"When it is not..." series - Dr Maxwell Asante

When it is not Helicobacter Pylori.

Abdominal symptoms are often thought to be due to Helicobacter pylori (a bacteria infection of the stomach lining). It can cause duodenal ulcers in 5-10% of infected individuals but in the vast majority of people it is asymptomatic. An incorrect attribution of symptoms to Helicobacter pylori can often lead to delayed diagnosis and treatment of the true underlying cause.

Helicobacter pylori is unlikely to cause:



HEARTBURN AND SWALLOWING DIFFICULTIES

BLOATING AND FLATULENCE

CONSTIPATION AND DIARRHOEA

WEIGHT LOSS WITHOUT CENTRAL UPPER ABDOMINAL PAIN

SEVERE ANAEMIA WITHOUT
CENTRAL UPPER ABDOMINAL
PAIN

JAUNDICE

If your digestive/ abdominal symptoms have any of these characteristics and it has been diagnosed as Helicobacter pylorithen please discuss with your doctor or see a gastroenterologist.

www.consultantgastroneterologist.co.uk