



US008083756B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Gannoe et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,083,756 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** ***Dec. 27, 2011**

(54) **METHODS AND DEVICES FOR
MAINTAINING A SPACE OCCUPYING
DEVICE IN A RELATIVELY FIXED
LOCATION WITHIN A STOMACH**

(75) Inventors: **James Gannoe**, Palo Alto, CA (US);
Craig Gerbi, Mountain View, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.**, Cincinnati,
OH (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 1071 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal dis-
claimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/656,625**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 23, 2007**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2007/0118160 A1 May 24, 2007

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 10/366,818, filed on
Feb. 13, 2003, now Pat. No. 7,214,233, which is a
continuation-in-part of application No. 10/232,505,
filed on Aug. 30, 2002, now Pat. No. 6,981,978.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A61B 17/08 (2006.01)
A61M 29/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **606/153**; 606/192

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 606/151,
606/157, 192, 195, 197, 153; 600/207; 128/898
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2,108,206 A 2/1938 Meeker
2,508,690 A 7/1948 Schmerl
3,372,443 A 3/1968 Daddona, Jr.

(Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 0 137 878 A1 4/1985

(Continued)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Benjamin, S.B., et al., *A Double-Blind Cross Over Study of the
Garren-Edwards anti-Obesity Bubblem* Abstract Submitted to A/S/
G/E/ 1987, Georgetown University Hospital and Fairfax Hospital,
Washington, D.C. and Fairfax, VA.

(Continued)

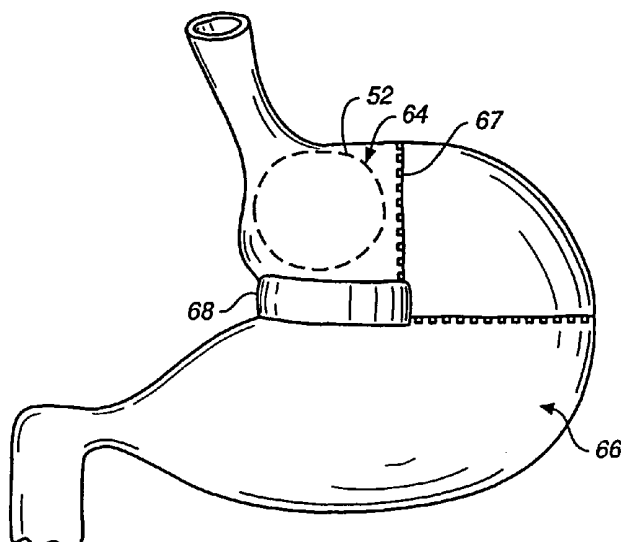
Primary Examiner — Julian Woo

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Nutter McClennen & Fish
LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods and devices for maintaining a space-occupying
device in a fixed relationship relative to a patient's stomach by
manipulation of the stomach. In one variation, two or more
regions of the stomach wall are brought into approximation
with one another and secured together in a manner that
secures a space-occupying device within the stomach of the
patient. In another variation, two or more regions of the stom-
ach wall are wrapped around a space-occupying device to
maintain the position of the space-occupying device relative
to the stomach wall. In another variation, a system having a
space-occupying member and a locking member capable
holding the space-occupying member against the inner wall
of the stomach are provided. In a further variation, a pouch is
created within the stomach that receives and retains a space-
occupying device.

