



**“Terve magu terveks eluks”**

## **Concept of Healthy Stomach.**

**Contemporary possibilities to investigate patients with gastric complaints with minimally invasive method: blood test panel with biomarkers**

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**Tallin 2015**

# Concept of healthy stomach

- Is stomach mucosa healthy or is it sick?
  - If sick - in which way is it ill?
  - *H. Pylori* (Hp) infection? Eradication of Hp?
  - Is atrophic gastritis present or not?
  - Is stomach possibly hypochlorhydric or even acid-free – or might it be hyperacid?
  - Might PPI be helpful – or malpractice?
  - Cancer risk and ulcer risk?
- does the patient need diagnostic endoscopy urgently?

# Clinical practice in Finland today

(age in mean 56 years; range 18-92 years)

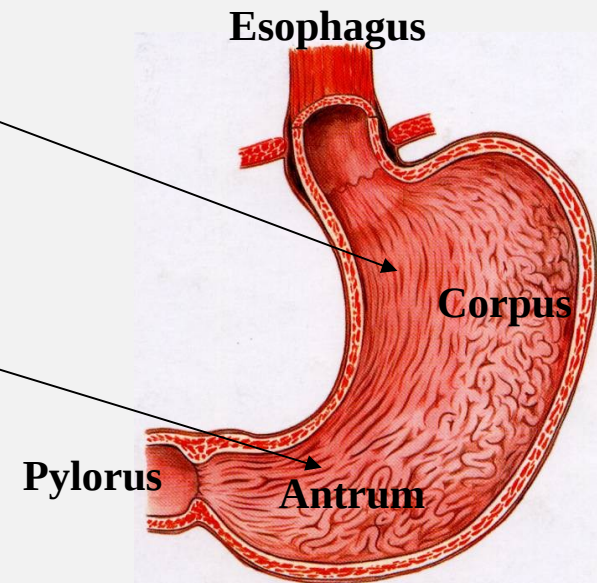
- Stomach mucosa is “sick”: 23%
- Stomach mucosa is “healthy”: 77%
- Severe atrophic corpus gastritis and acid free stomach occur in 3.5%
- PPI medication is prescribed to 13% of patients with acid free stomach - malpractice !?
- Reflux symptoms (GERD?) occur in 26% of patients with acid free stomach – risk of misdiagnosis !?

**GastroPanel® biomarker test for stomach health  
– if biomarker levels in blood plasma are normal,  
stomach mucosa is healthy**

