

Project scope: Capsule sponge endoscopy

11 August 2023

Research question

Is capsule sponge endoscopy an effective and acceptable alternative to endoscopy for the detection of pre-malignant or early stage oesophageal cancer?

Inclusion criteria

The selection of studies for inclusion in the literature review element of the project will be based on the following criteria:

Population	<p>Adult patients with gastro-oesophageal reflux or suspected Barrett's oesophagus</p> <p>Adult patients undergoing surveillance for Barrett's oesophagus or oesophageal cancer</p>
Intervention	<p>Cytosponge EndoSign 'sponge on a string' Capsule sponge</p> <p>Possible other related terms: Non-endoscopic cytology* Non-endoscopic screening Trefoil factor 3 testing</p>
Comparator	Endoscopy
Outcomes	<p>Diagnostic accuracy (sensitivity, specificity, etc) Detection rates Number of endoscopies required Triage or risk stratification Safety/adverse events</p>

	Patient satisfaction, experiences, views, acceptability, preferences Cost effectiveness
Limits	English language Published since 2010 (date of oldest paper previously identified on Cytosponge)

Planned activities

SHTG have agreed on the following activities to support the development of an SHTG Assessment on capsule sponge endoscopy:

1. Evidence review of the published literature on the clinical effectiveness, cost effectiveness, safety and patient aspects of capsule sponge endoscopy for the detection of pre-malignant and early stage oesophageal cancer.
2. Scotland specific cost modelling based on adding capsule sponge endoscopy to the diagnostic pathway for pre-malignant and early stage oesophageal cancer.
3. Plain language version of the evidence review.
4. Engagement with clinical experts through peer review.

End products

At the end of the project, SHTG will publish:

- SHTG Assessment
- Plain language summary
- Expert comments from peer review

Timescales (approximate)

Approximate publication date at end of November 2023.