Helicobacter pylori infection: Beyond gastric manifestations

Maria Luísa Cordeiro Santos, Breno Bittencourt de Brito, Filipe Antônio França da Silva, Mariana Miranda Sampaio, Hanna Santos Marques, Natália Oliveira e Silva, Dulciene Maria de Magalhães Queiroz, Fabrício Freire de Melo

ORCID number: Maria Luísa Cordeiro Santos 0000-0001-7078-9789; Breno Bittencourt de Brito 0000-0002-1831-7909; Filipe Antônio França da Silva 0000-0002-0550-1109; Mariana Miranda Sampaio 0000-0002-8531-963X; Hanna Santos Marques 0000-0001-5741-1570; Natália Oliveira e Silva 0000-0003-0106-7509; Dulciene Maria de Magalhães Queiroz 0000-0003-1334-9423; Fabrício Freire de Melo 0000-0002-5680-2753.

Author contributions: All authors equally contributed to this paper with conception and design of the study, literature review and analysis, drafting and critical revision and editing, and final approval of the final version.

Conflict-of-interest statement: There is no conflict of interest associated with any of the senior author or other coauthors contributed their efforts in this manuscript.

Open-Access: This article is an open-access article that was selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. It is distributed in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially.

Abstract

Helicobacter pylori (H. pylori) is a bacterium that infects more than a half of world’s population. Although it is mainly related to the development of gastroduodenal diseases, several studies have shown that such infection may also influence the development and severity of various extragastric diseases. According to the current evidence, whereas this bacterium is a risk factor for some of these manifestations, it might play a protective role in other pathological conditions. In that context, when considered the gastrointestinal tract, H. pylori positivity have been related to Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease, Hepatic Carcinoma, Cholelithiasis, and Cholecystitis. Moreover, lower serum levels of iron and vitamin B12 have been found in patients with H. pylori infection, leading to the emergence of anemias in a portion of them. With regards to neurological manifestations, a growing number of studies have associated that bacterium with multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, and Guillain-Barré syndrome. Interestingly, the risk of developing cardiovascular disorders, such as atherosclerosis, is also influenced by the infection. Besides that, the H. pylori-associated inflammation may also lead to increased insulin resistance, leading to a higher risk of diabetes mellitus among infected individuals. Finally, the occurrence of dermatological and ophthalmic disorders have also been related to that microorganism. In this sense, this minireview aims to gather the main studies associating H. pylori infection with extragastric conditions, and also to explore the main mechanisms that may...
explain the role of \textit{H. pylori} in those diseases.

\textbf{Key words:} \textit{Helicobacter pylori}; Extragastric; Neurological; Cardiovascular; Autoimmune; Ophthalmic; Diabetes; Timeline; Treatment

©The Author(s) 2020. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. All rights reserved.

\textbf{Core tip:} \textit{Helicobacter pylori} is a bacterium that is known to infect the gastric environment and to be related to gastroduodenal diseases, including peptic ulcer and gastric adenocarcinoma. However, since the 80s the relationship between this infection and manifestations that affect not only the gastric system has been studied, such as inflammatory bowel disease, iron and B12 deficiency, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, hepatic carcinoma, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, and Guillain-Barré syndrome. In this sense, this study made a survey of these manifestations and their physiopathology.

\textbf{INTRODUCTION}

\textit{Helicobacter pylori} (\textit{H. pylori}) is a gram-negative bacterium that inhabits the gastric environment of 60.3\% of the world population, and its prevalence is particularly high in countries with inferior socioeconomic conditions, exceeding 80\% in some regions of the globe\[1\]. This phenomenon occurs, among other reasons, due to the unsatisfactory basic sanitation and high people agglomerations observed in many underdeveloped nations, scenarios that favour the oral-oral and fecal-oral transmissions of \textit{H. pylori}\[2\]. Another possible transmission route of this pathogen currently being discussed is the sexual route\[3\], since people with \textit{H. pylori}-positive sexual partners have higher infection rates than control groups. It is well established that this microorganism is mainly related to the development of gastroduodenal disturbances, of which stand out peptic ulcer, mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma, and gastric adenocarcinoma\[4-6\]. However, since the 1980s, growing evidence have associated such infection with several extragastric manifestations (Figure 1)\[7\].

In that context, \textit{H. pylori} infection seems to influence the onset and the severity of diseases from multiple organ systems, behaving as a risk factor for a number of disorders but also as a protective agent against some conditions\[8\]. Regarding the main diseases that affect organs other than the stomach in the gastrointestinal tract (GIT), the \textit{H. pylori} infection appears to be associated with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), hepatic carcinoma, cholelithiasis, and cholecystitis\[9\]. Besides that, serum vitamin B12 and iron deficiencies are known to be worsen or even caused by \textit{H. pylori} infection. In addition, ocular, dermatological, metabolic, cardiovascular, and neurological diseases are also related to that microorganism\[9\].

Given the background, this minireview aimed to compile evidence supporting the main associations between \textit{H. pylori} infection and extragastric diseases (Figure 2), as well as to gather information on the supposed mechanisms that may link that bacterium to manifestations occurring in organs far from their primary infection site (Table 1)\[9\]. The publications with the highest level of evidence found for each non-gastroduodenal manifestation were selected and listed at Table 2.

\section*{EXTRAGASTRIC MANIFESTATIONS}

\subsection*{IBD}

One of the most studied conditions in gastroenterology field, IBD is a set of chronic disorders that affects the digestive tract and includes Crohn’s disease (CD) and
| Non-gastric manifestation | Mechanisms of pathology suggested to be correlated |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Allergic diseases         | Hygiene hypothesis\(^{[104]}\)                      |
| Alzheimer’s disease       | Vitamin B12 deficiency leading to increased concentrations of homocysteine\(^{[109]}\)  |
|                           | Anormal hyperphosphorylation of the TAU protein caused by \(H. pylori\) infection\(^{[109]}\) |
|                           | ApoE polymorphism\(^{[109]}\)                      |
| Asthma                    | Treg pattern, suppressing Th-2-mediated allergic response\(^{[96]}\) |
| Atherosclerosis and myocardial infarction | Stimulation of foam production inside macrophages, contributing to the magnification of the atherosclerotic plaque and arterial dysfunction\(^{[33]}\) |
| B12 deficiency            | Still to be clarified, but proven to be independent of gastric atrophy and bleeding that impair their dietary absorption\(^{[41]}\) |
| Cholelithiasis            | Presence of \(H. pylori\) infected bile\(^{[15,44]}\) |
| Coronary arterial disease/systemic arterial stiffness | Increased levels of homocysteine\(^{[133]}\); increased synthesis of 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,36-tetrahydropyridine\(^{[119]}\) |
| Gastroesophageal reflux disease | Hyperacidity\(^{[29]}\) |
| Diabetes mellitus         | Increased cytokine production; phosphorylation of serine residues from the insulin receptor substrate\(^{[35]}\) |
| Hepatic carcinoma         | Inflammatory, fibrotic and, consequently, necrotic process\(^{[17,28]}\) |
| Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP) | CagA may stimulate the synthesis of anti-CagA antibodies that cross-react with platelet surface antigens causing ITP\(^{[77]}\) |
| Inflammatory bowel disease | Reduced intestinal inflammation through release of IL-18 and development of FoxP3-positive regulatory T cells\(^{[16-19]}\); Neutrophil-activating protein reducing inflammation through Toll-like receptor 2 and IL-10 stimulation\(^{[12,29]}\) |
| Iron deficiency anemia    | Still to be clarified, but proven to be independent of gastric atrophy and bleeding that impair their dietary absorption\(^{[41]}\); Relationship with growth disorders in children\(^{[32,99]}\) |
| Multiple sclerosis        | Hygiene hypothesis\(^{[9]}\); Inhibitory induction of \(H. pylori\) over the Th1 and Th17 immune response\(^{[105]}\) |
| Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease | \(H. pylori\) induced insulin resistance\(^{[32]}\); Reduced production of adiponectin\(^{[19]}\); Liver inflammation\(^{[19,30]}\) |
| Ophthalmic manifestations | Systemic inflammatory status; increased oxidative stress; mitochondrial dysfunction; damage to DNA\(^{[22]}\) |
| Parkinson’s disease       | Increased synthesis of 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,36-tetrahydropyridine\(^{[119]}\); Reduced levodopa absorption\(^{[119]}\) |

\(H. pylori\): Helicobacter pylori; CagA: Cytotoxin-associated gene A.

ulcerative colitis (UC)\(^{[11]}\). Although the mechanisms involved in IBD genesis are broadly studied, they are not well understood and may include genetic, immune, and environmental interactions\(^{[14]}\). Among these complex interplays, the association between microorganisms and IBD has been broadly explored, and, interestingly, researches have pointed to a protective role of \(H. pylori\) gastric infection in that condition. In this sense, a meta-analysis that included 60 studies found a negative association between that infection and IBD (OR = 0.43, 95%CI: 0.36-0.50, \(P < 10^{-6}\)). Besides that, such protection relationship was stronger in CD (OR = 0.38, 95%CI: 0.31-0.47, \(P < 10^{-4}\)) and in IBD unclassified (OR = 0.43, 95%CI: 0.23-0.80, \(P = 0.008\)) when compared to UC (OR = 0.53, 95%CI: 0.44-0.65, \(P < 10^{-6}\)\(^{[19]}\)). In addition, a cohort carried out in Taiwan observed an increased risk of IBD development after bacterial eradication (adjusted hazard risk = 2.15; 95%CI: 1.88-2.46, \(P < 0.001\)\(^{[40]}\)). Furthermore, \(H. pylori\) infection seems not only reduces the risk of IBD acquirement but also seems to minimize the clinical severity of the disease. A recent study that evaluated CD
Table 2 Levels of evidence of the risk relationship between *Helicobacter pylori* infection and each non-gastroduodenal manifestation

