

CSA supports celiac disease management as an exercise in constant risk assessment and personal decision-making. “Risk-free” standing alone in the headline was confusing since CSA Recognition Seal designates the most risk-free choices in the marketplace. Few things in life are risk free.

CSA does not endorse any product. The CSA Recognition Seal does not use the term gluten-free. The CSA Recognition Seal is the highest standard based communication tool currently available to the celiac community. The licenses must be renewed annually. All information sent to CSA, from members and non-members, about a product is considered in the annual review. CSA asks the questions and does the digging, you want us to do. CSA welcomes your feedback related to any product marketed to the celiac community. (It is still unknown –what part of the prohibited grains sets off the abnormal responses in those with non-celiac gluten sensitivity. So CSA would like comments from you too.)

The final FDA definition for products labeled gluten-free opened up some options that are likely to be more confusing in the marketplace. Our random checking of products will likely lead to more ways to communicate the findings. Tell us what you are including in your food plan? Members of the Celiac Sprue Association know that CSA encourages meaningful, verifiable innovation in widening the options of products suitable for the celiac diet. Qualifying for the CSA Recognition Seal for Innovative products has more steps than qualifying for the naturally gluten-free category. In the process CSA gathers and shares information with governmental agencies, including the TTB, USDA and FDA, education based researchers, innovative industrialists and most important the CSA members.

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