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Treating Obesity to the Standard of Care

Donna Ryan, MD Professor Emerita Pennington Biomedical Research Center

Disclosures

- Advisor or Consultant: Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Real Appeal, Epitomee, Gila Therapeutics, Xeno Bioscience, Calibrate, Naturally Slim Wondr Health, Lilly Advisory, YSOPIA, Altimmune, IFA Celtic, Ro, Scientific Intake, Amgen, Zealand
- Speakers Bureau: Novo Nordisk
- Ownership Interest: Gila Therapeutics, Xeno Bioscience, Epitomee, Calibrate, Roman and Scientific Intake
- Research: SELECT Steering Committee (Novo Nordisk)



Important Resources



Dietz WH, et al. *Obesity*. 2019;27:1059-1062.

Kushner RF, et al. *Obesity*. 2019;27:1063-1067.

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Obesity & Social Determinants of Health

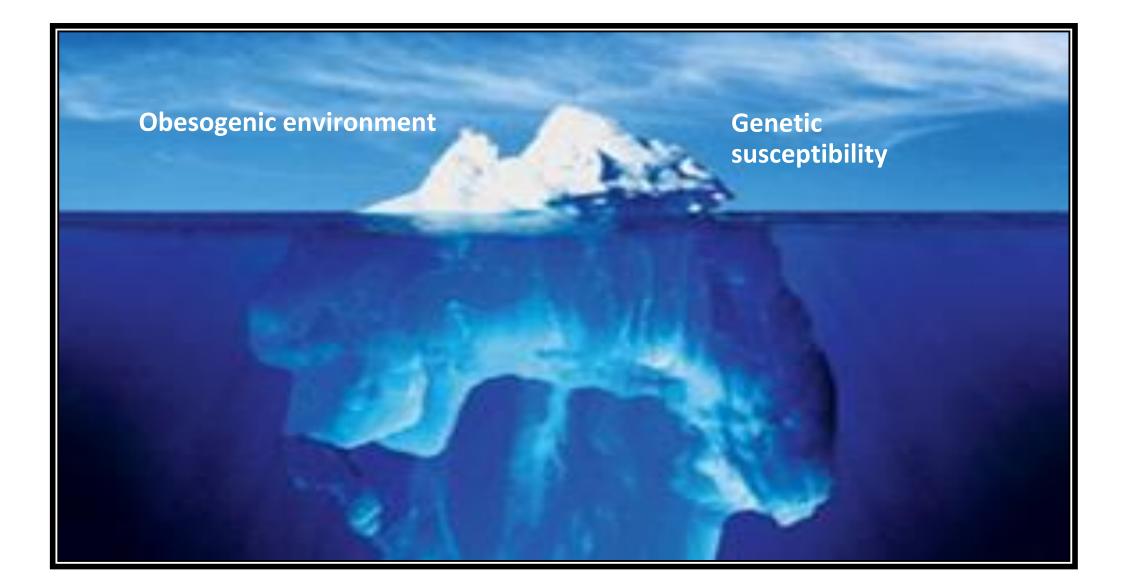
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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

1. be competent to address the role of social determinants of obesity and its outcomes.

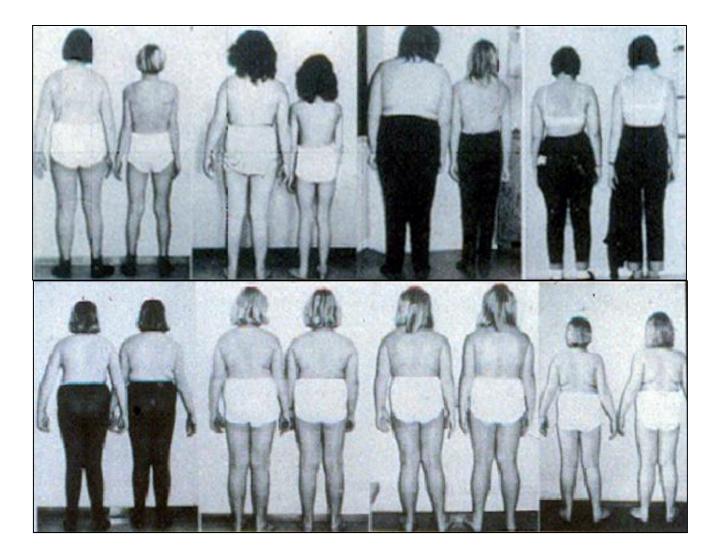
What Causes Obesity?



Genetic Contribution to Body Habitus

Dizygotic (fraternal) twins demonstrate more discordance in body habitus among each member of the twin pair.

Monozygotic (identical) twins demonstrate more concordance in body habitus among each member of the twin pair.



What Causes Obesity?

Obesogenic environment

Genetic susceptibility

Epigenetic

Financial stress

Emotional stress Sleep deprivation

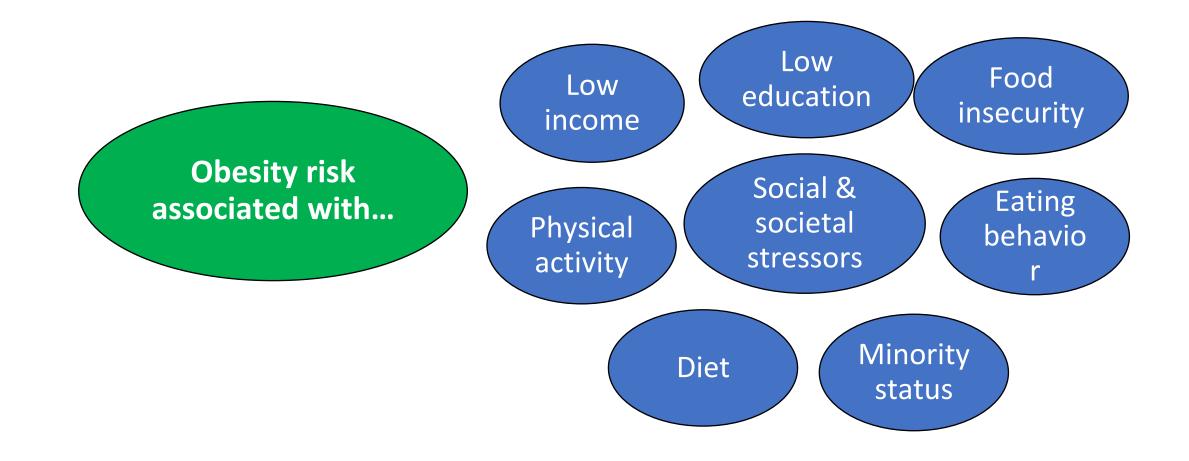
Sedentary job or commuting Excessive screen time

