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**Deadline: MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025**

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 \$50k/ 1- or 2-year award

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•Request a Letter of Support from GIQuIC by November 3

•Email: [research@giquic.org](mailto:research@giquic.org)



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  - ✓ Recipients of grant funding from any institution or society (non-trainee, non-fellow) in the last 10 years

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- The LE&E Center Emerging Leadership Program
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DEADLINE: **DECEMBER 1, 2025**

- Visit [gi.org/research-awards](https://gi.org/research-awards) to learn more about the 8 grant categories & apply
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  - for grant tips, videos, and written resources

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**2026 ACG'S IBD SCHOOL &  
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  **LAS VEGAS**

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# 2025 ACG'S HEPATOLOGY SCHOOL & SOUTHERN REGIONAL POSTGRADUATE COURSE

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## Participating in the Webinar



Moderator:  
Dayna S. Early, MD, FACP

All attendees will be muted and will remain in "Listen Only Mode"

Type your questions here so that the moderator can see them.  
Not all questions will be answered but we will get to as many as possible.

A handout with the slides and room to take notes can be downloaded from your control panel.

Exit

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## ACG Virtual Grand Rounds

Join us for upcoming Virtual Grand Rounds!





**Week 46 – Thursday, November 13, 2025**  
Short Bowel Syndrome: Cases of Non-Short Bowel/Intestinal Failure: Pearls for Recognition and Management  
Faculty: George Ou, MD  
Moderator: Omar Jamil, MD  
**At Noon and 8pm Eastern**




**Week 47 – Thursday, November 20, 2025**  
Vaccine Update for Gastroenterologist- IBD and Beyond  
Faculty: Freddy Caldera, DO, MS, PhD, FACP  
Moderator: Francis A. Farraye, MD, MSc, MACG  
**At Noon and 8pm Eastern**

Visit [gi.org/ACGVGR](https://gi.org/ACGVGR) to Register

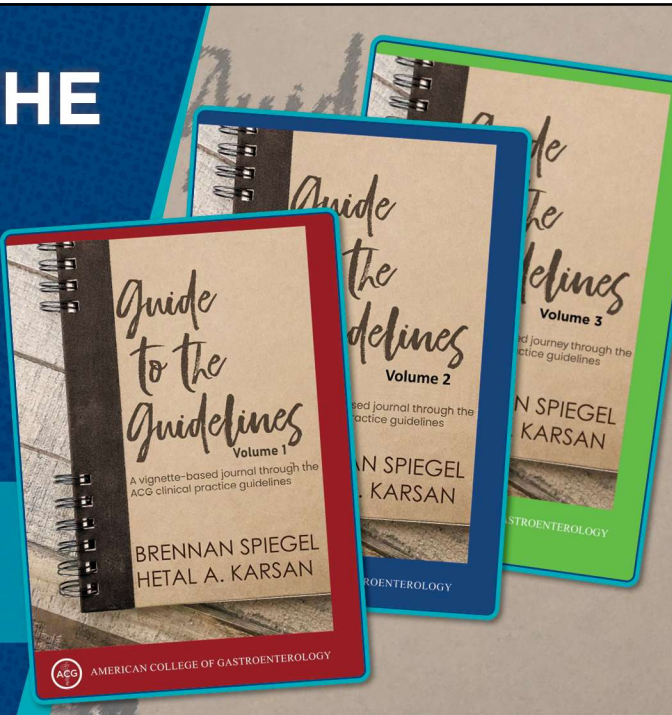
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# Disclosures




**Rena H. Yadlapati, MD, MSHS, FACG**  
 Braintree Pharmaceuticals: Consultant; Medtronic: Consultant;  
 Phathom Pharmaceuticals: Consultant; Reckitt Benckiser  
 Healthcare Ltd: Consultant; RJS Mediagnostix: Advisory Board;  
 StatLinkMD: Consultant



**Dayna S. Early, MD, FACG**  
 Guardant Health: Advisory Board; Olympus: Consultant


*\*All of the relevant financial relationships listed for these individuals have been mitigated*

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# Quality Indicators for Upper Endoscopy



**Rena Yadlapati MD, MSHS, FACG**  
 Professor of Clinical Medicine  
 Director, Center for Esophageal Diseases  
 Medical Director, GI Motility Lab  
 University of California San Diego





