

Helicobacter pylori

H. pylori

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.

=Abstract=

Risk factors of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in asymptomatic Korean population

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Background : The prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) infection varies between countries and between social classes. The aim of this study was to identify risk factors for with *Helicobacter pylori* infection in asymptomatic Korean population.

Methods : Sera were collected from 2,687 females and 3,049 males (mean age, 29.1 y; range, 1 m- 79 y) in Korea from Mar 1998 through Oct 1998. All asymptomatic subjects completed assessment questionnaires. An enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay was performed to detect IgG antibody to *H. pylori*.

Results : The overall seroprevalence observed was 46.6% and showed no statistical difference between female (45.9%) and male (47.2%). The seroprevalences in children (neonate- 15 y) and adult (16- 79 y) were 17.2% and 66.9%, respectively. According to multivariate analysis, variables such as sex, age, geographic area, crowding (number of person per room) in childhood, economic status in childhood, and types of housing in childhood were significantly and independently associated with *H. pylori* seroprevalence of adults. In children, age, geographic area, income, mother's education, and drinking water source were significant risk factors of *H. pylori* infection.

Conclusion : Socioeconomic condition and close person to person contact in childhood are the significant determinants for *H. pylori* infection in adult. Drinking water source is an another important risk factor for *H. pylori* infection in children, suggesting the fecal to oral transmission in Korea.(Korean J Med 59:376- 387, 2000)

Key Words : *Helicobacter pylori*; Epidemiology; Risk factors; Korea

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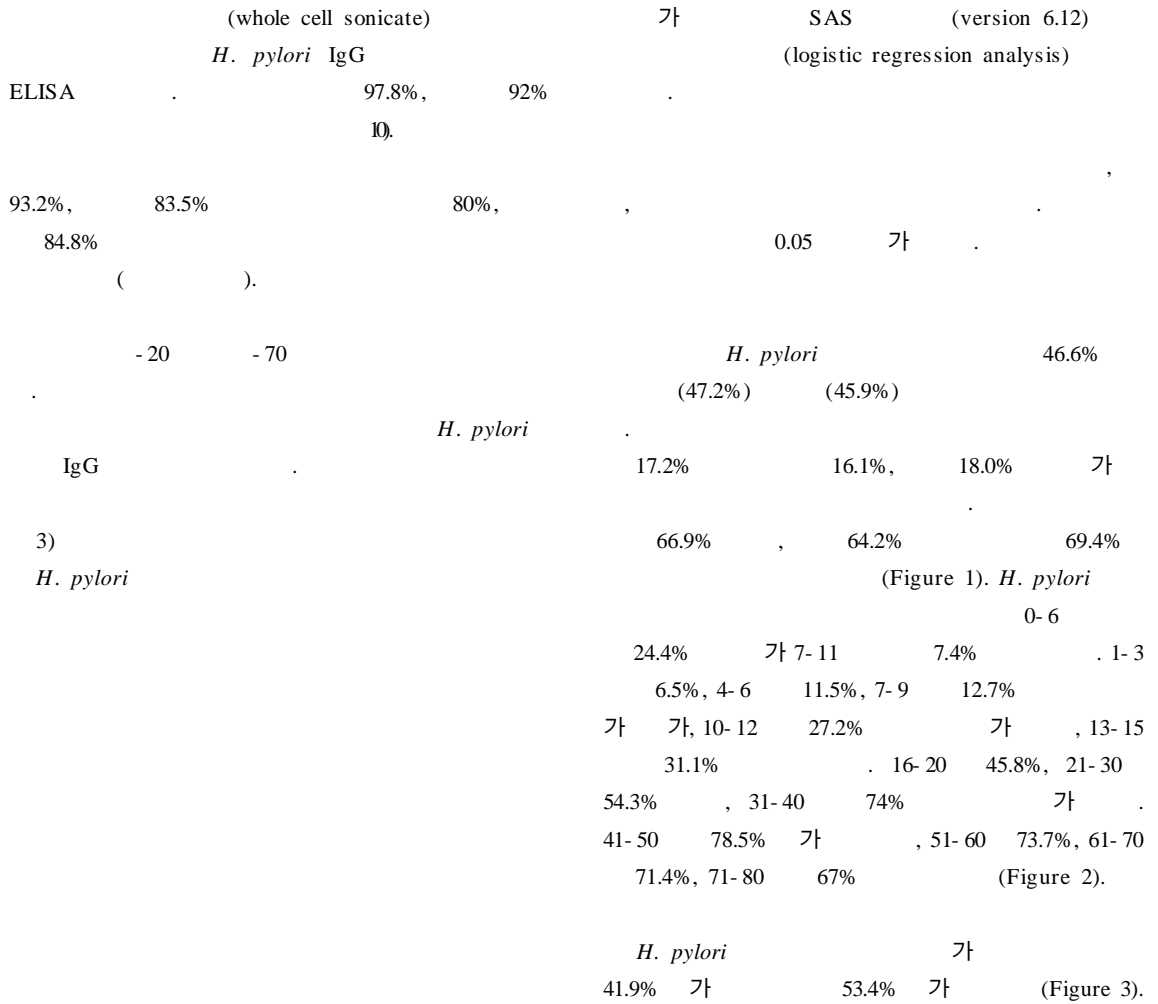