> Endocrine disruptors

Ready access to highly palatable foods

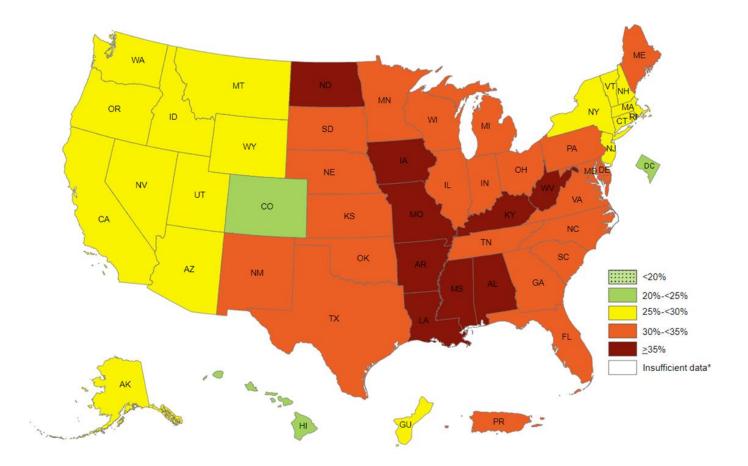
ble Médications Menopause Post Pregnancy weight retention Gut Microbiota changes Hypoglycemia

Obesity and Social Determinants of Health



US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. www.cdc.gov/obesity/index.html

Health Disparities and Obesity: Self-reported Obesity Prevalence



US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed September 17,2020. https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/prevalence-maps.html#overall Open Access.

What Is the Difference Between Colorado and Louisiana?

	Colorado	Louisiana
Mean elevation	6800 feet	100 feet
Precipitation (inches)	17	57.3
Average temperature (F)	45.1°	66.4°
Median household income, 2018	\$68,811	\$47,942
Poverty rate, 2020	9.6%	18.6%
Proportion adults with college degree, 2018	40.1%	23.7%
Incarceration rates 2020 per 100,000 adults	353	695
Ranking by US News for Health	8/50	44/50
Working long hours and shift work ^a	?	?
Unemployment rate, July 2019	2.7%	4.7%
African-American	4.6%	32.8%

^a3.2% of US workforce works the third shift. 19% work 48+ hours and 7% 60+ hours/week. F = fahrenheit.

US Census Bureau. Accessed September 17, 2020. https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/LA,CO/PST045219

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Obesity: Genetics and Background

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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

2. consider an individual's genetic background and ethnicity when considering the risk associated with BMI and/or waist circumference.

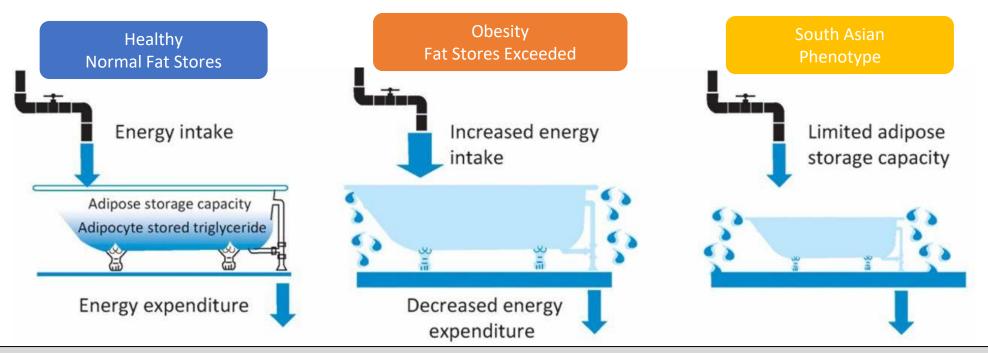
How Do You Define Obesity?

• *BMI*: On population basis, correlates with body fat and correlates with a host of comorbidities

For Europids: Overweight BMI >25 kg/m² Obese BMI >30 kg/m² Waist circumference 35 in for women and 40 in for men Jensen MD, et al. Guidelines (2013) *Obesity.* 2014;22(S2):S1-S410. For Asians: Overweight BMI >23 kg/m² Obese BMI >25 kg/m² Waist circumference 31.5 in for women and 35 in for men WHO/IASO/IOTE, 2000.

(http://www.idi.org.au/obesity_report.htm)

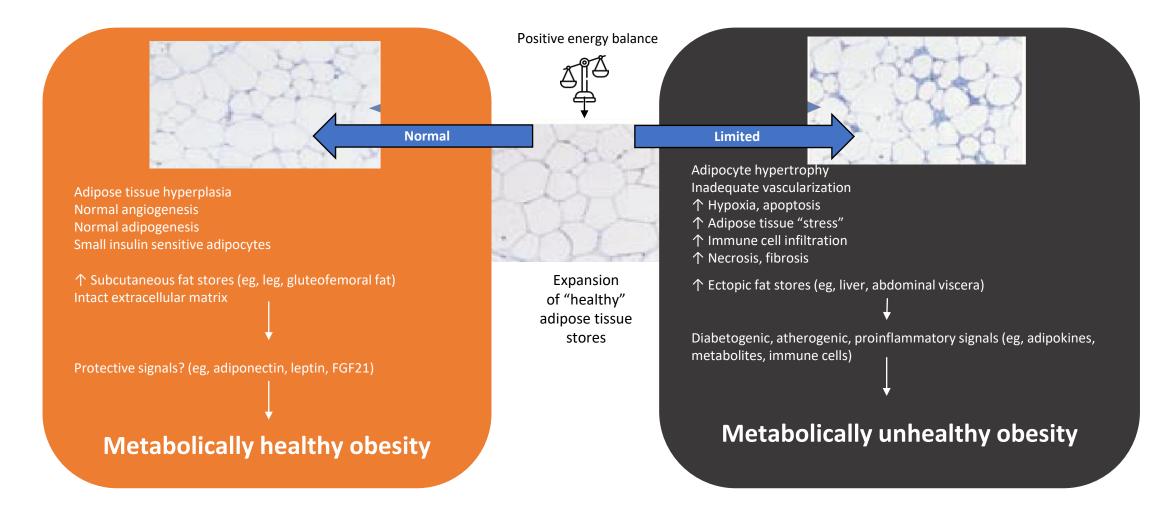
The Soggy Bathroom Carpet Model of Over-Nutrition– Related Metabolic Disease



- When the ability to store healthy fat is exceeded by a continuous positive energy balance, ectopic and abnormal fat stores give rise to metabolic disease
- The ability to store fat in healthy depots is determined by genetics, hormones, and other factors
- Some individuals, such as those of South Asian descent, have little capacity to store excess fat in healthy depots and develop ectopic and abnormal fat stores at lower BMI levels

O'Rahilly S. Diabetes. 2021;70:29-38.

When the body exceeds healthy adipose tissue stores, excess abnormal body fat occurs



Blüher M. Endocr Rev. 2020;41:405-420.

How Do You Define Obesity?

Clinical Medicine

- WHO: "Condition where excess of abnormal body fat impairs health"
- Cut points are used as screening, and
- Diagnosis = cut-points + health risk assessment

Clinicians treat BMI as a screening tool, and the diagnosis of obesity is always a clinical diagnosis, based on excess abnormal body fat that impairs health.

