

Recurrent weight gain after LRYGB What is the treatment algorithm or is there one?



Prof. Ralph Peterli

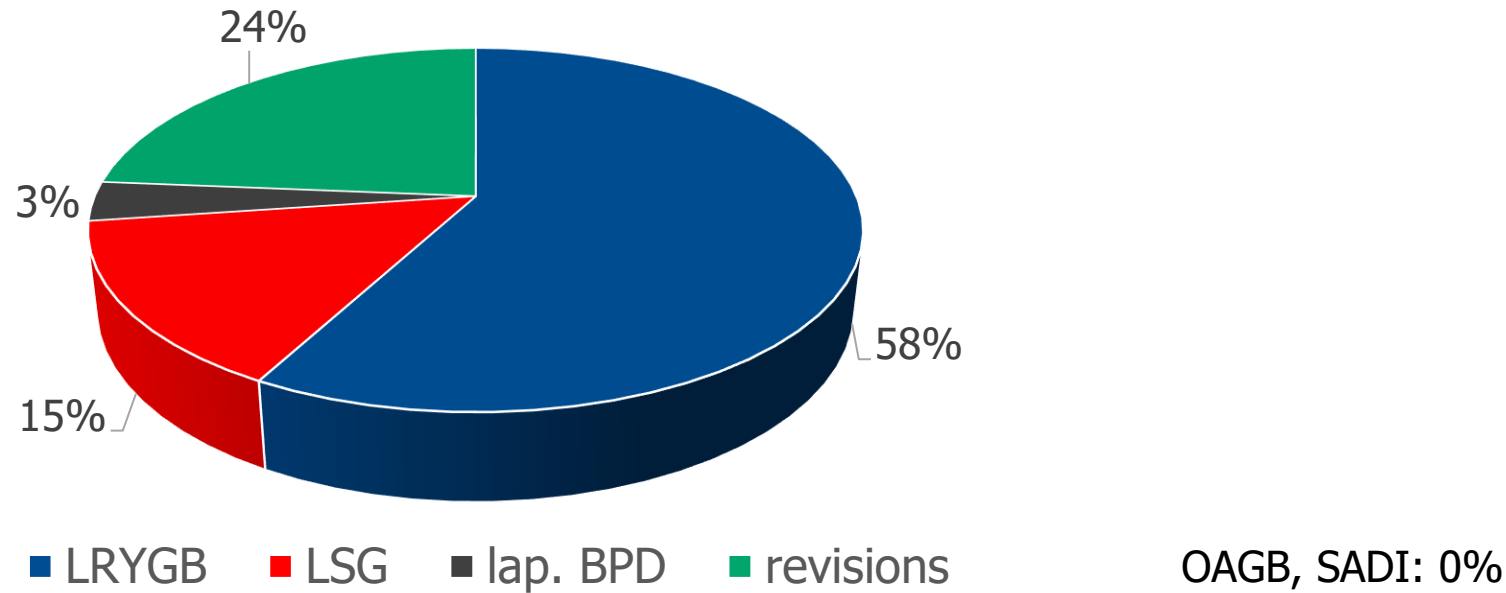
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Disclosure

- Research grants: Swiss National Science Foundation, J&J, Hirzbrunnen Foundation
NovoNordisk, UKBB, Novartis
- Lecture/consulting fees: Ethicon Endosurgery, Viatris, Falk Foundation, NovoNordisk, Lilly
- Case mix disclosure



BACKGROUND

how to define initial & excess weight

Initial weight:

- Comparison between series: initial weight
 - At time of operation
 - At time of indication
 - Max. weight
- Consensus: at the beginning of weight loss therapy (including OMM and preoperative nutritional measures) *

Excess weight:

- Which measurement?
 - Δ initial BMI to 25
 - Δ initial weight to ideal (Brocca formula)
 - Δ initial weight to normal weight (height cm – 100)
 - Metropolitan life insurance weight table



BACKGROUND

how to define success

Weight loss:

- What is "normal weight loss" ?
 - According to IFSO Consensus > 20%WL *
- What does the patient expect ?
- How much is needed = f (co-morbidity)

Which measurement?

- % excess BMI or % excess weight loss (EWL)
 - Success: > 50% EWL ?? (Reinhold's criteria #)
- % original weight (%WL)
 - Independent of height
- Recurrent weight gain:
 - 30% from weight nadir (71% of experts in IFSO Consensus agree) *



BACKGROUND

how to define success

Weight loss:

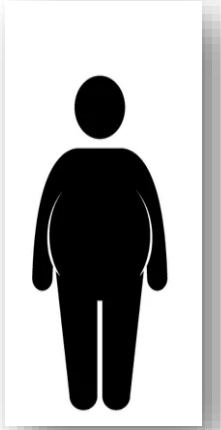
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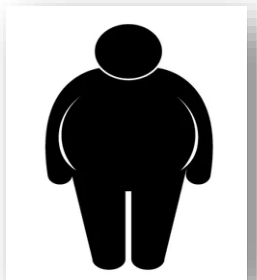
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Example:

- Patient 1: initial weight 120 kg, 170 cm, BMI 41.5 kg/m²
 - Weight loss: 40 kg
 - BMI: 27.7 kg/m²
 - Δ BMI: 13.8
 - %WL: 30%
 - % EBMIL: 83.6%



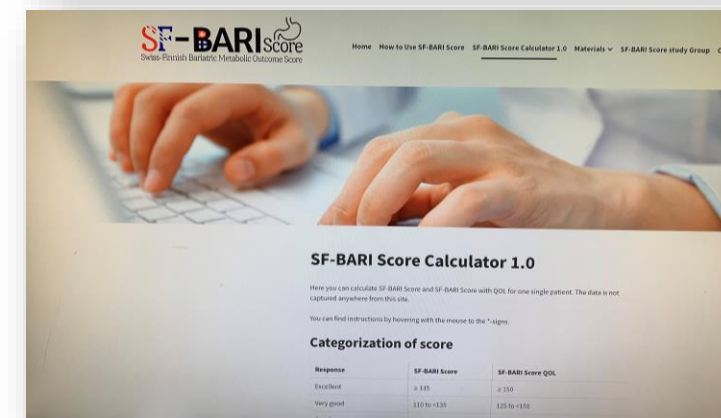
- Patient 2: initial weight 120kg, 150 cm, BMI 53.3 kg/m²
 - Weight loss: 40 kg
 - BMI: 35.6 kg/m²
 - Δ BMI: 17.7
 - %WL: 30%
 - % EBMIL: 62.5%



