Letters to Editor

Helicobacter Pylori in the Era of Probiotics: A Controversial Application

Sir,

Owing to the increased rate of resistance among the Helicobacter pylori strains, the efficacy of the prescribed antibiotics has reduced globally.^[1] Consequently, alternative approaches can be an option to overcome this unsolved issue in clinical trials.^[2] Probiotics, as a living bacterium in gastrointestinal routes, which provides health benefits has been called as a potential candidate. Recently, several studies investigated the efficacy of different probiotics in experimental and large scale levels. Recently, Dajani et al., proposed Bifidobacterium infantis as a preferable adjuvant for several therapeutic regimens used to eradicate the H. pylori infection.^[3] Although probiotic therapy as an adjuvant had been reported to be an effective approach for treatment of H. pylori, the exact mechanism is not clearly elucidated yet. Moreover, the success of each of the three investigated therapeutic regimens in study by Dajani et al., need to be evaluated separately.^[2] In other words, prescription of

240 Volume 19, Number 5 Shawwal 1434 September 2013

The Saudi Journal of Gastroenterology probiotic (*B. infantis*) in *H. pylori* therapeutic regimens should be compared with particular negative control group. In other words, adding a probiotic (*B. infantis*) should be recommended under assumption of independent factors, including various treatment regimens. Altogether, the current findings should be recommended to clinicians with caution. Meanwhile, the current data by Dajani *et al.*, can be a good pilot, which will be encouraging for other groups in the aforementioned area to disclose further interesting findings for drawing a comprehensive conclusion.

Amin T. B. Abadi, Ashraf M. Mobarez¹, Fatemeh H. A. Tabrizi²

Departments of Medical Microbiology, Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands, ¹Bacteriology, School of Medical Sciences, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, ²Biology, Kharazmi University, Karaj, Iran E-mail: amin.talebi@gmail.com

REFERENCES

- 1. Talebi Bezmin Abadi A, Mobarez AM, Taghvaei T, Wolfram L. Antibiotic resistance of *Helicobacter pylori* in Mazandaran, North of Iran. Helicobacter 2010;15:505-9.
- 2. Baryshnikova NV. *Helicobacter pylori*-associated gastroenterological diseases: Genetic features and probiotic treatment. Benef Microbes 2012;3:157-61.
- Dajani AI, Abu Hammour AM, Yang DH, Chung PC, Nounou MA, Yuan KY, et al. Do probiotics improve eradication response to *Helicobacter* pylori on standard triple or sequential therapy? Saudi J Gastroenterol 2013;19:113-20.

Access this article online	
Quick Response Code:	Website: www.saudijgastro.com
	DOI: 10.4103/1319-3767.118140

Announcement

iPhone App



Download iPhone, iPad application A free application to browse and search the journal's content is now available for iPhone/iPad. The application provides "Table of Contents" of the latest issues, which are stored on the device for future offline browsing. Internet connection is required to access the back issues and search facility. The application is Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad and Requires iOS 3.1 or later. The application can be downloaded from http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/medknow-journals/ id458064375?ls=1&mt=8. For suggestions and comments do write back to us.

The Saudi Journal of Gastroenterology

241

Volume 19, Number 5 Shawwal 1434 September 2013