

**AGA EXPANDED DESCRIPTORS FOR DDW 2020**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Basic Mechanisms of Tissue Injury, Repair and Fibrosis	Aims to feature studies on biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular cell biology of tissue injury, repair, and development of fibrosis.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Celiac Disease and Gluten Related Disorders	Aims to include studies on the immunology and cellular/tissue pathogenesis of celiac disease and gluten sensitivity including human, translational, basic in vitro cell and tissue models, genetic, and in vivo animal studies. Genetic studies which involve the elucidation of the mechanism or genetic factors that contribute to immunopathogenesis of celiac disease are included in this descriptor. Also included are large population studies that address genetics, prevalence of celiac disease in adults or children, comparative studies of risk, and differences in populations or secular trends.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Cell and Molecular Biology of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Features studies on molecular and cellular mechanisms of GI disease.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Cell Biology, Biochemistry and Integrative Physiology	Features basic cell biology, biochemistry and physiology in GI health.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Cell Signaling in Inflammation, Injury and Mucosal Repair	Aims to feature basic cellular and molecular signaling pathways involved in intestinal inflammation, injury and repair.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Clostridioides Difficile Colitis: Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, Management and Therapy	Diagnosis, management and treatment of C. difficile infection (CDI). Host-microbial crosstalk in CDI susceptibility. Microbial and Biotic-based therapy for CDI. CDI pathogenesis (excluding toxin virulence mechanism).
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Diarrheal Disorders: Bacterial Overgrowth - Drug Induced and Other Enterocolitides (Microscopic, Enteropathy, Check Point Inhibitors, Etc.)	Aims to feature clinical, epidemiological and basic studies on pathogenesis of diarrheal diseases and other enteropathies including environmental enteropathy, ischemic, toxin, drug induced, allergic, autoimmune, diverticular disease. Consequences or outcomes of these illness would be also included. Also includes clinical and basic studies on novel small molecule and biologic therapeutics, and pre- and probiotics, for the intestinal disorders including diarrhea, irritable bowel, auto immune, environmental enteropathies, drug-induced, and microbial induced intestinal diseases. This descriptor excludes celiac disease, C. difficile and the chronic inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Enteric Neuromuscular Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology (Including Neurons, Glia, ICC, Smooth Muscle, Stem Cells & Development, Pharmacology)	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to basic visceral pain, microbiome, neuromediators, neurotransmitters, neurogenic Inflammation, pain, viscerovisceral cross talk, gut microbiota, visceral hypersensitivity.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Epithelial Function and Ion, Water and Nutrient Absorption	Research focused on epithelial transport including mechanisms, roles of various components, down-stream effect of dys-regulated transport.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Epithelial Junctions and Barrier Function	Features studies on biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular and cell biology of cell adhesion and junction protein complexes, of epithelial polarization and assembly into restrictive monolayers, and in epithelial repair of barrier function after injury.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Food Intolerances, Allergy, and Sensitivities	Disaccharide deficiencies, lactose, fructose or other food intolerances or sensitivities would be included and GI manifestations of food allergies. Studies that pertain to histamines or other responses to foods or dietary changes would also come under this descriptor. The interaction between microbiome and diet, in particular, where it relates to disease or gastrointestinal function/dysfunction would also come under this descriptor.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Genetics and Gastrointestinal Disorders	Aims to feature clinical and basic studies on mono-genetic intestinal diseases and intestinal failure.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	In Vivo Models of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Features studies of GI diseases using animal models.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Inflammation and GI Cancers	Research focused on inflammatory mechanisms that underlie GI cancer initiation, development, and progression. Research can include sporadic cancer as well as cancers secondary to inflammatory diseases (e.g. inflammatory bowel disease). Can include both preclinical and clinical studies.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Intestinal Inflammation, Fibrosis and Regeneration	Aims to feature basic studies of intestinal injury by inflammation, radiation or hypoxia, and mechanisms of repair, fibrosis, and stricture formation.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Irritable Bowel Syndrome: Clinical	Aims to feature clinical studies on pathogenesis, diagnosis, disease outcome, treatment, disease progression of Irritable Bowel Syndrome.

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Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Irritable Bowel Syndrome: Pathophysiology	Evaluates abstracts that focus on basic (preclinical) and translational studies including pathogenesis, diagnosis and disease progression of Irritable Bowel Syndrome.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Microbial Pathogens and Toxins of the Intestine and Colon	Aims to feature studies on microbial pathogenesis for enterotoxins and bacterial, viral, fungal infections of gut - excluding C. Diff toxin induced disease.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Microbiome and Infectious Diseases	Pathogens and pathogenic virulence mechanisms that affect the gut microbiome and cause infectious diseases (viral, fungal, parasitic, bacterial, excluding C. difficile infection). Alternations in genomics and function of commensal microbes that lead to negative, disease-causing consequences. Perturbations or aberrant host functions that lead to altered gut microbial function that can promote infectious diseases.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Mucosal Innate Function and Innate Host Defense: Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Basic and translational studies on mucosal innate immune function and innate host defense - human or animal studies.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Non-Immune Cells in Intestinal Inflammation: Epithelium and Stroma	Studies of the role of the cells of the epithelium and stromal cells (not professional immune cells) in intestinal inflammation.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Organoid Models of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Features studies of gastrointestinal function or disease using organoids.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Prebiotics, Probiotics and Synbiotics in Health and Disease	Use of prebiotics, probiotics, postbiotics and synbiotics (biotics) in the treatment and prevention of GI and extraintestinal disease. Biotic functions, mechanisms of action and interactions with the endogenous microbiome and host. Bioengineering new biotic functions. Biotic clinical and regulatory considerations.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Role of the Gut Microbiome and Pathogens in Immune and Inflammatory Diseases	Gut microbial role in inflammatory diseases of the bowel, including inflammatory bowel diseases, Celiac disease, food allergy, graft-versus-host, Dysmotility, etc. Mediators, mechanisms, and targets of microbial pathogenesis that cause and/or contribute to these diseases.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Stem Cells in Health, Development, and Malignant Transformation	Features investigations of diverse aspects of stem cells, including so-called Cancer Stem Cells, stem cells as cells of origin for cancer, and stem cells in normal homeostasis and regeneration.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine	Cutting-edge techniques for refining, growing, and expanding engineered GI tract, liver, and pancreas tissues for replacement or augmentation of compromised organs in patients.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Transcriptional, Epigenetic and Genetic Regulation of GI Function and Disease	Aims to feature studies on gene expression, gene regulation, and gene suppression leading to gastrointestinal disease, including mechanisms by alterations of chromatin structure.
Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders	Vitamins and Micronutrients: Basic and Clinical	Basic and clinical studies of vitamins and micronutrients, including requirements and intestinal absorption in health and disease, transporter function and regulation, nutritional biology, metabolism and deficiency states.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Basic Mechanisms of Tissue Injury, Repair and Fibrosis	Aims to feature studies on biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular cell biology of tissue injury, repair, and development of fibrosis.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Carcinoid and GI Neuroendocrine Neoplasm: Cell Biology, Genetics, Development, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics	Research focused on gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors (NET). Research can include both preclinical (basic) and clinical studies. Research can span basic biology and mechanisms of NET development and progression, the genetic basis of NET, and diagnosis and treatment.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Cell and Molecular Biology of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Features studies on molecular and cellular mechanisms of GI disease.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Cell Biology, Biochemistry and Integrative Physiology	Features basic cell biology, biochemistry and physiology in GI health.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Cell Signaling in Inflammation, Injury and Mucosal Repair	Aims to feature basic cellular and molecular signaling pathways involved in intestinal inflammation, injury and repair.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Cellular Plasticity and Tissue Regeneration (Remodeling, Transdifferentiation, Dedifferentiation)	Aims to feature cellular alterations associated with remodeling or transformation events involved in GI injury and disease.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Enteric Neuromuscular Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology (Including Neurons, Glia, ICC, Smooth Muscle, Stem Cells & Development, Pharmacology)	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to basic visceral pain, microbiome, neuromediators, neurotransmitters, neurogenic Inflammation, pain, viscerovisceral cross talk, gut microbiota, visceral hypersensitivity.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Epithelial Junctions and Barrier Function	Features studies on biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular and cell biology of cell adhesion and junction protein complexes, of epithelial polarization and assembly into restrictive monolayers, and in epithelial repair of barrier function after injury.

