

Support of the Pathology Department at Mater Dei Hospital: Hospital: Coeliac Diagnosis in Malta

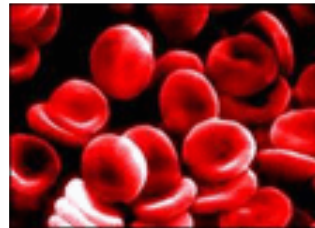
Christopher Barbara
Clinical Chairman



- **Bellizzi, M. (1992).The Maltese Food Revolution : An analysis of the eating habits in Malta.**

- **wheat products (bread and pasta), and rice are the major source of energy in the Maltese diet contributing a third to the total energy**
- **The staple cereal in Malta is wheat, mainly as bread (78%) and then, mainly as local white bread (99%).**
- **Pasta contributes 11% to the total purchase of cereal products .**

The Pathology Department



Carry out about 6 million tests per year
Test list of 2150 different tests
Employs about 400 staff
About 200 rooms (labs and offices)
Spends about €4.5 million on salaries
Spends about €3.2 million on test kits and consumables



Clinical Case recognition in the Maltese Islands

- Prevalence of CD based on clinical diagnosis & GFD: 1.9 / 1,000 (1 in 526 gen. Popⁿ)

Older age at diagnosis of paediatric cases

C. Vella, V Grech Ind. J Peds 2004

- *cf* Analogous population based study (clinical presentation / GFD) from Sicily - prevalence 1.65/1,000; adjusted actual standardized rate 3 /1,000 .

Magazzú G, et al. Acta Paediatr. 1994;83(10):1065-9.

- *cf* worldwide average 1:3345, on clinical, 1:266 on screening data[†]