5 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
3,395,710 A	8/1968	Stratton et al.	5,309,927 A	5/1994	Welch
3,516,407 A	6/1970	Ruggero	5,327,914 A	7/1994	Shlain
3,986,493 A	10/1976	Hendren, III	5,330,486 A	7/1994	Wilk
4,057,065 A	11/1977	Thow	5,330,503 A	7/1994	Yoon
4,063,561 A	12/1977	McKenna	5,331,975 A	7/1994	Bonutti
4,133,315 A	1/1979	Berman et al.	5,334,209 A	8/1994	Yoon
4,134,405 A	1/1979	Smit	5,334,210 A	8/1994	Gianturco
4,183,102 A	1/1980	Guiset et al.	5,345,949 A	9/1994	Shlain
4,198,982 A	4/1980	Fortner et al.	5,346,501 A	9/1994	Regula et al.
4,246,893 A	1/1981	Berson	5,355,897 A	10/1994	Pietrafitta et al.
4,258,705 A	3/1981	Sorensen et al.	5,370,691 A	12/1994	Samson
4,311,146 A	1/1982	Wonder	5,376,095 A	12/1994	Ortiz
4,315,509 A	2/1982	Smit	5,382,231 A	1/1995	Shlain
4,343,066 A	8/1982	Lance	5,403,312 A	4/1995	Yates et al.
4,402,445 A	9/1983	Green	5,403,326 A	4/1995	Harrison et al.
4,416,267 A	11/1983	Garren et al.	5,411,508 A	5/1995	Bessler et al.
4,434,066 A	2/1984	Lewis	5,433,721 A	7/1995	Hooven et al.
4,458,681 A	7/1984	Hopkins	5,437,291 A	8/1995	Pasricha et al.
4,485,805 A	12/1984	Foster, Jr.	5,449,368 A	9/1995	Kuzmak
4,496,288 A	1/1985	Nakamura et al.	5,452,837 A	9/1995	Williamson, IV et al.
4,501,264 A	2/1985	Rockey	5,458,131 A	10/1995	Wilk
4,547,192 A	10/1985	Brodsky et al.	5,462,559 A	10/1995	Ahmed
4,558,699 A	12/1985	Bashour	5,465,894 A	11/1995	Clark et al.
4,592,339 A	6/1986	Kuzmak et al.	5,467,911 A	11/1995	Tsuruta et al.
4,592,354 A	6/1986	Rothfuss	5,486,183 A	1/1996	Middleman et al.
4,598,699 A	7/1986	Garren et al.	5,489,058 A	2/1996	Plyley et al.
4,607,618 A	8/1986	Angelchik	5,503,635 A	4/1996	Sauer et al.
4,610,383 A	9/1986	Rothfuss et al.	5,527,319 A	6/1996	Green et al.
4,636,205 A	1/1987	Steer	5,535,935 A	7/1996	Vidal et al.
4,641,653 A	2/1987	Rockey	5,542,949 A	8/1996	Yoon
4,643,169 A	2/1987	Koss et al.	5,549,621 A	8/1996	Bessler et al.
4,646,722 A	3/1987	Silverstein et al.	5,551,622 A	9/1996	Yoon
4,648,383 A	3/1987	Angelchik	5,554,180 A	9/1996	Turk
4,671,287 A	6/1987	Fiddian-Green	5,555,898 A	9/1996	Suzuki et al.
4,694,827 A	9/1987	Weiner et al.	5,558,665 A	9/1996	Kieturakis
4,696,288 A	9/1987	Kuzmak et al.	5,571,116 A	11/1996	Bolanos et al.
4,716,900 A	1/1988	Ravo et al.	5,577,654 A	11/1996	Bishop
4,723,547 A	2/1988	Kullas et al.	5,578,044 A	11/1996	Gordon et al.
4,739,758 A	4/1988	Lai et al.	5,582,616 A	12/1996	Bolduc et al.
