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Quantifying body composition changes 12 months following bariatric surgery: Sleeve gastrectomy vs Roux-en-Y gastric bypass

Jonathan Sivakumar, Qianyu Chen, Lynn Chong, Matthew Read, Salena Ward, Nicole Winter, Tom R Sutherland, Michael W Hii

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#### I have no potential conflict of interest to report.

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## Background

- Laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy (SG) and laparoscopic Roux-en-Y gastric bypass (RYGB) – currently the two most performed bariatric procedures worldwide
- Although greater weight loss after RYGB in long-term, SG had similar short- and mid-term weight loss outcomes

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# Knowledge Gap

- Lack of understanding in body composition changes after the two procedures
  - How much fat mass is lost?
  - How much lean body mass is lost?
- Implication of lean mass
  - Key determinant to metabolic rate
  - Associated with long-term weight maintenance and glycaemic control for diabetics

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# Methods



**Patient Cohort** 

 Prospective cohort study in two tertiary hospitals in Melbourne between 2017 and 2023



Selection Criteria

- Inclusion criteria
  - All adult patients underwent primary/revisional SG or RYGB were invited
- Exclusion criteria
  - Cognitive impairment
  - Age <20
  - Preop weight >159kg



Data Extraction

- Preoperative DXA
- Post-operative DXA at 1-, 6-, 12-, and 24months
- Parameters of interest:
  - Total weight
  - Fat mass
  - Lean body mass
  - Bone mineral content



Statistical Analysis

- Chi-squared tests for categorical variables, student's t-test for continuous variables
- Mixed model for repeated measures for post-op trajectory of each parameter

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	SG	RYGB	All patients	P-value				
	(n = 30)	(n= 15)	(n = 45)					
Demographics								
Age, Mean (SD)	40.0 (10.0)	50.4 (11.1)	43.5 (11.4)	0.0029				
Gender, n (%) - Female	23 (76.67)	13 (86.67)	36 (80)	0.695				
Comorbidities								
Diabetes type 2, n (%)	4 (13.33)	4 (26.67)	8 (17.78)	0.41				
Hypertension, n (%)	4 (13.33)	9 (60)	13 (28.89)	0.004				
Ischaemic heart disease, n (%)	1 (3.33)	0 (0)	1 (2.22)	1				
Osteoarthritis, n (%)	2 (6.67)	5 (33.33)	7 (15.56)	0.032				
Anthropometrics								
BMI (kg/m²) Mean (SD)	41.4(5.0)	42.0(5.7)	41.6(5.2)	0.7241				
Weight (kg) Mean (SD)	115.4(16.7)	115.8(19.3)	115.5(17.4)	0.9474				
Overall Body Composition								
Fat Mass (kg), Mean (SD)	56.9(12.3)	58.4(14.3)	57.4(12.8)	0.6965				
Lean Body Mass (kg), Mean (SD)	55.6(9.3)	53.5(9.9)	54.9(9.5)	0.4979				
Bone Mineral Content (kg), Mean (SD)	2.88(0.40)	2.77(0.49)	2.84(0.43)	0.4245				

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## Change over 12 months...

	SG	RYGB	All patients	Difference	P-value				
<b>Body Composition Measurements</b>	(n = 30)	(n = 15)	(n = 45)	between groups					
Anthropometrics									
BMI (kg/m²), Mean (SD)	11.2 (3.8)	11.0(3.6)	11.1(3.7)	0.2	0.8340				
Weight (kg), Mean (SD)	31.3 (10.8)	30.6(10.8)	31.0(10.7)	0.7	0.8388				
Total weight loss (%), Mean (SD)	27.2(9.3)	26.3(8.2)	26.9(8.9)	0.9	0.7575				
Body Composition									
Fat mass (kg), Mean (SD)	25.7(10.7)	24.2(10.1)	25.2(10.4)	1.5	0.6731				
Lean body mass (kg), Mean (SD)	5.7(2.6)	5.2 (3.4)	5.5(2.9)	0.5	0.5336				
Bone mineral content (kg), Mean (SD)	0.11 (0.08)	0.17 (0.08)	0.13(0.08)	0.06	0.0223*				

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#### At 12 months post-operatively:

- Mean %TWL of 26.94%
- Mean BMI reduction of 11.12 kg/m2
- Statistically significant reduction of all body composition parameters
- Ratio of mean loss of FM-to-LBM was similar between SG and RYGB
- LBM comprised 17.8% of weight loss

LBM loss reached a plateau at 6-months following both procedures, although the RYGB cohort did demonstrate a significant regain in LBM after from 6-to-12-months post-operatively



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# **Clinical Impact**

- Greatest lean body mass decline happened in early months post-operatively
  - Important to mitigate losses prior to stabilization phase
  - Neither bariatric procedure demonstrated advantage in lean body mass retention
- Significant but marginally higher bone mineral content reduction in RYGB
  - Previous studies supported RYGB's osteoporotic predisposition
  - Possible mechanism of this include malabsorption of intestinal bypass calcium and vitamin D deficiency

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# Discussion

- Limitations
  - Lack of control/measurements on post-operative nutritional intake and physical activity
  - Small sample size
- Future research
  - Long-term body composition data needed
  - Controlled studies on strategies to mitigate lean body mass loss before 6-month post-operative mark

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# Conclusion

- SG and RYGB achieved substantial and comparable weight loss and similar body composition changes in the 12-month post-operative period
- Fat mass and lean body mass loss trajectory appeared to be similar in the early post-operative period
- Around one fifth weight loss was contributed by lean body mass, this predominantly happened in the initial 6 months after surgery

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