



SEVEN different award types; INCREASED Junior Faculty FUNDING; NEW Mid-Career Bridge Funding; Med Resident and Student Awards

www.gi.org/research-awards

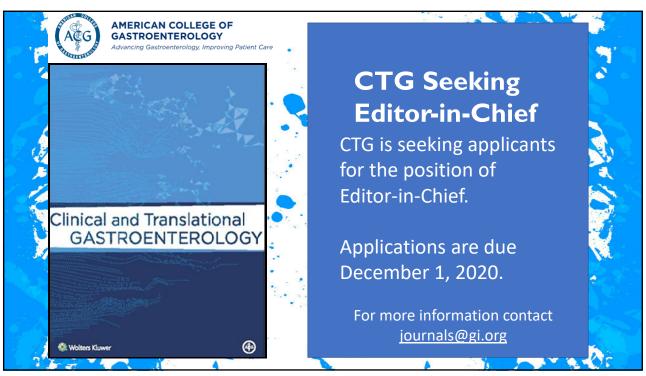
Grant System Opens: September 8, 2020

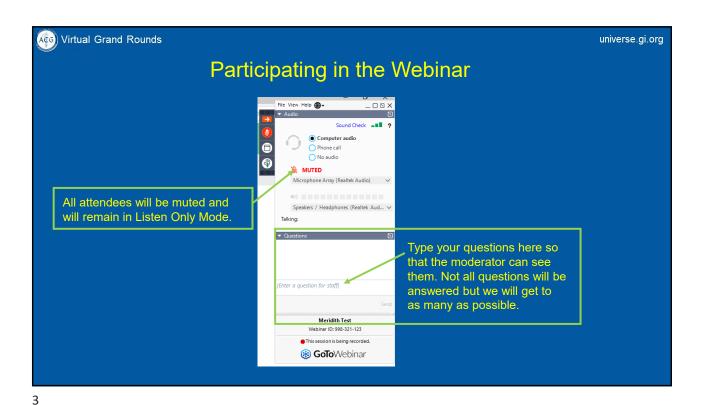
Deadline: December 4, 2020

Read the **Grant Flyer**, **FAQs**, or visit the webpage for the RFAs.

Welcome to the Virtual Grand Rounds Waiting Room – The educational activity will begin promptly at 12 Noon Eastern.

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How to Receive CME and MOC Points

LIVE VIRTUAL GRAND ROUNDS WEBINAR
ACG will send a link to a CME & MOC evaluation to all attendees on the live webinar.

ABIM Board Certified physicians need to complete their MOC activities by December 31, 2020 in order for the MOC points to count toward any MOC requirements that are due by the end of the year. No MOC credit may be awarded after March 1, 2021 for this activity.



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MOC QUESTION

If you plan to claim MOC Points for this activity, you will be asked to: Please list specific changes you will make in your practice as a result of the information you received from this activity.

Include specific strategies or changes that you plan to implement.

THESE ANSWERS WILL BE REVIEWED.

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ACG Virtual Grand Rounds

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Join us for upcoming Virtual Grand Rounds!



Week 33: Emotional Intelligence: Strategies for Improving Leadership in Medicine

Sara Ancello, DO; Divya Bhatt, MD; and Uchenna Agbim, MD November 12, 2020 at Noon EDT



Week 34: ACG Clinical Guideline Chronic Pancreatitis Timothy B. Gardner, MD, MS, FACG

November 19, 2020 at Noon EDT

Visit gi.org/ACGVGR to Register



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Disclosures:

Douglas K. Rex, MD, MACG

Consultant: Aries Pharmaceutical, Boston Scientific, Braintree Laboratories, Covidian/Medtronic, Endokey, GI Supply, Lumendi, Ltd., Research Support: EndoAid, Erbe USA Inc, Medivators, Olympus Corporation Stockholder: Satisfai Health



