

DIVISION OF

GASTROENTEROLOGY + LIVER DISEASE

FABIO COMINELLI, MD, PhD | DIVISION CHIEF

The Division of Gastroenterology and Liver Disease continues to be an international leader in clinical and translational research, education, and community service. The following programs continue to flourish with important accomplishments and publications: the Cleveland Digestive Diseases Research Core Center, the Program Project Grant: Pathways of Injury and Repair in Barrett's Carcinogenesis, and the Barrett's Esophagus Consortium: Validation of Biomarkers for predicting Barrett's esophagus that will or will not: i) progress towards cancer, or ii) recur after ablation.

The division continues to be successful in large multi-disciplinary National Institutes of Health grants:

- Digestive and Liver Inflammatory Diseases: P30 Center (PI: Fabio Cominelli, MD, PhD)
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease: R01 and CCF Litwin Award (PI: Fabio Cominelli, MD, PhD)
- Barrett's Esophagus: P01 (PI: Amitabh Chak, MD)
- Gastrointestinal Cancers: P50 (Co-PI: Amitabh Chak, MD)
- Case Medical Student Summer Fellowship: T35 (PI: Fabio Cominelli, MD, PhD)
- Combined Training in Digestive Disease Sciences: T32 (PI: Fabio Cominelli, MD, PhD)
- Role of Diet in Patients with IBD: NIH K01 (PI: Abigail Raffner, PhD)
- Role of Fungal Infections in IBD: NIH K01 (PI: Luca Di Martino, PhD)

The division's clinical activity remains highly productive, providing integrated care within the primary and secondary markets, which have further expanded the development of our clinical programs to the east and west sides of Cleveland. We have further developed our Telemedicine Program both in Hepatology and Gastroenterology. All Providers in our Division are currently offering virtual and phone visits to accommodate the needs of our patients and increase patient access. Our division has expanded Therapeutic Endoscopy to St. John's Medical Center on the west side. Another key initiative is we recently partnered with UH Specialty Pharmacy to open a second Infusion Center at UH North Ridgeville with plans to expand to a third location. Finally, our division has integrated a handful of Dietitians to assist with assessing patient's nutritional status and provide personalized nutrition treatments for patients within the UHHS System.

We continue to pursue excellence in all areas of the departmental mission and strive to provide state-of-the-art care for patients with digestive diseases, while at the same time remaining inquisitive researchers and educational innovators.