



Irving Waxman, MD

The James R. Lowenstine Professor of Internal Medicine

Advancement of Medicine

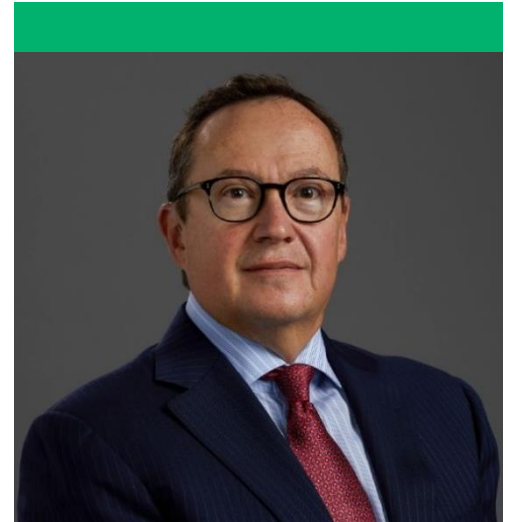
With the funds from this endowment, I continue to enhance the educational, research and faculty engagement missions for the Division of Digestive Diseases & Nutrition at Rush. This includes financing a research coordinator to support the ongoing education program.

In 2024, I organized the third annual Rush Endoscopy Live event, which brought together over 125 attendees and 15 experts from eight states and three countries. This event served as an important milestone, showcasing Rush's Digestive Diseases team through live procedures, immersive hands-on training, and expert presentations covering topics such as the esophagus, bariatrics, the pancreas, the biliary system, the colon, procedural complications and the future of endoscopy.

We look forward to expanding this model in August 2026 with the inaugural Midwest Endoscopy Live event, which will feature eight partner institutions participating in live cases and interactive discussions.

I welcomed one advanced endoscopy fellow to the Rush Center for Interventional and Therapeutic Endoscopy, or CITE, in 2025, and we are currently training this individual in advanced techniques as well as promoting research projects. I served as a guest speaker and invited moderator on seven occasions, including at Digestive Disease Week and during Grand Rounds at Rush, as well as in three states and two countries. Additionally, I co-authored four peer-reviewed journal articles.

I also recruited a research coordinator to expand the Digestive Diseases research team's capacity to support clinical trials and qualitative studies. As a result, the Digestive Diseases team initiated three research studies in 2025, with six more pending study initiation.





Education and Clinical Care

Since the beginning of my career, I have focused on educating and supporting trainees. I've received recognition from previous institutions for this work and trained countless gastroenterology residents and fellows who went on to excel in clinical care and research. I've mentored 17 trainees who are now successful leaders in gastroenterology across the world, including in the U.S., Mexico, Italy, Japan and Argentina.

I am focused on providing the best possible complex interventional endoscopic care for patients and supporting referring physicians. I am tirelessly focused on developing the Digestive Diseases Service Line while providing clinical care to patients and supporting faculty.

Leadership and Service

I aim to lead by example. In the first week of my arrival at Rush, I started supporting the clinical schedule by opening endoscopy blocks, taking on additional calls and services, and developing mechanisms to support trainees, faculty and staff in their career pursuits. In 2025, I continued to provide outpatient clinical care and perform procedures at the Center for Interventional and Therapeutic Endoscopy on a weekly basis.

In addition, I have been a longstanding member of numerous medical societies since 1992 and held multiple leadership roles, which recently include vice chair of the Endoscopy, Technology and Imaging Section of the American Gastroenterological Association Institute (2020) and invited member of the editorial board for *Annals of Laparoscopic and Endoscopic Surgery* (2020). As of 2025, I have affiliations with 16 peer-reviewed journals.

Research

As of 2025, I have published 215 peer-reviewed journal articles, 21 chapters and 36 abstracts and completed four reviews. I have received over \$2 million in grant funding for research and currently have an h-index of 43. My research centers on high-resolution endoscopy, endoluminal resection, endosonography-guided therapy and therapeutic approaches to complex pancreatic-biliary diseases.

Grants

Through continuing medical education programs like Rush Endoscopy Live, I have secured an additional \$229,000 in sponsorships and \$15,000 in grants and funding.



Notable Accomplishments

- Gastroenterology and GI care at Rush University Medical Center continues to be in the top 25 in *U.S. News & World Report's* rankings.
- I served as an invited speaker and moderator six times in 2025.
- We improved patient throughput in endoscopy, specifically as it relates to on-time starts and consistency in anesthesia.
- I continue to support the growth of gastroenterology service offerings to patients and physician colleagues via consistent recruitment.
- I continue to develop leadership opportunities for GI faculty to support the growth and development of programs and teams.

The Year Ahead: 2026 and Beyond

Looking ahead, I will continue to effectively utilize these funds to enhance the educational, research and faculty engagement missions for Digestive Diseases at Rush. This includes the continuation of financing a research coordinator to support the ongoing education program. Additionally, I will continue to support the advanced endoscopy fellowship, with the objective of training our fellows to become experts in the field. Planning for the inaugural Midwest Endoscopy Live event is also underway for 2026.

With Gratitude

I extend my sincere appreciation for your generous investment in the James R. Lowenstine Professorship. Your support not only honors the critical work taking place in the field of digestive diseases but also fosters enduring opportunities for innovation, education and exceptional patient care. Your commitment is deeply valued, and its impact will be felt for years to come. I regard this responsibility with the utmost seriousness and remain dedicated to upholding Mr. Lowenstine's legacy with integrity and purpose.