

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO 4TH ANNUAL ADVANCED PROCEDURES IN INTERVENTIONAL ENDOSCOPY

VIRTUAL MASTERCLASS AND WORKSHOP 2021

A focused learning experience designed for newer techniques in
Interventional Endoscopy:

- POEM
- ESD
- ENDOSCOPIC SUTURING

- INTERVENTIONAL EUS
- BARIATRIC ENDOSCOPY
- ADVANCED RESECTION PLATFORMS
- ANTI-REFLUX ENDOSCOPY

Saturday November 13, 2021
8am-4:30pm MST
Zoom Webinar



MIHIR WAGH, MD, FACG, FASGE

Associate Professor of Medicine

Head, Endoscopic Surgery and Tissue Apposition University of Colorado
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Aurora, Colorado



Dr. Mihir Wagh is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Head of Endoscopic Surgery and Tissue Apposition in the Division of Gastroenterology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Wagh trained in Gastroenterology at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston. He then pursued advanced fellowships in Interventional Endoscopy including Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS) and pancreatobiliary endoscopy (ERCP) at the University of Chicago and Indiana University.

Dr. Wagh specializes in flexible endoscopic surgery (Third Space Endoscopy [POEM, G-POEM and Z-POEM], endoscopic resection [EMR, ESD] and endoscopic suturing), as well as pancreatobiliary endoscopy (ERCP and EUS), with an emphasis on novel and emerging endoscopy.

Dr. Wagh has written more than 100 scientific papers, reviews, editorials and book chapters. He has written a book on "Pancreatic masses" and his most recent book "Gastrointestinal Interventional Endoscopy-Advanced Techniques" was just published recently. He has performed interventional endoscopy at multiple national and international live endoscopy courses and conferences. He just finished his term as Chair of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) Training Committee and currently serves on the ASGE Advanced Endoscopy Committee, ASGE Research Committee, and the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) Practice Parameters Committee.



PAUL MENARD-KATCHER, MD

Associate Professor
Luminal Section Chief
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology



Dr. Paul Menard-Katcher is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Director at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Menard-Katcher trained in Gastroenterology at the University of Pennsylvania prior to joining the faculty at the University of Colorado in 2012.

Dr. Menard-Katcher specializes in esophagology with a particular interest in esophageal physiology diagnostics including high resolution esophageal manometry, functional lumen imaging probe (EndoFLIP) as well as ambulatory reflux testing.

Dr. Menard-Katcher is a frequent participant in both multi-center collaborative research projects as well as mentoring scholarly activities with trainees. He currently serves on the American Gastroenterological Association's Intraining exam subcommittee. In his free time, Paul enjoys spending time with his wife (a pediatric gastroenterologist) and 2 young boys. He is an avid skier, trail runner and fly fisherman.



HIROYUKI AIHARA, MD, PHD, FACG, FASGE, FJGES

Associate Physician
Director, Endoscopic Tissue Resection Program
Gastroenterology Division
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Associate Professor of Medicine Harvard Medical School



Dr. Hiroyuki Aihara is currently Director of Endoscopic Tissue Resection in Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Endoscopy at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) and Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Aihara is an international expert in a minimally invasive endoscopic procedure called endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD). His research focuses on the minimally invasive endoscopic treatment of gastrointestinal tumors. Dr. Aihara has clinical interests in endoscopic submucosal resection (ESD), Endoscopic Mucosal Resection (EMR), Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM), Submucosal Tunneling Endoscopic Resection (STER), and Image-enhanced Endoscopy (IEE).



DR. AMOL BAPAYE, MD (MS), FASGE, FJGES, FSGEI

Shivanand Desai Center for Digestive Disorders,
Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital and Research Center, Pune, India



Dr. Amol Bapaye is Consultant Gastroenterologist and Interventional Endoscopist and Chief of Shivanand Desai Center for Digestive Disorders, Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital and Research Center, Pune, India. He is a member of the JGES, ASGE, ESGE, ISG and SGEI; and has been awarded the FASGE, JGES and FSGEI. A surgeon by training, his clinical and research interests include advanced ERCP, interventional EUS, endoscopic resections including EMR / ESD, Third Space Endoscopy and Endotherapy for GERD.

