

Don't Blame *H. pylori* for Ulcers After Bypass

BY BRUCE JANCIN

GRAPEVINE, TEX. — *Helicobacter pylori* infection is not involved in marginal ulceration after laparoscopic Roux-en-Y gastric bypass, results from a large retrospective study suggest. Based on these findings, there is no justification to pharmacologically eradicate *H. pylori* to reduce postoperative risk of marginal ulcerations, Hea Jung Lee said

at the annual meeting of the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. She reported on 798 patients who underwent Roux-en-Y gastric bypass performed by a single surgeon; 98% of the operations were laparoscopic. The prevalence of *H. pylori* by intraoperative mucosal biopsy was 16%; the infected patients did not undergo treatment. Marginal ulcerations developed in 42

patients an average of 7 months postoperatively, with 69% of cases occurring within 6 months. The prevalence of intraoperative *H. pylori* infection was 9.5% in patients who went on to develop marginal ulcerations and 16.4% in those who did not, strongly suggesting that *H. pylori* is not related to marginal ulcer formation, said Ms. Lee of the school of biosciences at the University of California, Irvine. The marginal ulcerations were her-

alded by new-onset upper gastric pain progressing over several weeks. About 62% of affected patients underwent endoscopy to confirm the diagnosis; the rest were treated presumptively. All patients responded to treatment with a proton pump inhibitor and discontinuation of smoking and NSAID use. However, one-third of patients experienced recurrent symptoms upon stopping the PPI, continuing to smoke, or taking NSAIDs. ■

Indication

Humalog (insulin lispro injection [rDNA origin]) is for use in patients with diabetes mellitus for the control of hyperglycemia. Humalog should be used with longer-acting insulin, except when used in combination with sulfonyleureas in patients with type 2 diabetes.

Important Safety Information

Humalog is contraindicated during episodes of hypoglycemia and in patients sensitive to Humalog or one of its excipients.

Humalog differs from regular human insulin by its rapid onset of action as well as a shorter duration of action. Therefore, when used as a mealtime insulin, Humalog should be given within 15 minutes before or immediately after a meal.

Due to the short duration of action of Humalog, patients with type 1 diabetes also require a longer-acting insulin to maintain glucose control (except when using an insulin pump). Glucose monitoring is recommended for all patients with diabetes.

The safety and effectiveness of Humalog in patients less than 3 years of age have not been established. There are no adequate and well-controlled clinical studies of the use of Humalog in pregnant or nursing women.

Starting or changing insulin therapy should be done cautiously and only under medical supervision.

Hypoglycemia

Hypoglycemia is the most common adverse effect associated with insulins, including Humalog. Hypoglycemia can happen suddenly, and symptoms may be different for each person and may change from time to time. Severe hypoglycemia can cause seizures and may be life-threatening.

Other Side Effects

Other potential side effects associated with the use of insulins include: hypokalemia, weight gain, lipodystrophy, and hypersensitivity. Systemic allergy is less common, but may be life-threatening. Because of the difference in action of Humalog, care should be taken in patients in whom hypoglycemia or hypokalemia may be clinically relevant (eg, those who are fasting, have autonomic neuropathy or renal impairment, are using potassium-lowering drugs, or taking drugs sensitive to serum potassium level).

For additional safety profile and other important prescribing considerations, see accompanying Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information.

Please see full user manual that accompanies the pen.

Humalog® is a registered trademark of Eli Lilly and Company and is available by prescription only. Humalog® KwikPen™ is a trademark of Eli Lilly and Company and is available by prescription only. Humulin® is a registered trademark of Eli Lilly and Company.

