

What is Cows' Milk Protein Allergy (CMPA)?

Cows' milk allergy (CMA) is an immunologically mediated adverse reaction to one or more cows' milk proteins. Milk allergy is the most common food allergy, affecting somewhere between 2% and 7.5% of infants¹. Around 0.5% of exclusively breastfed infants react to cows' milk protein in human milk.

Cows' milk allergy generally affects children less than three years of age. Approximately 85% of children lose clinical reactivity to milk once they surpass 3 years of age. The mean age of onset is reported as between 3 months and 5 months. Children with immediate hypersensitivity reaction following milk ingestion usually present earlier.

¹ Hill DJ et al., Manifestations of milk allergy in infancy: clinical and immunological findings. J Pediatr 1986; 109:270-6