

Institutional review board statement: The *H. pylori* strains taken for this study were isolated from the patients who were admitted to Medical Centers, for their persistent upper gastrointestinal problems and for this reason they underwent endoscopy for biopsy. All routine biopsy specimens from the patients were taken after informed consent and the protocols, under which the biopsies for culture have been obtained, were in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975.

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2016 11/19