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## ESPEN LLL Course Topic 23 - Nutrition in Obesity



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# Bariatric Surgery – Nutritional and Metabolic Complications

## Module 23.4

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# Learning objectives

## Bariatric surgery



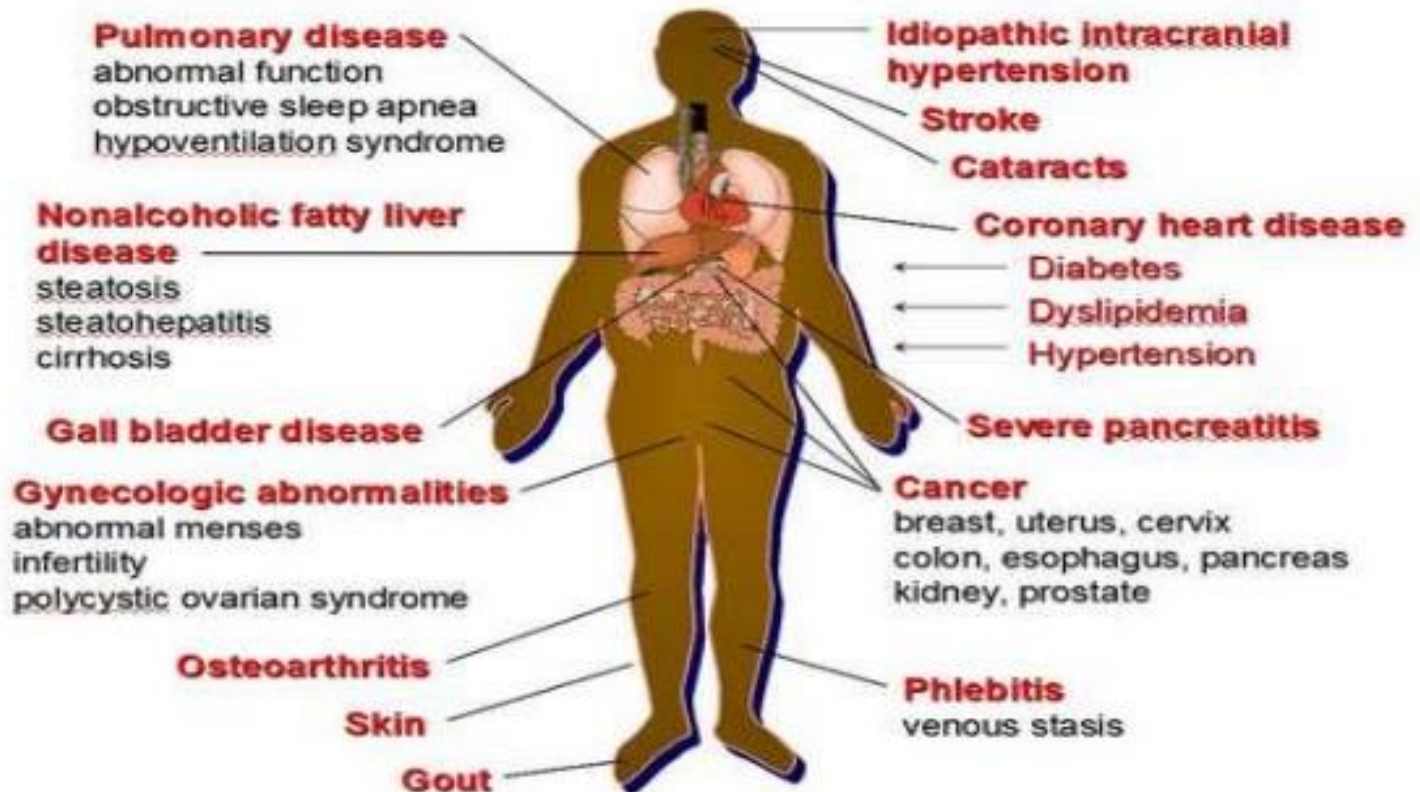
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- Principles of bariatric surgical techniques
- Nutritional and metabolic complications
- Appropriate post bariatric surgery follow-up
- Importance of protein intake after bariatric surgery
- Routine supplementation of micronutrients



## Medical Complications of Obesity



# Pathophysiology of nutritional deficiencies



The diagram illustrates various metabolic surgery procedures. It shows the stomach and small intestine with different surgical modifications. A label 'Bypassed portion of stomach' points to a red, bypassed section of the stomach. Below the diagram, the procedures are labeled: AGB, RYGB, GS, BPD, and Mini gastric bypass.