BACKGROUND

how to define success

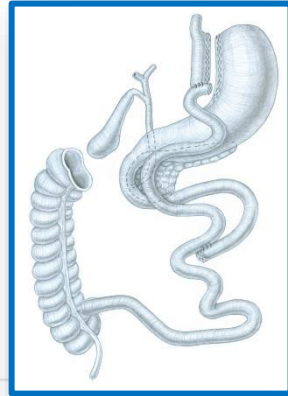
- Composite endpoint to compare different treatment modalities / series
 - **Weight loss** (%WL * 2)
 - **Co-morbidities**
 - T2DM
 - Dyslipidemia
 - Hypertension
 - OSAS
 - **Complications / side effects**
 - Comprehension complication index (0 = no complication / 100 = death)
 - **(Quality of life)**
- Based on the merged patient level data of SLEEVEPASS & SM-BOSS *
** Wölnerhanssen, Peterli, Bueter, ... Salminen, BJS 2020*
- Is validated in large databases (SOREG Sweden & Norway, Dutch DATO)



BACKGROUND

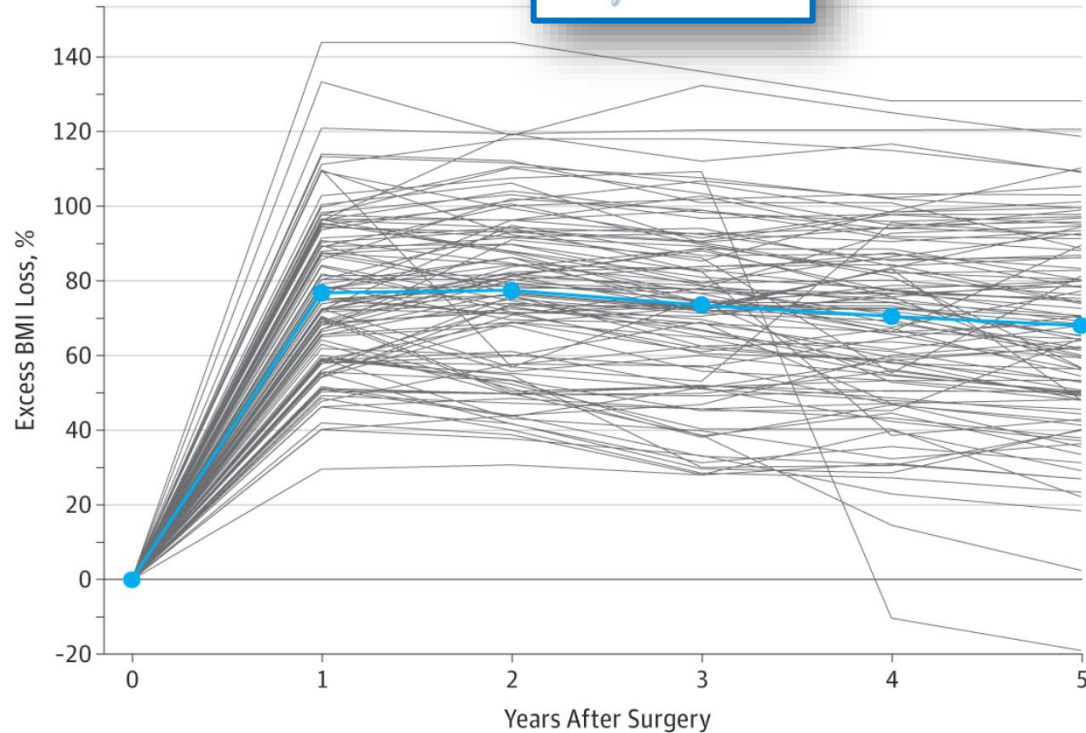
Variety of weight loss in highly standardized RYGB

- SM-BOSS



5y*

10y#



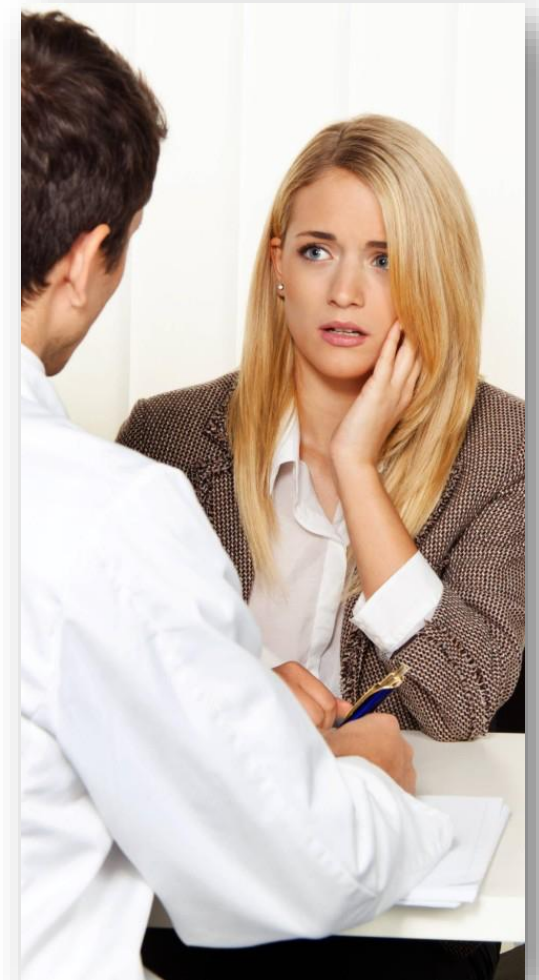
68 ±25.6 %

65 ±26.3 %

Patient Management

in the past

- Surgeon's decision alone with patient
- "Please, doc, I am still too fat. Do something! I can't continue to live like that"



Patient Management

today

- Interdisciplinary and interprofessional team
 - Endocrinologist
 - Nutritionist
 - Psychiatrist
 - Surgeon
 -
- Detection of pts with weight issues / comorbidity recurrence
 - During regular FU
 - Mandatory in Switzerland
 - FU rate > 75% at 5 years postop



Swiss Society for the Study of
Morbid Obesity and Metabolic Disorders

- Patient
- GP



Work-up 1

suboptimal initial clinical response & recurrent weight gain

- Weight evolution
 - No responder
 - Temporary responder
 - Weight loss nadir
 - Severity of recurrent weight gain
- Co-morbidity
 - Evolution
 - Severity
- Eating habits
 - Existing/newly developed eating disorder
 - Potential to improve?
 - Compliance (vitamin supplementation)
 - deficiencies ?
- Anatomical problem ?