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Assessment of Obesity-Associated Comorbidities

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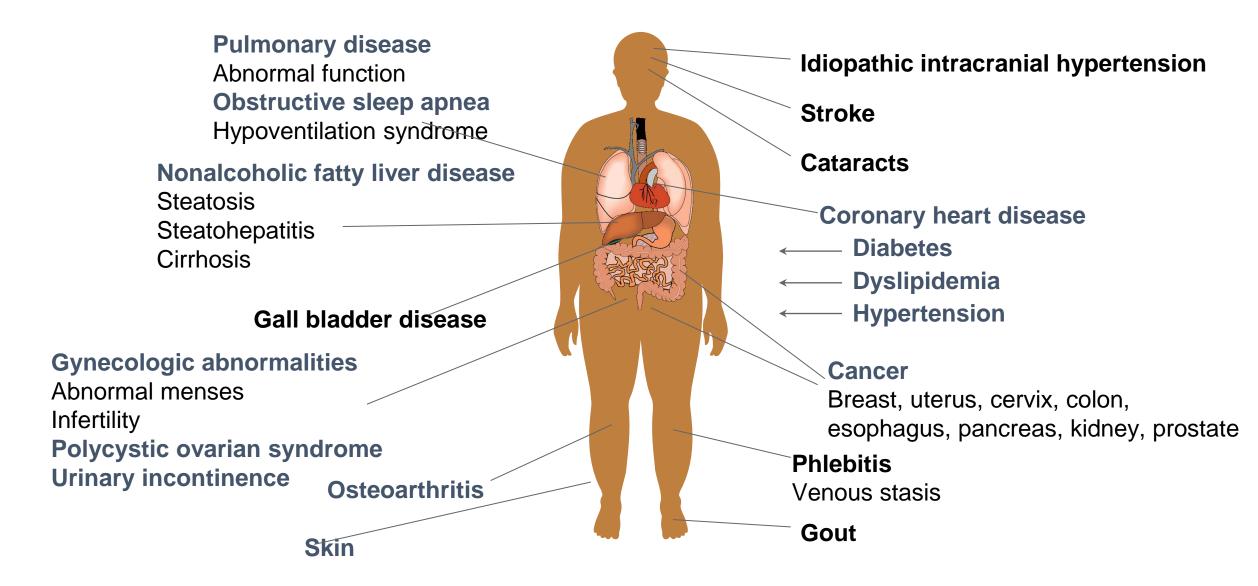
Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

3. assess patients for obesity-associated comorbidities.

Dietz WH, et al. Obesity. 2019;27:1059-1062.

Comorbidities Associated with Obesity



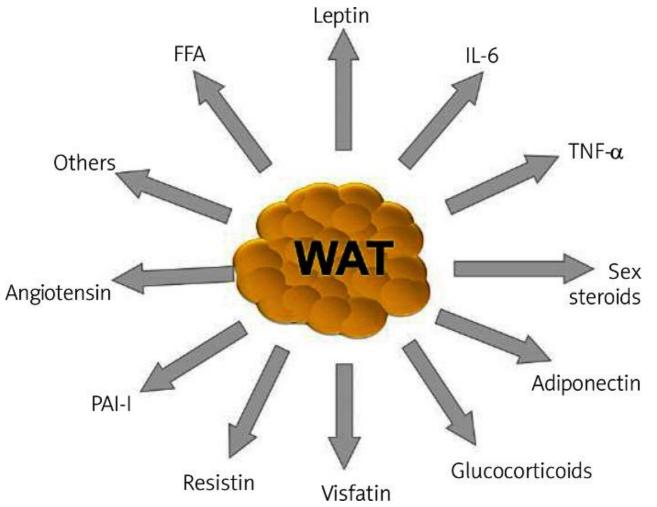
Adapted from European Practical and Patient-Centred Guidelines for Adult Obesity Management in Primary Care. January 2019. Obesity Facts 12(1):40-66

How does obesity drive these diseases?

- Burden of excess fat biomechanical
 Products of excess abnormal fat effects
 - Knee arthritis
 - Obstructive sleep apnea
 - GERD
 - Urinary incontinence
 - Others

- - Prothrombotic effects
 - Proinflammatory effects
 - Immune function effects
 - Promote blood pressure elevation
 - Promote insulin resistance
 - Promote angiogenesis
 - Others

How does obesity drive these diseases?



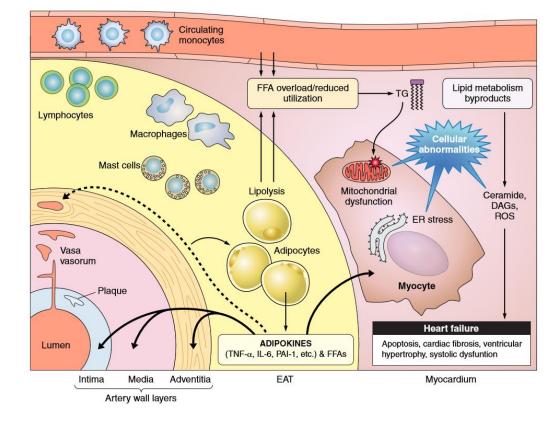
- Products of excess abnormal fat
 - Prothrombotic effects
 - Proinflammatory effects
 - Immune function effects
 - Promote blood pressure elevation
 - Promote insulin resistance
 - Promote angiogenesis
 - Others

Coelho M, Oliveira T, Fernandes R. Biochemistry of adipose tissue: an endocrine organ. Arch Med Sci. 2013;9(2):191-200.

Location, Location, Location

- Visceral and ectopic (muscle, liver, pancreas, epicardial) adipose tissue produces more pro-inflammatory and pro-thrombotic cytokines.
- Visceral and ectopic fat are mobilized first with weight loss.

Role of epicardial adipose tissue in cardiovascular risk



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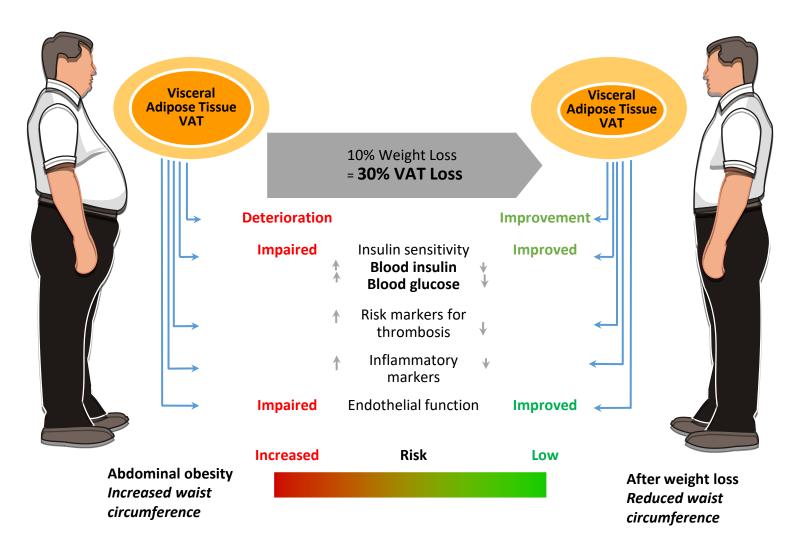
Obesity & Patient Education

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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

4. educate patients or clients about the relationship between excess body fat and health risks. Visceral Adipose Tissue: Associated with Cardiometabolic Risk With 10% Weight Loss, Visceral Adipose Tissue Decreases by 30%

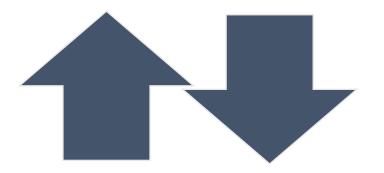


Adapted from: Després J, et al. BMJ. 2001;322:716-720.