| Manifestation                        | Year of publication | Ref. | Level of evidence |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------|-------------------|
| Alopecia areata                      | 2017                | Behrangi et al\(^72\) | III |
| Alzheimer’s disease                  | 2016                | Shindler-Itskovitch et al\(^107\) | II |
|                                      | 2020                | Fu et al\(^100\) | II |
| Arterial hypertension                | 2018                | Wan et al\(^127\) | III |
| Asthma                               | 2013                | Wang et al\(^84\) | II |
|                                      | 2017                | Chen et al\(^91\) | III |
| Atherosclerosis                      | 2019                | Iwai et al\(^124\) | III |
| B12 deficiency                       | 2020                | Fu et al\(^108\) | II |
|                                      | 2016                | Wang et al\(^127\) | III |
|                                      | 2013                | Kaptan et al\(^90\) | III |
| Central serous chorioretinopathy     | 2006                | Coticelli et al\(^89\) | IV |
| Cholecystitis and choledolithiasis    | 2015                | Guraya et al\(^43\) | II |
|                                      | 2018                | Tsuchiya et al\(^43\) | III |
|                                      | 2018                | Cen et al\(^44\) | III |
| Coronary artery disease              | 2016                | Sun et al\(^131\) | II |
| Diabete mellitus                     | 2016                | Chen et al\(^130\) | III |
| Gastroesophageal reflux disease      | 2016                | Wang et al\(^26\) | II |
| Glaucoma                             | 2018                | Zeng et al\(^89\) | III |
|                                      | 2002                | Kountouras et al\(^84\) | III |
| Guillain-Barré syndrome              | 2019                | Dardiotis et al\(^125\) | III |
| Halitosis                            | 2017                | HajiFattahi et al\(^50\) | III |
|                                      | 2019                | Anbari et al\(^93\) | III |
| Hepatic carcinoma                    | 2017                | Huang et al\(^89\) | III |
| Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura  | 2018                | Kim et al\(^101\) | III |
| Inflammatory bowel disease           | 2017                | Castaño-Rodríguez et al\(^13\) | III |
|                                      | 2019                | Lin et al\(^104\) | III |
| Iron deficiency anemia               | 2018                | Mwafy et al\(^48\) | III |
| Myocardial infarction                | 2015                | Liu et al\(^125\) | III |
| Multiple sclerosis                   | 2007                | Li et al\(^110\) | III |
|                                      | 2016                | Jaruvongvanich et al\(^201\) | III |
|                                      | 2016                | Yao et al\(^102\) | III |
| Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease    | 2019                | Liu et al\(^84\) | III |
| Parkinson’s disease                  | 2020                | Wang et al\(^113\) | III |
| Psoriasis                            | 2019                | Yu et al\(^87\) | III |
|                                      | 2017                | Mesquita et al\(^84\) | III |
| Rosacea                              | 2017                | Saleh P et al\(^89\) | III |
|                                      | 2017                | Jürgensen et al\(^82\) | III |

Adapted from the American Society of Plastic Surgeons rating scale for risk studies, 2011\(^137\).

\(^1\)Publications with the higher level of evidence found for the risk relationship between *Helicobacter pylori* infection and each non-gastroduodenal manifestation. Levels of evidence: I - High-quality, multi-centered or single-centered, prospective cohort or comparative study with adequate power, or a systematic review of these studies; II - Lesser-quality prospective cohort or comparative study, retrospective cohort or comparative study, untreated controls from a randomized controlled trial, or a systematic review of these studies; III - Case-control study, or systematic review of these studies; IV - Case
patients observed that *H. pylori* infection was negatively associated with fistulizing or stricturing phenotype (OR = 0.22, 95%CI: 0.06-0.97, \( P = 0.022 \)), as well as with active colitis (OR = 0.186, 95%CI: 0.05-0.65, \( P = 0.010 \))\(^{15}\).

A hypothesis that can justify these findings is the fact that such infection induces interleukin (IL)-18 release, leading to the development of FoxP3-positive regulatory T cells, as well as decreases the maturation of antigen-presenting cells, what reduces intestinal inflammation\(^{16-18}\). Another contributory mechanism may be the presence of the *H. pylori* neutrophil-activating protein that attenuate inflammation by means of the activation of toll-like receptor 2 and stimulation of IL-10 production\(^{19,20}\). Finally, the composition of gut microbiota, which seems to play a crucial role in IBD development\(^{21}\), is significantly affected by the *H. pylori* eradication\(^{22}\). In this sense, it is plausible to think that the changes in the intestinal microbiome may be decisive in the IBD onset after *H. pylori* treatment, although studies evaluating this proposition are not yet available.

**GERD**

Still regarding gastrointestinal diseases, GERD is characterized by the abnormal stomach content reflux through the esophagus, leading to damages in its organ mucosa, among other outcomes\(^{23}\). Pyrosis, regurgitation, sore throat, cough, chest pain, and dysphagia are the most common symptoms in that condition\(^{24}\).

The role of *H. pylori* infection in GERD is controversial since its associated gastritis can lead both to an increase or to a reduction of acidic secretion, depending on the affected gastric region. On one hand, the *H. pylori*-associated antral gastritis causes hyperacidity, aggravating GERD. On the other hand, the corpus gastritis results in hypoacidity and plays a protective role against that disease. Such a protective behavior can be explained by bacterial genetic factors that influence *H. pylori* cytotoxin-associated gene A (CagA) positivity, once CagA-positive strains are associated with corpus atrophic gastritis and acidic secretion inhibition, which suggests that they may provide GERD protection\(^{25}\). A meta-analysis conducted by Wang *et al*\(^{26}\), involving twenty randomized controlled trials, evaluated the onset of GERD-associated symptoms and esophageal lesions, comparing *H. pylori*-positive patients who underwent bacterial eradication with others who did not went through it. Their results...
showed a rise in endoscopic reflux esophagitis incidence among treated patients (OR = 1.62, 95%CI: 1.20-2.19, \(P = 0.002\)). However, the occurrence of GERD symptoms was not significantly different between the groups (OR = 1.03, 95%CI: 0.87-1.21, \(P = 0.76\)), suggesting that the \(H.\) pylori eradication does not influence GERD symptoms onset. Regarding esophageal adenocarcinoma, which is usually due to GERD, a recent meta-analysis that included 35 studies showed that \(H.\) pylori infection may reduce the risk of development of that cancer (OR = 0.71, 95%CI: 0.57-0.92)\(^\text{[27]}\). Meantime, these studies did not distinguish the patients infected by CagA-positive \(H.\) pylori from those colonized by CagA-negative bacteria.

**Halitosis**

Another non-gastric manifestation suggested to be related to \(H.\) pylori infection is halitosis\(^\text{[28]}\). In 2017, HajiFattahi et al\(^\text{[29]}\) tried to prove this correlation, showing that among patients with halitosis, 91% were \(H.\) pylori-positive, against only 32% in the control group (\(P \lt 0.001\)). However, knowing that halitosis is associated with poor oral hygiene conditions, it is possible that there is a bias related to theory of hygiene in this association and, in this sense, studies have tried to prove this relationship and its pathophysiology, aiming biases exclusion\(^\text{[30]}\).

**NAFLD**

NAFLD refers to a range of disorders in which hepatic steatosis is observed by means of image or histology exams\(^\text{[31]}\). It is believed that the above-mentioned condition is promoted by the insulin resistance induced by molecules whose production is stimulated by \(H.\) pylori infection such as tumor necrosis factor and C-reactive protein\(^\text{[32]}\). Furthermore, a reduced production of adiponectin, a molecule that inhibits the fatty acid deposition in the liver, is observed in \(H.\) pylori patients\(^\text{[33]}\). Moreover, the bacterium can reach the liver through the biliary tree and can lead to liver inflammation\(^\text{[34,35]}\). Recently, studies have been developed in order to verify if \(H.\) pylori infection plays a role in that disease. Indeed, a meta-analysis that included 21 studies observed a positive association between this infection and NAFLD (OR = 1.529, 95%CI:}
1.336-1.750, \( P = 0.000 \)). It is important to be highlighted that most available studies on this issue took place in Asian countries, so this data should be interpreted with caution when considered the Western population.

**Hepatic carcinoma**

Although researches have investigated the association between \( H.\ pylori \) infection and liver carcinoma, conflicting results have been found. However, it was already shown that \( H.\ pylori \) infection is associated with liver inflammation, fibrosis, and necrosis. Along with these repercussions, the bacterial translocation through the biliary tract may also lead to direct hepatic damage, predisposing or even triggering the carcinogenic process\(^{36,38} \). The rates of \( H.\ pylori \) infection among HBV-related hepatic carcinoma patients (68.9\%) and HBV-negative hepatic carcinoma (33.3\%) were higher when compared to control groups \((P < 0.001)\). In this sense, studies agree with regards to the screening of \( H.\ pylori \) infection followed by the bacterial eradication in patients with liver disorders, in order to prevent the progression of the preexisting disease and the cancer onset\(^{39,40} \).

**Cholecystitis and cholelithiasis**

Recent research has investigated the possible risk relationship between \( H.\ pylori \) infections and the development of cholelithiasis and cholecystitis\(^{41,43} \). Regarding the first one, studies have shown that the presence of \( H.\ pylori \) in bile may be a risk factor for its development\(^{43} \). Moreover, among other studies, a meta-analysis demonstrated a positive association between \( H.\ pylori \) infection and chronic cholecystitis/cholelithiasis \((OR = 3.022; 95\% CI: 1.897-4.815; P = 20.1\%)\). Among the possible explanations for that phenomenon, it is believed that \( H.\ pylori \) may infect the biliary system, causing chronic inflammation in its mucosa and, as a result, leading to the impairment of acid secretion and reduction of the dissolvability of calcium salts in bile, what predisposes the formation of gallstones\(^{43} \).

