



ausEE Inc.

a charity dedicated to improving lives affected by an eosinophilic disease

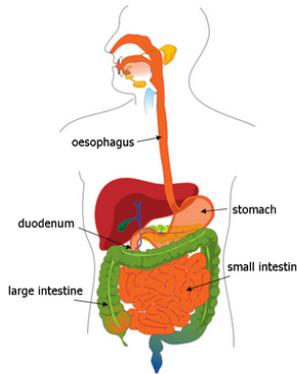
ausEE's mission is to improve the lives of those affected by eosinophilic diseases by providing support, evidence-based information, resources, and advocacy, and by campaigning to raise awareness and funds for research in Australia.

What are Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Diseases?

Eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases (EGIDs) occur when a type of white blood cell, called an eosinophil (pronounced ee-oh-sin-oh-fill), is found in increased numbers in the gastrointestinal tract. This infiltration can cause inflammation and tissue damage.

In EGIDs, if an increased number of eosinophils are found in different regions, it is called:

- eosinophilic oesophagitis (EoE) - oesophagus
- eosinophilic gastritis (EoG) - stomach
- eosinophilic duodenitis (EoD) - duodenum
- eosinophilic enteritis (EoN) - small intestine
- eosinophilic colitis (EoC) - large intestine



What is Eosinophilic Oesophagitis?

Eosinophilic oesophagitis (EoE) is the most known type of EGID, where the eosinophilic infiltration is in the oesophagus. The exact cause of EoE in most individuals is unclear. In some, it appears to be due to an allergy to food(s) and/or aero-allergens.

The symptoms of EoE vary from one individual to the next and can include: feeding difficulty, trouble swallowing foods and/or regularly requiring a drink after eating, food suddenly becoming stuck in the oesophagus (called a food impaction), nausea, persistent vomiting, retching, reflux and abdominal or chest pain. In other types of EGIDs, symptoms depend on which part of the gut is affected (e.g. abnormal stools if the small or large intestine is involved).

An endoscopy with biopsies is the only way to confirm the diagnosis of an EGID and EoE at present, and other reasons for eosinophilic infiltration should be ruled out. The diagnosis cannot be based upon symptoms alone.

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For more information, talk to your doctor about Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Diseases and visit:

ausee.org