Counseling patients about weight loss

- Relate weight management to health improvement
 - Ask the patient to define the single most important outcome of the weight loss effort.
- Set an achievable goal 5%, 10%, 15% or more
 - Depending on the targeted health improvement
- Describe the body's regulation of body weight.
 - Obesity is a chronic disease
 - weight loss is resisted, and weight regain promoted by the body's physiology

Biologic and Physiologic Adaptations to the Weight Reduced State





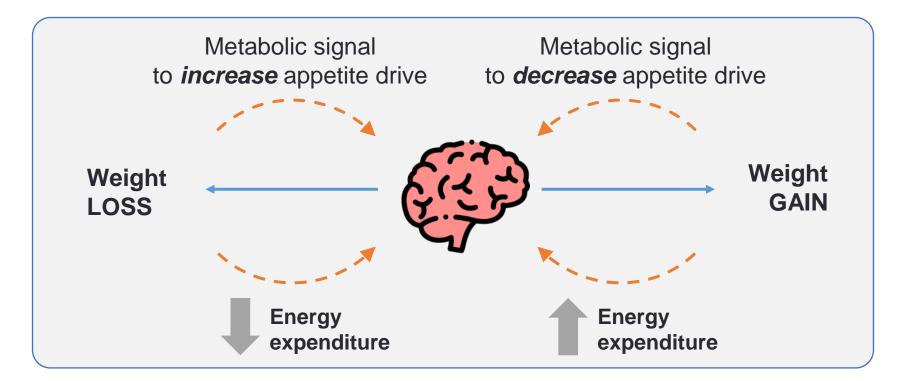
- Alterations is appetite regulation¹
 - ↑ Ghrelin (hunger hormone) and
 ↓ GLP-1, GIP, CCK, PYY, insulin, and
 amylin (satiety hormones)

- Alterations is energy expenditure^{2,3}
 - − ↓ Resting energy expenditure
 - \uparrow Muscle efficiency
 - Related to \downarrow leptin levels

1. Sumithran P et al. N Engl J Med. 2011;365:1597-1604. 2. Johannsen DL et al. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2012;97:2489-2496. 3. Ravussin E et al. Obesity. 2016;24:1607-1608.

Homeostatic Regulation of Set-Point Body Weight1

A homeostatic weight regulatory system prevents deviation from a body-weight set point



Deviation from this set point elicits a *physiologic* compensatory mechanism controlling *food intake* and *energy expenditure*

1. Yu YH et al. Obes Rev. 2015;16:234-247.

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Facilitating Behavioral Change for Long-Term Obesity Management

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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

5. employ evidence-based counseling techniques (e.g., cognitive behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing, the five As [ask, assess, advise, agree, and assist]) to facilitate behavioral change.

Weight Stigma Is Common in Health Care

Source of Bias	Ever Experienced	More than Once & Multiple Times
Family Members	72	62
Doctors	69	52
Classmates	64	56
Sales clerk	60	47
Friends	60	42
Co-workers	54	38
Mother	53	44
Spouse	47	32
Servers at restaurants	47	35
Nurses	46	34
Members of the community	46	35
Father	44	34
Employer/supervisor	43	26
Sister	37	28
Dietitians/nutritionists	37	26
Brother	36	28
Teachers/professors	32	21
Authority figure (eg, police)	23	15
Mental health professionals	21	13

Many Providers View Patients with Obesity as:¹⁻³

- Non-compliant
- Lazy
- Lacking in selfcontrol
- Awkward

- Weak-willed
- Sloppy
- Unsuccessful
- Unintelligent
- Dishonest

1. Ferrante J et al. Obesity. 2009:17;1710–1716.; 2. Fogelman Y et al. Int J Obes. 2002;26:1393–1397. ;3. Foster G et al. Obesity Res. 2003;11:1168-1177.

Self-Reflection: Personal Attitudes

Ask yourself:

- What assumptions do I have about persons who are affected by obesity?
- Do I have stereotypes about a person's character, personality, lifestyle, or health based on their body weight? If so, what are these stereotypes?
- How do I feel when I interact with people who are affected by obesity?
- Am I sensitive to the needs and struggles of patients affected by obesity?

Create a Supportive Environment to Make a First Impression

- Considerations
 - Weighing
 - Seating
 - Reading materials
 - Ramps and hand rails
 - Scales
 - Bathrooms









Obesity Stigma and Bias: Impact on Care

Patients with obesity are less likely to obtain...

- Preventive health services & exams
- Cancer screens, pelvic exams, mammograms

and are more likely to ...

- Cancel appointments
- Delay appointments and preventive care services

Choose Your Words: Perceptions of Language Used by Physicians

Least Stigmatizing/Blaming weight unhealthy weight Most Motivating unhealthy weight overweight

Most Stigmatizing/Blaming fat morbidly obese Least Motivating fat morbidly obese chubby

Choose Your Words: Respecting your patient's feelings

Is today a good time to talk about your weight and how it is affecting your health?

Not today? The single best thing you could do to improve your health is to make some changes around diet and activity. I'd like to bring this up at the next visit.

Causal Attributions of Obesity^{1,2}

- People are <u>less</u> likely to express weight bias if they perceive the cause of obesity to be *external factors*...
- And <u>more</u> likely to express bias if they perceive obesity to be caused by *factors* within personal control.

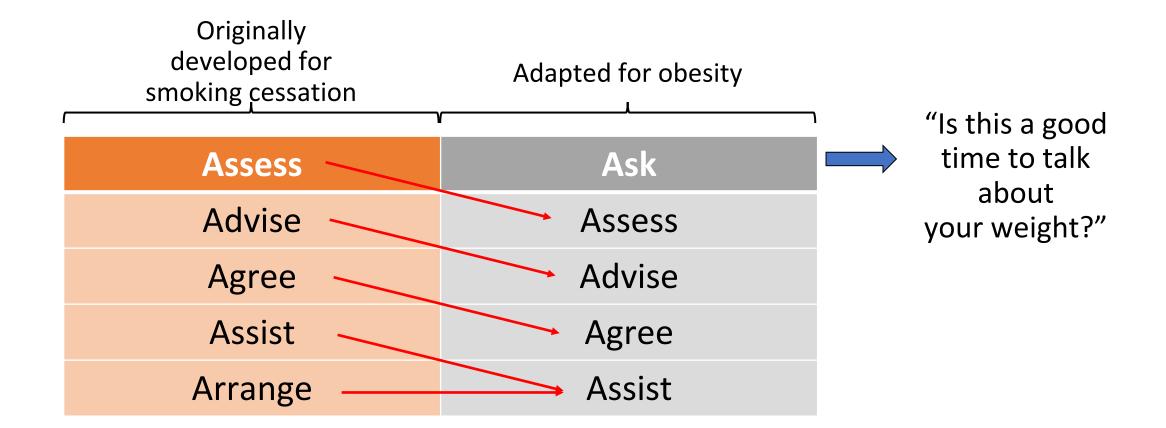
1. DeJong W. Psychol Rep. 1993;73(3 Pt 1):963-970.; 2. Puhl RM et al. Health Psychol. 2005;24:517-525.