**B12 deficiency**

A probable risk relationship between \( H.\ pylori \) infection and pernicious anemia was also suggested\(^{41} \). Case-control and prospective cohort studies have shown that patients with positive \( H.\ pylori \) had lower Vitamin B12 (Cobalamin) levels when compared to control groups\(^{45,49} \). In addition, when treated with triple therapy - clarithromycin, amoxicillin and omeprazole - to eradicate \( H.\ pylori \), patients with previous pernicious anemia obtained satisfactory levels of Vitamin B12, with mean iron levels of 262.5 ± 100.0 pg/mL among \( H.\ pylori \)-positives against 378.2 ± 160.6 pg/mL in the group of \( H.\ pylori \)-negatives, representing a difference of 30.6\% between those groups, with a \( P \) value of 0.001\(^{45} \). Corroborating to the consolidation of this association, studies have shown that there is a decrease in Cobalamin levels in \( H.\ pylori \) positive patients regardless of gastric atrophy and dyspepsia\(^{45} \). Even though there is still a lack of studies with regard to clarifying the pathophysiological process of this risk association, the Maastricht V/Florence Consensus Report\(^{44} \) recommends that in patients with this deficiency, \( H.\ pylori \) should be sought and eradicated.

**Iron deficiency anemia**

Choe et al\(^{50} \) conducted a randomized case-control study to test whether anemic patients positive for \( H.\ pylori \), when underwent infection eradication therapy, have a better response of blood iron levels when compared to the control group. The results were positive for the risk association between infection and anemia. Since then, studies have tried to understand the pathophysiology behind this manifestation, in addition to evaluate its occurrence in different age groups.

In this scenario, subsequent studies confirmed this correlation, in addition to explaining that it occurs regardless of bleeding. That is, there is no need for tissue damage and hemorrhagic processes for the onset of anemia due to infection by \( H.\ pylori \). When comparing \( H.\ pylori \) positive patients to the \( H.\ pylori \) negative ones, the first group had iron levels of 71.6 ± 24.8 pg/dL against 80.1 ± 20.7 pg/dL of the second one, a difference of 10.6\%, with a \( t \) value of −3.206 and \( P \) value: 0.001\(^{50} \).

It has also been suggested that the anemia triggered by \( H.\ pylori \) infection is a causal factor for growth disorders among children and adolescents. Although this is a difficult relationship to be proven, some studies agree on the influence of anemia triggered by \( H.\ pylori \) as a causal factor for developmental gap among infants\(^{52,53} \). In this sense, groups of children with unexplained anemia and growth disorders presenting clinical manifestations suggestive of infection by this bacterium should be screened and, if necessary, undergo \( H.\ pylori \) eradication, as recommended by current
Dermatological and autoimmune diseases

Some studies suggest an association and possible causality of *H. pylori* infection in some dermatological diseases. Among them, rosacea and some immunological diseases such as idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, psoriasis, alopecia areata, and urticaria are the most studied ones. However, the evidence makes it clear that significant associative power with *H. pylori* infection only occurs in some of these diseases, whereas in many of them conflicting results have been obtained, demanding further research with more appropriate methodologies and statistical designs. As for autoimmune diseases, they are characterized by a dysregulation of the immune system, which leads to loss of tolerance to autoantigens. It is believed that these diseases have a multivariate etiology and that infectious agents can trigger them. The immunological response against *H. pylori* can generate an inflammatory condition that potentially leads to the development of cross-reactive antibodies.

Rosacea is a chronic disease with skin manifestations such as facial erythema, edema, papules, telangiectasia, and pustules that are located, most of the time, in the center of the face. A risk association has been observed between *H. pylori* infection and rosacea, and the treatment of this bacterial infection dramatically decreases the severity of such dermatological disorder. Other authors observed the same associative results, and began to recommend that patients with rosacea who are positive for *H. pylori* should be treated with bacterial eradication. However, a meta-analysis concluded that cause-effect associations are weak between this disease and *H. pylori* infection (OR = 1.68, 95%CI: 1.10-2.84, P = 0.052) and that *H. pylori* eradication therapy does not reach the statistical significance necessary for its mass recommendation. Another disease commonly associated with *H. pylori* infection is chronic urticaria, a clinical condition that presents with itchy, erythematous or swollen urticaria. The studies reveal conflicting evidence regarding the cause-effect association of *H. pylori* with chronic urticaria. Interestingly, a meta-analysis showed that the improvement in chronic urticaria was not directly linked to the eradication of *H. pylori*, but with the antibiotic therapy used, and, even if the treatment was not effective, a significant remission in chronic urticaria was observed in those patients.

Alopecia areata (AA), an autoimmune disease, leads to hair loss and can present a variable course among affected individuals. There are few published studies on the association of AA with *H. pylori* infection. In an Iranian case control study, a statistically significant risk association was observed (OR = 2.263, 95%CI: 1.199-4.273); however, the study limitations such as the incapacity of controlling some confounding variables weaken this evidence.

Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP) is a condition that results from the individual’s platelet destruction mediated by antiplatelet antibodies. Several studies associate the relationship between *H. pylori* infection and ITP. Although the pathogenesis involved in this process is inconclusive, some authors suggest that CagA stimulates the synthesis of anti-CagA antibodies that cross-react with platelet surface antigens causing ITP. The first correlation of this possible pathogenesis observed an increase in patients’ platelet count after *H. pylori* eradication. Other studies have also been conducted in order to evaluate the remission of PTI after the treatment of *H. pylori* infection. A prospective Brazilian study demonstrated an increase in platelets after bacterial eradication in part of the *H. pylori*-positive patients with ITP. In addition, a significant decrease in the levels of cytokines of the pro-inflammatory profiles Th1 and Th17 as well as an increase in anti-inflammatory cytokines linked to regulatory T cells (Treg) and Th2 were observed in infected patients with ITP in whom an increase in platelet count after *H. pylori* eradication was observed. A recently published meta-analysis corroborates the significant therapeutic effect that *H. pylori* eradication has on patients with ITP and suggests that this evidence can be taken into...
account in the clinical treatment of patients with ITP (OR = 1.93, 95%CI: 1.01-3.71, P = 0.05)[8]. This study presents fragilities since it included researches with a limited number of individuals, few studies with adults, and embraced a small variation of ethnicities. However, it is important to highlight that H. pylori infection investigation and eradication have been recommended by ITP clinical management guidelines[9].

**Ophthalmic manifestations**

Ophthalmic manifestations association with H. pylori was firstly studied by Mindel and Rosenberg[9], when they tried to relate the rosacea’s ocular manifestations with this bacterium. The ocular and extraocular microbiomes and their influence in ophthalmic diseases have been extensively studied and although some associations with H. pylori infection are controversial, a set of diseases as open-angle glaucoma, central serous chorioretinopathy (CSCR), and blepharitis have been more widely studied[10-12].

Cytokines induced by the H. pylori in gastric mucosa can generate a systemic inflammatory status contributing with the pathogenesis of these diseases through increased oxidative stress, causing mitochondrial dysfunction and damage to DNA. This process culminates in morphological changes and apoptosis. Oxidative stress is an important pillar in the pathogenesis of both conditions but it is a controversial causal association without large-scale studies[13].

A meta-analysis showed a significant correlation between H. pylori infection and open-angle glaucoma (OR = 2.08, 95%CI: 1.42-3.04). Analyzing the subgroups, this association was present in primary open-angle glaucoma (OR = 3.06, 95%CI: 1.76-5.34; P < 0.001) and normal tension glaucoma (OR = 1.77, 95%CI: 1.27-2.46; P = 0.001), but not seen with pseudoexfoliation glaucoma (OR = 1.46, 95%CI: 0.40-5.30; P = 0.562)[13]. The H. pylori eradication can result in an improvement of intraocular pressure (P < 0.001) and visual field (P ≤ 0.01) parameters[14]. The eradication had been either associated with the reduction of ocular rosacea symptoms in a case series[15], improvement in patients with CSCR[16] and better cytology results in 50% of patients with H. pylori and blepharitis (n = 142)[17]. Regarding CSCR, studies have shown a higher prevalence of the disease among H. pylori positive patients (78.2%, 95%CI: 56% - 92%) when compared to the control group (43.5%, 95%CI: 23%-65%), with P < 0.03 and a 4.6 OR[18].

**Asthma and allergic diseases**

The research on infections, microbiome and allergic diseases started with the discussion about hygiene hypothesis due to the increase of allergic diseases as allergic rhinitis or hay fever, asthma and eczema in the post industrial revolution world[19]. The first study that aimed to determine the seroprevalence of H. pylori in asthma patients was performed in 2000 and had inconclusive founds[20]. Therefore, several studies were conducted in an attempt to elucidate the association between both conditions and although some findings are controversial, meta-analyses indicate that H. pylori infection could be considered a protective factor for asthma especially in children and in patients with cagA-positive strains[21,22,23].

The H. pylori infection as other microbial antigens tends to induce, especially in adults, a Th1 polarized response. This pro-Th1 balance inhibits the activation of a Th2 immune response, fundamental in the asthma and allergies pathophysiology whereas eosinophilic activation and IgE production are dependent of IL-4 and IL-5[24]. The neutrophil-activating protein of eosinophil (NAP) can induce this polarization in vivo and in vitro and could be a target in the development of a treatment or a prevention strategy for asthma and other allergic diseases[25].

In children, the H. pylori infection produces a predominant Treg pattern[26] that either suppress the Th2-mediated allergic response. Furthermore, the H. pylori IgG titre in children was inversely correlated with asthma severity[27]. This response triggered against bacterial antigens is strong and could suppress responses to autoantigens and allergens[28]. Another mechanism that could explain the lower incidence of asthma in H. pylori carriers is that the presence of the bacteria, especially CagA+ strains, protects against gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), reducing GERD-related asthma and the exacerbations associated with this condition[29].

Considering that H. pylori infection is associated with poor household hygiene, some authors and studies endorse that the infection should be considered a biomarker for precarious condition instead of a specific protective factor for allergic diseases[30].

