

Epidemiology of *Helicobacter pylori* in Patients Referring to Tehran Hospitals in First Semester of the 2010.

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Background & Objectives: *Helicobacter pylori* is a helical shaped bacterium that predominantly resides in stomach and duodenal epithelia. It is believed to be responsible for localized inflammations resulting in peptic ulcers as well as other digestive tract complications. The aim is determination of the rate of *Helicobacter pylori* outbreak in patients infected by gastrointestinal diseases referring to Tehran hospitals.

Methods: Several diagnostic Methods are currently available which directly or indirectly detect bacterial presence. The indirect techniques include serological assays such as ELISA which specifically detects anti-bacterial antibodies in sera. Determination of infection was carried out through serology experiment and by ELISA Methods using H. pylori IgA and H. pylori IgG (IBL ELISA kit- Germany).

Results: In this historical study, 1290 files of referring patients were studied and obtained information was recorded in related lists. In this survey, five hospitals were questioned accidentally in different regions of Tehran city. In this study 706 men and 584 women were investigated for the presence of anti-*Helicobacter pylori* specific antibody, of which 195 men (41.48%) and 275 women (58.5%) were positive for the test. Investigated patients were categorized in three age groups comprising over 20 years old (387 cases), 10-20 years old (62 cases), and below 10 years old (21 cases).

Conclusion: The data showed that prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* prevalence women is more than men and the most infection rate was observed in age group of over 20 years old.

Keywords: *Helicobacter pylori*; Prevalence; Tehran Hospitals; ELISA