The first step: how we view our patients and their weight struggles...

- Her lifestyle is a personal choice.
- She just needs to eat less and exercise more.
- I'll just tell her to lose weight.
- If she struggles its her fault.
- She doesn't need meds, she can do it on her own.

- She carries genes to resist loss and promote gain.
- Stress, mood, medications, life events promote gain.
- Losing weight requires
 - skills, and its my job to coach skill-building
 - Weight regain is an expected reaction to metabolic adaptation.
 Special approaches are needed.

The 5 "A"s Counseling Framework



Vallis M, et al. Can Fam Physician. 2013;59(4):27-31. Plourde G. Can Fam Physician. 2013;59(4):353. Sherson EA, et al. Fam Pract. 2014;31(4):389-398.

Obesity Management is Patient-Centric

- 1. Engage in dialogue; ask "Is this a good time for me to help you with your weight?"
- 2. Assess diet, activity, barriers, and prior success and failure
- 3. Goal setting—come to a joint decision
- 4. Joint decision on lifestyle strategy
- 5. Joint decision on anti-obesity medication (drug accessibility and patient preferences)
- 6. Follow-up visits
- 7. Long-term management

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Utilizing the Full Spectrum of Comprehensive Management Options for Obesity

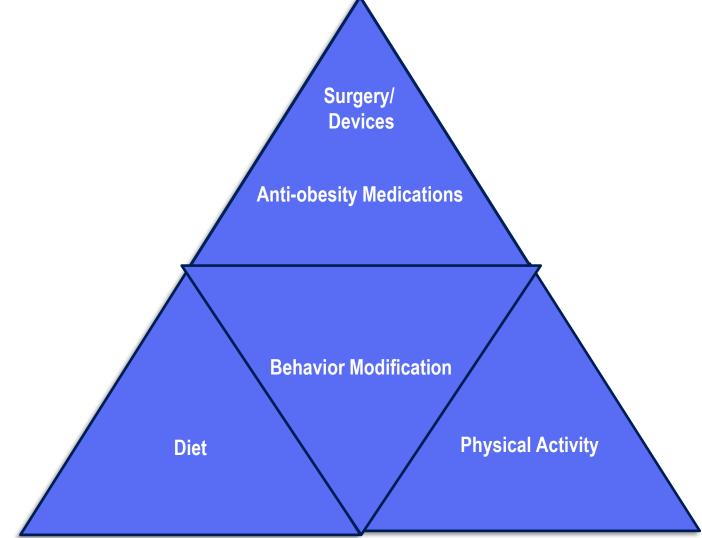
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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

- 6. jointly decide with patients or clients on obesity care options
 - counseling on diet, physical activity, behavior modification,
 - pharmacotherapy, and/or
 - bariatric surgery.
- For patients who have not achieved sufficient weight loss or health benefits with self-help approaches, referral to
 - evidence-based intensive behavioral counseling or delivery of a structured program of comprehensive lifestyle intervention (12-14 visits in the first 6 months and continued therapy for at least 1 year)
 - provide services and/or resources to meet the psychosocial needs of patients who may have weight management challenges

Components of an Effective Obesity Management Program



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Evidence-based Dietary Interventions for Obesity

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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

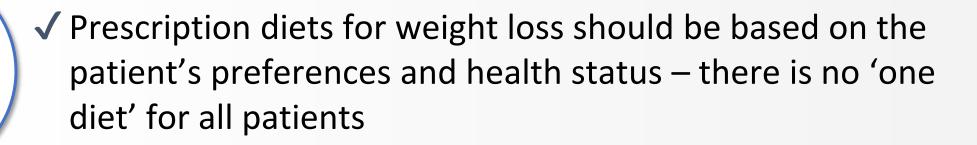
Clinical providers should

7.refer patients or clients to an evidence-based program or recommend an evidence-based dietary strategy, considering individual preference and the potential health benefit of diet composition.

Key Guiding Principles for Dietary Counseling



- The diet must be calorie reduced in order to create an energy deficit
 - 1200-1500 kcal/d for women and 1500-1800 kcal/d for men, or
 - 500 kcal/d or 750 kcal/d energy deficit from baseline diet



Adherence – Not Diet – Predicts Success

- Consistent finding in four 2012 metaanalyses, each summarizing 13 to 24 trials: adherence was most strongly associated with weight loss¹⁻⁴
- Meta-analysis 2014: 48 trials, n = 7,286; conclusion: any diet a patient will adhere to lose weight is best⁵



Ajala O, et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 2013;97(3):505-516. Wycherley TP, et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 2012;96(6):1281-1298. Hu T, et al. Am J Epidemiol. 2012;176 Suppl 7:S44-54. Bueno NB, et al. Br J Nutr. 2013;110(7):1178-1187. Johnston BC, et al. JAMA. 2014;312(9):923-933.



What every health care provider can do for counseling about diets for patients with obesity...

- Don't believe there is a magic diet for weight loss.
- Do believe that there are many pathways to dietary success.
- Be permissive if patients want to try low carb, low glycemic index, intermittent fasting or other diets... it might work for them.
- Try to get patients to good lifestyle counseling an RD, a commercial program.
- Always try to get patients to a healthier diet (more plants, more fiber, extra-virgin olive oil, fish and less red meat, animal fats and processed foods.

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Physical Activity for Obesity Management

