

The influence of *Helicobacter pylori* eradication therapy on the presence of *H. pylori* antigens in dental plaque and saliva

Namiot DB.^{1*A-D}, Leszczyńska K.^{2B}, Namiot A.^{3B,C,D}, Kemon A.^{4B}, Bucki R.^{5C-F}, Chilewicz M.^{6B}, Namiot Z.^{7B,C,E,F}

1. Department of Prosthetic Dentistry, Medical University of Białystok, Poland
2. Department of Diagnostic Microbiology, Medical University of Białystok, Poland
3. Department of Human Anatomy, Medical University of Białystok, Poland
4. Department of General Pathomorphology, Medical University of Białystok, Białystok
5. Department of Microbiological and Nanobiomedical Engineering, Medical University of Białystok, Poland; The Faculty of Human Sciences of the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, Poland
6. Department of Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology, District Hospital, Poland
7. Department of Physiology, Medical University of Białystok, Poland, Institute for Medicine, State College of Computer Science and Business Administration, Łomża, Poland

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: The aim of this study was to evaluate the presence of *H. pylori* antigens in the oral cavity (dental plaque and saliva) of patients undergoing systemic eradication therapy.

Materials and methods: The study was conducted in 49 subjects with *H. pylori* stomach infection. *H. pylori* antigens in dental plaque and saliva were evaluated with immunological method.

Results: In subjects with initial *H. pylori* oral infection, the presence of *H. pylori* antigens in the oral cavity 6 weeks after successful or unsuccessful *H. pylori* eradication therapy in the stomach was 47.0%

and 50.0%, respectively. In subjects without initial oral infection with *H. pylori*, the presence of *H. pylori* antigens in the oral cavity 6 weeks after successful and unsuccessful eradication therapy in the stomach was 30.0% and 20.0%, respectively.

Conclusions: The immunological method detecting *H. pylori* antigens in the dental plaque and saliva cannot be recommended to evaluate the efficacy of *H. pylori* eradication in the oral cavity.

Key words: *Helicobacter pylori* treatment, immunoassay, gastric mucosa, oral cavity

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