



# CRITICAL APPRAISAL

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SHAFIE ABDULLAH

DATE : 22.6.2020

## Bariatric Embolization of Arteries for the Treatment of Obesity (BEAT Obesity) Trial: Results at 1 Year

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Conflicts of interest are listed at the end of this article.

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- Title : Short and mentioned clearly
- Published in 2019 in Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology
- Authors from relevant departments : Multidisciplinary (Radiology, Medical, Surgery, Psy )

# OBJECTIVE

- To evaluate the safety and efficacy of bariatric embolization in severely obese adults at up to 12 months after the procedure.
- Main objective was clearly stated.
- No specific objective.



Study design : Prospective study - **clearly mentioned**



Study duration : up to 1 year (participants recruited from June 2014 – February 2018)



Participants: 20 patients - **Acceptable for given study duration**



Study area : The Johns Hopkins Hospital (Baltimore Maryland) & Mount Sinai Hospital (New York)



Study researchers : had a combined 5 to 15 years experience in interventional radiology procedures.



Approved by institutional review board, US FDA, written informed consent taken, participants compensated financially

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## METHODS

## Primary end point

- 30 days adverse events post procedure
  - Weight loss (percentage from baseline) during study period.
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## Secondary end point

- Technical feasibility (ability to embolize)
- Mucosal changes seen (endoscopy, gastric emptying study)
- 3 days hunger assessment(questionnaire)
- Quality of life scores (SF-36 and IWQOL)
- Metabolic panel laboratory changes.

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- Inclusion criteria: ?

- Exclusion criteria: ?

- Range of age specified. Based on result (Age range 27-68)

- Mean age : 44 +/- 11yo

- BMI 45 +/- 4.1

# MATERIALS

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- Total 20 patient included in the study with all patient subject to full clinical examination, and they were encouraged to attend pre-embolization weight management counseling and weight management session DURING the study.
- Evaluation of patients by multidisciplinary team.
- Follow up and evaluation time post embo. ( 1<sup>st</sup> week, 2<sup>nd</sup> week, 1<sup>st</sup> month, 3<sup>rd</sup> month, 6<sup>th</sup> month and 12<sup>th</sup> month )

# TECHNIQUE

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- Details of procedures well explained - Transarterial embolization performed under fluoroscopic guidance using 300 to 500micrometer calibrated microspheres.
- The approach – femoral access / radial access and which artery selected clearly explained.
- Definition of embolization process clearly mentioned – visual absence of the flow of contrast after five heartbeats.
- CT arterial phase performed at the beginning to confirm fundal perfusion and blood supply.
- CT arterial phase post procedure to confirm distribution of embolization and microspheres.



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Demographic variables : Descriptive statistic used (female, age, ethnicity, weight, BMI, excess body weight)

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Normality of data : 95% confidence interval with t-distribution test (using Shapiro Wilk test & Bootstrap methods) for normally and non normally distributed data.

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This is exploratory study.

- no specific time point as primary outcome
- no control for any baseline covariates.