Dr. Bapaye was selected as ASGE Ambassador (2015) for the ASGE International Training program. He serves on the International Editorial Board of Endoscopy and Endoscopic Ultrasound journals; and has been a reviewer for several other International journals. He has been the recipient of the – ‘Pioneer in Gastroenterology Award (2014)’ conferred by the World Endoscopy Organisation (WEO). He has previously served on the International Committee of the ASGE. He is an active member of the Asian Novel Bio Imaging & Intervention Group (ANBIIG) and of the Asian EUS Group (AEG). Dr. Bapaye is the Founder and Managing Trustee of ‘Foundation for Research and Education in Endoscopy (FREE)’ – a non-profit organisation that supports training and research in endoscopy. He has organised several national and international meetings and workshops as Course Director. A passionate teacher, he actively conducts endoscopy training programs for ERCP, EUS and Third Space Endoscopy. He has lectured extensively at several international and national conferences and has performed several live endoscopy demonstrations at National & International Workshops. He also runs an e-learning platform via the YouTube channel – ‘FREEndoscopy’.

Dr. Bapaye has authored over a 125 peer reviewed publications and conference papers and is the chief author and co-editor of the textbook – ‘Practical Handbook of Endoscopic Ultrasonography’. He has reported pioneering work in Third Space Endoscopy – particularly role of G-POEM and PREM for treatment of gastroparesis and Hirschsprung’s disease; and has also authored a book chapter on these techniques.

AMIT BHATT MD, FJES

Director of Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection
Co-director of the Endoluminal Surgery Center
Cleveland Clinic

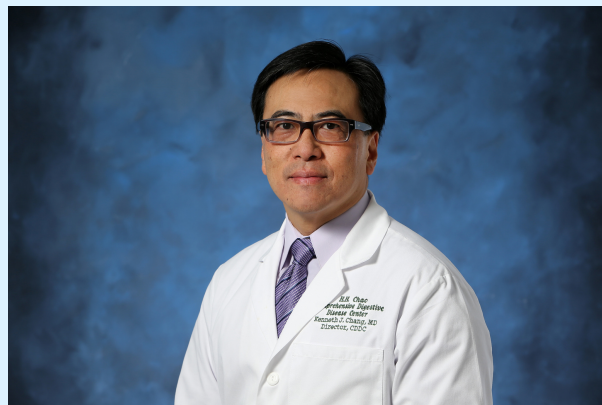


Amit Bhatt, MD is an advanced endoscopist at the Cleveland Clinic. He is the Director of the Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection Program and the co-director of the Endoluminal Surgery Center. He is Cleveland Clinic trained, finishing his internal medicine residency, gastroenterology, and advanced endoscopy fellowship at the Clinic. He specializes in the endoscopic resection of precancerous and early cancerous lesions from the upper GI tract, and device innovation.



KENNETH J. CHANG, MD, FACG, AGAF, FASGE, FJGES

Executive Director, UCI Digestive Health Institute
Medical Director, H.H. Chao Comprehensive Digestive Disease Center
Professor and Chief, Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology
Vincent and Anna Kong Endowed Chair in GI Endoscopic Oncology



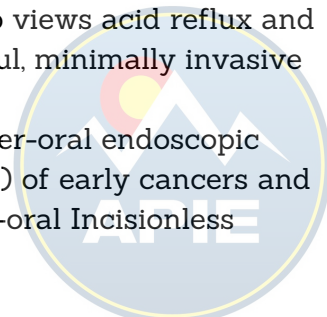
Dr. Chang is the founding Executive Director of the Chao Family Comprehensive Digestive Disease Center (CDDC) as well as the newly established UCI Health Digestive Health Institute (DHI). He is also Professor and Chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

Dr. Chang's clinical research for over three decades has focused on developing and expanding the field of interventional gastrointestinal endoscopy with a specific focus on digestive malignancies and precancerous lesions. Being first to term "Interventional Endoscopy" and "Interventional EUS" in 1997, he has continuously brought novel disruptive technologies to the field, including Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS)-guided Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) for cancer diagnosis and staging, Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA) in the treatment of Barrett's esophagus, EUS-guided Portal Pressure Gradient (EUS-PPG) measurement for patients with suspected liver cirrhosis, and Endoscopic Treatment for Gastro-esophageal reflux disease (GERD).

