

Association of Helicobacter Pylori Infection in Patients Having Coronary Artery Disease

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Helicobacter pylori usually cause a lifelong infection of gastric mucosa that may lead to gastric ulcer and later on gastric cancer. H. pylori infection and coronary heart disease are common conditions in late middle and old age. Recently, some studies have found casual association between H. Pylori infection and coronary artery disease, cerebrovascular disease and atherosclerosis. The study was done to detect the presence of H. Pylori in patients of coronary artery disease (CAD) by 14C-urea breath test and to find out any possible association between H. Pylori infection and coronary artery disease, The study was conducted in 56 consecutive patients (47M, 9F; Mean age 53.79 ± 9.2 yrs) of coronary artery disease will ECG showing features of myocardial infarction, and 56 spouses or close relatives (29M, 27F: Mean age 39.16 ± 14.62 yrs) of the patients having no CAD and staying in the same household served as control. 14C-urea breath test was performed by giving 3 μ Ci (111 kBq) of high specific activity, pharmaceutical grade 14C-urea in capsule with water to the overnight fasting subjects and expired 14CO₂ collected in hyamine hydroxide and the radioactivity measured on LSC. 53.66% of the myocardial infarcted patients were found to be H. Pylori positive as compared to 46.34% control subjects ($P > 0.05$), Among the total population studied, 73.21% were found to be infected with H. Pylori and out of these 75% were found to get infected by the age of 55 years. No significant difference was found in the positivity between H. Pylori infection and CAD patients when the data was compared with the age and sex matched control subjects taking into account the socio-economic status, the educational level, the source of drinking water, housing conditions, alcoholic or smoking habits; diabetic or hypertensive conditions. Although, there was prevalence of slight increase (18.77%) in the incidence of H. Pylori infection in the CAD patients as compared to the control subjects but the results were not statistically significant. Thus, this study does not support any association between H. Pylori infection and coronary artery disease.

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