

FAQ Yorkville Endoscopy Center (YEC)

Why was YEC founded?

Yorkville Endoscopy Center was founded in February 2013 by 11 leading New York – based gastroenterologists associated with four major teaching/academic institutions in Manhattan. The center was designed to provide procedural and health care excellence in a personalized, compassionate and cutting edge environment.

Is YEC a licensed, regulated and certified facility?

Yorkville Endoscopy Center is licensed at the state level by the New York State Department of Health. It is accredited at the federal level by the Center for Medicare Services (CMS) as an ambulatory endoscopy center; and independently accredited by the American association for accreditation of ambulatory surgery facilities (AAAASF).

What does licensed and regulated mean?

Healthcare is a much regulated industry by both the state and federal government. This is especially so for outpatient procedural centers. Government regulations specify detail of the actual building of the facility such as materials for flooring, ceiling tile, ventilation and electrical specification all towards patient safety to match a standard that would be found in any hospital setting. Once built, the facility must be thoroughly inspected and certified by three different regulatory agencies before being allowed to open for patient care.

What are the qualifications of YEC gastroenterologists?

After graduating from medical school all gastroenterologists complete five or six years of post doctoral training. Most of our doctors are board certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology. Most of our physicians hold an academic teaching position at one of four major teaching hospitals in Manhattan including Mount Sinai, Lenox Hill, Cornell and NYU.

What does an academic appointment mean for a YEC gastroenterologist?

This means that a gastroenterologist has demonstrated academic excellence in the field. This includes patient care, procedural skill and that he or she has also done meaningful research to advance the knowledge of medicine and the treatment of disease. An academic appointment means that a physician has been recognized by their hospital as a leader in the field and entrusted by their medical center to teach young gastroenterologists, medical residents and medical students.

What type of diagnostic equipment is used at YEC?

The latest generation of video endoscopes, manufactured by the most advanced manufacturer of precision endoscopic equipment, the Olympus Corporation, is used exclusively at Yorkville Endoscopy Center. The 190 series of endoscopes with their cutting edge engineering are the first such instruments to employ high definition video technology.

Are anesthesiologists employed at YEC?

The entire anesthesia staff of Yorkville Endoscopy Center are M.D. board certified anesthesiologists. Certified registered nurse anesthetists are not utilized at YEC.

What type of anesthesia does YEC use for procedures?

The type of anesthesia used at Yorkville Endoscopy Center is known as monitored anesthesia care of MAC. Typically light to moderate sedation is used to ensure patient comfort and enable completion of the diagnostic procedures. The sedative medication is administered through an intravenous line by a single anesthesiologist dedicated to one patient for his or her procedure time. State-of-the-art monitoring of vital functions via computerized display is performed during all procedures and in recovery areas.

What type of emergency equipment is at YEC?

Yorkville Endoscopy Center as a federal and state licensed facility has the same level of life saving and resuscitation equipment as would be found in any emergency room or hospital operating room. Such equipment includes advanced cardiac defibrillators, ventilation equipment and a wide range of medications to treat complications from allergic reactions, to asthma to heart attacks.

Are there risks to endoscopic procedures at YEC?

All invasive procedures and those requiring sedation have risks that are the same for patients in hospitals or in endoscopic centers. Bleeding, perforation of an organ and heart and lung complications of sedation are the most common complications of endoscopy. A recent large national study found that 1/1,000 patients are transferred or are evaluated in a hospital emergency room within 24 hours after an endoscopic procedure.

What is the safety rate at YEC?

Yorkville Endoscopy Center has performed over 18,000 cases since it began in February 2013. Its hospital transfer rate is 1/4,000, four times better than the national average.