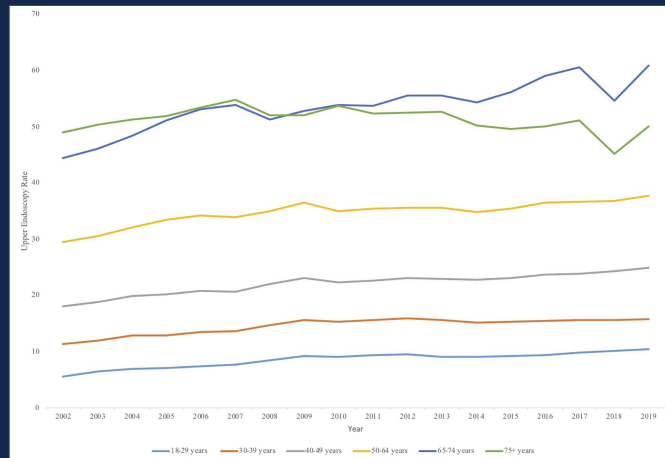


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## Upper GI Endoscopy

- Rate of EGDs rising
  - 2019: 7.5 million in US
- Expanding list of accepted indications for EGD
- High utilization without an appropriate indication
  - 5 to 49% cases
- Delivery of high-quality care in EGD is essential



Peery AF, et al. *Gastroenterology*. 2022; Zullo A, et al. *Dig Liver Dis*. 2019; Chassin MR, et al. *JAMA*. 1998

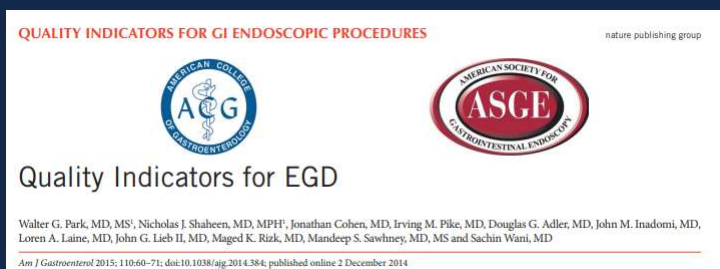
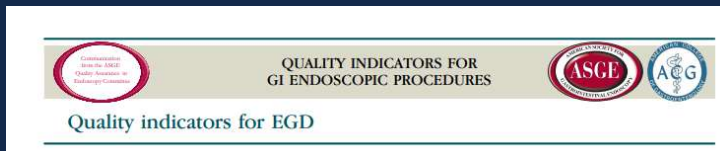
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Woman with prior history of fundoplication complaining of > 1 year of dysphagia and other esophageal symptoms. Underwent an endoscopy 3 months ago with an outside endoscopist. **No images taken.** Report noted a “mild stricture status post dilation. Otherwise normal”



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## History of QI for Upper Endoscopy in US

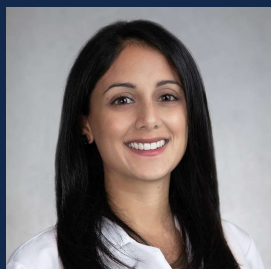


*Practice makes perfect  
– but only if you're  
measuring what  
'perfect' looks like*

Cohen J, et al. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2006; Park WG/Shahen NJ, et al. *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy/American Journal of Gastroenterology*, 2015

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## Updated Quality Indicators for Upper GI Endoscopy Team



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## Quality Indicators for Upper GI Endoscopy: Task

Present quality indicators with performance targets relevant to current day upper GI endoscopy

- Update existing QIs and present relevant data
- Introduce new QIs based on interval progress in the field
- Remove prior QIs that are outdated or for which compliance is already high
- Indicators common to all GI endoscopic procedures detailed by *Elmunzer BJ et al.*

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## Methodology

- QIs divided into 3 time-periods: Pre-, Intra-, and Post-procedure
- QIs classified as outcome or process measure
- Systematic search strategy performed for each indicator (Jan 2014 to May 2023)
- Strength of recommendation evaluated
- Performance targets established for each QI
  - Never event expressed as performance target >98%