4,744,363 A	5/1988	Hasson	5,584,861 A	12/1996	Swain et al.
4,773,393 A	9/1988	Haber et al.	5,588,579 A	12/1996	Schnut et al.
4,790,294 A	12/1988	Allred, III et al.	5,601,604 A	2/1997	Vincent
4,795,430 A	1/1989	Quinn et al.	5,603,443 A	2/1997	Clark et al.
4,803,985 A	2/1989	Hill	5,607,094 A	3/1997	Clark et al.
4,841,888 A	6/1989	Mills et al.	5,624,381 A	4/1997	Kieturakis
4,899,747 A	2/1990	Garren et al.	5,626,588 A	5/1997	Sauer et al.
4,905,693 A	3/1990	Ravo	5,639,008 A	6/1997	Gallagher et al.
4,925,446 A	5/1990	Garay et al.	5,649,937 A	7/1997	Bito et al.
4,927,428 A	5/1990	Richards	5,651,769 A	7/1997	Waxman et al.
4,969,474 A	11/1990	Schwarz	5,655,698 A	8/1997	Yoon
5,037,021 A	8/1991	Mills et al.	5,662,664 A	9/1997	Gordon et al.
5,059,193 A	10/1991	Kuslich	5,662,667 A	9/1997	Knodel
5,080,663 A	1/1992	Mills et al.	5,667,520 A	9/1997	Bonutti
5,084,061 A	1/1992	Gau et al.	5,676,659 A	10/1997	McGurk
5,112,310 A	5/1992	Grobe	5,676,674 A	10/1997	Bolanos et al.
5,129,915 A	7/1992	Cantenys	5,685,868 A	11/1997	Lundquist
5,146,933 A	9/1992	Boyd	5,690,656 A	11/1997	Cope et al.
5,156,609 A	10/1992	Nakao et al.	5,697,943 A	12/1997	Sauer et al.
5,156,620 A	10/1992	Pigott	5,707,382 A	1/1998	Sierocuk et al.
5,171,233 A	12/1992	Amplatz et al.	5,722,990 A	3/1998	Sugarbaker et al.
5,197,649 A	3/1993	Bessler et al.	5,728,178 A	3/1998	Buffington et al.
5,220,928 A	6/1993	Odds et al.	5,735,848 A	4/1998	Yates et al.
5,222,961 A	6/1993	Nakao et al.	5,749,893 A	5/1998	Vidal et al.
5,226,429 A	7/1993	Kuzmak	5,755,730 A	5/1998	Swain et al.
5,234,454 A	8/1993	Bangs	5,766,216 A	6/1998	Gangal et al.
5,246,456 A	9/1993	Wilkinson	5,776,054 A	7/1998	Bobra
5,248,302 A	9/1993	Patrick et al.	5,782,844 A	7/1998	Yoon et al.
5,250,058 A	10/1993	Miller et al.	5,788,715 A	8/1998	Watson, Jr. et al.
5,254,126 A	10/1993	Filipi et al.	5,792,153 A	8/1998	Swain et al.
5,259,366 A	11/1993	Reydel et al.	5,797,931 A	8/1998	Bito et al.
5,259,399 A	11/1993	Brown	5,810,851 A	9/1998	Yoon
5,261,920 A	11/1993	Main et al.	5,810,855 A	9/1998	Rayburn et al.
5,263,629 A	11/1993	Trumbull et al.	5,810,882 A	9/1998	Bolduc et al.
5,284,128 A	2/1994	Hart	5,816,471 A	10/1998	Plyley et al.
5,297,536 A	3/1994	Wilk	5,820,584 A	10/1998	Crabb
5,301,658 A	4/1994	Zhu et al.	5,824,008 A	10/1998	Bolduc et al.
5,306,300 A	4/1994	Berry	5,827,298 A	10/1998	Hart et al.
5,309,896 A	5/1994	Moll et al.	5,833,690 A	11/1998	Yates et al.
			5,836,311 A	11/1998	Borst et al.

