

Special Considerations when Operating on Obese Patients

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Total Laparoscopic Hysterectomy in Obese versus Nonobese patients

Heinberg et al 2004 Obstet Gynecol 103;67

Complication rates similar

Total laparoscopic hysterectomy for
benign uterine pathologies: obesity
does not increase the risk of
complications

Chopin et al 2009 Human Reprod 12,3057

**Intra- and post-operative
complications are not increased**

Laparoscopic management of tubal
ectopic pregnancy in obese women
Hsu et al 2004 Fertil Steril 81;198

No increase in surgical morbidity

Peri-operative complications in
obese women vs normal-weight
women who undergo vaginal
surgery

Chen et al 2007 AJOG 197:98

Obesity is an independent risk factor
for operative site infection

Special Considerations

- Pre-operative
- Intra-operative
- Post-operative

Pre-operative considerations

- Weight reduction
- Anaesthetic assessment
- Is there a non-surgical alternative?
- Is there a simpler operative alternative?
- Where should the operation be carried out?
- Extra assistance
- Allocate extra time
- DVT prophylaxis
- Do the patient know risks are higher?
- Is the operation really justified?

Drugs

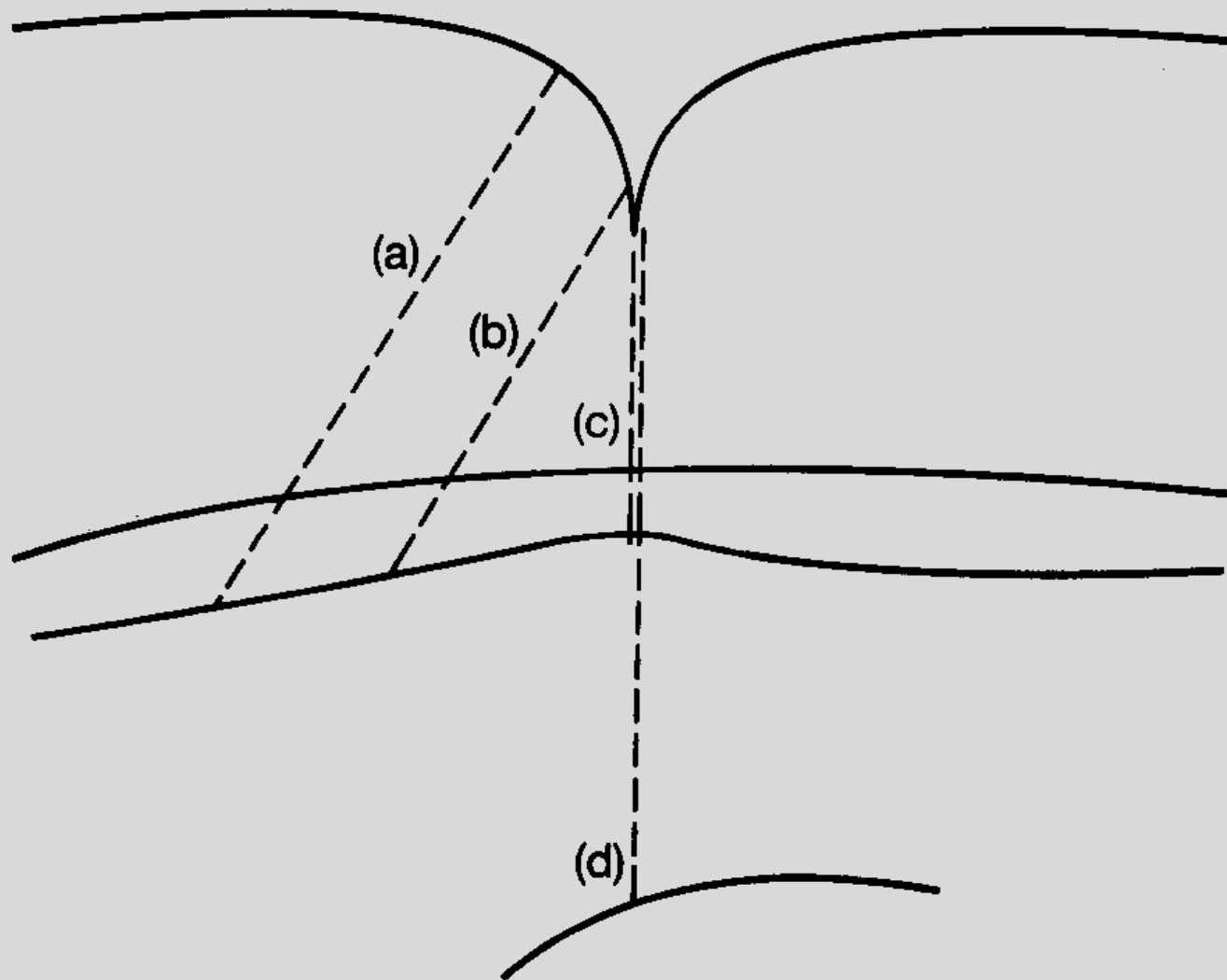


Intra-operative Considerations

- Is the theatre table strong enough?
- Are necessary equipments & instruments available?
- Who should do the operation?
- Who should administer the anaesthesia?
- Do you have an experienced assistant?
- Should operation proceed as planned?
- Laparoscopy or laparotomy?
- Where to make incision?
- How to close incision?
- To drain or not to drain?

Laparoscopy in Obese Patients

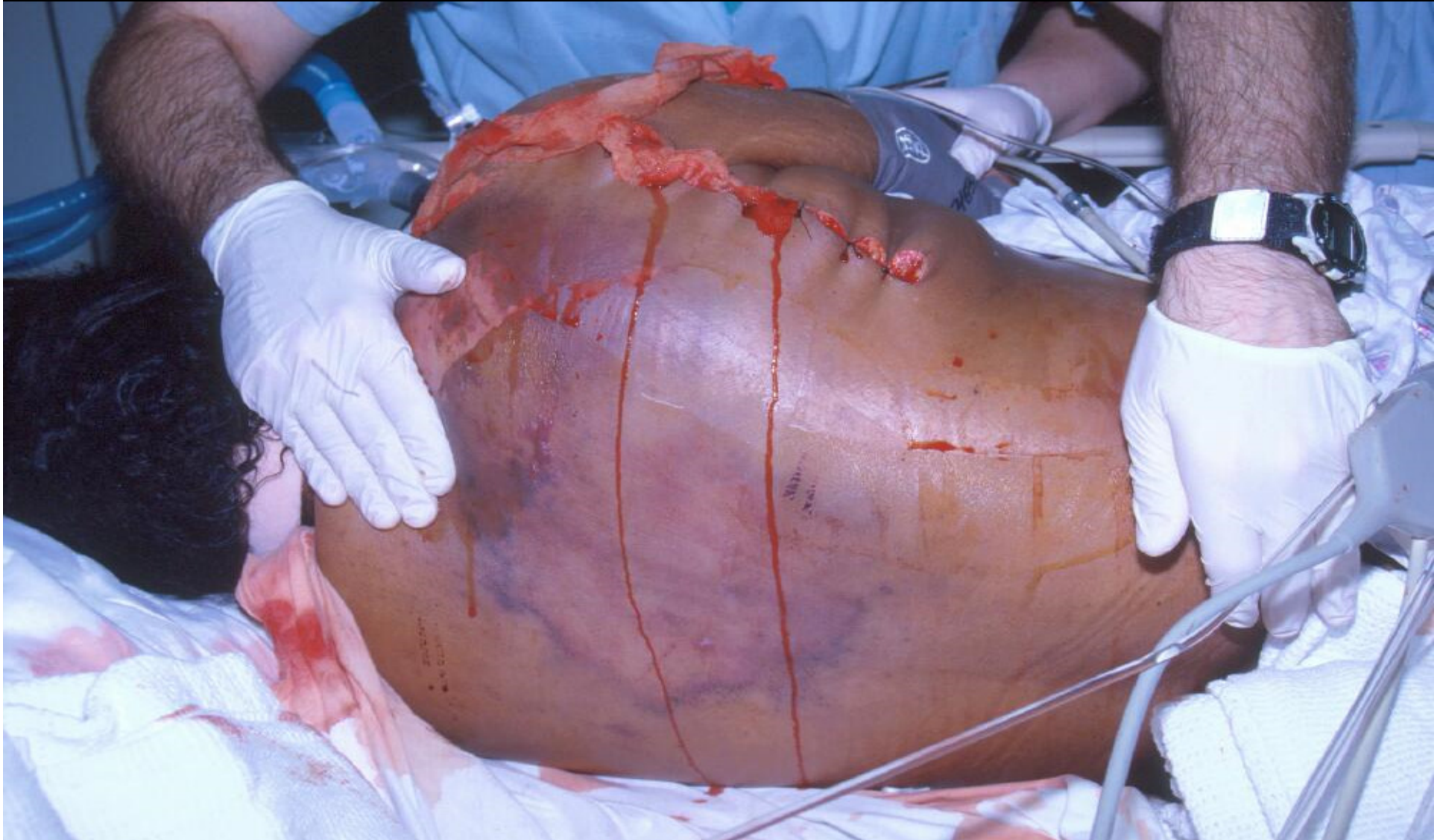
- Infra-umbilical entry
- Use sufficiently long Veress needle & trocars



