

Celiac Disease affects 1 in 100 North Americans and 97% are undiagnosed! This is an alarming statistic that inspired our staff to look into the disease more, and provide information for the public:

Celiac Disease is the most common genetic autoimmune disease in the world. It is a disorder in which the ingestion of gluten damages the intestinal mucosa, leading to poor absorption of key nutrients, vitamins and minerals. There are numerous symptoms that can be experienced in patients with Celiac Disease, and it is said that no two patients experience the disease the same way, making it difficult to diagnose. Symptoms can include any of the following: bloating, abdominal pain, diarrhea, fatigue, constipation, depression, weight gain or loss, skin disorders, headache, irritable bowel, breathlessness, etc.

Here are some more shocking statistics:

- 1 in 20 Type 1 Diabetics will have Celiac Disease as well
- 1 in 10 chance that parents, children, or siblings of someone with Celiac Disease will also have the disease themselves.

There is good news... By testing and diagnosing Celiac Disease early, treatment can begin to allow the damaged intestinal tissues to heal and decrease the risk of long-term complications developing.

Even better news... Medi-Center Pharmacy carries a new product called Biocard Celiac Test. This test is quick, easy, and as accurate as the tests that would be performed in a hospital laboratory. The test uses a small blood sample to test for the IgA antibodies that are present in Celiac Disease, and can be a great first step to take in the process of diagnosing and beginning to treat Celiac Disease!

Ask your Medi-Center Pharmacist about the Biocard Celiac Test today!