We are IntechOpen, the world's leading publisher of Open Access books Built by scientists, for scientists

6,300

Open access books available

172,000

International authors and editors

190M

Downloads

Our authors are among the

154

Countries delivered to

TOP 1%

most cited scientists

12.2%

Contributors from top 500 universities

WEB OF SCIENCE™

Selection of our books indexed in the Book Citation Index
in Web of Science™ Core Collection (BKCI)

Interested in publishing with us?
Contact book.department@intechopen.com

Numbers displayed above are based on latest data collected.
For more information visit www.intechopen.com

Helicobacter pylori Infection for Hemodialysis Patients

Yoshiaki Kawaguchi and Tetsuya Mine

Additional information is available at the end of the chapter

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5772/52270>

1. Introduction

Helicobacter pylori (HP) infection is reported to be closely associated with upper gastrointestinal disorders, such as gastroduodenal ulcers, chronic gastritis, and gastric cancer. Furthermore, patients with chronic renal failure receiving hemodialysis often complain of digestive symptoms. There are many possible factors causing these symptoms, including reduced gastrointestinal motility attributable to diabetes mellitus, uremia, intestinal ischemia associated with circulatory failure, and adverse reactions to many oral medications including non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Although HP infection is among the factors that may cause upper gastrointestinal disorders in patients with chronic renal failure, the association with HP infection has not as yet been elucidated. According to recent reports, the prevalence of HP infection is significantly lower in patients with chronic renal failure than in controls with normal renal function, and the prevalence is even reported to decrease with longer duration of hemodialysis. However, there are also previous reports presenting contrary findings. This chapter describes HP infection and eradication therapy in hemodialysis patients.

2. Is the prevalence of HP infection low in hemodialysis patients?

It is often reported that the prevalence of HP infection tends to be lower in patients with chronic renal failure receiving hemodialysis than in control groups with normal renal function [1-19]. In a study conducted in 539 hemodialysis patients, the prevalence of HP infection was 48.6%, whereas health check-up examinees with normal renal function showed a significantly higher prevalence of 69.4% ($P < 0.001$) [15]. Another report also showed that, compared to a 27.5% prevalence of HP infection in hemodialysis patients, the prevalence in patients with chronic renal failure not receiving hemodialysis was significantly higher at 56.0% [4]. Although there is a report showing the prevalence of HP infection to also be low in patients undergoing renal transplantation, it seems that most had received hemodialysis

before transplantation [3]. Based on the above observations, the prevalence of *HP* infection would appear to be low in hemodialysis patients, suggesting that the hemodialysis procedure itself may be involved in the low prevalence of *HP* infection.

3. Are duration of hemodialysis and prevalence of *HP* infection inversely correlated?

How are duration of hemodialysis and prevalence of *HP* infection associated? There are reports that the prevalence of *HP* infection tends to be lower with longer duration of hemodialysis [9, 15, 20, 21]. Nakajima et al. report that the prevalence of *HP* infection gradually decreases with a 2-year or longer duration of hemodialysis, and Sugimoto et al reported that the prevalence gradually decreases within 4 years of hemodialysis [15]. Moriyama et al. report that such a tendency is revealed in patients receiving hemodialysis for 8 years or longer [20]. There is also a report that the prevalence of *HP* infection in health check-up examinees with normal renal function was similar to that in patients with chronic renal failure who had received hemodialysis for less than 1 year [15]. Meanwhile, other studies have shown that there is no such association [22, 23]. However, Sugimoto et al. conducted a 4-year follow-up study in hemodialysis patients with *HP* infection and found that the prevalence gradually decreased from 51.6% at the start to 38.3% at the end [15]. Given that the spontaneous elimination rate of *HP* infection is generally reported to be 0.6% annually [24], it must be assumed from these results that the hemodialysis procedure itself contributes to the observed decrease in the prevalence of *HP* infection.

4. Is there variation in *HP* infection rates among different countries?

The gastric mucosa of approximately 50% of the world's population is infected with *HP*, and the infection levels exceed 70% in some developing areas [25, 26].

