

Leading Advancements in Technology and Research

At GI Specialists of Georgia, we perform a wide range of complex procedures using the latest diagnostic technologies.

Narrow Band Imaging™:

This technology provides our doctors with sharper images and better contrast that makes observing lesions in the esophagus, stomach, small bowel and colon much easier and more accurate.

Endoscopic Ultrasound:

This state of the art procedure involves using an ultrasound probe on the end of an endoscope to better diagnose many Pancreatic, Biliary, Esophageal and intestinal disorders. It requires special training, and GI Specialists of Georgia is one of the few gastroenterology groups that offer it. In 2007, our specialists performed 339 endoscopic ultrasounds.

Clinical Research Trials:

We are committed to researching new and improved ways of treating gastrointestinal and liver diseases. We have on staff a research team that includes physicians, nurse practitioners and certified clinical research coordinators who participate in various clinical research trials.

Our Physicians

Arif A. Aziz, MD

David C. Ballard, MD

Francisco J. Cardenas, MD

Anish A. Desai, MD

David Finkelman, MD, MBA, FACG, AGAF

William Fortson, MD

Suku George, MD, MPH, FACP

Sachin Goel, MD, AGAF

Jeffrey L. Kim, MD

Ross A. Kommor, MD

Jack R. Koransky, MD

Subodh K. Lal, MD

Anuj Paul Manocha, MD

K. Mike Michaelides, MD

Judith Oh, MD

Priti Pandya, MD

Michael S. Perkel, MD, AGAF

Harry Piyasena, MD

Robert M. Strauss, MD

Ritesh Shah, MD

Aasim M. Sheikh, MD

Our Locations

Austell

1700 Hospital South Drive,
Suite 502
Austell, GA 30106

Douglasville

6043 Prestley Mill Road,
Suite D
Douglasville, GA 30134

East Cobb Medical Center

1010 Johnson Ferry Road
Marietta, GA 30068

Hiram

148 Bill Curruth Parkway,
Suite 200
Hiram, GA 30141

Our Ambulatory Surgical Centers

DCA Diagnostics

880 Crestmark Drive,
Suite 102
Lithia Springs, GA 30122

Lithia Springs

880 Crestmark Drive,
Suite 102
Lithia Springs, GA 30122

Marietta

61 Witcher Street,
Suite 3100
Marietta, GA 30060

Towne Lake

120 Stonebridge Parkway,
Suite 110
Woodstock, GA 30188

Villa Rica

401 Permian Way,
Suite A
Villa Rica, GA 30180

Please visit us at www.gigeorgia.com

2007

Satisfaction Results

Delivering on our commitment to high quality gastrointestinal care

Welcome to GI Specialists of Georgia

With 21 board certified gastroenterologists, seven nurse practitioners and a dedicated support staff, GI Specialists of Georgia combines experience, technology and education to provide our patients with the highest level of care and wellbeing.

We at GI Specialists of Georgia track our annual performance and outcomes and compare them against national benchmarks. We make this information available to you so you can evaluate our results and factor this information into any decisions you make concerning your procedures and medical treatment.

We also encourage you to visit our website at www.gigeorgia.com where you will find extensive information on the diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal disorders.

Commitment to Quality

Your satisfaction is our focus and as part of this commitment, we have implemented patient surveys designed to track how well we are doing at superseding your expectations. The following are last year's results.

2007 Satisfaction Results (%)	
Physician Office	98.6
Registration/Business Office	98.2
Pre-procedure	99.2
Intra-procedure	99.0
Post Procedure Recovery	98.7
Facility	99.3
Summary	98.7

GI | SPECIALISTS
OF GEORGIA

Diseases and Diagnostic Procedures

The following conditions are some of the most frequently diagnosed and treated conditions by GI Specialists of Georgia.

- Abdominal Pain
- Abnormal Liver Findings (CT, Ultrasound)
 - Gallstones
 - Hepatitis A, B, C
 - Fatty Liver
 - Cirrhosis of the liver
- Abnormal Liver Function Test (blood test abnormal liver enzymes)
- Anemia
- Celiac Sprue
- Colon Cancer
 - Colon Polyps
- Constipation
- Crohn's Disease
- Diarrhea
- Diverticular disease (diverticulitis, diverticulosis)
- Esophagitis/Reflux (Heartburn, indigestion etc.)
- Gallstones
- Gastritis
- GI Bleeding
 - Gastric
 - Duodenal Ulcers
- Hemochromatosis
- Pancreatitis
- Trouble Swallowing
- Ulcerative Colitis
- Functional Bowel Disease
 - IBS

GI Specialists of Georgia treats a wide variety of gastrointestinal diseases and disorders. For educational purposes, we've provided a brief overview of several, as well as information on the procedures commonly used to diagnose them. If you have any questions about these diseases or procedures, please contact us at 678-741-5000, 770-739-9555, or 770-429-0031.