**Restrictive procedures vs. Malabsorptive procedures**

**Metabolic surgery**

**Macronutrient and/or Micronutrient  
deficiencies are very common**

AGB

RYGB

GS

BPD

**Mini  
gastric  
bypass**

# Indications for bariatric surgery

- BMI  $\geq 40$
- BMI 35–40 kg/m<sup>2</sup> with co-morbidities

metabolic disorders, cardio-respiratory diseases,

Of the total population of England- ~8%  
3,623,505 people eligible for bariatric surgery in 2014

or BMI  $\geq 35$  (class I obesity) with co-morbidities,  
specifically DM- consider on personal basis

- Interdisciplinary European Guidelines on Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. OBES SURG (2014)
- Dixon JB. International Diabetes Federation Taskforce on Epidemiology and Prevention. Bariatric surgery: an IDF statement for obese type 2 diabetes. Diabet Med. 2011
- Obesity: identification, assessment and management NICE clinical guidelines; 2014
- Aminian A Surg Obes Relat Dis. 2018 ASMBS updated position statement on bariatric surgery in class I obesity (BMI 30-35 kg/m<sup>2</sup>).
- Desogus D et al. Obes Surg. 2019 May 25.

# Improvement post bariatric surgery

## Excessive weight loss

- Diabetes mellitus-
  - Lower HbA1C
  - Lower glucose levels
  - Less medications
- Hypertension
- Hyperlipidemia
- Non alcoholic hepatitis/cirrhosis (NASH)



Aminian A Surg Obes Relat Dis. 2018

ASMBS updated position statement on bariatric surgery in class I obesity (BMI 30-35 kg/m<sup>2</sup>).



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Obesity Reviews / Volume 19, Issue 4

**Obes Rev. 2018** [Full Access](#)

Early major complications after bariatric surgery in the **USA** 2003–2014: a systematic review and meta-analysis

S.-H. Chang✉, N. L. B. Freeman, J. A. Lee, C. R. T. Stoll, A. J. Calhoun, J. C. Eagon, G. A. Colditz

....we found that the quality of complication reporting is lower than the reporting of other outcomes



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# Europe

....as operating surgeons enter most of the data, it cannot be ruled out that there may be an underreporting bias for operative complications (excluding death) and an over reporting bias for the positive outcomes of surgery

# Morbidity and mortality post bariatric surgery compared to general population

13 273 patients between 1980-2006.

- Post surgery
  - Myocardial infarction X1.5
  - Angina pectoris X2
  - Stroke X2
  - Hypertension X3
  - Diabetes X2.5
  - Death X1.2 **for all**

Not healthy

# Non surgical complications

## Primary surgery

**Major complications 2.8%**

**30 day mortality 0.08%\***

- Major depression X1.7 (12 years)



## England

**0.08% is low, but if 3,623,505 undergo surgery**

**2900 die from the surgery**

- Pregnancy outcomes

Seeras StatPearls [Internet] 2018

Lu CW Ann Med. 2018

Salehi J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2018

\*Poelmeijer Obes Surg. 2018

Russell Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health 2018

Emanuele Rausa, Obesity Surgery August 2016

Alam ,BJS Open. 2017

# Inadequate energy and protein intake post RYGB

	Energy	Protein gr.
3 months	772±323	24.5±8
1 year	1075±378	23.3±6.5

A minimal protein intake of 60 g/d  
**up to 1.5 g/kg ideal body** weight per day **should** be targeted

- Obesity Management Task Force of the European Association for the Study of Obesity Released "Practical Recommendations for the Post-Bariatric Surgery Medical Management". Obes Surg. 2018
- Moize Obesity Surgery 2003

# Protein malnutrition after RYGB and BPD

	RYGB limb <150 cm	RYGB limb >150 cm	BPD
2 years	~5%	13%	3-18%

- An annual hospitalization rate of 1%/year after malabsorptive procedures
- ~50% of patients who developed hypoalbuminaemia needed revisional surgery'

Khalaj AObes Surg. 2019

Chen Surg Obes Relat Dis. 2019

Heber et al J Clin Endocrinol Metab, November 2010



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# What about microelements?

