

Questions and answers

Q1: At what age does *H. pylori* generally colonize gastric mucosa?

A1: In pediatric age or childhood.

Q2: What types of gastric disease develop in *H. pylori*-infected patients?

A2: Chronic active gastritis, peptic ulcer disease, gastric cancer, and mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma.

Q3: Which virulent strains are associated with a higher risk of gastric precancerous lesions?

A3: The CagA+ and VacA s1m1 strains

Q4: What percentage of *H. pylori*-infected patients have a long asymptomatic period?

A4: Approximately 85%.

Q5: Please explain the transmission route of *H. pylori*.

A5: Person-to-person transmission among family members is frequent, with mother-to-child the most predominant, while the most important transmission routes are oral-oral and oral-fecal. Another source of infection is contaminated water, in which the bacterium can remain for long periods in a viable state. *H. pylori* infection is often associated with socioeconomic conditions and dietary habits, suggesting that foods such as milk, meat, and vegetables may be an important route of transmission. Saliva is also another possible source of infection.

Q6: What extraintestinal diseases are influenced by *H. pylori* infection?

A6: Iron deficiency anemia, immune thrombocytopenic purpura, Henoch-Schonlein purpura, and bronchial asthma, as well as several allergic diseases and inflammatory bowel disease.