

JOINT EVENT

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Multi-dimensional validated reporting of dysphagia post sleeve gastrectomy**Sukaina Jaffar and Michael Devadas**
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Background: Few studies have reported the prevalence of dysphagia, as its own clinical entity in the bariatric population; without being examined under the umbrella of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease. This is compounded by studies not outlining methodologies used to assess dysphagia. Moreover, varying follow-up periods and different bariatric procedures have led to conflicting results.

Objectives: To assess the prevalence of dysphagia using a statistically robust patient-reported tool, Dysphagia Handicap Index (DHI) post Laparoscopic Sleeve Gastrectomy (LSG). DHI is a validated tool which additionally measures the handicapping effects of dysphagia on emotional and functional domains of living.

Methods: DHI questionnaire was administered to 124 patients who underwent LSG at least 1 year prior. Post-operative weight, change in BMI, percent Total Weight Loss (%TWL) and percent Excess Weight Loss (%EWL) were calculated. Physical, emotional and functional subscales were analyzed separately and altogether. Three additional questions were added to the DHI to delineate oesophageal dysphagia.

Results: Average pre-operative weight and BMI is 123.8 kg and 43 kg/m², respectively. Median %TWL and %EWL are 32% and 76.2%, respectively. An average reduction in BMI value of 14 kg/m² was found. 41% of our cohort reported to mild dysphagia and 54% reported moderate to severe dysphagia based on the Modified DHI Score (DHI+Oesophageal Specific Dysphagia Score). No patient required corrective intervention. Patients reporting higher DHI scores were less likely to achieve the median TWL of 35.4 kg (OR 0.40, 95% CI 0.17-0.91). Dysphagia is a common symptom reported in our cohort and was found to have an impact on weight loss outcomes.

Conclusion: Prospective, single-institution analysis using a validated tool reveals post-operative dysphagia to be a common clinical entity in our population with functional and psychological influences.

Biography

Sukaina Jaffar is working as a Surgeon in Nepean Hospital, Australia. Sukaina Jaffar has participated in National and International conferences in the field of bariatric surgery and she has published many research articles in various International and National journals.

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