US 8,083,756 B2

Page 3

5,839,639 A	11/1998	Sauer et al.	6,540,789 B1	4/2003	Silverman et al.
5,860,581 A	1/1999	Robertson et al.	6,551,310 B1	4/2003	Ganz et al.
5,861,036 A	1/1999	Godin	6,554,844 B2	4/2003	Lee et al.
5,868,141 A	2/1999	Ellias	6,558,400 B2	5/2003	Deem et al.
5,868,760 A	2/1999	McGuckin, Jr.	6,561,969 B2	5/2003	Frazier et al.
5,876,448 A	3/1999	Thompson et al.	6,572,627 B2 *	6/2003	Gabbay 606/151
5,879,371 A	3/1999	Gardiner et al.	6,572,629 B2	6/2003	Kalloo et al.
5,887,594 A	3/1999	LoCicero, III	6,579,301 B1	6/2003	Bales et al.
5,888,196 A	3/1999	Bonutti	6,592,596 B1	7/2003	Geitz
5,897,534 A	4/1999	Heim et al.	6,605,037 B1	8/2003	Moll et al.
5,897,562 A	4/1999	Bolanos et al.	6,626,899 B2	9/2003	Houser et al.
5,904,147 A	5/1999	Conlan et al.	6,632,227 B2	10/2003	Adams
5,906,625 A	5/1999	Bito et al.	6,656,194 B1	12/2003	Gannoe et al.
5,910,105 A	6/1999	Swain et al.	6,663,598 B1	12/2003	Carrillo, Jr. et al.
5,910,149 A	6/1999	Kuzmak	6,663,639 B1	12/2003	Laufer et al.
5,921,993 A	7/1999	Yoon	6,663,640 B2	12/2003	Kortenbach
5,927,284 A	7/1999	Borst et al.	6,675,809 B2	1/2004	Stack et al.
5,928,264 A	7/1999	Sugarbaker et al.	6,682,520 B2	1/2004	Ingenito
5,935,107 A	8/1999	Taylor et al.	6,689,062 B1	2/2004	Mesallum
5,938,669 A	8/1999	Klaiber et al.	6,692,485 B1	2/2004	Brock et al.
5,947,983 A	9/1999	Solar et al.	6,716,222 B2	4/2004	McAlister et al.
5,964,772 A	10/1999	Bolduc et al.	6,733,512 B2	5/2004	McGhan
5,964,782 A	10/1999	Lafontaine et al.	6,736,822 B2	5/2004	McClellan et al.
5,972,001 A	10/1999	Yoon	6,740,098 B2	5/2004	Abrams et al.
5,972,002 A	10/1999	Bark et al.	6,740,121 B2	5/2004	Geitz
5,976,161 A	11/1999	Kirsch et al.	6,746,460 B2	6/2004	Gannoe et al.
5,980,537 A	11/1999	Ouchi	6,746,489 B2	6/2004	Dua et al.
5,993,464 A	11/1999	Knodel	6,754,536 B2	6/2004	Swoyer et al.
5,993,473 A	11/1999	Chan et al.	6,755,849 B1	6/2004	Gowda et al.
6,015,378 A	1/2000	Borst et al.	6,755,869 B2	6/2004	Geitz
6,030,364 A	2/2000	Durgin et al.	6,756,364 B2	6/2004	Barbier et al.
6,030,392 A	2/2000	Dakov	6,764,518 B2	7/2004	Godin
6,042,538 A	3/2000	Puskas	6,773,440 B2	8/2004	Gannoe et al.
6,044,847 A	4/2000	Carter et al.	6,773,441 B1	8/2004	Laufer et al.
6,067,991 A	5/2000	Forsell	6,786,898 B2	9/2004	Guenst
6,074,343 A	6/2000	Nathanson et al.	6,790,214 B2	9/2004	Kraemer et al.
6,083,241 A	7/2000	Longo et al.	6,802,868 B2	10/2004	Silverman et al.
6,086,600 A	7/2000	Kortenbach	6,821,285 B2	11/2004	Laufer et al.
6,113,609 A	9/2000	Adams	6,830,546 B1	12/2004	Chin et al.
6,119,913 A	9/2000	Adams et al.	6,835,199 B2	12/2004	McGuckin, Jr. et al.
