

## **WHAT HAPPENS TO OBESITY PATIENTS WHO DON'T COME BACK FOR ROUTINE FOLLOW-UP?**

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One of the most difficult things for the surgeon performing obesity surgery has been getting the patient to come back to follow-up. The result is that those of us in small non-academic centres get an impression of how we are doing, but trying to produce series for analysis takes time and money that may be beyond the small centre's budget.

Our centre has been increasing our throughput and wanted to access data from our patients. These demonstrated big holes in our current follow up system. We then set about trying to find out what had happened to our patients, why they hadn't attended follow up appointments, and whether it actually mattered. The results of our one-off major attempt to get results on all our patients will be presented, along with a comparison of results in those who attended follow up versus those who chose not to attend. Proposals to improve follow up with modern techniques will also be discussed.