Grade of recommendation	Clarity of benefit	Methodologic strength supporting evidence	Implications
1A	Clear	Randomized trials without important limitations	Strong recommendation; can be applied to most clinical settings
1B	Clear	Randomized trials with important limitations (inconsistent results, nonfatal methodologic flaws)	Strong recommendation; likely to apply to most practice settings
1C+	Clear	Overwhelming evidence from observational studies	Strong recommendation; can apply to most practice settings in most situations
1C	Clear	Observational studies	Intermediate-strength recommendation; may change when stronger evidence is available
2A	Unclear	Randomized trials without important limitations	Intermediate-strength recommendation; best action may differ depending on circumstances or patients' or societal values
2B	Unclear	Randomized trials with important limitations (inconsistent results, nonfatal methodologic flaws)	Weak recommendation; alternative approaches may be better under some circumstances
2C	Unclear	Observational studies	Very weak recommendation; alternative approaches are likely to be better under some circumstances
3	Unclear	Expert opinion only	Weak recommendation; likely to change as data becomes available

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[illegible]

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Pre-Procedure		Performance Target	Type of Measure
1	Frequency with which endoscopy is performed for an indication that is included in a published standard list of appropriate indications, and the indication is documented	>95%	Process
2	Frequency of EGD performed within 24 hours for patients admitted to or under observation in hospital for upper GI bleeding	>80%	Process

\*Q1 2 excludes patients low risk for hospital based intervention (Glasgow Blatchford score  $\leq 1$ )

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## Pre-Procedure QIs Common to all Endoscopy

Preprocedure
1. Frequency with which endoscopy is performed for an indication that is included in a published standard list of appropriate indications and the indication is documented (priority indicator)
2. Frequency with which informed consent is obtained and documented
3. Frequency with which preprocedure history and directed physical examination are performed and documented
4. Frequency with which a sedation plan that includes risk for sedation-related adverse events is developed and documented before sedation is initiated
5. Frequency with which prophylactic antibiotics are administered for appropriate indications (priority indicator)
6. Frequency with which management of antithrombotic therapy is formulated and documented before the procedure (priority indicator)
7. Frequency with which a team pause is performed and documented
8. Frequency with which endoscopy is performed or supervised by an individual who is fully trained and appropriately credentialed to perform that particular procedure

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## Quality Indicators for Upper GI Endoscopy

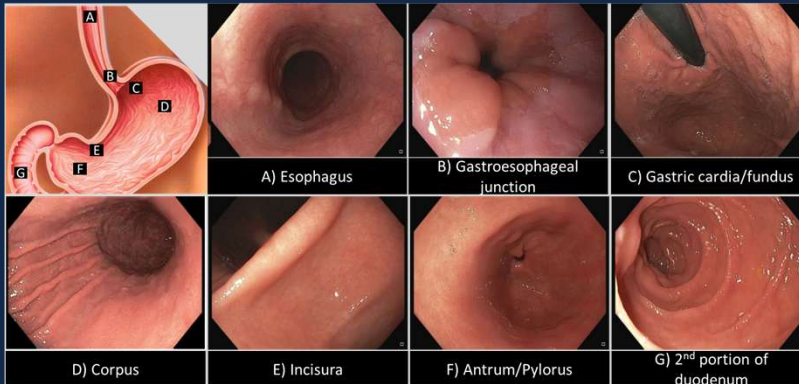
### Intra-Procedure

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## Photodocumentation!!



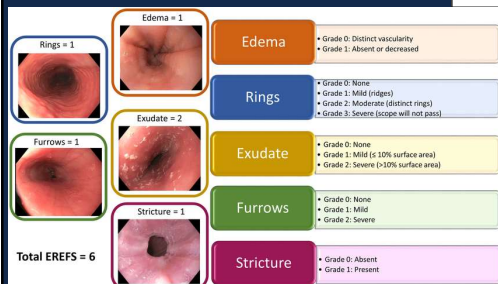
Intra-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
3* Frequency of photodocumentation of the esophagus, gastro-esophageal junction, gastric cardia/fundus, corpus, incisura, antrum/pylorus, 2 <sup>nd</sup> portion of duodenum, and detected lesions in patients undergoing EGD	>90%	Process



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## Intra-Procedure QI: Eosinophilic Esophagitis

Intra-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
4 Frequency of obtaining a total of 6 biopsies (or more) obtained from at least two levels (proximal/mid and distal) of the esophagus in the absence of an endoscopically evident etiology for dysphagia in patients reporting dysphagia	>90%	Process
5 Frequency of endoscopic reference score documentation when eosinophilic esophagitis is suspected or established.	>95%	Process



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## Intra-Procedure QI: Erosive Esophagitis

	Intra-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
6*	Frequency of Los Angeles Classification documentation when erosive esophagitis is present	>98%	Process