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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Gastric Neoplasms: Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Therapy	Precursor lesions, biology, diagnosis and clinical therapeutics: research focused on precursors (i.e. intestinal metaplasia, dysplasia, MALTs), biology, diagnosis and clinical therapies directed at all types of gastric neoplasms.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Genetics and Gastrointestinal Disorders	Aims to feature clinical and basic studies on mono-genetic intestinal diseases and intestinal failure.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Growth Factors in Differentiation, Cell Proliferation, Morphogenesis and Apoptosis	Aims to feature studies on regulation of cell differentiation, proliferation, morphogenesis, and apoptosis in GI homeostasis and disease.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	In Vivo Models of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Features studies of GI diseases using animal models.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Intestinal Inflammation, Fibrosis and Regeneration	Aims to feature basic studies of intestinal injury by inflammation, radiation or hypoxia, and mechanisms of repair, fibrosis, and stricture formation.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Molecular Mechanisms of Growth and Development of the GI Tract, Liver and Pancreas	Basic cellular mechanisms driving the establishment, development, and function of the digestive organs. Pathways driving cellular differentiation and organ maturation.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Organoid Models of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Features studies of gastrointestinal function or disease using organoids.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Stem Cells in Health, Development, and Malignant Transformation	Features investigations of diverse aspects of stem cells, including so-called Cancer Stem Cells, stem cells as cells of origin for cancer, and stem cells in normal homeostasis and regeneration
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine	Cutting-edge techniques for refining, growing, and expanding engineered GI tract, liver, and pancreas tissues for replacement or augmentation of compromised organs in patients.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Transcriptional, Epigenetic and Genetic Regulation of GI Function and Disease	Aims to feature studies on gene expression, gene regulation, and gene suppression leading to gastrointestinal disease, including mechanisms by alterations of chromatin structure.
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology	Tuft Cells and Endocrine Function in the GI Tract	Features mechanisms of cell biology of Tuft and endocrine cell function in homeostasis and disease, including chemosensing, hormone secretion and inflammation.
Clinical Practice	Colorectal Cancer Screening and Surveillance	Patient-focused studies (Clinical or translational) focused on implementing CRC screening or surveillance, including decision making, implementation of biomarkers in different patient populations; Barriers to screening due to health disparities.
Clinical Practice	Epidemiology of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Evaluates abstracts using epidemiologic methods that do not easily fit into other descriptors.
Clinical Practice	Guideline Adoption and Implementation	Evaluates abstracts where the aim of the study is to determine the adherence to prevailing clinical guidelines. This descriptor also includes abstracts evaluating the success of efforts/methods to implement guidelines into clinical practice and/or the outcome of guideline implementation into clinical practice.
Clinical Practice	Health Care Delivery and Policy (Practice Management, Reimbursement, Access to Care, Policy)	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to business issues of practice (either community or academic), government or insurer policies including analyses of their effects, and access to care. This descriptor is not intended for cost-effectiveness analyses, process improvement, or performance metrics.
Clinical Practice	Health Disparities and Global Health	Evaluates abstracts regarding disparities in health outcomes based on race or socioeconomic status. Also evaluates studies specific to healthcare in developing countries, including epidemiology, delivery of healthcare, and outcomes.
Clinical Practice	Health Economics (Cost of Illness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Health Economic Models)	Evaluates studies of computer simulations or empirically observed cost data. Not intended for abstracts regarding practice management issues or reimbursement.
Clinical Practice	Medical Education and Training	Evaluates studies where the unit of observation is the provider or trainee, including observational studies and interventions. Not intended for patient case reports or clinical pearls.
Clinical Practice	Patient Reported Outcomes: IBD, GERD, Functional Disorders, Other	Evaluates abstracts regarding development or validation of Patient Reported Outcomes (PROs) instruments, including those regarding quality of life. Also evaluates abstracts where the primary outcome is Patient Reported Outcomes, particularly if the abstract does not easily fit in another descriptor.

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Clinical Practice	Performance Metrics, Process Improvement, and Implementation Science	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to, for instance, methodologic advances in measuring quality of care, studies identifying key processes to be targeted for improving quality of care, and observational or experimental studies with a primary outcome being quality of care. Also evaluates abstracts regarding studies evaluating implementation of best practices or quality assurance programs in clinical practice. The descriptor is not intended for abstracts pertaining to quality of life, endoscopic innovations, or animal studies.
Clinical Practice	Population Health Screening: Colorectal Cancer, Esophageal Cancer, Hepatocellular Carcinoma, Other Screening	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to screening or surveillance in populations. For instance, screening or surveillance for cancers of the colon, esophagus, liver, or pancreas. Additionally includes population health screening for other health outcomes, such as celiac disease, H. pylori, etc.
Clinical Practice	Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Evaluates abstracts using systematic review and meta-analyses that do not fit easily into other descriptors.
Endoscopy, Technology & Imaging	Colorectal Cancer Screening and Surveillance	Patient-focused studies (Clinical or translational) focused on implementing CRC screening or surveillance, including decision making, implementation of biomarkers in different patient populations; Barriers to screening due to health disparities;
Endoscopy, Technology & Imaging	Confocal Endomicroscopy and Other Optical Sectioning Techniques	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to use of a microscope to produce real-time images within the human body or animal that correspond to histology. This may include confocal endomicroscopy or volumetric laser endomicroscopy.
Endoscopy, Technology & Imaging	Diagnostic and Therapeutic Applications of Novel Imaging and Other Technologies	Evaluates abstracts about the use of novel imaging or technology for the diagnosis or therapy of gastrointestinal, liver or pancreatobiliary disorders.
Endoscopy, Technology & Imaging	Enhanced Endoscopic Imaging Including Molecular Imaging; Spectroscopy and Fluorescence Imaging; and Optical Coherence	Evaluates abstracts that utilize enhanced endoscopic imaging, including molecular imaging; spectroscopy, fluorescence imaging and optical coherence tomography.
Endoscopy, Technology & Imaging	Imaging of the GI Tract	Evaluates abstracts that studies the role of imaging of any organ of the gastrointestinal tract, namely the esophagus, stomach, small bowel, colon, pancreas, bile duct, liver or gallbladder.
Endoscopy, Technology & Imaging	Imaging Techniques Including Comparative Studies and Efficacy	Evaluates research that compares outcomes of one or more imaging or technology devices in animal models or humans.
Endoscopy, Technology & Imaging	Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, and Computers in Endoscopy	Evaluates abstracts that study the use of machine learning, artificial intelligence, or computer aided interpretation of endoscopic or radiologic imaging of any organ of the gastrointestinal tract.
Endoscopy, Technology & Imaging	Novel/Experimental Endoscopy	Evaluates research in animals or humans that studies the application of novel endoscopic tools or equipment, the role of endoscopy to treat a novel indication or application of a new technique.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Functional Dyspepsia, Nausea and Vomiting	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to abdominal pain, nausea, functional dyspepsia, non ulcer dyspepsia, psychological distress, pathophysiologic distress, vomiting, rumination, cyclical vomiting syndrome, cannabis hyperemesis syndrome, epigastric pain syndrome, postprandial distress syndrome.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Gastric Neoplasms: Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Therapy	Precursor lesions, biology, diagnosis and clinical therapeutics: research focused on precursors (i.e. intestinal metaplasia, dysplasia, MALTs), biology, diagnosis and clinical therapies directed at all types of gastric neoplasms.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Molecular Mechanisms of Growth and Development of the GI Tract, Liver and Pancreas	Basic cellular mechanisms driving the establishment, development, and function of the digestive organs. Pathways driving cellular differentiation and organ maturation.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Oropharyngeal and Esophageal Motility Disorders	Evaluates abstracts related to the diagnosis and management of oropharyngeal and esophageal motility disorders. It is not intended for abstracts related to GERD or EoE.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Portal Hypertension, Complications of Cirrhosis, and GI Bleeding	Portal hypertension, variceal bleeding, ascites, hepatic encephalopathy, hepatic hydrothorax, portopulmonary hypertension, hepatopulmonary syndrome.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Barrett's Esophagus: Diagnosis, Management and Surveillance	Evaluates abstracts related to diagnosis, management and surveillance of patients with Barrett's esophagus. It is not intended for abstracts relating to GERD or EoE or esophageal motility disorders.

