

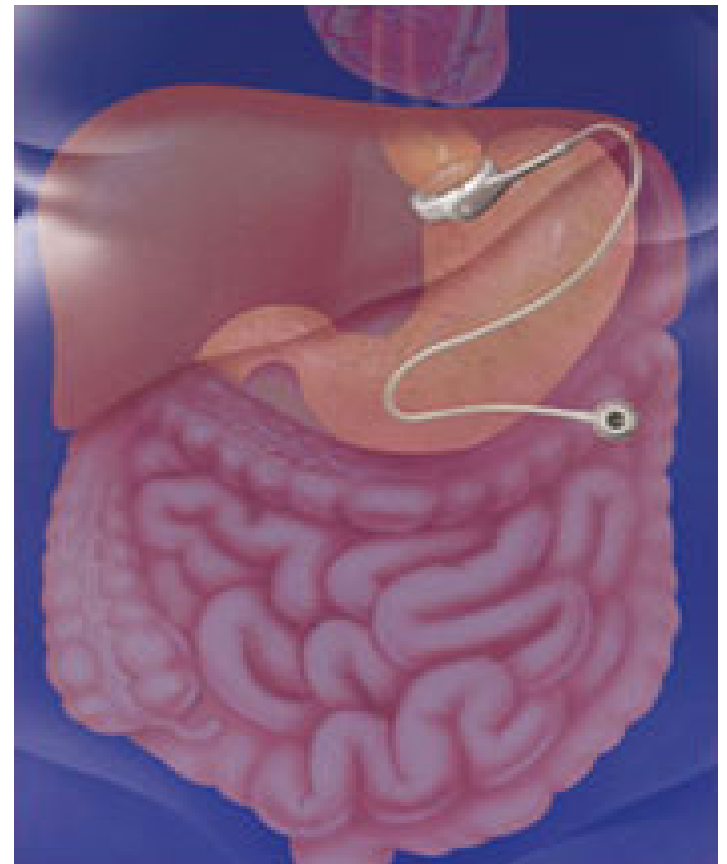
SWMC Surgical Weight Loss Web Page

Dr. Daniel Igwe has been in practice for more than 15 years and has completed over 3000 bariatric cases including laparoscopic procedures. He is the first surgeon to bring the Lap-Band procedure to Lawton. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and is an active member of the American Society for Bariatric Surgeons. Dr. Igwe has authored and co-authored many clinical publications that reference his 5 year practice. These articles can be found at www.cstobesity.com.

The LAP-BAND® Adjustable Gastric Banding System is a simple yet advanced gastric banding system placed around the upper portion of the stomach. The band helps you gradually lose and control your weight by reducing the amount of food that your stomach can hold at one time. Visit www.lapband.com for information.

Is the Lap-Band right for you?

1. Are you willing to make healthy changes in your lifestyle?
2. Are you 18 years or older?
3. Have you been overweight for more than 5 years?
4. Do you have a BMI of greater than 35 with one co-morbidity?
(diabetes, hypertension, sleep apnea, reflux disease)
5. Do you have a BMI of 40 or about 100 pounds overweight?
6. Are you willing to commit to routine post-op care and support group attendance?



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Obesity Health Risks:

- 65% of Americans are over overweight (BMI >25).
- 30% are obese (BMI > 30)
- 45% of women and 30 % of men are trying to lose weight at any given time.
- One in four people have high blood pressure; being overweight contributes to this problem.
- The average American has gained nearly 8 pounds in the last ten years.
- Excess weight and obesity are associated with numerous co-morbidities, including but not limited to hypertension, type 2 diabetes, high cholesterol, sleep apnea and gastroesophageal reflux disease
- Obesity is not just a cosmetic problem. Being overweight is dangerous to our health.

Commonly asked questions.

1. Does Medicare pay for this procedure?

Medicare requires that the surgeon/hospital achieve the Center of Excellence status. This takes about two years. We have not achieved that status yet.

2. Will my insurance pay for the Lap-Band?

Some insurances have bariatric coverage and will pay for this procedure. Call the number on the back of your card to find out if your insurance will pay for the Lap-Band procedure.

How do I get started?

1. Contact your private care physician for a referral and medical records.
2. Request pre-authorization from your insurance company, if needed.
3. Go to Lap-Band.com web site for detail information on your journey.
4. Make an appointment for a surgeon evaluation at 531-6460.
5. Attend a free seminar.

The LAP-BAND® System Advantages at a Glance

- Minimally Invasive Surgery
- Minimally invasive surgical approach
- No intestinal re-routing, cutting or stapling of the stomach wall or bowel as with gastric bypass
- Often performed on an out-patient basis
- Small incisions and minimal scarring
- Reduced post-surgical pain, shorter hospital stay and recovery time
- Return to work/normal activities typically within a week
- Fewer Risks and Side Effects
- Ten times lower short-term mortality rate than gastric bypass¹
- Low risk of post-surgical nutritional deficiencies associated with gastric bypass
- Reduced risk of hair loss
- No "dumping syndrome" (food passes through the system too fast resulting in severe cramping/digestive disruption) related to dietary intake restrictions
- Adjustable
- Allows for personalized steady, healthy rate of weight loss
- No additional surgery for adjustments
- Supports pregnancy by allowing for increased nutritional needs
- Surgical weight loss option specifically designed for long term weight maintenance
- Effective Long Term Weight Loss
- More than 350,000 LAP-BAND® System devices distributed worldwide
- #1 selling adjustable gastric band for weight loss worldwide
- Over ten years of medical studies and academic publications follow-up
- Sets the "gold standard" of care for obesity treatment for hundreds of surgeons world-wide
- Reversible
- While it is intended to be a long-term treatment, the LAP-BAND® System can be removed at any time, in some cases laparoscopically
- Stomach and other anatomy typically return to their original state/functions