



CT SGNA



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2025 Executive Council

President: Kathy Vinci, RNC, CGRN

President-Elect: Jinghong Yu, MSN, RN, CNE, CGRN, RN-BC

Secretary: Barbara Comstock, BSN, RN, CGRN

Treasurer: Holly Sanzo, BSN, RN, CGRN

Past President: Kathleen Saunders, BSN, RN, CGRN

2025 Board of Directors:

Mario Castiello, BSN, RN
Danielle Czesak, MSN, RN, RN-BC
Ann Russo, BSN, RN, CGRN
Carol Stevens, BSN, RN, CGRN

Nominations & Election Committee Members:

Kathleen Saunders, BSN, RN, CGRN
Dawn Kirschner BSN, CGRN
Junling Yang RN, CGRN, M.L.

Reach out to us at ctsgnaboard@gmail.com

The following positions are available for 2026

- President-Elect: one year (then President, followed by Immediate Past President)
- Secretary: two-year term
- Two Board Positions (Directors): each is a two-year term
- Two Nomination and Election Positions: each is a one-year term

How to apply:

1. Fill out a leadership application by September 30
 - a. Go to ctsgna.org/documents
 - b. Then click "Leadership Application"
2. Email to ctsgnaboard@gmail.com

Please consider running for one of these positions to support your organization and practice. Election results will be announced at the CTSGNA November dinner meeting.



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🕒 Scholarships 🕒

Scholarships for Beyond the Scope:

- 6 scholarships available to members and non-members!
- Deadline: September 15

Quarterly Scholarship: Up to \$250

- For any GI-related conference

For full details and to apply, please visit www.ctsgna.org/documents
Then, click "Scholarship Policy and Application"

✉ Submit your applications to: ctsgnaboard@gmail.com

💎 Local Highlight 💎

Certified Nurse Spotlight

The following nurses have achieved their Certified Gastroenterology Registered Nurse (CGRN) certification:

- Andre Shakes from UConn Health
- Kate Pirozzi from UConn Health
- Mary Beth Castle from Hospital of Central Connecticut.

Congratulations to these hard working, certified nurses!

If you or someone you know deserves a local highlight on our social media and newsletter please reach out to us.



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📖 Upcoming Educational Events 📖

September 27, Saturday:

- **Beyond the Scope Conference** at DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Bristol, Connecticut

Topics at Beyond the Scope Include:

- Evolution of Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) presented by Carol Petruff, MD
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease presented by Haleh Vaziri, MD
- Going Green in GI presented by G. Avinash Ketwaroo, MD
- GI Procedures & Anesthesia presented by Matthew Mazurek, MD, MHA, MBA
- Therapeutic Endoscopic Ultrasound presented by Pranet Wander, MD
- The Endoscope Movement: One Specialty at a Time presented by Stacy Johnson, MSN, APRN



October 16, Thursday:

- Virtual Meeting on ColoWrap, which is the first clinical colonoscopy compression device.

November 15, Saturday:

- Hands-On ERCP Workshop at Middlesex Hospital, Middletown, Connecticut

November 20, Thursday:

- Chuck Bobala, Senior Sales Rep at Erbe at J. Timothy's Taverne, 143 New Britain Ave, Plainville, Connecticut



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Stay updated about our future events by joining our email list today! [Click here.](#)

🌀 2025 GI Nurse of the Year 🌀

CTSGNA wants to make it easier for you to nominate an outstanding nurse you feel deserves the CTSGNA GI Nurse of the Year award. Please take a moment to acknowledge individual excellence, professional and dedication to GI Nursing by filling in the form located on our ctsgna.org website! (They must be a CTSGNA member).

