



TOGAS – Towards gastric cancer screening implementation in the European Union – WP 4 pilot study 1

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OBJECTIVES

Helicobacter pylori is class I carcinogen responsible for 89% of non cardia gastric cancer.

PATIENTS AND METHODS

Screen and treat application study is ongoing in six EU countries in the asymptomatic age group of citizens from the age of 30 to 34 years. Four different locally validated *H. pylori* IgG serologies and / or UBT as a test were used. Quadruple bismuth based 14 day, a 10-day regimen with esomeprazole combined with bismuth quadruple therapy in a single-capsule or 14 day tripple eradication therapy were used as the first line therapy. RED Cap IT platform (pretreatment questionnaires, treatment protocols, side effects, compliance, complications...) was used to collect data for quality assurance, monitoring, and evaluation.

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RESULTS

The study is still ongoing. Interim results show a wide variation of response rates to the invitation (from 4,1% in Wrocław to 45,5% in Ljubljana). Seropositivity / UBT rates vary from 13,9% in Ljubljana to 49% in Latvia. The eradication rates are from 88,2% in Dublin to 96,9% in Ljubljana. No serious adverse events have been reported so far. The differences among study sites are in the organisation of invitations, educational campaigns and dissemination activities as well as in the time when study was launched in a certain country.

CONCLUSIONS

Careful study planning: legal, financial, technical, organisational aspect and public awareness campaigns should be implemented before launch of the study. Central data capture system is necessary to implement quality control monitoring. Education and public awareness campaign to increase the participation rate are of crucial importance.