**Table 1** Prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies following bariatric surgery. Data given as percentages [36, 38–41]

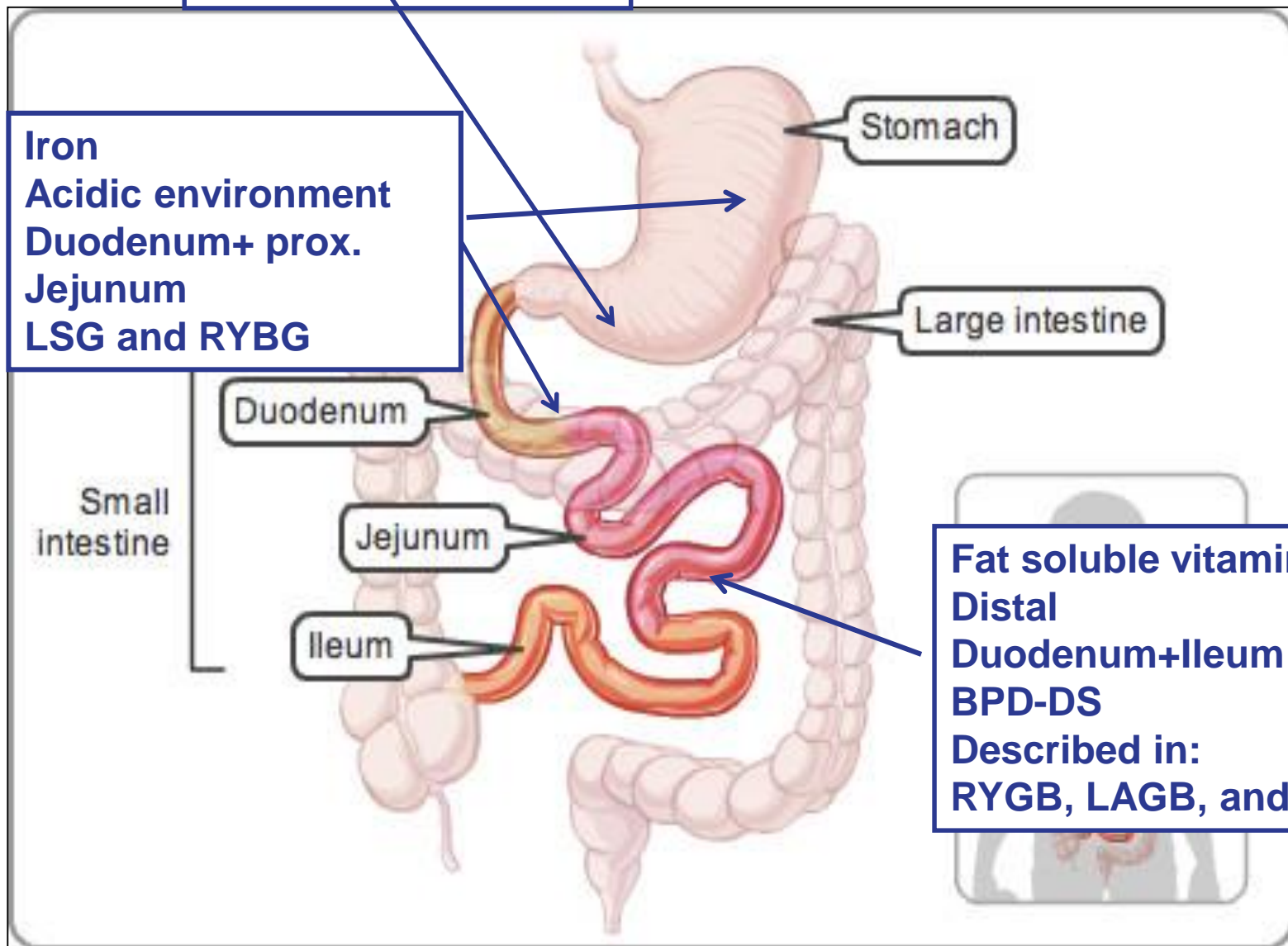
	LAGB	LSG	RYGB	BPDDS
Thiamin (B <sub>1</sub> )	0	0	12	10–15
Folate (B <sub>9</sub> )	10	10–20	15	15
Piridoxine (B <sub>6</sub> )	0	0–15	0	10
Cobalamin (B <sub>12</sub> )	10	10–20	30–50	22
Vitamin A	10	10–20	10–50	60–70
Vitamin D (<30 ng/dL)	30	30–70	30–50	40–100
Vitamin E	0	0–5	10	10
Vitamin K	0	0	0	60–70
Iron	0–32	15–45	25–50	25
Copper	–	10	10	70
Zinc	–	7–15	20–37	25

