

IBD & ENDOSCOPY INTEREST GROUP MEETING

Saturday, 28 October 2023

Vineyard Hotel, Cape Town

The penultimate meeting of the Gastroenterology Foundation of SSA was held at the Vineyard Hotel in Cape Town on 28th October 2023. For the first time we combined two subspecialties - Inflammatory Bowel disease and Endoscopy. The meeting attracted over 90 participants of which half were virtual participants.

After a welcome and short overview of the Foundation's activities by the Chairman Chris Kassianides the meeting began with a talk by Gill Watermeyer on the changing epidemiology of IBD and the rising number of cases in SSA. This was followed by the important topic of cancer surveillance in IBD and the endoscopic treatment of advance pre-neoplastic lesions.

Case studies in Crohn's disease followed and the morning session concluded with the role of Capsule endoscopy and Double balloon enteroscopy in the diagnosis of small bowel Crohn's disease.

After a satisfying and enjoyable brunch the meeting recommenced with a presentation of the hepato-biliary diseases associated with IBD and endoscopic measures to treat them. The endoscopic session concluded with an approach to the endoscopic treatment of small and large bowel related IBD strictures.

It was the first time the Foundation has combined two subspecialties and this broadened the interest and the meeting was well received.

Perhaps this meeting may represent a model for programs in the future.

Chris Kassianides

Chairman Gastrofoundation of SSA