There is variation in *HP* infection rates among different countries. It may, therefore, be important to evaluate the infection rate in various countries. In East Asian countries, the prevalence of *HP* infection in patients receiving chronic hemodialysis is 44.5% (95% confidence interval (CI): 41.5–47.6%), 474/1065, which is significantly lower than in all patients with normal renal function [54.0% [95% CI: 50.9–57.1%], 560/1038, $P < 0.001$] [27]. On the other hand, because the prevalence of *HP* in other areas, such as Europe, Middle East, and South Asia has a wide variation, it is difficult to evaluate the prevalence of *HP* infection in those areas.

5. Why does the hemodialysis procedure reduce the prevalence of *HP* infection?

One reason is eradication of *HP* by antibiotics that are administered as therapy for other infections experienced by hemodialysis patients. Antibiotics are the most typically prescribed

drugs in general. In hemodialysis patients, antibiotics may be used for the treatment of bacterial infections as often as or even more frequently than in the general population. It is assumed that patients with renal failure are often prescribed reduced doses of antibiotics. However, compared to the general population with normal renal function, blood levels of antibiotics are likely to be higher after administration in patients with renal failure, and the elimination time is expected to be longer. Thus, in hemodialysis patients with a long duration of renal failure, the spontaneous elimination rate of *HP* infection might be increased by repeated administration of antibiotics. Because blood urea levels are increased in hemodialysis patients, urea levels in gastric juice are also high. The increased urea levels are considered to suppress the growth of *HP* in the stomach [28]. Another possible explanation is that up-regulation of pro-inflammatory cytokines in hemodialysis patients triggers the infiltration of inflammatory cells activated by the gastric mucosa, resulting in progression of gastric mucosal atrophy, an increase in pH, and ultimately *HP* elimination [29, 30]. While there are as yet no data clearly supporting this explanation, the prevalence of *HP* infection may be decreased by a combination of various factors.

6. What are the harmful effects of a decreased prevalence of *HP* infection on hemodialysis patients?

In general, *HP* infection is considered to be a cause of gastroduodenal ulcers, and a decrease in the prevalence of *HP* infection is favorable in this regard. It is widely known that *HP* eradication suppresses gastric acid secretion, which causes gastric erosion [31]. The frequency of endoscopically detected gastric erosion is reported to be high in hemodialysis patients [20, 32, 33], which may be associated with a decrease in *HP* infection. Because gastric erosion may cause gastrointestinal bleeding, caution is required especially in hemodialysis patients [20]. They are often receiving anticoagulant or antiplatelet drugs, and gastrointestinal bleeding can thus be fatal.

Prophylactic administration of anti-acid secretory drugs, such as proton pump inhibitors (PPI), is recommended. While long-term hemodialysis is reported to carry a high risk for reflux esophagitis [32-34], this may also be attributable to suppressed gastric acid secretion due to a decrease in *HP* infection. In patients receiving long-term hemodialysis, administration of anti-acid secretory drugs is recommended to prevent reflux esophagitis.

7. Is *HP* eradication necessary for hemodialysis patients?

While the previous section described the harmful effects of a reduced prevalence of *HP* infection on hemodialysis patients, the harmful effects of *HP* infection include the aforementioned association with gastroduodenal ulcers, chronic gastritis and gastric cancer, as well as gastric mucosa associated-lymphoid tissue lymphoma, etc. Especially in hemodialysis pa-

tients, the frequency of gastroduodenal ulcers and gastric cancer is reported to be higher than in healthy people [3, 35]. Because hemodialysis patients are often receiving anticoagulant or antiplatelet drugs, bleeding from gastroduodenal ulcers may be fatal. Thus, *HP* eradication is considered to be an important treatment for hemodialysis patients in order to prevent gastroduodenal ulcers and gastric cancer. Although spontaneous elimination of *HP* infection can be expected in hemodialysis patients, the earliest possible *HP* eradication is recommended especially in those with a history of gastroduodenal ulcer and confirmed current *HP* infection.

