

RISK AND BARIATRIC SURGERY

Innovations in the Prevention and
Management of Obesity

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Risk and Bariatric Surgery

Risks

- Failure to warn
- Operative technique
- Post-operative care
- Medical records

Failure to Warn

Full assessment of patient and “material” risks:

- History
- Physical examination
- Investigations
- Consultations: Physicians
Psychiatrist / Social worker
Anaesthetist
Intensive Care
- Realistic expectations - Patient
- Doctor
- Consent

Operative Technique

Hospital facilities

- Operating theatre
- Intensive care unit
- Medical staff
 - Registrar
 - ICU Specialists
- Radiology
 - CT Scan

Medical and Nursing Staff: Intensive Care Specialists

- Consultants
 - Cardiologists
 - Respiratory Physicians
 - Endocrine Physicians
 - Infectious Disease Physicians
 - Renal Physicians
- Registrars
- Experienced Nursing Staff

Experience

- Hospital - Operating Theatres
 - Intensive Care Unit
 - High Dependency Unit
- Junior Medical Staff
- Nursing Staff

Insight

- Surgeon and management team



Post-operative Care

- Daily review - availability
- Early / proper assessment
- Early signs of complications
- Early investigation – scans
- Early intervention – return to theatre
- Early laparotomy

Post-operative Problems

- Delay - in review
 - in investigation
 - in re-operation
 - in seeking help
- Failure to note complications
- Early discharge
- Poor follow-up

Medical Records

Requirements – full explanation of:

- Procedure
- Effects
- Possible complications
- Management of complications
- Material risks, issues, concerns

Requirements:

- Full history
- Physical examination
- Assessment of goals, expectations
- Patient must understand
 - operation
 - risks
 - possible outcome

Doctor must understand:

- Material issues of patient
 - social
 - personal
- Risks
- Expectations
 - realistic
- Limitations
 - hospital
 - team
 - self

Safe Bariatric Surgery

- Adequate consent process
- Experienced surgeon and team
- Close post-operative care
- Good documentation