**EP 26: Star-Struck-Scopy**

***Description***

When famous actress and comedian Joan Rivers develops a sore throat and hoarse voice in 2014, she schedules an endoscopy and laryngoscopy at Yorkville Endoscopy outpatient clinic. What she didn't know is that these two minor procedures would cost her life after going into cardiac arrest while under anesthesia. One year later, her daughter Melissa files a wrongful death lawsuit on the grounds of multiple malpractice findings during a long-term investigation about what went on in the operating room leading up to Rivers' death. Prepare to shake your head in disbelief, cause these crazy findings will leave you star-struck!

***Pictures***

A person holding a microphone

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

A couple of women smiling

Description automatically generated with low confidence

***Dr. Gwen Korovin, the ear, nose & throat specialist (ENT) who attempted the laryngoscopy on Rivers.***

***Daughter, Melissa Rivers (left) with Mother, Joan Rivers (Right).***

A picture containing person, glasses

Description automatically generated

A person sitting at a desk

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

***Dr. Renuka Bankulla, the anesthesiologist during Rivers' procedures.***

***Dr. Lawrence Cohen, the gastroenterologist (and former medical director of Yorkville Endoscopy) who performed Rivers' endoscopy.***

***Episode References***

The New York Times

[**https://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/13/nyregion/settlement-reached-in-joan-rivers-malpractice-case.html**](https://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/13/nyregion/settlement-reached-in-joan-rivers-malpractice-case.html)

The Doan Law Firm

[**https://www.thedoanlawfirm.com/medical-malpractice/case-study-of-medical-malpractice/**](https://www.thedoanlawfirm.com/medical-malpractice/case-study-of-medical-malpractice/)

AP News

[**https://apnews.com/article/c0715ec697794146b4e7eb6fa49399ba**](https://apnews.com/article/c0715ec697794146b4e7eb6fa49399ba)

USA Today

[**https://www.usatoday.com/story/life/tv/2016/05/12/melissa-rivers-ny-clinic-settle-malpractice-lawsuit-over-joan-rivers-death/84304782/**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/life/tv/2016/05/12/melissa-rivers-ny-clinic-settle-malpractice-lawsuit-over-joan-rivers-death/84304782/)

Physician-Patient Alliance for Health & Safety

[**https://ppahs.org/2017/01/highlights-from-the-joan-rivers-death-and-lawsuit/**](https://ppahs.org/2017/01/highlights-from-the-joan-rivers-death-and-lawsuit/)

Wikipedia

[**https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joan\_Rivers**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joan_Rivers)

Medical News Today

[**https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/153737**](https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/153737)

American Cancer Society

[**https://www.cancer.org/treatment/understanding-your-diagnosis/tests/endoscopy/laryngoscopy.html#:~:text=Laryngoscopy%20is%20a%20procedure%20a,the%20back%20of%20the%20throat**](https://www.cancer.org/treatment/understanding-your-diagnosis/tests/endoscopy/laryngoscopy.html#:~:text=Laryngoscopy%20is%20a%20procedure%20a,the%20back%20of%20the%20throat)**.**

Melissa Rivers

[**https://melissarivers.com/**](https://melissarivers.com/)

Joan Rivers

[**http://www.joanrivers.com/**](http://www.joanrivers.com/)

abc7NY

[**https://abc7ny.com/joan-rivers-autopsy-death-new-york-city/353218/**](https://abc7ny.com/joan-rivers-autopsy-death-new-york-city/353218/)

***Disease of the Week***

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/pneumonia/index.html>

Mayo Clinic

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/pneumonia/symptoms-causes/syc-20354204>

Johns Hopkins Medicine

<https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/pneumonia>