

Identification of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in symptomatic patients in Surabaya, Indonesia, using five diagnostic tests

Type: Article

Abstract:

The prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in Indonesia is controversial. We examined the *H. pylori* infection rate in 78 patients in a hospital in Surabaya using five different tests, including culture, histology, immunohistochemistry, rapid urease test, and urine antibody test. Furthermore, we analysed virulence factors in *H. pylori* strains from Indonesia. The *H. pylori* infection rate was only 11.5% in all patients studied, and 2.3% of Javanese patients and 18.0% of Chinese patients were infected ($P = 0.01$). Although severe gastritis was not observed, activity and inflammation were significantly higher in patients positive for *H. pylori* than in patients negative for *H. pylori*. Among genotypes identified from five isolated strains, *cagA* was found in four; two were *vacA* s1m1. All *cagA*-positive strains were *oipA* 'on' and *iceA1* positive. We confirmed both a low *H. pylori* infection rate and a low prevalence of precancerous lesions in dyspeptic patients in a Surabaya hospital, which may contribute to the low incidence of gastric cancer in Indonesia.

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