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

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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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