**Multiple sclerosis**

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic inflammatory disease that affects the central
nervous system (CNS), causing a multifactorial immune dysregulation that involves genetic and environmental factors\[89\]. For the first time, in 2007, it was reported a negative association between H. pylori infection and MS\[90\]. In that occasion, a japanese study included patients with opticospinal MS (OSMS), conventional MS (CMS), and healthy controls (HC). The results showed a considerably lower H. pylori seropositivity in CMS patients (22.6%, $P < 0.05$) when compared to HC (42.4%, $P = 0.0180$) and OSMS individuals (51.9%, $P = 0.0019$). After that, various studies investigated such association and two meta-analyses were conducted in order to evaluate the possible protective effect of H. pylori infection to MS. The first one included 1902 patients and demonstrated a significantly lower infection prevalence among SM patients when compared to controls with the same age range and sex (OR = 0.59, 95% CI: 0.37-0.94, $P = 0.03$)\[90\]. The second one embraced 2806 individuals and also found a reduced general prevalence of H. pylori infection in MS patients (24.66% vs 31.84%, OR: 0.69, 95%CI: 0.57-0.83, $P < 0.0001$)\[90\].

Among the various hypotheses that try to justify the H. pylori infection as a protection factor for MS, the hygiene hypothesis argues that the exposition to microbial agents during childhood modulates the human immune system, avoiding the development of immune hypersensitivity during adulthood\[9\]. Another mechanism that is probably associated with this process is the inhibitory induction of H. pylori over the Th1 and Th17 immune response by means of the FoxP3-positive regulatory cells\[9\].

Interestingly, the immune response against the H. pylori infection also seems to be influenced by the MS. In a cohort that included 119 MS patients (most of them with acute remittent-recurrent MS), it was demonstrated that the H. pylori positive patients presented a reduced humoral response against the bacterial protein HP9860\[9\]. However, another study investigated the antibodies production against the H. pylori VacA (vaculating cytotoxin A) in patients with secondary progressive MS, who presented such immunoglobulins more often when compared to healthy individuals. This suggests that the recognition of H. pylori antigens by antibodies is influenced not only by the positivity status for EM, but also by the forms of presentation of this autoimmune disease\[9\].

**Alzheimer’s disease**

Alzheimer disease (AD) is a neurodegenerative disturb with progressive cognitive impairment and has the gradual involvement of the sporadic memory as its commonest clinical representation\[98\]. Shindler-Itskovitch et al\[98\], 2016, conducted a meta-analysis that embraced 13 observational studies on the association between H. pylori and dementia. The results showed that the H. pylori-positive patients had higher risk of dementia when compared to the not infected ones (OR = 1.7, 95%CI: 1.17-2.49). However, when considered only AD patients, such association was not statistically significant (OR = 1.39, 95%CI: 0.76-2.52). Despite that, a more recent meta-analysis identified a significant positive association between H. pylori infection and AD in an Asian population (OR = 1.60, 95%CI: 1.20-2.15)\[99\].

Some mechanisms are supposed to be involved in the increase of AD risk in individuals infected by H. pylori. The vitamin B12 deficiency due to gastric alterations induced by the infection leads to increased concentrations of homocysteine, what leads to dementia. Other hypothesized mechanism for such association is the anormal hyperphosphorylation of the TAU protein caused by H. pylori infection. That protein is involved in the AD-linked neurodegeneration\[99\]. Besides that, Kountouras et al\[100\], showed that the H. pylori infection positively influence the ApoE polymorphism known as the main genetic risk factor for AD.

Some hypotheses affirm that H. pylori can reach the brain, leading to changes that trigger AD. One of them is based on the H. pylori ability to reach the olfactory bulb through the oral-nasal-olfactive via\[101\]. Such bulb is responsible for the decodification of olfactive signals in the brain and its dysfunction is related to the enefalic neurodegeneration. Other supposition is the bacterial access through the rupted hematoencephalic barrier (HEB) inside leukocytes, causing an inflammatory process with the release of chemical mediator\[102\]. All of the above-mentioned H. pylori ways to reach CNS could allow H. pylori to exert its potential neurodegenerative action in that environment\[103\].

**Parkinson’s disease**

Parkinson’s disease (PD) is the second most prevalent progressive neurodegenerative disturb in the world, and has tremor, postural instability, and bradykinesia as preeminent outcomes\[104,105\]. However, among other reverberations in the human body, gastrointestinal impairments, such as constipation, are important consequences of that
disease and they often represent the first PD manifestations\[114]. The supposed link between Parkinson’s disease and gastrointestinal tract led researchers to further investigate that relationship, raising the hypothesis that microorganisms from the digestive system could influence PD pathophysiology\[115].

In that context, a recent meta-analysis that included 23 studies investigated the impact of viral, fungal, and bacterial infections in the risk of PD and found a positive association between \textit{H. pylori} infection and that disease (pooled OR, 95%CI: 1.65-1.915, \textit{P} < 0.001)\[116]. Furthermore, another meta-analysis which included 7 studies found that the \textit{H. pylori} infection is also associated with the clinical severity of the PD, since \textit{H. pylori}-positive patients presented poorer scores when undergone Unified Parkinson Disease Rating Scale (UPDRS) evaluation [mean ± SD, 95%CI: 6.83, 2.29-11.38, \textit{P} = 0.003]\[117]. In addition, the last study also observed an improvement in the UPDRS-III scale in PD patients after \textit{H. pylori} eradication (mean ± SD, 95%CI: 6.83, 2.29-11.38, \textit{P} = 0.003). It is important to be highlighted that these researches present some limitations. Firstly, the included studies used different diagnostic criteria of PD, and the methods performed for the detection of \textit{H. pylori} infection also varied. The use of ELISA for \textit{H. pylori} infection diagnosis in some of these studies may have overestimated the number of positive individuals, since that test is often reagent even when performed months following a possible \textit{H. pylori} spontaneous eradication. Last but not least, \textit{H. pylori} infection is closely related to various socioeconomic factors, including hygiene. Consequently, some of the associations between \textit{H. pylori} and PD could have been correlational and not causal\[118,119].

It is known that the \textit{H. pylori} infection increases the synthesis of 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine (MPTP)\[120]. Such substance can cause dopamine depletion, as well as damage to the substantia nigra, what can lead to PD. Concomitantly, \textit{H. pylori} infection has been found to reduce levodopa absorption, what potentially has the exacerbation of PD symptoms as a consequence\[121].

**Guillain-Barré syndrome**

The association between the Guillain-Barré syndrome and the \textit{H. pylori} infection have been widely studied and, recently, a meta-analysis about this issue confirmed this interrelation, proceeding with the analysis of the anti-\textit{H. pylori} antibody in serum and cerebrospinal spinal liquid (CSL). When the first one was analyzed, the antibody presence in the patients that presented GBS was significantly higher when compared to those without GBS (OR = 2.31, 95%CI: 1.30-4.11, \textit{P} = 0.004). In the CSL analysis, there was also a strong positive association between GBS and anti-\textit{H. pylori} IgG (OR = 42.45, 95%CI: 9.66-186.56, \textit{Pz} < 0.00001)\[122].

**Cardiovascular diseases**

Atherosclerosis is a ischemic disease caused by a chronic inflammatory process in the arterial wall and that can lead to other circulatory system diseases\[123,124]. Yang et al\[125\] showed, in an animal model, a positive association between \textit{H. pylori} infection and atherosclerosis. They also observed that CagA potentially stimulates the foam production inside macrophages, what contributes to the magnification of the atherosclerotic plaque and arterial dysfunction. In addition, the \textit{H. pylori}-infected gastric epithelial cells-derived exosomes (Hp-GES-EVs) are absorbed by the plaques and CagA is released inside them. Such event exacerbates the obstructive inflammatory process and lead to \textit{in vitro} and \textit{in vivo} lesions\[126\]. A south korean study that evaluated the relationship between \textit{H. pylori} and cardiovascular risk factors concluded that this bacterial infection has a atherogenic potential once it seems to influence the lipidic profile of the patient. The results pointed to higher levels of total cholesterol and low-density lipoprotein (LDL), as well as to decreased high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in \textit{H. pylori}-positive individuals\[127\]. In that context, another recent study complemented that hypothesis, showing that the \textit{H. pylori} eradication intensely contributed to the improvement of the lipidic parameters in dyslipidemical individuals by means of an increase in HDL levels and a drop in LDL/HDL ratio, which is a parameter used in the evaluation of the atherosclerosis risk\[128\].

Another meta-analysis explored the association between \textit{H. pylori} and myocardial infarction (MI), and concluded that \textit{H. pylori} implies a higher risk of MI (OR = 2.10, 95%CI: 1.75-2.53, \textit{P} = 0.06)\[129\]. Interestingly, a study identified that people with IL-1 polymorphisms present higher inflammatory activity and higher chances of suffering from ST-segment elevation MI (OR = 2.32, 95%CI: 1.23-4.37, \textit{P} = 0.009)\[130\].

A study conducted in a Chinese population identified a high prevalence of arterial hypertension in \textit{H. pylori} seropositive patients (OR = 1.23, 95%CI: 1.04-1.46)\[131\]. One of the mechanisms that can explain that association is the production of inflammatory cytokines such as TNF-α, interleukin-6 and c-reactive protein induced by the \textit{H. pylori}
These cytokines lead to insulin resistance, contributing to the total peripheral vascular resistance and to the atherosclerotic process. Both phenomena are related to the hypertension\(^1\).

The coronary artery disease (CAD) is characterized by a heart blood flow reduction in the as a result of obstructions of the coronary arteries due to their narrowing due to an atherosclerotic and/or a thrombotic process\(^{[129]}\). A meta-analysis showed that the *H. pylori* infection is significantly related to higher odds of CAD (\(OR = 1.11, 95\%CI: 1.01-1.22, P = 0.24\))\(^{[130]}\).

