

Alcohol Consumption after Gastric Bypass

Does Gastric Bypass Alter Alcohol Metabolism?

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Gastric bypass surgery is the most efficient means of treating morbid obesity in individuals with a body mass index (BMI) over 40kg m. This operation has become the most commonly performed procedure in bariatric surgery. All surgeries, including elective bariatric surgery procedures, carry risks.

One particular risk associated after gastric bypass surgery is altered alcohol metabolism. IN a study of 36 subjects, 17 control and 19 post-gastric bypass subjects that consumed 5 oz. of red wine, the gastric bypass patients had a peak alcohol breath level of 0.08% and the controls had a level of 0.05%. The gastric bypass group reached this level after an average of 72 minutes. The conclusion is that gastric bypass patients may have an increased sensitivity to the effects of alcohol; therefore, caution should be exercised in the use of alcohol after a gastric bypass procedure.

The purpose of this document is to ensure your understanding and commitment required to produce a successful outcome with regard to your bariatric surgical procedure.

I _____ have read and understand that alcohol metabolism after gastric bypass surgery may be altered and that my use of alcohol is voluntary. I understand that alcohol can be addictive and destructive to my health, and may lead to accidents of unintended consequences. I have been fully informed of my increased relative risk and consequences of consuming alcohol after a gastric bypass.

Patient's Signature

Witness Signature

Date