H. Pylori infection should be eradicated in most infected patients

Chairperson: Henry Cohen, Uruguay
Pro: Menachem Moshkowitz, Israel
Con: Haim Sharin, Israel
"Helicobacter pylori has a reputation for causing ulcers and cancer. Hunting it to extinction, however, may be a mistake"

Martin Blaser, microbiologist, New York University School of Medicine
Does *Helicobacter pylori* protect against asthma and allergy?

Martin J Blaser, Yu Chen, Joan Reibman
Gut, May 2008 Vol 57 No 5

“An inverse association of *H. pylori* and childhood asthma, allergic rhinitis and atopy is becoming increasingly obvious…
The continuing beneficial associations of *H. pylori* with reduction of risk for oesophageal diseases (including malignancy)… and possibly with obesity and diabetes, should be considered in *H. pylori* treatment…
It is possible that for most individuals, *H. pylori* is beneficial in childhood and more deleterious later in life…”
“Some have suggested that the long association of *H. pylori* with humans means there must be a benefit and suggest dire consequences will follow its eradication...The dire consequence hypotheses have proven to be erroneous attempts to blame some of the problems facing the modern world on a pathogen that was and is responsible for much suffering, morbidity, and mortality. *It is time to join together to eradicate it and to let* *H. pylori* *join smallpox and polio on the hit list of undesirables*”