Digestive Disease Week® (DDW) is an annual meeting for professionals working in the fields of gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy and gastrointestinal surgery. The meeting showcases more than 5,000 abstracts and hundreds of lectures on the latest advances in GI research, medicine and technology.

A variety of talks and abstracts on eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases were presented at the 2019 meeting, which was held in May in San Diego. CEGIR researchers presented some of their findings at this event. Here, we summarize some highlights.

- Using data collected from the CEGIR Contact Registry, investigators analyzed patient reported symptoms and co-morbidities in EoE relative to non-EoE EGIDs: eosinophilic gastritis, eosinophilic gastroenteritis and eosinophilic colitis. The study authors noted that weight loss and gastroparesis were more frequently reported by those with non-EoE subsets of EGID, and that these patients were more likely to report higher frequency of nausea, stomach pain, diarrhea, constipation, bloating, fatigue, feeling of isolation, and deep muscle or joint pain.

“Significant differences exist in the symptoms and co-morbidities experienced between those with EoE versus a non-EoE EGID(s), with more severe symptoms and higher frequency of comorbidities experienced by those with non-EoE EGIDs,” the authors write.

“Additional investigation is needed to elucidate the factors that may contribute to the high disease burden of these poorly-understood conditions.”


- Researchers set out to develop and validate a diagnostic panel for eosinophilic gastritis (EG) diagnosis and management to help better understand that pathogenesis of EG. The authors noted that preliminary evidence showed that this diagnostic panel score better correlated with symptoms then eosinophil counts for patients with intermediate tissue eosinophil levels (≥30 HPF).


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CEGIR investigators aimed to prospectively evaluate endoscopic features in patients with eosinophilic gastritis so that there is a better understanding of endoscopic manifestations and develop a scoring instrument. The study authors note, “A strong and significant correlation between [these] scores and physician global assessment of endoscopy severity was demonstrated.”


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**Enrolling CEGIR Studies**

### Eosinophilic Esophagitis

**Use of Unsedated Transnasal Esophagoscopy to Monitor Dietary Management of EoE in Children:** This study uses unsedated (not put to sleep) transnasal endoscopy to learn more about how long it takes esophageal eosinophils to come back after a new food is started in children with EoE. Children in this study will have eliminated one to four foods as treatment for their EoE and may be taking steroid therapy.

### Eosinophilic Gastritis, Eosinophilic Gastroenteritis

**Effect of Elemental Diet on Adult Patients with Eosinophilic Gastroenteritis (ELEMENT):** CEGIR investigators in Chicago are conducting a study to see if avoiding certain foods will improve EG or EGE. Participants complete an elemental (formula-based) diet treatment for at least 6 weeks to see if their EGID gets better after at least 6 weeks of dietary treatment.

### Eosinophilic Esophagitis, Eosinophilic Colitis, Eosinophilic Gastritis, Eosinophilic Gastroenteritis

**Outcome Measures for Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Diseases across Ages - OMEGA:** Why do patients still have EGID symptoms even if their scopes are good, or vice versa? The OMEGA clinical trial seeks to find answers to this question and more.

**Validation of Online Cohort of Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disorder Patients Enrolled in RDCRN Contact Registry:** The purpose of this study is to determine the accuracy of self-reported EGID information provided by the CEGIR Contact Registry Participants compared to their physician’s report. Another purpose of this study is to determine the agreement between pathology report confirming EGID diagnosis and patient report.

These studies are being conducted at centers across the country. For more information, or to find the CEGIR institution closest to you, visit rdcrn.org/cegir
Upcoming Events

Education:

![EosConnection 2019 - Washington, D.C. APFED's 17th Annual Patient Education Conference on Eosinophil-associated Diseases](image)

**July 25-27**
**DoubleTree Hotel Bethesda, MD**

_In collaboration with: Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and CEGIR_

Learn more and register: [apfed.org](http://apfed.org)

Fundraisers:

**August 18, 2019**
**Tailgate to Tackle Eosinophils**, benefiting APFED’s HOPE on the Horizon Research Program
Pontoon Brewing
Sandy Springs, GA

**November 7, 2019**
**Charit-EoE Concert for a Cure for Eosino...what???,** benefiting APFED’s HOPE on the Horizon Research Program
TGA NYC
New York, NY 10018

CURED Foundation Calendar: [https://curedfoundation.org/fundraising/fundraisers/#r=off](https://curedfoundation.org/fundraising/fundraisers/#r=off)

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The Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network will make every effort to enroll all the patients we can, but we cannot make any guarantees that we will be able to enroll everyone in a study who wants to participate. Participation in research studies is voluntary. Deciding not to participate in a research study does not affect your ability to receive care at any of our Clinical Centers or from other physicians. The Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN) was established by the Office of Rare Diseases Research, NCATS, National Institutes of Health (NIH) to develop research studies for rare diseases, and to encourage cooperative partnerships among researchers at over 150 clinical centers around the world. This increased cooperation may lead to discoveries that will help treat and perhaps prevent these rare diseases, as well as produce medical advances that will benefit the population in general. The Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network is comprised of a Data Management and Coordinating Center and 22 consortia studying over 200 rare diseases.

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