

# IMPACT OF HELICOBACTER PYLORI-GIARDIASIS COINFECTION ON CHILDREN WITH RECURRENT ABDOMINAL PAIN

By

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## Abstract

Recurrent abdominal pain (RAP) affects 10-20% of school-aged children. *Helicobacter pylori* and *Giardia intestinalis* were reported among organic causes of RAP, with different prevalence particularly in developing countries as common association diseases causing agents. This study evaluated the incidence of *H. pylori* and *G. intestinalis* co-infection in RAP Egyptian among 90 children and 90 crossmatched healthy controls. *H. pylori* (HP) infection was diagnosed by detection of HP stool antigen (HPSA), ELISA and/or HP antibody (IgG), ELISA in serum, while *G. intestinalis* by stained stool smears.

The HP infection was detected in 60 (66.7%) patients and 37 (41%) controls with a statistically significant difference  $p=0.001$ . Giardiasis was found in 47 (52.2%) patients and 30 (33.3%) controls with a statistically significant difference  $p=0.02$ . The incidence of HP infection among cases was higher among age group above 5 years ( $p=0.001$ ), as a significant predictor for RAP. The association of *H. pylori* and *G. intestinalis* was among 36 (40.0%) patients and 11 (12.2%) controls with a significant difference ( $p<0.001$ ).

**Key words:** Egypt, Children, *H. pylori*, *G. intestinalis*, Recurrent abdominal pain.