8. How is *HP* eradication best achieved in hemodialysis patients?

According to recent reports, the major regimen is a combination of a PPI selected from among omeprazole, lansoprazole, and esomeprazole and 2 antibiotics selected from among clarithromycin, amoxicillin, and metronidazole, which are administered for 1 or 2 weeks [1, 6, 36-40]. Although the eradication rate fluctuates slightly from 72.7 to 96.0%, it averages around 90%. There seems to be no substantial difference in comparison with the eradication rate of *HP* infection in the general population. The factors contributing to eradication failure include a history of previous eradication therapy, suggesting that the presence or absence of resistant strains to antibiotics is key to the success of eradication therapy [6].

9. What are the precautions for *HP* eradication therapy in hemodialysis patients?

Caution should be considered in performing eradication therapy for hemodialysis patients to avoid excessive doses of drugs. Administration of low doses results in high blood levels. However, hemodialysis removes both PPI and antibiotics, lowering their blood levels. In consideration of this fact, without adjustment of the therapy by administering the drugs after the hemodialysis session on the day of hemodialysis, the eradication rate of *HP* infection may be decreased. Safe and effective optimal dosages and administration procedures should be established. In patients with chronic renal failure before the initiation of hemodialysis, attention should be paid to the nephrotoxicity of amoxicillin, and the eradication therapy needs to be adjusted by substituting amoxicillin with metronidazole [39, 41, 42].

Moreover, hemodialysis patients often receive oral antibiotics, and the duration of circulation of these antibiotics in the body is prolonged due to delayed metabolism. Thus, it seems that *HP* often acquires resistance to antibiotics. According to a report on resistance to clarithromycin, resistant *HP* strains were detected in 36.4% of patients with renal failure and 15.2% of healthy volunteers, showing the prevalence of resistant *HP* strains to be significantly lower in the latter [43].

10. Conclusion

This chapter has described *HP* infection in hemodialysis patients. Because the prevalence of *HP* infection is lower in these patients than in healthy people, attention should be paid to symptoms due to gastric hyperacidity. For those with *HP* infection, eradication therapy is recommended in order to prevent gastrointestinal ulcers and gastric cancer. Even after *HP* eradication, prophylaxis against gastric erosion and reflux esophagitis should be performed with anti-acid secretory drugs.

Author details

Yoshiaki Kawaguchi and Tetsuya Mine

Tokai University School of Medicine, Japan

References

- [1] Sezer S, Ibis A, Ozdemir BH et al. Association of *Helicobacter pylori* infection with nutritional status in hemodialysis patients. *Transplant Proc* 2004;36:47–9.
- [2] Sotoudehmanesh R, Ali Asgari A, Ansari R, Nouraie M. Endoscopic findings in end-stage renal disease. *Endoscopy* 2003;35:502–5.
- [3] Khedmat H, Ahmadzad-Asl M, Amini M et al. Gastroduodenal lesions and *Helicobacter pylori* infection in uremic patients and renal transplant recipients. *Transplant Proc* 2007;39:1003–7.
- [4] Nakajima F, Sakaguchi M, Amemoto K et al. *Helicobacter pylori* in patients receiving long-term dialysis. *Am J Nephrol* 2002;22:468–72.
- [5] Fabbian F, Catalano C, Bordin V, Balbi T, Di Landro D. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy in chronic hemodialysis patients: 2-year clinical experience in a renal unit. *Clin Nephrol* 2002;58:54–9.
- [6] Tsukada K, Miyazaki T, Katoh H et al. Seven-day triple therapy with omeprazole, amoxicillin and clarithromycin for *Helicobacter pylori* infection in haemodialysis patients. *Scand J Gastroenterol* 2002;37:1265–8.
- [7] Marsenic O, Peco-Antic A, Perisic V, Virijevic V, Krusic D, Kostic M. Upper gastrointestinal lesions in children on chronic haemodialysis. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2003;18:2687–8.
- [8] Lopez T, Quesada M, Almirall J, Sanfeliu I, Segura F, Calvet X. Usefulness of non-invasive tests for diagnosing *Helicobacter pylori* infection in patients undergoing dialysis for chronic renal failure. *Helicobacter* 2004;9:674–80.