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Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Eosinophilic Esophagitis: Clinical	Evaluates clinical abstracts related to the diagnosis, testing or management of patients with eosinophilic esophagitis. It is intended for the clinical fields, but it is not intended for abstracts relating to GERD, Barrett's esophagus or esophageal motility disorders.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Eosinophilic Esophagitis: Translational or Basic	Evaluates basic science or translational abstracts related to disease pathogenesis and treatment. It is not intended for abstracts relating to GERD, Barrett's esophagus or esophageal motility disorders.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	GERD/Barrett's: Pathogenesis	Evaluates clinical or translational abstracts about pathogenesis of GERD and Barrett's esophagus. This descriptor is not intended for pathogenesis of other esophageal conditions such as EoE or esophageal carcinoma.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	GERD: Complications and Extra-Esophageal Presentations	Evaluates abstracts related to complications of GERD such as esophageal strictures as well as extraesophageal presentations such as asthma, laryngitis, cough, chest pain or post lung transplant rejection. It is not intended for abstracts relating to Barrett's esophagus or EoE or esophageal motility disorders.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	GERD: Diagnostic Testing	Evaluates abstracts related to diagnostic testing in GERD. It is not intended for abstracts relating to Barrett's esophagus or EoE or esophageal motility disorders.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	GERD: Medical, Surgical and Endoscopic Therapies	Evaluates abstracts related to medical, surgical, and endoscopic therapies in the management of GERD and its related complications. It is not intended for abstracts related to GERD pathogenesis, complications and extra-esophageal presentations, and diagnostic testing.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Helicobacter pylori: Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Outcomes	Evaluates abstracts related to epidemiology, diagnosis and, outcomes of H. pylori infection. It is not intended for abstracts related to H. pylori host response, pathogenic mechanisms, treatment, or antimicrobial resistance.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Helicobacter pylori: Host Response and Pathogenesis	Evaluates abstracts related to host response induced by H. pylori infection and understanding mechanisms of disease pathogenesis during H. pylori infection. It is not intended for abstracts related to H. pylori epidemiology, treatment, diagnosis, or outcomes.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Helicobacter pylori: Treatment and Antimicrobial Resistance	Evaluates abstracts related to H. pylori treatment and antimicrobial resistance. It is not intended for abstracts related to H. pylori host response, pathogenic mechanisms, epidemiology, or outcomes.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Mucosal Defense, Secretion, Injury, Repair and Healing	Evaluates abstracts related to mechanisms of upper GI mucosal defense, secretion, injury, repair and healing. It is not intended for abstracts related to H. pylori host response or pathogenic mechanisms.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders	Peptic Ulcer Disease and Non-Variceal UGI Bleeding	Evaluates abstracts related to the epidemiology, clinical features, mechanisms/causes and treatments of peptic ulcers and upper GI bleeding, excluding variceal bleeding.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Biomarkers for Detection, Treatment and Prognosis of GI Cancers	Research focused on biomarkers used for the detection, treatment, and/or prognosis of GI cancers. Biomarker analysis can be on tissues or serum. Biomarkers can include DNA, RNAs, miRNAs, or proteins. Research can include both clinical and preclinical models of GI cancer.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Cancer Prevention and Chemoprevention	Research focused on cancer prevention or chemoprevention of GI cancers. Research can include both clinical and preclinical models of GI cancer. Innovative cancer prevention techniques, including dietary and lifestyle modification, as well as pharmacologic strategies, are included in this descriptor.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Canceromics: Cancer Genomics, Epigenomics, Metabolomics, Proteomics and Systems Biology	Cancer genomics, epigenomics, metabolomics, proteomics, and systems biology: research focused on genomics (DNA), epigenomics (i.e. methylation, histone modifications), proteomics (protein), and systems biology (i.e. metabolic or cell signaling networks) aimed at the complex interactions in cancer biology. Research can include both clinical and preclinical models of GI cancer.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Carcinoid and GI Neuroendocrine Neoplasm: Cell Biology, Genetics, Development, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics	Research focused on gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors (NET). Research can include both preclinical (basic) and clinical studies. Research can span basic biology and mechanisms of NET development and progression, the genetic basis of NET, and diagnosis and treatment.