**LA Grade A**  
One or more mucosal break  $\leq$  5mm that does not extend between the tops of two mucosal folds



**LA Grade B**  
One or more mucosal break > 5mm that does not extend between the tops of two mucosal folds

**LA Grade C**  
One or more mucosal break that is continuous between the tops of two mucosal folds, but involves <75% of circumference



**LA Grade D**  
One or more mucosal break which involves at least 75% of the esophageal circumference

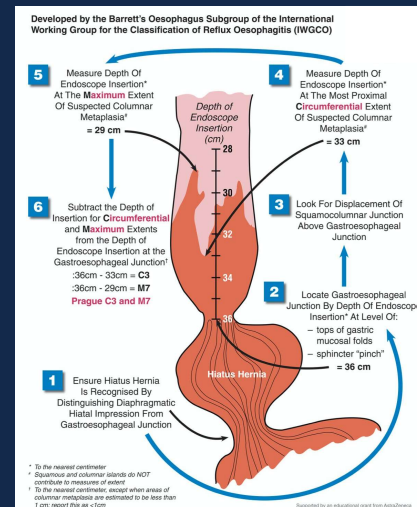
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## Intra-Procedure QI: Barrett's Esophagus

	Intra-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
7	Frequency with which the locations of the squamo-columnar junction, the gastroesophageal junction, and the diaphragmatic hiatus (if there is a hiatal hernia present) are recorded for patients with endoscopically suspected columnar metaplasia in the tubular esophagus	>95%	Process
8*	Frequency with which the presence of at least 1 cm of endoscopically evident columnar mucosa is documented while obtaining biopsies to evaluate for Barrett's esophagus	>95%	Process
9*	Frequency with which the extent of suspected or confirmed BE is documented using the Prague criteria, in cases of suspected or confirmed BE.	>95%	Process

### Suspected/Confirmed BE

- Document landmarks (SCJ, GEJ, diaphragmatic hiatus)
- Document Prague criteria
- Document  $\geq 1$ cm of columnar mucosa if biopsies obtained for BE evaluation



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## Intra-Procedure QI: Barrett's Esophagus continued

Intra-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
10 Frequency with which high definition white light endoscopy (with dye based or virtual chromoendoscopy) is utilized for performing surveillance endoscopy in patients with BE	>90%	Process
11 Frequency of systematic four quadrant biopsies every 2cm taken throughout the extent of the endoscopically involved segment of BE in patients with known BE undergoing surveillance endoscopy	>90%	Process
12 Frequency with which biopsies/endoscopic resection are obtained from visible lesions, and processed separately from the systematic biopsies in a patient with known BE with a visible lesion identified on surveillance endoscopy	>90%	Process

### Surveillance BE

- Utilize HDWLE/ Chromoendoscopy
- Utilize systematic biopsy protocol
- Visible lesion  
→ Process biopsies/ endoscopic resection separate

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## Intra-Procedure QI: Ulcer Disease & GI Bleeding

Intra-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
13* Frequency with which, during EGD examination revealing peptic ulcers, at least one of the following stigmata is noted: active bleeding, nonbleeding visible vessels (pigmented protuberance), adherent clot, flat spot, or clean based	>98%	Process
14* Frequency of endoscopic treatment delivered to ulcers with active spurting or oozing or with nonbleeding visible vessels	>90%	Process
15 Frequency of a second treatment modality delivered (eg, coagulation, clips, argon plasma) when epinephrine injection is used to treat actively bleeding or nonbleeding visible vessels in patients with bleeding peptic ulcers	>98%	Process
16* Frequency with which achievement of primary hemostasis in cases of attempted hemostasis of non-variceal upper GI bleeding lesion is documented	>90%	Outcome

Forrest class	Evidence /stigmata of recent bleeding
IA	Arterial or spurting haemorrhage
IB	Oozing haemorrhage
IIA	Visible vessel
IIB	Adherent clot
IIC	Dark base/ haematin covered lesion
III	Lesions without active bleeding

### Peptic Ulcer Disease/UGIB

- Document stigmata (Forrest classification)
- Deliver endoscopic treatment to actively bleeding or nonbleeding visible vessel
  - If epinephrine injection used for hemostasis, deliver 2<sup>nd</sup> treatment modality
- Document achievement of primary hemostasis

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## Intra-Procedure QI: Gastric Biopsies & Polyps

