Fig. 2. Distribution of aminopeptidase M and sucrase along the human small intestine. Details as in Figure 1.

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Letter to the Editor: Distribution of the Brush Border Peptidase Activities along the Small Intestine

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We have studied (1) the distribution of the peptidase activities of the brush border along the small intestine of eight human fetuses aged between 16 and 22 wk, and we have found results which are similar to those reported by Sterchi in his letter and by us in previous studies in rabbit (2): the peptidase activities are higher in the distal third than in the proximal one.

Nevertheless, we think that the presence of normal levels of peptidase activities in the proximal part of the small intestine in coeliac patients in histologic remission suggests that these activities

are normal along the small intestine and that no primary deficiency of these peptidase activities exists in the coeliac disease.

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