

Clarithromycin resistance and genetic pattern of helicobacter pylori in a group of patients with peptic ulcer disease in alexandria, Egypt

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Abstract:

Clarithromycin resistance is one of the main predictors of eradication treatment failure in *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) infections. Clarithromycin-based regimens were commonly used as a first-line therapy for *H. pylori*-positive patients. Lately, cure rates of *H. pylori* infection are decreasing to as low as 60% and are inversely correlated with antibiotic resistance rates that have crossed the 15-20% threshold. Monitoring of antibiotic susceptibility of *H. pylori* can be achieved through molecular methods; which stand out as an attractive alternative to conventional culture-based methods. The 23S rRNA Real-time PCR has several advantages in detection of *H. pylori* resistance to antibiotics; such as short working time, a high specificity up to 100% and low risk of contamination. This study aimed to detect clarithromycin resistance and genetic pattern of *H. pylori* in a group of 50 patients suffering from symptoms suggestive of gastrointestinal diseases. Gastric biopsy specimens were taken by endoscopy at the Gastroenterology Department of Alexandria Main University Hospital. Genotyping of *H. pylori* strains using multiplex PCR to detect *CagA* and *VacA* genes and detection of point mutations conferring clarithromycin resistance using a 23 S rRNA real time PCR was carried out. The majority (98%) of *H. pylori* strains detected in patients were *CagA* positive while only 28/50 (56%) were *VacA* positive. Most of the strains (67.86%) expressed the *s2* (non toxigenic) allele and the most common genotype was *VacA s2m1*; expressed by 39.3% of strains. All *H. pylori* strains of the control group were sensitive to clarithromycin while resistance was detected in 26% of strains recovered from cases. The majority (77%) of point mutations responsible for resistance to clarithromycin were due to A-G transition at position 2143 while only 23% of which were due to A-C transition at position 2142. © 2019, IJSTR.

Reference:

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