

# **NEW UPDATES IN ANESTHESIA FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY**

Essay

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Submitted by

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## ***List of abbreviations***

|                      |                                                |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| ➤ A-aDO <sub>2</sub> | Alveolar-arterial oxygen gradient              |
| ➤ AF                 | Atrial fibrillation                            |
| ➤ AGB                | Adjustable gastric banding                     |
| ➤ AHA                | American Heart Association                     |
| ➤ AHI                | Apnea/hypopnea index                           |
| ➤ ATBF               | Adipose tissue blood flow                      |
| ➤ BMI                | Body mass index                                |
| ➤ BPD-DS             | Biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch |
| ➤ CAD                | Coronary artery disease                        |
| ➤ COX-2              | Cyclooxygenase 2                               |
| ➤ CPAP               | Continuous positive airway pressure            |
| ➤ CT                 | Computed tomography                            |
| ➤ DJD                | Degenerative joint disease                     |
| ➤ ECG                | Electrocardiogram                              |
| ➤ EEG                | Electroencephalogram                           |
| ➤ EMG                | Electromyogram                                 |
| ➤ FEV <sub>1</sub>   | Forced expiratory volumes in one second        |
| ➤ FFA                | Free fatty acid                                |
| ➤ FVC                | Forced vital capacity                          |
| ➤ GERD               | Gastroesophageal reflux disease                |
| ➤ GOJ                | Gastroesophageal junction                      |
| ➤ HC                 | Hip circumference                              |
| ➤ HDL                | High-density lipoprotein                       |
| ➤ HELP               | Head elevated laryngoscopy position            |
| ➤ IBW                | Ideal body weight                              |
| ➤ LAD                | Left atrial dilatation                         |
| ➤ LAGB               | Laparoscopic adjustable gastric band           |
| ➤ LBW                | Lean body weight                               |
| ➤ MetS               | Metabolic syndrome                             |

|                    |                                        |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| ➤ MO               | Morbid obesity                         |
| ➤ MRI              | Magnetic resonance imaging             |
| ➤ NCEP             | National Cholesterol Education Program |
| ➤ NIH              | National Institutes of Health          |
| ➤ NIV              | Noninvasive ventilation                |
| ➤ ODI              | Oxygen desaturation index              |
| ➤ OHS              | Obesity hypoventilation syndrome       |
| ➤ OSA              | Obstructive sleep apnea                |
| ➤ PACU             | Post-anesthesia care unit              |
| ➤ PCO <sub>2</sub> | Partial pressure of carbon dioxide     |
| ➤ PEEP             | Positive end expiratory pressure       |
| ➤ PO <sub>2</sub>  | Partial pressure of oxygen             |
| ➤ PONV             | Postoperative nausea and vomiting      |
| ➤ RA               | Regional anesthesia                    |
| ➤ RAAS             | Renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system   |
| ➤ RYGB             | Roux-en-Y gastric bypass               |
| ➤ SAT              | Subcutaneous adipose tissue            |
| ➤ SG               | Sleeve gastrectomy                     |
| ➤ T2DM             | Type 2 diabetes mellitus               |
| ➤ TBW              | Total body weight                      |
| ➤ TV               | Tidal volume                           |
| ➤ VAT              | Visceral adipose tissue                |
| ➤ VBG              | Vertical banded gastroplasty           |
| ➤ WC               | Waist circumference                    |
| ➤ WHO              | World health organization              |
| ➤ WHR              | Waist/hip ratio                        |
| ➤ WHtR             | waist to height ratio                  |

# ***Introduction***

Obesity is a major health problem worldwide and has reached an epidemic proportion in the Western society. Evidence continues to accumulate that obesity is a major risk factor for many diseases and is associated with significant morbidity and mortality (***Sjostrom et al., 2012***).

Pathophysiological changes of obesity range from airway management difficulties and changes in disturbances in respiratory physiology to many diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease. Morbidity rate increases substantially with increase in body weight, with subsequent increase in risks of hypertension, diabetes mellitus, coronary artery disease, dyslipidemia, gallbladder disease, osteoarthritis, respiratory problems, and cancers of various organs. Related risks are surgical and medical (***Domian and Laho, 2012***).

Surgical therapy for obesity (bariatric surgery) is the only available therapeutic modality associated with clinically significant and relatively sustained weight loss in subjects with morbid obesity associated with comorbidities. (***Sjostrom et al., 2012***).

