

DEVELOPMENT OF A STANDARDIZED POST OPERATIVE ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR USE IN A MULTIDISCIPLINARY BARIATRIC PRACTICE.

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Background

NEWLS is a multidisciplinary practice that relies on not only the surgeon but other allied (GP, dietitians) reviewing the patient post operatively. By developing this tool and standardizing it across all practitioners ensures consistent review questioning and follow-up among NEWLS members

Aim

To develop and standardize a post operative assessment tool for use by all NEWLS team members

Method

Phase one was to develop a one page questionnaire that the patient fill in prior to each post operative consultation targeting the three main areas that NEWLS deems vital in assessing: compliance, eating issues and amount of regurgitation. The questionnaire aimed to identify areas that require further education. Every patient was provided with the questionnaire over a two month period. The surgeon and the dietitian then ranked the questionnaire in a blinded way and the results of both answers were compared for standardization.

Results

Early results show excellent comparison between both practitioners with only a small number of scores deviating only one level from the other practitioner

Conclusion

NEWLS believes this will be an excellent and reliable tool to be used in a multi disciplinary practice that ultimately improves patient care. Phase 2 is to establish if the score devised from the above questionnaire can be linked to provision of patient adjustments in the future.