Conservative options

- Intensified dietary counselling & physical activity
- Additional psychological support

- Anti-obesity-meds



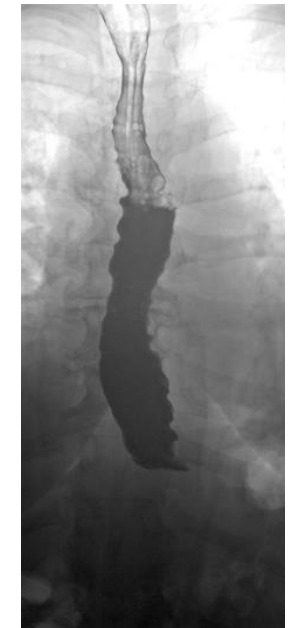
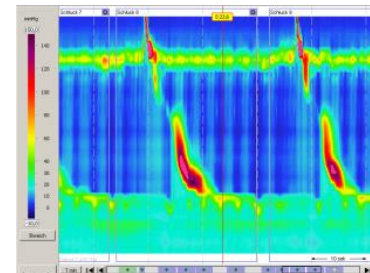
- Intensified medical therapy:

- For T2DM
- GERD
-

Work-up 2

after unsuccessful conservative Therapy

- Expectations of patient: realistic ?
 - Psychiatric re-evaluation
- Adherence:
 - In the past
 - Future
- Compliance (vitamin supplementation)
- Additional investigations:
 - Depending on symptoms:
 - Endoscopy
 - Manometry
 - Upper GI-series
 - Cardio-pulmonary work-up in T2DM
 - Ultrasound: gallstones?



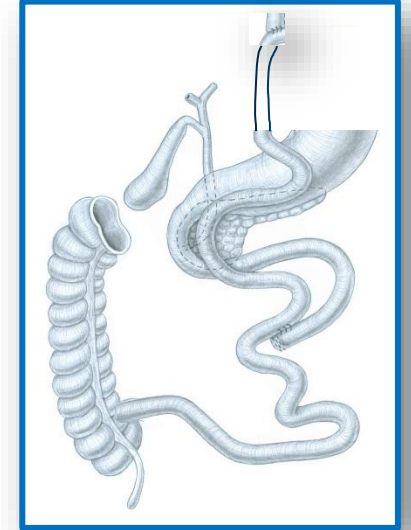
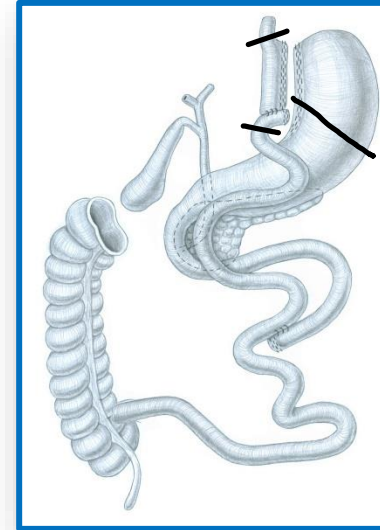
Metabolic Board

suboptimal initial clinical response & recurrent weight gain

- What kind of surgery:
 - Anatomical problem ?
 - Correction of initial operation
 - Hiatal hernia
 - Repair with/without additional weight loss measure
 - Additional problems
 - Pain
 - Reflux
 - Dumping
 - Escalation of metabolic surgery: add hypo-absorption ?
 - Adherence check
 - Proteins: can pt. eat enough; can pt. afford them?
 - Does pt. tolerate diarrhea, odorous stools?
 - Stool intolerance?

Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

- Anatomical problem?
 - Fistula

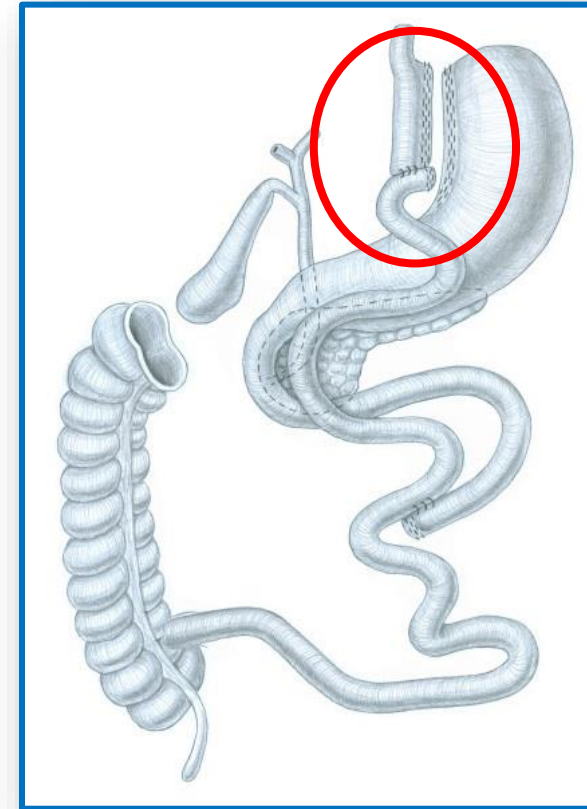


- Candy cane?
- Pouch size (open bypass)

Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

- No anatomical problem
- Endoscopic / surgical options

1. Add restriction

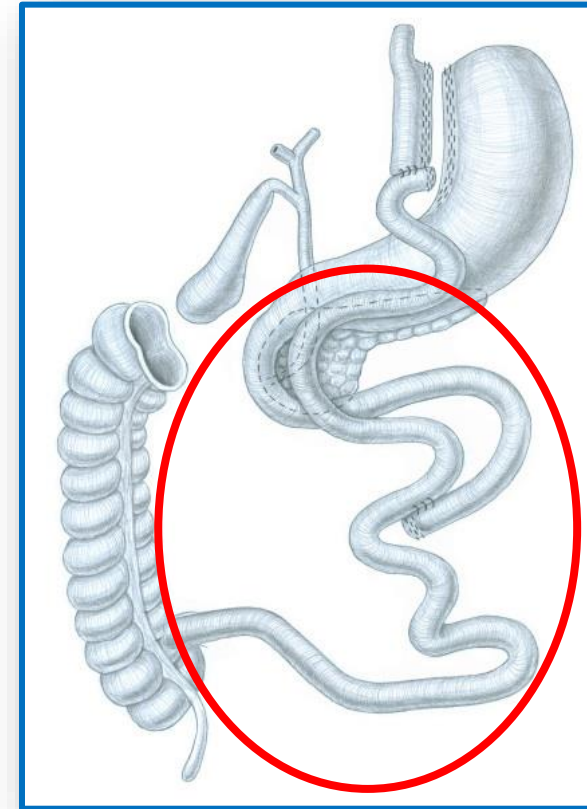


Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

- No anatomical problem
- Endoscopic / surgical options

1. Add restriction

2. Escalation of metabolic surgery: add hypo-absorption



Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

1. Add restriction by endoscopy: reshaping of stoma size at gastro-enterostomy
 - (Sclerotherapy)
 - Argon Laser Plasma Coagulation (APC)