Dr. Chang holds the Vincent and Ana Kong Chair in Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Oncology and has published over 470 peer-review articles, review papers, book chapters and abstracts, as well as Editor of 4 textbooks. These scientific publications include 5 major topics: EUS-guided tissue acquisition, new diagnostic approaches to Pancreatic Cystic Neoplasia, Endo-Hepatology, GERD/Barrett's Esophagus, and 3rd-space endoscopy (myotomy and cancer resection).

Over the past decade, Dr. Chang has focused on pre-cancerous conditions of the Digestive System (Barrett's Esophagus and Pancreatic Cysts) with the goal to improve detection, risk stratification, and clinical strategies that culminate in a personalized approach toward treatment and cure. He also views acid reflux and obesity as being precursors (pre-pre-cancer) to malignancy and has developed impactful, minimally invasive procedures to manage both.

In addition to his expertise in GI malignancies and Barrett's, he is also an expert in Per-oral endoscopic myotomy (POEM) in the treatment of Achalasia, endoscopic submucosal resection (ESD) of early cancers and Endoscopic sleeve gastropasty (ESG) for obesity. He is also an authority on Trans-oral Incisionless Fundoplication (TIF) in the treatment of GERD.



STEVEN A. EDMUNDOWICZ, MD, MASGE

Interim Division Director of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Medical Director, Digestive Health Center
University of Colorado Hospital



Dr. Steven Edmundowicz is a Professor of Medicine and Director of Interventional Endoscopy at the University of Colorado School of Medicine as well as the Medical Director of the Digestive Health Center at the University Of Colorado Hospital. Clinically, he is a recognized expert in interventional endoscopy including ERCP, EUS and other advanced procedures. He continues to have an active clinical practice while being committed to endoscopic education and clinical research in new endoscopic technologies. Dr. Edmundowicz is also actively involved in endoscopic device and procedure development with a number of medical startup companies. He is a consultant and member of the medical advisory boards of several companies that have a focus in endoscopy and endoscopic bariatric therapies. Dr. Edmundowicz is a past senior associate editor of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and is currently an associate editor for both ASGE News and Practice Update Gastroenterology. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) Governing Board, past ASGE treasurer, and current ASGE president elect.



HAZEM HAMMAD, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine
Director of Advanced Endoscopy,
Rocky Mountain Regional Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology
Interventional Endoscopy
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Aurora, Colorado



Dr. Hammad is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, section of Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy at the University of Colorado and VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Jordan Medical School, and completed his Internal Medicine Residency training at Wayne State University, Detroit, MI. He then completed his Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellowship at the University of Missouri Hospital and Clinics, after which he was on faculty as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine for four years before pursuing Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy training at University of Colorado in Denver. He also pursued further training in enhanced imaging and endoscopic resection, including endoscopic submucosal dissection in the United States and Japan. Dr. Hammad's clinical and research interests include endoscopic resection techniques, enhanced endoscopic imaging, early detection of GI neoplasia, esophageal disorders and pancreatobiliary diseases. Dr. Hammad has authored numerous scientific papers, reviews and book chapters.



MICHEL KAHALEH, MD, AGAF, FACG, FASGE

Distinguished Professor of Medicine
Clinical Director of Gastroenterology
Chief of Endoscopy

Director Pancreas Program

Department of Medicine | Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital



Dr. Kahaleh is the Clinical Director of Gastroenterology and Chief of Endoscopy at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson. Trained in Erasme Hospital, University of Brussels, he became the leader of the Pancreatico-Biliary group at the University of Virginia before joining Well Cornell in July 2011 as Chief of Endoscopy until December 2017. He is world renown endoscopist boarded in Europe and the United States. He is fluent in French, Spanish and Arabic. A major focus of Dr. Kahaleh is understanding and preventing biliary and pancreatic cancer. The objective of this area of research is to develop new diagnostic techniques for reducing the mortality associated with those cancers, by detecting them earlier and treating them using novel and minimally invasive therapies. He is pioneering minimally invasive procedures involving therapeutic EUS, ESD and POEM locally and internationally. He is also teaching those techniques across the globe.



