

## **Global FPIES Day: Official Proclamation**

The FPIES Foundation is dedicated to overcoming the challenges of FPIES by offering tools for education, support, and advocacy to empower families and the medical community. Collaboration among medical professionals, families and affected patients, and global partners allows for furthering awareness, promoting advocacy, and fueling future research, worldwide.

Food Protein–Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome, FPIES, is a type of food allergy affecting the gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Classic symptoms of FPIES include profuse vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration. These symptoms can lead to severe lethargy, change in body temperature and blood pressure. Unlike typical food allergies, symptoms may not be immediate and do not show up on standard allergy tests. Furthermore, a negative allergy evaluation may delay the diagnosis and take the focus off the causative food. Nonetheless, FPIES can present with severe symptoms following ingestion of a food trigger.

For individuals affected by FPIES, significant delay in diagnosis can be common, which may lead to increased acute episodes and compromised quality of life. Lack of conclusive diagnostic testing and diagnosis management strategies can impact the standard of care received by these individuals. Lack of awareness among medical professionals can affect appropriate diagnosis and follow-up care. In honor of Global FPIES Day, we aim to raise greater awareness to this often misunderstood diagnosis. At The FPIES Foundation, we not only recognize the need for research to help future children and their families, but we also recognize the need to help our families and medical professionals now by providing education, advocacy and support resources, online and in our global community.

On Global FPIES Day, we continue to further awareness through providing resources, such as printable packets for medical provider, school/caregiver, and patient education, respectively. Flyers and printable informational materials are provided for promoting community understanding. Interactive activities, such as creating “Be the Voice” social media frames and taking part in “Find Your Fourteen,” foster advocacy among patients, families, medical providers and our partners. The website, [www.fpiesday.com](http://www.fpiesday.com), provides additional resources and tools to further the mission of Global FPIES Day.



The FPIES Foundation  
www.thefpiesfoundation.org  
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Throughout the year, we at The FPIES Foundation uphold the ideals and promote the mission of Global FPIES Day. We continue to invest our resources in outreach worldwide, for medical providers and families alike-- a provider database, bi-lingual resources, printable forms and documents, and other tools to empower our community to support individuals affected by FPIES. We expand our global partnerships through project collaborations and resource sharing. Our FPIES Global Patient Registry provides information on current trends reported by FPIES families and is made available to researchers in the field, fueling future novel scientific endeavors. Our dynamic and diverse medical advisory board provides multidisciplinary support to our ongoing initiatives.

Imagine parents holding their sick child in the dark night, scared and alone, not knowing where to turn for help. Envision the light that knowledge and the insight of an informed global community can bring to these dark nights, to these children and their families. We invite families, medical providers and partners worldwide to strive toward improved patient and provider education, community support and advocacy for all affected individuals and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, The FPIES Foundation, a nationally recognized 501c3 non-profit organization and sponsor of this day, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2014, as Global FPIES Day. We invite the global community at large to observe this day with programs, ceremonies, resources and activities that promote education, support, advocacy and research for FPIES (Food Protein-Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome) worldwide.

Signed by Joy Meyer and Amanda LeFew, Co-Directors of The FPIES Foundation