Who We Are
Since 1958, the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO) has grown to a global federation of over 100 Member Societies, representing more than 60,000 gastroenterologists, hepatologists, endoscopists, GI surgeons, and other health care professionals worldwide. This reflects the true global nature of WGO and its aim to represent and support gastroenterology and related disciplines worldwide.

Mission:
To promote, to the general public and healthcare professionals alike, an awareness of the worldwide prevalence and optimal care of gastrointestinal and liver disorders, and to improve care of these disorders, through the provision of high quality, accessible and independent education and training.

Vision:
- Increase global public awareness of gastrointestinal and liver disorders
- Provide independent and high quality educational opportunities to medical, nursing and other healthcare professionals in gastrointestinal and liver disorders throughout the world, regardless of location
- Promote international collaboration in digestive health education, training and research
- Support healthcare professionals who care for those with gastrointestinal and liver disorders throughout the world

WGO Foundation
The WGO Foundation (WGOF) is dedicated to raising funds to develop and sustain WGO global education, training, and advocacy programs throughout the world.

What Benefits do WGO Programs Provide?
- Physicians and Other Healthcare Professionals
  - WGO programs and initiatives provide accessible, locally appropriate and independent education, and relevant skills training.
- Patients and the General Public
  - WGO programs support the development and retention of trained and skilled digestive health specialists benefiting patients with digestive ailments in previously unserved or underserved areas.
• All Communities
  – WGO programs help to close the information gap in communities of low-resource countries by lessening the exodus of healthcare workers.
  – WGO programs serve to enhance quality of life worldwide by supporting efforts to increase awareness of digestive health, promote recognition of the earliest signs of digestive disease and appropriate response, and encourage active participation in preventive health measures.

Membership
Being a part of WGO makes WGO Member Societies, and by extension, their members, and active participants in the global gastroenterology community. As a member of WGO you are providing an opportunity to expand the knowledge and training of your colleagues worldwide and increase our collective ability to truly be Global Guardians of Digestive Health. Gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy and other related-discipline societies as well as healthcare professionals from all over the globe are welcome and encouraged to apply for membership within WGO.

The dues our members contribute each year are channeled into training, education, and advocacy in regions throughout the world. The high level of commitment from the WGO leadership, all of whom are volunteers, and staff to participate in the governance, training, and development of education and other resources available to our members, along with a strong belief in our mission, makes WGO an organization of which you can be proud.

If you have any questions about the benefits of being a member of WGO or about the membership application process, please visit www.worldgastroenterology.org/membership or email us at membership@worldgastroenterology.org.
Train

WGO has several training programs and initiatives working together to promote the highest standards in training for and in the practice of gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy, and related fields. WGO seeks to circulate locally relevant knowledge and develop the skills of medical practitioners, healthcare workers, and educators through the following programs:

• Training Centers
• Scholar and Trainee Funding Program
• Train the Trainers

Training Centers

WGO Training Centers aim to meet the increasing demand for digestive disorder prevention and treatment worldwide by developing the skills of local medical practitioners.

Scholar and Trainee Funding Program

The WGO Training Center mission is to establish and nurture training centers for primary and advanced gastroenterology and liver training in locations of need, thereby improving the standard of training at a grassroots level while ensuring a focus on regionally-relevant diseases. One of the ways identified to support WGO in this mission is the direct establishment of the Scholar and Trainee Funding Program at the WGO Training Centers. The WGO Scholar and Trainee Funding Program offers financial support to allow a trainee the greater means to attend longer training at a WGO Training Center, increasing the learning opportunities and outcomes for GI and liver education in low-resource regions.

Train the Trainers

Train the Trainers is a highly successful program designed to disseminate teaching skills to those gastroenterologists, hepatologists, and other practitioners who hold training positions in their own countries.
**Educate**

WGO has transformed itself into an organization that provides training and education to all parts of the globe. Thinking on an international scale, WGO is creating a global education network through its members.

Working together, this WGO global education network is increasing worldwide gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy, and related discipline knowledge through the following programs:

- Global Guidelines and Cascades
- Educational Programs
- Train the Trainers
- Training Centers
- Scholar and Trainee Funding Program
- World Digestive Health Day (WDHD)

**World Congress of Gastroenterology (WCOG) and WGO International Conferences**

Since 1958, the World Congress of Gastroenterology (WCOG) brings the best and most innovative speakers and attendees together in the field of digestive health. In addition to the World Congress of Gastroenterology, there has been increasing interest shown by WGO Member Societies to secure the endorsement and support of WGO for International Conferences, smaller meetings with a regional focus, including both broadly themed meetings and congresses and also monothematic workshop offerings. In order to meet this growing need, WGO is collaborating with its Member Societies and regional associations to host joint meetings in-between World Congresses.
Advocate

World Digestive Health Day (WDHD) is a yearlong, worldwide public health campaign that includes many activities and events and serves as WGO’s leading advocacy program. WDHD formally inaugurates the annual campaign every 29th May. The goal of WDHD is to increase global awareness of digestive and liver diseases by WGO’s Member Societies, Regional Affiliate Associations, government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, physicians, pharmacists, allied healthcare professionals, healthcare payers, media, consumers, and the general public. WDHD’s success is ultimately derived from the combined efforts of WGO, its Member Societies, Regional Affiliates, and other partners worldwide.

Level Of Reach & Participation

WDHD has grown more than 17 times since 2005 when only 18 events were held globally.

Fun Facts

Growth
WDHD has grown more than 17 times since 2005 when only 18 events were held globally.

Outreach
Over 75 media outlets, including networks such as CNN, have reported on WDHD.

Events
Participation continues to grow in Africa and the Middle East with countries such as Iran & Qatar hosting WDHD events.

Guidelines
WDHD topics are the impetus for the creation of the majority of the 25 WGO Global Guidelines and Cascades.
Inform

WGO keeps you up to date on the latest news and events in the world of gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy and other related disciplines on a global scale. Stay informed with:

- Global Guidelines and Cascades
- e-WGN, WGO’s quarterly e-newsletter
- The *Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology*, the official journal of WGO and the publication platform for WGO’s Global Guidelines and Cascades as well as WGO society news and WGO review articles
- WGO’s website, Join our mailing list!
- WGO’s Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram accounts

Get Social with WGO

@WorldGastroOrg
Like us and Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram for the latest news and information in the world of gastroenterology, hepatology, and other related disciplines.

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LinkedIn  World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO)
https://www.linkedin.com/company/world-gastroenterology-organisation-wgo-wgo-foundation/

WGO Executive Secretariat
555 East Wells Street, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3823 USA
Phone: +1 414 918-9798
Fax: +1 414 276-3349
Email: info@worldgastroenterology.org
Website: www.worldgastroenterology.org

Scan me to go to the WGO website!