



Food Allergy Research and Resource Program Newsletter May 2003

Welcome

FARRP is pleased to announce the addition of two new laboratory technicians, Ferdellie Gaskin and Barbara Meyers.

FARRP Staff Members

Co-Directors: Sue Hefle, Ph.D. & Steve Taylor, Ph.D.

Resource Manager: Jamie Kabourek, M.S., R.D.

Clinical Study Coordinator: Julie Nordlee, M.S.

Laboratory Managers: Lynn Niemann and Debra Lambrecht

Research Technicians: Tina Boilesen, Ferdellie Gaskin and Barbara Meyers

Graduate Students: Carolina Estrada, Neli Ragina and Gülsen Söylemez

Undergraduate Associates: Ashley Lardizabal, Poi Wah Lee, Luis Morcillo and Rebekah Lowe

Workshop Coordinator: Pauline Galloway

Administrative Assistance: Pat Gergen and Erin Wachter

Webmaster: Scott Hegenbart

Mark Your Calendars

The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network along with FARRP is sponsoring a conference for consumer affairs professionals, "Handling Queries from Food-Allergic Consumers" on June 11, 2003 in Chicago (Rosemont), IL. Those interested should contact FAAN at 800-929-4040.

The IFT Annual Meeting is July 12-16, 2003. The laboratory will be closed during this time. **Please call ahead to arrange for product testing.**

The FARRP Board of Directors' Meeting is August 21-22 in Chicago, IL. Contact Sue Hefle if you need more information.

The next FARRP Food Allergen Conference is October 15-16, 2003 in Chicago (Rosemont), IL. Register online at www.farrp.org

FARRP will be sponsoring a symposium on food allergens at the IFT Annual Meeting in July. In addition to the symposium, FARRP will have a booth at the Food Expo at the IFT meeting.

IFT Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, July 12-16, 2003

Sunday, July 13, 2003 Symposium:
Allergenicity of Food Ingredients

_ Consumer concerns about allergenic food ingredients—A. Munoz-Furlong

_ Regulatory issues regarding allergenic food ingredients—K. J. Falci

_ Allergenicity of ingredients derived from known allergenic sources—S. L. Hefle

_ Clinical approaches to evaluation of allergenicity of ingredients—S. L. Taylor

_ Industry approaches to ingredients derived from allergenic sources—D. J. Skrypec

Monday, July 14, 2003 Poster Session

_ 45K-2 Validated ELISA for detection of undeclared walnut residues in food—L. Niemann, S. Hefle

_ 45K-14 A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled oral challenge study to evaluate the allergenic potential of commercial, food-grade fish gelatin—T.K. Hansen, L.K. Poulsen, P.S. Skov, S.L. Hefle, J.J. Hlywka, S.L. Taylor, U. Bindslev-Jensen, C. Bindslev-Jensen

_ 45K-15 Threshold dose for egg allergy determined by oral challenge—S.L. Hefle, L. Christie, S.H. Sicherer, K. Althage, A. W. Burks, H. A. Sampson, S. Mofidi, S. A. Noone,



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L. Michaelis, S. Strobel, J. Hourihane, P. Eigenmann, J. A. Nordlee, S. L. Taylor

_45K-16 Soybean oil is not allergenic to soybean-allergic individuals—S.L. Taylor, J.A. Nordlee, S.H. Sicherer, H.A. Sampson, M.B. Levy, H. Steinman, R.K. Bush, P. Vadas, S.L. Hefle, F. Rancé

IUFoST 12th World Congress of Food Science & Technology, Chicago, IL, July 16-20, 2003.

Thursday, July 17, 2003 Symposium 1: Food Allergens: A Food Industry Challenge for Consumer Safety

_Current issues in allergen control and regulations in the United States—S.L. Hefle

_European approach to food allergens—R. Crevel

_Australia/ New Zealand approach to food allergens—P. Abbott

American Association of Cereal Chemists, Portland, Oregon, September 28-October 2, 2003.

