

Laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Band

The Laparoscopic Gastric Band is the most common surgical weight loss procedure performed in Australia, through our weight loss Surgeons at Bondi Junction.

What is a Gastric Band?

The device is an inflatable silicone ring that is placed and secured around the upper part of the stomach by keyhole surgery. This ring creates a smaller 'pouch' at the top of the stomach, which limits the amount of food that is consumed. This also slows the food's movement through the stomach, reducing and suppressing the appetite.

The inflatable silicone ring has a small port attached, that is placed in the abdomen. Fluid can then be inserted or removed to control the amount of food that can be consumed. These adjustments, 'band-fills' are performed regularly at our clinic, taking approximately 10 minutes.

Is it permanent?

It is designed to be placed permanently, however can be removed if needed.

Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages:

- Keyhole approach
- Less scarring or wound problems
- Earlier return to work (1-2 weeks)
- Adjustable : by filling port the outlet size can be reduced
- Reversible: By removing fluid or the band.
- No malabsorption
- Lower risk

Disadvantages:

- Easy to cheat (if chocolates or sweets taken).
- An entree portion forever.
- Mechanical problems:
 - Prolapse
 - Pouch dilatation
 - Food bolus obstruction
 - Slippage of the stomach through the band erosion
 - Infection of the band or port leak
 - Revision rate 5 -10%

Optimal pouch capacity 30 mls

Weight loss expected?

Usual weight loss with the Lap Band is approximately 50-60% of excess weight lost in 2 yrs.