

Informed Consent Statement

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

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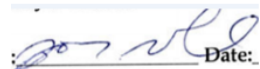
Title: Bacterial presence on flexible endoscopes versus time since disinfection

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Patients were not required to provide informed consent to the study because the analysis was conducted retrospectively and anonymously. All data used was obtained after each patient agreed to treatment by written consent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sonny S. Dhalla', is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature, the word 'Date:' is printed.

October 10, 2017

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