Bariatric surgery can be divided into 3 categories: restrictive procedures that reduce the ability to consume large amounts of food, malabsorptive procedures that reduce intestinal uptake of nutrients, and procedures that combine these 2 aspects (***Meijer et al., 2011***).

Bariatricsurgerycanbepformedlaparoscopically(viaasmallincision intheabdomen)orusinganopenprocedure(i.e.laparotomy).(**Reochetal., 2011**).

Theobesepatientpresentsparticularchallengesfortheanesthetist.The objectiveofpre-operativeassessmentistooptimizepatientoutcomes.It facilitatestheappropriateselectionofpatientsuitableforbariatricsurgery, enablestimelyidentificationandtreatmentofpreexistingmedical conditions,anddetermineshowandwhereeachpatientshouldbemanaged postoperatively(**O’NeillandAllam,2010**).

Perioperativemanagementischallenging.Itiscenteredaround cardiorespiratoryandmetabolicoptimization,minimizingadverseeffectsof painandsystemicopioids,effectiveuseofregionalanesthesia,andan emphasisonmobilizationandnutrition.Thereisariskofincorrectdrug dosinginobesity,whichrequiresanunderstandingoftheappropriatedosing weightsfor perioperativemedications(**Cullen andFerguson, 2012**).

Bariatricpatientsareatincreasedriskofbotheearlyandlatepostoperative complications.Initialpost-operativeconsiderationsincludeairwayand respiratorysupport,paincontrolandpreventionofthromboembolism (**O’NeillandAllam,2010**).

## ***Aim of the work***

This Essay aims to provide a comprehensive review of the anesthetic management of the obese patient undergoing bariatric surgery with special reference to recent advances.

# ***Pathophysiology of Obesity***

## ***What is obesity?***

Obesity is described anatomically as an elevated level of fat storage in the form of hypertrophy (increased size) and/or hyperplasia (increased number) of fat cells, known as adipocytes.

Given the complexities of body composition analysis, the body mass index (**BMI**) acts as a surrogate for the amount of bodily fat and facilitates patient comparison and grouping for the purposes of research and discussion. Body mass index is defined as the body weight in kg divided by the square of the body height in meters (**kg/m<sup>2</sup>**).

$$\text{BMI} = \text{body weight (in kg)} / \text{height}^2 \text{ (in meters)}$$

Obesity has been defined as a BMI  $> 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$ , and morbid obesity has been referred to as a BMI  $> 40 \text{ kg/m}^2$  or a BMI  $> 35 \text{ kg/m}^2$  with an obesity-related comorbidity (table 1). Body mass index alone is not a good predictor of the distribution of excess body fat (**adiposity**); central obesity with elevated visceral fat levels is associated with greater metabolic impact and complications than widespread subcutaneous fat. Body mass index may be misleading in patients with significant muscle bulk. It is also critical to understand that patients can have elevated body fat content despite a normal BMI, so-called “**normal weight obesity**”, and this too can have an impact on organ function (*Kosmala et al., 2012*).

We need to move away from the concept of measuring and diagnosing obesity based on body weight or body mass index (BMI) and evolve towards

the measurement and clinical assessment of adiposity. The questions should be, „,„,„, do we want to measure how obese a person is, or do we want to assess if he/she is at the highest risk of adiposity-related comorbid conditions that can potentially interfere with our management?““ (Cornier et al., 2011).

How do we explain why some obese patients are metabolically healthy whereas others with the same level of obesity (expressed as BMI) have all the metabolic complications associated with obesity? Individuals with normal body weight, as defined by BMI, are still at risk for developing the metabolic syndrome if they have a high body fat content or a high waist circumference. This indicates that obesity is a heterogeneous condition. Although BMI is a useful tool to describe changes in adiposity at the population level, it cannot discriminate the risks of associated disease at the individual level. So we will focus in this chapter on the understanding of the pathophysiological changes occurring with obesity and its close relation with adiposity (Romero et al., 2010).