**Pepsinogen I or Pepsinogen I /II -  
biomarkers of **corpus** (oxyntic)  
mucosa**

**Amidated gastrin - 17 - biomarker  
of **antrum** (antral G cells)**

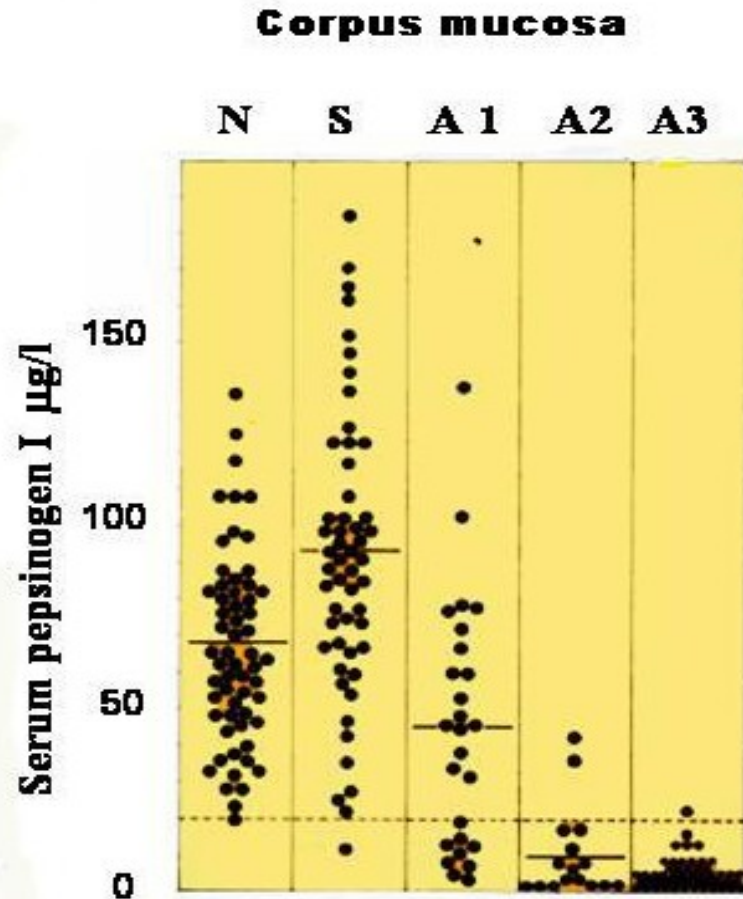
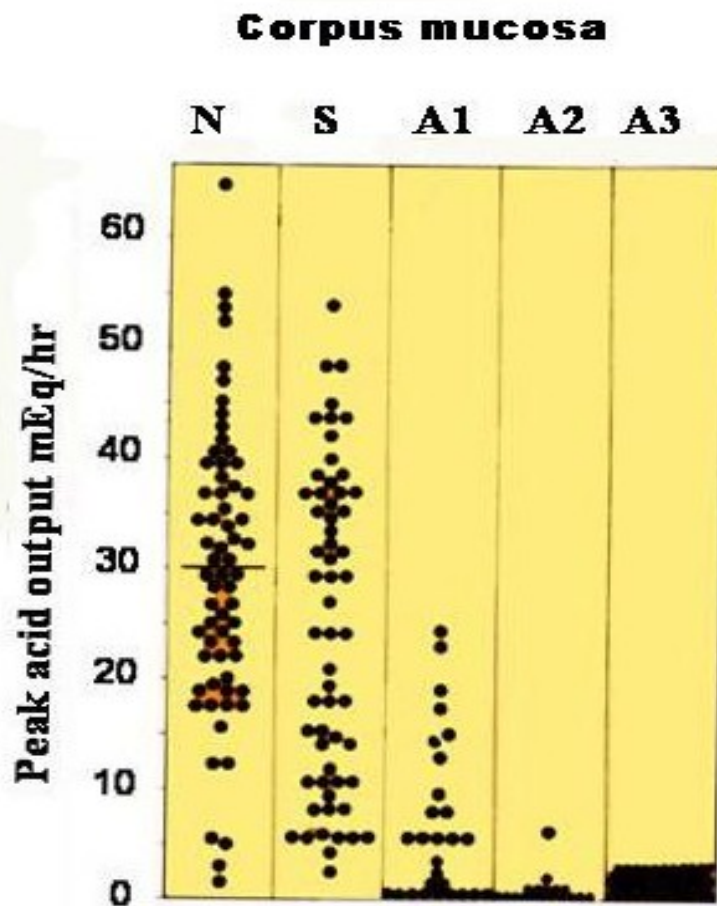
***H.pylori* antibodies - biomarker of  
**gastritis** (inflammation)**



