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## Helicobacter Pylori Infections

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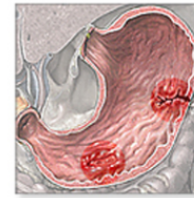
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### Summary

*Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) is a type of bacteria that causes infection in the stomach. It is found in about two-thirds of the world's population. It may be spread by unclean food and water, but researchers aren't sure. It causes [Peptic ulcers](#) and can also cause [stomach cancer](#).

If you have symptoms of a peptic ulcer, your doctor will test your blood, breath or stool to see if it contains *H. pylori*. The best treatment is a combination of antibiotics and acid-reducing medicines. You will need to be tested after treatment to make sure the infection is gone.

To help prevent an *H. pylori* infection, you should

- Wash your hands after using the bathroom and before eating
- Eat properly prepared food
- Drink water from a clean, safe source

NIH: [National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases](#)

### Start Here

- [H. pylori Infection](#) (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- [Helicobacter pylori](#) (Nemours Foundation)

### Diagnosis and Tests

- [Helicobacter pylori Test](#) (American Association for Clinical Chemistry)
- [Stool Test: H. Pylori Antigen](#) (Nemours Foundation)  
Also in Spanish

### Treatments and Therapies

- [Helicobacter Pylori Infection and Treatment \(Beyond the Basics\)](#) (UpToDate)

### Related Issues

- [Gastritis](#) (National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases)
- [Gut Feelings About Gastritis: When Your Stomach's Sick](#) (National Institutes of Health)

### Specifics

- [Helicobacter pylori and Cancer](#) (National Cancer Institute)  
Also in Spanish

### Clinical Trials

- [ClinicalTrials.gov: Helicobacter Infections](#) (National Institutes of Health)

### Journal Articles

References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)

- [Article: Helicobacter pylori: a pathogenic threat to the gastric mucosal barrier.](#)
- [Article: CLINICAL PRACTICE. Upper Gastrointestinal Bleeding Due to a Peptic Ulcer.](#)
- [Article: Eradication therapy for peptic ulcer disease in Helicobacter pylori-positive people.](#)
- [Helicobacter Pylori Infections -- see more articles](#)

### Find an Expert

- [National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases](#)

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### MEDICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

[Tests for H. pylori](#)

### Related Health Topics

[Peptic Ulcer](#)

[Stomach Cancer](#)

### National Institutes of Health

The primary NIH organization for research on *Helicobacter Pylori Infections* is the [National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases](#)





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## Children

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- [Helicobacter pylori](#) (Nemours Foundation)
- [Helicobacter Pylori Infections](#) (American Academy of Pediatrics)  
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- [Stool Test: H. Pylori Antigen](#) (Nemours Foundation)  
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