6,120,513 A	9/2000	Bailey et al.	6,835,200 B2	12/2004	Laufer et al.
6,136,006 A	10/2000	Johnson et al.	6,837,848 B2	1/2005	Bonner et al.
6,159,146 A	12/2000	El Gazayerli	6,840,423 B2	1/2005	Adams et al.
6,159,195 A	12/2000	Ha et al.	6,845,776 B2	1/2005	Stack et al.
6,165,183 A	12/2000	Kuehn et al.	6,896,682 B1	5/2005	McClellan et al.
6,179,195 B1	1/2001	Adams et al.	6,916,332 B2	7/2005	Adams
6,186,942 B1	2/2001	Sullivan et al.	6,926,722 B2	8/2005	Geitz
6,186,985 B1	2/2001	Snow	6,966,919 B2	11/2005	Sixto, Jr. et al.
6,197,022 B1	3/2001	Baker	6,981,978 B2	1/2006	Gannoe
6,200,318 B1	3/2001	Har-Shai et al.	6,991,643 B2	1/2006	Saadat
6,206,822 B1	3/2001	Foley et al.	6,994,715 B2	2/2006	Gannoe et al.
6,206,893 B1	3/2001	Klein et al.	7,020,531 B1	3/2006	Colliou et al.
6,224,614 B1	5/2001	Yoon	7,025,791 B2	4/2006	Levine et al.
6,231,561 B1	5/2001	Frazier et al.	7,033,373 B2	4/2006	de la Torre et al.
6,248,058 B1	6/2001	Silverman et al.	7,033,378 B2	4/2006	Smith et al.
6,254,642 B1	7/2001	Taylor	7,033,384 B2	4/2006	Gannoe et al.
6,273,897 B1	8/2001	Dalessandro et al.	7,037,343 B2	5/2006	Imran
6,279,809 B1	8/2001	Nicolo	7,037,344 B2	5/2006	Kagan et al.
6,290,674 B1	9/2001	Roue et al.	7,063,715 B2	6/2006	Onuki et al.
6,293,923 B1	9/2001	Yachia et al.	7,083,629 B2	8/2006	Weller et al.
6,302,917 B1	10/2001	Dua et al.	7,083,630 B2	8/2006	DeVries et al.
6,312,437 B1	11/2001	Kortenbach	7,087,011 B2	8/2006	Cabiri et al.
6,328,689 B1	12/2001	Gonzalez et al.	7,097,650 B2	8/2006	Weller et al.
6,338,345 B1	1/2002	Johnson et al.	7,179,267 B2 *	2/2007	Nolan et al. 606/153
6,352,543 B1	3/2002	Cole	7,211,114 B2	5/2007	Bessler et
6,358,197 B1	3/2002	Silverman et al.	7,214,233 B2	5/2007	Gannoe et al.
6,379,366 B1	4/2002	Fleischmann et al.	2001/0014800 A1	8/2001	Frazier et al.
6,387,104 B1	5/2002	Pugsley, Jr. et al.	2001/0020190 A1	9/2001	Taylor
6,398,795 B1	6/2002	McAlister et al.	2001/0037127 A1	11/2001	De Hoyos Garza
6,416,535 B1	7/2002	Lazarus	2002/0022851 A1	2/2002	Kalloo et al.
6,423,087 B1	7/2002	Sawada	2002/0035361 A1	3/2002	Houser et al.
6,432,040 B1	8/2002	Meah	2002/0040226 A1	4/2002	Laufer et al.
6,447,533 B1	9/2002	Adams	2002/0047036 A1	4/2002	Sullivan et al.
6,460,543 B1	10/2002	Forsell	2002/0058967 A1	5/2002	Jervis
6,475,136 B1	11/2002	Forsell	2002/0072761 A1	6/2002	Abrams et al.
6,491,707 B2	12/2002	Makower et al.	2002/0077661 A1	6/2002	Saadat
6,494,888 B1	12/2002	Laufer et al.	2002/0078967 A1	6/2002	Sixto, Jr. et al.
6,506,196 B1	1/2003	Laufer	2002/0082621 A1	6/2002	Schurr et al.
6,535,764 B2	3/2003	Imran et al.	2002/0143346 A1	10/2002	McGuckin, Jr. et al.

