Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society was established as Japan Gastrocamera Society in 1959 and the title of the society was changed to Japan Endoscopy Society in the 3rd General Assembly held in 1961 with a view to include a broader range of endoscopy. In 1962, the society got an official authorization as an incorporated association. In 1973, the title of the society was changed to Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society to focus on the gastroenterological endoscopy, and in 1979, the society was approved to affiliate with the Japanese Association of Medical Sciences. The society had a membership of only 280 at the time of establishment, but it has grown to nearly 35,000 in 2022.

JGES is dedicated to advancing patient care and welfare, by promoting digestive disease research through endoscopy, developing and advancing endoscopic practice.

**Milestones**

**Milestones 50s - 60s**

- Gastrocamera era; development and improvement of gastrocamera
- Study on diagnostic method and classification on early gastric cancer
  - 1955 1st Gastrocamera Meeting
  - 1959 Japan Gastrocamera Society established
  - 1st Congress of Japan Gastrocamera Society Journal in Japanese published
  - 1961 Renamed to Japan Endoscopy Society, Number of members reached to 1,000
  - 1962 Establishing classification of early gastric cancer

**Milestones 70s - 80s**

- Fiberscope era; advancing clinical studies
- Endoscopic diagnosis application expansion to esophagus, duodenum and colon
- Further development through new endoscopic methods
  - Biopsy, hemostasis, chromoendoscopy, ERCP, EST, EUS diagnosis etc.
  - 1973 Renamed to Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society
  - 1985 Number of members reached to 10,000
  - 1989 Journal in English published; “Digestive Endoscopy”

**Milestones 90s – now**

- Entering to videoscope era; promotion on education and further clinical studies
- Further advancement in endoscopic diagnosis and development of therapeutic procedures
  - Magnifying endoscopy, image enhanced endoscopy (NBI, AFI, IRI, etc.), capsule endoscopy, balloon enteroscopy, EMR, ESD, laparoscopic surgery, interventional EUS etc.
  - 1993 DDW Japan established (Current JDDW)
  - 2023 Number of members reached to 35,000
JGES Presidents

Sadataka Tasaka 1959-1981  
Takao Sakita 1981-1997  
Hirohumi Niwa 1997-2009  
Michio Kaminishi 2009-2013  
Hisao Tajiri 2013-2019  
Haruhiro Inoue 2019-2022  
Shinji Tanaka 2022-

JGES International Membership

JGES welcomes doctors outside Japan to become JGES Members.

International Membership Benefits Include:
- Online access to JGES official English journal “Digestive Endoscopy”
- Priority registration to Hands-on courses organized by JGES with discount (half-price) registration
- Discount (half-price) registration at the Congresses of Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society
- Receive information on endoscopy live demonstration courses in Japan

For details, visit our website→  https://www.jges.net/english/membership
**Activities**

- Promoting endoscopic researches
- Educational seminars and lectures
- Two congresses every year
  - Individual annual congress in spring
  - JDDW in autumn
- Regional meetings
  - Meetings held by 10 regional chapters
- Mass survey in endoscopy complications
- Education board system
  - Board certified fellows: 20,988 members
  - Board certified trainers: 6,754 members
- Endoscopic co-medical system
- Japan Endoscopy Database (JED) Project: A prospective, large database project related to gastroenterological endoscopy in Japan started in January 2015
  
  Data of endoscopic procedures collected in JED (Jan – Dec 2020): UGI 597,707, Small intestine 1,180, Colon 279,486, ERCP 30,206
- JGES “STARS” program — JGES Supports Training of Asian Rising Stars — to provide training opportunities to young GI endoscopists in Asian developing countries (Rising Stars)
- Collaboration with international societies
  - WEO, APSDE (Asian Pacific), CSDE (China), KSGE (South Korea), ESGE (Europe), ASGE (USA) and more.

**Journals**

- **Gastroenterological Endoscopy**
- **Digestive Endoscopy**
- **DEN Open**

**Guidelines**

- Guidelines for endoscopic balloon dilation in treating Crohn’s disease-associated small intestinal strictures (supplement to the Clinical Practice Guidelines for Enteroscopy)
- Guidelines for Colorectal Cold Polypectomy (supplement to “Guidelines for Colorectal Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection/Endoscopic Mucosal Resection”)
- Clinical practice guidelines for endoscopic papillotomy
- Colonoscopy screening and surveillance guidelines

....and more! Visit JGES website→  [https://www.jges.net/english/publication/guideline](https://www.jges.net/english/publication/guideline)