Brooks D. Cash, MD, FACG

Managing Medical-Legal Risk in Colonoscopy: Rules for Success



Douglas K. Rex, MD, MACG Indiana University Health Indianapolis, IN



Common Medical-Legal Issues in Colonoscopy

- Most common
 - Interval Cancer
 - Splenic injury
 - Perforation
- Others
 - Bleeding
 - Wrong site surgery
 - Wrong surveillance intervals
 - Incorrect management of malignant polyp



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Interval Cancer



- There's no video recording
- Or is there?
- Colonoscopies are poorly documented



Interval colon cancer malpractice cases

- Experts always say the same things
 - Plaintiff's expert: the exam was not careful to a degree that it was negligent
 - Defense expert: there is enormous evidence that colonoscopy is not perfectly effective at finding polyps even when it's performed carefully



The risk of an interval cancer:

- Determined by 2 factors:
 - -ADR
 - -Volume of procedures performed



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Anatomy of an Interval Colon Cancer Malpractice Case

- Tumor
- Historical features
- Procedure
- Experts
- Doctor's general performance



Anatomy of an Interval Colon Cancer Malpractice Case

- Tumor
 - -MSI
 - -Poor differentiation
 - -Signet ring cell formation
 - -Shape (better if it's flat)



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Anatomy of an Interval Colon Cancer Malpractice Case

- Historical features
 - -Length of time since colonoscopy in question
 - -Presence of persistent symptoms



Anatomy of an Interval Colon Cancer Malpractice Case

- Procedure (colonoscopy in question)
 - -Withdrawal time
 - Documentation of cecal landmarks (including photography)
 - Documentation of bowel preparation (including photography)
 - -Polypectomy techniques
 - -Retroflexion and documentation



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Anatomy of an Interval Colon Cancer Malpractice Case

- Expert opinion
 - -You want the expert on the other side to say something that's easy to prove is wrong



Doctor's general performance

- Performance in deposition
- ADR
 - -Was it measured at the time the colonoscopy was done?
 - -If it wasn't measured can it be reconstructed?



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Prep description

- Bowel prep scales for clinical trials
 - Aronchick validated (E-G-F-P)
 - Ottawa validated
 - Braintree not validated (E-G-F-P)
- Bowel prep scales for clinical practice
 - Boston validated
- Bowel prep scales that do both
 - Chicago validated



Aronchick

- Excellent
- Good large amount of clear fluid with > 90% of the mucosa seen
- Fair some semi-solid debris with > 90 % of the mucosa seen
- Poor



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In medical-legal actions

- · "Fair" implies you didn't see everything
- "Poor" says you clearly didn't
- BBPS < 2 in any segment: inadequate
- Fair and poor imply you should repeat the exam at an early interval
 - Guidelines say ≤ 1 year
 - Photodocument the prep
- In a screening or surveillance exam as soon as you decide you have to repeat the exam you should stop get photos



Photography

- If prep was adequate have the photos reflect that
- If the prep was inadequate have the photos reflect that



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Interval cancer cases

- Hard for a plaintiff to win if:
 - -Adequate prep
 - -Landmarks and photos present
 - -WT adequate
 - -ADR measured and adequate



Splenic injury



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Splenic injury

- Best documented risk factor is female gender
- Other possible risk factors
 - Anticoagulation, intraabdominal surgery, COPD, propofol, splenomegaly
- Expert will opine: Splenic injury is *per se* evidence of negligence



Remember the spleen!!!!

