

## Letter to the Editor

# Comment on “*Helicobacter pylori* Outer Membrane Protein 18 (Hp1125) Is Involved in Persistent Colonization by Evading Interferon- $\gamma$ Signaling”

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We read with interest the paper by Shan et al. [1] in a recent issue. It is an interesting paper concluding that *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) omp18 is indirectly affecting long term bacterial colonization by successfully influencing IFN- $\gamma$ -mediated immune response. Nevertheless, we found that some statements could not support the final conclusion. *H. pylori* infects the gastric mucosal layer of half of the human population worldwide and causes various digestive disorders such as chronic gastritis, gastric ulcer, duodenal ulcer, and gastric cancer [2]. To date, it has been established that such complex mechanism of bacterial interaction with human host can shape the successful and persistent colonization of *H. pylori* [3, 4]. Undoubtedly, understanding the mechanisms of immune evasion could provide new options for better management of infection. To our knowledge, the host immune response to the infection is ineffective; accordingly, the bacterium persists and remains for decades. In brief, Shan et al. [1] reported the *oipA* as a critical factor affecting bacterial colonization. However, we know that, in chronic process of colonization adopted by *H. pylori*, the connection of a unique factor to the drive of the final pattern of this phenomenon could be too speculative. Despite the interesting report of Shan et al. [1], we may hypothesize more factors involved in *H. pylori* colonization. Surprisingly, *H. pylori* colonization is not comparable with that of other pathogens [5]. Indeed, different mechanisms are contributing to this mysterious

and long term biologic function. Conclusively, more studies are necessary to draw a direct and final conclusion on “the mystery” of *H. pylori* colonization.

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## Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interests.

## References

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