

SHOULD I SEE A GASTROENTEROLOGIST?

If you experience any of the following symptoms, you may benefit from visiting a gastroenterologist:

- + **Abdominal pain**
- + **Heartburn, reflux, and indigestion**
- + **Difficulty swallowing**
- + **Bleeding during bowel movements**
- + **Rectal pain and/or itching**
- + **Chronic constipation**
- + **Persistent diarrhea**
- + **Sudden, unexplained changes in bowel habits**
- + **Family history of colon cancer and/or polyps (growths)**

GASTROENTEROLOGY is the study of the digestive system and its disorders. The digestive system includes the esophagus, stomach, small intestine, colon/rectum, pancreas, gallbladder, liver & bile ducts.

Don Bulla, PA-C, RPh



Serving the Triad since 1988

After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from UNC-Chapel Hill, Don Bulla completed the Physician Assistant Program at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He is licensed by the North Carolina Medical Board and the North Carolina Pharmacy Board. He is also certified by the National Commissions for Certification for Physicians Assistants.

Amanda Taylor, PA-C



Serving the Triad since 2004

Amanda Taylor received her B.S. in Biology from High Point University. She continued her studies at UNC-Greensboro, where she received a Master of Public Health Education. She completed the Physicians Assistant Program at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. She is certified as a Physician Assistant by the National Commission and maintains membership with the American Academy of Physician Assistants.

BETHANY

Gastroenterology & Endoscopy Center



507 N. Lindsay St
High Point, NC 27262

(336) 883-0029



State and Federally Licensed

www.bethanymedicalcenter.com

Did You Know...

Most cases of colon cancer begin with the development of polyps.

Colon cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the US.

When diagnosed early, up to 90% of colorectal cancers are curable.

Colonoscopies are recommended for everyone age 50 and older without any symptoms.

**Call today to schedule a screening
(336) 883-0029**

Dr. Lenny Peters, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Serving the Triad since 1987



Dr. Lenny Peters, President & CEO of Bethany Medical Center, received his medical degrees in India and the U.K. He completed Internal Medicine training at the University of Pittsburgh and completed a Gastroenterology fellowship at Wake Forest University. He is board-certified

in Gastroenterology and Internal Medicine.

Since founding Bethany Medical Center in 1987, he has expanded it into a multi-specialty medical group, including a state-of-the-art endoscopy center.

Services & Procedures:

Colonoscopy: A colonoscopy is the visual examination of the large intestine (the colon) using a small, flexible tube with a light and camera on the end. The colon begins in the lower, right abdomen and looks like a question mark, ending in the rectum. It is approximately 5 to 6 feet long; one of its many functions is to absorb water from liquid and nutrients to form stool. We perform colonoscopies to identify and/or correct problems in the colon; a diagnosis can be made and specific treatment given. If a growth is found during the exam, it can be removed at that time, eliminating the need for major surgery later.

Flexible Sigmoidoscopy: We use this procedure to see the last one-third of the colon. This will allow us to detect inflamed tissue, abnormal growths, and ulcers. We may also detect early signs of cancer and diagnose unexplained changes in bowel habits, abdominal pain, rectal bleeding, and weight loss. One advantage of this procedure is that it takes less time than a colonoscopy—procedure time is approximately 20 minutes.

Upper Endoscopy (EGD): This procedure allows us to see the esophagus, stomach, and the first part of the small intestine with a long, thin, flexible tube with a light and camera. This will enable us to detect Barrett's Esophagus, a condition that may develop from chronic GERD (acid reflux). We can also detect ulcers, inflammation, abnormal growths, and early signs of cancer.

Hemorrhoid Treatments: More than half of all adult Americans will experience annoying, painful symptoms of hemorrhoids at some point in their lives. Luckily, the staff at the Bethany Gastroenterology and Endoscopy Center can provide effective treatments and help patients prevent hemorrhoids. Patients have several surgical and non-surgical options for treatment. Most hemorrhoids do not require surgical intervention: relief may be found by taking a warm bath or by sitting on ice packs and/or doughnut-shaped cushions. However, if surgery is required, hemorrhoids may be removed by tying them off with rubber bands and cutting off blood flow. Another option is to shrink hemorrhoids with heat, which will cut off blood flow and cause them to fall off.

Esophageal Dilation: This helps patients who have trouble swallowing due to narrowing of the esophagus. This problem is usually a result of stomach acid coming up the wrong way. Less common causes include excess tissue, cancer, and other digestive disorders. Depending on the degree and cause of this narrowing, we may require repeat procedures; this allows for gradual expansion and decreases the risk of complications.

*We offer screenings, allergy testing,
and treatment of Hepatitis C.*