CLAIMS

1. A peptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 1 to SEQ ID NO 5, said peptide consisting of at most 10 amino acids, wherein the peptide is capable of being used to diagnose a *Helicobacter pylori* infection.

2. The peptide according to claim 1 where the sequence is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2-5.

3. The peptide according to claim 1 or 2 where the peptide consists of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO 1 to SEQ ID NO 5.

4. A kit comprising a peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 3.

5. A method of diagnosis comprising the steps of
a) providing a sample from a subject, where the sample is a sample from of blood, serum, plasma, saliva, mucosal secretion, ascites fluid, or gastric tissue,
b) contacting said sample with a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2 to SEQ ID NO 5, said peptide consisting of at most 25 amino acids, or a peptide consisting of SEQ ID NO 1,
c) detecting specific binding of antibodies in the sample to the peptide where the method is used for detection of Helicobacter pylori infection or for the prediction of risk for gastric cancer.

6. The method according to claim 5 where the sequence is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2 to SEQ ID NO 5.

7. Use of a therapeutic agent in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention of a *Helicobacter pylori*-induced gastric cancer in a subject, wherein the subject has been

previously diagnosed with the *Helicobacter pylori*-induced gastric cancer using the diagnosis method of any one of claims 5 to 6.

8. The use of claim 7 where the therapeutic agent includes at least two antibiotics selected from the group consisting of macrolides, beta-lactams, nitroimidazoles, tetracyclines and fluoroquinolones.

9. The use of claim 8 where the therapeutic agent includes a proton pump inhibitor.

10. A method of detecting H. pylori CagA-binding antibodies in a sample from a subject, the method comprising contacting a biological sample with a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2 to SEQ ID NO 5, said peptide consisting of at most 25 amino acids, or a peptide consisting of SEQ ID NO 1, and detecting binding of antibodies in the sample to the peptide.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the sample is a blood, serum, plasma or gastric tissue sample.