



Updated Statement on Endoscopy in the COVID-19 Era 16 February 2022

SAGES notes that:

The previous statement released in early 2020 is outdated, given the current epidemiology and vaccination status of COVID-19 infection. Several international guideline updates and position statements have been published over the past year with conflicting recommendations on the need for COVID testing prior to endoscopy, as well as the provision of endoscopic services. Consequently, we have reviewed the current data on endoscopy in the era of COVID, as well pre-endoscopic testing for COVID-19 and have concluded that:

1. Due to the current conflicting guidelines from major societies, there is insufficient data to make any 'blanket' recommendation.
2. The links to the aforementioned guidelines are attached below; we therefore suggest that practitioners make a value judgement based on their individual situations.
 - a. <https://www.thieme-connect.com/products/ejournals/pdf/10.1055/a-1700-4897.pdf> (ESGE and ESGENA)
 - b. <https://www.asge.org/home/resources/publications/journal-scan/issue/updated-aga-recommendations-on-pre-endoscopy-covid-19-testing> (AGA)