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Gastrointestinal Oncology	Colorectal Cancer Screening and Surveillance	Patient-focused studies (Clinical or translational) focused on implementing CRC screening or surveillance, including decision making, implementation of biomarkers in different patient populations; Barriers to screening due to health disparities;
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Epidemiology of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Evaluates abstracts using epidemiologic methods that do not easily fit into other descriptors.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Esophageal and Junctional Neoplasms: Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics	Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics: research focused on precursors (i.e. Barrett's metaplasia, dysplasia), biology, diagnosis and clinical therapies directed at both esophageal squamous and adenocarcinomas. This focus include the spectrum from basic molecular studies to preclinical and clinical therapies, but not endoscopic therapies.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Familial Cancer Syndromes and Cancer Genetics	Research focused on inherited risk factors for cancer, including diagnostics, prevention, and therapeutics. This includes germline gene alterations, epigenetic and imprinted mechanisms, and somatic mutational profiling. Includes any and all inherited syndromes associated with GI cancer risk.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Gastric Neoplasms: Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Therapy	Precursor lesions, biology, diagnosis and clinical therapeutics: research focused on precursors (i.e. intestinal metaplasia, dysplasia, MALTs), biology, diagnosis and clinical therapies directed at all types of gastric neoplasms.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	GI Cancer Research Models: Organoids, Engineered Cell and Tissue Platforms, and Animal Models	Organoids, Engineered Cell and Tissue Platforms, and Animal Models: Research in which GI cancer models are the focus, including new transgenic animal models for GI cancers as well as crosses or other modifications that significantly alter the cancer phenotype and provide insight into cancer pathogenesis. It also includes any primary cell culture of tissues from human, murine, or other organisms. Also includes approaches to genetically modify cells including CRISPR and other techniques.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Inflammation and GI Cancers	Research focused on inflammatory mechanisms that underlie GI cancer initiation, development, and progression. Research can include sporadic cancer as well as cancers secondary to inflammatory diseases (e.g. inflammatory bowel disease). Can include both preclinical and clinical studies.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Liver and Biliary Carcinoma: Management, Etiology, Diagnosis and Natural History	Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics: research focused on precursors (i.e. dysplasia), biology, diagnosis and clinical therapies directed at liver and biliary cancers.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Metabolism, Obesity, Microbiome, Diet, and Nutrition in GI Cancer	Research focused on the roles played by metabolism, obesity, the microbiome, and nutrition in the initiation and progression of cancers of the gastrointestinal tract. This includes studies exploring these processes promoting carcinogenesis separately or as interacting and inter-related pathways, as well as in-depth studies of molecular pathways. It also includes mechanistic or population studies exploring novel cancer prevention and treatment strategies which modulate a subject's metabolism, obesity, microbiome, and nutritional state, including the use of nutritional supplements.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Microbiome and Cancer	Role of the gut microbiome in the initiation and progression of cancers of the gastrointestinal tract and other organ systems. Also the role of gut microbes in cancer prevention and modulation of tumor immunology and metabolism. Mechanisms and mediators that are involved in these processes.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Molecular Mechanisms and Pathways in Carcinogenesis and Metastasis: Bench to Bedside	Research focused on signaling pathways, molecules, receptors, and downstream effectors that regulate key processes in cancer cells, including signaling that drives carcinogenesis, cancer cell survival, and metastasis, as well as other cellular processes. Research can be span from basic molecular research to preclinical studies in cancer models.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Pancreatic Cancer: Risk Factors, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics	Both clinical and basic science aspects specially with biomarkers can fit in here. Almost all adenocarcinoma abstracts should fit this descriptor although there may be some overlap for cystic neoplasms and cancer with the descriptor PCN, IPMN and neuroendocrine tumors.

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Gastrointestinal Oncology	Population Health Screening: Colorectal Cancer, Esophageal Cancer, Hepatocellular Carcinoma, Other Screening	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to screening or surveillance in populations. For instance, screening or surveillance for cancers of the colon, esophagus, liver, or pancreas. Additionally includes population health screening for other health outcomes, such as celiac disease, H. pylori, etc.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Stem Cells in Health, Development, and Malignant Transformation	Features investigations of diverse aspects of stem cells, including so-called Cancer Stem Cells, stem cells as cells of origin for cancer, and stem cells in normal homeostasis and regeneration.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Evaluates abstracts using systematic review and meta-analyses that do not fit easily into other descriptors.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Translational and Targeted Therapies for GI Cancers	Research focused on GI cancer therapies, including development of novel targets, innovative reagents and treatments. Includes high through-put screens, research into delivery vehicles including nanoparticles, and includes chemotherapies, biological therapies, irradiation and other treatment modalities.
Gastrointestinal Oncology	Tumor Cell Biology, Immunology, and Microenvironment	Research focused on cancer cell biology, including mechanisms of cell proliferation, survival, migration, morphology, metabolism, and gene/protein expression, with a focus on molecular mechanisms responsible for the cancer cell phenotype. This also includes studies of all aspects of the local tissue environment (non-tumor cells, extracellular matrix) influencing cancer cell biology and survival.
GI Fellow-Directed QI Session	GI Fellow-Directed QI Session	Only those currently enrolled in a GI fellowship program can submit abstracts to this descriptor, and the GI fellow MUST be the primary author on the abstract submission. Medical residents are not eligible to submit abstracts to this abstract descriptor category. Abstracts submitted to this category are only eligible for presentation at a special session, focused on quality improvement, sponsored by the Education & Training and Trainee & Early Career Committees of the AGA Institute. Please select GI Fellow-Directed QI Session for your category and subcategory only if submitting for this session.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Animal Models: Pre-Clinical Treatment of Intestinal Inflammation	Studies in animal models that assess potential therapeutic pathways and interventions for IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Diarrheal Disorders: Bacterial Overgrowth - Drug Induced and Other Enterocolitides (Microscopic, Enteropathy, Check Point Inhibitors, Etc.)	Aims to feature clinical, epidemiological and basic studies on pathogenesis of diarrheal diseases and other enteropathies including environmental enteropathy, ischemic, toxin, drug induced, allergic, autoimmune, diverticular disease. Consequences or outcomes of these illness would be also included. Also includes clinical and basic studies on novel small molecule and biologic therapeutics, and pre- and probiotics, for the intestinal disorders including diarrhea, irritable bowel, auto immune, environmental enteropathies, drug-induced, and microbial induced intestinal diseases. This descriptor excludes celiac disease, C. difficile and the chronic inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Adverse Events Related to Therapy	Evaluates studies related to complications of medical, surgical and complementary therapies for IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Comparative Effectiveness Studies	Studies providing a direct comparison of existing health care interventions for IBD to determine best approaches for patients and comparing benefits and harms.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Controlled Clinical Trials in Humans	Randomized and/or placebo controlled trials of interventions for IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Cytokines, Signaling and Receptors	Basic or translational studies on cytokines, signaling and receptors and their role in intestinal inflammation as it relates to IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Diagnostics in IBD	Evaluates tests of blood, stool, imaging, endoscopy or other novel tests for determining presence (diagnosis) of IBD or classification of IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Disease Activity Assessment	Evaluates tests of blood, stool, imaging, endoscopy, or other novel tests and scoring systems for determining disease severity of IBD including presence of mucosal healing.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Disease Complications	Studies evaluating adverse outcomes of IBD; Not related to medical or surgical therapy.

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Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Epidemiology	Studies of the incidence, prevalence and risk factors for IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Genomics and Gene Function	Basic or translational studies related to genetics, genomics, gene function and other -omics studies and their relationship to basic IBD mechanism's or clinical outcomes.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Innate and Adaptive Host Defenses	Studies of host defense mechanisms in IBD, focused on immune defenses in IBD, including both adaptive and innate immunity.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Microbiome Role in Intestinal Inflammation	The role of the microbiome in contributing to intestinal inflammation in IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Natural History and Outcomes	Translational uses of intestinal stem cells and organoids as applied to IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Practice Management, Quality of Care, Quality Assurance	Studies focusing on the evolution or changing quality of IBD disease behavior or phenotype over time.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Quality of Life and Psychosocial Care	Evaluates access and effectiveness. Do IBD patients get the care they need, and is the care effective when they get it?
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Special Populations, Conception, Adolescent, and Older	Clinical studies related to male/female fertility, pregnancy outcomes; the adolescent/transitioning patient; and the older patient with IBD. These may be randomized trials, observational, epidemiology and natural history data.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Therapeutic Monitoring	Evaluates general well-being of individuals and societies with IBD and relationship of QOL with health (physical and mental) and wellness.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Translational Application of Intestinal Stem Cells and Organoid Models	Evaluates the use and effectiveness of drug levels in IBD.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Uncontrolled Therapeutic Observations in Humans Biologic	Studies of interesting and relevant findings in individuals receiving monoclonal antibody based therapy for IBD, retrospective case/cohort series, new therapies, and special populations such as the pregnant patient and the elderly.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	IBD: Uncontrolled Therapeutic Observations in Humans Non-Biologic	Studies of interesting and relevant findings in individuals receiving medical or surgical therapy (non-biologic) for IBD, retrospective case/cohort series, new therapies, and special populations such as the pregnant patient and the elderly.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Intestinal Inflammation, Fibrosis and Regeneration	Aims to feature basic studies of intestinal injury by inflammation, radiation or hypoxia, and mechanisms of repair, fibrosis, and stricture formation.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Microbial-Based Therapy	Use of microbiome-based therapy (fecal transplantation and defined microbial communities) in the treatment and prevention of GI and extraintestinal disease. Microbiome-based therapy and functions, mechanisms of action, interactions with endogenous microbiota and host. Bioengineering of new microbiome-based therapy and functions: clinical and regulatory considerations.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Mucosal Innate Function and Innate Host Defense: Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Basic and translational studies on mucosal innate immune function and innate host defense - human or animal studies.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Non-Immune Cells in Intestinal Inflammation: Epithelium and Stroma	Studies of the role of the cells of the epithelium and stromal cells (not professional immune cells) in intestinal inflammation.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Pediatric IBD: Clinical and Translational Studies	Aims to feature clinical and translational studies of inflammatory bowel diseases in pediatric populations.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Portal Hypertension, Complications of Cirrhosis, and GI Bleeding	Portal hypertension, variceal bleeding, ascites, hepatic encephalopathy, hepatic hydrothorax, portopulmonary hypertension, hepatopulmonary syndrome.
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Role of the Gut Microbiome and Pathogens in Immune and Inflammatory Diseases	Gut microbial role in inflammatory diseases of the bowel, including inflammatory bowel diseases, Celiac disease, food allergy, graft-versus-host, Dysmotility, etc. Mediators, mechanisms, and targets of microbial pathogenesis that cause and/or contribute to these diseases.



