

Gastric Banding

Laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding became very popular in the 1990s and 2000s. It is a simple procedure with a low rate of procedure related complications. An adjustable balloon (band) is placed around the top of the stomach. This is inflated via the port leading to restriction of the meal sizes. The idea of a reversible procedure also appealed to some patients. It is however very labour intensive with multiple visits to the surgeon to adjust the band volume. The complication and re-operation rate can also be as high as 60%. It is not as durable as a sleeve gastrectomy or gastric bypass. Expected weight loss 30-40% of excess weight.

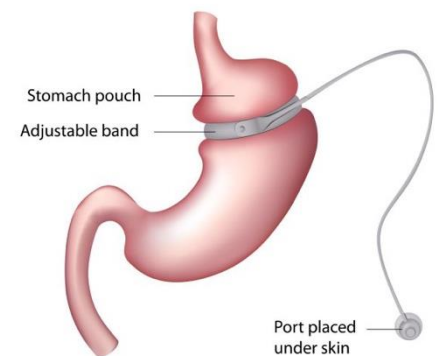
Pros

- Low mortality and morbidity
- Reversible
- No dumping syndrome or ulcers like in bypass
- Technically simple to perform

Cons

- Least durable
- Lower weight loss than bypass or sleeve
- Hardware complications frequent
- Reoperations often required

Adjustable Gastric Band (Lap Band)



Complications from operation

Complication	How common?
Death	0.05% (1/2000)
Bleeding	1%
Infection	1%
Leak	1%
Port malfunction	10%
Reflux	5%
Erosion	1%
Slippage	5%
Hair loss	Affects about 1/3 patients, self-limiting
Excess skin	variable

Note: These figures are for a primary operation in an otherwise healthy patient. Your risk may vary and will be discussed in more detail at the consultation