

# International Clinical Laboratories

# Test Review



Do you know that you can verify eradication of *H. pylori* after one week of antimicrobial therapy??

### *H. pylori* stool antigen-test

*Helicobacter pylori* is the principal cause of peptic ulcer disease and is associated with lymphoproliferative disorders and development of gastric carcinoma. Several methods, both invasive and non-invasive, are available for detection of *H. pylori* infection. Invasive methods involve endoscopy and examination of gastric biopsies, such as culture, rapid urease test and histology. Non-invasive methods include the urea breath test, serology and stool antigen test. At the present time, the identification of *H. pylori* is mostly made with invasive histochemical techniques and serology, with the determination of its urease activity on a isotopic substrate (breath test and mass analysis), with time-consuming bacteriological culture systems and with expensive molecular biology techniques (PCR) (1).

Among non-invasive methods *H. pylori* stool antigen test method is superior. Stool antigen detection method does not require highly specialized equipment and, unlike serology, is more likely to provide evidence of active, rather than past, infection. Furthermore, it is more appropriate for use in paediatric patients, where techniques such as serology are insensitive and invasive methods are undesirable. In addition, it is also an alternative approach to diagnose adult outpatients with suspected *H. pylori* infection and to monitor the success of eradication treatment. The stool antigen test compared with the gold-standard endoscopic tests on day 7 after antimicrobial therapy, has a predictive of eradication (positive predictive value, 100%; negative predictive value, 91%). Thus, a positive result on the stool antigen test 7 days after completion of therapy identifies patients in whom eradication of *H. pylori* was unsuccessful. Other multicenter studies also shows that a positive finding on a stool antigen test done as early as 1 week after treatment identifies about 95% of cases of persistent infection (2).

Thus, ICL is proud to present you with the new novel stool antigen-test that allows non-invasive detection of *Helicobacter pylori* that is indicative of active infection.

# International Clinical Laboratories

# Test Review



1S. A. Chisholm, C. L. Watson, E. L. Teare, S. Saverymuttu, and R. J. Owen. Non-invasive diagnosis of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in adult dyspeptic patients by stool antigen detection: does the rapid immunochromatography test provide a reliable alternative to conventional ELISA kits? *J. Med. Microbiol.*, July 1, 2004; 53(7): 623 - 627.

2Vaira, D., Vakil, N., Menegatti, M. & 13 other authors (2002). The stool antigen test for detection of *Helicobacter pylori* after eradication therapy. *Ann Intern Med* 136, 280–287.

#### **INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL LABORATORIES /ICL/**

A MedPharm USA company established in 2004.

Accredited by Joint commission International of the U.S.A.

Conducts more than 700 tests on site

Exclusive partner of Bioscientia-Germany and Labcorp-USA

Contact address:

Tel. 0114671818

Fax.0114673784

International Clinical Laboratories

*Test Review*

