Appendix A. Systematic review flowchart.

Records identified through database searching (PubMed®) (n=13497)

Records after duplicates removed (n=13497)

Records screened (n=13497)  Records excluded (n=9105)

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n=4392)

Studies included in the systematic review (n=98)

Full-text articles excluded (n=4285)
- 40 not involving humans
- 807 non-eligible publication types
- 3089 studies not recruiting specific occupational groups or not providing the prevalence of *H. pylori* infection in specific occupational groups
- 99 including only *H. pylori* infected subjects
- 112 with data not related to *H. pylori* prevalence or addressing other outcomes
- 68 with non-systematic assessment of *H. pylori* infection in biological samples
- 70 multiple reports of the same study or studies evaluating the same sample
a Search expression (from inception to September 2015): (Helicobacter pylori OR campylobacter pylori) AND (incidence OR prevalence OR "risk factors" OR determinants OR (lifestyle OR lifestyles) OR (tobacco OR smoking OR cigarette OR smoke) OR ("dietary pattern" OR "dietary patterns" OR "eating pattern" OR "eating patterns" OR "food pattern" OR "food patterns") OR (diet OR fruits OR vegetables OR antioxidants) OR (alcohol OR drinking) OR (salt OR salted OR nacl OR "sodium chloride" OR sodium OR "processed meat" OR "salt preserved foods" OR "smoked food") OR coffee OR tea OR (obes* OR "body mass index" OR bmi OR overweight) OR (diabetes OR glycemia OR hyperglycemia OR "impaired fasting glucose" OR IFG OR "impaired glucose tolerance") OR (crowding OR overcrowding) OR ("socioeconomic status" OR "socioeconomic level" OR ses OR "blood type" OR "blood group" OR "lewis antigen")) NOT (animals[mh] NOT humans[mh]).

b Including nine full-text articles referring to occupational groups in the title or abstract which we were unable to retrieve.