According Tamura et al\(^{[111]}\), the probable hypothesis to explain the positive association between *H. pylori* and CAD may be linked to the atrophic gastritis caused by the bacterial chronic infection, leading to a decreased absorption of vitamin B12 and folic acid in the gastrointestinal tract. This absorptive deficiency causes an increase in the circulant levels of homocysteine, which potentially contribute to the CAD development. In addition, a study conducted by Kutluana and Kilciler\(^{[20]}\), 2019, demonstrated that the reduced absorption of above-mentioned nutrients due to atrophic gastritis and gastric intestinal metaplasia during *H. pylori* infection also lead to an increase in the arterial stiffness.

**Diabetes mellitus**

A positive association between *H. pylori* infection and diabetes mellitus (DM) was found in a meta-analysis of 39 studies that included more than 20 thousands patients (\(OR = 2.00, 95\%CI: 1.82-2.20, P = 0.07\))\(^{[133]}\). Besides that, the *H. pylori* infection not only increase the risk of DM, but it also impairs the satisfactory control of glycemic levels in DM patients. A meta-analysis that included 35 studies observed that the glycated hemoglobin A levels were significantly higher in *H. pylori*-positive patients when compared to *H. pylori*-negative individuals (weighted mean difference 0.50, 95\%CI: 0.28-0.72, \(P < 0.001\))\(^{[134]}\). However, the fact that these studies do not take into account other factors that influence the glycemic control, such as obesity index and smoking status, constitute an important limitation\(^{[135,136]}\). Among the hypothesis on how does *H. pylori* increases the risk of DM, it is believed that the increased cytokine production leads to the phosphorylation of serine residues from the insulin receptor substrate, whose linkage with insulin receptors turns deficient\(^{[137]}\).

## CONCLUSION

Although *H. pylori* infection is most commonly associated with gastric manifestations, growing evidence have drawn attention to its role in extragastric diseases. The knowledge on how does bacterium influence non-gastroduodenal disorders can elucidate little understood points about their pathophysiology and may shed light on new therapeutic targets in the management of these conditions. The *H. pylori* eradication is already a well established therapeutic alternative in some of these diseases. However, further studies are needed in order to evaluate if the bacterial elimination can be a consistent therapeutic alternative in a greater number of health problems. Finally, the beneficial association of *H. pylori* infection with some extragastric diseases should be explored by future research in order to evaluate the use of the bacterium and its products in new prophylactic and therapeutic protocols.

## REFERENCES

1. Coelho LGV, Marinho JR, Genta R, Ribeiro LT, Passos MDCF, Zaterka S, Assumpção PP, Barbosa AJA, Barbuti R, Braga LL, Breyer H, Carvalhaes A, Chinzon D, Cury M, Domingues G, Jorge JL, Maguilnik I, Marinho FP, Moraes-Filho JP, Parente JML, Paula-E-Silva CM, Pedrazzoli-Júnior J, Ramos AFP, Seidler H, Spinelli JN, Zir JV. Ivth brazilian consensus conference on *Helicobacter pylori* infection. *Arg Gastroenterol* 2018; 55: 97-121 [PMID: 30043876 DOI: 10.1590/S0004-2803.201800000-20]
2. Sjomina O, Pavlova J, Niv Y, Leja M. Epidemiology of *Helicobacter pylori* infection. *Helicobacter* 2018; 23 Suppl 1: e12514 [PMID: 30203387 DOI: 10.1111/hel.12514]
3. Sgambeato D, Visciola G, Ferrante E, Miranda A, Romano L, Tuccillo C, Manguolo F, Romano M. Prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in sexual partners of *H. pylori*-infected subjects: Role of gastroesophageal reflux. *United European Gastroenterol J* 2018; 6: 1470-1476 [PMID: 30574127 DOI: 10.1177/20506406188000628]
4. Leja M, Grinberg-Derica I, Bilgici C, Steininger C. Review: Epidemiology of *Helicobacter pylori* infection. *Helicobacter* 2019; 24 Suppl 1: e12635 [PMID: 31486242 DOI: 10.1111/hel.12635]
5. Urita Y, Watanabe T, Kagose N, Takemoto I, Tanaka H, Kijima S, Kido H, Maceta T, Sugawara Y, Miyazaki T, Honda Y, Nakamichi K, Shimada N, Nakajima H, Sagimoto M, Urita C. Role of infected
grandmothers in transmission of Helicobacter pylori to children in a Japanese rural town. J Paediatr Child Health 2013; 49: 394-398 [PMID: 23560808 DOI: 10.1111/jpc.12191]

6 Ahmed KS, Khan AA, Ahmed I, Tiwari SK, Haibeeb MA, Ali SM, Ali JD, Ahib Z, Alvi A, Hussain MA, Ahmed N, Habibullah CM. Prevalence study to elucidate the transmission pathways of Helicobacter pylori at oral and gastroesophageal sites of a South Indian population. Singapore Med J 2006; 47: 291-296 [PMID: 16572240]

7 Mladenova I, Durazzo M. Transmission of Helicobacter pylori. Minerva Gastroenterol Dietol 2018; 64: 251-254 [PMID: 29458239 DOI: 10.23736/S1121-421X.18.02480-7]

8 Gravina AG, Zagari RM, De Mucis C, Romano L, Loguerio C, Romano M. Helicobacter pylori and extragastric diseases: A review. World J Gastroenterol 2018; 24: 3204-3221 [PMID: 30090602 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v24.i32.3204]

9 Strachan DP. Hay fever, hygiene, and household size. BMJ 1989; 299: 1259-1260 [PMID: 2513902 DOI: 10.1136/bmj.299.6710.1259]

10 Hung IF, Wong BC. Assessing the risks and benefits of treating Helicobacter pylori infection. Therap Adv Gastroenterol 2009; 2: 141-147 [PMID: 21180540 DOI: 10.1177/1756283X09070027]

11 Torres J, Ellul P, Langhorst J, Mikocka-Walus A, Barreiro-de Acosta M, Basnayake C, Ding NJS, Gilardi D, Katsanos K, Moneg R, Ophein B, Palmeta C, Pelling G, Van der Mare S, Vavricka SR. European Crohn’s and Colitis Organisation Topical Review on Complementary Medicine and Psychotherapy in Inflammatory Bowel Disease. J Crohns Colitis 2019; 13: 673-685 [PMID: 30820529 DOI: 10.1093/ecco-jcc/jjy051]

12 Borg-Bartolo SP, Boyapati RK, Satsangi J, Kalla R. Precision medicine in inflammatory bowel disease: concept, progress and challenges. F1000Res 2020; 9 [PMID: 32047622 DOI: 10.12688/f1000research.20282.1]

13 Castaño-Rodríguez N, Kaakoush NO, Lee WS, Mitchell HM. Dual role of Helicobacter and Campylobacter species in IBD: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Gut 2017; 66: 235-249 [PMID: 26508580 DOI: 10.1136/gutjnl-2015-310545]

14 Lin KD. Chiu GF, Walje AK, Owyang SY, El-Zaatari M, Bishu S, Grasbergher H, Zhang M, Wu DC, Kao JY. Effects of Anti-Helicobacter pylori Therapy on Incidence of Autoimmune Diseases, Including Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol 2019; 17: 1991-1999 [PMID: 30580094 DOI: 10.1016/j.cgh.2018.12.014]

15 Fialho A, Fialho A, Nazari A, Muenzy V, Maleispín M, Shen B, De Melo SW Jr. Helicobacter pylori is Associated with Less Fistulizing, Stricturing, and Active Colitis in Crohn’s Disease Patients. Cureus 2019; 11: e6226 [PMID: 31890426 DOI: 10.7555/cureus.6226]

16 Arnold IC, Hitzler I, Müller A. The immunomodulatory properties of Helicobacter pylori confer protection against allergic and chronic inflammatory disorders. Front Cell Infect Microbiol 2012; 2: 10 [PMID: 22919602 DOI: 10.3389/fcimb.2012.00010]

17 Rad R, Brenner L, Bauer S, Schwendy S, Layland L, da Costa CP, Reindl W, Dossumbekova A, Friedrich M, Saur D, Wagner H, Schmid RM, Prinz C. CD25+/Foxp3+ T cells regulate gastric inflammation and Helicobacter pylori colonization in vivo. Gastroenterology 2006; 131: 523-537 [PMID: 16890606 DOI: 10.1053/gastro.2006.05.001]

18 Arnold IC, Dehzad N, Reuter S, Martin H, Becher B, Taube C, Müller A. Helicobacter pylori infection prevents allergic asthma in mouse models through the induction of regulatory T cells. J Clin Invest 2011; 121: 3088-3093 [PMID: 21773881 DOI: 10.1172/JCI415041]

19 Codolo G, Mazzi P, Amedei A, Del Prete G, Bertoni G, D’Ellios MM, de Bernard M. The neutrophil-activating protein of Helicobacter pylori down-modulates Th2 inflammation in ovalbumin-induced allergic asthma. Cell Microbiol 2008; 10: 2355-2363 [PMID: 18671823 DOI: 10.1111/j.1462-5822.2008.01217.x]

20 Windle HJ, Ang YS, Athie-Morales V, McManus R, Kelleher D. Human peripheral and gastric lymphocyte responses to Helicobacter pylori NAP-A and ApbC differ in infected and uninfected individuals. Gut 2005; 54: 25-32 [PMID: 15591500 DOI: 10.1136/gut.2003.025494]

21 Qin J, Li R, Raes J, Arumugam M, Burgdorf KS, Manichanh C, Nielsen T, Pons N, Levenez F, Yamada T, Mende DR, Li X, Xu J, Li S, Li D, Cao J, Wang B, Liang H, Zhang H, Xie Y, Yap J, Lepage P, Bertalan M, Batto JM, Hansen T, Le Paslier D, Linneberg A, Nielsen HB, Pelletier E, Renault P, Sicots-Pinton T, Turner K, Zhu H, Yu C, Li S, Jian M, Zhou Y, Li Y, Zhang X, Li S, Qin N, Yang H, Wang J, Brunak S, Doré J, Guarnier F, Kristiansen K, Pedersen O, Parkhill J, Weissenbach J, MetaHIT Consortium, Bork P, Ehrlich SD, Wang J. A human gut microbial gene catalogue established by metagenomic sequencing. Nature 2010; 464: 59-65 [PMID: 20201663 DOI: 10.1038/nature08521]