Nomination Deadline is August 31st, 2025

Do not hesitate to nominate a candidate. It is **not** necessary to have all yes answers to be eligible for this award, just a member and please include a summary on your candidate. This award will be presented at CTSGNA's [Beyond the Scope!](#)

Please submit the completed application to CTSGNA's immediate Past President:
Kathleen Saunders, BSN, RN, CGRN at: ctsgnaboard@gmail.com

How to nominate:

1. ctsgna.org/documents
2. CTSGNA Nurse of the Year Nomination Form 2025

🌀 2024 GI Nurse of the Year 🌀



Jinghong Yu, MSN, RN, CGRN, RN-BC, was presented with the 2024 CTSGNA Nurse of the Year Award by Kathleen Saunders, BSN, RN, CGRN (right).

This recognition took place at the 2024 BTS program in Bristol, CT.



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U GI Unit Highlight U



Saint Francis
GI Endoscopy, LLC

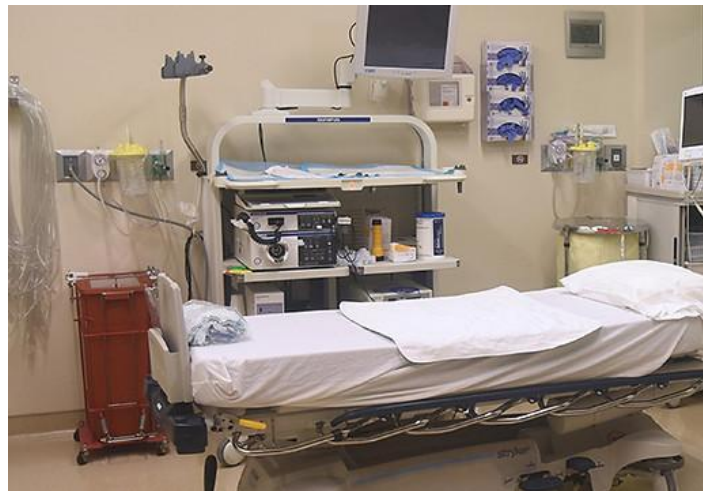


Trinity Health
Of New England

Saint Francis Hospital
and Medical Center

Saint Francis GI Endoscopy: 360 Bloomfield Ave, Windsor, CT 06095

- State of the art outpatient facility and a joint venture between Saint Francis Hospital and Central Connecticut GI Endoscopy.
- They have been recognized by the United States News & World Report among the 2024 – 2025 best ambulatory centers for colonoscopy and endoscopy.



Want your unit highlighted?
Let's shine a spotlight on your team's achievements.

Reach out to us:

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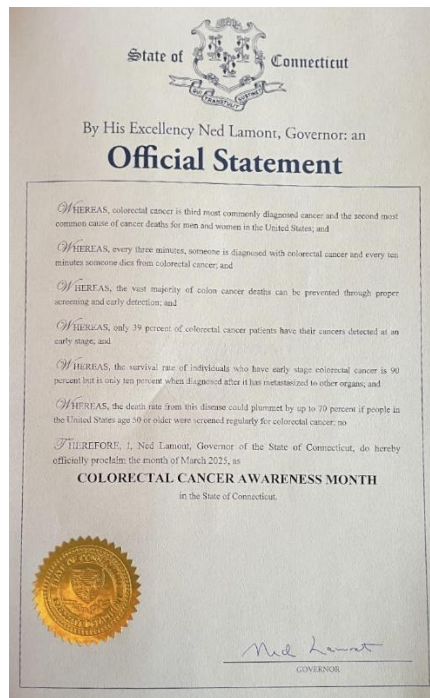
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❖ Local Highlight ❖

The State of Connecticut officially proclaimed the week of March 16 - 22 to be Gastrointestinal Nurses and Associates Week.



The State of Connecticut officially proclaimed March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.





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💡 We Value Your Input 💡

CT SGNA is committed to providing exceptional educational opportunities for our members. We want to hear from you! Take a moment to share your thoughts by completing our short survey:

👉 [Click Here to Access the Survey](#)

Your feedback will help shape our future webinars, hands-on workshops, dinner meetings, and more.

🙏 **Thank you** 🙏

Thank you for your support to CT SGNA.
We look forward to seeing you at future events.

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