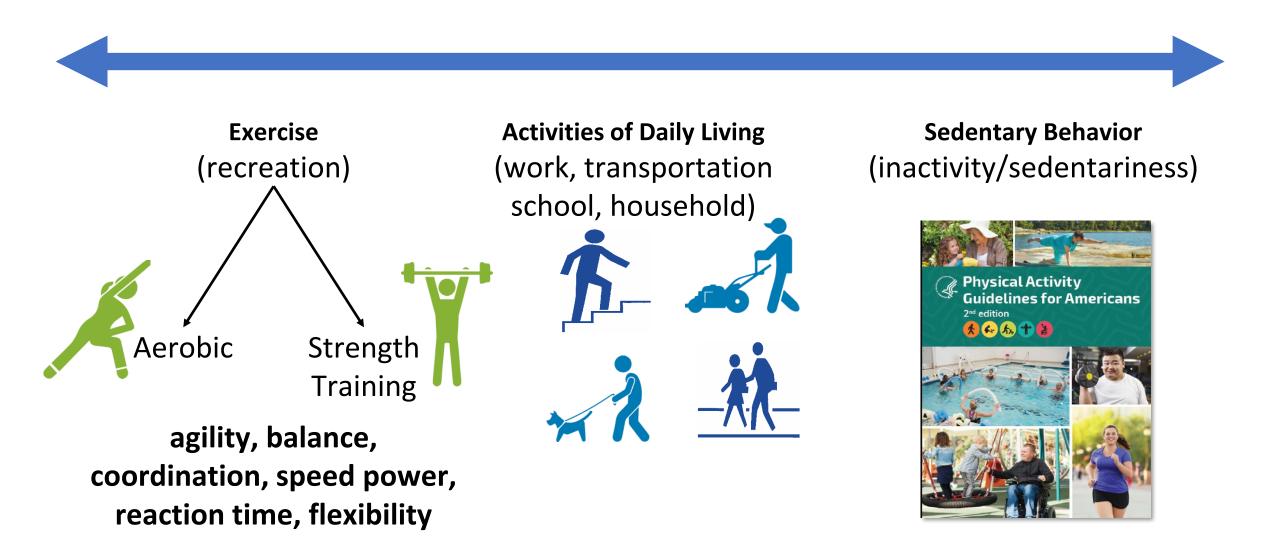
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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

8. recommend appropriate levels of physical activity and/or refer patients or clients to programs that include physical activity counseling as part of an obesity care effort.

Physical Activity: A 'Movement Portfolio'



Aerobic Physical Activity and Expected Weight Loss

Expected initial weight loss and possibility of clinically significant weight loss from different types of exercise training programs¹

Exercise type	Range of expected weight loss	Chance of clinically significant weight loss		
Aerobic exercise training only	0-3%	Possibly but only with high exercise volumes		
Resistance training only	0-1%	Very unlikely		
Aerobic and resistance training	0-3%	Possibly but only with high volumes of aerobic exercise training		
Caloric restriction combined with aerobic exercise training	5-15%	Possible		
Aerobic physical activity amount	Weight loss amount ²			
<150 min per week	No weight loss or minimal weight loss			
150-225 min per week	Weight loss of 2-3 kg			
225-420 min per week	Weight loss of 5-7.5 kg			
200-300 min per week	Weight maintenance after weight loss			

1. Swift DL, et al. *Prog Cardiovasc Dis*. 2018;61(2):206-213.

2. Donnelly JE, et al. Med Sci Sports Exerc. 2009;41(2):459-471.

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Addressing Weight Effects of Common Medications

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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

9. minimize the use of medications that may cause weight gain and preferentially consider those that are weight neutral or associated with weight los in patients with overweight and obesity.

Weight Effects of Common Medications

discussed in module, "Medicating the Patient with Obesity"

Medication	Weight Gain Associated with Use	Alternatives (weight reducing)	
Diabetes medications	Insulin, sulfonylureas, TZDs, mitiglinide, sitagliptin?	(Metformin, acarbose, miglitol, pramlintide, GLP-1 RAs, SGLT2 inhibitors)	
Hypertension medications	α-Blocker?, β-blocker	ACE inhibitors?, calcium channel blockers?, angiotensin-2 RAs	
Antidepressants and mood stabilizers	Amytriptyline, doxepin, imipramine, nortriptyline, trimipramine, mirtazapine, fluoxetine?, sertraline?, paroxetine, fluvoxamine	(Bupropion), nefazodone, fluoxetine (short-term, sertraline <1 year)	
Oral contraceptives	Depot progesterone	Barrier methods, IUDs	

? represents uncertain/under investigation. ACE = angiotensin-converting enzyme; GLP-1 = glucagon-like peptide-1; IUDs = intrauterine devices; RAs = receptors antagonists; SGLT2 = sodium-glucose cotransporter-2; TZDs = thiazolidinediones.

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Obesity Pharmacotherapy as Adjunct to Lifestyle

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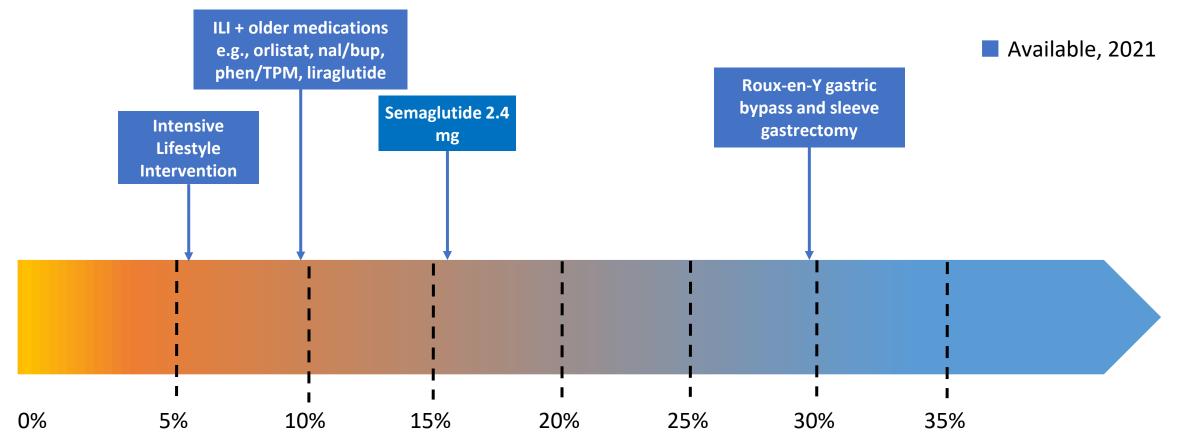
Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

10. discuss and/or prescribe obesity medications, when appropriate. Medications approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for weight management should be included in health care system formularies and used according to product label indications. Medications should be prescribed in conjunction with the lifestyle intervention.

Available Treatments for Obesity

discussed in module, "Medicating the Patient with Obesity"



Not all agents are available in all regions; always consult local prescribing information. Direct comparisons between data cannot be made due to differences in trial designs. *40-week study duration; **20-week study duration.

ILI, Intensive Lifestyle Intervention; nal/bup, naltrexone/bupropion; phen/TPM, phentermine/topiramate

Allison DB, et al. *Obesity*. 2012;20(2):330-342. [EQUIP]; Gadde KM, et al. *Lancet*. 2011;37:1341-1352. [CONQER]; Greenway FL, et al. *Lancet*. 2010;376:595-605. [COR-I]; Apovian CM, et al. *Obesity*. 2013;21:935-943 [COR-II]; Wadden TA, et al. *Obesity*. 2011;19(1):110-120. [COR-BMOD]; Pi-Sunyer X, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2015;373(1):11-22. [SCALE]; Wadden TA, et al. *In J Obes*. 2013;37:1443-1451. [SCALE MAIN]; Enebo LB, et al. *Lancet*. 2021;397(10286):1736-1748. [Cag + Sema]; Wilding JPH, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2021;384(11):989. [STEP 1]; Wadden TA, et al. *JAMA*. 2021;325(14):1403-1413. [STEP 3]; Rubino D, et al. *JAMA*. 2021;325(14):1414-1425. [STEP 4]; Ryan D. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol*. 2021;9(5):252-254. [STEP]; Sjöström L, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2007;357:741-52. [Surgery]; Frias JP, et al. *Lancet*. 2021 [SURPASS-2].