(–) indicates that data not available

*Abbreviations:* LAGB laparoscopic-assisted gastric banding, LSG laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy, RYGB Roux-en-Y gastric bypass, BPDDS biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch

**Intrinsic factor for  
B12  
LSG and RYGB↓**

**Iron  
Acidic environment  
Duodenum+ prox.  
Jejunum  
LSG and RYBG**



Stomach

Large intestine

Duodenum

Jejunum

Ileum

Small  
Intestine

**Fat soluble vitamins  
Distal  
Duodenum+Ileum  
BPD-DS  
Described in:  
RYGB, LAGB, and LSG**

# Wernicke's encephalopathy- B1- Thiamin deficiency

**Case report  
3 months post GB**

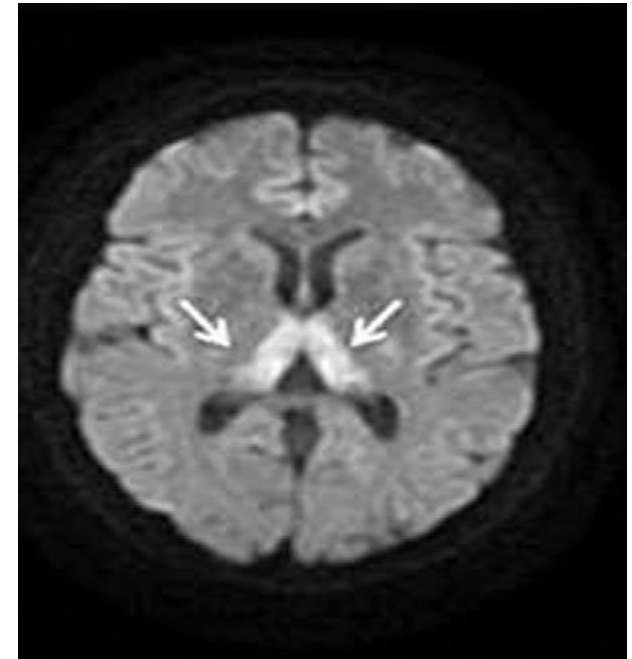
**CT**



**Normal**

>25% Thiamine deficiency  
Tang Surg Obes Relat Dis. 2018

**MRI**



**High signal intensities -  
Thalamic and hypothalamic  
lesions**

# Pellagra-like dermatitis

## Niacin deficiency

**Case report  
3 months post roux&y**

- Diarrhea
- Dermatitis
- Dementia
- Death

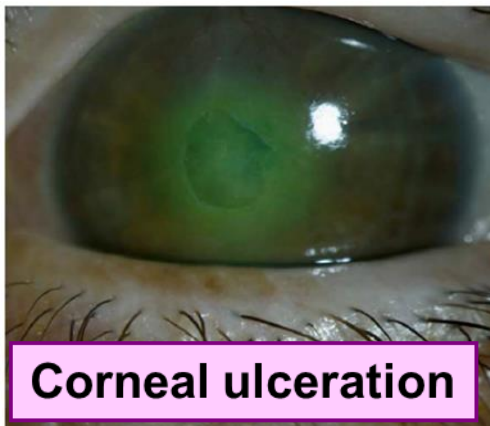


# Vitamin A post Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass Pregnancy

- 70-90 % deficiency (laboratory)