22 Chen L, Xu W, Lee A, He J, Huang B, Zheng W, Su T, Lai S, Long Y, Chu H, Chen Y, Wang L, Wang K, Si J, Chen S. The impact of Helicobacter pylori infection, eradication therapy and probiotic Supplementation on gut microbiota in ulcerative colitis. An open-label, randomized clinical trial. EBiomedicine 2018; 35: 87-96 [PMID: 30145102 DOI: 10.1016/j.ebiom.2018.08.028]

23 Spechler SJ. Epidemiology and natural history of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease. Digestion 1992; 51 Suppl 1: 24-29 [PMID: 1397743 DOI: 10.1159/000200911]

24 Chen J, Brady P. Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease: Pathophysiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment. Gastroenterol Nurs 2019; 42: 20-28 [PMID: 30858703 DOI: 10.1097/S000014620000159]

25 Bowrey DJ, Williams GT, Clark GW. Interactions between Helicobacter pylori and gastroesophageal reflux disease. Dis Esophagus 1998; 11: 203-209 [PMID: 10071799 DOI: 10.1093/dote/11.4.203]

26 Wang XT, Zhang M, Chen CY, Lyu B. [Helicobacter pylori eradication and gastroesophageal reflux disease: a Meta-analysis]. Zhonghua Wei Za Zhi 2016; 55: 710-716 [PMID: 27586980 DOI: 10.3760/cma.j.issn.0576-1426.2016.09.011]

27 Gao H, Li L, Zhang C, Tu J, Geng X, Wang J, Zhou X, Jing J, Pan W. Systematic Review with Meta-analysis: Association of Helicobacter pylori Infection with Esophageal Cancer. Gastroenterol Res Pract 2019; 2019: 1953497 [PMID: 31871444 DOI: 10.1155/2019/1953497]

28 Tionnmy E, Arner B, Moshkowitz M, Peled Y, Gilat T. Halitosis and Helicobacter pylori. A possible link? J Clin Gastroenterol 1992; 15: 236-237 [PMID: 1479169 DOI: 10.1097/00004836-199210000-00003]

29 Hajifattahi F, Hesari M, Zojaji H, Sarlatti F. Relationship of Halitosis with Gastric Helicobacter Pylori
Infection. J Dent (Tehran) 2015; 12: 200-205 [PMID: 26622273]

30 Anbari F, Aashori Moghadam A, Sabeti E, Khodakabakhshi A. Halitosis: Helicobacter pylori or oral factors. Helicobacter 2019; 24: e12556 [PMID: 30844100 DOI: 10.1111/hel.12556]

31 Pappachan JM, Babu S, Krishnan B, Ravindran NC. Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease: A Clinical Update. J Clin Transl Hepatol 2017; 5: 384-393 [PMID: 29226105 DOI: 10.14187/JCHT.2017.00013]

32 Gen R, Demir M, Ataseven H. Effect of Helicobacter pylori eradication on insulin resistance, serum lipids and low-grade inflammation. South Med J 2010; 103: 190-196 [PMID: 20134372 DOI: 10.1097/SMJ.0b013e3181c7f731]

33 Adolph TE, Grander C, Grabherr F, Tilg H. Adipokines and Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease: Multiple Interactions. Int J Mol Sci 2017; 18 [PMID: 28738929 DOI: 10.3390/ijms18081649]

34 Veece A, Nakic D, Mrden A, Mirat J, Balen S, Ruzic A, Persic V, Soldo I, Matijevic M, Barbiè J, Matijević V, Bozic D, Radanovic B. Helicobacter pylori infection and coronary artery disease. Coll Antropol 2007; 31: 757-760 [PMID: 18041385]

35 Korponay-Szabó IR, Halitunten T, Szalai Z, Laurila K, Király R, Kovács JB, Fésüs L, Mäki M. In vivo targeting of intestinal and extraintestinal transglutaminase 2 by coeliac autoantibodies. Gut 2004; 53: 641-648 [PMID: 15082580 DOI: 10.1136/gut.2003.024836]

36 Liu R, Liu Q, He Y, Shi W, Xu Q, Yuan Q, Lin Q, Li B, Ye L, Min Y, Zhu P, Shao Y. Association between Helicobacter pylori infection and nonalcoholic fatty liver: A meta-analysis. Medicine (Baltimore) 2019; 98: e17781 [PMID: 31689846 DOI: 10.1097/MD.0000000000017781]

37 Waluga M, Kukla Z, Zornik M, Bacik A, Kotulski R. From the stomach to other organs: Helicobacter pylori and the liver. World J Hepatol 2015; 7: 2136-2146 [PMID: 26328025 DOI: 10.4254/wjh.v7.i18.2136]

38 Nilsson HO, Mulehandari R, Tranberg KG, Stenram U, Wadström T. Helicobacter species identified in liver from patients with cholangiocarcinoma and hepatocellular carcinoma. Gastroenterology 2001; 120: 323-324 [PMID: 11246512 DOI: 10.1053/gast.2001.21382]

39 Huang Z, Cui J. Evaluation of Helicobacter pylori Infection in Patients with Chronic Hepatic Disease. Chin Med J (Engl) 2017; 130: 149-154 [PMID: 28904105 DOI: 10.4103/0376-6999.197960]

40 Calvet X, Sanfeliu I, Musulen E, Mas P, Dalmau B, Campo R, Brullet E, Valero C, Paig J. Evaluation of Helicobacter pylori diagnostic methods in patients with liver cirrhosis. Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2002; 16: 1283-1289 [PMID: 12144578 DOI: 10.1046/j.1465-2026.2002.01293.x]

41 Tsuchiya Y, Mishra K, Kapoor VK, Vishwakarma R, Behari A, Ikomu T, Asai T, Endoh K, Nakamura K. Plasma Helicobacter pylori Antibody Tilters and Helicobacter pylori Infection Positivity Rates in Patients with Gallbladder Cancer or Cholelithiasis: a Hospital-Based Case-Control Study. Asian Pac J Cancer Prev 2018; 19: 1911-1915 [PMID: 30051672 DOI: 10.22034/APJCP.2018.19.11.191]

42 Yucesibilli K, Mehmeto˘glu T, Gucin Z, Sahib BA. Helicobacter pylori DNA in gallbladder tissue of patients with cholelithiasis and cholecystitis. J Infect Dev Ctries 2009; 3: 856-859 [PMID: 20061681 DOI: 10.3855/jidc.334]

43 Guraya SY, Ahmad AA, El-Ageemy SM, Hemeg HA, Ozbak HA, Yousef K, Abdel-Aziz NA. The correlation of Helicobacter Pylori with the development of cholelithiasis and cholecystitis: the results of a prospective clinical study in Saudi Arabia. Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci 2015; 19: 3873-3880 [PMID: 26531273]

44 Chen L, Pan J, Zhou B, Yu C, Li Y, Chen W, Shen Z. Helicobacter Pylori infection of the gallbladder and the risk of chronic cholecystitis and cholelithiasis: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Helicobacter 2018; 23 [PMID: 29265484 DOI: 10.1111/hel.12457]

45 Abro AH, Haider IZ, Ahmad S. Helicobacter pylori infection in patients with calcular cholecystitis: a hospital based study. J Ayub Med Coll Abbottabad 2011; 23: 30-33 [PMID: 22830140]

46 Arisendi-Morillo G, Cardozo-Ramones V, Torres-Nava G, Romero-Amaro Z. [Histopathological study of the presence of Helicobacter pylori-type bacteria in surgical specimens from patients with chronic cholecystitis]. Gastroenterol Hepatol 2011; 34: 449-453 [PMID: 21763037 DOI: 10.1016/j.gastrohep.2011.05.001]

47 Kaptan K, Bıyan C, Ural AU, Çetin T, Avcu F, Gülsem M, Fincı R, Yalçın A. Helicobacter pylori—is it a novel causative agent in Vitamin B12 deficiency? Arch Intern Med 2000; 160: 1349-1353 [PMID: 10809040 DOI: 10.1001/archinte.160.9.1349]

48 Mwafy SN, Afana WM. Hematological parameters, serum iron and vitamin B12 levels in hospitalized Palestinian adult patients infected with Helicobacter pylori: a case-control study. Hematol Transfus Cell Ther 2018; 40: 160-165 [PMID: 30057990 DOI: 10.1016/j.htct.2017.11.010]

49 Serin E, Gümüşdilli Y, Ozer B, Kayaselçuk F, Yılmaz U, Köşk R. Impact of Helicobacter pylori on the development of vitamin B12 deficiency in the absence of gastric atrophy. Helicobacter 2002; 7: 337-341 [PMID: 12485119 DOI: 10.1046/j.1537-3487.2002.00106.x]

50 Malferttheiner P, Megraud F, O'Morain CA, Gisbert JP, Kuipers EJ, Axon AT, Bazzoli F, Gasbarrini A, Atherton J, Graham DY, Hunt R, Moayyedi P, Rokkas T, Rugge M, Selgrad M, Suerbaum S, Sugano K, El-Omar EM, European Helicobacter and Microbiota Study Group and Consensus panel. Management of Helicobacter pylori infection-the Maastricht V/Florenc Consensus Report. Gut 2017; 66: 6-30 [PMID: 27780777 DOI: 10.1136/gutjnl-2016-312288]

51 Cho YH, Kim SK, Son BK, Lee DH, Hong YC, Pai SH. Randomized placebo-controlled trial of Helicobacter pylori eradication for iron-deficiency anemia in preadolescent children and adolescents. Helicobacter 1999; 4: 135-139 [PMID: 10382128 DOI: 10.1046/j.1537-3487.1999.08066.x]