Vouchers for coeliac disease



Over 16

1,114

Under 16

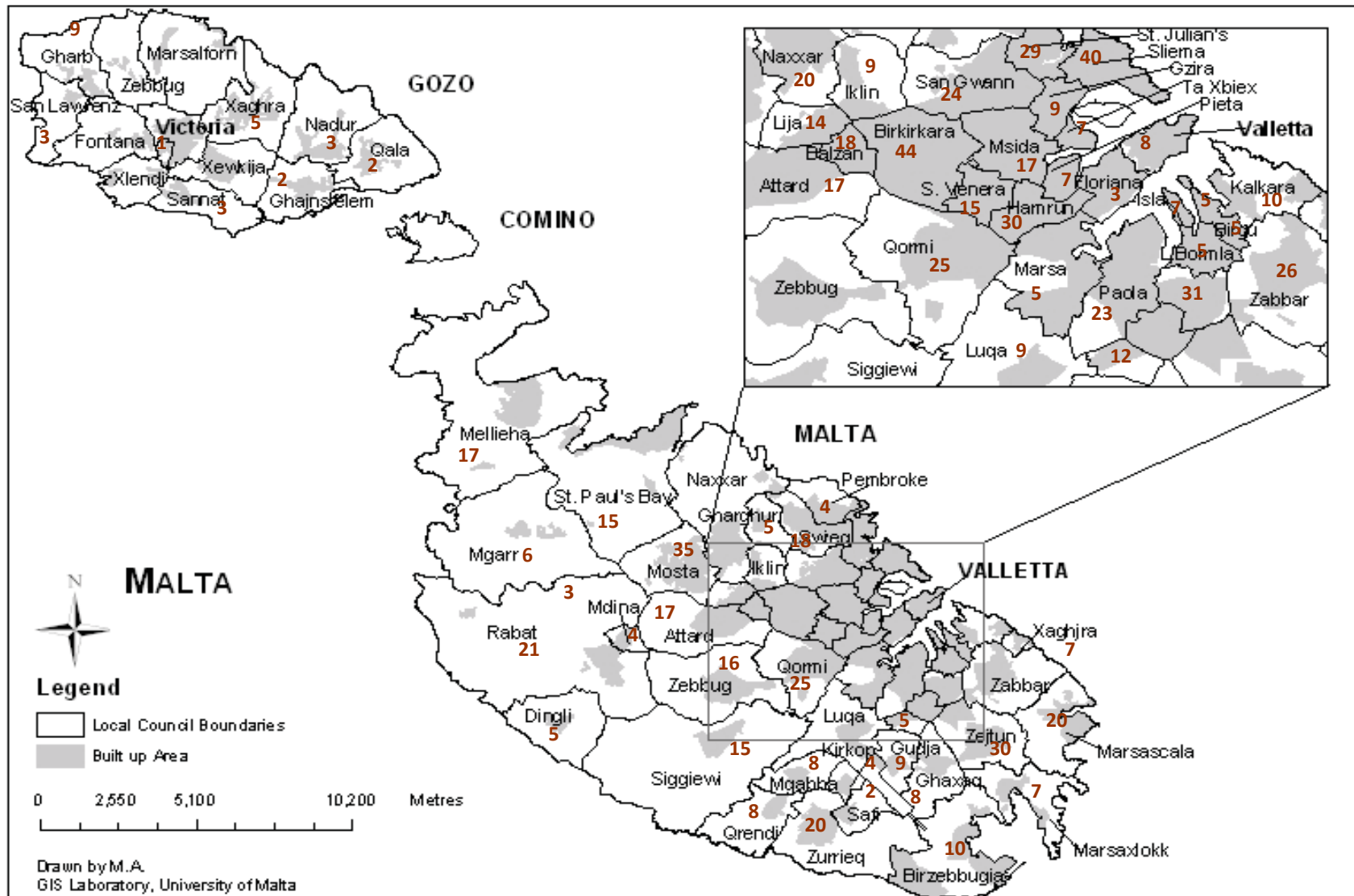
291

Grand Total

1,405



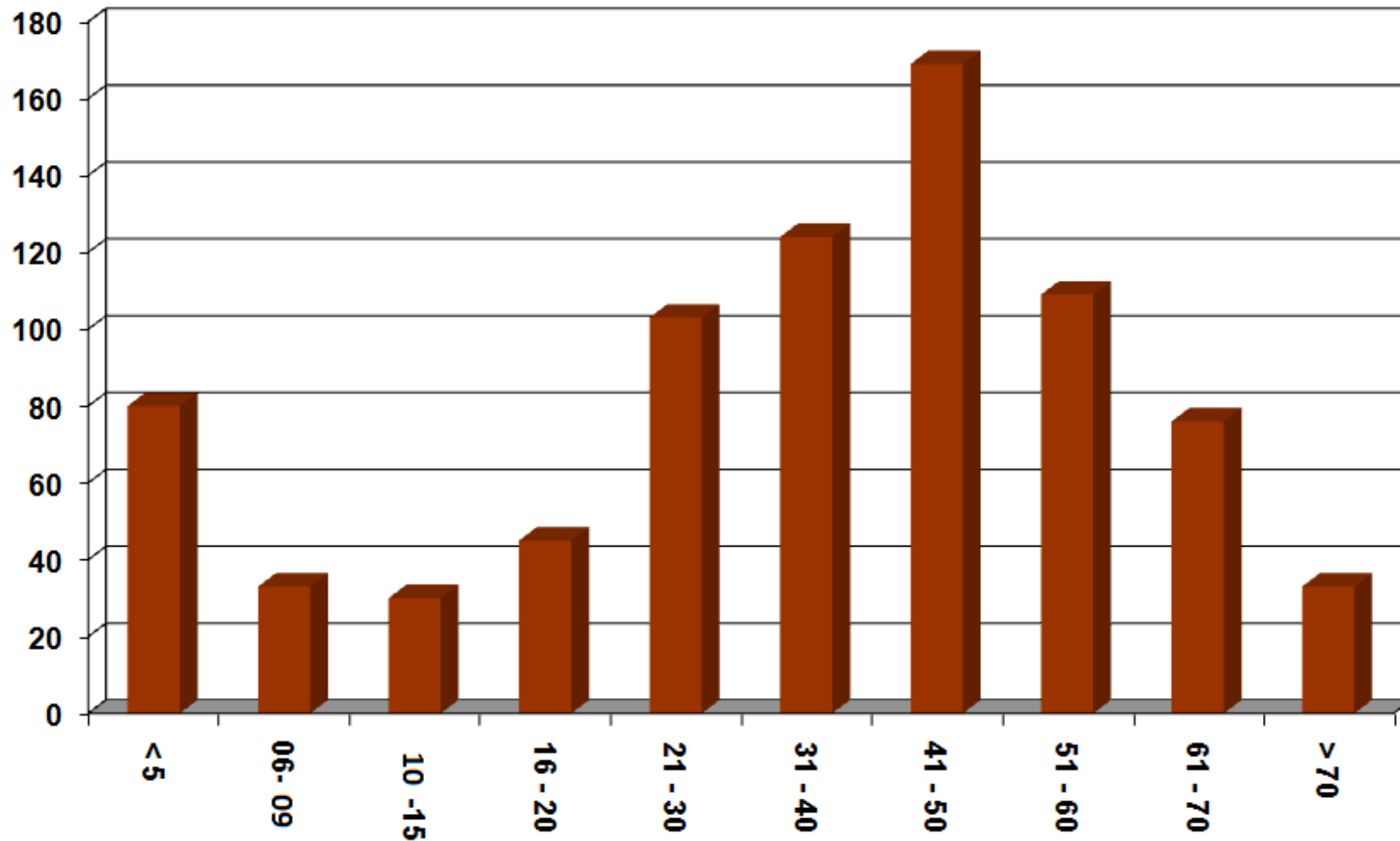
Regional distribution of Coeliac Disease in the Maltese Islands*