## Night blindness

- Post Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass 75.0 %



Machado OBES SURG 2015  
Donaldson et al Cornea 2012



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# Vitamin B12 (Cobolamine)



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- Up to ~40% if only multi vitamin used
- Deficiency due to
  - Intact stomach- not present
    - Gas release of iron
    - Intrinsic factor for absorption
  - low intake (meat)
  - Bacterial overgrowth in bypassed limb
- Irreversible sequelae
- Blood level follow-up
- Routine supplementation needed

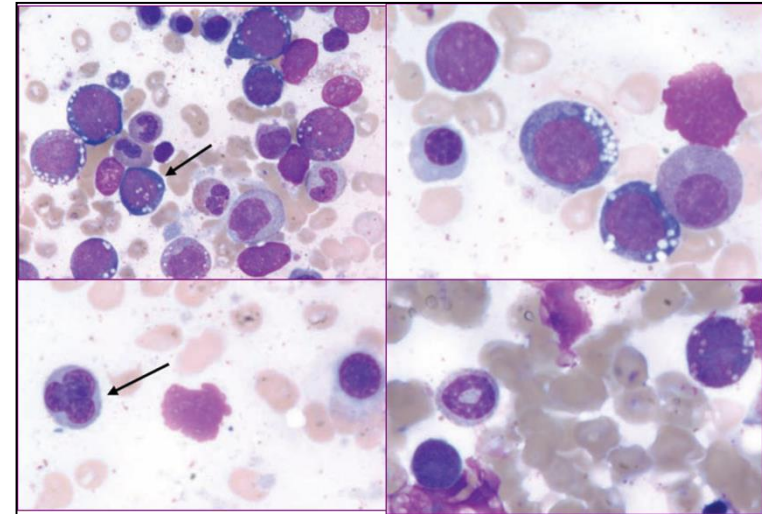
**May take years**

Halverson Am Surg 1982  
Behrns Dig Dis Sci 1992  
Shankar Nutrition 2010

Carrodeguas Surg Obes Relat Dis 2005  
Carvalhoc Arq Bras Cir Dig 2012  
Seeras StatPearls [Internet] 2018

# Copper deficiency

- 6 & 24 months post RYGB ~ 10% and 20%
- Pancytopenia
- Neurologic manifestations
- Fatigue
- Myeloneuropathy like syndrome
  - spastic gait, sensory ataxia
- Sudden bilateral blindness



