

### Protein-specific antibodies to Helicobacter pylori as a marker of disease risk

NCI Division of Cancer Control and Population Science 2014
New Grantee Workshop

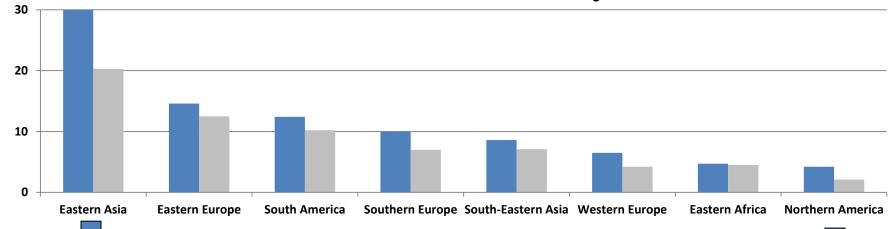
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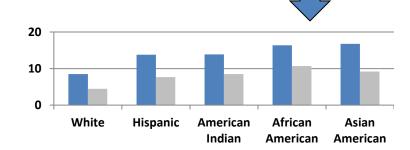
#### Gastric Cancer

- 4<sup>th</sup> most common cancer worldwide (1 million new cases a year)
- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> most common cause of death from cancer

#### Gastric cancer incidence and mortality in 2008



|           | Numbers | ASR (W) |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| World     | 988,602 | 14.0    |
| East Asia | 601,314 | 30.0    |
| China     | 464,349 | 29.9    |
| Japan     | 102,040 | 31.1    |
| Korea     | 27,098  | 41.4    |

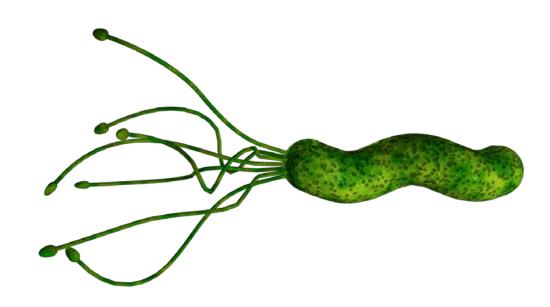


#### Gastric Cancer Risk Factors

- Age ↑
- Diet
  - Fruits (vegetables) ↓
  - Salt, salty food (red and processed meat) ↑
- Smoking ↑
- Low socio-economic status ↑
- Familial predisposition ↑
  - 2-3 fold increased likelihood

### Helicobacter pylori (H. pylori)

- Gram-negative, spiral microaerophilic bacterium
- Infects >50% world population
- Mode of transmission is uncertain
  - Humans are the only known reservoirs
- Class I human carcinogen
  - Increases risk of gastric cancer at least 6-fold
  - Single agent responsible for the greatest burden of infectionassociated cancers



### H. pylori and gastric cancer risk

- Meta-analysis of H. pylori eradication trials showed that eradication therapy reduced gastric cancer risk by 35%
- Why not mass eradication?
  - Majority of those infected will not develop cancer
  - Antibiotic resistance
  - Potential benefits of infection
- Need: a biomarker to identify those at higher risk
  - CagA
  - In China, the majority of the population are CagA+ H. pylori+

## K07: *H. pylori* blood biomarker for gastric cancer risk

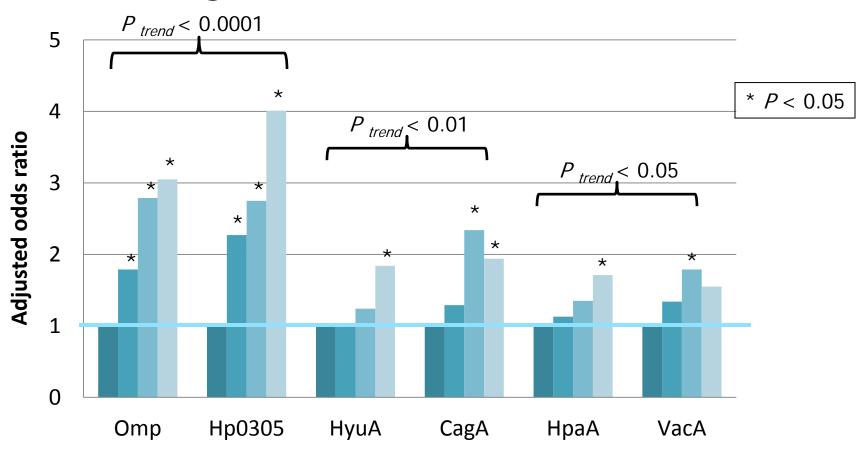
AIM: To examine associations between serum antibodies to 15 *H. pylori* proteins and gastric cancer risk in China, as a potential new risk marker

