

Effect of proton pump inhibitor use on *Helicobacter pylori* positivity and atrial fibrillation

Kadri Atay¹
Omer Kaya²

¹Istanbul University, Cerrahpasa School of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, ²Medipol University, Department of Internal Medicine, Istanbul, Turkey

Dear editor

We read with interest the report by Wang et al regarding the association between *Helicobacter pylori* infection and atrial fibrillation.¹ One of our concerns about this well designed study is the lack of reporting of proton pump inhibitor (PPI) use in the patients and controls. It is well known that use of PPIs influences the results of some tests for *H. pylori*, including the urea breath test, which the authors used in their study. Notably, the frequency of *H. pylori* antibody positivity was similar between all three groups while *H. pylori* infection seems to be significantly more common in subjects with long-standing atrial fibrillation. More frequent use of PPIs may potentially explain the lower frequency of *H. pylori* positivity in the control group and short-term atrial fibrillation group. Further, there are some recent reports indicating a protective effect of PPIs on the risk of atrial fibrillation, especially in people with gastroesophageal reflux disease.² In conclusion, use of PPIs may have influenced some of the test results in this study, including the risk of atrial fibrillation.

Disclosure

The authors have no conflicts of interest to disclose in relation to this communication.

References

1. Wang DZ, Chen W, Yang S, et al. *Helicobacter pylori* infection in Chinese patients with atrial fibrillation. *Clin Interv Aging*. 2015;10:813–819.
2. Roman C, Bruley des Varannes S, Muresan L, Picos A, Dumitrascu DL. Atrial fibrillation in patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease: a comprehensive review. *World J Gastroenterol*. 2014;20:9592–9599.

Correspondence: Omer Kaya
Istanbul Medipol University, Esenler Hospital, Department of Internal Medicine, Esenler, Istanbul, P.B. 34230, Turkey
Tel +90 53 1793 0386
Email amerkaya@yahoo.com

Authors' reply

De-Zhao Wang¹

Wei Chen¹

Song Yang²

Jun Wang³

Qun Li¹

Qiang Fu²

Shi-Jing Li³

Bu-Xing Chen¹

¹Department of Cardiology, Beijing Tiantan Hospital, Capital Medical University, ²Department of Ultrasonography, Beijing Tiantan Hospital, Capital Medical University, ³Department of Cardiology, Beijing Mentougou District Hospital, Beijing, People's Republic of China

Correspondence: De-Zhao Wang
Department of Cardiology, Beijing Tiantan Hospital, Capital Medical University, No 6, Tiantan Xili, Dongcheng District, Beijing 100050, People's Republic of China
Tel +86 10 6709 6577
Email dezhaow@126.com

Dear editor

We are very glad to respond to the enquiry from Kadri Atay and Omer Kaya about use of PPIs in our subject. This study was a retrospective, cross-sectional analysis from a single center, and patients with gastrointestinal disease and those on PPI therapy before recruitment were excluded from the study.

Disclosure

The authors report no conflicts of interest in this communication.

Dove Medical Press encourages responsible, free and frank academic debate. The content of the Clinical Interventions in Aging 'letters to the editor' section does not necessarily represent the views of Dove Medical Press, its officers, agents, employees, related entities or the Clinical Interventions in Aging editors. While all reasonable steps have been taken to confirm the content of each letter, Dove Medical Press accepts no liability in respect of the content of any letter, nor is it responsible for the content and accuracy of any letter to the editor.

Clinical Interventions in Aging

Publish your work in this journal

Clinical Interventions in Aging is an international, peer-reviewed journal focusing on evidence-based reports on the value or lack thereof of treatments intended to prevent or delay the onset of maladaptive correlates of aging in human beings. This journal is indexed on PubMed Central, MedLine,

CAS, Scopus and the Elsevier Bibliographic databases. The manuscript management system is completely online and includes a very quick and fair peer-review system, which is all easy to use. Visit <http://www.dovepress.com/testimonials.php> to read real quotes from published authors.

Submit your manuscript here: <http://www.dovepress.com/clinical-interventions-in-aging-journal>

Dovepress