2002/0165589	A1	11/2002	Imran et al.	2005/0119671	A1	6/2005	Reydel et al.
2002/0183768	A1	12/2002	Deem et al.	2005/0119674	A1	6/2005	Gingras
2002/0193816	A1	12/2002	Laufer et al.	2005/0143760	A1	6/2005	Imran
2003/0040804	A1	2/2003	Stack et al.	2005/0148818	A1	7/2005	Mesallum
2003/0040808	A1	2/2003	Stack et al.	2005/0149067	A1	7/2005	Takemoto et al.
2003/0065340	A1	4/2003	Geitz	2005/0149114	A1	7/2005	Cartledge et al.
2003/0065359	A1	4/2003	Weller et al.	2005/0177176	A1	8/2005	Gerbi et al.
2003/0093117	A1	5/2003	Saadat	2005/0192599	A1	9/2005	Demarais
2003/0109892	A1	6/2003	Deem et al.	2005/0192601	A1	9/2005	Demarais
2003/0109931	A1	6/2003	Geitz	2005/0194038	A1	9/2005	Brabec et al.
2003/0109935	A1	6/2003	Geitz	2005/0194294	A1	9/2005	Oexle et al.
2003/0120265	A1	6/2003	Deem et al.	2005/0194312	A1	9/2005	Niemeyer et al.
2003/0120285	A1	6/2003	Kortenbach	2005/0195925	A1	9/2005	Traber
2003/0120289	A1	6/2003	McGuckin, Jr. et al.	2005/0195944	A1	9/2005	Bartels et al.
2003/0132267	A1	7/2003	Adams et al.	2005/0196356	A1	9/2005	Leinen et al.
2003/0158563	A1	8/2003	McClellan et al.	2005/0197540	A1	9/2005	Liedtke
2003/0158601	A1	8/2003	Silverman et al.	2005/0197622	A1	9/2005	Blumenthal et al.
2003/0171760	A1	9/2003	Gambale	2005/0197684	A1	9/2005	Koch
2003/0208209	A1	11/2003	Gambale et al.	2005/0198476	A1	9/2005	Gazsi et al.
2003/0216754	A1	11/2003	Kraemer et al.	2005/0203547	A1	9/2005	Weller et al.
2003/0225312	A1	12/2003	Suzuki et al.	2005/0203548	A1	9/2005	Weller et al.
2004/0006351	A1	1/2004	Gannoe et al.	2005/0228415	A1	10/2005	Gertner
2004/0009224	A1	1/2004	Miller	2005/0228504	A1	10/2005	Demarais
2004/0010271	A1	1/2004	Kortenbach	2005/0256533	A1	11/2005	Roth et al.
2004/0024386	A1	2/2004	Deem et al.	2005/0256587	A1	11/2005	Egan
2004/0037865	A1	2/2004	Miller	2006/0020247	A1	1/2006	Kagan et al.
2004/0039452	A1	2/2004	Bessler	2006/0020254	A1	1/2006	Hoffmann
2004/0044354	A1	3/2004	Gannoe et al.	2006/0020276	A1	1/2006	Saadat et al.
2004/0049209	A1	3/2004	Benchetrit	2006/0036267	A1	2/2006	Saadat et al.
2004/0059349	A1	3/2004	Sixto, Jr. et al.	2006/0106288	A1	5/2006	Roth et al.
2004/0059354	A1	3/2004	Smith et al.	2006/0111735	A1	5/2006	Crainich
2004/0059358	A1	3/2004	Kortenbach et al.	2006/0122462	A1	6/2006	Roth et al.
2004/0082963	A1	4/2004	Gannoe et al.	2006/0142787	A1	6/2006	Weller et al.
2004/0087977	A1	5/2004	Nolan et al.	2006/0151568	A1	7/2006	Weller et al.
2004/0088008	A1	5/2004	Gannoe et al.	2007/0118160	A1	5/2007	Gannoe et al.
2004/0089313	A1	5/2004	Uitley et al.	2007/0162059	A1	7/2007	Gannoe et al.
2004/0092892	A1	5/2004	Kagan et al.				
2004/0092974	A1	5/2004	Gannoe et al.				
2004/0097989	A1	5/2004	Molina Trigueros				
2004/0107004	A1	6/2004	Levine et al.				
2004/0116949	A1	6/2004	Ewers et al.				