52 Ferrara M, Capozzi L, Russo R. Influence of Helicobacter pylori infection associated with iron deficiency anemia on growth in pre-adolescent children. Hematology 2009; 14: 173-176 [PMID: 19407646 DOI: 10.1179/102453309X402267]

53 Ashorn M, Ruuska T, Mäkipärmä A. Helicobacter pylori and iron deficiency anaemia in children. Scand J Gastroenterol 2001; 36: 701-705 [PMID: 11444068 DOI: 10.1080/00365520120019150]

54 Guarrera C, Lotti J, Fioranelli M, Roccia MG, Lotti T, Guarrera F. Possible role of Helicobacter pylori in diseases of dermatological interest. J Biol Regul Homeost Agents 2017; 31: 57-77 [PMID: 28702966]

55 Ram M, Barzilai O, Shapira Y, Anaya JM, Tincani A, Stojanovich L, Bombardieri S, Bizzaro N, Kivity S, et al. Update.

https://www.wjgnet.com
Santos MLC et al. H. pylori and extragastric manifestations

Agnon Levin N, Shoenfeld Y. Helicobacter pylori serology in autoimmune diseases - fact or fiction? Clin Chem Lab Med 2013; 51: 1075-1082 [PMID: 23079514 DOI: 10.1515/cclm-2012-0477]

Uemura N, Okamoto S, Yamamoto S, Matsumura N, Yamaguchi S, Yamakido M, Taniyama K, Sasaki N, Schlemper RJ. Helicobacter pylori infection and the development of gastric cancer. N Engl J Med 2001; 345: 784-789 [PMID: 11556297 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa0109999]

Buechner SA. Rosacea: an update. Dermatology 2005; 210: 100-108 [PMID: 15724091 DOI: 10.1159/000082564]

Szlachcic A, Sliwowski Z, Karczewska E, Bielański W, Pytko-Polonczyk J, Konturek SJ. Helicobacter pylori and its eradication in rosacea. J Physiol Pharmacol 1999; 50: 777-786 [PMID: 10695558]

Saleh P, Naghavi-Bezmad M, Hertzchi H, Mokhtari F, Mirza-Aghazadeh-Attari M, Firi R. Effects of Helicobacter pylori treatment on rosacea: A single-arm clinical trial study. J Dermatol 2017; 44: 1033-1037 [PMID: 28452993 DOI: 10.1111/jd.13878]

Yang X. Relationship between Helicobacter pylori and Rosacea: review and discussion. BMC Infect Dis 2018; 18: 318 [PMID: 29996790 DOI: 10.1186/s12879-018-3232-4]

Gravina A, Federico A, Ruocco E, Lo Schiavo A, Masarone M, Tuccillo C, Peccerillo F, Miranda A, Romano L, de Sio C, de Sio I, Persico M, Ruocco V, Riegler G, Loguercio C, Romano M. Helicobacter pylori infection but not small intestinal bacterial overgrowth may play a pathogenic role in rosacea. United European Gastroenterol J 2015; 3: 17-24 [PMID: 2586385 DOI: 10.1177/2050640615592662]

Jørgensen AR, Egeberg A, Gideonsson R, Weinstock LB, Thysen JP, Thysen JP. Rosacea is associated with Helicobacter pylori: A systematic review and meta-analysis. J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol 2017, 31: 2010-2015 [PMID: 28543746 DOI: 10.1111/jdv.14352]

Rendon A, Schikkel K. Psooriasis Pathogenesis and Treatment. Int J Mol Sci 2019; 20 [PMID: 30909615 DOI: 10.3390/ijms20061475]

Mesquita PM, Diogo A Filho, Jorge MT, Berbert AL, Mantese SA, Rodrigues JJ. Relationship of Helicobacter pylori seroprevalence with the occurrence and severity of psooriasis. An Bras Dermatol 2017; 92: 52-57 [PMID: 28223597 DOI: 10.1590/abd1806-4461.20174880]

Halasz CL. Helicobacter pylori antibodies in patients with psooriasis. Arch Dermatol 1996; 132: 95-96 [PMID: 8546497]

Yu M, Zhang R, Ni P, Chen S, Duan G. Helicobacter pylori Infection and Psooriasis: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Medicina (Kaunas) 2019; 55 [PMID: 31561576 DOI: 10.3390/medicina55100645]

Hong KI, Leung AKC, Ng WGG, Loo SK. Chronic Urticaria: An Overview of Treatment and Recent Patents. Recent Pat Inflamm Allergy Drug Discov 2019; 13: 27-37 [PMID: 30924425 DOI: 10.2174/1872213X13666190328164931]

Astia C, Baquerizo K, Korman A, Bernstein JA, Akikhan A. Urticaria: A comprehensive review: Epidemiology, diagnosis, and work-up. J Am Acad Dermatol 2018; 79: 599-614 [PMID: 30241623 DOI: 10.1016/j.jaad.2018.01.020]

Kim HJ, Kim YJ, Lee HJ, Hong YJ, Park AY, Chung EH, Lee SY, Lee JS, Park YL, Lee SH, Kim JE. Systematic review and meta-analysis: Effect of Helicobacter pylori eradication on chronic spontaneous urticaria. Helicobacter 2019; 24: e12661 [PMID: 31523897 DOI: 10.1111/hei.12661]

Gu H, Li L, Gu M, Zhang G. Association between Helicobacter pylori Infection and Chronic Urticaria: A Meta-Analysis. Gastroenterol Res Pract 2015; 2015: 486974 [PMID: 25861238 DOI: 10.1155/2015/486974]

Pratt CH, King LE Jr, Messenger AG, Christiano AM, Sundberg JP. Alopecia areata. Arch Dermatol 1996; 132: 95-96 [PMID: 8546497]

Kellogg AS, Egeberg A, Gideonsson R, Weinstock LB, Thyssen JP. Rosacea is associated with Helicobacter pylori: A systematic review and meta-analysis. J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol 2017, 31: 2010-2015 [PMID: 28543746 DOI: 10.1111/jdv.14352]

Kodama M, Kitaide Y, Ito M, Kai H, Masuda H, Tanaka S, Yoshihara M, Fujimura K, Chayama K. Immune response to CagA protein is associated with improved platelet count after Helicobacter pylori eradication in patients with idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura. Helicobacter 2007; 12: 36-42 [PMID: 17241299 DOI: 10.1111/j.1343-5370.2007.00477.x]

Gasbarrini A, Franceschi F, Tartaglione R, Landolfi R, Pola P, Gasbarrini G. Regression of autoimmune thrombocytopenia after eradication of Helicobacter pylori. Lancet 1998; 352: 878 [PMID: 9742983 DOI: 10.1016/S0140-6736(97)60004-9]

Cheon AM, Souza C, Melo FF, Clementino NC, Marino MC, Rocha GA, Queiroz DM. Cytokine profile of patients with chronic immune thrombocytopenia affects platelet count recovery after Helicobacter pylori eradication. Br J Haematol 2015; 168: 421-428 [PMID: 25257094 DOI: 10.1111/bjh.13141]

Kim BJ, Kim HS, Jung HJ, Kim JH. Helicobacter pylori Eradication in Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura: A Meta-Analysis of Randomized Trials. Gastroenterol Res Pract 2018; 2018: 6090878 [PMID: 30402091 DOI: 10.1155/2018/6090878]

Ozelo MC, Coelha MP, de Paula EV, do Nascimento ACKV, Vilaça PR, Bernardo WM. Guideline on immune thrombocytopenia in adults: Associação Brasileira de Hematologia, Hemoterapia e Terapia Celular. Project guidelines: Associação Médica Brasileira - 2018. Hematol Transfus Cell Ther 2018; 40: 30-74 [PMID: 30057974 DOI: 10.1016/j.bctt.2017.11.001]

Mindel JS, Rosenberg EW. Is Helicobacter pylori of interest to ophthalmologists? Ophthalmology 1997; 104: 1729-1730 [PMID: 9375098 DOI: 10.1016/S0144-6559(97)0035-9]

Bain AD, Movahedian A, Farooq AV, Skondra D. The microbiome and ophthalmic disease. Exp Biol Med (Maywood) 2019; 244: 419-429 [PMID: 30463439 DOI: 10.1177/1535370218813616]
Wang XL, Zeng J, Yang Y, Xiong Y, Zhang ZH, Qiu M, Yan X, Sun XY, Tuo QZ, Liu R, Wang JZ.

Shindler-Istokvitch T, Ravona-Springer R, Leibovitz A, Muhsen K. A Systematic Review and Meta-
Analysis of the Association between Helicobacter pylori Infection and Dementia. *J Alzheimers Dis* 2018; 52: 1431-1442 [PMID: 27079725 DOI: 10.3233/JAD-161322]

Fu P, Gao M, Yung KKL. Association of Intestinal Disorders with Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *ACS Chem Neurosci* 2020; 11: 395-405 [PMID: 31876406 DOI: 10.1021/acschemneuro.9b00607]

Wang XL, Zeng J, Yang Y, Xiong Y, Zhang ZH, Qiu M, Yan X, Sun XY, Tuo QZ, Liu R, Wang JZ.

Shindler-Istokvitch T, Ravona-Springer R, Leibovitz A, Muhsen K. A Systematic Review and Meta-
Analysis of the Association between Helicobacter pylori Infection and Dementia. *J Alzheimers Dis* 2018; 52: 1431-1442 [PMID: 27079725 DOI: 10.3233/JAD-161322]

Fu P, Gao M, Yung KKL. Association of Intestinal Disorders with Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *ACS Chem Neurosci* 2020; 11: 395-405 [PMID: 31876406 DOI: 10.1021/acschemneuro.9b00607]

Wang XL, Zeng J, Yang Y, Xiong Y, Zhang ZH, Qiu M, Yan X, Sun XY, Tuo QZ, Liu R, Wang JZ.