Figure 1. Seroprevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection according to gender. There was no significant difference between male and female in total population and children. In adults, male was significantly higher than female($p<0.05$).

Figure 2. Seroprevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection according to age. M; month, Y; years

Figure 3. Seroprevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection according to geographic area.

Table 1. Seroprevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in Korean adults and children according to geographic area

Areag*	Adults				Children			
	Total (prevalence)	OR	95% CI	p-value	Total (prevalence)	OR	95% CI	p-value
Cholla	398 (74.6%)	1.00			330 (21.8%)	1.00		
Cheju	127 (77.2%)	1.20	0.74- 1.95	0.460	98 (21.4%)	1.13	0.64- 2.01	0.673
Kyogsang	754 (67.5%)	0.74	0.56- 0.97	0.031	512 (17.0%)	0.77	0.53- 1.10	0.148
Seoul	639 (65.3%)	0.65	0.49- 0.87	0.004	516 (13.0%)	0.55	0.37- 0.80	0.002
Kyonggi	842 (65.0%)	0.63	0.48- 0.83	0.001	517 (15.9%)	0.67	0.45- 0.98	0.040
Chungchong	435 (64.1%)	0.61	0.45- 0.83	0.002	364 (19.2%)	0.89	0.61- 1.32	0.565
Kangwon	199 (61.8%)	0.56	0.39- 0.82	0.003	52 (21.2%)	0.94	0.45- 1.98	0.865

CI; confidence interval, OR; odds ratio, *; area denotes provinces except Seoul

Table 2. Age, sex, and geographic area adjusted analyses of possible risk factors for *Helicobacter pylori* infection and seropositivity in Korean adults

	Total (Prevalence)	Odds ratio	95% CI	p-value
Crowding (people per room) in childhood				
One	578 (56.1%)	1.00		
Two	1199 (67.6%)	1.37	1.10- 1.70	0.005
Three	744 (69.4%)	1.27	0.99- 1.63	0.058
Four	358 (69.6%)	1.26	0.92- 1.68	0.152
More than five	474 (72.8%)	1.38	1.03- 1.85	0.031
Economic status in childhood				
Upper	98 (55.1%)	1.00		
Upper- middle	459 (64.3%)	1.63	1.03- 2.57	0.037
Middle	1773 (67.5%)	1.87	1.23- 2.86	0.004
Lower- middle	702 (68.0%)	1.62	1.04- 2.51	0.032
Lower	316 (69.0%)	1.53	0.95- 2.47	0.079
Types of housing in childhood				
Apartment	297 (66.4%)	1.00		
Private housing	2880 (67.9%)	1.42	1.09- 1.85	0.009
Tenement housing	155 (65.9%)	1.39	0.93- 2.10	0.113

(19.2%), (17.0%), (15.9%), (13.0%) *H. pylori*, 71.9%, (77.2%), (74.6%), (67.5%), 70.0%, 64.0%, 61.3% (65.3%), (65.0%), (64.1%), (61.8%) 가 가 (p=0.054).

가 , 50.2%, 69.0%, 60.7% (p=0.009).

Table 3. Odds ratio and 95 percent confidence intervals for *Helicobacter pylori* seropositivity in Korean adults, based on multivariate logistic regression

