

JOINT EVENT

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Endoscopic therapies in gastroesophageal reflux disease: A clinical review and scientific literature

Gastro-esophageal reflux disease is a very common disease among the "healthy" population. Its natural history involves continuous recursions alternating with quiescent stages. For this reason, the importance of the social problem and high health costs is clear. Some patients do not respond to medical therapy. Those who benefit from medical treatment often become addicted to medication. As many are young and as medical therapy can have adverse side effects such as anemia, osteoporosis, and infections, the need for alternative therapies arises. Surgery is seen with fear in view of the possible early or late complications and the technical difficulties of repeating the intervention in case of failure. Laparoscopic surgery has favored a greater propensity for the surgical solution, but it is still an intervention involving three to four days of hospitalization. Endoscopic surgery, easy, repeatable surgery, without intraoperative and postoperative complications, which can be performed at Day Hospital, would be ideal for this type of chronic illness. In reviewing the various techniques that have been proposed over the last 20 years, I refer to the considerations derived from international literature. I carry out scientific studies that compared endoscopic operations (especially endoscopic fundoplication) with surgical fundoplication, with satisfactory results but not always in favor of the first one. My personal invitation is to continue to look for solutions with endoscopic surgery, which should be or become the most appropriate technique for this type of pathology, considering the easy repeatability, if anything but a bridge to surgery.

**Biography**

Antonio Iannetti has completed his graduation in Medicine and Surgery and Specializations in Gastroenterology and Internal Medicine from the University of Rome. He is a Medical Clinic Assistant at the University of Rome since 1975. His other research and academic positions include: 1980–1983, University of Los Angeles (USA); 1982–1985, Hospital Assistant at Policlinico Umberto, University Hospital Roma; Lecturer Urgency Medicine at the Hospital Medical School; since 1985; University Professor of Gastroenterology Chair University, University Polyclinic Umberto, Rome; 1991–1993, Director of Emergency Endoscopy Service; 1994–2010, Director Digestive Endoscopy Service at the University Hospital Umberto of Rome; 1987–2013, Professor of Digestive Endoscopy at the School of Specialization and Digestive Diseases at the Degree Course of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Rome "Sapienza". Also, he teaches E.C.M. courses nationally and internationally. Since 2011, he is a Gastroenterology Expert at the Ministry of Health.

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