



ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6428

Title: Antimicrobial susceptibility testing for Helicobacter pylori in times of increasing antibiotic resistance.

Reviewer code: 00058436

Science editor: Gou, Su-Xin

Date sent for review: 2013-10-21 10:06

Date reviewed: 2013-11-12 15:17

Table with 4 columns: CLASSIFICATION, LANGUAGE EVALUATION, RECOMMENDATION, CONCLUSION. It contains a grid of checkboxes for various quality and search criteria.

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

General comments: This review described antibiotic resistance of Helicobacter pylori and the need of surveillance of antimicrobial resistance for management of H. pylori treatment. The prevalence of H. pylori antibiotic resistance varies in different countries and even within different regions of the same country. The authors suggest that local surveillance of antimicrobial resistance is necessary and feasible to guide clinicians in their therapeutic choice. H. pylori culture-based antimicrobial susceptibility test and molecular testing for antibiotic resistance-associated mutations are used to assess antimicrobial resistance and to tailor H. pylori treatment. Specific comments: 1. Antimicrobial susceptibility test by disc diffusion and E-test strip method both rely on successful H. pylori culture. However, culture of H. pylori from biopsy sometimes could be failed, possibly affected by growth of bacteria or drug usage of the patients. Information about clinical H. pylori culture rate from biopsy should be described. 2. Although the main focus of this review was the feasibility and advantage of routine surveillance using antimicrobial susceptibility testing, the authors also suggested that pretreatment susceptibility testing at the individual level is likely effective and cost-effective. However, the evidence base for the argument of cost-effectiveness pretreatment susceptibility testing (the meta-analysis by Yuan et al) was only based on one single study, and the arguments against pretreatment susceptibility testing (such as Faber et al 2005 and Qasim et al 2004) were not mentioned. The authors should describe how the research articles included in this review were selected.



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Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6428

Title: Antimicrobial susceptibility testing for Helicobacter pylori in times of increasing antibiotic resistance.

Reviewer code: 00506467

Science editor: Gou, Su-Xin

Date sent for review: 2013-10-21 10:06

Date reviewed: 2014-01-03 18:41

Table with 4 columns: CLASSIFICATION, LANGUAGE EVALUATION, RECOMMENDATION, CONCLUSION. It lists various grades (A-E) and their corresponding evaluation and recommendation status.

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Smith et al summarize the current knowledge of Helicobacter pylori. The manuscript is well written and should be published. However, minor modifications should be performed before publishing the manuscript. 1. Title "Antimicrobial susceptibility testing for Helicobacter pylori in times of increasing antibiotic resistance" A large amount of the manuscript describes treatment options. This should be included to the title and also to the abstract (1 sentence might be enough). The article will be much more interesting for clinicians when awaiting current treatment strategies. 2. Page 4 "In addition, evidence suggests that \_ENREF\_4H. pylori eradication..." I do not understand this term. To me, this seems to be an accident of the program managing the references. 3. Page 5 The authors state twice that compliance lead to treatment failure. I guess that non-compliance will result in treatment failure. 4. Page 8 "Although molecular tests for the 16S rDNA mutations...(66-68)" The term "16S rDNA" is misleading. The following statement might be more appropriate: "Although molecular tests for mutations of the DNA encoding 16 rRNA..." 5. Page 8 "H. pylori infection was cured less frequently in patients with pure resistant strains (46%) than those infected with hetero-resistant strains (78.5%) or susceptible strains 94.5%[53]" Please put "94.5%" in parenthesis. 6. Page 8 "...the UK study demonstrated that each previous course of clarithromycin, metronidazole or quinolone taken by an individual was associated with an increase in the risk harbouring an antibiotic resistant strain of H. pylori[17].[53]" This statement is a very important finding and should be added to the abstract.



**ESPS Peer-review Report**

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6428

**Title:** Antimicrobial susceptibility testing for Helicobacter pylori in times of increasing antibiotic resistance.

**Reviewer code:** 00465176

**Science editor:** Gou, Su-Xin

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-21 10:06

**Date reviewed:** 2014-01-04 01:37

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This manuscript reviews an important topic but lacks novelty since this topic has also been reviewed elsewhere in the literature. Similar reviews are not cited in this manuscript and a more detailed review of the literature is needed. In addition the manuscript can be presented in a better way rather than continuous text at certain parts. For example addition of tables that would compare the methods for detection of antimicrobial resistance (e.g in terms of sensitivity or specificity) and citation of specific references from original studies comparing these methods would enhance the focus and clarity of this manuscript. Another table could be comparison of prevalence of antimicrobial resistance in different countries. Finally, a figure summarizing the mechanisms and molecular targets for resistance would also increase the clarity.



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## ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6428

**Title:** Antimicrobial susceptibility testing for Helicobacter pylori in times of increasing antibiotic resistance.

**Reviewer code:** 00506501

**Science editor:** Gou, Su-Xin

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-21 10:06

**Date reviewed:** 2014-01-09 01:42

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors discuss the importance of antimicrobial resistance in order to select therapy for management of H. pylori infection. This review is quite interesting considering the regional variations in H. pylori antibiotic resistance rates. I suggest to modify the title as follows: Antimicrobial susceptibility testing for Helicobacter pylori in the era of increasing antibiotic resistance. Minor comments -Serologic tests detect IgG antibodies to H. pylori. Are they useful for diagnosis? -Change Table 2 in figure