

# **Research in Gastroenterology and Hepatology: trends and challenges at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century**

Asociación Española de Gastroenterología (AEG)-Spanish Gastroenterological Association

Asociación Española para el Estudio del Hígado (AEEH)-Spanish Association for the Study of Liver Diseases

American Gastroenterological Association (AGA)

American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD)

## **Course Directors:**

**AGA: Gail Hecht**

**AEEH: Juan Rodés**

**AEG: Josep M. Piqué**

## **Gastroenterology part**

### **1. The best approach to colorectal cancer screening**

The topics to be discussed would include the most cost-effective strategy in the colorectal cancer screening (colonoscopy, occult blood test or colonography), and the screening in individuals at risk of familial or hereditary colorectal cancer (Amsterdam and Bethesda criteria, microsatellite instability, and mismatch repair DNA genes)

### **2. Aggressive approach in the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease.**

It would be discussed the new trends to early use of immunosuppressants or biological therapies in inflammatory bowel disease and the future role of pharmacogenomics to predict response when using such therapies.

### **3. Approaching Barrett's esophagus**

It would be discussed how to manage Barrett's esophagus in terms of periodical endoscopic screening for dysplasia by using traditional or new high definition endoscopes (NBI, confocal endoscopy, chromoendoscopy...), the alternatives to surgery for high grade dysplasia (mucosectomy, mucosal ablation with different techniques), and the possible role for chemoprevention.

## **Hepatology**

### **1. Hepatitis B**

(Decision to start treatment, monotherapy or combination therapy, antiviral resistance, end points of treatment...)

### **2. Non-Alcoholic Liver Disease**

(Prevalence and natural history, pathophysiology and therapeutic approaches,....)

### **3. Hepatitis C**

(Individualized treatment, insulin-resistance, measures to improve adherence, alternatives in non-responders,....)