

UVA Interventional Endoscopy



The UVA Interventional Endoscopy group offers experienced consultative care for patients with luminal, pancreatico-biliary and oncologic disorders of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Physicians throughout the mid-Atlantic region and the country refer their patients for our advanced endoscopic procedures and high-quality patient care.

Exceptional Care

We offer innovative and specialized endoscopic procedures, including:

Endoscopic Mucosal Resection (EMR)

We are a trusted provider and regional referral center for performing EMR throughout the luminal GI tract. Our physicians perform both conventional injection-assisted EMR and underwater EMR, which is a novel procedure that we have offered since 2012 that effectively removes large, flat polyps from the stomach, duodenum and colon. Additionally, we have expertise in performing EMR to treat patients with dysplastic Barrett's esophagus.

Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection (ESD)

UVA was a pioneer in performing ESD in the United States, and we remain a nationally-recognized resource for this procedure to remove large polyps and superficial cancers in the esophagus, stomach, colon and rectum. Our director, Andrew Wang, MD, received specialized training and certification in ESD and he performed the first ESD in Virginia in 2010.

Endosuturing

We perform endoscopic suturing to close large luminal defects following a successful EMR or ESD, in order to reduce delayed complications and the need for hospitalization. We also use this procedure in selected patients to help manage unexpected issues that might arise following certain operations.

External Shock Wave Lithotripsy (ESWL)

Daniel Strand, MD, director of UVA's National Pancreas Foundation Center for pancreatitis care, is specifically trained in the innovative adaptation of ESWL to treat pancreatic duct stones.

Per Oral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM)

Our team is experienced in performing POEM to treat achalasia, an alternative to surgical Heller myotomy or pneumatic balloon dilation, with the potential to achieve similar results in a minimally-invasive manner.

Photodynamic Therapy (PDT) and Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA)

We are a referral center for endoscopically delivered palliative PDT and RFA to treat patients who have incurable malignancies affecting the bile ducts, such as pancreas cancer or cholangiocarcinoma. Additionally, we offer PDT or RFA as a neoadjuvant therapy for patients with inoperable cholangiocarcinoma who might be candidates for liver transplantation.



Interventional Endoscopy Services

In addition, we offer a full array of advanced endoscopic procedures and services:

- Diagnostic and therapeutic colonoscopy
- Diagnostic and therapeutic esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD)
 - Esophageal stricture dilation
 - Barrett's esophagus (resection, radiofrequency ablation, RFA; cryotherapy)
 - Endosuturing for anastomotic leaks and fistulae
 - Confocal endomicroscopy
 - Gastric mapping for intestinal metaplasia and early gastric cancer
- Endoluminal stenting (esophagus, stomach, duodenum, colon)
- Endoscopic pancreas function testing (bicarbonate analysis)
- Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP), including sphincterotomy, biliary and pancreatic stone removal and destruction, and biliary and pancreatic duct dilation and stenting for both benign and malignant diseases. Drs. Strand, Wang and Uppal perform over 1,000 ERCP procedures each year and accept referrals from across the country for specialized pancreatico-biliary endoscopic procedures.
- Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) — We perform over 800 EUS procedures yearly. Vanessa Shami, MD, Bryan Sauer, MD, and James Scheiman, MD, are nationally recognized for their expertise in EUS.
 - Diagnostic
 - EUS-guided fine-needle aspiration (FNA) and biopsy (FNB)
 - EUS-guided celiac plexus block and neurolysis
 - EUS-guided pancreas cyst ablation
 - EUS-guided fiducial placement
- Endotherapy for pancreatic fluid collections and necrosis
 - Cystgastrostomy
 - Endoscopic necrosectomy

Our Team

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Our group is well-known for being academic leaders in endoscopic innovation, research and education. However, the most important goal of our team is to provide the best possible care to our patients and their families through the use of endoscopic procedures. Please contact us if we can be of assistance to you or your patients.

To transfer an inpatient, call UVA Transfer Center at **844.XFERUVA (933.7882)**.

Find out more at uvahealth.com/digestivehealth.