- [9] Nakajima F, Sakaguchi M, Oka H et al. Prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* antibodies in long-term dialysis patients. *Nephrology* 2004;9:73–6.
- [10] Al-Mueilo SH. Gastroduodenal lesions and *Helicobacter pylori* infection in hemodialysis patients. *Saudi Med J* 2004;25:1010–14.
- [11] Trimarchi H, Forrester M, Schropp J, Pereyra H, Freixas EA. Low initial vitamin B12 levels in *Helicobacter pylori*—positive patients on chronic hemodialysis. *Nephron Clin Pract* 2004;96:c28–32.
- [12] Blusiewicz K, Rydzewska G, Rydzewski A. Gastric juice ammonia and urea concentrations and their relation to gastric mucosa injury in patients maintained on chronic hemodialysis. *Rocz Akad Med Białymst* 2005;50:188–92.
- [13] Lentine KL, Parsonnet J, Taylor I, Wrono EM, Lafayette RA. Associations of serologic markers of infection and inflammation with vascular disease events and mortality in American dialysis patients. *Clin Exp Nephrol* 2006;10:55–62.
- [14] Gioe FP, Cudia B, Romano G et al. Role and clinical importance of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in hemodialysis patients. *G Chir* 2008;29:81–4.
- [15] Sugimoto M, Sakai K, Kita M, Imanishi J, Yamaoka Y. Prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in long-term hemodialysis patients. *Kidney Int* 2009;75:96–103.
- [16] Lui SL, Wong WM, Ng SY, Chan TM, Lai KN, Lo WK. Seroprevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* in Chinese patients on continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis. *Nephrology* 2005;10:21–4.
- [17] Altay M, Turgut F, Akay H et al. Dyspepsia in Turkish patients on continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis. *Int Urol Nephrol* 2008;40:211–17.
- [18] Schoonjans R, Van VB, Vandamme W et al. Dyspepsia and gastroparesis in chronic renal failure: the role of *Helicobacter pylori*. *Clin Nephrol* 2002;57:201–7.
- [19] Strid H, Simren M, Stotzer PO, Abrahamsson H, Björnsson ES. Delay in gastric emptying in patients with chronic renal failure. *Scand J Gastroenterol* 2004;39:516–20.
- [20] Moriyama T, Matsumoto T, Hirakawa K, et al. *Helicobacter pylori* status and esophago-gastroduodenal mucosal lesions in patients with end-stage renal failure on maintenance hemodialysis. *J Gastroenterol* 2010;45:515–522.
- [21] Munoz de Bustillo E, Sanchez Tomero JA, Sanz JC, Moreno JA, Jimenez I, Lopez-Brea M, et al. Eradication and follow-up of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in hemodialysis patients. *Nephron*. 1998;79:55–60.
- [22] Ozgur O, Boyacioglu S, Ozdogan M, Gur G, Telatar H, Haberal M. *Helicobacter pylori* infection in haemodialysis patients and renal transplant recipients. *Nephrol Dial Transplant*. 1997;12:289–91.

