

## CHANGES IN PATTERNS OF DYSPEPSIA, PEPTIC ULCER DISEASE AND THE ROLE OF HELICOBACTER PYLORI IN A GENERAL POPULATION: THE SORREISA II STUDY

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**Objective:** To study changes of patterns of dyspepsia and peptic ulcer in a population-based study.

**Background:** The first The Sorreisa Study took place in 1987. The presented study is a follow-up of the Sorreisa I Study.

**Method:** A survey on dyspepsia and its possible risk factors was carried out among the total population aged 18-85 years in the municipality of Sorreisa in Norway in 2004. Together with a questionnaire we obtained stool samples for the detection of Hp infection. Out of 2387 persons 40.2% answered the survey, and 38.4% persons gave stool samples. A subgroup of 572 persons underwent gastroscopy.

**Results:** Dyspepsia was reported by 34% of the men and 33% of the women. Hp infection in women was found in 22% of the non-dyspeptics and in 30 % of the dyspeptics (in The Sorreisa I study Hp was found in 41% of non-dyspeptics and in 50 % of dyspeptics). In men Hp was found in 29% of the non-dyspeptics and in 18 % of the dyspeptics (in The Sorreisa I study Hp was found in 33% of non-dyspeptics and in 47 % of dyspeptics).

**Conclusion:** Dyspeptic symptoms are still common, affecting about 1/3 of the adult population of both genders, despite an overall fall in Helicobacter pylori prevalence. The association between Helicobacter pylori infection and dyspeptic symptoms is less clear now than in 1987. Other risk factors for peptic ulcer than Helicobacter pylori may be equally important.