Shindler-Istokvitch T, Ravona-Springer R, Leibovitz A, Muhsen K. A Systematic Review and Meta-
Analysis of the Association between Helicobacter pylori Infection and Dementia. *J Alzheimers Dis* 2018; 52: 1431-1442 [PMID: 27079725 DOI: 10.3233/JAD-161322]

Fu P, Gao M, Yung KKL. Association of Intestinal Disorders with Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *ACS Chem Neurosci* 2020; 11: 395-405 [PMID: 31876406 DOI: 10.1021/acschemneuro.9b00607]

Wang XL, Zeng J, Yang Y, Xiong Y, Zhang ZH, Qiu M, Yan X, Sun XY, Tuo QZ, Liu R, Wang JZ.

Shindler-Istokvitch T, Ravona-Springer R, Leibovitz A, Muhsen K. A Systematic Review and Meta-
Analysis of the Association between Helicobacter pylori Infection and Dementia. *J Alzheimers Dis* 2018; 52: 1431-1442 [PMID: 27079725 DOI: 10.3233/JAD-161322]

Fu P, Gao M, Yung KKL. Association of Intestinal Disorders with Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *ACS Chem Neurosci* 2020; 11: 395-405 [PMID: 31876406 DOI: 10.1021/acschemneuro.9b00607]

Wang XL, Zeng J, Yang Y, Xiong Y, Zhang ZH, Qiu M, Yan X, Sun XY, Tuo QZ, Liu R, Wang JZ.
Helicobacter pylori filtrate induces Alzheimer-like tau hyperphosphorylation by activating glycogen synthase kinase-3β. J Alzheimer's Dis 2015; 43: 153-165 [PMID: 25079786 DOI: 10.3233/JAD-140198]

Kountouras J, Tsiolaki F, Tsolaki M, Gavalas E, Zavos C, Polyzos SA, Bozikis M, Katsinelos P, Kountouras C, Vardaka E, Taragakis GI, Deretzi G. Helicobacter pylori-related ApoE 4 polymorphism may be associated with dysphagic symptoms in older adults. Dis Esophagus 2016; 29: 842 [PMID: 25873443 DOI: 10.1111/dote.12364]

Doublier M, Kotronis G, Thomann R, Polyzos SA, Bozikis M, Gialanaprinos D, Deretzi G, Katsinelos P, Kountouras J. Review: Impact of Helicobacter pylori on Alzheimer's disease: What do we know so far? Helicobacter 2018; 23 [PMID: 29181894 DOI: 10.1111/hel.12454]

Franceschi F, Gasbarrini A, Polyzos SA, Kountouras J. Extragastric Diseases and Helicobacter pylori. Helicobacter 2015; 20 Suppl 1: 40-46 [PMID: 26372824 DOI: 10.1111/hel.12256]

Kountouras J, Zavos C, Polyzos SA, Deretzi G. The gut-brain axis: interactions between Helicobacter pylori and enteric and central nervous systems. Am Gastroenterol 2015; 28: 506 [PMID: 26423130]

Antony PM, Diederich NJ, Krüger R, Balling R. The hallmarks of Parkinson's disease. FEBBS J 2013; 280: 5981-5993 [PMID: 23663200 DOI: 10.1111/febs.12335]

Capriotti T, Terzakis K. Parkinson Disease. Home Healthc Now 2016; 34: 300-307 [PMID: 27243427 DOI: 10.1097/NHH.0000000000000398]

Mukherjee A, Biswas A, Das SK. Gut dysfunction in Parkinson's disease. World J Gastroenterol 2016; 22: 5742-5752 [PMID: 27433067 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v22.i25.5742]

Caputi V, Giron MC. Microbiome-Gut-Brain Axis and Toll-Like Receptors in Parkinson's disease. Int J Mol Sci 2018; 19 [PMID: 29882798 DOI: 10.3390/ijms19061689]

Wang H, Liu X, Tan C, Zhou W, Jiang J, Peng W, Zhou X, Mo L, Chen L. Bacterial, viral, and fungal infection-related risk of Parkinson's disease: Meta-analysis of cohort and case-control studies. Brain Behav 2020; 10: e01549 [PMID: 32017453 DOI: 10.1002/brb3.1549]

Dardiotis E, Tsouri Z, Mentis AA, Siokas V, Michalopoulou A, Sokratous M, Dastamani M, Mogdanos DP, Deretzi G, Kountouras J H. pylori and Parkinson's disease: Meta-analyses including clinical severity. Clin Neurol Neurosurg 2018; 175: 16-24 [PMID: 30308319 DOI: 10.1016/j.clineuro.2018.09.039]

Dardiotis E, Sokratous M, Tsouri Z, Siokas V, Mentis AA, Aloizou AM, Michalopoulou A, Dastamani M, Xiroeremos G, Deretzi G, Kountouras J, Hadjigeorgiou GM. Association between Helicobacter pylori infection and Guillain-Barre Syndrome: A meta-analysis. Eur J Clin Invest 2020; 50: e13218 [PMID: 32124432 DOI: 10.1111/eci.13218]

Kobiyama K, Saigusa R, Ley K. Vaccination against attherosclerosis. Curr Opin Immunol 2019; 59: 15-24 [PMID: 30928800 DOI: 10.1016/j.coi.2019.02.008]

Yang S, Xia YP, Luo XY, Chen SL, Li BW, Ye ZM, Chen SC, Mao L, Jin HJ, Li YN, Hu B. Esosomal CagA derived from Helicobacter pylori-infected gastric epithelial cells induces macrophage foam cell formation and promotes atherosclerosis. J Mol Cell Cardiol 2019; 135: 40-51 [PMID: 31352444 DOI: 10.1016/j.yycard.2019.07.011]

Song KC, Rhee EJ, Ryu SH, Beck SH. Prevalence of Helicobacter pylori infection and its association with cardiovascular risk factors in Korean adults. Int J Cardiol 2005; 102: 411-417 [PMID: 16048845 DOI: 10.1016/j.ijcard.2004.05.040]

Iwai N, Okuda T, Oka K, Hara T, Inada Y, Tsuji T, Komaki T, Inoue K, Oka K, Onishi H, Naito Y, Itoh Y, Kagawa Y. Helicobacter pylori eradication increases the serum high density lipoprotein cholesterol level in the infected patients with chronic gastritis: A single-center observational study. PLoS One 2019; 14: e0221349 [PMID: 31419266 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0221349]

Liu J, Wang F, Shi S. Helicobacter pylori infection Increase the Risk of Myocardial Infarction: A Meta-Analysis of 26 Studies Involving more than 20,000 Participants. Helicobacter 2015; 20: 176-183 [PMID: 25382293 DOI: 10.1111/hel.12188]

Tabata N, Sueta D, Akasaka T, Arima Y, Yamamoto K, Yamamoto I, Izuimya Y, Yamamura M, Tsujita K, Kojima S, Kaikita K, Morita K, Oniki K, Saruwatari J, Nakagawa K, Hokimoto S. Helicobacter pylori seropositivity in Patients with Interleukin-1 Polymorphisms Is Significantly Associated with ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction. PLoS One 2016; 11: e0166240 [PMID: 27832202 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0166240]

Wan Z, Hu L, Hu M, Lei X, Huang Y, Lv Y. Helicobacter pylori infection and prevalence of high blood pressure among Chinese adults. J Hum Hypertens 2018; 32: 158-164 [PMID: 29289960 DOI: 10.1038/s41371-017-0026-x]

Rampji DP, Davies TS. Cytokines in atherosclerosis: Key players in all stages of disease and promising therapeutic targets. Cytokine Growth Factor Rev 2015; 26: 673-685 [PMID: 26005197 DOI: 10.1016/j.cytogfr.2015.04.003]

Kotsis V, Stabouli S, Papakatsa S, Rizos Z, Parati G. Mechanisms of obesity-induced hypertension. Hypertens Res 2010; 33: 386-393 [PMID: 20442753]

Bentzon JF, Otsuka F, Virmani R, Falk E. Mechanisms of plaque formation and rupture. Circ Res 2014; 114: 1852-1866 [PMID: 24909790 DOI: 11.1161/CIRCRESAHA.114.302721]

Sun J, Rangan P, Bhut SS, Liu L. A Meta-Analysis of the Association between Helicobacter pylori Infection and Risk of Coronary Heart Disease from Published Prospective Studies. Helicobacter 2016; 21: 11-23 [PMID: 25997465 DOI: 10.1111/hel.12234]

Tamura A, Fujioka T, Nasu M. Relation of Helicobacter pylori infection to plasma vitamin B12, folic acid, and homocysteine levels in patients who underwent diagnostic coronary arteriography. Am J Gastroenterol 2002; 97: 861-866 [PMID: 12003420 DOI: 10.1111/j.1572-0241.2002.05601.x]

Kutluana U, Kılciğer AG. Is there a possible relationship between gastric intestinal metaplasia and systemic arterial stiffness? Rev Exp Enferm Dig 2019; 111: 500-506 [PMID: 31081669 DOI: 10.17233/reed.2019.59452018]

Wang F, Liu J, Lv Z. Association of Helicobacter pylori infection with diabetes mellitus and diabetic nephropathy: a meta-analysis of 39 studies involving more than 20,000 participants. Scand J Infect Dis 2013; 45: 930-938 [PMID: 24143873 DOI: 10.3109/00365548.2013.844551]

Chen J, Xing Y, Zhao L, Ma H. The Association between Helicobacter pylori Infection and Glycated
Hemoglobin A in Diabetes: A Meta-Analysis. *J Diabetes Res* 2019; **2019**: 3705264 [PMID: 31583248 DOI: 10.1155/2019/3705264]

136 Wellen KE, Hotamisligil GS. Inflammation, stress, and diabetes. *J Clin Invest* 2005; **115**: 1111-1119 [PMID: 15864338 DOI: 10.1172/JCI25102]

137 American Society of Plastic Surgeons. ASPS Evidence Rating Scales 2011. Accessed 28 April 2020. Available from: https://www.plasticsurgery.org/documents/medical-professionals/health-policy/evidence-practice/ASPS-Rating-Scale-March-2011.pdf
