

PATIENTS UNDERGOING LAPAROSCOPIC GASTRIC BANDING PERCEIVE VIDEO AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE INFORMATION AND CONSENT PROCESS.

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Background

The initial consultation with a bariatric patient considering surgery is packed full of facts and details which are very difficult for the patient to remember.

Aim

To see whether an audiovisual method of information relay has a positive or negative on the patients initial consultation experience.

Method

Thirty consecutive patients were asked to view, before their initial consultation, a 10 minute video of their specialist describing the laparoscopic gastric band procedure, that included details of the indications, the prep-op work up, the procedure itself (with limited footage of the operation), alternatives and complications. They were then asked to complete a questionnaire.

Results

More than 90% of patients deemed the video either very important or essential with regard to information about the procedure. As an adjunct to the consultation all patients found it either very helpful or essential. 80% of patients found it more useful compared to any written information they had additionally received (or found independently) about the procedure. Whilst the video was not used as part of the consent process, more than 95% perceived that it should be an essential element.

Conclusion

An overwhelming majority of patients undergoing laparoscopic gastric banding find an information video about the procedure very helpful and perceive it as an essential part of the consent process.