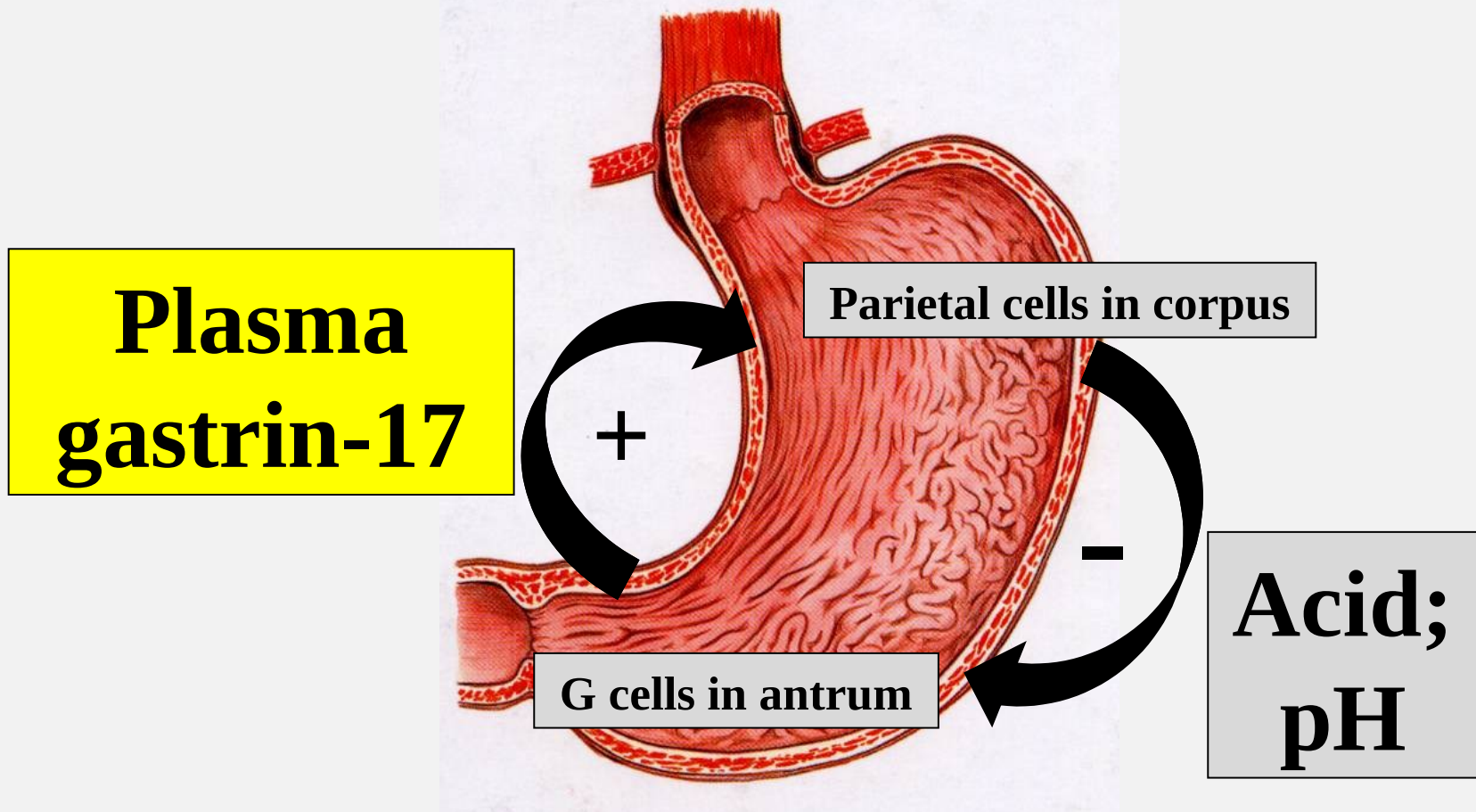
**Gastrin-17 is indicator of intragastric acidity. Plasma fasting gastrin-17 is high if the stomach is acid-free and low if hyperacid**

# Acid output and plasma pepsinogen I

(Normal =N; *H.pylori* gastritis without atrophy =S; mild, moderate or severe atrophic corpus =A1, A2, A3)



