Nikolina Brkić, MD

General Hospital Vinkovci, Zvonarska ul. 57, 32 100 Vinkovci, Croatia

Faculty of Medicine, University of Osijek, J.Huttlera 4,31 000 Osijek, Croatia

E-mail: nikolinatarbuk@gmail.com

Telephone: +385 99 501 0341; Fax: +385 32 349 246

Vinkovci, 15.05.2016.

Dear editor,

Please, find enclosed our manuscript (submitted as article) entitled “The prevalence and characteristics of Helicobacter pylori-associated gastritis in dyspeptic patients in Eastern Croatia, determined by immunohistochemistry” by Nikolina Brkić, Velimir Terzić, Marija Švagelj, Mirta Cvrković, Hrvoje Brkić and Dražen Švagelj.

This study is the first large study of Helicobacter-pylori (Hp) prevalence by histological and immunohistochemical method in Croatia, so the results of this study contribute to the understanding of how big a public health problem is Hp infection in a population of Croatia.

We confirmed that the prevalence of Hp-associated gastritis is 41%. Chronic active gastritis was found in 94% of patients with Hp infection. Gastric mucosal atrophy was observed in 5% of patients older than 50 years. Intestinal metaplasia was detected in 26% of patients older than 30 years.

This manuscript has not been submitted for publication or published elsewhere.

All authors concur with the submission, and that survey has no conflicting ethical issues.

We hope that you will find this work suitable for publication in Periodicum biologorum.

Yours sincerely,

Nikolina Brkić