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## Melatonin as adjuvant therapy for improving *Helicobacter pylori* eradication rate

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Eradication of *H. pylori* can lead to reduction in the recurrence of peptic ulcer diseases and prevention of gastric cancer. The failure in eradication of *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) using standard treatments is a common concern all over the world. We evaluated additive effects of melatonin combined with a quadruple therapy for the eradication of *H. pylori*. This is a double-blind, placebo-controlled and randomized clinical trial. The trial comprises a 14-day, quadruple eradication regimen (omeprazole 20 mg twice daily; bismuth subsalicylate 525 mg four times daily; amoxicillin 1000 mg twice daily; and metronidazole 500 mg twice daily) supplemented with melatonin 3 mg/d (MEL group) or a comparable placebo (placebo group). A total number of 118 patients underwent the process of randomization. Eradication rates of intention to treat analysis (ITT; n=118) were 73% in the MEL group and 65% in the placebo group. Eradication rates of per protocol analysis (PP; n=98) were 80% and 79% in the MEL and placebo groups, respectively. There is no significant difference between the two groups either by ITT or PP analysis (p=0.74 and p=0.91, respectively). According to the result of the trial, MEL 3 mg/d for 14 days does not have an additive effect on the eradication of *H. pylori* infection.