**Table(1): Classification of Obesity and Level of Risk Associated with Increasing Body Mass Index (Sinha and Eckmann, 2010).**

| Classification | BMI(kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | Risk of Health Problems Developing |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Underweight    | <18.5                   | Increased                          |
| Normal weight  | 18.5-24.9               | Least                              |
| Overweight     | 25.0-29.9               | Increased                          |
| <b>Obese</b>   |                         |                                    |
| Class1         | 30.0-34.9               | High                               |
| Class2         | 35.0-39.9               | Very high                          |
| Class3         | 40.0-49.9               | Extremely high                     |
| Superobese     | ≥50                     | Exceedingly high                   |

**In 1947**, based on simple clinical observations, Jean Vague introduced the term android obesity to describe the high risk form of obesity in contrast to the gynoid obesity carrying the lower risk (**Vague, 1947**). This launched the idea that the common complications of obesity were related more closely to the distribution of fat than obesity per se (**Fox et al., 2007**).

**In 1980**, Björntorp and Kissebah reported that the waist to hip ratio (**WHR**) was related to increased risk of coronary artery disease (**CAD**), type 2 diabetes mellitus (**T2DM**), and to a diabetogenic/atherogenic metabolic risk profile (**Kissebah et al., 1982**), (**Björntorp, 1988**).

The relative accumulation of abdominal fat increases the waist circumference relative to the hip girth. This provided new evidence that body fat distribution deserves more attention as a predictor of comorbidities than simple measures of excess body weight. With the introduction of computed tomography (**CT**) and magnetic resonance imaging (**MRI**), researchers were able to make a distinction between the subcutaneous adipose tissue (**SAT**) of the abdomen wall and fat located in the abdomen, which is called visceral adipose tissue (**VAT**) and includes omental, mesenteric, and retroperitoneal fat (**Kelley et al., 2000**).

So depending on fat distribution, there are two forms of obesity: an android form and a gynecoid form. The android form occurs when fat distributes centrally (liver, omentum, intraperitoneal), whereas the gynecoid form involves fat distribution in buttocks, arms, and legs. The android form is associated with a higher morbidity and mortality risk (**Westerly and, Dabbagh, 2011**).

## ***Methods of Assessing Body Fat Distribution***

### **1- Waist Circumference**

Although waist circumference (WC) is an inexpensive way to assess central obesity with excellent correlation with imaging techniques and high association with cardio-vascular disease risk and mortality, it does have some practical limitations including location of measurement and cut-off values (*De Koning et al., 2007*).

Additionally, it cannot differentiate SAT from VAT. There are eight different measurement locations that have been used and different experts recommend different measuring points. The WHO recommends the use of the midpoint WC measurement (halfway between iliac crest and lowest rib) whereas the National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association are in favor of measuring WC at the iliac crest (*Rosset al., 2008*).

### **2- Hip Circumference**

Although hip circumference (HC) does not appear to be a significant predictor of all-cause mortality, it is used to calculate the waist/hip ratio (WHR) (*Mason et al., 2008*). It is measured at the level of the widest circumference at the buttocks because wider hips imply functional SAT and thus provide protection against cardiovascular disease (*Snijder et al., 2004*).

### **3- Other Body Circumferences**

Thigh and calf circumferences have been used to provide an index of upper to lower body adiposity. Larger thigh circumference is associated with

lowerriskofT2DMbothinmenandwomenwhereasthighcircumference  
wasnegativelyassociatedwithmortalityinmenbutnotinwomen(*Snijder  
etal.,2004*).

Neckcircumferenceincreasestheodds ofMetSinmenandinparticular  
womenandcanbeassociatedwiththeseverity ofobstructivesleepapnea (*OSA*)  
(*Preisetal.,2010*).

#### 4- *Rati os*

Variousratioscanbecomputedandhavebeenusedtopredicttheriskof  
metabolicdisordersinobesity. ThemostcommonareWHR,waisttoheight  
ratio(WHtR)andwaisttothighratio. StudieshavefoundthatBMI,WCand  
WHRarestronglyandindependentlyrelatedTOTYPE2diabetesmellitus (T2DM)  
inbothmenandwomen(*Meisingeretal.,2006*).

Tayloretal.wereabletodemonstratethatBMI,WHR,WHtRandWC  
correlatewithCVDriskfactors,withHCbeinglessstrongly associatedwith  
triglyceride concentrationsandinsulinemia(*Tayloretal.,2010*).

WHR,WHtR andWCwere superior inpredictingtheincidence of CADin  
white middle-agedwomen(*Page etal.,2009*).

#### 5- *CTandMRI*

ACTscancomputeareas(fromasingleslice)andevenvolumes  
(fromrepeated10-cmintervalslices)ofselectedtissuesinthebody,in particular  
adiposetissue depots. VATandSATcontent of the bodyare