

CAN Help WORKING GROUP

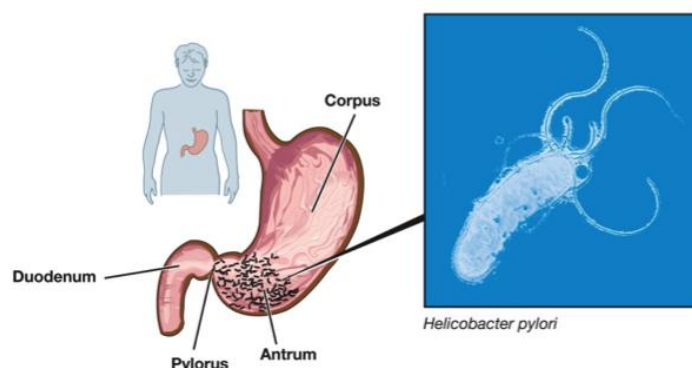
CANADIAN NORTH *HELICOBACTER PYLORI* (CANHELP) WORKING GROUP

Helicobacter pylori (*H. pylori* for short) is the name of bacteria that infect the human stomach lining. The bacteria are so small you need a microscope to see them.

Many people around the world have *H. pylori* infection, which can last a long time and irritate the stomach lining.

Most people with *H. pylori* infection don't feel sick. Some get long-lasting stomach discomfort and a small percent get serious stomach diseases.

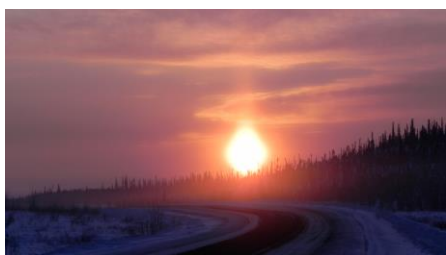
Helicobacter pylori in the human stomach



Adapted from Press Release: The 2005 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Nobelprize.org

Why northern Canada?

Helicobacter pylori (*H. pylori*) infection is common across Arctic communities and stomach cancer rates are relatively high in this region. *H. pylori* is a community health concern in northern Canada due to awareness of its link to stomach cancer.



The Canadian North *Helicobacter pylori* (CANHelp) Working Group was established in response to concerns expressed by community members in

the Yukon (YT) and Northwest Territories (NT). Northern health authorities also sought information to improve clinical management of *H. pylori* infection and inform related public health policy.

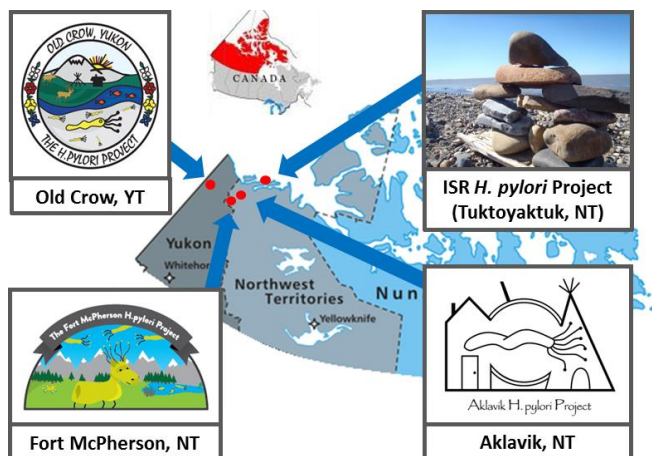
The CANHelp Working Group is a collaborative team made up of researchers from the University of Alberta, and northern community leaders, as well as northern health providers and health officials. Our aims are to address community concerns about health risks from *H. pylori* infection and exchange knowledge with community members and decision makers to identify ways to reduce health risks from this infection.

Research Goals

Our research goals, based on the priorities of the participating communities and their health care providers are to conduct:

1. Community-driven research projects to characterize the burden of disease from *H. pylori* infection
2. Policy analysis to recommend *H. pylori* control strategies

Community Projects



Community Project	Participants Recruited	Urea Breath Tests Completed	Endoscopy Participants	Treatment Participants
Aklavik	376	333	195	141
Old Crow	202	194	63	82
Tuktoyaktuk	108	105	13	29
Fort McPherson	236	228	57	79

Community Project (Start Year)	<i>H. pylori</i> -Positive (By Urea Breath Test)	Gastritis Severity in <i>H. pylori</i> -Positive Participants ¹	Treatment Success ^{2,3}	Knowledge Exchange
Aklavik (2007)	58% (193/332)	Mild: 9% (12/129) Moderate: 47% (61/129) Severe: 43% (56/129)	3-drug: 59% (29/49) Seq: 70% (28/40)	Ongoing
Old Crow (2010)	68% (128/189)	Mild: 3% (2/57) Moderate: 32% (18/57) Severe: 65% (37/57)	Seq: 60% (12/20) 4-drug: 91% (21/23)	Ongoing
Tuktoyaktuk (2011)	57% (59/103)	Mild: 25% (2/8) Moderate: 38% (3/8) Severe: 38% (3/8)	Seq: 50% (1/2) 4-drug: 100% (1/1)	Ongoing
Fort McPherson (2012)	59% (124/209)	Mild: 8% (3/37) Moderate: 54% (20/37) Severe: 38% (14/37)	Seq: 83% (24/29) 4-drug: 100% (17/17)	Ongoing

¹Gastritis: Chronic inflammation of the stomach lining; a pathologist graded gastritis severity in biopsies from endoscopy participants

²Reported to indicate progress only; estimates are highly uncertain due to reduced numbers of trial participants with post-treatment results

³3-drug is short for Standard Triple Therapy; Seq is short for Sequential Therapy; and 4-drug is short for Quadruple Therapy

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