



## Comprehensive, State-of-the-Art GI Care—Close to Home

Providing access to the highest quality gastrointestinal services without leaving Berks County.

**W**ith a deeply trained and highly experienced team of 17 physicians and six physician assistants, Digestive Disease Associates has been a comfortable and convenient resource for every gastrointestinal need for 45 years.

“Our comprehensive list of services means patients don’t have to travel to Philadelphia or even outside of the county to receive the most advanced care,” says Dr. Louis LaLuna.

All of the physicians are fellowship trained and offer a full spectrum of upper and lower GI services. In addition, the practice is home to three physicians who have additional fellowship training in advance therapeutic endoscopy, a leading-edge diagnostic and treatment subspecialty of gastroenterology.

Capsule endoscopy, in which patients swallow a small pill with a camera, helps doctors get more accurate views of the small intestine.

Clinical trials are also available to provide access to promising therapies that are not yet available to the general public.

“Most of our procedures can be performed in the comfort and convenience of our free-standing endoscopy center, which meets the highest safety standards as determined by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care

[AAAHC] and has hosted over 200,000 procedures,” notes Dr. LaLuna. “When a hospital visit is required, we’re proud to be affiliated with both the Reading Health System and PennState Health St. Joseph networks.”

### CATERING TO PATIENTS

Digestive Disease Associates recognizes that every patient—and every diagnosis—is unique. Patients are given personalized, unhurried attention during every visit. When questions arise outside the office, patients can communicate with doctors by phone or via an online patient portal.

Because GI troubles are best addressed sooner rather than later, the team strives to be accessible, and appointments are scheduled quickly. The practice is home to both male and female providers, so patients can choose a provider that makes them the most comfortable. Language interpreters are also available, if needed.

“The quality of our team and our facility has been recognized by organizations such as the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy [ASGE] with a unit recognition award,” says Dr. LaLuna.

“When you come to Digestive Disease Associates, you’re receiving high-quality care in a comfortable, convenient, state-of-the-art setting.”



## COLONOSCOPY SAVES LIVES

“Colon cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S.,” says Dr. LaLuna, “but regular colon screenings are proven to dramatically reduce the number of cancer diagnoses and cancer deaths.”

Colonoscopy is the gold standard in detecting precancerous colon polyps, which, if detected early, can be removed before cancer develops.

The Digestive Disease Associates team is “stringent,” says Dr. LaLuna, about following national guidelines for screening recommendations.



*Most insurance programs, Medicaid, and Medicare are accepted.*

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