

THORACIC OESOPHAGEAL PERFORATION COMPLICATING LAPAROSCOPIC GASTRIC BANDING – CASE REPORT AND LITERATURE REVIEW

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Background

Thoracic oesophageal perforation is a rare complication of laparoscopic gastric banding, with only two previously reported cases in the world literature. A case occurring secondary to difficult placement of intragastric calibrating balloon in a morbidly obese patient on long term steroid therapy for ulcerative colitis is described. The literature is reviewed.

Aim

To raise awareness of a rare complication of laparoscopic gastric banding, and promote discussion on steroid use and inflammatory bowel disease in this context – both currently listed as contraindications in current product information.

Method

Case report described and literature reviewed, with reference to contraindications to gastric banding listed by various suppliers.