MOHAMED OTHMAN, M.D.

William T. Butler Endowed Chair for Distinguished Faculty
Professor of Medicine - Gastroenterology and Hepatology Section
Baylor College of Medicine
Chief, Gastroenterology Section, Baylor St Luke's Medical Center



Mohamed O Othman is a tenured professor of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine and William T Butler endowed chair for distinguished faculty. Dr. Othman serves as the chief of Gastroenterology section at Baylor St Luke's Medical Center. Dr. Othman has more than 80 publications and book chapters in the field of pancreatobiliary disorders and advanced endoscopy. His ongoing research and grant funding is focused on clinical trials in the field of third space endoscopy, endoscopic submucosal dissection and chronic pancreatitis. He is the associate editor of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Journal (GIE) and the founder of Texas Interventional Endoscopy Group (TIEG).



DR. MARVIN RYOU

Director of Endoscopic Innovations
Brigham & Women's Hospital
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School



Dr. Ryou received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School and completed both his internal medicine residency and gastroenterology fellowship at Brigham & Women's. He also completed his advanced endoscopy fellowship in the combined Brigham & Women's / Massachusetts General Hospital combined program. Dr. Ryou has research interests in procedure and device development within the field of GI and advanced endoscopy, particularly in the field of interventional EUS and Endo-Hepatology. Dr. Ryou is Chair of the ASGE Endo-Hepatology Special Interest Group. He has specific interests in EUS guided portal pressure gradient measurements, EUS-guided shear wave elastography, and EUS-based treatments of gastroesophageal varices. He is also co-founder of two funded medical device companies- one for an ingestible wireless sensor for detection of GI bleeding, and the other for self-assembling magnets for creation of GI bypasses. He is the 2016 recipient of the Partners Innovation Award.



ALLISON SCHULMAN, MD, MPH

Associate Professor of Medicine and Surgery; Director of Bariatric Endoscopy
The University of Michigan



Allison Schulman, MD, MPH is an Associate Professor in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology and dually appointed in the Department of Surgery. She received her bachelor's degree from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and her medical degree from Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City, where she was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Medical Honor Society. She received a Master's in Public Health (MPH) at Harvard University. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. Following residency training, Dr. Schulman completed fellowship in Gastroenterology, and went on to complete two additional fellowships in Bariatric Endoscopy followed by Advanced/Therapeutic Endoscopy. All of her training was at Harvard/Brigham and Women's Hospital. She joined faculty at Michigan in 2017 and was appointed Director of Bariatric Endoscopy.

Dr. Schulman's research has focused on endoscopic management of obesity. She is specifically interested in management of complications following bariatric surgery, primary endoscopic therapy for obesity, and innovation and device development in endoscopy. She also has interests in interventional hepatology, and EUS/ERCP. She is currently serving on several national committees with the governing societies of both gastroenterology and surgery. Dr. Schulman has received numerous awards and honors, including several Early Clinical Investigator Awards from the American Gastroenterology Association (AGA).



RAJ J. SHAH, MD

MASGE, AGAF, FACG

Professor of Medicine
Director, Pancreaticobiliary Endoscopy
Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Aurora, Colorado



Dr. Shah completed a 6-year combined BS/MD program at the Northeastern Ohio Universities' College of Medicine. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Pittsburgh, Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellowship at the University of Cincinnati, and an Advanced Interventional Endoscopy Fellowship at Maine Medical Center. He is an Editorial Board Member of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. He also represents the American Gastroenterological Association on the FDA's Gastroenterologic and Urologic Medical Devices Panel. His clinical interests are in the advanced therapeutic treatment of benign and malignant pancreaticobiliary and GI luminal diseases. His primary research interests are investigating novel methods for the diagnosis and endoscopic treatment of pancreatic and biliary cancer utilizing ERCP and interventional EUS techniques, endoscopic treatment for benign pancreatic and biliary diseases, and cholangiopancreatography. He has published nearly 200 peer-reviewed original articles, scientific reviews, book chapters, and abstracts.



