

# Connecting with the Community



## Endoscopy Services

Kit Carson County Health Service District's Same Day Surgery Department performs Endoscopy Services every Tuesday with Dr. Charles Frankum. Dr. Frankum is board certified in General Surgery, Colon and Rectal Surgery. The definition of endoscopy is to visual examine the interior of a hollow body organ by use of an endoscope. KCCHSD's Same Day Surgery Department offers two forms of Endoscopies; Colonoscopies and EGD (Esophagogastroduodenoscopy).

A colonoscopy is a screening for colorectal cancer- cancers of the colon (large intestine) and rectum. Colorectal cancer can be prevented by early detection and removal of polyps (abnormal growths in the lining of the colon). During a colonoscopy, Dr. Frankum will visually exam the patient's colon using a flexible scope (colonoscope) that transmits the images to a video screen. Any polyps found during the procedure will be immediately removed, which prevents them from growing and developing into colon cancer.

Dr. Frankum recommends that everyone age 50 and older have a routine colonoscopy once every 10 years to identify and remove precancerous polyps. However, people who are at a higher risk for colon cancer or have a family history of the disease should consider scheduling colposcopies earlier and more frequently, based upon the recommendations of their healthcare provider.

An EGD is an "upper endoscopy" that allows Dr. Frankum to look inside the esophagus, stomach and small intestine for any problems in your upper digestive tract. During an EGD, a small flexible tube (gastroscope) is guided through the patient's mouth and through the esophagus, and is used to look for any abnormalities. If Dr. Frankum finds abnormalities, he can insert instruments through the gastroscope to obtain tissue, remove foreign objects, instill fluid or air, or stop bleeding.

An EGD may be performed to diagnose structural or functional abnormalities but are not limited to: difficulty swallowing, upper abdominal pain, inflammation, ulcers, and other abnormalities of the esophagus and stomach.

If you would like to learn more about EGD and Colposcopy same day surgery procedures please consult with your local healthcare provider or call the same day surgery department at 719-346-4725 option 1.