- No established rule to prevent it
- Rex rule: Be very careful with torque when the instrument tip is at or past the splenic flexure
- Diagnose early
 - Remember Kehr's sign
 - Use CT with IV contrast
- Remember IR for treatment if possible



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Perforation



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Perforation types

- Diagnostic (rupture)
- Therapeutic
- Barotrauma



Avoiding diagnostic perforation

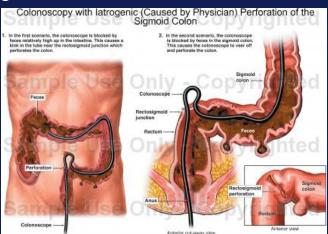
- Consider water immersion
- Flexible scope for fragile colon (pediatric scope or ultrathin/enteroscope)
 - Crohn's
 - Active IBD
 - Radiation
 - Chronic steroid use
 - Known severe diverticular disease
 - Multiple prior pelvic surgeries
 - Very elderly patients



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Rule for preventing diagnostic perforation

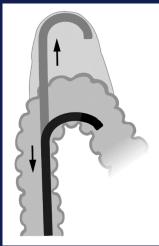
• Don't push against fixed resistance





Rules for preventing insertion injury

 Diagnostic perforation: don't push against fixed resistance



(ACG) Virtual Grand Rounds

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Use water in the fragile colon

- Consider water in the fragile colon
 - Keeps sigmoid straighter (sigmoid is where the loops occur)

(ACG) Virtual Grand Rounds

Avoiding therapeutic perforation

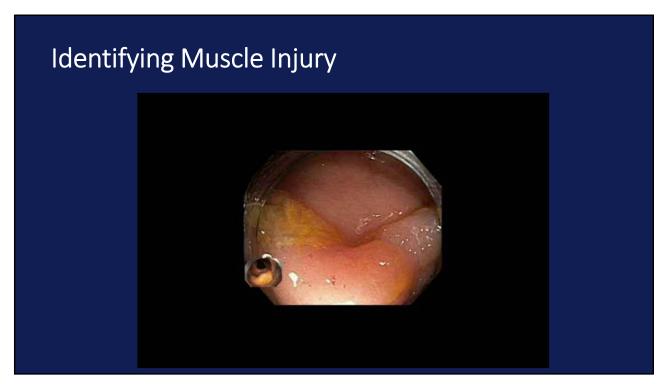
- EMR
 - Use snares of 15-20 mm size
 - Inject with a contrast agent
- Dilation
 - Don't overdilate
 - Don't dilate strictures longer than 4-5 cm
 - Don't dilate for endoscopic access alone



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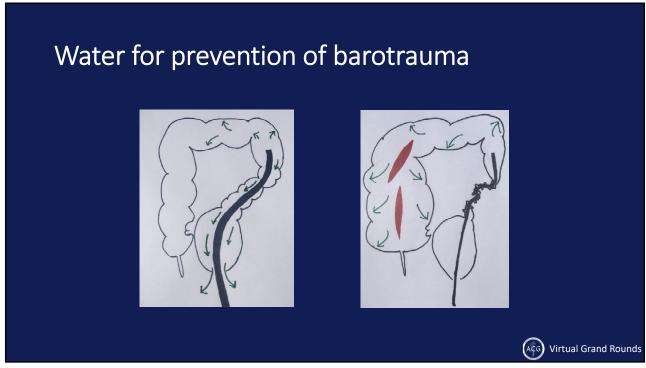


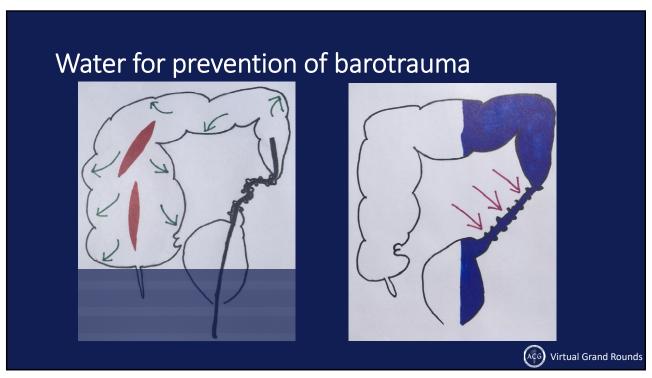
Avoiding barotrauma

• Convert to water in every complex sigmoid colon



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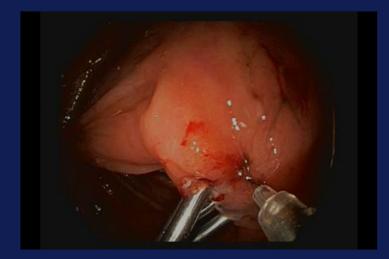
Tattooing

