

<b>Full Title</b>	Biofilm Epidemiology and Mechanisms of Colon Cancer
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Louis LaLuna, MD
<b>Sub-Investigators</b>	John Altomare, MD Ravi Ghanta, MD Christopher Ibrahim, MD Nirav Shah, MD
<b>Study Objectives</b>	<p>To define the frequency, durability and composition of bacteria biofilms in normal colon tissues</p> <p>To elucidate if and by which mechanism(s), bacterial or host, these biofilms induce cancer-promoting changes in the colon mucosa</p> <p>To establish a sample bank to enable subsequent studies to explore potential biomarkers that correlate with carcinogenic colon biofilm formation that would facilitate early diagnosis of colon neoplasia</p>
<b>Inclusion Criteria</b>	<p>Patients are eligible to be included in the study if they meet all of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adults ages 18-85</li><li>• Have an intact colon or have had a hemi-colectomy</li><li>• Are able to undergo colonoscopy and colon biopsy</li><li>• Are able to complete the study questionnaire</li><li>• Are able to provide mouth swish, stool, urine, and blood samples</li></ul>
<b>Exclusion Criteria</b>	<p>Patients are excluded if they meet any of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Individuals with inflammatory bowel disease</li><li>• Patients with a history of using blood thinners or antiplatelet drugs (i.e. Coumadin, Plavix, Pradaxa, Savaysa, and Xarelto) will be excluded due to the danger of bleeding.</li></ul>



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- Special classes of subjects such as pregnant women, children, prisoners or other institutionalized individuals will not be selected.

**Affiliations & Sponsors** Johns Hopkins Clinical Research Network  
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**Status** Closed to Enrollment

**Keywords** colonoscopy, colon cancer, biofilm