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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Viral, Eukaryote, and Prokaryote Members of the Gut Microbiome	Defining members of non-bacterial kingdoms of the gastrointestinal microbiome – their relative importance, function, and interactions with other members of the microbial community and host.
Liver & Biliary	Extraintestinal Interactions of the Gut Microbiome	Considers the functional cross-talk between the gut microbiota and extraintestinal organs (excluding nervous system). Microbiota-based mechanisms and therapy in extra-intestinal disease pathogenesis. Organs affected include: liver, pancreas, kidney, lymphoid, cardiovascular, bone, respiratory and mucosal systems. Also, consider extraintestinal control of microbiota composition and function.
Liver & Biliary	Liver and Biliary Carcinoma: Management, Etiology, Diagnosis and Natural History	Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics: research focused on precursors (i.e. dysplasia), biology, diagnosis and clinical therapies directed at liver and biliary cancers.
Liver & Biliary	Molecular Mechanisms of Growth and Development of the GI Tract, Liver and Pancreas	Basic cellular mechanisms driving the establishment, development, and function of the digestive organs. Pathways driving cellular differentiation and organ maturation.
Liver & Biliary	Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Diseases (NAFLD) and Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH)	Research abstracts on all aspects of basic, translational, and clinical sciences related to non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and NASH.
Liver & Biliary	Portal Hypertension, Complications of Cirrhosis, and GI Bleeding	Portal hypertension, variceal bleeding, ascites, hepatic encephalopathy, hepatic hydrothorax, portopulmonary hypertension, hepatopulmonary syndrome.
Liver & Biliary	Alcoholic Liver Disease Including Alcoholic Hepatitis	Research abstracts on all aspects of basic, translational, and clinical sciences related to alcoholic liver disease.
Liver & Biliary	Cholelithiasis and Biliary Tract Disorders	Biliary stones, gallbladder stones, obstructive jaundice.
Liver & Biliary	Cholestatic and Autoimmune Liver Disease	Primary biliary cholangitis, primary sclerosing cholangitis, autoimmune hepatitis, autoimmune cholangiopathy.
Liver & Biliary	Diagnosis, Biomarkers, and Therapies of Viral Hepatitis	Research on all aspects of diagnosis, biomarkers, and treatments for viral hepatitis.
Liver & Biliary	Epidemiology, Virology, Pathogenesis, and Natural history of Viral	Research on epidemiology, pathogenesis, and natural history of viral hepatitis.
Liver & Biliary	Health Services Research, Cost Effectiveness, Economic Analysis, Patient Centered Outcomes	Research on Health Services Research, Cost Effectiveness, Economic Analysis, Patient Centered Outcomes.
Liver & Biliary	Liver and Biliary Tract Carcinoma (Hepatobiliary Neoplasia)	Research on bile duct cancer and cholangiocarcinoma.
Liver & Biliary	Liver Transplantation	Complications of liver transplantation, outcomes of liver transplantation, disease recurrence after liver transplantation.
Liver & Biliary	Metabolic and Genetic Liver Diseases	Research on genetic liver diseases including hemochromatosis, Alpha-1-antitrypsin deficiency, Wilson Disease, Cystic fibrosis.
Liver & Biliary	Non-Invasive Assessment of Liver Disease	Serum biomarkers, elastography, APRI, FIB-4, ELF, Fibrosure, FibroSpec .
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Clostridioides Difficile Colitis: Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, Management	Diagnosis, management and treatment of C. difficile infection (CDI). Host-microbial crosstalk in
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Diarrheal Disorders: Bacterial Overgrowth - Drug Induced and Other Enterocolitides (Microscopic, Enteropathy, Check Point Inhibitors, Etc.)	Aims to feature clinical, epidemiological and basic studies on pathogenesis of diarrheal diseases and other enteropathies including environmental enteropathy, ischemic, toxin, drug induced, allergic, autoimmune, diverticular disease. Consequences or outcomes of these illness would be also included. Also includes clinical and basic studies on novel small molecule and biologic therapeutics, and pre- and probiotics, for the intestinal disorders including diarrhea, irritable bowel, auto immune, environmental enteropathies, drug-induced, and microbial induced intestinal diseases. This descriptor excludes celiac disease, C. difficile and the chronic inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Diet and the Gut Microbiome	Dietary impact on the composition and function of the gut microbiome and how their effects alter host-microbe interactions in conditions of health and disease. Microbial strains, mechanisms, mediators, and pathways that are involved in dietary effects on host and microbe. The role and actions of specific dietary components in affecting the gut microbiome. Clinical trials and studies of dietary intervention to reshape the gut microbiome as interventions for diseases and/or maintenance of health.

