

**Biostatistics statement**

Data were analyzed using the SPSS statistics 22 software package. The data were also analyzed using chi-square test and multiple logistic regression analysis. *H. pylori* eradication rate was evaluated by intention-to-treat (ITT) and per protocol (PP). Differences at  $P < 0.05$  were considered significant.

Signature:  Date: Sep. 1. 2015