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Considerations for Metabolic Surgery

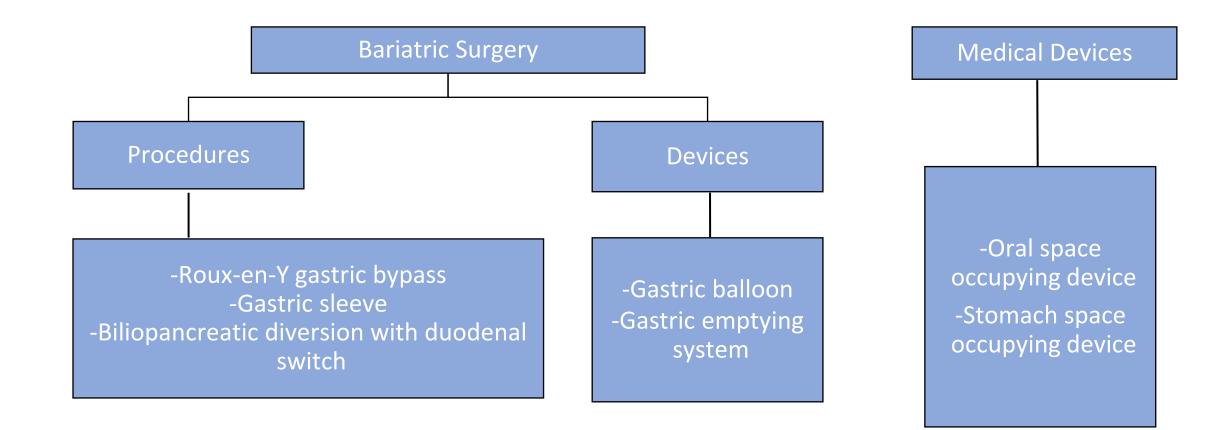
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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

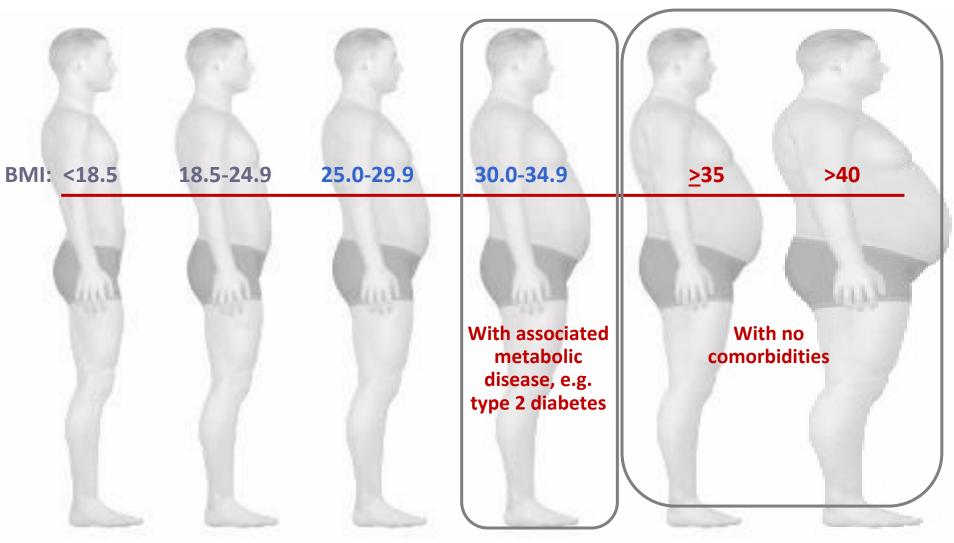
11. discuss and/or refer to bariatric surgery patients or clients who meet surgical criteria, when appropriate.

Surgery and Devices for Weight Loss and Management



US Food and Drug Administration. Medical Devices for Weight Loss and Weight Management: What to Know | FDA. Accessed January 26, 2021.

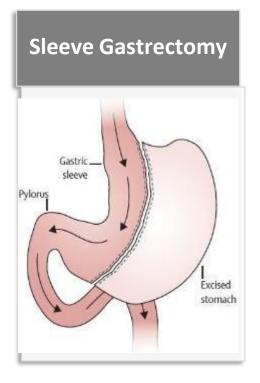
Bariatric Surgery Criteria Updated in 2022



Consider bariatric surgery: (BMI ≥30)

2022 American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) and International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders (IFSO): Indications for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Dan Eisenberg et al. / Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases 18 (2022) 1345–1356

Most Common Bariatric Procedures



Roux-en-Y Gastric

Bypass

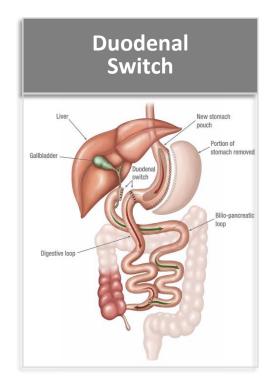
Oesophagus.

Pouch

59.4% of procedures

17.8% of procedures

96% performed laparoscopically Average length of stay – 1.2 days



0.9% of procedures

16.7% of procedures are revisions

Madsbad S, et al. Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol. 2014;2(2):152-64. https://asmbs.org/resources/estimate-of-bariatric-surgery-numbers accessed 10/30/2021

Considerations for Surgical Treatment

- May be an option for patients with:
 - BMI 30-34.9 kg/m2 and ≥1 obesity-related metabolic complication (type 2 diabetes)
 - BMI ≥35 kg/m2
 - Unresponsive to lifestyle management and pharmacotherapy

- Long-term reduction in:
 - Body weight
 - Cardiovascular biomarkers, events
 - Other weight-related complications
- Need for ongoing support and intervention

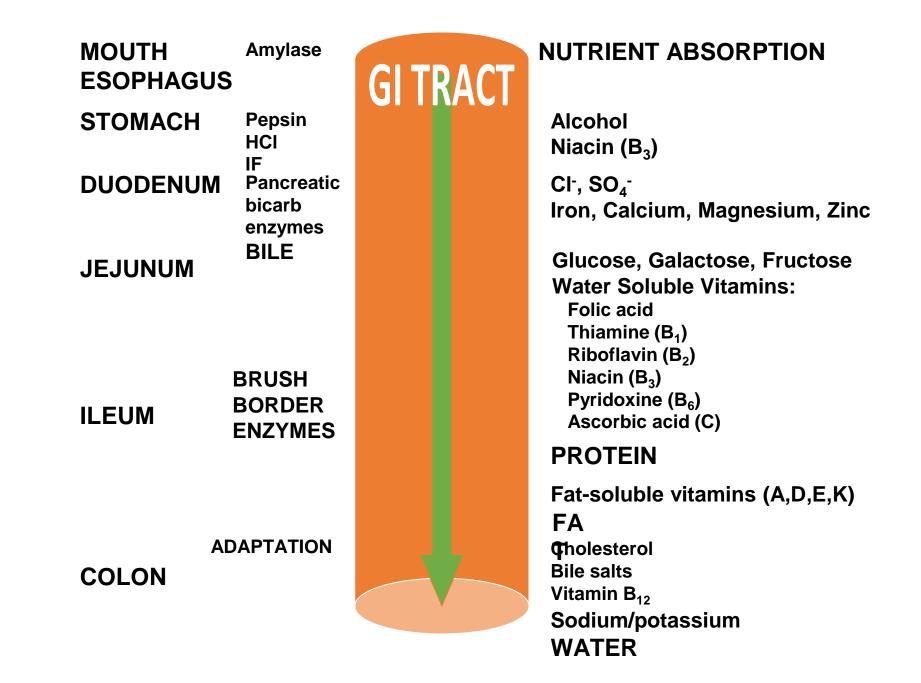
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Standard of Care for Clinical Providers