# Gastrin-17 and Control of Stomach Acid

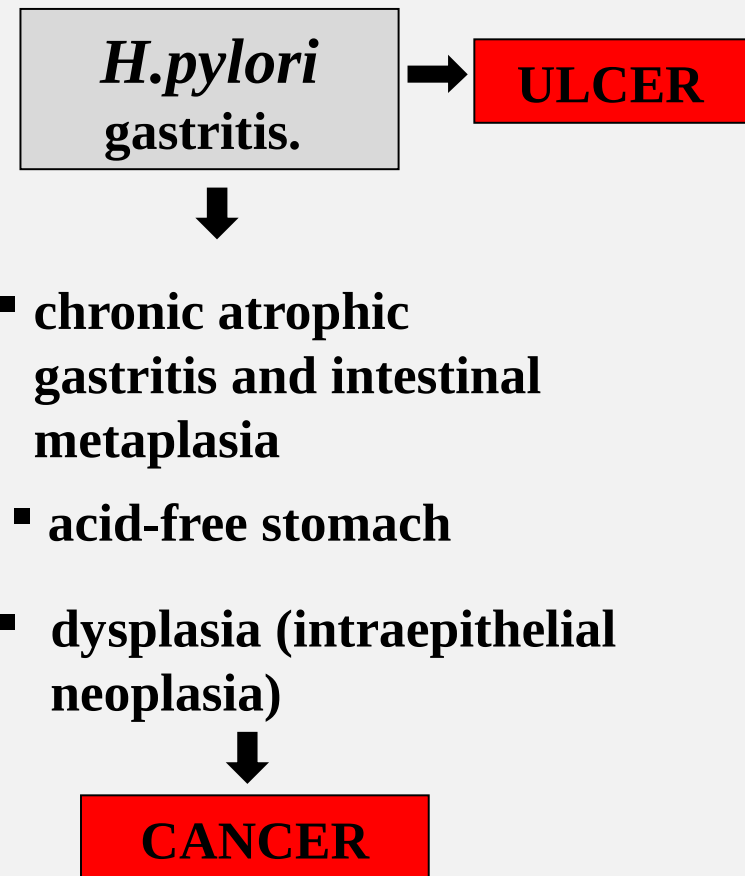
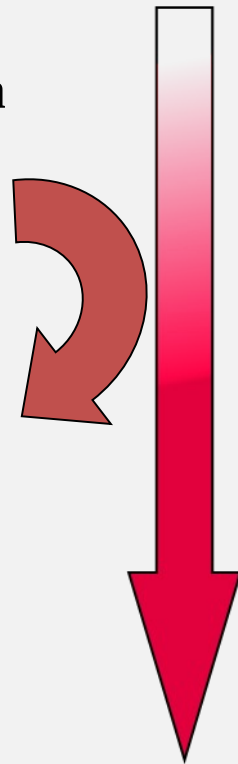


Normal fasting plasma level of G-17: **1-7 pmol/L**

# *H. Pylori* Infection and Chronic Gastritis “Correa Sequence”

- NaCl
- high pH
- microbe overgrowth
- N=O mutagens
- **acetaldehyde**

**gene errors**  
**accumulate**  
epigenetic factors



# RELATIVE RISK OF PEPTIC ULCER OR GASTRIC CANCER IN GASTRITIS

## ULCER RISK

corpus

N S A1 A2 A3

antrum

N	1	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
S	10	10	2	1	0.5
A1	22	22	3	2	1
A2	26	26	3	2	1
A3	26	26	3	2	1

## CANCER RISK

corpus

N S A1 A2 A3

antrum

N	1	1	1	2	5
S	1	2	2	2	5
A1	2	2	2	3	5
A2	2	2	4	5	10
A3	18	18	36	36	90

N=normal; S="superficial", non-atrophic gastritis; A1-A3=mild, moderate or severe atrophic gastritis, respectively. Sipponen et al. Int J Cancer 1985



# Three major clinical categories

- **Healthy (normal) stomach mucosa:**  
*Biomarker levels in blood plasma are normal*
- **Non-atrophic *H. pylori* (Hp+) gastritis:**  
*Only *H. pylori* antibodies exist*
- **Atrophic corpus gastritis (Hp+ or Hp-):**  
*Pepsinogen I <30  
μg/L and/or pepsinogen I/II ratio <3;  
if fasting G-17 is **high** (higher than 7 pmol/L): atrophic gastritis is in gastric corpus alone;  
if fasting G-17 is **low** (<7 pmol/L) : atrophic gastritis is in whole stomach*