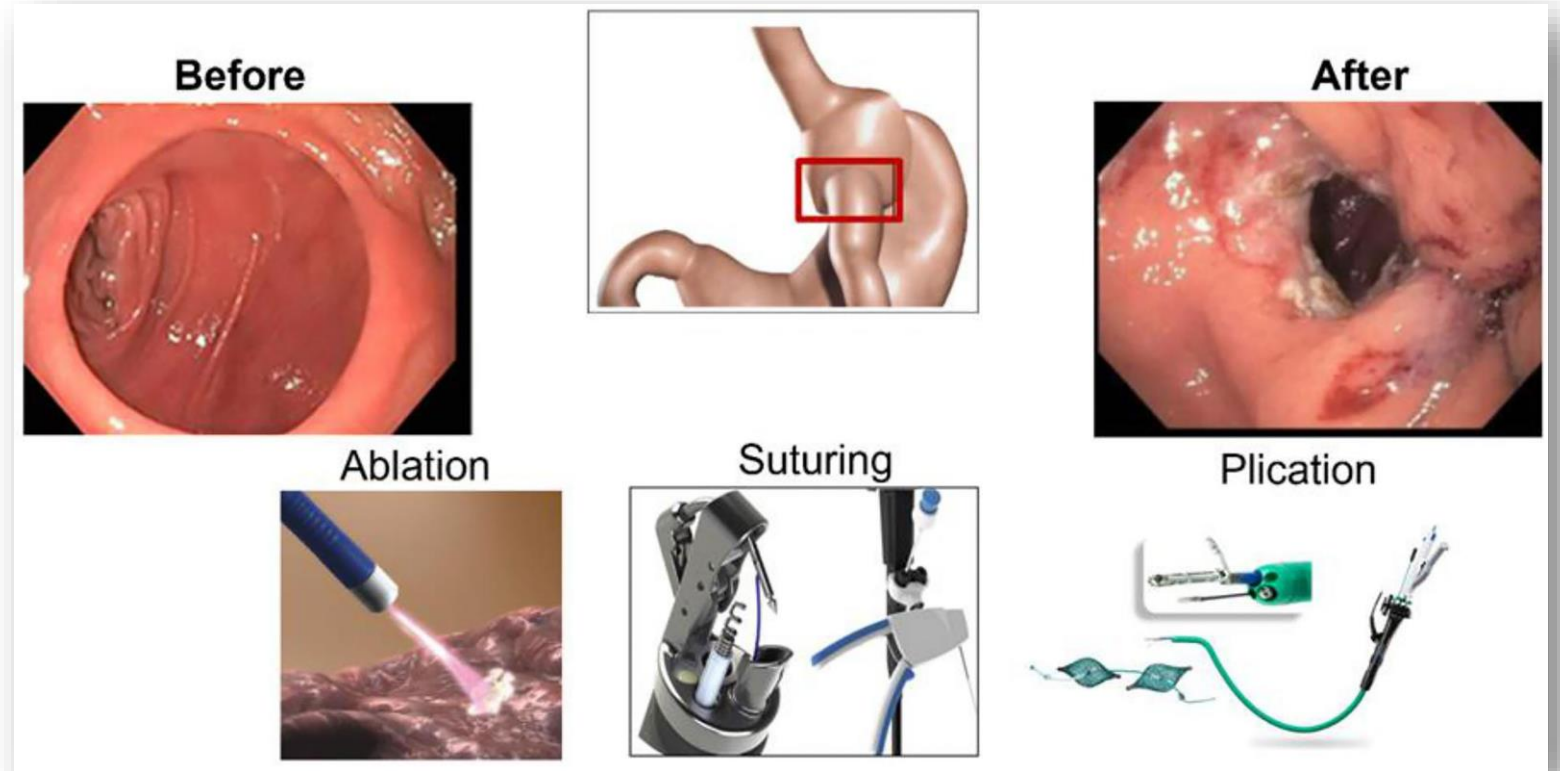


- Meta-analysis (4 trials with isolated APC, 828 pts)
 - Additional %WL: 6 % 1y, 11% 2y; 5% 3y
 - Complications 1.6%

Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

1. Add restriction by endoscopy: reshaping of stoma size at gastro-enterostomy

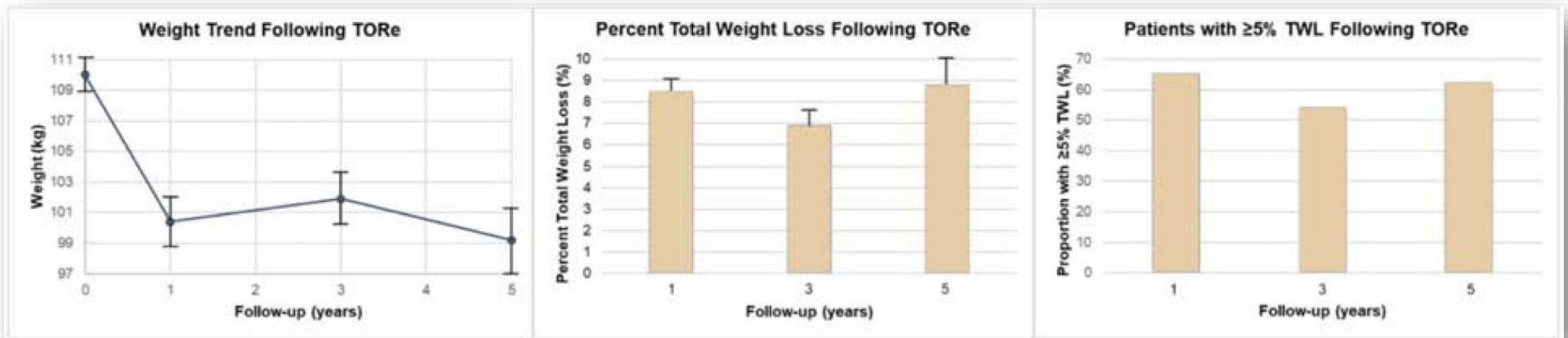
- (Sclerotherapy)
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- TORe (transoral outlet reduction) with Endostitch®
 - In combination with APC
 - Repeat TORe



