

Testing that your patients can stomach: detect active *H pylori* infection

H pylori infection is one of the most common chronic bacterial infections, affecting more than a third of Americans.¹ Left undetected and untreated, *H pylori* can cause damage to the gastric mucosa, potentially resulting in peptic ulcers or gastric cancer.²

Who's at risk for *H pylori* infection?

American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) guidelines recommend *H pylori* infection testing for patients with the following conditions and/or circumstances²

- Current or past gastric or duodenal ulcers
- Uninvestigated dyspepsia
- Gastric mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma
- A family history of gastric cancer
- First-generation immigrants from high-prevalence areas, including Africa, South America, and Western Asia³
- Initiating chronic treatment with a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug

35%

of Americans have *H pylori* infection¹

H pylori-related damage can lead to peptic ulcer or gastric cancer for

20–25% of patients²

Retesting recommended post-treatment

If *H pylori* infection is identified and treated, testing to monitor treatment should be performed using a urea breath test (UBT), stool antigen test (HpSAg), or biopsy-based test.²

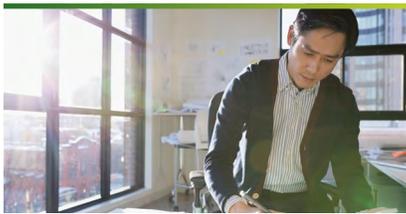
Quest Diagnostics offers comprehensive *H pylori* infection testing aligned with AGA guidelines, including **urea breath testing and stool antigen testing.**

Detecting active *H pylori* infection: know your options

The AGA updated its guidelines for *H pylori* testing, moving away from serologic testing and citing a preference for the UBT and HpSAg tests.² Why? Though it detects the presence of antibodies in the blood, serologic testing may not detect active *H pylori* infection.⁴ Many health plans have followed suit, designating serology testing as not medically necessary and no longer covering the serology test, except when specific conditions are met.²

Breath vs. stool: what's the difference?

Recommended by the AGA, both the UBT and HpSAg tests can measure active *H pylori* infection. They've been shown to be substantially similar and can be used interchangeably.⁵



UBT

- Measures urease activity
- High sensitivity and specificity^{5,6}
- Can be done during a patient visit
- May offer more convenience

Stool antigen test

- Identifies bacterial antigens in stool
- High sensitivity and specificity^{4,5}

Rely on comprehensive *H pylori* testing—and more

Offering tests for patients of all ages, our comprehensive portfolio of *H pylori* testing includes both breath and stool and is aligned with AGA guidelines.

Test Name	Test Code	CPT Codes*
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i> Antigen, EIA, Stool	34838	87338
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i> , Urea Breath Test	14839	83013
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i> , Urea Breath Test, Pediatric	92491	83013
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i> Culture with Reflex to Susceptibility	91245	87081, 87205

*The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.

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Prevent *H pylori* progression. Visit HPyloriTesting.com or contact your Quest Diagnostics sales representative to learn more.

References

1. Nagy P, Johansson S, Molloy-Bland, M. Systematic review of time trends in the prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in China and the USA. *Gut Pathog.* 2016;8:8. 2. El-Serag HB, Kao JY, Kanwal F, et al. Houston consensus conference on testing for *Helicobacter pylori* infection in the United States. *Clin Gastroenterol and Hepatol.* 2018;16(7):992-1002. 3. Hooi JKY, et al. Global prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection: systematic review and meta-analysis. *Gastroenterology.* 2017;26:[e-pub]. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1053/j.gastro.2017.04.022>. 4. Wang Y, Kuo F, Liu C, et al. Diagnosis of *Helicobacter pylori* infection: current options and developments. *World J Gastroenterol.* 2015;21(40):11221-11235. 5. Dore MP, Pes GM, Bassotti G, et al. Dyspepsia: when and how to test for *Helicobacter pylori* infection. *Gastroenterol Res Pract.* 2016;2016:8463614. 6. Kazemi S, Tavakkoli H, Habizadeh MR, et al. Diagnostic values of *Helicobacter pylori* diagnostic tests: stool antigen test, urea breath test, rapid urease test, serology and histology. *J Res Med Sci.* 2011;16(9):1097-1104.

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