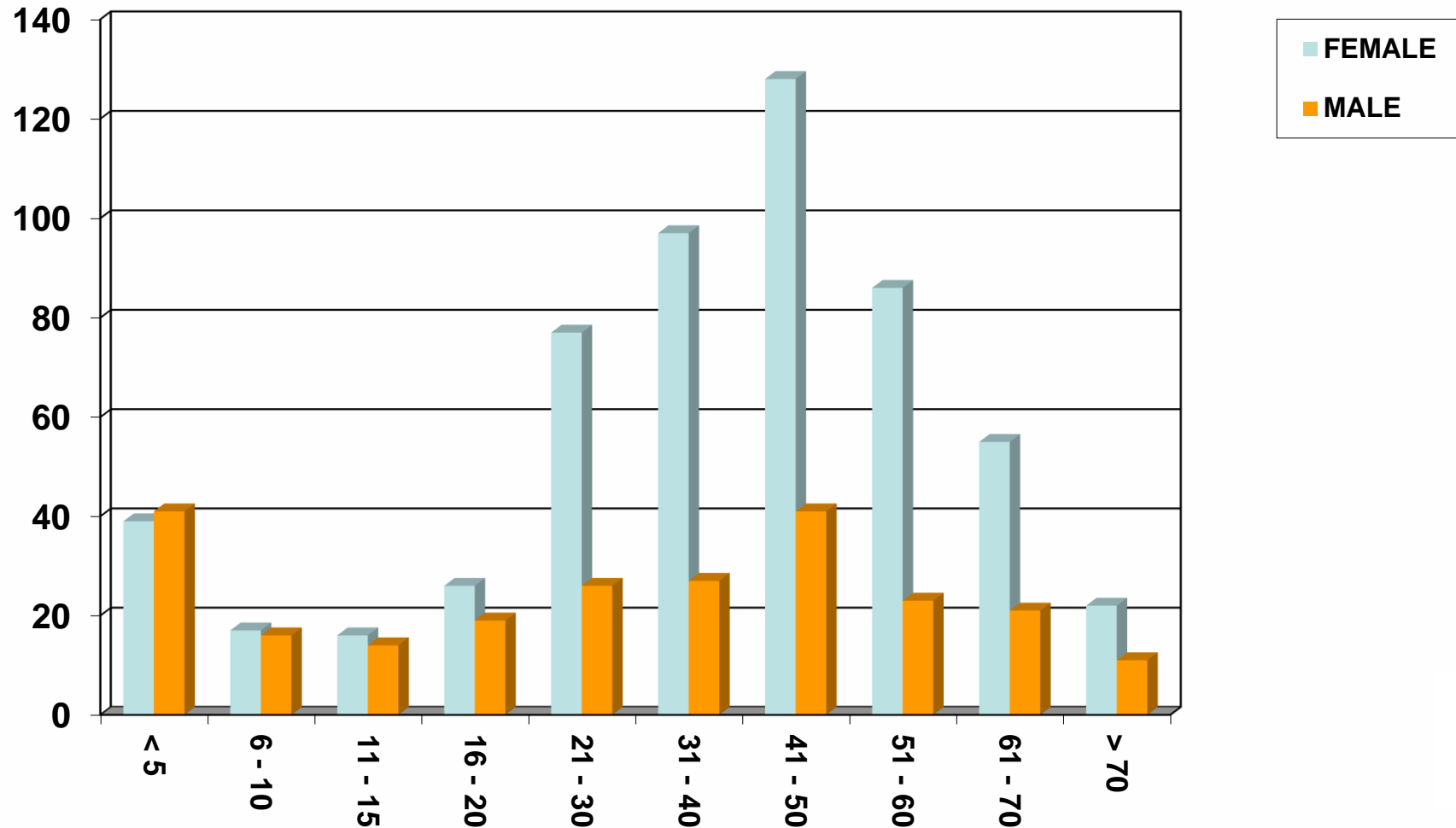
* Crude prevalence individuals receiving benefits for GFD



Age at diagnosis distribution, Coeliac patients in the Maltese



Age at diagnosis distribution by gender of Coeliacs in the Maltese Islands



Coeliac Association Malta

- Founded 1989
- Currently has 307 active members and 288 ex-members (defaulted / otherwise)
- Supports members wrt issues pertaining to the day to day management of coeliac disease facilitates government-provided assistance and monitors restaurant and food-outlet coeliac-*friendliness*





Joseph Borg
 Angela A. Xuereb Christopher Vidal
 Christian A. Scerri

The Genetics of Coeliac Disease in Malta

The role of Cytotoxic T-Lymphocyte Associated Antigen 4 in Coeliac Disease Predisposition



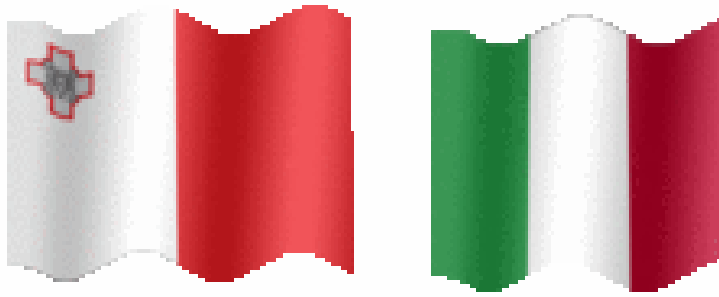
Coeliac Disease in the Maltese Islands



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Coeliac Disease research carried out in Malta.

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