- Use a PPD technique
 - Approach tangentially
 - Lift the needle until it's visible in the sub-Q
- Get a sub-Q bleb then inject a lot
- Don't specify a specific segment unless you know it
- For cancers inject at distal end in 3-4 quadrants for SPOT typically 10-15 cc
- Let surgeon know you'll come to the OR if they can't find the tattoo
- Make note if there are multiple tattoos



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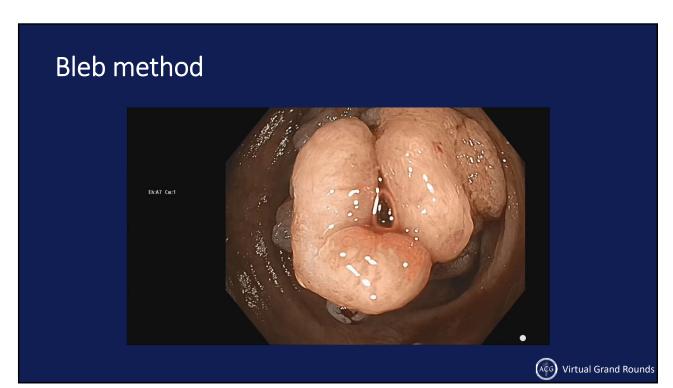
Direct injection method











Avoiding wrong-site surgery

- Distal ascending to mid-sigmoid: be vague about location
- Tattoo distal end of tumor and say where tattoo is (distal)
- Put enough tattoo in for surgeon to see it
- Note other tattoos in the colon!
- Surgeon must find tattoo in the colon wall
- Make sure surgeon knows: "no tattoo=no resection"
 - Need intraoperative colonoscopy if tattoo can't be found











Managing delayed hemorrhage

- Err on the side of going to the ED for evaluation
- Admit patients with ongoing bleeding
- If hematochezia consider urgent colonoscopy without bowel preparation
- If melena do bowel preparation
- If bleeding has stopped no mandate to scope but it may shorten hospitalization



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Aspirin

- ASGE: no need to stop it ever
- Our pre-procedure instructions: Do NOT stop aspirin if it was prescribed by a physician
- Post-procedure
 - Ok to not stop it for any procedure
 - Large EMRs: I stop it if there is no history of stroke, TIA, known vasculopathy



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Non-aspirin anti-platelet agents; anti-coagulants

- Follow the guidelines
- Don't keep a written set of rules or policies that differs from the guidelines
- Don't allow nurses or schedulers to advise patients on management
- Defer decisions to the prescribing specialist (not the PCP)
 - There is medical-legal risk associated with both bleeding and thromboembolism



Incorrect intervals

- Don't exceed intervals recommended by MSTF
- Have a systematic method of following up pathology (and laboratory and radiographic) studies



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Management of malignant polyps Unfavorable histologic criteria

Sessile malignant polyps

- Invasion depth > 1000 microns (en bloc resections only)
- Lymphovascular invasion
- Poor differentiations
- Tumor budding
- Close to resection line
- Piecemeal resection*

Pedunculated malignant polyps

- Cancer closer than 2 mm to resection line
- Lymphovascular invasion
- Poor differentiation
- Piecemeal resection*



Other issues

- Don't dilate asymptomatic strictures
- Don't treat asymptomatic radiation proctopathy
- Don't treat asymptomatic angiodysplasia
- Don't use hot forceps for polypectomy other than for avulsion



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Questions?

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