September 30: Update on Food Allergens

_Role of cereal grains and ingredients in food allergies and celiac disease—S. L. Taylor

_Food allergen labeling and regulation—T. D. Trautman

_Update on food allergen detection issues for food allergens—S. L. Hefle

FARRP Services

_The FARRP allergy database has 12,300 references. Sustaining FARRP Members receive five database searches per year at no charge and Associate Members receive three free searches per year. Please contact Jamie Kabourek to set up a database search.

_The FARRP website is www.farrp.org. There is both a public section and a private FARRP-Member's-only section. The members'-only section includes downloadable slide sets, member's contact information, food allergy recall statistics and other information on food allergy. Contact Jamie Kabourek if you need the username and password information to access the member site.

Food Allergy Awareness Week

The 6th Annual Food Allergy Awareness Week is May 11-17. This year's theme, developed by Anaphylaxis Canada, is entitled: "Could you save a life? Think F.A.S.T."

The acronym stands for symptoms that affect the **F**ace, **A**irway, **S**tomach, **T**otal body.

FARRP has supported this endeavor the past three years using analytical monies to help in the effort of promoting awareness of the issue of food allergy.

New Testing Available

An ELISA test kit has been developed for the detection of almond by FARRP and commercialized by Neogen Corporation. The cost of the test per sample for FARRP members is \$50.

An ELISA test is currently available for the detection of walnut and can be performed in the FARRP laboratory as an in-house assay. The cost per sample for FARRP members is \$100. Please call the laboratory 402-472-4484 to arrange for testing.

Research Update

_Dr. Hefle delivered an oral abstract presentation, "Threshold Dose for Egg Allergy Determined by Oral Challenge" at the AAAAI 60th Annual Meeting in Denver. The full manuscript is under development.

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_FARRP, in conjunction with clinical researchers in Denmark, have completed a study on the allergenicity of fish gelatin. The full manuscript is under development.

Future Research

FARRP is currently pursuing research studies on the threshold levels of both peanut and shrimp.

Literature Review

A few manuscripts that may be of interest are:

_Peanut allergy: an overview by Al-Muhsen, S, Clarke, AE and Kagan S. It appears in the Canadian Medical Association Journal 2003; 168(10):1279-1285. The full text can be accessed at www.cmaj.ca

_Factors associated with development of peanut allergy in childhood by Lack G, Fox D, Northstone K and Golding J in New England Journal of Medicine 2003; 348: 977-985.

_Effect of anti-IgE therapy in patients with peanut allergy by Leung D, Sampson H, Yunginger J, Burks A, Schneider L, Wortel C, Davis F, Hyun J and Shanahan W in New England Journal of Medicine 2003; 348: 986-993.

Kudos

_Ashley Lardizabal has been selected as a finalist in the IFTSA Phi Tau Sigma Undergraduate Research Paper Competition for her market study analysis on gluten entitled "*Immunochemical analysis of various foods and food ingredients for detectable gluten content: implications for wheat-allergic and*

celiac sprue people". She will participate in the competition at the IFT meeting in July.

_Dr. Sue Hefle has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.

_We would like to thank the following FARRP members for speaking at the April, 2003 FARRP Allergen Conference: Dr. George Dunaif, Dr. Jennifer Johnson, Dr. Tracie Sheehan, Dr. Dan Skrypec and Dr. Tom Trautman and Mary Gadola.

FARRP Profile

Gülsen Söylemez is a Graduate Research Assistant from Ankara, Turkey. Gülsen has recently completed her research project for the detection and characterization of sesame seed allergens and will graduate this month with her Ph.D. In June she plans to return to Turkey to perform research for the Bursa Central Food Research Institute of the Turkey Minister of Agriculture. Good Luck Gülsen!!

Reminder

If you have changes in your contact information, please contact Jamie Kabourek at jkabourek@unlnotes.unl.edu

Announcements

If you have any announcements or updates you would like to have included in the newsletter, please email Jamie at jkabourek@unlnotes.unl.edu