Researchers at the University of South Florida have developed a new device to overcome a variety of problems associated with colonoscopy procedures.

Colonoscopy is one of the endoscopic procedures that lets the physician inspect the lumen of the colon with a tube inserted through the rectum. Colonoscopy procedures have a risk of organ perforation and mucosal injury. If perforation occurs, open surgery to repair the injury is the only treatment option. Re-intubation highly increases these risk factors thereby contributing to the poor prognosis of the patient. The development of a more sensitive and efficient procedure for easy and safe insertion of the endoscope tube is imperative.

Our inventors have developed an endoscopic colonic over-tube that overcomes the above mentioned risks. It is a flexible over-tube that can be used both intraluminally and into the peritoneum. In addition to guiding a double channel gastroscope, the over-tube has an additional 10-12mm channel for insertion of other instruments which moves in tandem with the endoscope thereby avoiding the re-intubation of the colon and minimizing the risk of perforation.

The overtube has special features that keep the device in place with its lumen open into the peritoneum and prevents the leakage of insufflation. The device also protects the colonic wall of the patient from iatrogenic injury. This endoscopic overtube would decrease the total physician and support staff time, while reducing the patient’s time under anesthesia and the recovery time, thus improving the overall prognosis of the patient.

**ADVANTAGES:**
- Two different instruments can be inserted in tandem
- Reduces the risk of organ perforation and mucosal injury
- Increases efficiency and accuracy of the insertion
- Improves the overall prognosis of the patient

**Decreases Working Time and Patient Complications**

The above diagram shows the design of the endoscopic colonic over-tube.

**Endoscopic Overtube**

Tech ID # 07B125  Patent #: 10,076,229