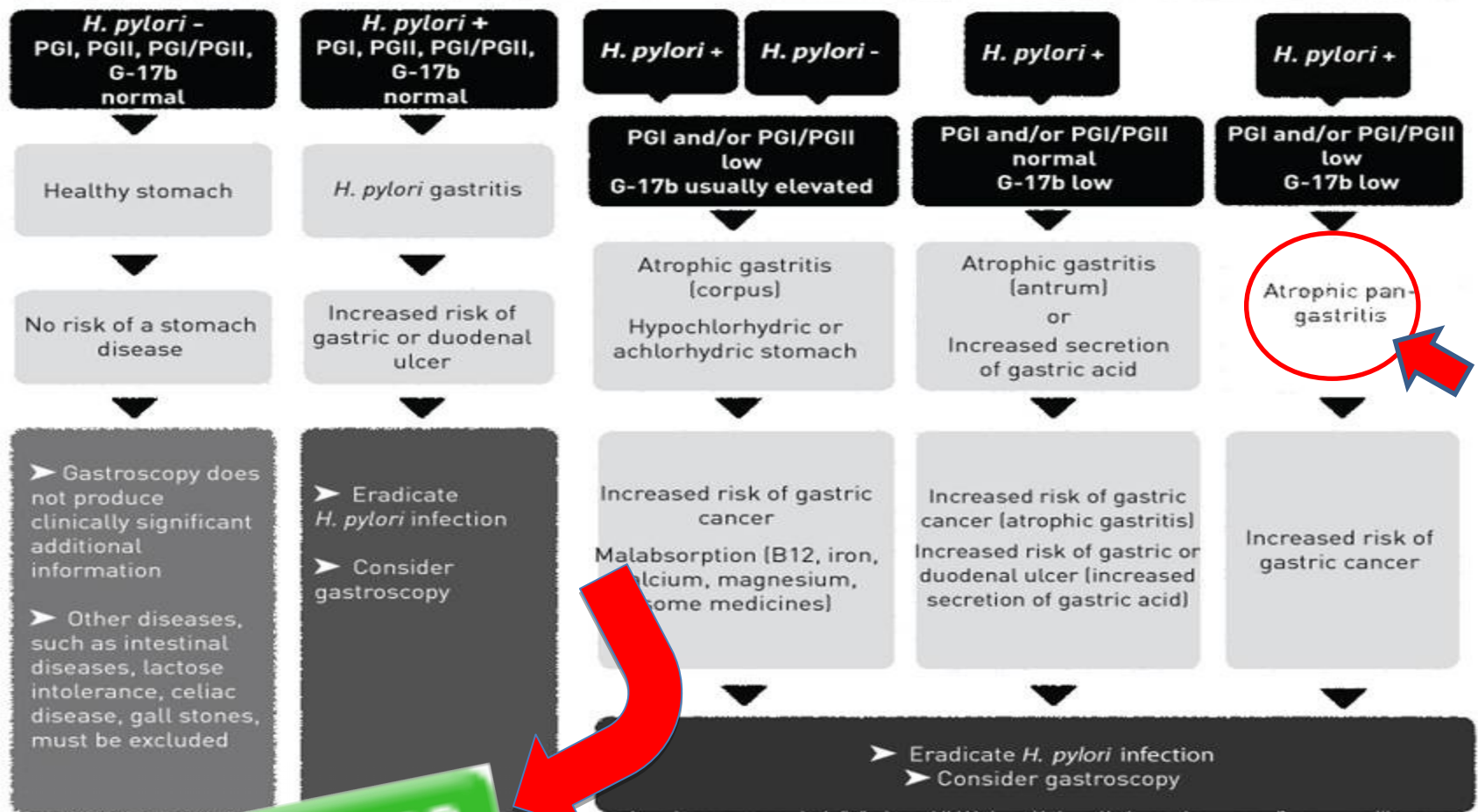
# Three major clinical categories

- **Healthy (normal) stomach mucosa:**  
*Minimal risk of gastric cancer or peptic ulcer*
- **Non-atrophic *H. pylori* (Hp+) gastritis:**  
*High ulcer risk, low cancer risk*
- **Atrophic corpus gastritis (Hp+ or Hp-):**  
*High cancer risk, no ulcer risk. Acid free stomach*
  - *Approximately 50% of all gastric cancer s occur in this category*
  - *High risk of malabsorption of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and micronutrients (e.g. calcium, iron, magnesium and zinc)*
  - *Unexpected absorptions of pharmaceuticals. Stomach is colonized with bacteria and fungi. Risk of pulmonary and gi infections. Acetaldehyde accumulates*