- Population: Shanghai Men's Health Study
  - Nested case-control study among 61,582 men
  - 40-74 yrs at baseline in 2002-2006
- Outcome: Distal gastric cancer
  - 226 cases and 451 matched controls
- Method: H. pylori multiplex serology
  - Developed at the German Cancer Research Center to detect antibodies to 15 *H. pylori* proteins
  - Previously examined in relation to gastric cancer risk in only 1 study, a case-control study in Germany

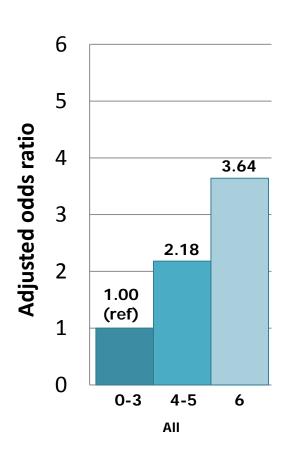
### Results

|   | <u>GERMANY</u> | _   | <u>SMHS</u> |     | SMHS, excluding | early cases |
|---|----------------|-----|-------------|-----|-----------------|-------------|
|   | CagA           | 5.6 | CagA        | 1.7 | CagA            | 3.6         |
|   | GroEL          | 4.7 | GroEL       | 1.2 | GroEL           | 1.4         |
| _ | НсрС           | 3.0 | НсрС        | 1.0 | НсрС            | 1.1         |
|   | HP 0305        | 2.3 | HP 0305     | 2.3 | HP 0305         | 2.5         |
|   | Catalase       | 2.2 | Catalase    | 1.0 | Catalase        | 1.0         |
|   | VacA           | 2.2 | VacA        | 1.6 | VacA            | 2.4         |
|   | Cag16          | 1.9 | Cag16       | 1.1 | Cag16           | 1.2         |
|   | HyuA           | 1.6 | HyuA        | 1.5 | HyuA            | 1.4         |
|   | Omp            | 1.4 | Omp         | 3.0 | Omp             | 4.4         |
|   | HP 0231        | 1.1 | HP 0231     | 1.0 | HP 0231         | 1.0         |
|   | NapA           | 1.4 | NapA        | 1.3 | NapA            | 1.4         |
|   | Cad            | 1.1 | Cad         | 0.9 | Cad             | 1.1         |
|   | UreA           | 0.8 | UreA        | 0.9 | UreA            | 1.0         |
|   | Cag3           | 1.3 | Cag3        | 0.7 | Cag3            | 0.9         |
|   | HpaA           | 0.8 | НраА        | 1.5 | НраА            | 1.9         |
|   |                |     |             |     |                 |             |

# Increasing quartile of antibody level to specific *H. pylori* proteins and gastric cancer risk



## Number of sero-positives and gastric cancer risk



Phase I: Replicate our findings in 8 cohorts from China, Japan, and Korea, utilizing blood samples from 2,000 cases and 2,000 controls

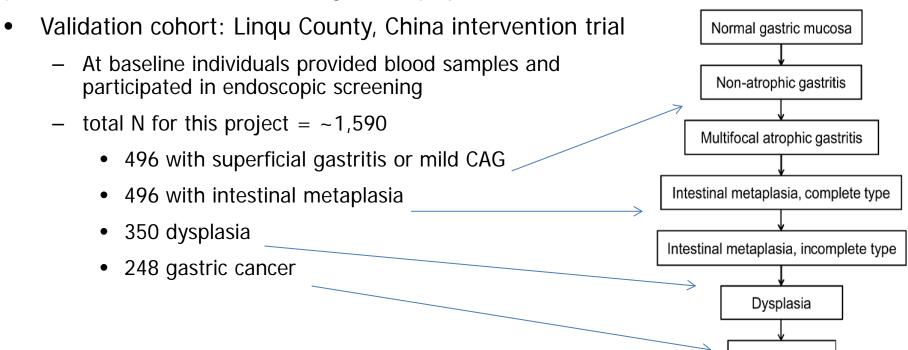
| Cohort name                            | Location                            | <b>Cohort size</b> | Age   | Cases |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|
| CHINA                                  |                                     |                    |       |       |
| Shanghai Men's Health Study            | Vanderbilt University               | 61,500             | 40-74 | 150   |
| Shanghai Women's Health Study          | Vanderbilt University               | 74,942             | 40-70 | 375   |
| Nutrition Intervention Trial - Linxian | Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences | 33,000             | 40-69 | 300   |
| JAPAN                                  |                                     |                    |       |       |
| Japan Public Health Center-based       | National Cancer Center, Japan       | 90,296             | 45-74 | 450   |
| Prospective Study                      |                                     |                    |       |       |
| KOREA                                  |                                     |                    |       |       |
| Korean Multicenter Cancer Cohort       | Seoul National University           | 19,688             | 37-83 | 300   |
| Korean National Cancer Screenee Cohort | National Cancer Center, Korea       | 34,211             | 30+   | 200   |
| Health Examinees Study                 | Seoul National University           | 155,000            | 40-69 | 150   |
| Korean Cancer Prevention Study-II      | Yonsei University                   | 156,795            | 21-95 | 300   |
| Total                                  |                                     |                    |       | 2,000 |

