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Summary

THE PATTERN OF HELICOBACTER PYLORI PCR-ASSESSED ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE: EXPERIENCE FROM THE EUROPEAN REGISTRY ON HELICOBACTER PYLORI MANAGEMENT (HP-EUREG)

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Stomach & H. Pylori

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A European multicenter registry study using PCR-based testing found high rates of clarithromycin and fluoroquinolone resistance in H. pylori infections, with resistance escalating dramatically after multiple treatment attempts.

KEY POINTS

- Among 265 H. pylori patients tested via PCR, treatment-naïve cases showed 31% clarithromycin resistance, 33% fluoroquinolone resistance, and 14% metronidazole resistance.
- In rescue-line patients who had received at least one prior eradication attempt, clarithromycin resistance rose to 62% and fluoroquinolone resistance to 53%.
- Multiple eradication attempts significantly increased clarithromycin resistance from 53% after second-line treatment to 79% after third-line and 100% after fourth-line treatment (p=0.001).
- The authors conclude that the high resistance rates and steep increase following multiple attempts imply an urgent need for continuous antibiotic stewardship to optimize H. pylori eradication strategies.
- This material is relevant for gastroenterologists managing H. pylori infections and considering antibiotic selection strategies.

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