Clinical providers should

12. be knowledgeable about long-term nutritional and medical needs of patients or clients who have bariatric surgery and should provide care consistent with established guidelines.



Kushner R, Still C. Nutrition and Bariatric Surgery. CRC Press; 2014.

Nutrient Screening Time Points

Nutrient	Pre-op	3 Month	6 Month	Annually
Vitamin B ₁		Anytime with N/V		?
Vitamin B ₁₂	X	RYGB VSG BPD/DS	RYGB VSG BPD/DS	X
Folate	Х	X	X	X
Vitamin A	Х		BPD/DS	X
Vitamin D	Х	X	X	X
Vitamin K / E	Х			X
Iron	Х	X	X	X
Zinc	X			RYGB VSG BPD/DS
Copper	Х			RYGB VSG BPD/DS
РТН	X	X	X	X
Calcium	X	X	X	X
DEXA	X			q 2-5 yrs

Adapted from: Stein J, et al. Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2014;40(6):582-609; Parrott J, et al. Surg Obes Relat Dis. 2017;13(5):727-741.

Nutritional and Metabolic Deficiencies After Bariatric Surgery

- Gastric restrictive procedures
 - Iron deficiency 32%
 - Thiamine deficiency
- Roux-en-Y gastric bypass
 - Calcium (50% to 60%) and vitamin D (20% to 60%)
 - Iron deficiency 15% to 50% (49% to 52% with BMI >50)
 - Decreased acidification and proximal small bowel absorption
 - B₁₂ deficiency 10% to 70% 1 to 9 years after* (half-life 400 d)
 - Decreased liberation of B₁₂ from protein foods
 - Decreased intrinsic factor production
 - Decreased ileal absorption
 - Requirement = 2 mcg/day; stores = 3000 to 5000 mcg
 - Thiamin deficiency
 - Folic acid deficiency 10% to 35% due to low intake and \downarrow gastric acid
 - Protein deficiency (<1% to 4.7%)¹
 - * Earlier if B12 deficiency occurs preoperatively.

Thiamine Deficiency Can Result in Permanent Neurologic Damage

- Stores last 3 to 6 weeks
- Decreased gastric acid production
- Altered gastrointestinal anatomy
- Decreased food intake
- Frequent vomiting
- Dextrose infusion

• WHEN YOU THINK OF IT: GIVE IT

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(A)

Treating Obesity to the Standard of Care: Concluding Remarks

Donna Ryan, MD Professor Emerita Pennington Biomedical Research Center

Are we ready to treat obesity to the standard of care? Are we teaching appropriately?

Brief Cutting Edge Report CUNICAL TRIALS AND INVESTIGATIONS

Development of Obesity Competencies for Medical Education: A Report from the Obesity Medicine **Education Collaborative**

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Objective: Obesity Medicine Education Collaborative (OMEC) was formed to develop obesity-focused competencies and benchmarks that can be used by undergraduate and graduate medical education program directors. This article describes the developmental process used to create the competencies.

Methods: Fifteen professional organizations with an interest in obesity collaborated to form OMEC. Using the six Core Competencies of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education as domains and as a guiding framework, a total of 36 group members collaborated by in-person meetings, email exchange, and conference calls. An iterative process was used by each working subgroup to develop the competencies and assessment benchmarks. The initial work was subsequently externally reviewed by 19 professional organizations.

Results: Thirty-two competencies were developed across the six domains. Each competency contains five descriptive measurement benchmarks for evaluator rating.

Conclusions: This set of OMEC obesity-focused competencies is the first evaluation tool developed to be used within undergraduate and graduate medical training programs for both formative and summative assessments. Routine and more robust assessment is expected to increase the competence of health care providers to assess, prevent, and treat obesity. In addition to dissemination, the competencies and benchmarks will need to undergo evaluation for further validity and practicality,

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Introduction

The report concluded by stating, "Medical education must assure that future physicians will be better prepared to provide respectful, effec-A major challenge facing medical educators today is to adequately train tive care of overweight and obese patients and to appropriately particcurrent and future health care providers in the prevention and treat- ipate in overweight/obenity prevention efforts. Education on assessing ment of noncommunicable diseases, the leading cause for increased preventing and treating overweight and obesity should be included in disability-adjusted life years in the United States (1) and around the basic sciences, clinical experiences, and population health sciences' world [2]. Underfining this risk is, in part, the alarming increase in the (3). A recent comprehensive review of the United States Medical number of adults and children with obesity. The rationale for includ-Licensing Examination found that there was insufficient coverage of ing obesity in undergraduate (UGMI) and graduate (GMI) medical obesity on the Step 1 and 2 examinations, and recommendations for education is based on its population prevalence, disease barden, and availability of treatment options. In 2007, the Association of American dations for residency and fellowship training (5,6). In short, there is a Medical Colleges published "Report VIII-Contemporary Issues in need for comprehensive obesity education that spans UGME and GME Medicine: The Prevention and Treatment of Overweight and Obesity" (3). for both physicians and advanced practitioners.

¹ Jargentinis of Melcian, Nethemann Ulsivenity Penhey Rode Melcian, Charles Charles, Ulsiva, USA, Corenpoption: Bhort Elsiva, Elsiva, Ulsiva, Ulaina, USA, Corenpoption: Bhort Elsiva, USA, Ulsiva, Ulaina, USA, Corenpoption: Bhort Elsiva, USA, Ulsiva, Ulaina, USA, Vinter, Barta, Elsiva, Ulaina, USA, Vinter, Barta, Barta, Charles, USA, Vinter, Barta, Barta, Charles, C

Bee Commentary, pg. 1045. Disclosure: The authors dackared no conflict of interest

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Obesity

- Competencies have been outlined for undergraduate and graduate medical education.
- Endorsed by 15 professional societies.

Now we need to adopt them.

Are we ready to treat obesity to the standard of care? Are the barriers to care eliminated?

- H.R.1953 Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of 2017 still not passed
- Obesity Action Coalition >60,000 members
- World Obesity Federation working to have obesity included for universal health coverage by WHO

There is still work to be done.