Open Access Colonoscopy Screening

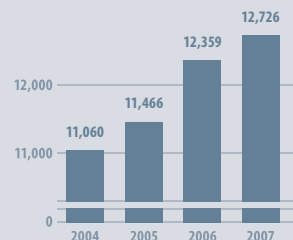
If you are a healthy patient with no symptoms or history of gastrointestinal disease, you can schedule a colonoscopy without having a preliminary office visit. You can learn more about our open access screening by contacting us at 1-888-692-6566 (My-Colon).

Colonoscopy Quality Measurements

We strive to meet several colonoscopy quality measurements established by the Gastrointestinal Specialists Society. The first, cecal withdrawal time, indicates that a longer withdrawal time correlates to higher detection rates of neoplasms or polyps. Our withdrawal time is 7.26 minutes, compared to the national standard of 6.2 minutes. The second measurement is polyp detection rates, and in 2007, our average polyp detection rate was 25% compared to the national standard of 24%. The third quality measurement is average completion rate, and in 2007 we achieved a 97% average completion rate, which is notably higher than the national average of 93%.



Colonoscopies Performed



Liver Diseases and Hepatitis

We are committed to treating liver disease, including liver cancer, cirrhosis and hepatitis. Hepatitis C, the most common form of viral hepatitis, affects more than 3 million people in the United States and can be spread through blood transfusions and contaminated needles.

Gastrointestinal Motility Disorders



Do you feel full after only a few bites of food? Have you ever vomited undigested food? If so, you may be suffering from gastroparesis, which is one of the more common motility disorders. A gastrointestinal motility disorder is a condition in which the muscles of the wall of the stomach work poorly, or not at all, preventing the stomach from emptying properly.

Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)



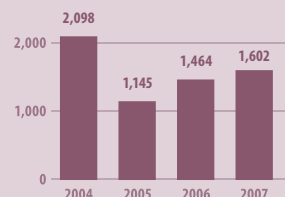
If you have persistent constipation, diarrhea or a crampy urge to move your bowels, you may be suffering from Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS). This common disorder of the intestines leads to pain, gassiness, bloating, and changes in bowel habits. If you have been experiencing these symptoms over an extended period of time, you should contact us for an evaluation.

Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)

Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) is a term that refers to both ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. Ulcerative colitis causes inflammation of the lining of the large intestine, whereas Crohn's disease causes inflammation of the lining and wall of the large and/or small intestine. When inflamed, the lining of the intestinal wall is swollen, becomes ulcerated and bleeds.



Patients Diagnosed with Crohn's Disease



Esophageal Diseases

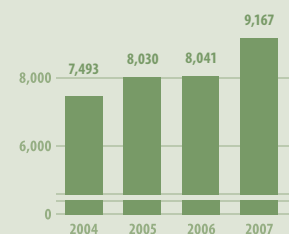
Many people who suffer from heartburn think it's a benign disorder that they can treat themselves with over the counter medications. In fact, gastroesophageal reflux disease can be a serious condition that should be evaluated by a doctor. Reflux Esophagitis is a condition where stomach acid refluxes backwards into the esophagus causing inflammation and damage to the esophagus. Left untreated, Reflux Esophagitis can cause a disorder known as Barrett's Esophagus, which causes pre-cancerous changes in the cells that line the esophagus and increases the risk for developing esophageal cancer.

Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD)

If you're suffering from esophageal diseases, like Reflux Esophagitis or Barrett's Esophagus, you will likely undergo an esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD). An EGD is an examination of the lining of your esophagus, stomach and small bowel that's performed by inserting a flexible endoscope through the mouth. In 2007, we performed over 9,000 EGDs.



EGDs Performed



Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)

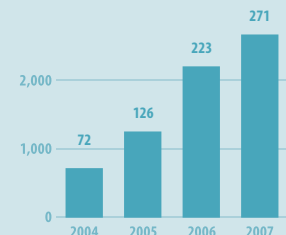
The Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) combines an endoscopy with an x-ray to examine, evaluate and diagnose persistent abdominal pain caused by gall bladder, pancreatic, liver and duct problems. In 2007, GI Specialists of Georgia performed 717 ERCP procedures.

Video Capsule Endoscopy

Introduced in 2001, the Video Capsule Endoscopy is an important innovation in diagnostic endoscopy. During the procedure, a patient swallows a pill containing a camera that records the pill's movement through the gastrointestinal tract. It's an important tool in diagnosing disorders of the small intestine, which are difficult to visualize through traditional endoscopic techniques.



Video Capsule Endoscopies Performed



Celiac Sprue Disease

You may have noticed an increase in the number of foods that are advertised as "gluten free?" More than likely, that's related to the increase in the number of people being diagnosed with Celiac Sprue disease. Between 2006 and 2007, the number of patients we treated with Celiac Sprue disease rose almost 65%. People with this disease cannot tolerate the protein or gluten that is found in bread, as well as foods containing wheat, barley and rye. The disease damages the small intestine and interferes with the absorption of nutrients. The symptoms of Celiac Sprue disease can mimic other gastrointestinal disorders, so contact us if you are having persistent problems with diarrhea, abdominal cramps or weight loss.

Biliary and Pancreatic Disorders

We treat a wide range of biliary and pancreatic disorders, including Pancreatitis, gallstones, pancreatic and biliary duct cancer.