

SCOPE IT OUT!

January 2025

Missouri Gastroenterology Society

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UPCOMING EVENTS



You Are Invited...

Missouri GI Society Virtual Educational Meeting

WHEN: Wednesday, February 26, 2025

TIME: 7:00 pm-8:00 pm CST

AGENDA: Introduction to Speaker - Sheetal Sharma, MD, President

PROGRAM: Barrett's Esophagus and Esophageal Adenocarcinoma - Where Do We Stand in 2025?



Sachin Wani, MD, FASGE, AGAF
Gastroenterologist, Aurora, Colorado

Sachin Wani, MD, is Professor of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Medical Director Esophageal and Gastric Center at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado.

Objectives:

1. Review the current guidelines in screening for Barrett's esophagus.
2. Highlight the limitations in surveillance for Barrett's esophagus and review the principles of a high-quality endoscopic examination to optimize detection of Barrett's related neoplasia.
3. Discuss the current status of endoscopic eradication therapy for Barrett's related neoplasia.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with accreditation requirements and policies of the Missouri State Medical Association through the joint providership of Kansas City Southwest Clinical Society and Missouri Gastroenterology Society. Kansas City Southwest Clinical Society is accredited by the Missouri State Medical Association to provide continuing medical education to physicians. The Kansas City Southwest Clinical Society designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in this activity.

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SCAN CODE TO JOIN MOGI

QUESTIONS: Email MOGI Executive Director Benita Stennis at bstennis@msma.org



Member Spotlight

Dr. Rajiv Chhabra

Dr. Rajiv Chhabra serves as the Chair of the New Initiatives Committee at the Missouri GI Society. He is a general gastroenterologist at Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City and a Professor of Medicine at the University of Missouri–Kansas City (UMKC). Additionally, he is the Associate Director of the GI Fellowship Program at UMKC.

Dr. Chhabra was born in northern India. After graduating from high school, he attended Bangalore Medical College in southern India. Upon earning his medical degree, he moved to the United Kingdom (UK), where he completed his Internal Medicine residency training in Glasgow and Newcastle upon Tyne. He successfully passed the Membership of the Royal Colleges of Physicians (MRCP) examination, a prestigious qualification in internal medicine offered by the Royal Colleges of Physicians in the UK. Subsequently, he moved to the United States, where he matched with the Internal Medicine Residency Program at UMKC. He remained at UMKC to complete his Gastroenterology fellowship.

After completing his fellowship, Dr. Chhabra chose to continue in academics and joined Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City, an affiliate hospital of UMKC. During his 13-year career at Saint Luke's Hospital, he was promoted to Professor of Medicine and became the Associate Director of the GI Fellowship Program at UMKC. Over the years, Dr. Chhabra has pioneered new service lines at his institution, including deep small bowel enteroscopy and third-space endoscopy (ESD/POEM). His expertise in these advanced GI procedures draws referrals from across Missouri and Kansas.

He is a member of multiple national GI societies and a Fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology (FACG). Dr. Chhabra has served on several national committees of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE), including as Chair of the Upper GI and Small Bowel Subcommittee of the DDW Annual Scientific Committee and as a member of the International Clinical Symposium and Clinical Symposium. He has published numerous manuscripts, book chapters, and abstracts and is frequently invited to moderate sessions at Digestive Disease Week (DDW).

Outside of work, Dr. Chhabra enjoys traveling and spending time with his wife, Roopa, a psychiatrist specializing in addiction psychiatry, and their three children, Zoya, Rhea, and Virat Om. He also enjoys playing cricket, tennis, and cycling.

Dr. Chhabra is passionate about ensuring that GI physicians across the state have a voice and is proud to serve in the Missouri GI Society.



President's Corner

As a new GI organization formed by Gastroenterologists from around Missouri, MOGI has developed into a group of highly engaged physicians focusing on bringing together gastroenterologists across the state. MOGI is an unique opportunity for us to develop a voice as both gastroenterologists and patient advocates serving all parts of the state. As we get stronger, another important goal is to advocate for us about GI reimbursement, insurance and payer issues, and GI regulatory structures state-wide.

We gathered recently to discuss the news and novel tricks in GI endoscopy with Dr Andy Tau; Dr "Blood and Guts" himself, who was as always dynamic while teaching us endoscopy tricks out there for our everyday GI practices.

Coming up this February, we have the venerable Dr Sachin Wani speaking on current guidelines in Barrett's Esophagus, surveillance and the current status of endoscopic eradication strategies.

To do this work in advocating for our specialty, we need the help from all the GI physicians in the state. We must have a voice at the table in Jefferson City and within the various private and academic institutions in the state providing GI centered care. We can only be a strong team if we all work together; so I urge you to come join us at MOGI to bring community success for all of us and our patients!

*Sheetal Sharma, MD FACP
President, Missouri GI Society (MOGI)*

Become a member of the Missouri Gastroenterology Society and keep up to date on the latest issues affecting GI providers throughout our state! Join by scanning the QR code or visit <https://www.missourigi.org/membership>



Membership in the Society offers the following benefits:

- ✓ ***Complimentary registration to the MO GI Society's Annual Meeting***
- ✓ ***Ability to Earn MOC Points and AMA PRA Category 1 Credit***
- ✓ ***Establish new connections with gastroenterologists from around the state and share ideas about making all GI providers successful well into the future***
- ✓ ***Advocate for the profession on legislative, regulatory, and payer (both public and private) issues state-wide.***