

WEIGHT LOSS AFTER LAPAROSCOPIC ADJUSTABLE GASTRIC BANDING

It is anticipated that reduction of weight will be gradual (2kg - 4kg per month). Although the band reduces appetite and restricts the quantity of food that is consumed, regular ingestion of foods such as chocolate and highly sugared soft drinks can impede weight loss, as they pass easily through the band.



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IMPORTANT

This is a brief outline of the procedure. Not all contraindications, warnings or adverse events are included; these should be discussed with your treating surgeon.

The Helioscopie adjustable gastric bands are constructed of silicone, barium and titanium and are designed for life long implantation. It is not possible to guarantee that replacement of a band will not be required in the long term.

CONTACT

LAPAROSCOPIC ADJUSTABLE GASTRIC BANDING AN EFFECTIVE SURGICAL TREATMENT FOR OBESITY

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LAPAROSCOPIC ADJUSTABLE GASTRIC BANDING

Laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding is the least invasive surgical treatment for obesity. It is a non mutilating operation, that is, it requires no cutting or stapling of the stomach or bowel and there is minimal scarring. It has the advantage of a short hospital stay and recovery period.

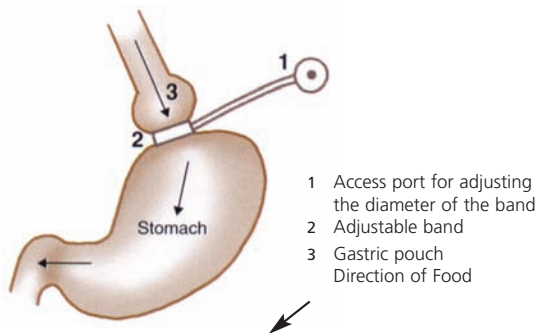
The risks and side effects associated with this type of surgery are significantly less than the more invasive operations for obesity, such as stomach stapling or gastric bypass surgery.

It is *adjustable* - the tightness of the band can be adjusted by injecting or withdrawing fluid (saline) from the balloon on the inner aspect of the band. This is achieved by passing a needle into the small reservoir that is implanted under the skin attached by tubing to the band at the time of operation. The adjustment procedure requires only a short consultation with the attending physician in the consulting rooms. However occasionally radiologic (X-ray Department) assistance is necessary.

It is reversible and removal of the band allows the stomach and other anatomy to return to its previous form; although removal is not the intention.

The risk of nutritional deficiencies is negligible.

It does not interfere with subsequent pregnancy.



WHAT IS OBESITY?

Obesity is unhealthy excess weight and is the most common medical problem in the Western world.

Obesity is associated with a reduced life expectancy associated with -

- **Diabetes**
- **Stroke**
- **Depression**
- **Asthma**
- **Sleep apnoea**
- **Hypertension**
- **Joint problems**
- **Coronary artery disease**
- **Cancer**

The measurement of obesity is calculated by dividing weight in kilograms by height in metres squared. Oriental races are significantly obese at lower body mass index measurements than Caucasians.

A healthy body mass index is between 20 - 25.

- **Overweight** 25 - 30
- **Obese** 30 - 35
- **Seriously obese** 35 - 40
- **Morbidly obese** 40 +

WHO CAN BE CONSIDERED?

- Patients between 18 and 65 years.
- You must be significantly overweight, that is, a body mass index of 35 or greater. Consideration would be given to patients whose body mass index is between 30 - 35 if it is associated with some or all of the diseases listed above.
- You are committed to making changes in your eating habits and lifestyle.
- You are willing to commit to monitoring by your treating surgeon.

ARE THERE ANY PROBLEMS?

Laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding is a major surgical procedure and adverse events can occur as with any surgery, including death.

Specific complications are:

- **Band slippage** causing partial obstruction and vomiting requiring repositioning of the band.
- **Port problems** - rotation, displacement, tubing leaks, infection, requiring further treatment.
- **Erosion of the band**, necessitating its removal.