	eHF


Consider AAF when:

☐ Symptoms not fully resolved on eHF

☐ EoE

☐ Anaphylaxis

☐ Failure to Thrive



1. Vandenplas Y, Broekaert I, Domellöf M, et al. An ESPGHAN position paper on the diagnosis, management and prevention of cow's milk allergy. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. 2023.

2. Bognanni A, Flocchi A, Arasi S, et al. World Allergy Organization (WAO) Diagnosis and Rationale for Action against Cow's Milk Allergy (DRACMA) guideline update XII; Recommendations on milk formula supplements with and without probiotics for infants and toddlers with CMA. World Allergy Organization Journal. 2024;17.

Soy Formula Guidelines

DRACMA: Not recommended for infants <6 months

- May be used due to:
 - Economic restrictions
 - Cultural reasons
 - Palatability


ESPGHAN Committee on Nutrition & AAP: Recommended against the use of soy infant formula significantly below the age of 6 months, because of the risk of co-allergy

When comparing eHF vs. Soy formula

- extensively hydrolyzed formula (eHF) may favor weight gain, but there is no difference in length growth



Soy picture from Michelle Dorsey-Wallford, under CC-by 2.0 license from Flickr



1. Vandenplas Y, Broekaert I, Domellöf M, et al. An ESPGHAN position paper on the diagnosis, management and prevention of cow's milk allergy. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. 2023.

2. Bognanni A, Flocchi A, Arasi S, et al. World Allergy Organization (WAO) Diagnosis and Rationale for Action against Cow's Milk Allergy (DRACMA) guideline update XII; Recommendations on milk formula supplements with and without probiotics for infants and toddlers with CMA. World Allergy Organization Journal. 2024;17.

Current Immunotherapy Categories for Food Allergy

- **Epicutaneous Immunotherapy (EPIT)**
 - On the skin
- **Oral Immunotherapy (OIT)- eaten**
 - With and without a period of withdrawal
 - With and without adjunctive therapy
- **Sublingual Immunotherapy (SLIT)- under the tongue**
 - With and without follow up with OIT
- **Biologics**



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Oral Immunotherapy (OIT)

- Palforzia™ Approved January 31st, 2020
- Derived from peanut powder, each dose contains the equivalent of small amounts of peanuts
- **Works by desensitizing patients by gradually increasing the dosage of peanut exposure**
- Targeting children ages 4 to 17

Palforzia™
Peanut (*Arachis hypogaea*)
Allergen Powder-dnfp



Palforzia is a trademark of Société des Produits Nestlé S.A. (Société Anonyme (SA); Switzerland) and is not affiliated with Nutricia North America.

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Biologics

- Biologics alone and in combination with OIT are being investigated in peanut allergy
- These biologics block activity in the Type II high inflammatory pathway that affects allergic reactions
- Biologics:
 - Omilizumab (Xolair®)
 - Dupilimab (Dupixent®)
 - Ligelizumab
 - Probiotics



AnaptysBio announces positive top-line proof-of-concept data for ANB020 in moderate-to-severe baseline adult peanut allergy patients (news release).
[lr.anaptysbio.com/news-releases/news-release-details/anaptysbio-announces-positive-top-line-proof-of-concept-data-anb020](https://www.anaptysbio.com/news-releases/news-release-details/anaptysbio-announces-positive-top-line-proof-of-concept-data-anb020). San Diego, CA; Globe Newswire.
 Xolair is a registered trademark of Novartis AG and not affiliated with Nutricia North America. Dupixent is a trademark Sanofi Biotechnology of and not affiliated with Nutricia North America.

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Omilizumab (Xolair®)

- Results from Phase III OUTMATCH study showed Xolair significantly increased the amount of peanut, milk, egg, and cashew it took to cause an allergic reaction
- In February 2024, Xolair became the first FDA-approved medication to reduce allergic reactions to more than one type of food after accidental exposure



<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-first-medication-help-reduce-allergic-reactions-multiple-foods-after-accidental>
 Xolair is a registered trademark of Novartis AG and not affiliated with Nutricia North America

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Dupilumab (Dupixent®)

- Biologic used to treat adults and children 6 months of age and older with moderate-to-severe eczema



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Accessibility

- OIT and SLIT are treatments offered by limited number of allergists and mostly out of pocket
- Additional costs for office visits, travel, time off work, unanticipated ED visits



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Looking Forward

- This is the dawn of emerging therapies for peanut immunotherapy
- Presently, these treatments may lead to desensitization – not a cure
 - Importantly, they can improve quality of life
- It is paramount that patients/parents/caregivers understand the risks and benefits of each treatment through shared decision making
 - Avoidance only is still a viable option
 - All patients will still have to have an epinephrine auto-injector



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Epinephrine Auto-Injectors



Brands:

EpiPen®
 EpiPen Jr.®
 Auvi-Q®
 Adrenaclick®
 Symjepi®

Generic Epinephrine:

Amneal Pharmaceuticals (Adrenaclick)
 Teva Pharmaceuticals (EpiPen/EpiPenJr.)
 Viatris (EpiPen/EpiPenJr.)



EpiPen and EpiPenJr are trademarks of Mylan Inc. and are not affiliated with Nutricia North America. Auvi-Q is a trademark of Kaleo, Inc. and is not affiliated with Nutricia North America. Adrenaclick is a trademark of Impax Laboratories, LLC. and is not affiliated with Nutricia North America. Symjepi is a trademark of DMK Pharmaceuticals Corporation and is not affiliated with Nutricia North America.

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New Alternatives to Auto-Injectors

Epinephrine Nasal Sprays

- neffy® – ARS Pharmaceuticals
 - FDA approved in August 2024
- UTULY™ – Bryn Pharma



Epinephrine Sublingual Film

- AQST-109 - Aquestive Therapeutics



neffy is a trademark of ARS Pharmaceuticals Operations, Inc. and is not affiliated with Nutricia North America. UTULY is a trademark of Bryn Pharma, LLC. and is not affiliated with Nutricia North America.

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Conclusion

Food allergy prevalence, economic impact, outcomes, access to timely diagnosis and care, and access to safe foods differ significantly by race and socioeconomic status

Physicians, allergists, industry leaders, and policy makers must continue to work together to address these disparities through prioritizing comprehensive education, screening, and systematic policy change to achieve equitable care for all patients



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Do the best you can until
you know better. Then when
you know better, do better.

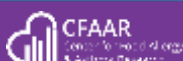
- Maya Angelou



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Browse all CFAAR Resources
here or by visiting
cfaar.northwestern.edu



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College Dietitians: Fuel Your Expertise in Food Allergy Care!

Join us to gain the latest insights on:

- Supporting a **nutrient-dense diet** in food-allergic patients
- Creating **inclusive dining environments** in schools and on college campuses
- **Empowering families** through culinary medicine

2025 CFAAR FOOD ALLERGY SUMMIT

Chicago | June 27 | Pediatric Track



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2025 CFAAR FOOD ALLERGY SUMMIT

Advancing Food Allergy Prevention,
Equity, & Pediatric Education

June 27-29 | Chicago, IL



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Feinberg School of Medicine

Ann & Robert H. Lurie
Children's Hospital of Chicago

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Thank you! Questions?

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