myelodysplastic syndrome like  
20 years post gastric bypass

Watch out patients taking Zinc supplements

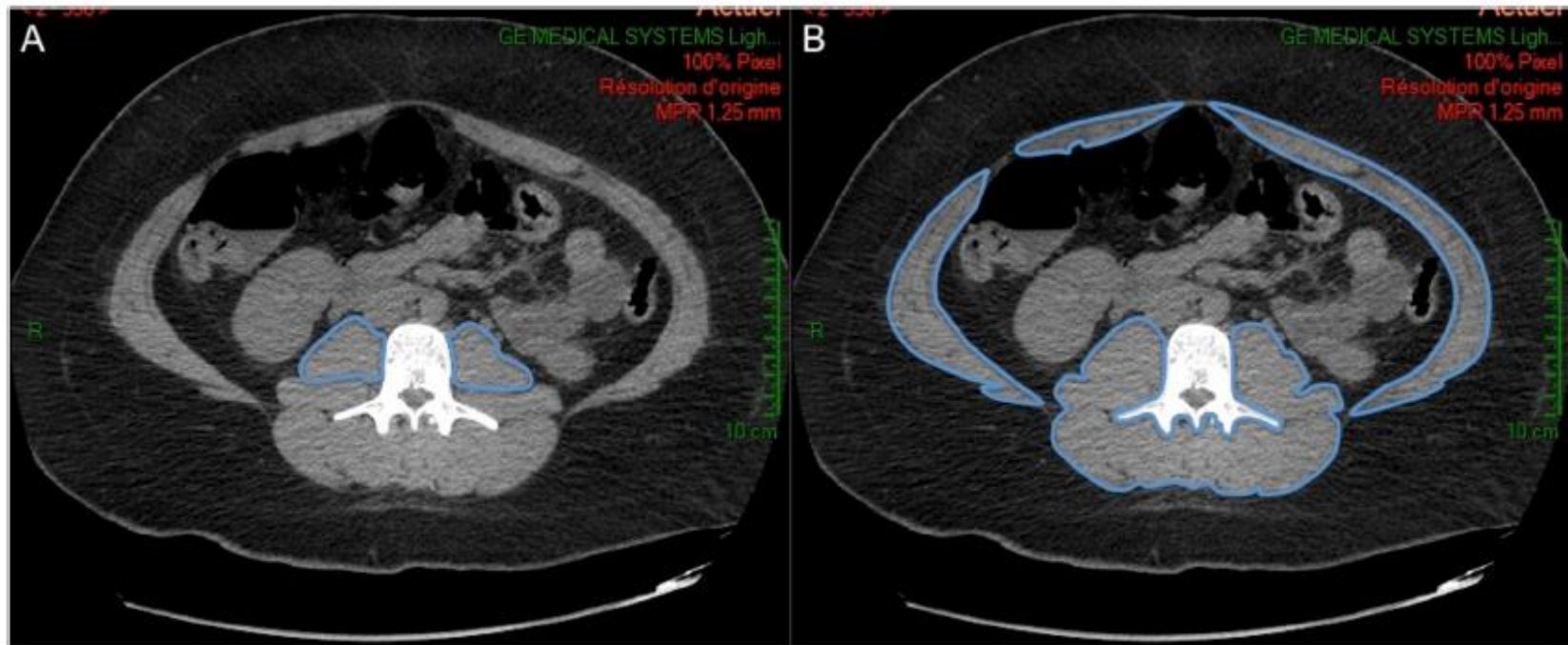
# Bone density and lean body mass: 24 months post surgery vs. intensive medical therapy

	Intensive medical	Bariatric surgery	
Lean mass (kg)	-2.7	-12	P<0.001
Bone mass (kg)%	+0.3	-7	P<0.001
Total hip BMD%	-0.3	-9.5	P<0.001