	Total (Prevalence)	Odds ratio	95% CI	p-value
Sex				
Male	1728 (69.4%)	1.00		
Female	1667 (64.2%)	0.80	0.69- 0.93	0.005
Age (years)				
16- 19	354 (45.0%)	1.00		0.0315
20- 29	604 (58.1%)	1.35	1.03- 1.77	0.0001
30- 39	492 (75.2%)	3.13	2.30- 4.27	0.0001
40- 49	497 (77.1%)	3.81	2.76- 5.27	0.0001
50- 59	491 (74.7%)	3.06	2.22- 4.21	0.0001
60- 69	488 (71.4%)	2.82	2.04- 4.90	0.0001
70- 79	466 (66.1%)	2.15	1.55- 2.96	0.0001
Geographic area				
Cholla	398 (74.6%)	1.00		0.351
Cheju	127 (77.2%)	1.27	0.77- 2.10	
Kyongsang	754 (67.5%)	0.77	0.58- 1.03	0.075
Seoul	639 (65.3%)	0.70	0.52- 0.94	0.018
Kyonggi	842 (65.0%)	0.64	0.49- 0.85	0.002
Chungchong	435 (64.1%)	0.66	0.48- 0.91	0.011
Kangwon	199 (61.8%)	0.59	0.41- 0.87	0.007
Crowding (people per room) in childhood				
One	578 (56.1%)	1.00		
Two	1199 (67.6%)	1.31	1.05- 1.63	0.017
Three	744 (69.4%)	1.23	0.95- 1.59	0.113
Four	358 (69.6%)	1.27	0.93- 1.74	0.137
More than five	474 (72.8%)	1.37	1.01- 1.86	0.047
Economic status in childhood				
Upper	98 (55.1%)	1.00		
Upper- middle	459 (64.3%)	1.71	1.07- 2.72	0.025
Middle	1773 (67.5%)	1.84	1.19- 2.84	0.006
Low- middle	702 (68.0%)	1.56	0.99- 2.45	0.054
Low	316 (69.0%)	1.40	0.85- 2.29	0.183
Types of housing in childhood				
Apartment	297 (66.4%)	1.00		
Private housing	2880 (67.9%)	1.32	1.01- 1.73	0.045
Tenement housing	155 (65.9%)	1.27	0.83- 1.92	0.262

가 . (/ / /) 가 67.6% 가 , 2 69.4%, 3
 69.6%, 4 72.8% 가
 , 61.1%,
 67.3%, 71.8%, 58.7% 가 . 가 (100 /100- 200
 /200- 300 /300- 400 /400)
H. pylori 가 , (/
 56.1% 1 / / /) 55.1%, 64.3%,

Table 4. Age, sex, and geographic area adjusted analyses of possible risk factors for *Helicobacter pylori* infection and seropositivity in Korean children

	Total (Prevalence)	Odds ratio	95% CI	p-value
Place of residence				
Farming and Fishing village	116 (30.2%)	1.00		
Subcounty	250 (22.4%)	0.79	0.47- 1.35	0.396
Middle and small city	960 (17.0%)	0.60	0.99- 1.63	0.034
Major city	960 (14.1%)	0.53	0.32- .087	0.011
Type of housing				
Apartment	1012 (15.2%)	1.00		
Private housing	957 (19.3%)	1.30	1.01- 1.67	0.037
Tenement housing	301 (15.6%)	1.16	0.80- 1.67	0.451
Income (won/month)				
Less than 1 million	271 (24.0%)	1.00		
1- 2 million	1107 (15.9%)	0.67	0.48- 0.95	0.025
2- 3 million	585 (18.1%)	0.84	0.58- 1.21	0.346
3- 4 million	174 (8.6%)	0.29	0.15- 0.55	0.001
more than 4 million	86 (14.0%)	0.67	0.33- 1.36	0.271
Drinking water source				
Bottled water	361 (15.2%)	1.00		
Tap water	476 (21.6%)	1.76	1.21- 2.58	0.003
Well water	51 (39.2%)	3.50	1.75- 7.00	0.0004
Boiled water	1320 (15.0%)	1.19	0.85- 1.68	0.316
Others	65 (16.9%)	0.87	0.40- 1.94	0.763
Father's occupation				
Private profession	108 (12.0%)	1.00		
Administrative position	113 (18.6%)	1.57	0.73- 3.41	0.252
Technical expert	294 (14.3%)	1.21	0.61- 2.42	0.590
Office worker	808 (16.2%)	1.48	0.79- 2.80	0.222
Service	577 (15.4%)	1.26	0.66- 2.41	0.476
Farmers and fisherman	193 (25.9%)	1.97	0.97- 3.96	0.055
Merchant, others and none	164 (23.2%)	2.21	1.08- 4.50	0.030
Father's education				
Elementary school	45 (37.8%)	1.00		
Middle school	151 (25.2%)	0.70	0.33- 1.47	0.344
High school	1049 (17.5%)	0.54	0.28- 1.06	0.072
College or graduate school	1025 (14.2%)	0.48	0.24- 0.95	0.034
Mother's education				
Elementary school	64 (35.9%)	1.00		
Middle school	229 (24.0%)	0.66	0.35- 1.23	0.191
High school	1344 (17.1%)	0.58	0.33- 1.02	0.059
College or graduate school	637 (11.8%)	0.41	0.23- 0.76	0.005

67.5%, 68.0%, 69.0% 가 (/ /)
 (/), (/ ,
 / /), (/ 가 . 16 ,
 /social drinker/), (/ /), ,

Table 5. Odds ratio and 95 percent confidence intervals for Helicobacter pylori seropositivity in Korean children, based on multivariate logistic regression.