- [23] Huang JJ, Huang CJ, Ruaan MK, Chen KW, Yen TS, Sheu BS. Diagnostic efficacy of (13) C-urea breath test for *Helicobacter pylori* infection in hemodialysis patients. *Am J Kidney Dis*. 2000;36:124–9.
- [24] Valle J, Kekki M, Sipponen P, Ihmaki T, Siurala M. Long-term course and consequence of *Helicobacter pylori* gastritis. Results of a 32-year follow-up study. *Scand J Gastroenterol*. 1996;31:546–50.
- [25] Rocha GA, Queiroz DM, Mendes EN et al. Indirect immunofluorescence determination of the frequency of anti-*H. pylori* antibodies in Brazilian blood donors. *Braz J Med Biol Res* 1992;25:683–9.
- [26] Perez-Perez GI, Taylor DN, Bodhidatta L et al. Seroprevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infections in Thailand. *J Infect Dis* 1990; 161:1237–41.
- [27] Sugimoto M, Yamaoka Y. Review of *Helicobacter pylori* infection and chronic failure. *Therapeutic Apheresis and Dialysis* 2011; 15:1–9.
- [28] Gladziwa U, Haase G, Handt S et al. Prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* in patients with chronic renal failure. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 1993; 8:301–6.
- [29] Hwang IR, Kodama T, Kikuchi S et al. Effect of interleukin 1 polymorphisms on gastric mucosal interleukin 1 β production in *Helicobacter pylori* infection. *Gastroenterology* 2002;123:1793–803.
- [30] Wesdorp RI, Falcao HA, Banks PB, Martino J, Fischer JE. Gastrin and gastric acid secretion in renal failure. *Am J Surg* 1981;141:334–8.
- [31] Miyake K, Tsukui T, Futagami S, Tatsuguchi A, Shinoki A, Hiratsuka T, et al. Effect of acid suppression therapy on development of gastric erosions after cure of *Helicobacter pylori* infection. *Aliment Pharmacol Ther*. 2002;16[Suppl 2]:210–6.
- [32] Kawaguchi Y, Mine T, Kawana I, et al. Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease in Hemodialysis Patients. *Tokai J Exp Clin Med*. 2009; 34: 48-52.
- [33] Kawaguchi Y, Mine T, Kawana I, et al. Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease in Chronic Renal Failure Patients: evaluation by endoscopic examination. *Tokai J Exp Clin Med*. 2009; 34: 80-83.
- [34] Doherty CC. Gastrointestinal bleeding in dialysis patients. *Nephron*. 1993;63:132–6.
- [35] Ota K, Yamashita N, Suzuki T, Agishi T. Malignant tumours in dialysis patients: a nationwide survey. *Proc Eur Dial Transplant Assoc* 1981;18:724–30.
- [36] Itatsu T, Miwa H, Nagahara A et al. Eradication of *Helicobacter pylori* in hemodialysis patients. *Ren Fail* 2007;29:97–102.
- [37] Mak SK, Loo CK, Wong AM et al. Efficacy of a 1-week course of proton-pump inhibitor-based triple therapy for eradicating *Helicobacter pylori* in patients with and without chronic renal failure. *Am J Kidney Dis* 2002;40:576–81.

- [38] Mak SK, Loo CK, Wong PN et al. A retrospective study onefficacy of proton-pump inhibitor-based triple therapy foreradication of *Helicobacter pylori* in patients with chronicrenal failure. *Singapore Med J* 2003;44:74–8.
- [39] Sheu BS, Huang JJ, YangHB, HuangAH, WuJJ. The selectionof triple therapy for *Helicobacter pylori* eradication in chronicrenal insufficiency. *Aliment PharmacolTher* 2003;17:1283–90.
- [40] Tseng GY, LinHJ, Fang CT et al. Recurrence of peptic ulcer inuraemic and non-uraemic patients after *Helicobacter pylori* eradication: a 2-year study. *Aliment PharmacolTher* 2007;26:925–33.
- [41] Arancibia A, Drouguett MT, Fuentes G et al. Pharmacokineticsof amoxicillin in subjects with normal and impaired renalfunction. *Int J ClinPharmacolTherToxicol* 1982;20:447–53.
- [42] Jones DP, Gaber L, Nilsson GR, Brewer ED, Stapleton FB. Acute renal failure following amoxicillin overdose. *ClinPediatr* 1993;32:735–9.
- [43] Aydemir S, Boyacioglu S, Gur G et al. *Helicobacter pylori* infection in hemodialysis patients: susceptibility to amoxicillinand clarithromycin. *World J Gastroenterol* 2005;11:842–5.