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Summary

HELICOBACTER PYLORI SEROPREVALENCE IN PATIENTS WITH AUTOIMMUNE ATROPHIC GASTRITIS HELICOBACTER PYLORI NEGATIVE AT HISTOLOGY

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Stomach & H. Pylori

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Helicobacter pylori multiplex serology in 75 histologically Hp-negative autoimmune atrophic gastritis patients reveals complete seronegativity in 30%, suggesting a pure autoimmune subtype, while 20% showed Hp exposure possibly triggering autoimmunity.

KEY POINTS

- Among 75 AAG patients negative for Hp on histology, 30% had no seroreactivity to any of 13 Hp antigens, 20% met seropositivity criteria (>3 antigens), and 50% showed weak intermediate seroreactivity.
- AAG patients had significantly more seroreactive antigens than healthy controls (mean 2.2 vs 1.4, p=0.04) but fewer than Hp-positive gastritis controls (5.4, p<0.0001).
- Severe corpus atrophy was significantly more frequent in AAG patients with zero Hp seroreactivity than in seropositives (p=0.019).
- An inverse relationship was observed between anti-UreA antibodies and intrinsic factor autoantibody titers (Spearman's rho -0.25, p=0.03).
- The multiplex serology assay measured antibodies to 13 Hp proteins using fluorescent bead technology, with seropositivity defined as reactivity to more than 3 antigens.

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