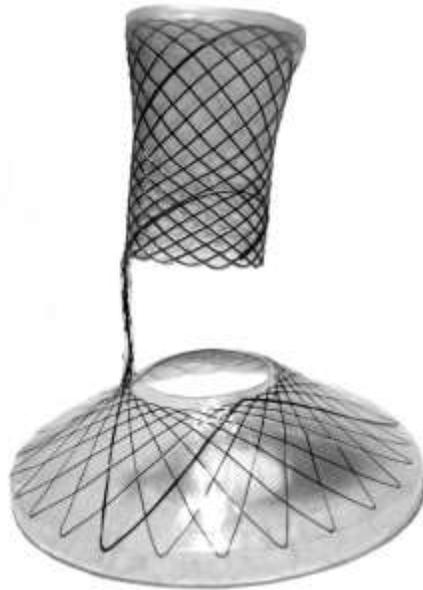


Watch out for the latest buzz word ... Endoscopic Stent!

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Weight Surgery Info (<http://weightsurgery.screamwhisper.com/?p=558#>)



A SIMPLE **endoscopic stent** is being developed which can be fitted in 10 – 15 minutes and will lead to **startling rates of weight loss**, claim its designers. The **Full Sense Device** is placed via endoscopy into the esophagus and proximal stomach. By applying pressure to this area it causes satiety without the need for the presence of food. It operates by constantly stimulating neuro and humoral elements to induce satiety. **The Full Sense™ Bariatric Device** has undergone successful preclinical evaluations and has completed its first clinical evaluation with over 28% **Excess Weight Loss (EWL)** in 6 ½ weeks.

Designed by the **Sentinel Group of Michigan, USA**, it may become available in Europe late this year or early next. Excitingly the device has demonstrated a median EWL of 80% in a six-month trial. This evidence was backed up by a later randomized control trial and a follow-up crossover trial. Some patients had their devices removed early after achieving 100% EWL. An earlier trial in three patients with a mean BMI of 44 demonstrated a 28.5% EWL in six weeks. What's really exciting is that **Dr. Randal Baker**, Assistant Professor of Surgery for **Michigan State College of Human Medicine** and inventor of the device, claimed that it has achieved these results without any significant complications or need for revision.

“We expected to see a 5 or 6% difference between [the study group and the control group], but we saw a tremendous weight loss” and “We’ve had no non-responders. Patients continue to lose weight, no exceptions, until the device is taken out.”

The current design can be installed completely endoscopically in an outpatient setting, and is easily reversible. He suggested that the apparent efficacy of the device, along with its non-invasive nature, simple installation, and low cost, would “open up the market” of the 99% of eligible US patients who do not undergo bariatric surgery every year, particularly among obese children and teenagers. Also early results also show the device to

be effective at resolving co-morbidities. Following the first successful human implants, Sentinel Vice President Dr. James Foote said the technology is such as diabetes and high blood pressure. “Potentially the greatest step forward in the **battle against obesity** since the inception of **bariatric surgery**.”

The designers of the device believe that, unlike as with other devices, the patient’s metabolic rate does not drop as they lose weight. Patients are placed on a liquid diet for two weeks after installation, but after that, they are not placed under any dietary restrictions. But before we all rush out demanding a Stent, the Full Sense Device is not currently a permanent solution for patients, if left in for too long, the device could possibly lead to a patient becoming underweight. However Sentinel are currently trying to develop an adjustable version which can lower the pressure that the device places on the stomach. The inspiration for the device came from a patient who was suffering from multiple complications following a Roux-en-Y gastric bypass and came to Dr. Baker with a chronic stricture. Baker placed a stent across the stricture to hold it open, and when the patient returned to his office two weeks later, he was surprised to find that she was losing weight despite eating a solid food diet. When she told him that her weight loss was due to her no longer feeling hungry, he hypothesized that the stent was putting pressure against the top of the stomach, and her brain was interpreting the signal as a sign that her stomach was full of food.

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

Pete Myall - Online editor, [Bariatric News](#)