Predictors of severe *H pylori*-associated gastritis in Arctic Canada. *M Lefebvre, J Geary, S Girgis, KJ Goodman, CAN*Help* Working Group (University of Alberta, Edmonton)

H pylori infection induces gastritis, a spectrum of inflammation involved in gastric carcinogenesis. Little is known about determinants of gastritis severity. We aimed to identify risk factors for severe gastritis among *H pylori*-positive participants in a community-based project inspired by local concerns about risks from *H pylori* infection, highly prevalent in Arctic Aboriginal communities. In Feb 2008, residents of Aklavik, Northwest Territories were offered gastroscopy with biopsies taken for pathological assessment; gastritis was graded as mild, moderate or severe. We collected risk factor data by interviewer-administered questionnaire. In logistic regression models, we estimated relative prevalence odds (OR) of severe gastritis (v mild/moderate) with 95% confidence intervals (CI) for: sex; age; education; prior care for stomach complaints; medications; symptoms; food frequencies (fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, coffee, tea, pop, alcohol). Of 129 participants aged 11-80 years with *H. pylori*-positive histology, gastritis was mild in 11 (8.5%), moderate in 62 (48%), and severe in 56 (43%). In multivariable models, 5 factors had p-values<0.25; in 101 participants with complete data, mutually adjusted ORs (CI) were: 1.7 (0.72, 4.2) for male sex; 0.67 (0.38, 1.2) for >12 years of school; 0.51 (0.20, 1.3) for prior care; 2.2 (0.93, 5.3) for >=1 serving/day of pop; 0.50 (0.21, 1.17) for >=5 servings/week of tea. We present initial research on severe *H pylori*-associated gastritis in Arctic Aboriginal communities. For more accurate results, we need more data to address key limitations (small sample, temporal ambiguity, endoscopy-associated selection factors and few cases of mild inflammation for a sharper contrast in gastritis severity).

Characters with spaces: 1930

```
.logistic severeinflamdichot sex gradeUSE Q6clean E27acodeddichot
E30acodeddichot

Logistic regression                               Number of obs   =        101
                                                  LR chi2(5)      =      10.48
                                                  Prob > chi2     =     0.0626
Log likelihood = -63.64758                        Pseudo R2       =     0.0761

------------------------------------------------------------------------------
severeinfl~t | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
         sex |   1.746575   .7913245     1.23   0.218     .7186736    4.244661
    gradeUSE |   .6719305   .1976635    -1.35   0.177     .3775064    1.195981
     Q6clean |   .5054829   .2392687    -1.44   0.149     .1998909    1.278262
E27acodedd~t|   2.233859   .9948655     1.80   0.071     .9331835    5.347424
E30acodedd~t|   .4995602   .2175224    -1.59   0.111     .2127899    1.172802
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
```

Abstract guidelines:

Type full text of the abstract including title, all authors (with presenter noted with an asterisk), and the institution where the work was done. **EXAMPLE:** A Study of the Exposure to Disease. J. Smith, *S. Jones, and P. Gold (University, City, State, Zip Code)

- **The abstract should not exceed 1,935 characters (including spaces), which includes title and author information.**
- Avoid acronyms.
- If you use references, provide the journal, volume, year and page numbers.
- Spell out abbreviations (including OR or RR) the first time you use them.
- If you calculate confidence intervals, specify whether they are 90%, 95%, etc.
- Presentation of specific data and methodologic details assist reviewers in judging the quality of the research. New findings are of greater interest than confirmation of known relations.

- Clarity and brevity of writing will allow evaluation of the importance of the research.