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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Enteric Sensation in Health and Disease (Including Visceral Pain, Neuroimmunology, Epithelial Junctions, Intestinal Barrier Function/Dysfunction and Interactions with the Microbiome)	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to basic visceral pain, microbiome, neuromediators, neurotransmitters, neurogenic Inflammation, pain, viscerovisceral cross talk, gut microbiota, visceral hypersensitivity.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Extraintestinal Interactions of the Gut Microbiome	Considers the functional cross-talk between the gut microbiota and extraintestinal organs (excluding nervous system). Microbiota-based mechanisms and therapy in extra-intestinal disease pathogenesis. Organs affected include: liver, pancreas, kidney, lymphoid, cardiovascular, bone, respiratory and mucosal systems. Also, consider extraintestinal control of microbiota composition and function.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Food Intolerances, Allergy, and Sensitivities	Disaccharide deficiencies, lactose, fructose or other food intolerances or sensitivities would be included and GI manifestations of food allergies. Studies that pertain to histamines or other responses to foods or dietary changes would also come under this descriptor. The interaction between microbiome and diet, in particular, where it relates to disease or gastrointestinal function/dysfunction would also come under this descriptor.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	IBD: Microbiome Role in Intestinal Inflammation	The role of the microbiome in contributing to intestinal inflammation in IBD
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Intestinal Inflammation, Fibrosis and Regeneration	Aims to feature basic studies of intestinal injury by inflammation, radiation or hypoxia, and mechanisms of repair, fibrosis, and stricture formation.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Metabolism, Obesity, Microbiome, Diet, and Nutrition in GI Cancer	Research focused on the roles played by metabolism, obesity, the microbiome, and nutrition in the initiation and progression of cancers of the gastrointestinal tract. This includes studies exploring these processes promoting carcinogenesis separately or as interacting and inter-related pathways, as well as in-depth studies of molecular pathways. It also includes mechanistic or population studies exploring novel cancer prevention and treatment strategies which modulate a subject's metabolism, obesity, microbiome, and nutritional state, including the use of nutritional supplements.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Microbial Dysbiosis: Causes and Consequences	Compositional and functional alterations of the gastrointestinal microbiome that disturb host function, physiology, and cause or contribute to the risk/development/natural history of diseases that affect the GI tract and other organ systems. Environmental, dietary, microbial, and host factors that result in the development of gut dysbiosis.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Microbial Pathogens and Toxins of the Intestine and Colon	Aims to feature studies on microbial pathogenesis for enterotoxins and bacterial, viral, fungal infections of gut - excluding C. Diff toxin induced disease.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Microbial Regulation of Host Metabolic and Energy Homeostasis	The role and mediators gut microbial regulation of host energy balance, digestion and absorption, circadian rhythm, and other metabolic targets and organs. Microbial role in obesity, metabolic syndrome, Type 2 diabetes, non-alcoholic liver disease, cardiovascular complications, malabsorption, and malnutrition. Impact of these diseases on gut microbial function and composition.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Microbial-Based Therapy	Use of microbiome-based therapy (fecal transplantation and defined microbial communities) in the treatment and prevention of GI and extraintestinal disease. Microbiome-based therapy and functions, mechanisms of action, interactions with endogenous microbiota and host. Bioengineering of new microbiome-based therapy and functions: clinical and regulatory considerations.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Microbiome and Cancer	Role of the gut microbiome in the initiation and progression of cancers of the gastrointestinal tract and other organ systems. Also the role of gut microbes in cancer prevention and modulation of tumor immunology and metabolism. Mechanisms and mediators that are involved in these processes.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Microbiome and Infectious Diseases	Pathogens and pathogenic virulence mechanisms that affect the gut microbiome and cause infectious diseases (viral, fungal, parasitic, bacterial, excluding C. difficile infection). Alterations in genomics and function of commensal microbes that lead to negative, disease-causing consequences. Perturbations or aberrant host functions that lead to altered gut microbial function that can promote infectious diseases.

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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Diseases (NAFLD) and Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH)	Research abstracts on all aspects of basic, translational, and clinical sciences related to non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and NASH.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Pediatric Microbiome and Microbial Therapies	The roles and mechanisms of gut microbes in influencing host metabolism, immunity, growth and development, etc. during the neonatal, childhood, and adolescent periods. The impact of dysbiosis on disease risk and outcomes later in life. Host factors that determine the <b>compositional and functional development of gut microbiomes in pediatric populations.</b>
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Prebiotics, Probiotics and Synbiotics in Health and Disease	Use of prebiotics, probiotics, postbiotics and synbiotics (biotics) in the treatment and prevention of GI and extraintestinal disease. Biotic functions, mechanisms of action and interactions with the endogenous microbiome and host. Bioengineering new biotic functions. <b>Biotic clinical and regulatory considerations.</b>
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Role of the Gut Microbiome and Pathogens in Immune and Inflammatory Diseases	Gut microbial role in inflammatory diseases of the bowel, including inflammatory bowel diseases, Celiac disease, food allergy, graft-versus-host, Dysmotility, etc. Mediators, mechanisms, and targets of microbial pathogenesis that cause and/or contribute to these diseases.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	The Gastrointestinal Microbiome: Determinants and Dynamics of Structure and Function	The mechanisms and mediators of dietary, environmental, host, and intracommunity microbial factors that shape the regional gastrointestinal microbiomes. The interplay of all these factors in determining microbial assemblage of individuals in both physiological and pathophysiological conditions.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	The Microbiome in Pancreatitis, Pancreatic Malabsorption and Pancreatic Tumorigenesis	Considers emerging work in microbiome in pancreatic diseases including effects of pancreatic diseases on the microbiome, as well as the effects of the microbiome on pancreatic diseases.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	The Microbiome-Gut-Brain Axis in Health and Disease	Functional cross-talk between the gut microbiota and the host nervous system (central and peripheral). Microbial neuroendocrinology in GI and extraintestinal disease. Microbial and biotic-based therapy: mechanisms of action and regulation of neuropathy, behavioral and autism spectrum disorders, functional bowel disease and abdominal pain, allergy, inflammatory and infectious disease. Nervous system control of microbiota composition and function.
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy	Viral, Eukaryote, and Prokaryote Members of the Gut Microbiome	Defining members of non-bacterial kingdoms of the gastrointestinal microbiome – their relative importance, function, and interactions with other members of the microbial community and host.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Diarrheal Disorders: Bacterial Overgrowth - Drug Induced and Other Enterocolitides (Microscopic, Enteropathy, Check Point Inhibitors, Etc.)	Aims to feature clinical, epidemiological and basic studies on pathogenesis of diarrheal diseases and other enteropathies including environmental enteropathy, ischemic, toxin, drug induced, allergic, autoimmune, diverticular disease. Consequences or outcomes of these illness would be also included. Also includes clinical and basic studies on novel small molecule and biologic therapeutics, and pre- and probiotics, for the intestinal disorders including diarrhea, irritable bowel, auto immune, environmental enteropathies, drug-induced, and microbial induced intestinal diseases. This descriptor excludes celiac disease, C. difficile and the chronic <b>inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).</b>
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Enteric Neuromuscular Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology (Including Neurons, Glia, ICC, Smooth Muscle, Stem Cells & Development, Pharmacology)	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to basic visceral pain, microbiome, neuromediators, neurotransmitters, neurogenic Inflammation, pain, viscerovisceral cross talk, gut microbiota, <b>visceral hypersensitivity.</b>
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Enteric Sensation in Health and Disease (Including Visceral Pain, Neuroimmunology, Epithelial Junctions, Intestinal Barrier Function/Dysfunction and Interactions with the Microbiome)	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to basic visceral pain, microbiome, neuromediators, neurotransmitters, neurogenic Inflammation, pain, viscerovisceral cross talk, gut microbiota, <b>visceral hypersensitivity.</b>
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Functional Dyspepsia, Nausea and Vomiting	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to abdominal pain, nausea, functional dyspepsia, non ulcer dyspepsia, psychological distress, pathophysiologic distress, vomiting, rumination, cyclical vomiting syndrome, cannabis hyperemesis syndrome, epigastric pain syndrome, postprandial <b>distress syndrome.</b>

