

Attitude to *Helicobacter pylori* infection among Swiss gastroenterologists

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OBJECT: To assess the current attitude to *Helicobacter pylori* infection in Switzerland, since a review of the literature reveals few publications dealing with application of therapeutic recommendations. **METHODS:** The initial diagnostic methods, the indications for eradication therapy, the therapeutic regimen and its duration, together with eradication control, were indicated in questionnaires sent out to the members of the Swiss Society for Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the beginning of 1997. **RESULTS:** *Helicobacter pylori* was diagnosed mainly with a rapid urease test and/or histology. Peptic ulcer disease (100%), mucosa associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphoma (94.5%) and therapy-resistant dyspepsia (78.7%) were clear indications for *Helicobacter pylori* eradication. Only a minority eradicated *Helicobacter pylori* in all positive subjects. 7-day triple therapy (with proton pump inhibitors, a macrolide antibiotic and an imidazole derivative) is the preferred first line treatment. **CONCLUSIONS:** The eradication of *Helicobacter pylori* in ulcer disease is established practice. Non-ulcer dyspepsia remains a controversial but often used indication. Two antibiotics together with proton pump inhibitors constitute the mostly widely used eradication therapy.

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