Any adult who has had a routine colonoscopy is intimately familiar with an endoscope—defined most simply as a slender, flexible, movable, tube-shaped instrument with a light and a camera for viewing the inside of the body or removing tissue. “All gastroenterologists are trained in standard upper endoscopy and colonoscopy,” explained James Farrell, MD, Professor of Medicine (Digestive Diseases) and Director of the Yale Center for Pancreatic Disease. But during his training, Dr. Farrell became captivated by the potential for endoscopes to do even more, not just with screening, but with early diagnosis, treatment, and even relieving pain and blockages in patients who are critically ill. “It was clear to me that if I wanted to develop a career that involved the diagnosis and management of gastrointestinal cancers, I would need an additional set of skills, beyond standard endoscopy.”

While standard endoscopy is typically used to detect large polyps and tumors in the colon and issues in the upper digestive tract, at Smilow Cancer Hospital, the advanced endoscopy team primarily focuses on the bile duct and the pancreas—two areas that can be difficult to access with standard endoscopic instruments. Using techniques...
Including endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)—which combines upper GI endoscopy and X-ray—and endoscopic ultrasonography (EUS), a combination of ultrasound and endoscopy, we can see very early-stage cancers in the lining of the stomach, esophagus, and colon, as well as do fine needle biopsies (FNB) to stage the cancer along with colleagues in Yale Pathology, the endoscopic tools, it's possible to inject anesthetic directly from pain," Dr. Jamidar emphasized. With advanced endoscopy, we can put a catheter into the bile duct, remove the stone, and have the patient home in a day or two, and "We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors." EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, targeting an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.” EUS can also be used to perform a type of biopsy known as endoscopic ultrasound guided tissue acquisition (EUS-TA), which is important for hard-to-detect pancreatic lesions, where it's needed. “We do a procedure known as a celiac plexus block, mapping an antidepressant into the network of nerves behind the pancreas to alleviate pain caused by tumors.”