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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Irritable Bowel Syndrome: Clinical	Aims to feature clinical studies on pathogenesis, diagnosis, disease outcome, treatment, disease progression of Irritable Bowel Syndrome.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Irritable Bowel Syndrome: Pathophysiology	Evaluates abstracts that focus on basic (preclinical) and translational studies including pathogenesis, diagnosis and disease progression of Irritable Bowel Syndrome.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Oropharyngeal and Esophageal Motility Disorders	Evaluates abstracts related to the diagnosis and management of oropharyngeal and esophageal motility disorders. It is not intended for abstracts related to GERD or EoE.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Pediatric Functional and Motility Disorders	Aims to feature clinical and translational studies of functional and motility disorders in pediatric populations.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	The Microbiome-Gut-Brain Axis in Health and Disease	Functional cross-talk between the gut microbiota and the host nervous system (central and peripheral). Microbial neuroendocrinology in GI and extraintestinal disease. Microbial and biotic-based therapy: mechanisms of action and regulation of neuropathy, behavioral and autism spectrum disorders, functional bowel disease and abdominal pain, allergy, inflammatory and infectious disease. Nervous system control of microbiota composition and function.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Anorectal Dysmotility (Including Fecal Incontinence, Dyssynergia and Pelvic Floor Disorders)	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to high resolution anorectal manometry, disordered/dyssynergic defecation, fecal incontinence, anal sphincter dysfunction, rectal hyposensitivity and hypersensitivity, biofeedback therapy, anorectal surgery, rectocele, prolapse, barostat, anal Endoflip.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Brain-Gut Axis (Including Neuroimaging, Vagal Pathways and Neurobiology of Satiety, Obesity and Metabolic Disorders)	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to functional brain imaging, cortical evoked potentials, obesity, satiety, metabolomics, neural pathways, vagus nerve stimulation, vagal afferent neurons, ascending and descending brain-gut pathways and functional GI disorders.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Constipation and Other Functional Colonic Syndromes	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to assessment and management of functional constipation, slow transit constipation, IBS with constipation, diverticular disease, microscopic colitis, opioid-induced constipation, colon sensory function and treatment of colon neuromuscular disorders.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Gastroparesis and Small Intestinal Dysmotility	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to diabetic & non-diabetic gastroparesis, methods to assess gastric emptying and small bowel motility, pathophysiology of gastric and small bowel dysmotility and treatment of these disorders.
Neurogastroenterology & Motility	Psychogastroenterology & Behavioral Interventions	Evaluates abstracts pertaining to 1) behavioral, psychological or social determinants of gastrointestinal health and/or 2) the evaluation and/or implementation of brain-based interventions for the management of disorders of gut-brain interaction/functional gastrointestinal disorders, gastrointestinal motility disorders, inflammatory bowel diseases and disordered eating.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Celiac Disease and Gluten Related Disorders	Aims to include studies on the immunology and cellular/tissue pathogenesis of celiac disease and gluten sensitivity including human, translational, basic in vitro cell and tissue models, genetic, and in vivo animal studies. Genetic studies which involve the elucidation of the mechanism or genetic factors that contribute to immunopathogenesis of celiac disease are included in this descriptor. Also included are large population studies that address genetics, prevalence of celiac disease in adults or children, comparative studies of risk, and differences in populations or secular trends.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Diet and the Gut Microbiome	Dietary impact on the composition and function of the gut microbiome and how their effects alter host-microbe interactions in conditions of health and disease. Microbial strains, mechanisms, mediators, and pathways that are involved in dietary effects on host and microbe. The role and actions of specific dietary components in affecting the gut microbiome. Clinical trials and studies of dietary intervention to reshape the gut microbiome as interventions for diseases and/or maintenance of health.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Dietary Therapies for GI Disorders	
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Epithelial Function and Ion, Water and Nutrient Absorption	Research focused on epithelial transport including mechanisms, roles of various components, down-stream effect of dys-regulated transport

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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Food Intolerances, Allergy, and Sensitivities	Disaccharide deficiencies, lactose, fructose or other food intolerances or sensitivities would be included and GI manifestations of food allergies. Studies that pertain to histamines or other responses to foods or dietary changes would also come under this descriptor. The interaction between microbiome and diet, in particular, where it relates to disease or gastrointestinal function/dysfunction would also come under this descriptor.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Imaging and Therapeutic Intervention in Obesity and Metabolic Disease	Evaluates abstracts submitted to study the use of image modalities or applications of new or existing technology or therapeutic techniques for treatment of obesity or metabolic disorders such as diabetes.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Intestinal Failure and Short Gut: Basic and Clinical	Basic and clinical studies of intestinal failure, such as that due to short bowel syndrome and IBD, and therapeutic approaches to nutritional support, prevention of complications and facilitation of bowel adaptation and advancement of enteral nutrition.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Malabsorption Disorders	Basic science, translational, and clinical studies of the etiology, pathogenesis, diagnostics or therapy of malabsorptive disorders.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Metabolism, Obesity, Microbiome, Diet, and Nutrition in GI Cancer	Research focused on the roles played by metabolism, obesity, the microbiome, and nutrition in the initiation and progression of cancers of the gastrointestinal tract. This includes studies exploring these processes promoting carcinogenesis separately or as interacting and inter-related pathways, as well as in-depth studies of molecular pathways. It also includes mechanistic or population studies exploring novel cancer prevention and treatment strategies which modulate a subject's metabolism, obesity, microbiome, and nutritional state, including the use of nutritional supplements.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Microbial Regulation of Host Metabolic and Energy Homeostasis	The role and mediators gut microbial regulation of host energy balance, digestion and absorption, circadian rhythm, and other metabolic targets and organs. Microbial role in obesity, metabolic syndrome, Type 2 diabetes, non-alcoholic liver disease, cardio-vascular complications, malabsorption, and malnutrition. Impact of these diseases on gut microbial function and composition.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Diseases (NAFLD) and Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH)	Research abstracts on all aspects of basic, translational, and clinical sciences related to non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and NASH.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Nutritional Support: Enteral and Parenteral	Studies of techniques, formulations and complications of the use of enteral and parenteral nutritional support for the treatment of GI diseases.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Obesity: Basic and Mechanistic Studies	Basic studies of the normal physiologic regulation of mechanisms contributing to body mass and metabolic state, as well as perturbations that occur in obesity and diabetes. Includes basic studies of mechanisms by which obesity and its metabolic complications are ameliorated by bariatric surgery and other therapeutic approaches.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Obesity: Clinical	Clinical studies of new therapeutic approaches to obesity and its complications, including nutritional and lifestyle interventions, bariatric surgical and non-surgical approaches, and pharmacotherapy.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Obesity: Endoscopic and Surgical Therapies	Studies of the use of bariatric surgical techniques, such as sleeve gastrectomy, as well as new endoscopic non-surgical approaches, including balloons and other devices, and their associated techniques, indications, complications, effectiveness and post-procedure metabolic changes in the treatment of obesity and diabetes.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Obesity: Life-Style and Pharmacological Therapies	Basic and clinical studies on lifestyle intervention modalities (dietary, exercise, behavioral, cognitive) and pharmacotherapy for obesity.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Obesity: Pre-Clinical and Epidemiological Studies	Pre-clinical and population-based studies addressing the pathophysiology and clinical features of human obesity and its complications, as well as mechanisms and effectiveness of therapeutic interventions.

