

ISS Symposium From Heartburn to Barrett's Esophagus, and Beyond

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Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) is a unique condition whose prevalence has been increasing worldwide. It manifests initially with symptoms such as heartburn and regurgitation, which can affect profoundly the quality of life. In about 10–15% of patients, it determines a transformation of the mucosal lining of the esophagus—from a squamous epithelium to a columnar epithelium—a condition known as Barrett's esophagus. Barrett's esophagus can eventually progress to adenocarcinoma, the most common esophageal cancer in the western world. Furthermore, today it is recognized that the fatal potential of GERD is due not only to the development of cancer, but also of severe lung disorders such as pulmonary fibrosis.

In this symposium organized under the auspices of the International Society of Surgery, we have asked a group of international experts to discuss the most relevant aspects of GERD, from the pathophysiology to the evaluation, from the medical therapy to the endoscopic and surgical approaches. It is a comprehensive collection of manuscripts, an evidence and experience-based symposium.

The Authors of this symposium will all be speakers at the World Congress of Surgery, which will take place in Basel, Switzerland, August 13–17, 2017. We do hope to see you there!!

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