Phase II: Determine if host factors of inflammation or susceptibility to inflammation add predictive value in assessing cancer risk

- Urinary prostaglandin-E<sub>2</sub>, the end product of the COX-2 pathway
- Pepsinogen I/II ratio, a measure of degree of gastric atrophy

Phase III: To build a predictive model for gastric cancer risk in East Asia

Phase IV: To validate the model among individuals with both cancer and precancerous lesions in a high-risk population



Cancer

#### Public Health Relevance

- Identify individuals with a 10-20% absolute lifetime risk
- Targeted for *H. pylori* eradication therapy
- Individuals with low-risk H. pylori excluded for intervention
- Numbers, in China alone:
  - 250 million residents >40 years old; 90% H. pylori+

50 million high-risk; 200 million excluded from treatment

#### <u>Year 1 (July 1, 2013 – present)</u>

| • | First meeting of on-site | (Vanderbilt) Co-Is | Sept. 5, 2013 |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
|---|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------|

| • | Study Protocol draft completed | Sept. 15, 2013 |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------|
|---|--------------------------------|----------------|

| • | First conference | call of international collaborato | rs Oct. 1, 2013 |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
|---|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|

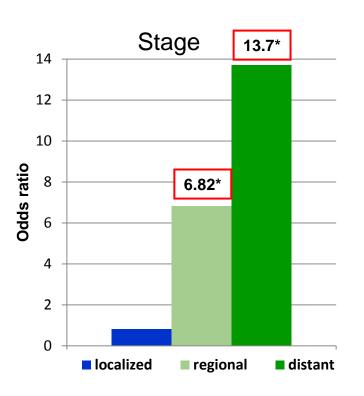
| • | PI trip to Japan to meet with collaborators | Nov. 10-14, 2013 |
|---|---------------------------------------------|------------------|
|---|---------------------------------------------|------------------|

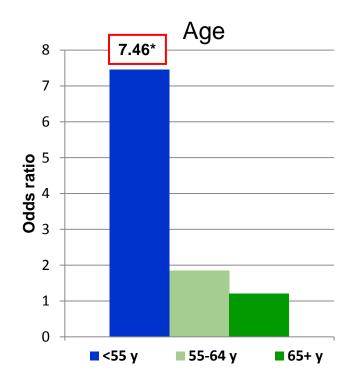
- Study Protocol completed and disseminated
   Dec. 2, 2013
- Baseline questionnaires collected
   Ongoing
- Data Use Agreements for each site signed
   Ongoing
  - Then baseline data to be sent to Vanderbilt and data harmonization begins
- Biospecimen shipment to lab for assaying

[Spring 2014]

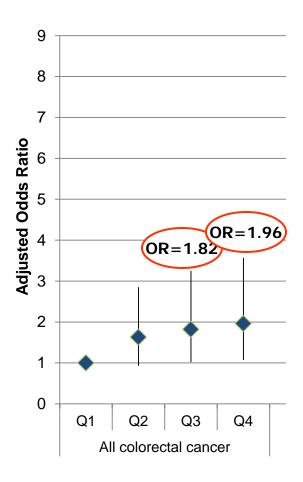
### H. pylori and Colorectal Cancer Risk:Preliminary Data/Outcomes

- SCCS Southern Community Cohort Study
- In a **prospective, nested case-control study** (188 cases, 370 controls), sero-positivity to 5 *H. pylori* proteins increased the odds of colorectal cancer incidence
  - VacA, HP 231, HP 305, NapA, and HcpC (ORs 1.46 to 1.64)
- These associations were even stronger for **colon cancer**, separately:
  - VacA OR = 2.22 (1.22 4.06)
- There were strong differences in the VacA+ association with colon cancer by:

