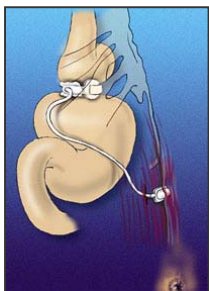


LAPAROSCOPIC ADJUSTABLE GASTRIC BAND (LAP-BAND)



Using the same laparoscopic tools and techniques as laparoscopic gastric band bypass, another surgical weight loss procedure increasing in use is the laparoscopic adjustable gastric band, or LAP-BAND. The LAP-BAND system is an adjustable silicone elastomer band placed around the upper portion of the stomach, creating a small pouch. The placement of the band controls the rate which food particles exit into the rest of the stomach. The procedure is strictly restrictive and can be adjusted to suit your situation. It can also be removed if necessary. This surgery restricts consumption but does not cause malabsorption

This operation restricts how much the stomach can hold. Less food is taken in, which means fewer calories are ingested, and the end result is weight loss. There is no cutting or stapling needed to divide the upper stomach pouch from the lower stomach. The average weight loss in the United States is typically 52-56% of excess weight in 5 years after surgery.

Just like Laparoscopic Roux-en-y Gastric Bypass procedures, the LAP-BAND is only a tool to treat clinically severe obesity and is only as effective as the patient makes it. LAP-BAND shares all of the other benefits of laparoscopic surgery. Unlike laparoscopic Roux-En-Y Gastric Bypass procedures, the LAP-BAND procedure is reversible. **You must commit to a strict diet for the rest of your life.**