Medical laboratory techniques

Helicobacter pylori(Lab 6)

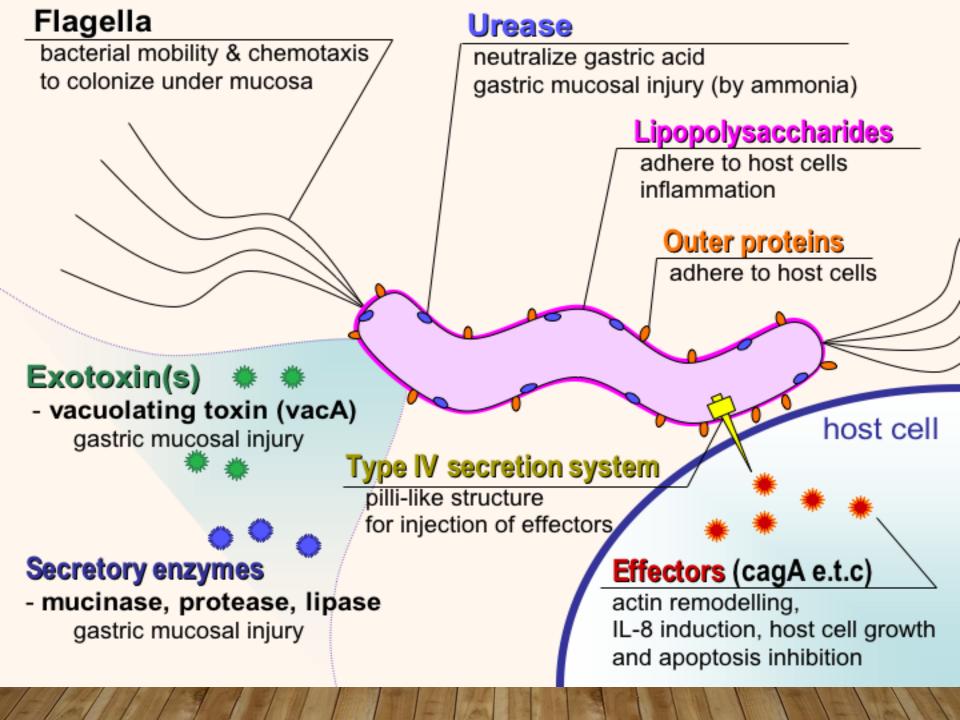
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HELICOBACTER PYLORI

Gastritis: is a histological term that describes stomach inflammation resulting from toxic exposures, infection, idiopathic inflammation, and autoimmunity. The most common cause of gastritis is H pylori infection. Other causes include acid reflux, prolonged use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS), alcohol use, and tobacco use, all of which can irritate the lining of the stomach. Severe illness and radiation therapy can also cause gastritis

Erosive gastritis: is most commonly caused by alcohol use, tobacco use, and prolonged use of aspirin and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS). The most common cause of chronic, nonerosive gastritis is a stomach infection caused by Helicobacter pylori (H pylori).



In some cases, gastritis can be life threatening, with symptoms including:

- Bloody stool (blood may be red, black, or tarry in texture)
- Severe abdominal pain
- Vomiting blood or black material (resembling coffee grounds)

Although acute infection can cause abdominal pain and dyspepsia, there is typically no clinical recognition of acute infection.

SYMPTOMS

The symptoms of gastritis If infection with H pylori bacteria is the cause, will remain as long as the infection is untreated. H. pylori is uniquely adapted to the acidic environment of the stomach through its ability to metabolize urea to ammonia, which provides a buffered microenvironment that allows prolonged asymptomatic colonization.

Symptoms include burning abdominal pain, Loss of appetite, nausea with or without vomiting

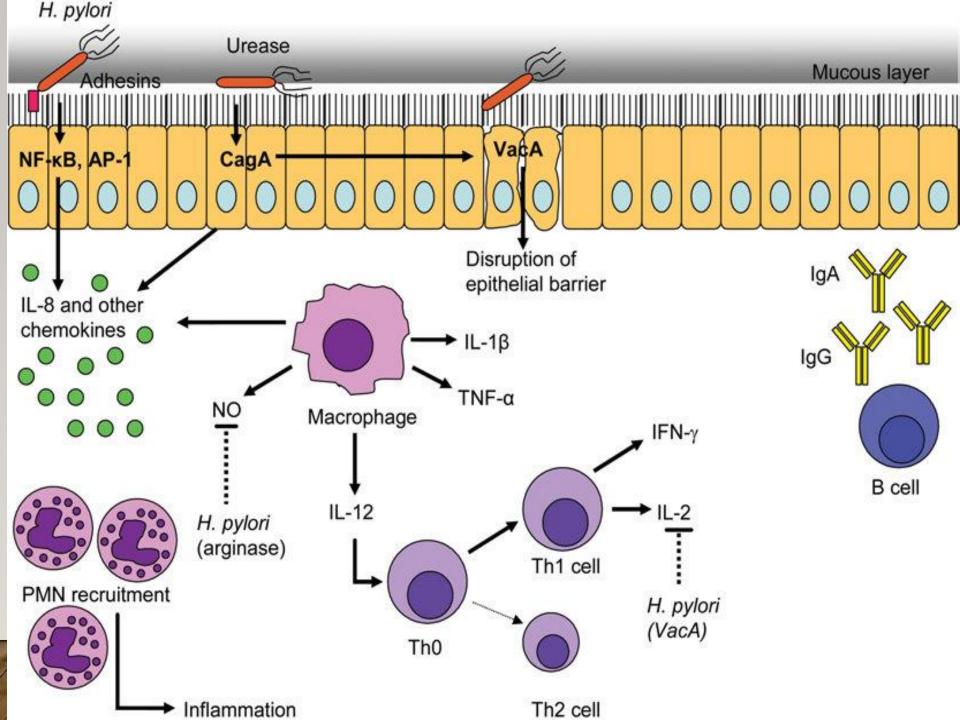
Rather, the burden of H. pylori results from chronic infection of the stomach. The development of peptic ulcer disease and adenocarcinoma caused by chronic H. pylori infection correlates with the anatomical distribution of inflammation. When H. pylori chronic gastritis affects the antrum predominantly, there is an association with duodenal ulcers, increased serum gastrin levels and excess acid production, and no gastric mucosal atrophy. However, when H. pylori affects the body and the antrum in a confluent or patchy manner, intestinal metaplasia develops, oxyntic mucosa atrophies, and acid

production decreases.

This latter type of H. pylori chronic gastritis is associated with gastric ulcerations and increased risk for adenocarcinoma and mucosa-associated lymphoreticular tissue (MALT) B-cell lymphoma. Although eradication of H. pylori can reverse the mucosal atrophy and restore acid production in this setting, mucosal restoration occurs only in a minority of patients and does not necessarily reverse the intestinal metaplasia.

IMMUNE PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

The immune mechanisms for the persistence of HP infection in the stomach: suggest that pro-regulatory effects of H. pylori infection, including local IL-10 production, increases in regulatory T cells (Tregs) in the gastric mucosa and increased antigen-presenting cell (APC) phagocytosis of apoptotic cells all contribute to persistence of chronic H. pylori gastritis.



DIAGNOSIS

Active disease can be diagnosed with endoscopic biopsy, which has high sensitivity and specificity, while simultaneously assessing peptic and malignant complications.

- -Noninvasive testing: includes serum antibody detection (best used in highly endemic areas to predict active infection),
- -urea breath testing (limited by expense & possible false-positive results), -
- -fecal antigen testing (which has potential advantages in the setting of intestinal metaplasia and after antibiotic treatment).

