Questions to Ask Before Undergoing an Upper Endoscopy

1. Have you had formal training in endoscopy in a Gastroenterology fellowship or surgical residency? If so, did you perform at least 130 upper endoscopies during your training?

2. Are you prepared to treat conditions of the upper GI tract such as esophageal narrowing and management of GI bleeding?

3. Do you assess patients for pre-procedure anesthesia risk using the American Society of Anesthesia (ASA) classification?

4. Do you provide written discharge instructions and do you have 24-hour emergency assistance for questions or problems after a procedure?

5. Do you track and report immediate complications if they occur after a procedure?

6. Does your endoscopic facility have dedicated reprocessing (disinfection) personnel and equipment? Are the reprocessing personnel assessed on a regular basis for ongoing competency?