Intra-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
17 Frequency with which gastric biopsies are done, or follow up endoscopy is planned, to exclude malignancy in patients with gastric ulcers	>80%	Process
20 Frequency with which gastric polyps (without the typical appearance of a fundic gland polyp) >10mm in size are biopsied or resected	>80%	Process

### Gastric Lesions:

Gastric ulcer → *biopsy* to exclude malignancy

Gastric polyp >10mm → *biopsy/resect*

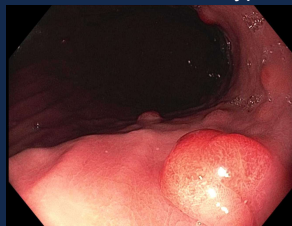
Fundic Gland Polyp



Hyperplastic Polyp



Adenomatous Polyp



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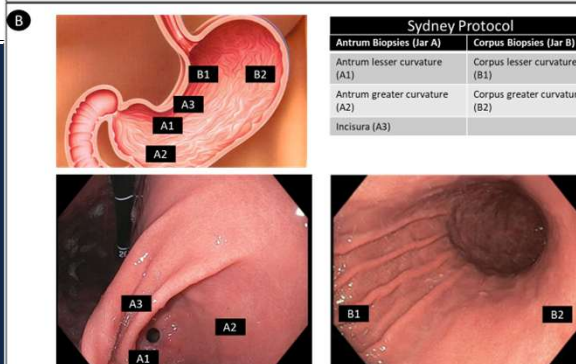
## Intra-Procedure QI: Gastric Pre-malignant Conditions

Intra-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
18* Frequency of systematic biopsies of the gastric corpus, antrum and incisura in patients with known gastric premalignant conditions (GPMC), patients at high-risk for gastric cancer or patients with an endoscopic appearance concerning for GPMC	>90%	Process
19 Frequency with which high definition white-light endoscopy and virtual chromoendoscopy is utilized in patients with known GPMC, patients at high-risk for gastric cancer or patients with an endoscopic appearance concerning for GPMC		

Patchy gastric intestinal metaplasia with near focus imaging and NBI.



- A** Gastric sampling with systematic biopsy protocol indicated for patients with:
- 1) Known gastric pre-malignant condition (GPMC) or prior gastric cancer with indications for surveillance
  - 2) Increased risk for gastric cancer of GPMC (e.g., family history of gastric cancer (first degree relative), foreign-born immigrants from high incidence regions)
  - 3) Endoscopic appearance concerning for GPMC



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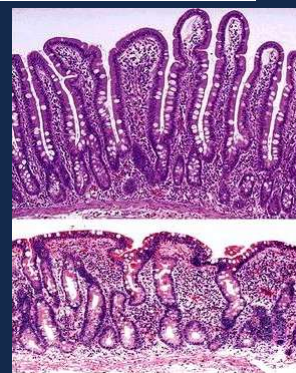


## Intra-Procedure QI: Duodenal Biopsies

Intra-Procedure		Performance Target	Type of Measure
21	Frequency with which $\geq 4$ duodenal biopsies (including 1 from the bulb) are obtained in patients with suspected celiac disease	>98%	Process

Optimal biopsy protocol for suspected celiac disease:

- 4 biopsies distal to the bulb
- 2 biopsies in the bulb at 9 and 12 o'clock position



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## Quality Indicators for Upper GI Endoscopy

### Post-Procedure

*Let's close the loop –  
because quality  
without follow-up is  
like a biopsy without  
pathology.*

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## Post-Procedure QI: Erosive Esophageal Disease

