

Helicobacter pylori

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About Helicobacter Pylori:

- It is a **common type of bacteria** that grows in the **digestive tract** and tends to attack the stomach lining.
- It is adapted to **live in the harsh, acidic environment of the stomach.**
- It infects a person usually during childhood. Its infections are usually harmless, but they're responsible for most ulcers in the stomach and small intestine.
- Infections with H. pylori affect over **43 percent of the world's population** with a wide range of gastrointestinal disorders, including peptic ulcers, gastritis, dyspepsia and even gastric cancer.
- **How does it survive in stomach?**
 - This bacterium can change the environment around it and **reduce the acidity so it can survive more easily.**
 - The spiral shape of H. pylori allows it to penetrate the stomach lining, where it's protected by mucus and the body's immune cells can't reach it.
- When signs or symptoms do occur with H. pylori infection, they are typically related to gastritis or a peptic ulcer and may include:
 - An ache or **burning pain in stomach** (abdomen)

- Stomach pain that may be worse when your stomach is empty
 - Nausea, Loss of appetite and unintentional weight loss etc.
 - **Treatment:** It typically involves a combination of antibiotics and a proton-pump inhibitor (a drug that reduces your stomach acid) for up to 14 days. This treatment is sometimes referred to as **triple therapy**.
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Q1: What is Bacteria?

These are microscopic single-celled prokaryotic organisms that play a crucial role in the ecosystem and have a significant impact on human health. Bacteria can be found all over the world, including the top of the mountains or the deeper trenches in the oceans.

Source: PIB

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/helicobacter-pylori/>

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