

# Apollo Endosurgery fills the gap in bariatric therapy

By Ailsa Colquhoun

**Apollo Endosurgery endobariatric therapies (EBT) provide a cost-effective solution for patients who need more than exercise, diet or drugs to lose weight**

For over 20 years Apollo Endosurgery has recognised the demand for non-surgical weight loss therapies, and in its specialist medical device portfolio has the Orbera® intragastric balloon and the OverStitch™ endoscopic suturing system.

Worldwide, over 220,000 patients received an Orbera® intragastric balloon. Results show that on average Orbera® patients achieve more than three times the weight loss than with diet and exercise alone and when treatment is combined with dietary and psychological support. This teaches patients healthy habits that will

help keep the weight off even after the balloon is removed.

According to Mr Ahmed R Ahmed, a consultant in upper gastrointestinal and bariatric surgery at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, candidates for endobariatric therapy (EBT) fall into three main types:

- Those who do not fit the eligibility criteria for bariatric surgery, either because they are too light or too heavy
- Those who are unwilling to put themselves through the rigours of invasive surgery
- Those who need to lose weight in order to be eligible for non-obesity related treatment, eg IVF or knee surgery

A revolutionary endoscopic device, the Apollo OverStitch™ system can be used to deliver endoscopic sleeve gastropasty (ESG), a minimally invasive procedure providing stomach volume reduction



**Ahmed R Ahmed**

Consultant in upper gastrointestinal and bariatric surgery at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust



without any surgical removal. ESG patients can expect to achieve a 20 per cent weight loss at 2 years, which Mr Ahmed says is “way better than with dieting”. OverStitch™ can also be used to revise

an earlier bariatric intervention, a gastric bypass for example, where a structural problem has occurred.

In the bariatric treatment market Orbera® and OverStitch™ fill an important therapeutic gap between non-surgical and surgical weight treatment pathways. According to Mr Ahmed this “allows surgeons to do more for patients who require more than drug therapy and dietary advice”.

He continues: “People usually will have spent many years and many thousands of Pounds on lifestyle changes, diets, personal trainers. They will be waging a constant battle against excess weight and, yet, will still not have seen long-term sustainable results. In these patients EBT offers a truly cost-effective solution.” ■



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