

Updated Barrett's Guideline aims to improve patient outcomes

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The American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) has released its updated "ASGE guideline on screening and surveillance of Barrett's esophagus," published in the September issue of *GIE: Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*.

The guideline aims to help clinicians understand the published literature and quality of available data on [screening](#) and [surveillance](#) in patients with Barrett's esophagus; a [precancerous condition](#) for esophageal adenocarcinoma. This document addresses several key clinical issues in this field, including the role and impact of screening and surveillance of Barrett's esophagus. As with other types of cancer, identifying this precancerous condition and early changes of cancer provides the best chance of successful treatment and, ultimately, improves patient outcomes.

Several endoscopic procedures and related technologies are used to screen and monitor patients with known or suspected Barrett's esophagus. If changes are found in the cells lining the esophagus, various endoscopic treatment approaches are available.

This guideline addresses the utility of advanced imaging and sampling modalities used during screening and surveillance endoscopic procedures and includes chromoendoscopy, confocal laser endomicroscopy, endoscopic ultrasound, wide-area transepithelial sampling (WATS) and others. Table 4 contains a summary of the recommendations.

The document complies with the standards of guideline development set forth by the Institute of Medicine for the creation of trustworthy guidelines and provides recommendations based on the GRADE framework.

"We are hopeful that this current information will help guide clinicians in using the growing array of tools and technologies available to us to diagnose and manage Barrett's [esophagus](#), which, in turn, has the potential to significantly impact patient outcomes," said Sachin Wani, MD, FASGE, Chair of the ASGE Standards of Practice Committee.

More information: Bashir Qumseya et al, ASGE guideline on screening and surveillance of Barrett's esophagus, *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy* (2019). [DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2019.05.012](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gie.2019.05.012)

Provided by American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

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