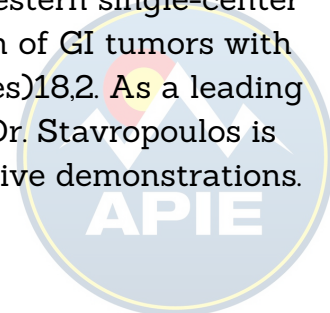
STAVROS N. STAVROPOULOS, MD, FASGE, AGAF, FJGES, NYSGEF

Director, GI Endoscopy
Director, Program in Advanced GI Endoscopy (P.A.G.E.)
NYU Langone Hospital -- Long Island



Dr. Stavropoulos grew up in Greece and emigrated to the US after high-school earning his Bachelor's from Yale summa cum laude and medical degree with AOA distinction from Columbia, where he also completed his internship, residency, fellowship, and advanced endoscopy fellowship. He stayed at Columbia as Director of EUS until 2007 when he was recruited to Winthrop (now NYU Hospital-Long Island) as Director of Endoscopy. Dr. Stavropoulos is an expert in EUS and ERCP 19 but has gained international recognition for his pioneering work in POEM. Dr. Stavropoulos was the 2nd operator in the world to perform POEM in 2009 (Endoscopic submucosal myotomy for the treatment of achalasia (with video). GIE. 2010 Dec;72(6):1309-11) 21 months after the 1st human POEM in Japan by Haruhiro Inoue. Dr. Stavropoulos is the highest volume POEM operator in the US, has published the largest and most comprehensive single-center Western POEM series to date^{1, 15} and led the effort culminating in the POEM white paper, a collaborative effort of SAGES and ASGE¹⁷. Dr. Stavropoulos has also been a pioneer in ESD (first US cases in 2005 with recent publication of the largest Western single-center ESD series)⁵ and EFTR/STER, full thickness non-invasive endoscopic resection of GI tumors with deep intramural or extraluminal growth, (first US cases in 2012; largest US series)^{18,2}. As a leading global expert in these Endoscopic Surgery novel and challenging techniques, Dr. Stavropoulos is invited widely in the US and abroad to lecture, provide instruction and perform live demonstrations.

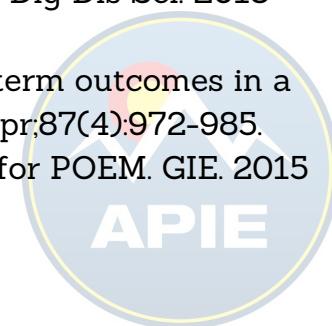
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Furthermore, in 2008 he founded a live endoscopy course at Winthrop (Long Island Live), currently in its 13th year, which explores the frontiers of Endoscopic Surgery and has become the pre-eminent live course in this field. The entire course content since 2013 with live cases and lectures by leading international authorities including Haruhiro Inoue, Pinghong Zhou and Naohisa Yahagi is archived and indexed as a free educational resource at the course website, www.winthropendoscopy.org, a 2018 and 2019 E-healthcare Leadership Awards winner for best content. Dr. Stavropoulos is a fellow of the ASGE and AGA and one of a small number of international endoscopists honored with fellowship to the Japanese Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (JGES), one of the oldest and most revered endoscopy societies in the world.

Selected Original Peer-reviewed Publications (including those cited above) (reverse chronological order):

1. Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM): Comprehensive analysis of long-term outcomes from a large US series of 610 POEMs spanning a period of 10 years. *Gastrointest Endosc.* 2021 May 12;S0016-5107(21)01348-1. doi: 10.1016/j.gie.2021.05.014. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33989646
2. EFTR and STER for subepithelial tumors: large series from a US referral center. *GIE* 2020, Vol. 91, Issue 6, AB234
3. Burgeoning study of sentinel-node analysis on management of early gastric cancer after ESD. *World J Gastrointest Endosc.* 2020 Apr 16;12(4):119-127.
4. A novel technique of ESD for circumferential ileocecal valve adenomas with terminal ileum involvement: the "doughnut resection" (with videos). *Surg Endosc.* 2020 Mar;34(3):1417-1424.
5. Advanced Resection and Closure Techniques for EFTR in the Gastric Fundus. *VideoGIE.* 2020 Jan 3;5(2):61-63.
6. Learning Curve of ESD With an Untutored, Prevalence-Based Approach in the United States. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 2020 Mar;18(3):580-588.e1.
7. Endoscopic resection for subepithelial lesions: Pure EFTR and STER. *Transl Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 2019 May 25;4:39.
8. Endoscopic Full Thickness Resection (EFTR). *Techniques in Gastrointest Endosc.* 2019 Jan. 2 (1):19-25.
9. Introduction of ESD in the West. *World J Gastrointest Endosc.* 2018 Oct 16;10(10):225-238.
10. Systematic review of safety & efficacy of therapeutic ERCP during pregnancy including studies of radiation-free therapeutic ERCP. *World J Gastrointest Endosc.* 2018 Oct 16;10(10):308-321.
11. How Many POEMs Are Necessary for Proficiency. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 2018 Sep;16(9):1393-1397.
12. A task and performance analysis of ESD. *Surg Endosc.* 2018 Aug 20. doi: 10.1007/s00464-018-6379-6.
13. Enteroscopy-assisted ERCP in bariatric-length Roux-en-Y anatomy: a large single-center series and review of the literature (with video). *Gastrointest Endosc.* 2018 May;87(5):1241-1247.
14. G-POEM for the Treatment of Refractory Gastroparesis: Early Experience. *Dig Dis Sci.* 2018 Sep;63(9):2405-2412.
15. POEM in patients with or without prior Heller's myotomy: comparing long-term outcomes in a large U.S. single-center cohort (with videos). *Gastrointest Endosc.* 2018 Apr;87(4):972-985.
16. The light at the end of the tunnel: a single-operator learning curve analysis for POEM. *GIE.* 2015 May;81(5):1181-7.
17. POEM white paper. *Surg Endosc.* 2014 Jul;28(7):2005-19.



SHELBY SULLIVAN, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine
Director, Gastroenterology Metabolic and Bariatric Program
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Internal Medicine
Aurora, Colorado



Dr. Sullivan's research interests are in obesity and obesity related diseases. She has focused her research efforts on understanding the pathophysiology and effects of diet and exercise on nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) and treating obesity with endoscopic bariatric therapy. The goals of her K23 research project were to determine the effects of an isocaloric diet high in high fructose corn syrup on people with obesity and both high and low liver fat as determined by magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS). She measured multiple metabolic outcomes including: intrahepatic triglyceride content as determined by MRS, hepatic lipid metabolism with stable isotope tracer infusion studies, and multi-organ insulin sensitivity with a hyperinsulinemic euglycemic clamp. She has considerable experience in NAFLD research and has conducted a randomized control trial involving tracer infusion studies and MRS to evaluate hepatic lipoprotein kinetics in subjects with NAFLD both before and after an endurance exercise training intervention. She successfully recruited subjects, worked with collaborators, administered the intervention and study testing, managed the data, and performed data analysis; resulting in a manuscript that has been published in Hepatology. In addition, she has experience as site PI or co-PI on six multi-center randomized controlled trials for endoscopic bariatric therapies, enrolling and treating over 130 subjects in 1 to 2 year study protocols with manuscripts published in Gastroenterology, Obesity, American Journal of Gastroenterology, and Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases. Dr. Sullivan received her MD in 2001, completed her Internal Medicine Residency in 2004, completed her Gastroenterology Fellowship in 2007, and completed her MSCI coursework in 2012 all at the Washington University School of Medicine.