	Total (Prevalence)	Odds ratio	95% CI	p-value
Age				
13- 15y	302 (31.1%)	1.00		
10- 12y	379 (27.2%)	0.98	0.68- 1.41	0.890
7- 9y	363 (12.7%)	0.38	0.25- 0.60	0.0001
4- 6y	442 (11.5%)	0.35	0.23- 0.54	0.0001
1- 3y	416 (6.5%)	0.16	0.10- 0.28	0.0001
7- 11m	163 (7.4%)	0.22	0.11- 0.43	0.0001
0- 6m	267 (24.3%)	0.92	0.60- 1.40	0.687
Geographic area				
Cholla	398 (21.9%)	1.00		
Cheju	127 (21.4%)	1.49	0.80- 2.78	0.212
Kyongsang	754 (17.0%)	0.73	0.50- 1.08	0.120
Seoul	639 (13.0%)	0.60	0.40- 0.91	0.016
Kyonggi	842 (15.9%)	0.70	0.47- 1.04	0.078
Chungchong	435 (19.2%)	0.89	0.60- 1.35	0.600
Kangwon	199 (21.2%)	1.05	0.49- 2.25	0.892
Income (won/month)				
less than 1 million	271 (24.0%)	1.00		
1- 2 million	1107 (15.9%)	0.73	0.50- 1.05	0.086
2- 3 million	585 (18.1%)	0.96	0.64- 1.45	0.846
3- 4 million	174 (8.6%)	0.39	0.20- 0.76	0.006
more than 4 million	86 (14.0%)	0.86	0.41- 1.80	0.692
Drinking water source				
Bottled water	361 (15.2%)	1.00		
Tap water	476 (21.6%)	1.54	1.04- 2.28	0.031
Well water	51 (39.2%)	2.42	1.16- 5.03	0.018
Boiled water	1320(15.0%)	1.03	0.72- 1.46	0.877
Others	65 (16.9%)	0.81	0.35- 1.86	0.628
Mother's education				
Elementary school	64 (35.9%)	1.00		
Middle school	229 (24.0%)	0.71	0.36- 1.42	0.338
High school	1344 (17.1%)	0.63	0.33- 1.20	0.155
College or graduate school	637 (11.8%)	0.49	0.24- 0.99	0.046

y; years, m; month

(Table 2). , (p=0.034) (p=0.011)가 15.2%, 19.3%, 15.6% (p=0.021). 가 , , 15 30.2%, , 22.4%, 가 17.0%, 14.1% , (15.0%) (15.2%)

15 : *Helicobacter pylori*

가 (21.6%) (39.2%) , , *H. pylori*

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12.0%, 14.3%, 15.4%, 16.2%, 18.0%, 23.5%, 25.9% 80% 13), *H. pylori*

(p=0.055), 가 (Hispanic) *H. pylori*

가 37.8%, 25.2%, 17.5%, 11.8% (p=0.034) 2 가 7, 14), *H. pylori*

35.9%, 24.0%, 17.1%, 11.8% 15) 가 , 가 , 가 *H. pylori*

가 100 8, 9), *H. pylori*

24.0%, 100- 200 15.9%, 200- 300 *pylori* 3- 5 10- 15% 가 가

18.1%, 300- 400 8.6%, 400 14.0% 가

100 100- 200 (p=0.025) 300- 400 10 40- 60% 가

(p=0.001) 15

16) 17), *H. pylori*

가 (Table 4),

가 (Table 5).

, *H. pylori* 가

H. pylori 가 *H. pylori* *pylori*

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102 17.2%

가 66.9%

age-cohort

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, *H. pylori*

20 1% 가 18)

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 (15.0%) (15.2%)
 68.1% 23) (21.6%, $p=0.003$) (39.2%, $p=0.0004$)
 70% 24) 79% 25) 73% 26)
 80% 27) . A 39) 가
 65.3%, 65%, 67.5% 2 - 가
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