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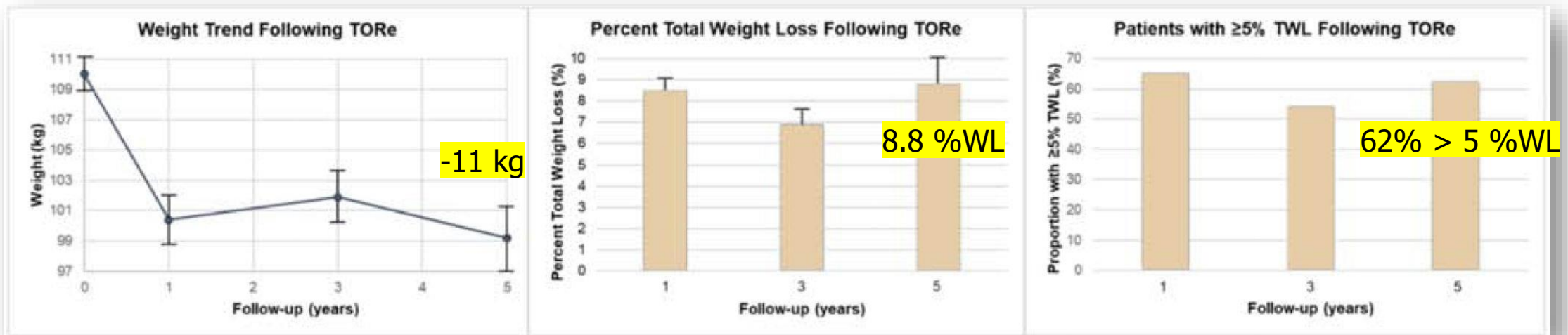
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 - Single center study: 331 pts *
 - FU up to 5y (123 pts, FU rate > 80%)
 - 3.6 % repeat TORe
 - 39 % had additional therapy (pharmacotherapy or procedure ?)
 - No severe adverse events



Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

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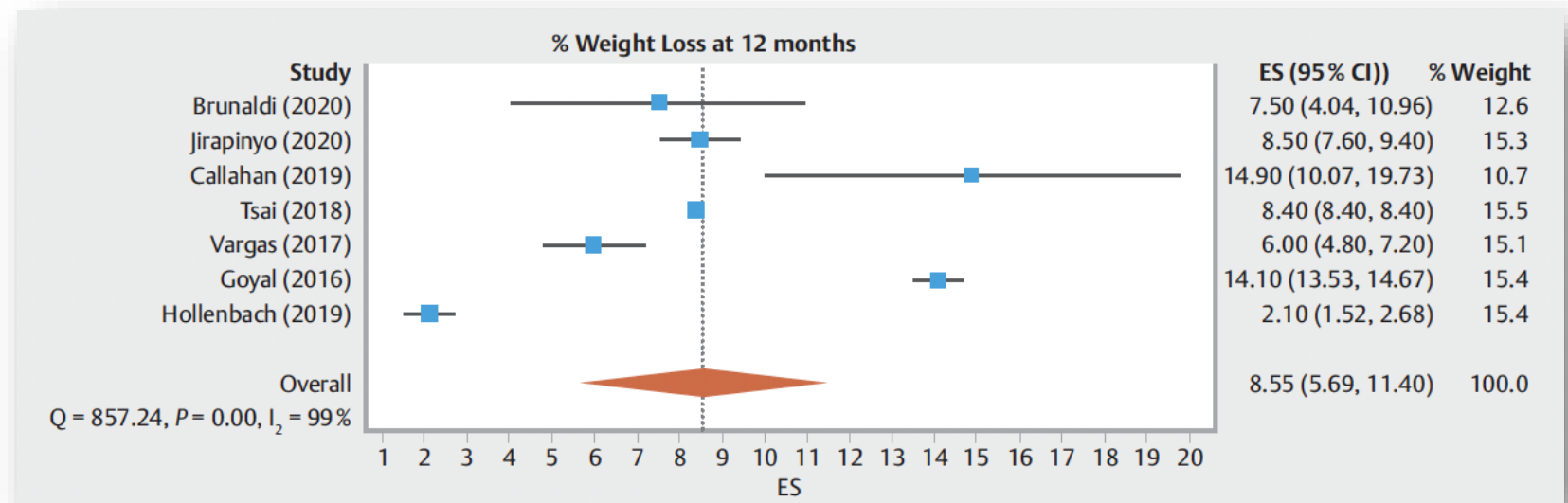


Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

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 - Meta-analysis: 13 studies on 810 pts *

– Additional %WL: 8.6% 1y



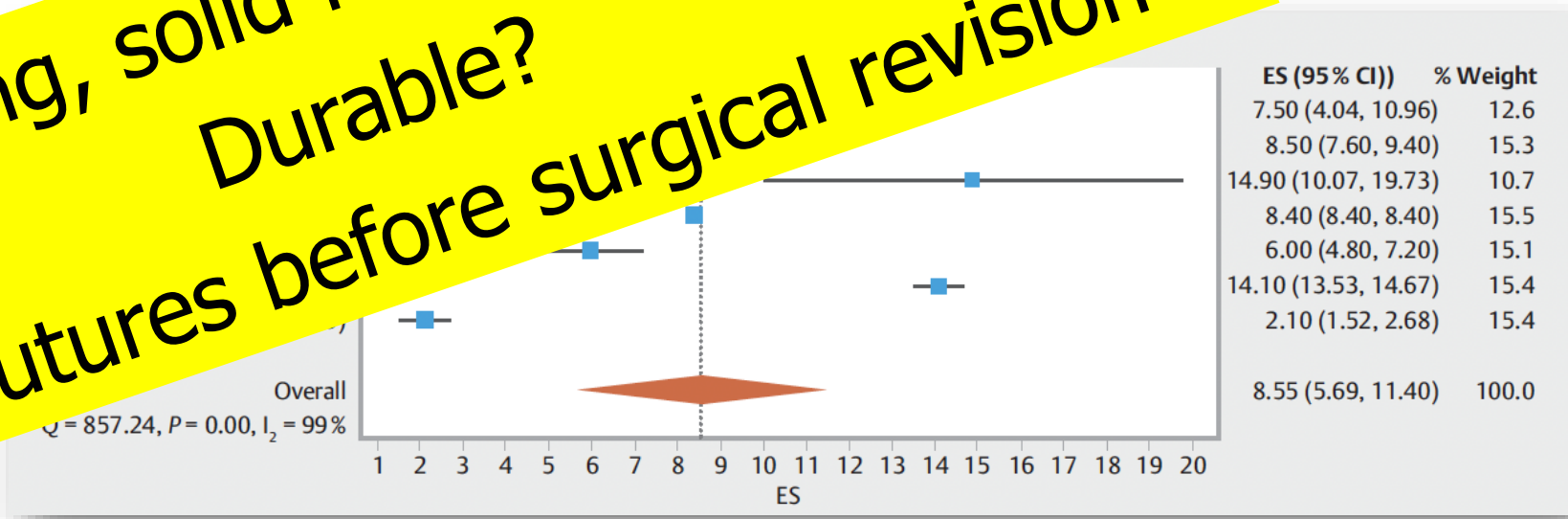
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Vomiting, solid food intolerance
Durable?
Remove sutures before surgical revision ?

