



**PDF
Complete**

*Your complimentary
use period has ended.
Thank you for using
PDF Complete.*

[Click Here to upgrade to
Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

BACKGROUND: Peptic ulcer disease (PUD) occurs in up to one fourth of patients with chronic renal failure (CRF). Some of the factors implicated in its causation include hypergastrinaemia, secondary hyperparathyroidism, drugs and, recently, *Helicobacter pylori* infection. Studies on the latter have been few, with none having been carried out in Kenya. **OBJECTIVE:** To evaluate the upper gastrointestinal tract endoscopic findings and to determine the prevalence of *H. pylori* in CRF patients with dyspepsia. **STUDY DESIGN AND POPULATION:** A prospective study of seventy seven consecutive patients with CRF and dyspepsia compared with consecutive age, sex and socio-economically matched seventy seven controls (no CRF) with dyspepsia. **SETTING:** Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH), the major referral and teaching hospital, Nairobi, Kenya. **METHODS:** In both the study population and the controls, upper gastrointestinal endoscopy was carried out. *H. pylori* was tested for using the biopsy urease test and histology. Patients were considered to have *H. pylori* if they tested positive on both tests. **OUTCOME MEASURES:** Findings at endoscopy and presence of *H. pylori*. **RESULTS:** Inflammatory lesions (gastritis, duodenitis) (42%) and duodenal ulcers (18.4%) were the commonest findings in the two groups combined. The prevalence of *H. pylori* in the 154 subjects studied was 54.5%. There was no statistically significant difference between the prevalence of *H. pylori* in CRF patients (53.2%) and the controls (55.8%) ($p = 0.746$). Patients with endoscopically proven PUD had a very high prevalence of *H. pylori* (87.3%) regardless of their renal function status. **CONCLUSION:** Dyspepsia in patients with or without CRF was due to multiple causes and over 50% were attributable to *H. pylori*. The prevalence of *H. pylori* in dyspeptic CRF patients was similar to that in dyspeptic patients with normal renal function.