



Mini Review

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# The Clinical Effectiveness of Bariatric Surgery with Morbid Obesity



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#### Abstract

Obesity is a preventable condition that causes morbidity most often after cessation. In the treatment of obesity, life style changes as well as medical treatment. However, in cases where these conditions are insufficient, surgery can be used to prevent morbid obesity has become the main part. For this purpose, Roux-en-Y gastric bypass, sleeve gastrectomy, adjustable gastric band and biliopancreatic diversion are the most commonly used surgical procedures.

Keywords: Obesity; Surgical treatment

#### Introduction

Currently the prevalence of Obesity is nearly 35% (BMI>30) and 70% (BMI>25) and the prevalence of Diabetes Mellitus is >7 %.One of the first drugs used in the treatment of obesity was Orlistat. A reduction of approximately 3 kg was observed following 2 years of use of Orlistat treatment. Regular exercise in addition to diet and Orlistat treatment is also known to be beneficial for weight loss. It has been shown in obese patients that dieting and exercise reduce 10kg of systolic blood pressure by approximately 6mmHg and diastolic blood pressure by 3.5mmHg [1].

Similarly, a 10% weight loss in obese patients has been shown to improve Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes, Hypertension, Hyperlipidemia, Osteoarthritis and Sleep Apnea by about 5-10% [1-7]. The first bariatric surgery was performed with jejunoileal by-pass in 1954, but unfortunately diarrhea and nutritional deficiencies after this procedure were frequent and the application of this procedure with the complication of irreversible hepatic cirrhosis was left to be applied. The first Gastric By-pass was made by Mason and Ito [8]. A second widely used technique outside of U.S.A is the laparoscopic adjustable gastric band process. These last 2 procedures are to ensure that priority is given to weight loss from malabsorption. Worldwide data in 2002 and 2003 showed that gastric bypass surgery was performed with the majority (65.1%) for weight loss [1].

Randomized-control trials (RCT) were conducted to observe the weight loss effect of bariatric surgery, which had been well experienced for many years. In those RCT, the patients were divided into two groups, the first group was gastroplasty and diet treatment, the second group was only diet therapy.In this study, patients' weight loss ratios were compared at  $6^{\rm th}$  and  $24^{\rm th}$  months. There was no significant difference between the two groups at the end of 6 months. There was a significant difference in the basal weights according to the group that did not receive any surgical treatment at the  $24^{\rm th}$  month (30.5kg vs. 8.0kg for surgical and nonsurgical therapy, respectively) [9,10].

Another important study is on obese adults in the Swedish Obese Subjects (S.O.S.). In adults included in this study, the body mass index (BMI) in men was  $\geq 34 \text{kg/m}^2$  and the in women BMI was  $\geq 38 \text{kg/m}^2$ . The mean BMI of the patients included in this study was  $41 \text{kg/m}^2$  and approximately two-thirds of the patients were female. In the SOS study, the average weight loss was found to be 20 kg in the patient group who underwent surgical treatment for 8 years, but the mean weight was not changed only in the patients who were followed only medically. In this SOS study, the patients treated with RYGB (Rouxen-Y gastric bypass), more weight loss was observed in patients treated with vertical banded gastroplasty or only patients who underwent band procedure [11-15].

Surgical treatment has been shown to be superior to obesity and obesity-related diseases in terms of surgical treatment compared to surgical treatment with medical treatment in SOS study. It has been shown that Diabetes, Hypertension and Lipid abnormalities significantly decreased in 845 patients who underwent surgical treatment and 845 patients in control compared with 24 months follow-up after surgical treatment [13]. Although the risk of decreased hypertension persisted at the 8<sup>th</sup> year after surgery, the effect of reducing the risk of developing diabetes was still dramatic [12]. In addition, S.O.S studies have shown that sleep apnea reduction benefits in patients with sleep apnea are also beneficial and have therapeutic effects on dyspnea and chest pain [14].

#### Discussion

Bariatric surgery appears to be more effective in weight loss than without obesity surgery and only takes in medical care, especially in patients with a BMI of  $40 {\rm kg/m^2}$ , at least for 10 years, and is more effective in reducing the incidence of obesity-related diseases.

Indications for bariatric surgery [16]

- 1.  $BMI \ge 40 \text{kg/m}^2$
- 2. BMI> 35kg/m² and obesity-related comorbidities (Type 2 Diabetes, OSAS, severe HTetc.) cannot be controlled by medical treatment and lifestyle changes.
- 3. Non-surgical methods have already been applied but failed.

Today, however, thanks to advancing medicine, new genes, new peptides and hormones that cause Obesity are being discovered. In particular, specialists in internal medicine and endocrinology/ metabolism have the opportunity to diagnose and treat diseases that may cause obesity at an early stage. Examples of such diseases include hypothyroidism, Cushing's disease, and Diabetes mellitus, and these disease cases can be further amplified. Bariatric surgery is an important and effective treatment modality in patients with morbid obesity. However, patients diagnosed with morbid obesity should be screened in detail in terms of hormonal diseases that may lead to obesity before being directed to bariatric surgery. Because many diseases that may cause obesity nowadays have effective medical treatment approaches if appropriate diagnosis is made. Likewise, changing patients' lifestyles, avoiding ready-to-eat food, and healthy eating and exercising regularly will significantly reduce obesity. Similarly, it is equally important to inform and raise awareness of obesity to begin within childhood. There is not yet sufficient and convincing data on long term effects of bariatric surgery. Therefore, it is very important that the patient group planned to be treated with bariatric surgery is thoroughly screened for any other known diseases that may lead to obesity before surgery, and that surgical treatment is guided only after the benefit/ damage rates of selected patients are calculated.

Finally, with a better understanding of the pathophysiology of diseases day by day, it is thought that the diseases that can cause obesity in the coming years and the medical treatments of these diseases are better understood. Therefore, further study and data collection of bariatric surgery and benefits and complications after bariatric surgery, whose long-term harms and benefits still remain unclear, are needed.

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