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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Pediatric Nutrition and Obesity	Studies of the metabolic abnormalities and morbidities associated with obesity in children, including metabolic syndrome and NAFLD, and their relationship to nutrition and genetics. Also, studies of approaches to the treatment of pediatric obesity, including the roles of nutritional intervention, lifestyle changes, pharmacotherapy and bariatric surgery.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Regulation of Food Intake, Energy Expenditure and Metabolic Function	Basic and clinical studies of brain and gastrointestinal signaling networks that regulate caloric intake, energy expenditure and metabolic function and the perturbations that occur in disease states, including obesity and diabetes.
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition	Vitamins and Micronutrients: Basic and Clinical	Basic and clinical studies of vitamins and micronutrients, including requirements and intestinal absorption in health and disease, transporter function and regulation, nutritional biology, metabolism and deficiency states.
Pancreatic Disorders	Extraintestinal Interactions of the Gut Microbiome	Considers the functional cross-talk between the gut microbiota and extraintestinal organs (excluding nervous system). Microbiota-based mechanisms and therapy in extra-intestinal disease pathogenesis. Organs affected include: liver, pancreas, kidney, lymphoid, cardiovascular, bone, respiratory and mucosal systems. Also, consider extraintestinal control of microbiota composition and function.
Pancreatic Disorders	Pancreatic Cancer: Risk Factors, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics	Both clinical and basic science aspects specially with biomarkers can fit in here. Almost all adenocarcinoma abstracts should fit this descriptor although there may be some overlap for cystic neoplasms and cancer with the descriptor PCN, IPMN and neuroendocrine tumors.
Pancreatic Disorders	The Microbiome in Pancreatitis, Pancreatic Malabsorption and Pancreatic Tumorigenesis	Considers emerging work in microbiome in pancreatic diseases including effects of pancreatic diseases on the microbiome, as well as the effects of the microbiome on pancreatic diseases.
Pancreatic Disorders	Clinical Acute Pancreatitis	Considers epidemiology, etiology, severity prediction as well as medical, endoscopic and other minimally invasive management on outcomes. There is a separate basic science descriptor for basic science work in acute pancreatitis and not this one.
Pancreatic Disorders	Clinical Chronic Pancreatitis	Considers clinical work in chronic pancreatitis including epidemiology, etiology, biomarkers, early and routine diagnosis, tests for exocrine insufficiency, enzyme replacement therapy, all treatments, type 3c diabetes clinical aspects.
Pancreatic Disorders	Interactions between the Exocrine and Endocrine Pancreas	This section is for both basic and clinical work addressing the interplay between the exocrine and endocrine pancreas including neoplastic and inflammatory disease of the exocrine pancreas effects on the endocrine pancreas; and the effects of endocrine pancreas on the exocrine pancreas (i.e. diabetes effects on exocrine pancreatic function and disease).
Pancreatic Disorders	Pancreatic Cystic Neoplasms, IPMN and Neuroendocrine Tumors	This section is completely clinical for these 3 areas and any basic science work should be submitted to one of the 5 basic science descriptors. However, the imaging and endoscopy abstracts of these 3 diseases are encouraged to be submitted to the endoscopy and imaging descriptor.
Pancreatic Disorders	Pancreatic Disorders: Endoscopy and Imaging	Endoscopic and radiological imaging abstracts on all clinical pancreatic diseases are best submitted here as this section is specially created to accommodate this kind of work. This being a recently introduced descriptor, the work has better chances of getting accepted in this descriptor location.
Pancreatic Disorders	Pancreatic Genetics, Epigenetics, Physiology, Cell Biology and	Considers research in mechanisms of disease initiation and promotion.
Pancreatic Disorders	Pancreatitis: Inflammation, Fibrogenesis and Immunology	This is an avenue for the basic work exclusively in both acute and chronic pancreatitis regardless of the type.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Clinical Pediatric Gastroenterology	Aims to feature clinical studies on a variety of pediatric gastrointestinal disorders that do not include inflammatory bowel disease, liver, biliary, functional or motility disorders. This can include, but is not limited to, celiac disease, pancreatic conditions, enteropathies, eosinophilic disorders and malabsorption.

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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Development of the Enteric Nervous System	Aims to feature clinical, epidemiological and basic studies on pathogenesis of diarrheal diseases and other enteropathies including environmental enteropathy, ischemic, toxin, drug induced, allergic, autoimmune, diverticular disease. Consequences or outcomes of these illness would be also included. Also includes clinical and basic studies on novel small molecule and biologic therapeutics, and pre- and probiotics, for the intestinal disorders including diarrhea, irritable bowel, auto immune, environmental enteropathies, drug-induced, and microbial induced intestinal diseases. This descriptor excludes celiac disease, C. difficile and the chronic inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Developmental Biology, Growth, and Aging in the GI Tract	Development, maturation, and change over the lifespan of the digestive organs. Mechanisms and regulation of normal turnover/renewal in the gut. Hoe positional cues, stromal signals, and the microenvironment affect cell maturation.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Food Intolerances, Allergy, and Sensitivities	Disaccharide deficiencies, lactose, fructose or other food intolerances or sensitivities would be included and GI manifestations of food allergies. Studies that pertain to histamines or other responses to foods or dietary changes would also come under this descriptor. The interaction between microbiome and diet, in particular, where it relates to disease or gastrointestinal function/dysfunction would also come under this descriptor.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Genetics and Gastrointestinal Disorders	Aims to feature clinical and basic studies on mono-genetic intestinal diseases and intestinal failure.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	IBD: Special Populations, Conception, Adolescent, and Older	Clinical studies related to male/female fertility, pregnancy outcomes; the adolescent/transitioning patient; and the older patient with IBD. These may be randomized trials, observational, epidemiology and natural history data.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	In Vivo Models of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Features studies of GI diseases using animal models.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Molecular Mechanisms of Growth and Development of the GI Tract, Liver and Pancreas	Basic cellular mechanisms driving the establishment, development, and function of the digestive organs. Pathways driving cellular differentiation and organ maturation.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Organoid Models of Gastrointestinal Disorders	Features studies of gastrointestinal function or disease using organoids.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Pediatric Functional and Motility Disorders	Aims to feature clinical and translational studies of functional and motility disorders in pediatric populations.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Pediatric IBD: Clinical and Translational Studies	Aims to feature clinical and translational studies of inflammatory bowel diseases in pediatric populations.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Pediatric Microbiome and Microbial Therapies	The roles and mechanisms of gut microbes in influencing host metabolism, immunity, growth and development, etc. during the neonatal, childhood, and adolescent periods. The impact of dysbiosis on disease risk and outcomes later in life. Host factors that determine the compositional and functional development of gut microbiomes in pediatric populations.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Pediatric Nutrition and Obesity	Studies of the metabolic abnormalities and morbidities associated with obesity in children, including metabolic syndrome and NAFLD, and their relationship to nutrition and genetics. Also, studies of approaches to the treatment of pediatric obesity, including the roles of nutritional intervention, lifestyle changes, pharmacotherapy and bariatric surgery.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Pediatric Pancreatic, Liver and Biliary Diseases	Aims to feature clinical and translation studies focused on pediatric pancreatic, liver and biliary diseases.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Prebiotics, Probiotics and Synbiotics in Health and Disease	Use of prebiotics, probiotics, postbiotics and synbiotics (biotics) in the treatment and prevention of GI and extraintestinal disease. Biotic functions, mechanisms of action and interactions with the endogenous microbiome and host. Bioengineering new biotic functions. Biotic clinical and regulatory considerations.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Stem Cells in Health, Development, and Malignant Transformation	Features investigations of diverse aspects of stem cells, including so-called Cancer Stem Cells, stem cells as cells of origin for cancer, and stem cells in normal homeostasis and regeneration

**AGA EXPANDED DESCRIPTORS FOR DDW 2020**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBCATEGORY (DESCRIPTOR)</b>	<b>EXPANDED DESCRIPTOR</b>
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine	Cutting-edge techniques for refining, growing, and expanding engineered GI tract, liver, and pancreas tissues for replacement or augmentation of compromised organs in patients.
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology	Transcriptional, Epigenetic and Genetic Regulation of GI Function and Disease	Aims to feature studies on gene expression, gene regulation, and gene suppression leading to gastrointestinal disease, including mechanisms by alterations of chromatin structure.