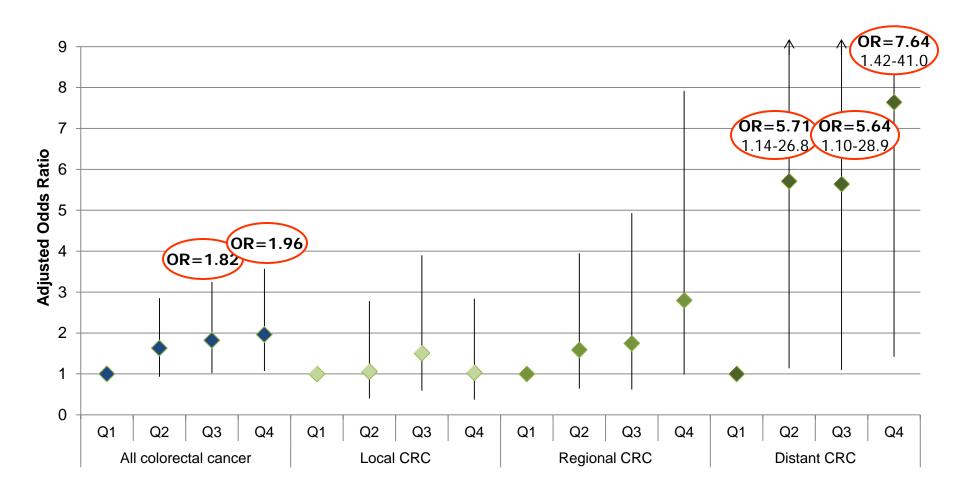




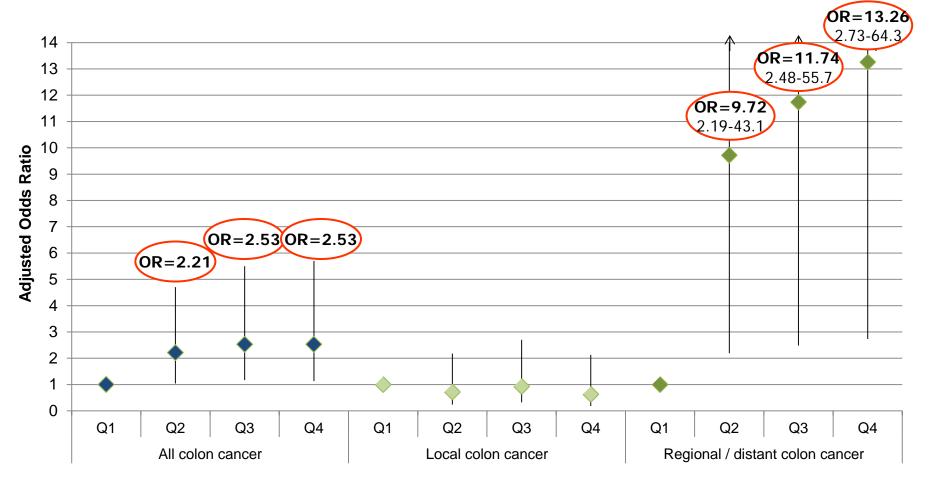
### Odds ratios of colorectal cancer risk by quartile of VacA antibodies



### Odds ratios of colorectal cancer risk by quartile of VacA antibodies, by stage



## Odds ratios of **colon** cancer risk by quartile of VacA antibodies, by stage



## New R01: *H. pylori* protein-specific antibodies and colorectal cancer risk

Consortium of 10 prospective studies comprising >4,000 CRC cases, to definitively evaluate the association by site, stage, age of onset, lag time

| Cohort name                                                | Cohort description                                                                                        | Cases |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Multiethnic Cohort Study (MEC)                             | Individuals of Hawaiian, Japanese, African, Latino and Caucasian ancestry from Hawaii and Los Angeles, CA | 900   |
| Women's Health Initiative (WHI)                            | Post-menopausal women from 40 clinical centers nationwide                                                 | 807   |
| Prostate, Lung, Colorectal, Ovarian Screening Study (PLCO) | Participants in a nation-wide screening trial in 10 large cities across the US (including Honolulu)       | 718   |
| CLUE II                                                    | Residents of suburban Washington County, Maryland                                                         | 526   |
| Nurses' Health Study (NHS)                                 |                                                                                                           | 400   |
| Physicians' Health Study (PHS)                             | Medical professionals from over 14 states                                                                 | 250   |
| Health Professionals Follow-up (HPFS)                      |                                                                                                           |       |
| NYU Womens' Health Study (NYUWHS)                          | Women visiting a breast screening center in NYC                                                           | 388   |
| Cancer Prevention Studies (CPS)                            | Healthy individuals from 21 states recruited by the ACS                                                   | 300   |
| Southern Community Cohort Study (SCCS)                     | Low-income African Americans and whites in the southeast US, recruited from community health clinics      | 150   |



### Thank you!

#### **VUMC – Epidemiology**

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