Vitalan  Stool Diagnostics

*Helicobacter pylori Antigen* in stool: diagnosis of Gastritis/Duodenitis

Occurence:
Helicobacter pylori is one of the main causes for *Gastritis, Duodenal Ulcers* and *Lymphoma of GALT* (Gut-Associated-Lymphoid-Tissue) and besides this a *Risk Factor for Stomac Cancer*. Epidemiological Studies proof, depending on region, Infection Rates of 30-80%. In most regions of the UK over 30%, at Age over 45 years over 50%.

Clinical Symptoms:
The H.pylori-Infection occurs asymptomatic, as clinical irrelevant Inflammation as well as main cause for *severe gastroduodenal problems* like Ulcus Ventriculi and/or Duodeni or Gastric Carcinoma and Lymphoma. The course of events is hard to predict, the Indication for Eradication of H.pylori results mainly from clinical symptoms.

Diagnostics:
Diagnosis of H.pylori is based on *invasive* (and expensive Endoscopy for Histology or Urea-Test), *semi-invasive* (and expensive Breath-Test) or *Serology* (who is not showing reliable the active illness).
The *non-invasive Stool-Test* facilitates the diagnosis of active illness as well as the control of therapy with *high specificity and sensitivity* (compared with histology) of 95.3% for adults and 98.6% for children, compared with breath-test of 100%. Further advantages are easy to take sample, fast turnaround and low price.

Indication:
The H.pylori-Stooltest is indicated for *All Patients under the age of 45 years with Dyspeptic Symptoms* (Heartburn, Stomac Pressure, Pain in upper abdomen before and after meal, Gas, Bloating), for Children and for Therapy Control.
The H.pylori-Stooltest is indicated for *All Patients over the age of 45 years with supplementary Alarm Symptoms* (Anemia, Weight Loss, Malassimilation, Occult Bleeding, Diarrhea) together with Gastroscopy and Histology. Histology is needed for *Culture and Antibiotic Testing* of Helicobacter pylori – resistance rates raises.

Therapy:
*Prescription Drugs*: the Standard is the „*Italian“ Triple Therapy*, the Combination of Gastric-Acid-Blocker (H2-Antagonist like....) with Antibiotics Erythromycin resp. Clarithromycin (like....) and Metronidazol (like ....). These Antibiotics are not effective in case of Resistance.
*Plant Extracts*: there is no Standard but Personal Reports about good results in Eradication with Mastix and other plant extracts (like berberin, citrus seed, gentiana, hydrastis, juglans, allium – best in Combination, like.....).