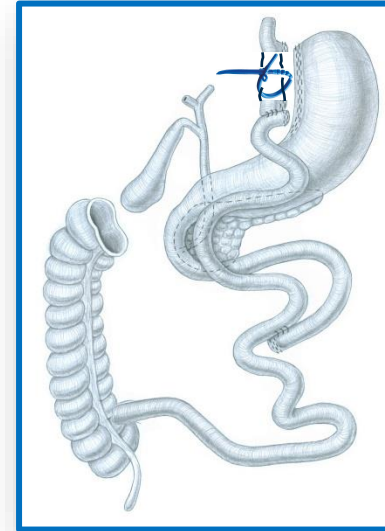


Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

1. Add restriction by surgery

- Band or Fobi ring ("ring augmented" LRYGB)
- + / - additional pouch resizing

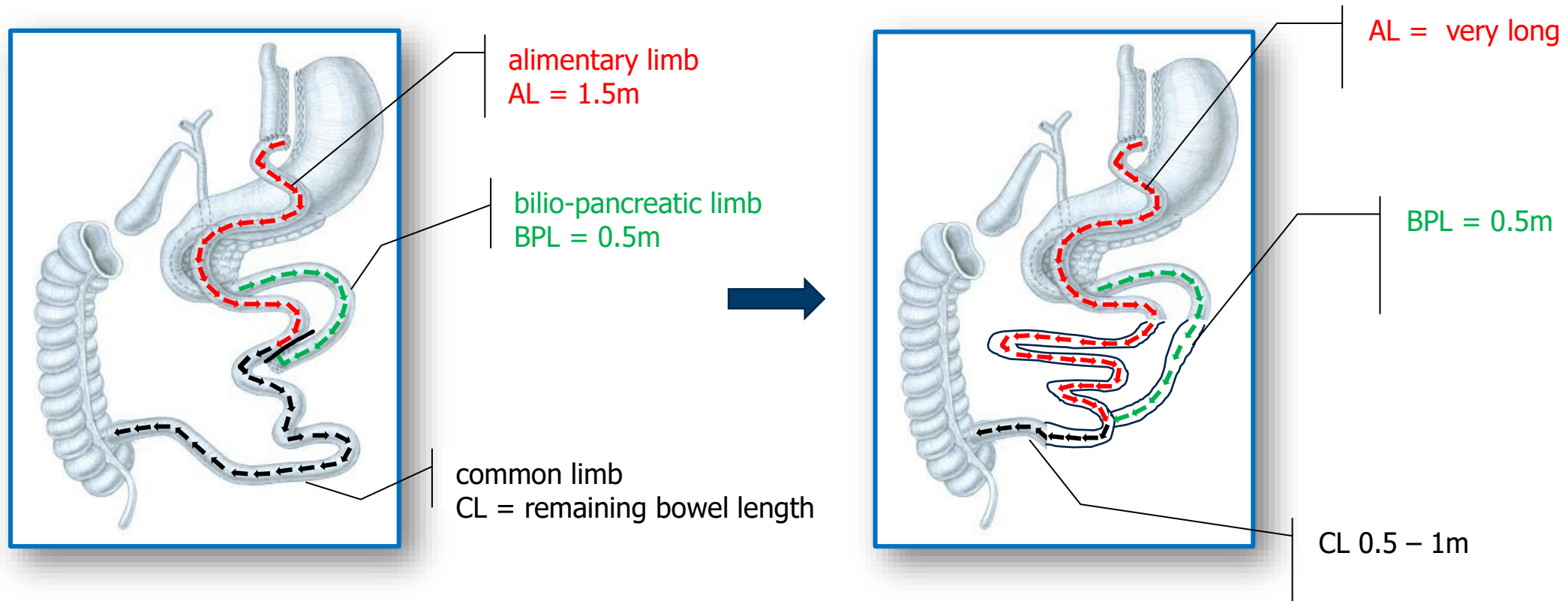
- Indication: dumping



Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

2. Add hypo-absorption:

- Taking down the BPL close to ileocecal valve = "Type II Distalization"



Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

2. Add hypo-absorption:

- Taking down the BPL close to ileocecal valve = "Type II Distalization"