Post-operative Considerations

- Should she be in High Dependence Unit?
- Oxygen saturation monitor
- Early mobilisation & continue anti-thrombosis measures
- Low threshold for antibiotic therapy
- Early discharge not advisable

Necrotising Fasciitis









Reducing wound infection in Obese gynecologic patients

Gallop et al 1996 Am J Obstet Gynecol 175,358

**Subcutaneous closed
drainage system**

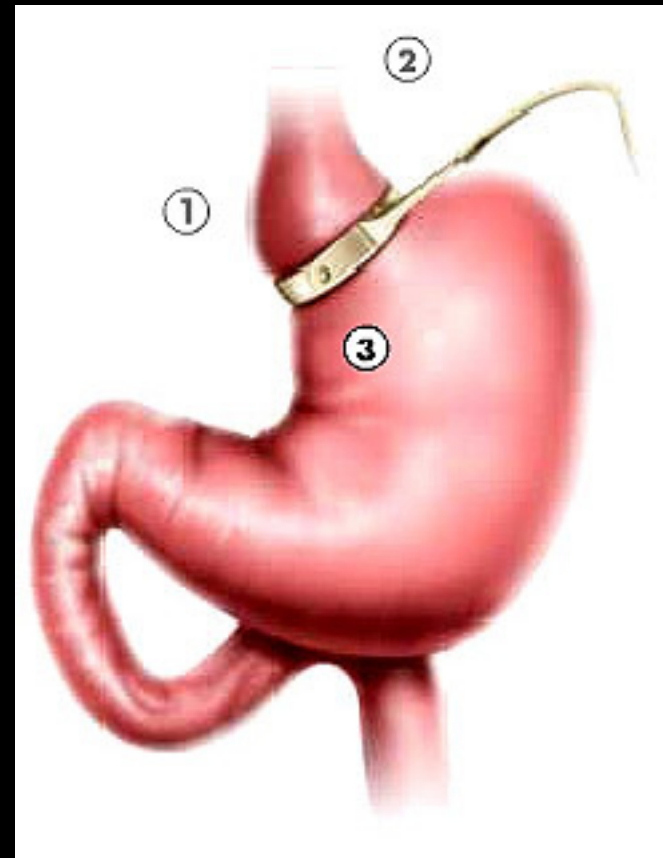


BARIATRIC SURGERY

Obesity-Surgery.co.uk

Gastric banding

- Adjustable band



Gastric Balloon