Bariatric surgery increases risk of bone fractureX2\*\*

# Sarcpenia

## Assessment by CT



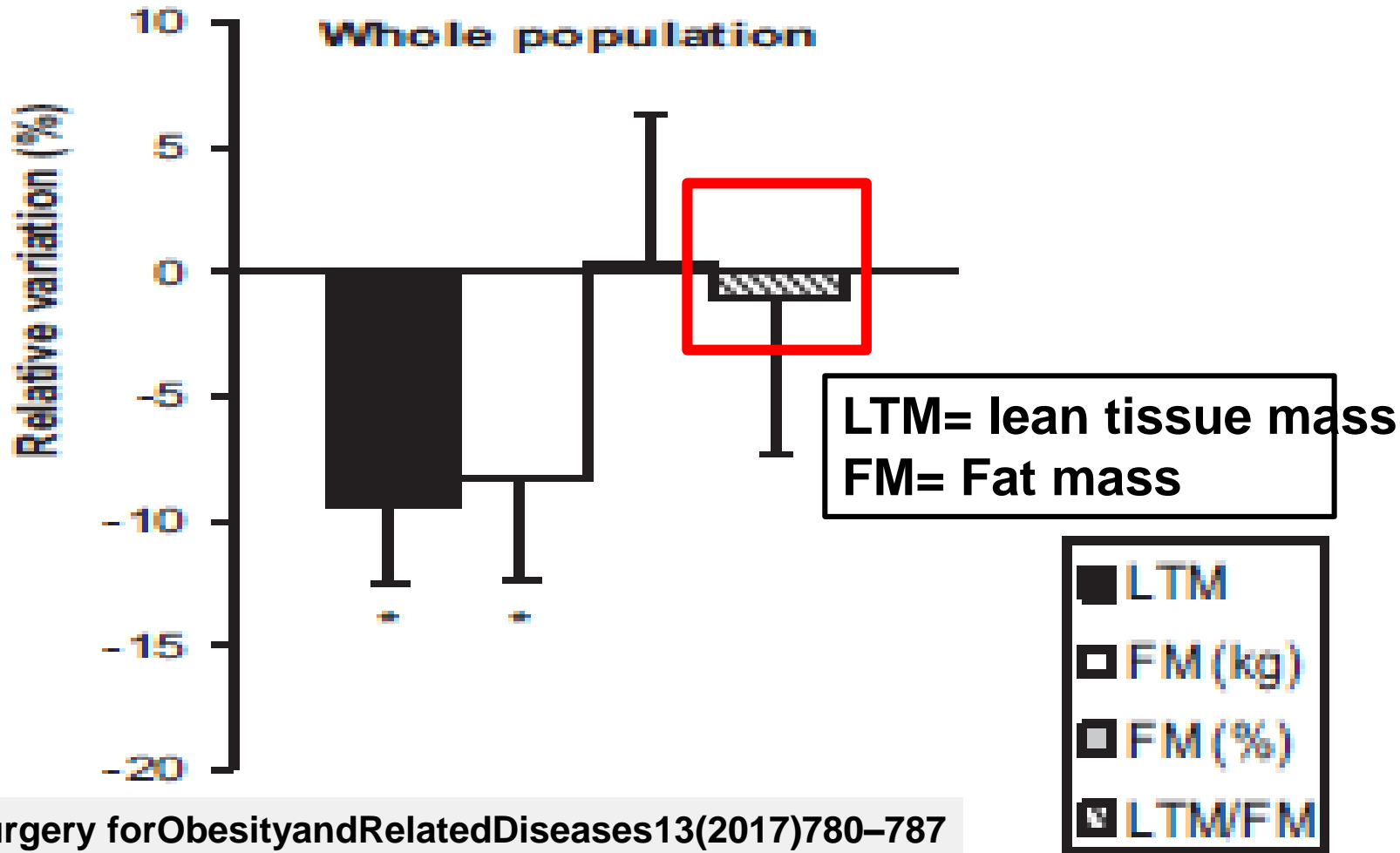
~1/4 de novo sarcopenia\*

\*Voican CS PLoS One. 2018

Gaillard Obesity Surgery (2018) 28:2379–2385

Mastino OBES SURG (2016) 26:2355–2362

# Body composition 1 month post sleeve



Maimoun Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases 13(2017)780–787

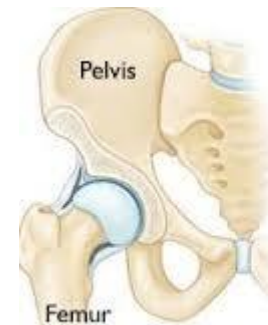
# Body composition post bariatric surgery

Authors	Follow-up	Fat-free mass decrease from baseline (kg), except #fat-free mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Weight loss (kg)
<div>25-58% weight loss= loss of muscle mass</div>			
Schollenberger <i>et al.</i> , 2016 [13 <sup>a</sup> ]	6 month	-7.8	
Cole <i>et al.</i> , 2016 [14]	1 year	-16.3	
	8.7 year	-11.9	

# Muscle mass is important

**Sarcopenia** = Loss muscle mass

- Frailty
- Falls
- Fracture
- Quality of life





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# Falls, Fractures and bariatric surgery



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- 38,971 patients, 7758 with DM
- Median- 3.1 years post surgery
- Surgery associated with **>25% increased risk** of any fracture in all patients
- The fracture risk appeared **to increase with time.**
- The risk of fall injury without fracture was also increased

# Orthostatic intolerance

- 68 year old woman
- 1.18 mini bypass, since then recurrent falls and fractures due to orthostatic hypotension
- 5.18 fall with shoulder fracture
- 9.18 fall- fracture of femur
- Deep pressure sore on her buttocks

**6.5  
months**

Department	Admission	Discharge
surgery	15/11/2018	11/12/2018
surgery	13/09/2018	
Internal medicine	07/09/2018	
Orthopedics	23/08/2018	
Internal medicine	22/05/2018	28/05/2018



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## New-onset orthostatic intolerance following bariatric surgery.

