



## Editorial for the series on gastric and gastroesophageal cancer treatment in 2020

This series of *Annals of Translational Medicine* presents a collection of review articles on the treatment of gastric and gastroesophageal cancer in 2020. The treatment of this cancer has been evolving overtime in both the locally advanced and the metastatic setting. Treatment ranges from Endoscopic resection in early stage disease and perioperative chemotherapy in locally advanced disease to combination of chemotherapy and targeted therapy in the metastatic setting.

Adenocarcinoma of the stomach and gastroesophageal junction is a common malignancy worldwide, with approximately 900,000 cases occurring annually. In the United States, although less common, this disease results in more than 10,000 death every year. The only curative treatment is surgical resection and in rare cases definitive treatment with chemotherapy and radiation. Relapse following surgery resulting in death from metastatic disease is relatively common.

Throughout the last several decades, therapies adjunctive to surgery have been extensively explored with some but not significant improvement in survival. Peri-operative treatment has been accepted as the standards of care, however, treatment still varies significantly among different geographic locations. On the other hand, and in the last several years, there have been some advances in the treatment of metastatic disease with the addition of targeted therapy as well as immune checkpoints inhibitors. Unfortunately, the prognosis is still dismal with patients rarely surviving beyond one year from diagnosis.

Therefore, this series includes in-depth reviews of several aspects of the treatment of gastric and gastrointestinal cancer such as diagnosis and treatment of Barrett esophagus and early stage disease, an update on the treatment of locally advanced and metastatic disease, the role of tumor profiling and for the first time addressing the palliative care needs in this patient population.

We are extremely grateful for the contributions of all the authors. We hope you find these reviews to be beneficial and relevant to your practice and research and interest.

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