alimentary limb
AL = 1.5m

common limb
CL = remaining bowel length



AL = very long

BPL = 0.5m

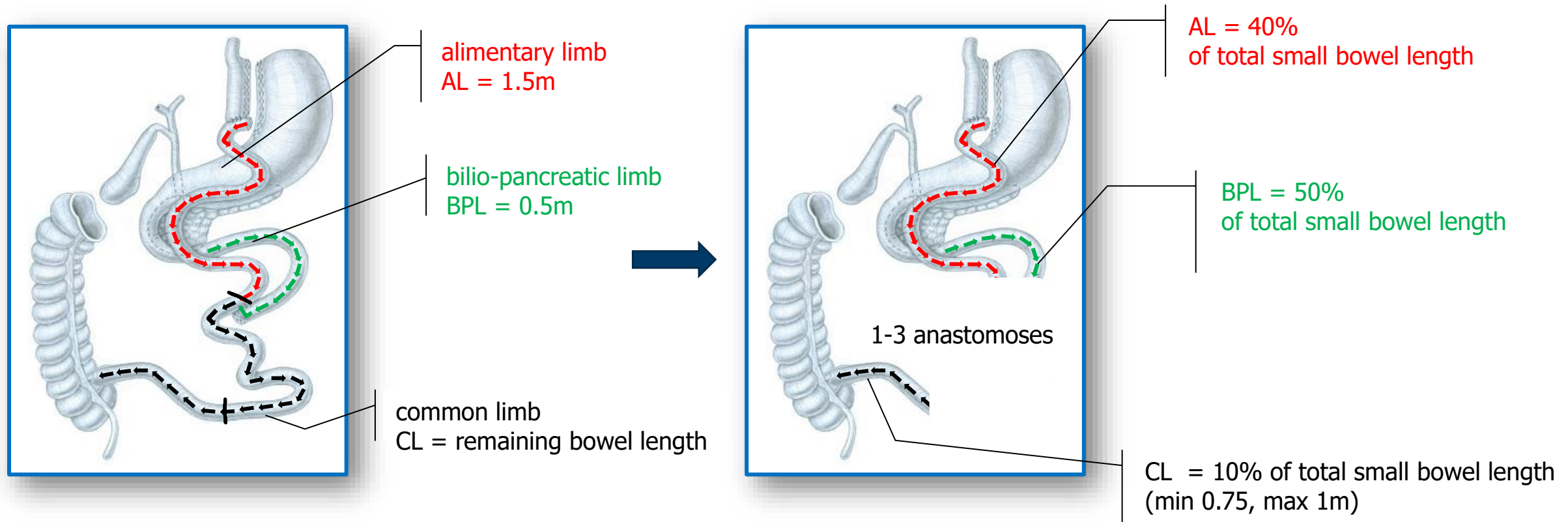
CL 0.5 – 1m

**Does not work:
Diarrhea/malabsorption & no weight loss !**

Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

2. Add hypo-absorption:

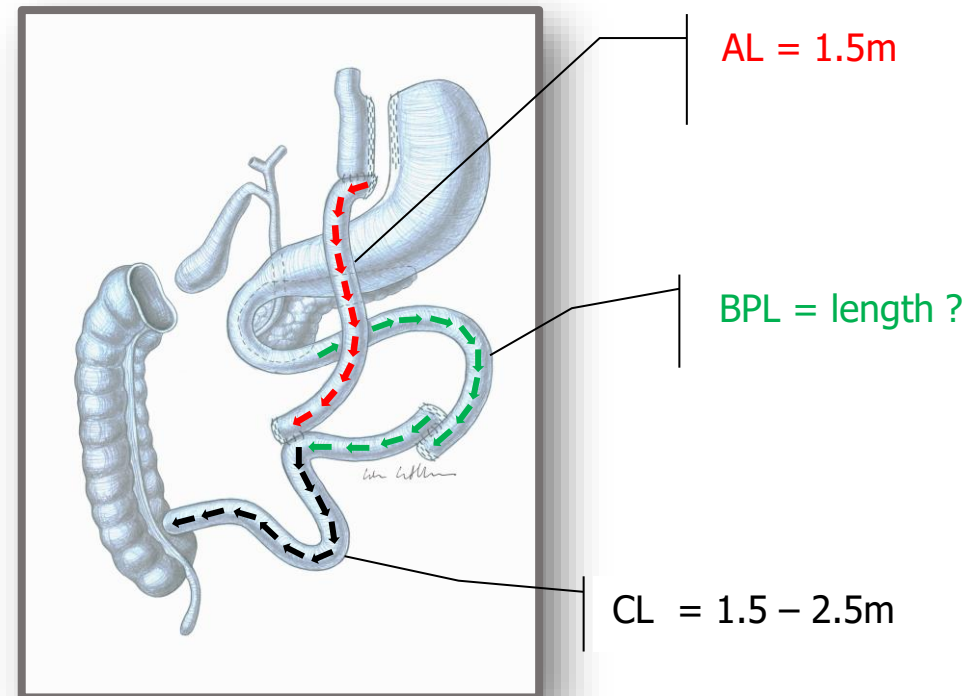
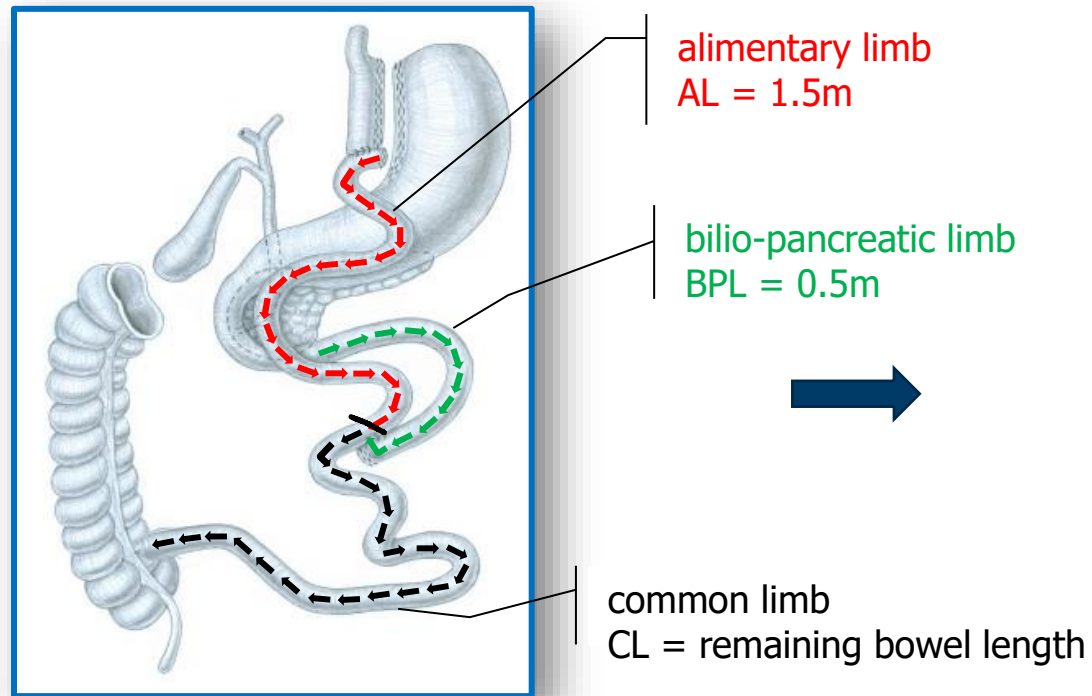
- Hess-Formula (1-3 anastomoses necessary) = BPD ("Type III Distalization")



Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

2. Add hypo-absorption:

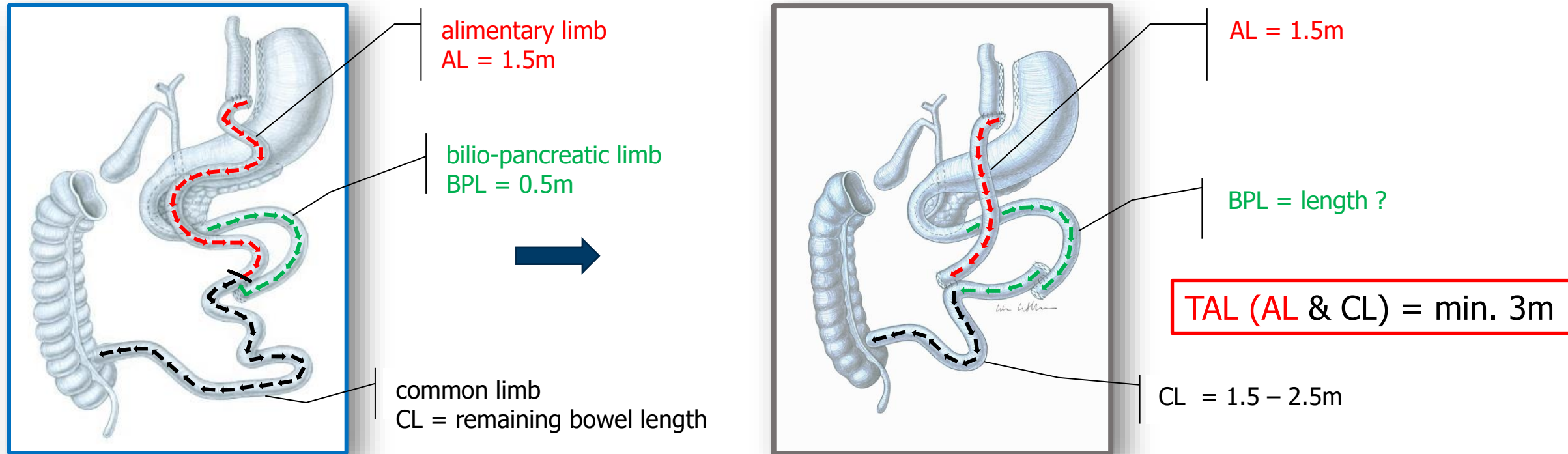
- Higa-Formula: taking down the **AL** close to the ileocecal valve (only one anastomosis) = "Type I Distalization"