Pacing Clin Electrophysiol. 2008 Billakanty SR, et. Al.

- **Orthostatic intolerance and autonomic dysfunction following bariatric surgery: A retrospective study and review of the literature.**

Auton Neurosci. 2016 Ponnusamy et. Al.

- **The effects of body weight status on orthostatic intolerance and predisposition to noncardiac syncope**

Obes Rev. 2017 Christou GA et. Al



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# Post-bariatric hypoglycemia

## Why?



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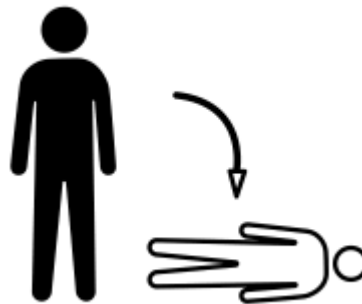


- >1 year post bariatric surgery
- Diabetes & non diabetes patients
- Increased sensitivity of beta-cells and/or proliferation
- Dumping syndrome- early/late

Guarino Diabetologia. 2019 Jan;62(1):178-186

# Hypoglycemia

‘Hypoglycemia, occurring after bariatric is increasingly encountered by clinical endocrinologists...Postbariatric hypoglycemia can be severe and disabling for some patients, with neuroglycopenia (altered cognition, seizures, and loss of consciousness) leading to falls, motor vehicle accidents, and job and income loss.



Dadheech Islets. 2018;10(6):213-220

# Preterm birth and fetal growth outcomes for births of women with a history of bariatric surgery and matched controls

**Post bariatric- 2507 controls- 12338**

	No (%) cases		Odds	
	Bariatric	controls	Odds	P value
Birth<37	243 (9.7)	750 (6.1)	1.7 (1.4-2)	P<0.001
SGA	131 (5.2)	369 (3)	2 (1.5-2.5)	P<0.001
LGA	105 (4.2)	895 (7.3)	0.6 (0.4-0.7)	P<0.001

maternal age, parity, early pregnancy body mass index, early pregnancy smoking status, educational level, and year of delivery

Roos et al BMJ. 2013

Blume Obes Surg. 2018-  
**Lower birthweight of babies to mothers post bariatric surgery**



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# Recommendations



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- Continuous professional dietician follow-up and treatment
- Adequate protein ingestion 1.5 gr/ideal body weight
- Multivitamin supplementation
- Consider S/L B12
- Bone density follow-up
- Physical activity



**Table 1**  
**Vitamin supplement recommendations**

Vitamins	Procedure			
	LAGB	LSG	RYGB	BPD-DS
Multivitamin with minerals	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub>	—	✓	✓	—
Calcium with vitamin D	✓	✓	✓	✓
Iron	—	—	✓	✓
Vitamin C	—	—	✓	—
Vitamin A	—	—	—	✓
Vitamin K	—	—	—	✓



# Suggested- follow- up protocol



**TABLE 2.** Schedule for clinical and biochemical monitoring

	Preoperative	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months	18 months	24 months	Annually
Complete blood count	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LFTs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Glucose	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Creatinine	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Electrolytes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Iron/ferritin	X			X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Vitamin B12	X			X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Folate	X			X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Calcium	X			X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Intact PTH	X			X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
25-D	X			X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Albumin/prealbumin	X			X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Vitamin A	X						Optional	Optional
Zinc	X			Optional	Optional		Optional	Optional
Bone mineral density and body composition	X				X <sup>a</sup>		X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Vitamin B1			Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional

Data indicate the suggested schedule for laboratory monitoring after bariatric surgery. LFT, Liver function tests.

<sup>a</sup> Examinations should only be performed after RYGB, BPD, or BPD/DS. All of them are considered as suggested for patients submitted to restrictive

## Routine supplementation of vitamins and microelements



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# Summary

## Post bariatric surgery-



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- Any abnormal manifestation- neurologic, dermal, laboratory- should arise suspicion of nutritional deficiency
- Nutritional deficiencies post surgery are common
- Routine vitamin and mineral supplementation required
- Life long nutritional consultation is mandatory
- Life long awareness of nutritional deficiencies is required
- Multi disciplinary care and evaluation- recommended