



**American College of Gastroenterology Guidance for ACG Members
Patient Communication Regarding Infection Risk from Duodenoscopes Used in ERCP**

In light of the recent infection reports related to ERCP procedures and equipment, the College offers the following talking points and resources to help you help your patients understand the important safety concerns regarding transmission of carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) linked to duodenoscopes and distinguishing this procedure from more common EGD and colonoscopy procedures.

Infection Risk Limited to Highly Specialized Equipment

At issue in the recent cases of infection is a specialized scope for a highly specialized and relatively rarely performed endoscopic procedure, ERCP (endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography).

Distinguish Duodenoscope from Other Endoscopic Equipment

It's important to keep in mind that the equipment used for colonoscopy and upper GI endoscopy is not impacted by this particular super-bug which affects the specific duodenoscope used for ERCP.

FDA Guidance

On [February 19, 2015 the U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) issued guidance](#) for providers performing ERCP with duodenoscopes, as well as outlining the process for reporting any adverse events.

For More Information

GI Societies' Joint Response

[Multisociety Patient Safety Statement, January 21, 2015, "Gastroenterology Societies Discuss Patient Safety in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy"](#)

Guideline on Endoscopic Reprocessing, American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy/Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

[ASGE/SHEA "Multisociety Guideline on Reprocessing Flexible Gastrointestinal Endoscopes: 2011"](#)



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