

## ERADICATION OF *HELICOBACTER PYLORI* INFECTION. SIDE EFFECTS OF STANDARD TRIPLE THERAPY

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**Introduction and purpose:** To investigate the efficacy and drug-related side effects of a regimen that included proton pump inhibitors (PPIs), clarithromycin and amoxicillin in patients with *Helicobacter pylori* (Hp)-positive duodenal ulcer.

**Material and methods.** The study included 50 Hp-positive patients with duodenal ulcer. Hp infection was confirmed by a histological examination of samples obtained from the antrum and corpus of stomach during endoscopy and non-invasive Breath HELIK-Test. The eradication therapy consisted of 10-days twice daily oral administration of PPIs in standard dose, amoxicillin 1000 mg, clarithromycin 500 mg, then 20-days twice daily PPIs. Therapeutic success was confirmed by a negative histological examination and Breath HELIK-Test, performed 4-12 weeks after treatment.

**Results.** Before the treatment 82% of patients had pain syndrome and 70% - dyspeptic complaints. During the treatment in 50% of patients increased the frequency of dyspeptic complaints and in 42% of them such complaints appeared for the first time and continued during 1,5 months after treatment. The eradication rate was 70%. Healing of duodenal ulcer was noted in 82% cases. The level of basal pH was significantly ( $p < 0,001$ ) increased in the corpus of stomach from  $1,39 \pm 0,41$  to  $1,83 \pm 0,31$ , in antrum  $1,97 \pm 0,29$  to  $2,52 \pm 0,34$  and in the duodenum from  $4,09 \pm 0,59$  to  $5,14 \pm 0,95$ . After treatment significantly increased the levels of alanine transaminase from  $36,78 \pm 0,78$  to  $42,52 \pm 1,22$  IU/L, asparagines transaminase from  $36,36 \pm 0,79$  to  $40,76 \pm 1,27$  IU/L, alkaline phosphatase from  $96,90 \pm 1,37$  to  $101,24 \pm 2,17$  IU/L, and triglycerides from  $1,57 \pm 0,07$  to  $1,72 \pm 0,10$  mmol/l, which must be noted as drug-related side effects of clarithromycin-based triple therapy. Increase of the levels of bilirubin from  $19,41 \pm 0,24$  to  $20,88 \pm 0,34$  mmol/l and cholesterol from  $5,17 \pm 0,16$  to  $5,56 \pm 0,19$  mmol/l were not statistically significant.

**Conclusions.** Standard triple Hp eradication therapy based on clarithromycin has low efficacy (70%), causes or increases the frequency of dyspeptic complaints associated with the use of antibiotics, has a hepatotoxic effect.



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