# Three major clinical categories

- **Healthy (normal) stomach mucosa:**  
*Instant gastroscopy is not mandatory except in cases with GERD (G-17 <2 pmol/L)*
- **Non-atrophic *H.pylori* (Hp+) gastritis:**  
*Eradication of *H.pylori* and gastroscopy thinkable*
- **Atrophic corpus gastritis (Hp+ or Hp-):**  
*Gastroscopy is mandatory because of the cancer risk.*  
*Eradication of *H. pylori* is recommended if Hp+.*  
*Acetium® is helpful in eradication of acetaldehyde*

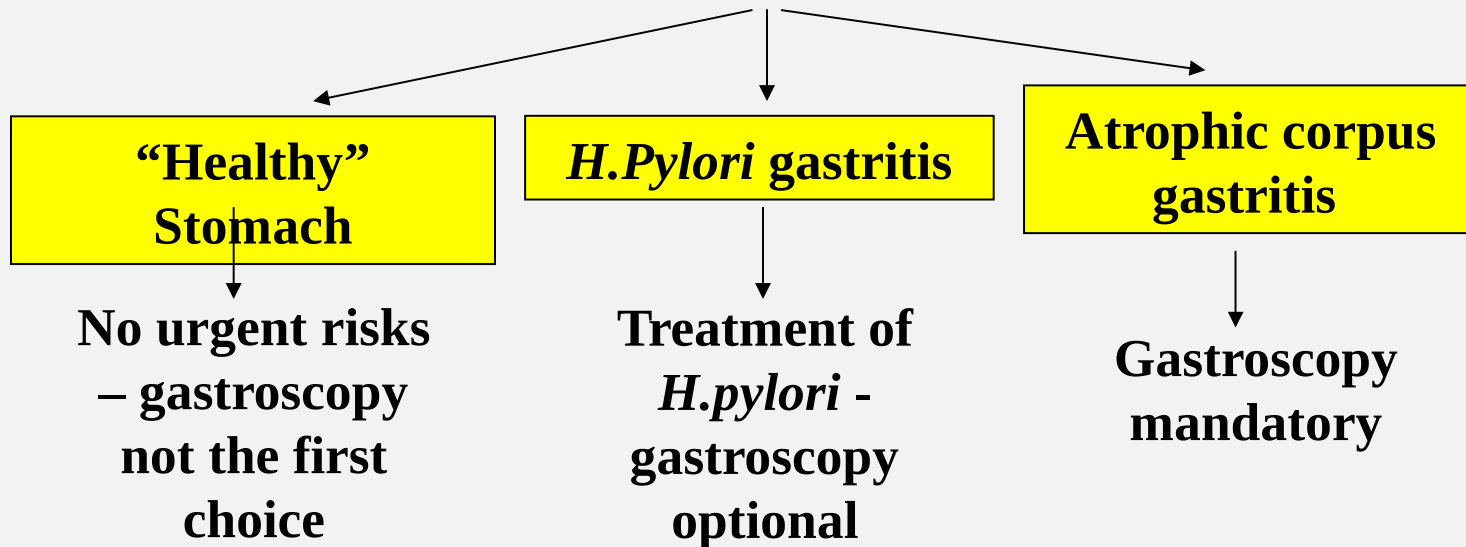
# Agreement among experts



Open Access

Agréus, Kuipers, Kupcinskas, Malfertheiner, DiMario, Leja, Mahachai, Niv, van Oijen, Perez-Perez, Rugge, Ronkainen, Salaspuro, Sipponen, Sugano, Sung.: Rationale in diagnosis and screening of atrophic gastritis with stomach-specific plasma biomarkers Scand J Gastroenterol 2012;47: 136–147.

