



**Libyan International Medical University
Faculty of Basic Medical Science**



**Prevalence of Helicobacter
Pylori in Developing Countries**

Submitted by: Mazen T . Shembesh

Supervisor: Dr Mustafa Elsewy

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Abstract

Helicobacter pylori is a very common infectious agent worldwide particularly in the developing countries, results from studies from three different sources on this topic have been gathered in this report.

The first source stated that there was decreasing in the rate of infection with aging and the infected males were less than the females, results from the second source were almost identical to the first source which is that the rate of infection decreases with aging and the infected females were more than males.

While the third source showed an increasing in the rate of infection with aging but agreed with the other sources that the infection in females is more than the males.

Introduction

Helicobacter pylori (*H. pylori*) are Gram-negative micro-aerophilic, spiral, rod-shaped bacteria that colonize the human stomach. *HP* is found in half the population of the world. Its prevalence is highly variable in relation to geography, ethnicity, age, and socioeconomic factors, the incidence of *HP* infection in the developing world is higher than developed countries, Infection once established can persist for life if left untreated, and only 30% of those infected are clinically symptomatic, *H. pylori* is associated with serious digestive tract diseases including chronic gastritis, peptic ulcers, mucosa-associated changes to lymphoma and gastric cancers in adults.

Discussion

Results from three (3) different sources have been gathered, and they were as follows:

Source number (1) a total 79 healthy individuals were enrolled in this study, aging between (20-75), 43(54%) of them were tested positive and 36 (45.6) negative for *H. pylori* antibodies.

the age groups were (20-35years) (55.8%) , (35-50 years) (23.3%), (50-65 years) (9.3%) and >56 years were 11.6 %.

males were 43 and 18 of them were positive (48.9%), while females were 36 and 21 of them were positive

The rate of infection decreases with age and the infected females were more than males ⁽¹⁾

Source number (2) a total 200 healthy individuals were enrolled in this study, aging between (20- 70), 112 (56%) of them tested positive and 88(44%) negative, individuals between (20-30years) showed 33.6% seroprevalence , (30-40years) showed 24.8% seroprevalence , (50-60years) showed 9.7% and individuals >60 years showed 8.8%

males were 76 and 31 of them were positive (40.8%), while females were 124 and 72 of them were positive (58%)

The rate of infection decreases with age and the infected females were more than males ⁽²⁾

Source number(3) a total 396 healthy individuals were enrolled in this study, aging between (15-50 years), 201 (50.8%) of them tested positive and 195(49.2%) negative for h.pylori antibodies , individuals between (15-20 years) showed (46%) seroprevalence , (21-40 years) showed gradual increase (50%) seroprevalence, and individuals between (41-50 years) showed (61%) seroprevalence

males were 196 and 89 of them were positive (45%), while females were 200 and 112 of them were positive (56%)

the rate of infection increases with age and the infected females were more than males ⁽³⁾

Conclusion

We conclude from this report that more often than not there is no correlation between aging and *H. pylori* infection since two studies showed that the risk increases with younger age groups

while the other study suggested that *H. pylori* infection is mainly associated with older age groups, however, all three studies agreed that the risk is more pronounced in females than males.

Bibliography

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