

Low Prevalence of H. Pylori Associated Gastric Carcinoma in a Community Based Population; a 15 Year Review

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Purpose:

To examine the prevalence of H. Pylori (HP) in gastric carcinoma (GC) in our community practice.

Methods:

We retrospectively reviewed 49 patients found to have a diagnosis of GC between 1/90 - 12/04 in our private practice in Orlando, FL. All tumors were contained within the stomach, without extension into the esophagus. Endoscopic biopsies and surgical pathology specimens were examined for HP presence.

Results:

Characteristics of Patients with Gastric Cancer (N=49):

- 12% (6/49) \Rightarrow HP \oplus
- 50% male, 50% female
- 74% Caucasian
- 76% (37/49) = adenocarcinoma (13/37 = signet ring type)
- 16% (8/49) = lymphoma
- 1 case each of: Sarcoma
Malignant carcinoid
Melanoma
Leiomyosarcoma
- Location:
 - Cardia - 39%
 - Body - 20%
 - Antrum - 41%
- Size of Lesions:
 - Mean = 5cm
 - Median = 3cm
- Clinical Signs & Symptoms
 - Epigastric pain
 - Anemia
 - Weight Loss
 - Heartburn

Conclusion:

1. Only 12% of patients had demonstrable HP at time of endoscopic diagnosis of GC or surgical resection.
2. The prevalence of GC was almost twice as high between 1990-1995, as it was between 1995-2005.
3. Country of origin (*for those born outside the United States*) did not predict HP presence.
4. Further community studies in the United States would help to assess the distribution of HP related GC geographically, enabling us to compare prevalence data with other countries and within our own diverse country.