2004/0122456	A1	6/2004	Saadat et al.				
2004/0122473	A1	6/2004	Ewers et al.				
2004/0122526	A1	6/2004	Imran				
2004/0133147	A1	7/2004	Woo				
2004/0133238	A1	7/2004	Cerier				
2004/0138525	A1	7/2004	Saadat				
2004/0138526	A1	7/2004	Guenst				
2004/0138529	A1	7/2004	Wiltshire et al.				
2004/0138531	A1	7/2004	Bonner et al.				
2004/0138682	A1	7/2004	Onuki et al.				
2004/0147958	A1	7/2004	Lam et al.				
2004/0148021	A1	7/2004	Cartledge et al.				
2004/0148034	A1	7/2004	Kagan et al.				
2004/0158331	A1	8/2004	Stack et al.				
2004/0162568	A1	8/2004	Saadat				
2004/0167546	A1	8/2004	Saadat et al.				
2004/0172141	A1	9/2004	Stack et al.				
2004/0181242	A1	9/2004	Stack et al.				
2004/0193190	A1	9/2004	Liddicoat et al.				
2004/0210243	A1	10/2004	Gannoe et al.				
2004/0215180	A1	10/2004	Starkebaum et al.				
2004/0225183	A1	11/2004	Michlitsch et al.				
2004/0225194	A1	11/2004	Smith et al.				
2004/0225305	A1	11/2004	Ewers et al.				
2004/0236357	A1	11/2004	Kraemer et al.				
2004/0249362	A1	12/2004	Levine et al.				
2005/0010162	A1	1/2005	Uitley et al.				
2005/0033328	A1	2/2005	Laufer et al.				
2005/0038415	A1	2/2005	Rohr et al.				
2005/0049718	A1	3/2005	Dann et al.				
2005/0055038	A1	3/2005	Kelleher et al.				
2005/0055039	A1	3/2005	Burnett et al.				
2005/0075622	A1	4/2005	Levine et al.				
2005/0075653	A1	4/2005	Saadat et al.				
2005/0080438	A1	4/2005	Weller et al.				
2005/0080444	A1	4/2005	Kraemer et al.				
2005/0085787	A1	4/2005	Laufer				
2005/0096750	A1	5/2005	Kagan et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EP		0 174 843	A1	3/1986			
EP		0 246 999	A1	11/1987			
EP		0 540 010	A2	5/1993			
JP		63277063	A	11/1988			
JP		63279854		11/1988			
JP		63302863	A	12/1988			
JP		01049572	A	2/1989			
JP		04297219		10/1992			
WO		WO 94/18893	A1	9/1994			
WO		WO 99/17662	A1	4/1999			
WO		WO 99/53827	A1	10/1999			
WO		WO 00/32137	A1	6/2000			
WO		WO 00/48656	A1	8/2000			
WO		WO 00/78227	A1	12/2000			
WO		WO 00/78229	A1	12/2000			
WO		WO 01/66018	A1	9/2001			
WO		WO 01/67964	A2	9/2001			
WO		WO 01/85034	A1	11/2001			
WO		WO 02/24080	A2	3/2002			
WO		WO 02/35980	A2	5/2002			
WO		WO 02/39880	A2	5/2002			
WO		WO 02/071951	A1	9/2002			
WO		WO 02/091961	A1	11/2002			
WO		WO 02/096327	A2	12/2002			
WO		WO 03/007796	A2	1/2003			
WO		WO 03/017882	A2	3/2003			
WO		WO 03/078721	A2	9/2003			
WO		WO 03/086247	A1	10/2003			
WO		WO 03/088844	A1	10/2003			
WO		WO 03/094785	A1	11/2003			
WO		WO 03/099140	A1	12/2003			
WO		WO 03/105563	A2	12/2003			
WO		WO 03/105671	A2	12/2003			
WO		WO 2004/009269	A2	1/2004			
WO		WO 2004/014237	A1	2/2004			
WO		WO 2004/017863	A2	3/2004			
WO		WO 2004/019787	A2	3/2004			
WO		WO 2004/019826	A1	3/2004			
WO		WO 2004/037064	A2	5/2004			
WO		WO 2004/049911	A2	6/2004			
WO		WO 2004/058102	A2	7/2004			