Surgery for suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain RYGB

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- Higa-Formula: taking down the **AL** close to the ileocecal valve (only one anastomosis) = "Type I Distalization"

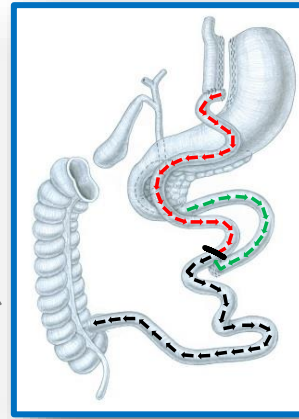
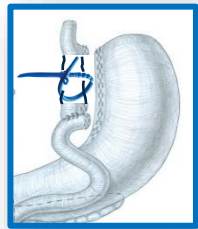


Results of Revisions/Conversions after Bypass

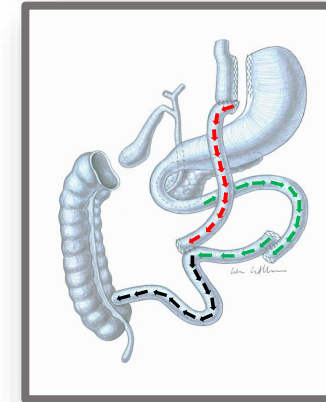
indication / early morbidity

N > 1630

n=34 (3.3y post bypass)
insuff. weight loss
lacking restriction
dumping



n= 20 (6.4y post bypass)
insuff. weight loss
sufficient restriction
good adherence



early morbidity:

- major: 3% (obstruction: laparoscopic loosening of band)
- minor: 0

early morbidity:

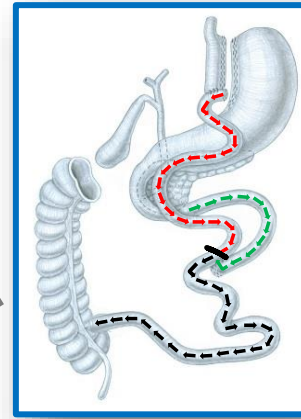
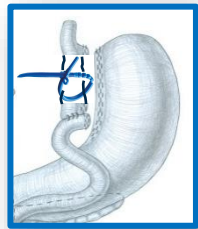
- major: 0
- minor: 25%

Results of Revisions/Conversions after Bypass

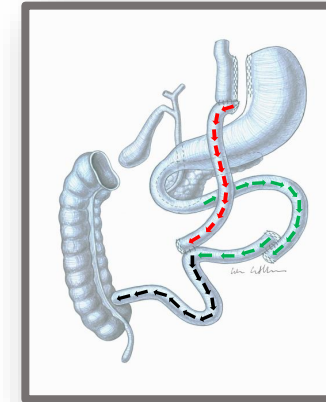
result/FU time

N > 1630

n=34 (3.3y post bypass)
 insuff. weight loss
 lacking restriction
 dumping



n= 20 (6.4y post bypass)
 insuff. weight loss
 sufficient restriction
 good adherence



FU time = 2y
 FU rate 100%

- BMI: 42 ⇨ 31.4 ⇨ 30
- co-morbidities
 - 4 pts with T2DM: 50% remission
 - 21 pts dyslipidemia: 10% remission
- complications
 - band removal 32% (12% band adjustment)
 - 12% conversion to BPD

- BMI: 45 ⇨ 41 ⇨ 31
- co-morbidities
 - 1 pt with T2DM: 100% remission
 - 5 pts dyslipidemia: 80% remission
- complications
 - 10% revision for protein malnutrition

Weightloss-Results of Revisions after Bypass

literature

- Banded revisional bypass (“ring augmented bypass”)

Author	Year	N	FU years rate (%)	type of band / ring	revisions	%EWL (since revision)
Dapri	2009	6	1	adjustable band		70
Bessler	2010	22	2			43
Irani	2011	43	2			38
Aminian	2015	28	3			13
Jakobs & Dillemans	2021	35	2 (80%)	Adhesix® Bioring®	21%	61 (+50%)
Lazaridis	2021	20	3 (100%)	adjustable band	65%	79.5% (+38%)
Franken (Metaanalysis)	2023	362	3 (22-89%)	band +/- pouch resizing	40%	(+17 %WL)
<i>Clarunis</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>2 (100%)</i>	<i>non adjustable</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>70 (+9%)</i>

Weightloss-Results of Conversions after Bypass

literature

- Conversion into hypo-absorptive procedure

Author	Year	N	FU years	type of redo-surgery	Malnutrition	%EWL (since revision)
Sugerman	1997	22	5	Higa Formula		69
Fobi	2001	65	>1	50% AL	22%	(-7 BMI points)
Dapri	2011	7	2	?		57
Ghiassi & Higa	2017	96	3 (FU 50%)	Higa		66
Shin & Shikora	2019	22	?	Higa	14%	78 (62%)
Shah & Gislason	2023	48 42	1-8 (>90%)	Higa TAL 250 Higa TAL 300	35% 14%	3y 74% 8y 62%
<i>Clarunis</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Higa & Hess</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>69 (48%)</i>

SUMMARY *suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain*

- Obesity = chronic disease
- Definition suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain
 - No set limit (<20%WL, +30% from Nadir)
 - Important if co-morbidities recur
- Prevalence after Bypass: 5-20%-? after 5-20y
- Revisional/conversion surgery may be indicated:
 - Depending also on co-morbidity evolution
 - 5% - 10%
- Adding restriction if dumping symptoms are present
 - TORe ?
 - Pouch-resizing & Band
- Adding hypo-absorption (=conversion in BPD)
 - Better weight loss, remission of co-morbidities BUT more severe side effects

CONCLUSION *Sleeve and suboptimal initial clinical response and recurrent weight gain*



- After unsuccessful conservative treatment:
 - Surgery can be taken into account
 - In selected patients
- Interdisciplinary decision
- More evidence needed to have a valid algorithm
- Outcome of salvage procedure equal compared to same procedure as primary intervention
- If hypo-absorption is added: excellent FU mandatory

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