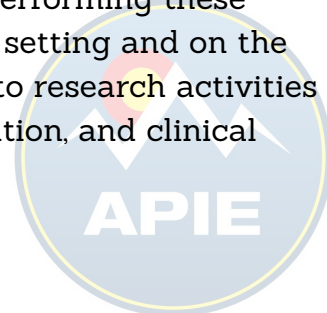
CHRISTOPHER C. THOMPSON, MD, MSC, FASGE, FACG, AGAF, FJGES

Director of Endoscopy
Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Endoscopy
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Associate Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts



Christopher C. Thompson, MD, MSC, FASGE, FACG, AGAF, FJGES received his MD and completed his internship, residency and GI fellowship from Pennsylvania State University. He completed his fellowship in Advanced Endoscopy from the combined Massachusetts General Hospital/Brigham and Women's Hospital advanced endoscopy program. He is currently the Director of Endoscopy, Co-Director, Center for Weight Management and Wellness at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. He is also the Advanced Endoscopy Fellowship Program Director and Co-Director for the Bariatric Endoscopy Fellowship. He is clinical faculty at Boston Children's Hospital and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dr. Thompson's clinical interests include endoscopic surgery as applied to foregut conditions, pancreatobiliary disease, postsurgical complications, and bariatric endoscopy. He spends the majority of his time performing these advanced endoscopic procedures and also cares for patients in the ambulatory setting and on the gastroenterology inpatient consult service. The remainder of his time is devoted to research activities in endoscopic surgery, with a focus on device development, endoscopic education, and clinical outcomes.

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He currently has active clinical, translational, bench, and large animal protocols. He has also led several multicenter clinical trials. His research has resulted in numerous patents, the development of new endoscopic procedures, and over 200 publications. Some of his important clinical innovations include the development of new endoscopic techniques for treating pancreatic necrosis, gastric outlet obstruction, sleeve gastrectomy stenosis, pancreatojejunal anastomotic strictures, and postsurgical complications. Additionally, he was awarded the Brigham and Women's Physician Organization Clinical Innovation Award in 2007 for developing and performing the first endoscopic suturing procedure to treat obesity. He also invented anastomosis technology which has been shown to effectively treat type 2 diabetes in early clinical trials. He was responsible for much of the early work in Bariatric Endoscopy, helping to pioneer the field, and edited the first textbook on the subject. In addition to these clinical innovations, he developed an endoscopic part-task simulator that is used by many fellowship programs. He founded four medical device start-up companies including Beacon Endoscopic which was acquired by Covidien in 2013. He was a founding member of the original NOTES working group and founding chair for the Association of Bariatric Endoscopy (ABE). These accomplishments have led to a broad clinical referral base, and to national and international invitations for lectureships and live case demonstrations, including the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) Blackwell Lectureship, the American Gastroenterology Association (AGA) Presidential Plenary Lecture, the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) J Edward Berk Presidential Plenary Lecture, the ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship, various post-graduate education courses for major US gastroenterology and surgical societies, and numerous respected courses throughout Europe, Asia, and South America. In 2019 he was awarded the ASGE Distinguished Endoscopic Research Mentoring Award, which recognizes outstanding career achievement by endoscopic research mentors who have devote substantial time and effort to develop and nurture the next generation of endoscopic investigators. He has mentored more than 20 fellows, many of whom have gone on to thrive in prestigious academic institutions, and established the first Fellowship in Bariatric Endoscopy.



SHYAM VARADARAJULU, MD

Medical Director,
Digestive Health Institute, Orlando Health System



Dr. Varadarajulu serves as the medical director of the Orlando Health Digestive Health Institute. Internationally known for his expertise and research in the most complex gastrointestinal disorders, Shyam Varadarajulu, MD is board certified in gastroenterology and specializes in treating pancreatic and biliary disorders with particular expertise in endoscopic ultrasound (EUS), therapeutic endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP), and luminal interventions.

Dr. Varadarajulu earned his medical degree from Madras Medical College in India, completed his internship and residency at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, New York, gastroenterology fellowship at the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington where he officiated as Chief Fellow, and interventional endoscopy fellowship at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. He was a former Chief of Endoscopy and Associate Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Medicine.

He is the principal investigator of more than 20 randomized trials related to interventional endoscopy, and he has lectured and held visiting professorships around the world. Dr. Varadarajulu has authored 65 chapters in reference textbooks, and more than 300 peer-reviewed manuscripts in high impact journals. In addition, he is the editor of the textbook ENDOSONOGRAPHY, former section editor for the American Gastroenterological Association journal, Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and Deputy editor-in-chief of Digestive Endoscopy.

