# Prevalence And Factors Associated with Helicobacter Pylori Infection Among Children Below Twelve Years Attending Opd at Ogur H/C Iv In Lira District

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**Abstract**

The purpose of the study was to determine the prevalence and factors associated with H. pylori infection among children below twelve years attending OPD at Ogur H/C IV in Lira district.

**Background of the study**

Globally, the prevalence of H. pylori infection is estimated to be over 50%, with significantly higher rates observed in developing countries. The prevalence of H. pylori infection is very high in Sub-Saharan Africa; Studies have shown that rates might reach 70% in children.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional study was conducted on 312 randomly selected children below twelve years. A sample of blood from the finger was collected using a capillary tube and an enzyme immunoassay method was used to analyze the blood for the H. pylori antibodies. The study used quantitative methods to gather information on environmental/health related factors, caregivers' socioeconomic factors and socio demographic characteristics. Descriptive statistics and modified poison was used to analyze the level and factors associated with H. pylori infection.

**Results:** The study findings showed that the prevalence of H. pylori was 39.42% (123/ 312). The majority of the children were above five years (52.6%), With more males participating in the study (53.2%) compared to females (46.8%).

The multivariate analysis revealed that children from single-parent households had a significantly higher prevalence rate of H. pylori infection compared to those from married households (Adjusted PR = 1.36; 95% CI: 1.02–1.80; p = 0.033).

**Conclusion:** The prevalence of H. Pylori infection among children below twelve years was relatively high, with marital status and source of drinking water emerging as key factors associated with the infection

**Key words:** Prevalence, Helicobacter Pylori Infection, Children, Twelve Years, Opd