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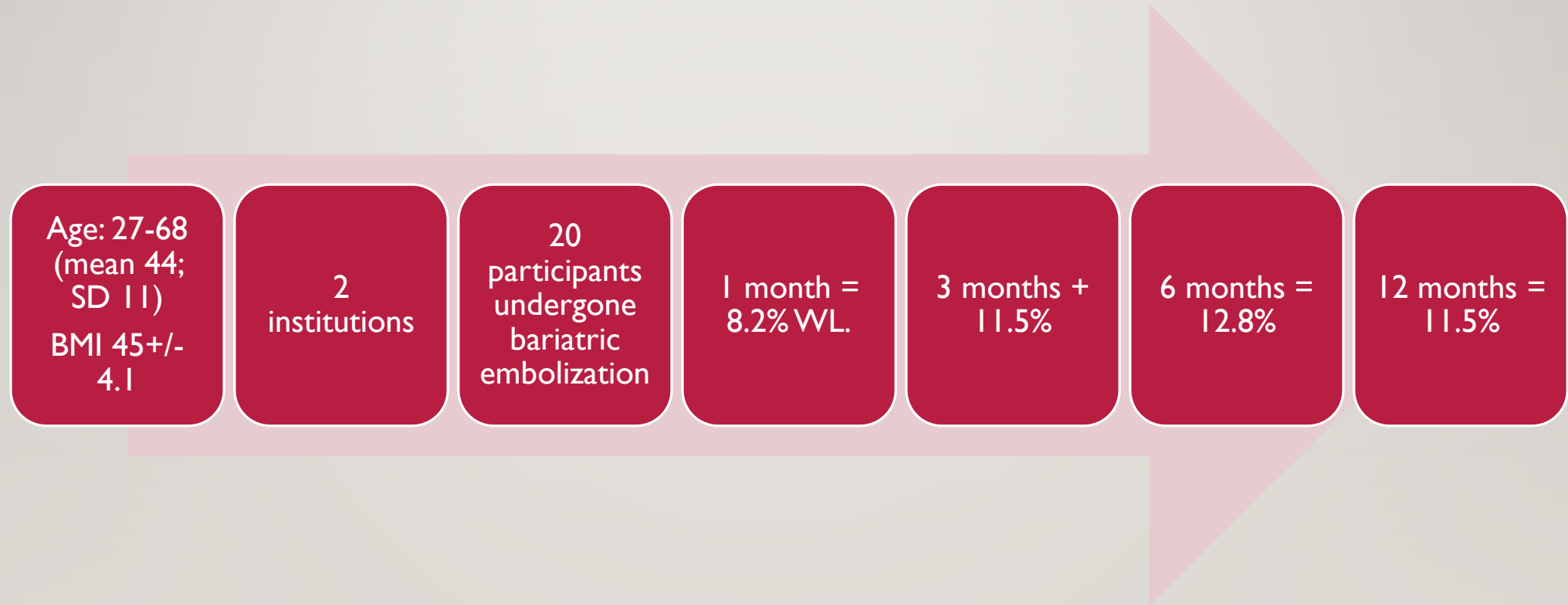
Appropriate and clearly mentioned.

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## STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

# RESULTS:

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# DISCUSSION

- Transarterial embolization : yielded promising initial results for weight loss.  
Treatment goal – to target endocrine function of gastric fundus to suppress appetite.
- No major adverse event recorded in this study.
- Weight loss achieved up to 11% in 12 months. (about 7.6kg).
- Other scores are also satisfactory (hunger score, quality of life assessment ; self esteem, physical function).
- Results supported by other similar articles/journals (Kipshidze et al, Syed et al, and Bai et al)

# LIMITATIONS

- Small number of patients (uneven distribution between centers)
- Lack of definitive conclusion as patient dropped out during the study – didn't have continuous follow up and neglected certain questionnaires)
- Result may be subjective as weight management counselling varied between study sites., patients compliance, either before or after procedure.

## CONCLUSION:

- Bariatric embolization as effective as some pharmacotherapies (orlistat, lorcaserin) – (reduce weight loss about 2% - 9%)
- Achieve weight loss similar to pharmacotherapy. Without requiring long term medication.

OVERALL

GOOD ARTICLE.  
FINDINGS SUPPORTED  
BY OTHER SIMILAR  
ARTICLES/JOURNALS.

# Gastric Artery Embolization Trial for the Lessening of Appetite Nonsurgically (GET LEAN): Six-Month Preliminary Data

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## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** To report 6-month safety and efficacy results of a pilot study of left gastric artery (LGA) embolization for the treatment of morbid obesity (ie, body mass index [BMI] > 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

**Materials and Methods:** Four white patients (three women; average age, 41 y [range, 30–54 y]; mean weight, 259.3 lbs [range, 199–296 lbs]; mean BMI, 42.4 kg/m<sup>2</sup> [range, 40.2–44.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>]) underwent an LGA embolization procedure with 300–500- $\mu$ m Bead Block particles via right common femoral or left radial artery approach. Follow-up included upper endoscopy at 3 days and 30 days if necessary and a gastric emptying study at 3 months. Tracked parameters included adverse events; weight change;



## Bariatric Embolization of the Left Gastric Arteries for the Treatment of Obesity: 9-Month Data in 5 Patients

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### Abstract

**Purpose** The purpose of this study is to investigate the safety and 9-month effectiveness of transcatheter left gastric artery embolization (LGAE) for treating patients with obesity.

**Materials and Methods** The protocol of this study was ap-

and 6 months following LGAE (decreased by 0.26%,  $p = 0.929$ , and 4.33%,  $p = 0.427$ , respectively), but it declined obviously 9 months after LGAE (decreased by 11.22%,  $p = 0.295$ ).

Both waist circumference and waist-to-height ratio de-





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- Thank you