
Emily Couric Memorial Lecturer

The Emily Couric Memorial Lecture was developed by the ACG, the Virginia Gastroenterological Society (VGS) and the Old Dominion Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates (ODSGNA) to honor Virginia State Senator Emily Couric, who lost her battle with pancreatic cancer in October of 2001. Senator Couric was a strong advocate for healthcare issues, particularly in her instrumental work to pass the nation's first legislation mandating health insurance coverage for colorectal cancer screening. The Emily Couric Lecturer is someone prominent in the field of GI cancer related topics. This individual is nominated by the President following consultation with the VGS and the appointment is subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.

2017 Lecturer

Mark B. Pochapin, MD, FACG

Colon Cancer: Polyps, Prevention and Progress



Mark B. Pochapin, MD, FACG, is Vice Chair of Clinical Affairs, Director of the Division of Gastroenterology, and The Sholtz-Leeds Professor of Gastroenterology in the Department of Medicine at NYU Langone Medical Center / NYU School of Medicine. In his clinical practice, Dr. Pochapin specializes in advanced gastrointestinal endoscopy and focuses on the prevention, early detection, and treatment of gastrointestinal cancers. His research interests center on innovative endoscopic technologies, quality in endoscopy, and the early detection of precancerous and cancerous lesions.

Dr. Pochapin has received over 30 teaching awards, including the Elliot Hochstein Teaching Award for “the qualities of compassion, skill, and distinction as a physician and teacher” and the Humanism in Medicine Award in recognition of “compassion, sensitivity, respect, and cultural competence in the delivery of care to patients and their families.” He is the author of “What Your Doctor May Not Tell You About Colorectal Cancer.”

Dr. Pochapin graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science and Engineering degree in 1984, and received his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College in 1988. He is the current Treasurer of the American College of Gastroenterology Board of Trustees.