

Comparison of Gastric Bypass and Banding

	Gastric Bypass	Adjustable Band
Cost	Insured service, covered by OHIP	Non-Insured: A patient must pay all costs which is currently \$17 000 Can. There is no charge for adjustments.
Risk of Death	1 in 200	1 in 2000
Major Early Complications	There are two anastomoses (joins) where the bowel is cut and reconnected. Both of these have the potential to leak during the healing process. This can sometimes cause a severe infection. Risk is 1-3/100 cases. In the case of a severe leak, a patient may need further surgery.	Injury can occur to the stomach or esophagus during band placement. This is a rare, but dangerous complication.
Late Complications	Bowel obstruction, nutritional deficiency, anastomotic stricture (scarring), changes in pouch size.	Band slippage: will require further surgery to reposition the band. Occurs in up to 5%. Band erosion which often requires removal of the band (< 1%).
Expected 5 year excess weight loss	Approximately 60% to 80% but can vary. It is still dependent on following the diet recommendations appropriately. Long-term weight loss is generally maintained	Approximately 70%. However, this can be much more or less depending on how closely diet recommendations are followed. Adequate weight loss is dependent on keeping the band appropriately adjusted. Excess intake of high calorie fluids can defeat the band.
Length of time to achieve maximal weight loss	Weight loss can be rapid with the maximum achieved in 12 - 18 months.	Weight loss is more gradual, with the maximum usually achieved at 24 - 36 months.
Reversibility	Requires major surgery	The device can removed with a relatively minor operation. The stomach will then return to its normal shape.
Follow - up	As necessary for ongoing diet instructions. Patients will need life-long supplements of B12, folate, iron, and calcium. Patients must also ensure an adequate protein intake.	Close follow-up is critical for successful weight loss. Expect 2-3 adjustments in the first year and up to 1 adjustment every 1 or 2 years after that.
Dumping Syndrome	Yes, patients will need to modify their diets to control dumping syndrome.	No, this does not occur with this procedure.
Hospital Stay	Usually 2 - 3 days	Usually Overnight
Longevity	Unknown, data up to 14 years	Unknown, data up to 13 years