

Food Allergy in Children: Perspectives for the Future.

Food allergy has been on the increase amongst Westernised communities over the past 2-3 decades with recent evidence from Australia suggesting that over 10% of children may be effected. There also suggestive evidence that this increase is also occurring in other regions including Asia. Our understanding of the broader spectrum of food allergy has also improved, with better data on the prevalence and natural history of non-IgE mediated food allergy emerging. Advances are continuing in areas of diagnosis as well as novel approaches to treatment. This talk will illustrate the spectrum of food allergy as well as highlight the advances in understanding that are starting to impact on daily practice.

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Adam read Medicine and Neuroscience at Cambridge University before completing his clinical training at University College, London. He is now a consultant and joint clinical lead of Allergy at Guy's & St Thomas' Hospitals, London – Europe's largest specialist allergy service.

Adam has chaired the UK Royal College of Paediatrics' National Care Pathway for Food Allergy in Childhood and was the specialist member of the National Institute of Healthcare and Clinical Excellence (NICE) clinical guideline development group for the assessment and diagnosis of food allergy in children. He also chaired the recent NICE Evidence Update on Food Allergy. Adam is secretary of the British Society of Allergy & Clinical Immunology and a previous commissioning editor of *Pediatric Allergy & Immunology*. Adam was awarded 'Paediatric Allergist of the Year' by Allergy UK in 2007.

Adam's particular interests are food allergy, gastrointestinal allergy, immunotherapy and medical education.