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Summary

# IRISH HELICOBACTER PYLORI ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE SURVEILLANCE TO GUIDE CLINICAL PRACTICE

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Stomach & H. Pylori

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**A multisite Irish study of 126 H. pylori isolates found primary resistance rates of 37.9% for clarithromycin and 44.7% for metronidazole, leading authors to conclude that first-line clarithromycin triple therapy can no longer be recommended in Ireland.**

## KEY POINTS

- Primary resistance rates were 37.9% for clarithromycin, 44.7% for metronidazole, 21.4% for levofloxacin, 33.3% for amoxicillin, 16.7% for rifampicin, and 10.7% for tetracycline among 103 treatment-naïve patients.
- Secondary resistance rates in 23 previously treated patients reached 65.2% for clarithromycin and 73.9% for metronidazole, nearly double the primary resistance rates.
- The study collected gastric biopsies from four sites comprising two urban and two rural teaching hospitals in Ireland, with antibiotic susceptibility testing performed by E-test using EUCAST clinical breakpoints.
- Authors concluded that antibiotic resistance rates have reached significant levels for all major classes of antibiotics used to treat H. pylori in Ireland.
- The findings are intended to guide national treatment strategies, addressing the fact that H. pylori antibiotic resistance testing is not routinely carried out in the majority of Irish hospitals.

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