# GastroPanel® - practice



**Developing populations (age 50 or more):**

**30%**

**50%**

**20%**

**Developed populations (age 50 or more):**

**70%**

**25%**

**5%**

# Biomarkers in cancer screening

## "Setti" screening study in Finland

Varis et al Scand J Gastroenterology 2000;35:950-6

Study population

22,431 smoking men  
age: 50-69 years

Pepsinogen I <25 microg/L  
(GastroPanel)

2,148 men  
9.5 %

Gastroscopy

1,344 men  
63 % (6 % of study population)

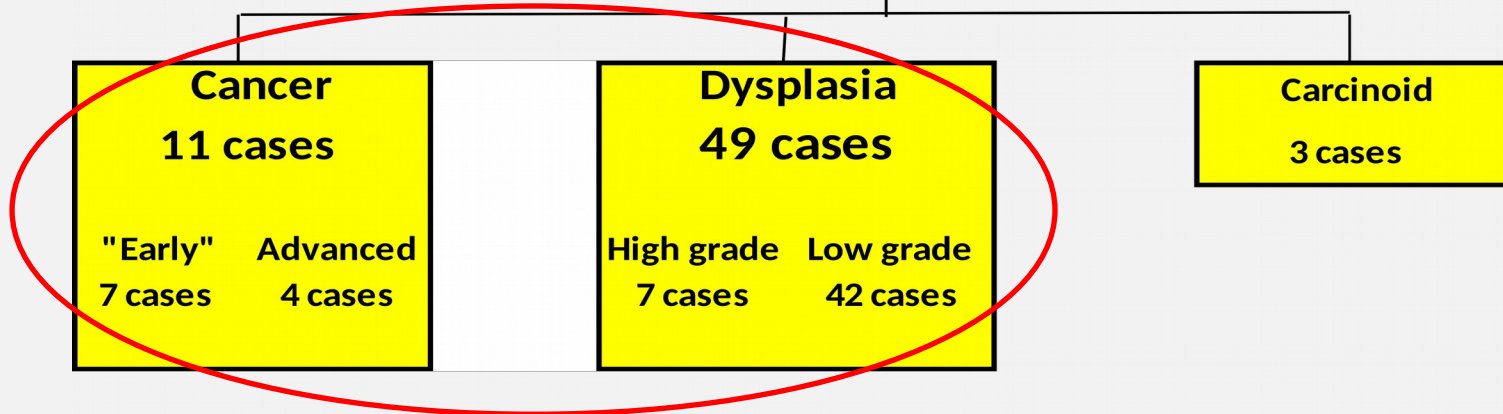
**Cancer**  
11 cases

"Early" 7 cases  
Advanced 4 cases

**Dysplasia**  
49 cases

High grade 7 cases  
Low grade 42 cases

**Carcinoid**  
3 cases



# "Kalixanda" population based study in Sweden. Accuracy of GastroPanel® 85%.

GastroPanel®	Endoscopy – biopsy histology			Total
	Normal	<i>H.pylori</i> gastritis	Atrophic corpus gastritis	
Number of cases				
Normal	<b>541</b>	34	4	579
<i>H.pylori</i> gastritis	64	<b>255</b>	24	343
Atrophic gastritis	5	15	<b>34</b>	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>976</b>

# GastroPanel<sup>®</sup> examination

***“Healthy” versus diseased (“sick” stomach mucosa):***

<b>Tohoku – Japan:</b>	<b>Accuracy :</b>	<b>94%</b>
	<b>Sensitivity:</b>	<b>95%</b>
	<b>Specificity:</b>	<b>93%</b>

***Atrophic gastritis versus non-atrophic gastritis***

<b>Kalixanda – Sweden:</b>	<b>Accuracy:</b>	<b>96%</b>
	<b>Sensitivity</b>	<b>71%</b>
	<b>Specificity</b>	<b>98%</b>



# GastroPanel<sup>®</sup>

- **Noninvasive and easy-to-use test**
- **Saves money**
- **Rationalizes diagnostics**
- **Enables screening of risk patients**
  
- **GastroPanel delineates reliably the patients with “healthy” stomach mucosa, i.e., those without significant risk of cancer or peptic ulcer!!**



**“Terve magu  
terveks  
eluks”**

**See in web: Healthy Stomach Initiative (HSI) Tallin 2015**