

CORRELATION BETWEEN HELICOBACTER PYLORI INFECTION AND DISEASE ACTIVITY IN PULMONARY WEGENER'S GRANULOMATOSIS

K. Zycinska, K.A. Wardyn, M. Straburzynski, and T.M. Zielonka

Primary Systemic Vasculitis Outpatient Clinic, Department of Family Medicine, Internal and Metabolic Diseases, Nephrology Unit, Warsaw Medical University, Warsaw, Poland

Wegener's granulomatosis (WG) is a clinicopathologic entity of unknown origin characterized histologically by necrotizing granulomatous angitis affect any organ system, most commonly involves the upper, lower respiratory tract and kidneys. Wegener's granulomatosis is a disease which requires the long-term use of steroids and NSAIDs, because of this patients with WG frequently developed gastroduodenal mucosal lesions and concomitant Helicobacter pylori infection. The aim of the study was to assessed the impact of H. pylori infection on clinical features in patients with WG under medication with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, steroidal drugs, and cyclophosphamide. 36 patients with systemic WG were tested for presence of H. pylori infection, 25 patients were H. pylori positive, 11 patients were H. pylori negative. Severity of disease, prevalence of gastroduodenal lesions and the type and treatment duration seem to depend upon H. pylori infection.