CLAIMS

1. A peptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 1 to SEQ ID NO 7, said peptide consisting of at most 10 amino acids.

2. The peptide according to claim 1 where the sequence is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2-7.

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 7.

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 or similar bodily fluid or tissue,
b) contacting said sample with a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 1 to SEQ ID NO 7, said peptide consisting of at most 25 amino acids,
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. A method for prevention of *Helicobacter pylori* -induced gastric cancer comprising using the diagnosis method of any one of claims 5 to 6 to determine that the subject has a Helicobacter pylori infection, and then treating the infection.

8. The method of claim 7 where the treatment involves administering at least two antibiotics selected from the group consisting of macrolides, beta-lactams, nitroimidazoles, tetracyclines and fluoroquinolones.

9. The method of claim 8 where the treatment involves administration of a proton pump inhibitor to the subject.

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 1 to SEQ ID NO 7, said peptide consisting of at most 25 amino acids, 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.