

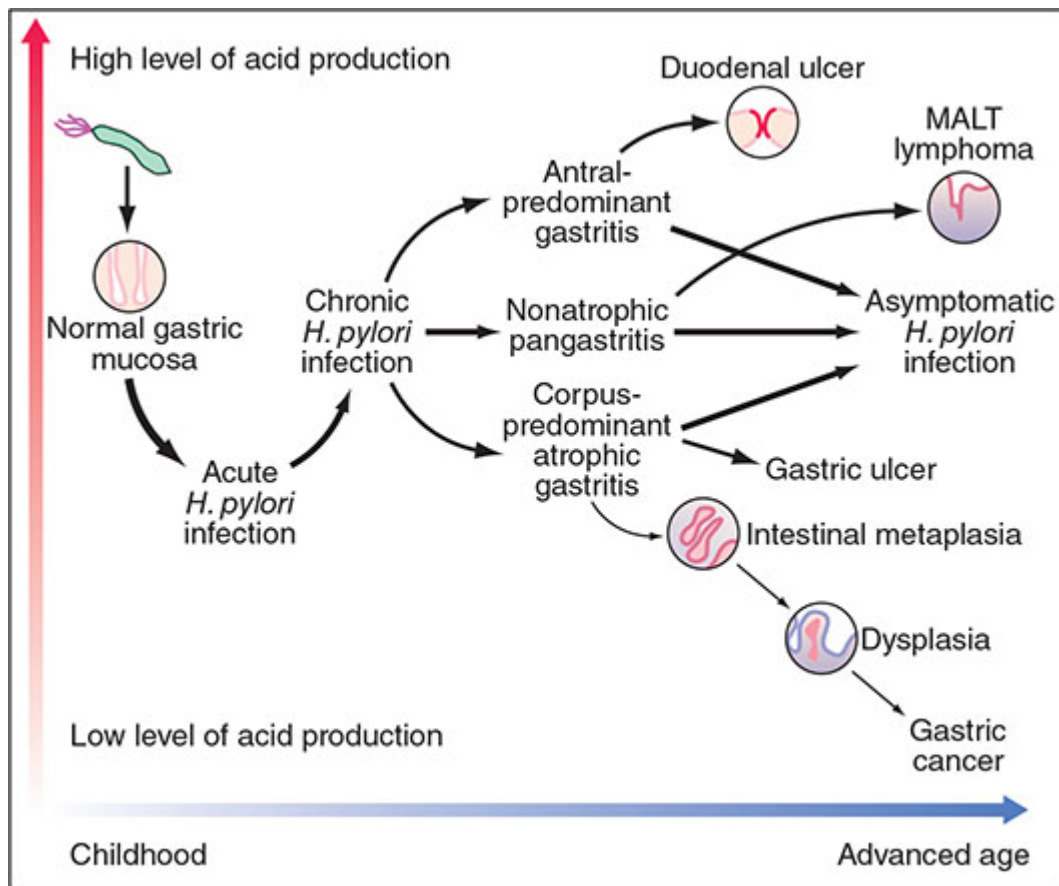


FIGURE 324-8 Natural history of *H. pylori* infection. MALT, mucosal-associated lymphoid tissue. (From S Suerbaum, P Michetti: *Helicobacter pylori* infection. *N Engl J Med* 347:1175, 2002. Copyright © 2002 Massachusetts Medical Society. Reprinted with permission from Massachusetts Medical Society.)

NSAID-INDUCED DISEASE

Epidemiology NSAIDs represent a group of the most commonly used medications in the world and the United States. It is estimated that 7 billion dollars per year are spent on NSAIDs worldwide, with >30 billion over-the-counter tablets sold. More than 30 million individuals take NSAIDs, with >100 million prescriptions sold yearly in the United States alone. In fact, after the introduction of COX-2 inhibitors in the year 2000, the number of prescriptions written for NSAIDs was >111 million at a cost of \$4.8 billion. Side effects and complications due to NSAIDs are considered the most common drug-related toxicities in the United States. The spectrum of NSAID-induced morbidity ranges from nausea and dyspepsia (prevalence reported