

### Infection Prevention Policy Statement

#### Statement

The Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates (SGNA), a professional organization of nurses and associates dedicated to the safe and effective practice of gastroenterology and endoscopy nursing, is committed to proper infection control and prevention measures to be used for all settings where gastroenterology is practiced.

It is estimated that 7% of all patients admitted to the hospital develop a hospital acquired infection resulting in several thousand patients dying annually. To reduce the number of infections and deaths, SGNA recommends adhering to SGNA and other Gastroenterology organizations' evidence-based guidelines that seek to eliminate infections via gastrointestinal endoscopes.

SGNA has instituted a nationwide Infection Prevention Champions Program to provide evidenced-based procedural resources that will ensure safety from infections throughout the gastroenterology and endoscopy experience.

SGNA's goal is for each medical facility across the country to participate in the Infection Prevention Champion program by enrolling a team leader as a Champion that acts as the link to current infection prevention news and guidelines, ensuring current and safe practices are implemented.

SGNA remains steadfast in its commitment to high quality patient care. SGNA members continuously advocate for the use of effective infection prevention guidelines and raise awareness about the need of proper training and education in infection prevention when performing or assisting with gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures.

#### About SGNA

The Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates carries out its mission by advancing the science and practice of gastroenterology and endoscopy nursing through education, research, advocacy, and collaboration, and by promoting the professional development of its members in an atmosphere of mutual support.

To learn more about the steps SGNA is taking to promote infection prevention, please visit: [www.sgna.org](http://www.sgna.org).