

**CLASS E SPECIFIC ANTIBODIES IN CHILDREN AGED 7-24
MONTHS WITH SYMPTOMS OF ATOPIC DISEASES**

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The incidence of atopic diseases has significantly increased in the last 20 years; in particular of bronchial asthma, atopic dermatitis, pollinosis, or food allergy. The symptoms of these diseases appear as early as before age 2. At such early age, the diagnosis of allergy by skin tests is hampered due to hyperreactivity of the skin and thus it should be based on immunodiagnostic tests of blood serum. The implementation of both therapeutic and prophylactic measures requires the identification of allergens. The aim of this study was to analyze class E antibodies in serum of children aged 7-24 months suspected of having atopic diseases. We studied 64 children (33 boys and 31 girls) in whom the presence of specific immunosorbent class E antibodies directed against 20 food allergens and 20 aeroallrgens was search using the Polycheck method. The results demonstrate increased levels of IgE in 53 children; concerning mainly food allergens such as cow milk, egg, wheat flour, sesame seeds, peanuts, hazelnuts, and maize. Elevated levels of classes 3-4 IgE were identified for animal allergens, pollen anemophilous, mites, and only in one case for the molds. We draw the conclusions that children below age 2 develop hypersensitivity to a variety of allergens, which is reflected in their having increased levels of class E specific antibodies. Therefore, such young children should be carefully diagnosed to avoid exposure to allergens and to implement preventive measures against them.