Suspection of CD in symptomatic children

Serological screening with anti-tTG titre, IgA levels: advise the child to continue a normal diet containing gluten

anti-tTG titres: >10xULN

Can perform endoscopy and small-bowel biopsy (if family requests one after proper explanation of the modified guidelines)

If histology is positive, diagnosis of CD is confirmed

Use new diagnostic pathway, obtain further blood samples for EMA and HLA DQ2/DQ8 typing. If EMA not available, take a second sample for anti-tTG titre

If results are EMA positive (or second anti-tTG titre is >10xULN) and HLA DQ2 or DQ8 positive, CD is confirmed

If results are HLA DQ2/DQ8 negative, continue normal diet. Perform endoscopy and small-bowel biopsies

Start gluten-free diet, follow up with paediatricians and paediatric dietitians

10xULN = 10 times upper limit of normal, CD = coeliac disease, EMA = anti-endomysial antibodies, HLA = human leukocyte antigen, IgA = immunoglobulin A, anti-tTG = anti-tissue transglutaminase.

Source: Adapted from Murch et al (2013)