			Potent Acid Suppressive Agents	FDA Approved Indications and Dosages
Post-Procedure		Perf Targ	Pantoprazole	Healing of EE: 40mg daily for up to 8 weeks Maintenance of healed EE: 40mg daily Pathological hypersecretory conditions; 40mg daily
22	Frequency of repeat endoscopy recommendation following a course of acid suppression in cases of Los Angeles C or D erosive esophagitis	>90	Omeprazole*	Healing of EE: 20mg daily for 4 to 8 weeks Maintenance of healed EE: 20mg daily GERD, symptomatic (nonerosive); 20mg daily for up to 4 weeks Gastric ulcer, short term treatment of benign; 40mg daily for 4 to 8 weeks Duodenal ulcer (short-term treatment); 20mg daily Pathological hypersecretory conditions; 60mg twice daily Frequent heartburn; OTC treatment; 20mg daily for 14 days
23	Frequency of acid suppression therapy recommendation for patients who underwent dilation for peptic esophageal strictures and do not have allergy or other contraindication to these medications	>98	Lansoprazole*	Healing of EE: 30mg daily for up to 8 weeks Maintenance of healed EE: 15mg daily GERD, symptomatic (nonerosive); 15mg daily for up to 8 weeks Gastric ulcer, short term treatment of benign; 30mg daily for up to 8 weeks Gastric ulcer, healing of NSAID-associated; 30mg daily for up to 8 weeks Gastric ulcer, risk reduction of NSAID associated; 15mg daily for up to 12 weeks Duodenal ulcer (short-term treatment); 15mg daily for 4 weeks Duodenal ulcer (maintenance of healed); 15mg daily Pathological hypersecretory conditions; 60mg twice daily Frequent heartburn; OTC treatment; 15mg daily for 14 days
			Esomeprazole*	Healing of EE: 20mg or 40mg daily 4 to 8 weeks Maintenance of healed EE: 20mg daily GERD, symptomatic (nonerosive); 20mg daily for 4 weeks Gastric ulcer, risk reduction of NSAID associated; 20mg or 40mg daily for up to 6 months Pathological hypersecretory conditions; 40mg twice daily Frequent heartburn; OTC treatment; 22.3 mg daily for 14 days
			Rabeprazole*	Duodenal ulcer (short-term treatment); 20mg daily for 4 weeks GERD, healing of erosive or ulcerative; 20mg daily for 4 to 8 weeks GERD, maintenance of healing of erosive or ulcerative; 20mg daily GERD, symptomatic (nonerosive); 20mg daily for 4 weeks Pathological hypersecretory conditions; 60mg daily
			Dexlansoprazole	Healing of EE: 60mg daily up to 8 weeks Maintenance of healed EE: 30mg daily GERD, symptomatic (nonerosive); 30mg daily for 4 weeks
			Vonoprazan*	Healing of EE: 20mg daily Maintenance of healed EE: 10mg daily

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## Post-Procedure QI: Barrett's Esophagus

Post-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
24 Frequency with which follow-up surveillance endoscopy is recommended no sooner than 3 years if systematic surveillance biopsies were performed in a patient known to have non-dysplastic BE without prior history of dysplasia	>80%	Process
25 Frequency of achieving complete eradication of intestinal metaplasia within 18 months of initial endoscopic treatment in patients with Barrett's esophagus and dysplasia or IMC undergoing endoscopic eradication therapy.	>75%	Outcome

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## Post-Procedure QI: Post-hemostasis

Post-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
26* Frequency of administering high-dose PPI therapy (continuous or intermittently for 3 days) after successful endoscopic hemostatic therapy of a bleeding ulcer in patients without allergy or contraindication to the medication.	>95%	Process

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## Post-Procedure QI: *H. pylori* & GPMC

Post-Procedure	Performance Target	Type of Measure
27 Frequency with which plans to test for <i>H. pylori</i> infection are documented in patients with GPMC, PUD, and other <i>H. pylori</i> -associated conditions	>95%	Process
28 Frequency with which plans to treat and assess eradication of <i>H. pylori</i> infection are documented in patients with endoscopically diagnosed <i>H. pylori</i>	>95%	Outcome
29 Frequency that the GPMC surveillance plan is documented in patients with known GPMC.	>90%	Process

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## Summary

- **Key updates in QIs for Upper GI Endoscopy**
  - New QI# 1: photo documentation
  - Multiple new QIs focused on quality inspection and follow-up of pre-malignant conditions (BE, GPMC) and evaluation for EoE
- **All prior QIs were not retained as compliance to indicators is high in endoscopic practice**
  - Prophylactic antibiotics prior to PEG tube
  - Variceal ligation as first modality of endoscopic treatment for esophageal varices
  - Acid suppression following endoscopic diagnosis of PUD
- **Beyond scope of this document**
  - Antibiotics in portal hypertension/cirrhosis presenting with UGIB
  - Vasoactive drugs for suspected variceal bleeding

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## Future Directions

- Documentation of procedure time or inspection time
- Neoplasia detection rate
- Endo-bariatrics
- Third space endoscopy
- Deep learning/artificial intelligence

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**Quality Isn't Just a Checkbox –  
it's the difference between a  
procedure and a profession**



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## Questions

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Rena H. Yadlapati, MD, MSHS, FACG



Dayna S. Early, MD, FACG

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A Partnership of the American College of Gastroenterology  
and the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation