

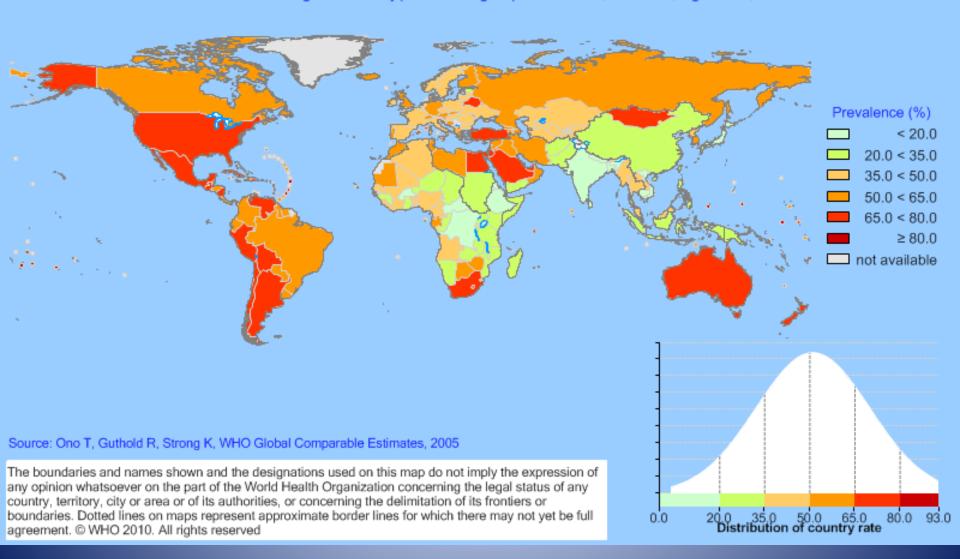
# Ventral Hernia Repair in the Obese Patient

Diego Camacho MD FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director MIS and Endoscopic Surgery
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Montefiore Medical Center Bronx NY

#### Disclosure

NO HABLO INGLES MUY BIEN!!!!!!

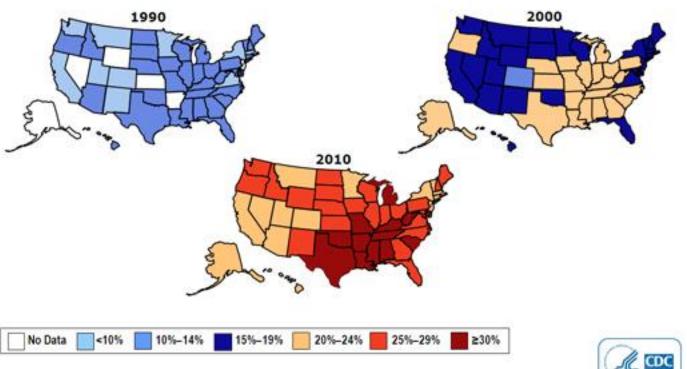
#### Estimated Overweight & Obesity(BMI ≥ 25 kg/m²) Prevalence, Females, Aged 15+, 2010



#### Obesity Trends\* Among U.S. Adults

BRFSS, 1990, 2000, 2010

(\*BMI ≥30, or about 30 lbs. overweight for 5'4" person)



Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, CDC.



#### Run or Not to Run







#### Ventral & Incisional Hernia

- More than 2 million open abdominal operations are performed annually in the U.S.
- 2 11% of these patients will develop incisional hernias.
- Approx. 350,000 ventral and incisional hernias are repaired each year in the U.S





#### What is the Problem

Hernia patients and obesity

Symptomatic vs Asymptomatic

Bariatric patients with hernia

#### Pre OP Considerations

- Can the repair be delayed?
- What is the best surgical approach
- Bariatric Surgery
- Does the pt wants and qualifies?

Concurrent vs Staged

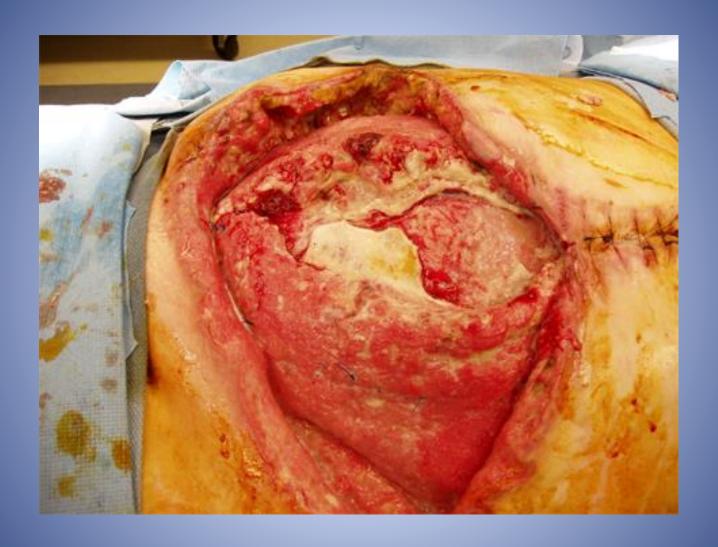
Bypass/Sleeve/Balloon/Band

Expectations of the repair

# **Obesity and Ventral Hernias**

- Technical Challenges
- Medical Conditions
  - Compromise Tissue handling
  - Wound Complications





S. Sauerland · M. Korenkov · T. Kleinen M. Arndt · A. Paul

#### Obesity is a risk factor for recurrence after incisional hernia repair

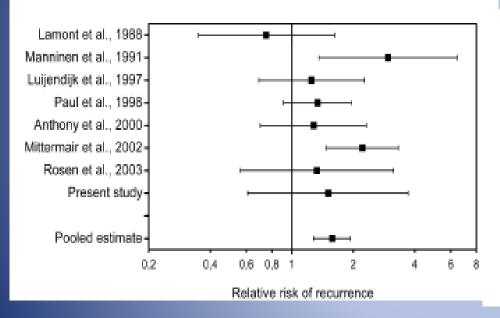


Table 1 Baseline characteristics of the 160 patients

	Mean (±SD)	Range
Age (years)	57.8 (±13.3)	21-85
Gender (men/women)	76/84	_
Height (cm)	$169.4 (\pm 9.6)$	150-196
Weight (kg)	$80.7 (\pm 17.1)$	40-170
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	$28.1~(\pm 5.3)$	14.7-58.8
Hernia size (cm)		
Vertical diameter (cm)	$6.6 (\pm 5.9)$	1-38
Horizontal diameter (cm)	$8.6 (\pm 5.8)$	1-35
Total area (cm <sup>2</sup> )	82.5 (±160.0)	2-1,330 (Median 35)

Data on obesity missing for one patient, and data on hernia size missing for four patients; SD=standard deviation; BMI=body mass index

# **Does Obesity Matters**

- Commonly cited factor for recurrence
- Technical difficulties
- Large defects Large Mesh
- Peri-OP complications
  - Surgical site
  - Systemic







# Where is the DATA??

#### **Does Obesity Matters**

- Retrospective review
- 168 pts 42 pts with BMI >35
- Standard LVHR (synthetic mesh)
- 19 month F/U 12% recurrence
- Influence by defect/mesh size

Comparison of early outcomes for Lap VH between obese and non-obese parients Ching et al, Surg Endoscopy 2008

#### **Does Obesity Matter**

- Retrospective review
  - 27 pts >BMI 35
  - Mean BMI 47
- Standard LVH
  - Synthetic 53%
  - Biologic 47%
- 15 month F/U Recurence 18%
- Higher recurrence and pts need to be infromed

Outcomes of LVH in Morbid Obese patients Rattoupuolus et al. Surg Endo 2008

#### **Does Obesity Matters**

- 2 year retrospective review
- Retrospective review
  - Group I (n=134) BMI >40
  - Group II (n=767) BMI <40</p>

Group | 8.3% recurrence

Group II 2.9% recurrence

Laparoscopic VHR between morbid obese patients Tseretell et al, Hernia 2013

# Recurrence After Laparoscopic Ventral Hernia Repair in Obese Patiens

- 850 pt eval
  - Patients with BMI>40
    - Younger (47 vs 57 yrs), p<0.01
    - Female, p<0.01
    - Large defect size (167 vs 105 cm), p<0.01
    - Trend to have more complications (18% vs 16%), p=0.09
    - Four times more likely to have a recurrence (7.8% vs 2%) p<0.05

# Laparoscopic ventral hernia repair (LVHR) in morbidly obese patients

Z. Tsereteli · B. A. Pryor · B. T. Heniford · A. Park ·

G. Voeller · B. J. Ramshaw

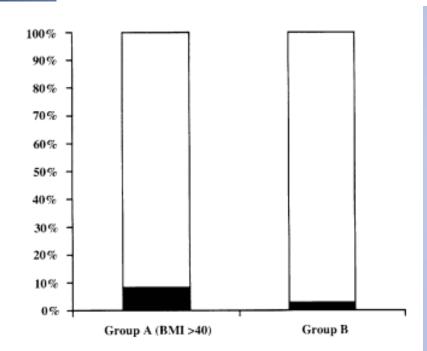


Fig. 1 Overall ventral hernia recurrence rate

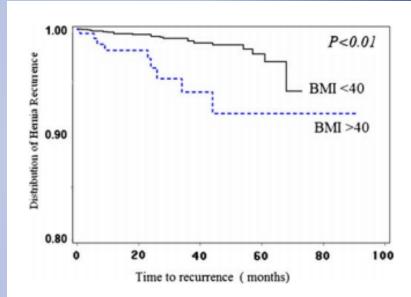
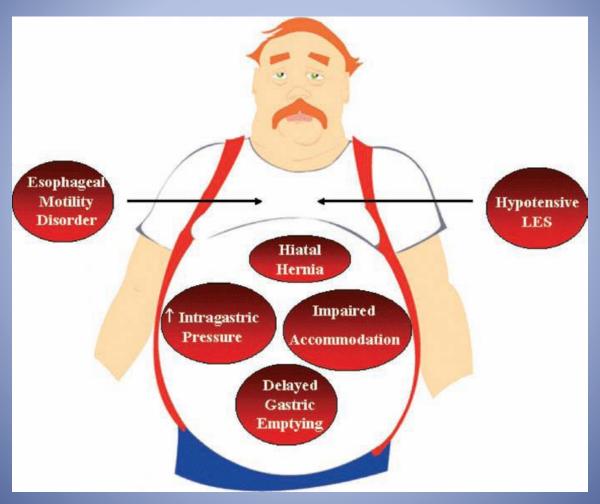


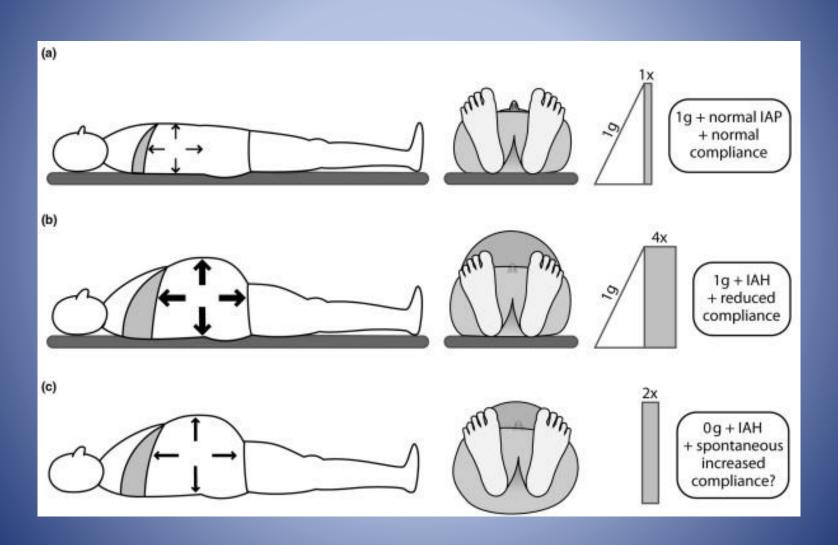
Fig. 2 The Kaplan-Meier curve of hernia recurrence in regard to time body mass index (BMI)

# Why This High Recurrence Rate in Obese Patients

# PATHOPHYSIOLOGY



Friedenberg et al. Am J Gastroenterol 2008:103:2111-2122)



#### IAP of Normal and Obese Patients

Activity	Normal	Obese
Stairs	69 (40-110)	88.3 (55-129)
Arm Curl	25 (17-37)	64 (16-100)
Bench Press	7 (2-34)	22 (5-35)
Cough	81 (40-127)	155 (80-250)
Standing Cough	107 (64-141)	185 (80-255)
Jumping	171 (43-252)	212 (150-25)

# What Can We Do to Reduce the Incidence of Hernia Recurrence

# **Choice of Strategy**

- Depends on the Patient and the Surgeon
  - Symptoms
  - Urgency of the procedure
  - Best surgical approach
  - BMI of patient
  - Amount of weight loss desired
  - Comorbid conditions

#### **Medical Treatment**

- Diet low in calories, fat and carbohydrates
- Exercise– 40 minutes 5 times per week
- Behavior Modification eat 3 sensible meals per day, avoid snacking
- Drugs/Prescription medications
  Stimulants/appetite suppressants
- Antidepressants (Meridia®)
- Reduce fat absorption (Xenical®)

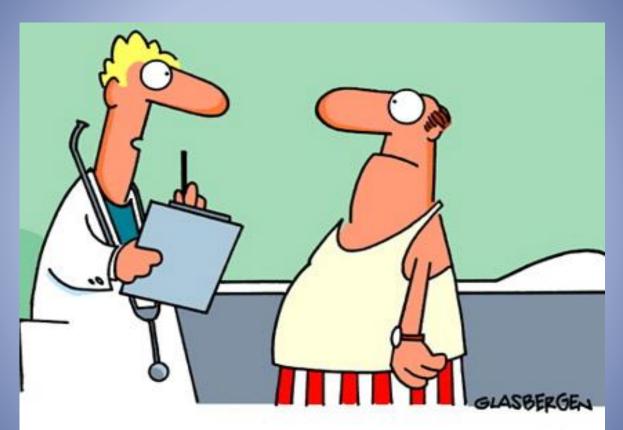
#### Diet

- Optifast or other diets
- Limited calories (900-1200 Kcal/day)
- Can achieve 15-25% weight loss in short period of time
- Nutrition evaluation 1-2 month
- High Cost

#### Disadvantages

- Most patients (95-97%) regain most or all of the weight that was lost within 2-5 years following diet or drug treatment The average amount of weight loss is relatively small 10-40 pounds
- Drug therapy may be associated with severe complications (Fen-Phen and heart disease).

#### Exercise



"What fits your busy schedule better, exercising one hour a day or being dead 24 hours a day?"

# Which Technique

- Primary repair? (high recurrence 15-35%)
- Open VHR
  - Simple onlay vs inlay
  - STOPPA
  - Component separation
  - TAR

Laparoscopic VHR Staged Procedure

# LVHR in the Obese Patient New standard of care?

- Retrospective review
- 163 patients
- BMI 38 (range, 30-67)
- Standard LVHR (3%conversion)
- 25 months follow up
- Recurrence 5.5%
- "LVHR may be the approach of choice"



### **Contraindications to Laparoscopy**

- Loss of Domain
- Very large (>20cm) defect??
- Past or present mesh infection
- Need to remove old mesh
- Skin changes over the hernia sac





#### **Open Component**

- Retrospective Review
- 30 pts, BMI >35
  - Mean BMI 60
  - Mean defect width 12 cm (3-55)
  - No mesh placed Anterior CS
    - Additional procedures
      - RYGBP in 6 (20%) pts
      - Intestinal resection in 6 (20%) pts
      - Panniculectomy in 16 (53%) pts

Autologous tissue reconstruction of Ventral Hernias in Morbidly Obese E. Chand et al, Arch of Surgery 2007

#### **Open Component**

- 44 month F/U
- Recurrence 3%

- Conclusions
  - Comp Separation is safe
  - Performance of panniculectomy does not improve outcomes
  - Effective technique

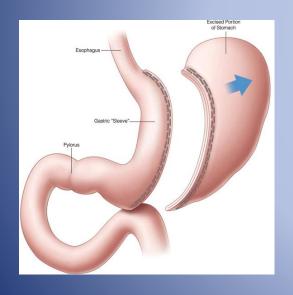
#### Stoppa

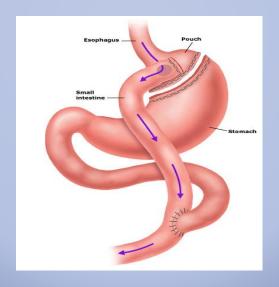
- Retrospective Review
- 90 pts BMI>30
  - Mean of 40
  - Retromuscular (STOPPA) repair
  - Synthetic mesh as sublay
  - Outcomes
    - Morbidity 8%
    - Mortality 1.1%
    - F/U 50 months Recurrence 5.5%

# SHOULD VHR BE DELAYED IN MORBIDLY OBESE PATIENTS

### Staged Repair

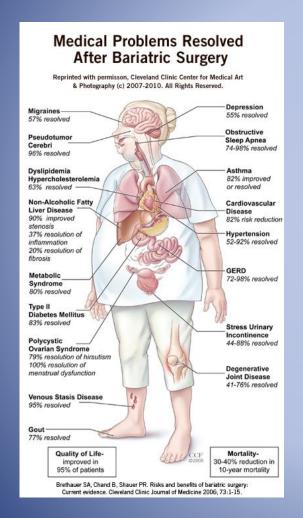
 Staged Ventral Hernia repair after surgical weight loss may decrease perioperative complications and recurrence rates in Obese Patients

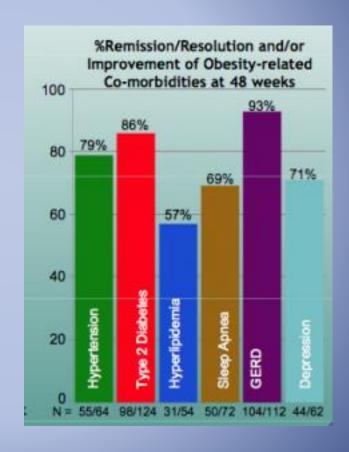






## Comorbidity Resolution after Weight Loss Surgery





#### Staged Repair

- Restrospective Review
- 27 pts
- Mean BMI 51
- Gastric Bypass
  - Open 22, Lap in 5
  - Concurrent Hernai Repair (n=7)
    - Primary 4
    - Biologyc mesh in 3

**ALL** Recurred

Staged hernia repair preceded by gastric bypas for the tretment of the morbid obese with complex ventral hernia Newcome et al, Hernia 2009

#### Staged Repair

- One pt with bowel obstruction
- Hernia Repair 1.3 yrs later
  - LVHR in 8 (31%)
  - Open (STOPPA) in 19 (69%)

#### **OUTCOMES**

- -F/U 20 months
- -NO Recurrence

### Ventral Hernias in Bariatric Surgery is it Safe to Deferred VHR?

- Retrospective review
- 85 pts (65 umbilical or small ventral hernia)
- BMI >35
  - Mean 51
- LVH 3 groups
  - Primary Repair 59 (70%)
  - Mesh 12 Synthetic/Bio (14%)
  - Deferred Repair 14 (18%)

- Conclusions:
  - Primary Repair High Failure Rate
  - Do NOT Deferred if LOA

#### Conclusion

Obesity is a risk factor for hernia failure Medical guidance may improve outcomes Laparoscopic is safe

• Don't force it-contraindications exist

Open repair is excellent option
Staged repair may improve outcomes
Primary repair high failure rates