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**EVALUATION OF THE HELICOBACTER PYLORI STOOL ANTIGEN TEST FOR  
DETECTION OF HELICOBACTER PYLORI INFECTION IN CHILDREN WITH  
RECURRENT ABDOMINAL PAIN**

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Helicobacter pylori (H.pylori) infection is usually acquired in early childhood. Accurate diagnosis of the infection in pediatric population is important. Invasive and noninvasive tests have been developed for the diagnosis of H.pylori infection.

In this study, we compared a noninvasive, newly developed fecal H.pylori antigen test with histology as an invasive technique.

Eighty children (35 girls, 45 boys) were tested for H.pylori infection using the histology, and a new enzyme immunoassay for detection of H.pylori antigen in stool (Premier Platinum HpSA, Meridian Diagnostics, Cincinnati, OH) in children with recurrent abdominal pain.

Fifty-two of children (65 %) tested positive for H.pylori according to the histology results. In 48 of the 52 patients, H.pylori antigen was detected in stool (sensitivity: 92.3 %). H.pylori antigen was found to be negative in thirty-two of stool samples (specificity: 100 %).

The new, noninvasive, low cost H.pylori antigen test in stool can replace the invasive techniques for detection of H.pylori infection in children with recurrent abdominal pain.