WO	WO 2004/060150	A1	7/2004
WO	WO 2004/087014	A2	10/2004
WO	WO 2004/103189	A1	12/2004
WO	WO 2005/023118	A1	3/2005
WO	WO 2005/037152	A1	4/2005
WO	WO 2005/058239	A2	6/2005
WO	WO 2005/060882	A1	7/2005
WO	WO 2006/078781	A1	7/2006

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Benjamin, S.B., *Small Bowel Obstruction and the Garren-Edwards Bubble, Lessons to be Learned?* Abstracts Submitted to A/S/G/E 1987, Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine, Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, D.C.

Boyle, Thomas M., M.D., et al., Small Intestinal Obstruction Secondary to Obturation by a Garren Gastric Bubble, *The American Journal of Gastroenterology*, vol. 82, No. 1, pp. 51-53, 1987.

Büchler, M.W., M.D. et al., A Technique for Gastroplasty As A Substitute for the Esophagus: Fundus Rotation Gastroplasty, *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*, vol. 182, pp. 241-245, Mar. 1996.

Cass, O.W., et al., *Long-Term Follow-Up of Patients With Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (PEG)*, Abstracts Submitted to A/S/G/E 1987, Department of Medicine, Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN 55415.

Chang, Craig G. M.D., et al., Gastro-Clip® Gastroplasty: A Very Long-Term Complication, *Obesity Surgery*, 14, © FD-Communications Inc., 2004.

Clark, Charlene, R.N., The Gastric Bubble: Medicine, Magic or Mania? *SGA Journal*, vol. 9, No. 2, pp. 45-47, Fall 1986.

Cummings, David E., M.D., et al., Plasma Ghrelin Levels After Diet-Induced Weight Loss or Gastric Bypass Surgery, *New England Journal of Medicine*, vol. 346, No. 21, pp. 1623-1630, May 23, 2002.

Davenport, Horace W. Ph.D., D.Sc., *Physiology of the Digestive Tract: An Introductory Text*, 3d Ed., Cover and Table of Contents, 1971.

DeMeester, Tom T., M.D., Evolving Concepts of Reflux: The Ups and Downs of the LES, *Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology*, vol. 16, No. 5, pp. 327-331, 2002.

De Waele, B., M.D., et al., Intragastric Balloons for Preoperative Weight Reduction, *Obesity Surgery*, vol. 10, pp. 58-60, 2000.

Edell, Steven L., et al., Radiographic Evaluation of the Garren Gastric Bubble, *American Journal of Radiology*, vol. 145, pp. 49-50, Jul. 1985.

Endo Gia* Universal, Single Use Stapler and Endo GIA Roticulator*, Brochure, 8 pages, 2000.

Filipi, Charles J. M.D., et al., Transoral, Flexible Endoscopic Suturing for Treatment of GERD: A Multicenter Trial, *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, vol. 53, No. 4, pp. 416-422, 2001.

Gray, Henry, R.R.S., *Anatomy of the Human Body*, The Digestive System, Thirtieth American Edition, pp. 1466-1467, 1984.

Guidant, Internet, AXIUS™ Vacuum 2 Stabilizer Systems, Internet Website—www.guidant.com/products/axius_vacuum.shtml, 8 pages, visited May 27, 2003.

Gukovsky-Reicher, S., M.D. et al., *Expandable Metal Esophageal Stents: Efficacy and Safety. Review of Current Literature Data and of 53 Stents Placed at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center*, www.medscape.com/viewarticle/423508_print pp. 1-20, Medscape General Medicine 4(1), 2003 © 2002 Medscape, downloaded Oct. 9, 2006.

Hepworth, Clive C. FRCS et al., Mechanical Endoscopic Methods of Haemostasis for Bleeding Peptic Ulcers: A Review, *Bailliere's Clinical Gastroenterology*, vol. 14, No. 3 pp. 467-476, 2000.

Ikedo, Y. et al., New Suturing Device for Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery, *Blackwell Science Ltd.* p. 1290, 1997.

Johnson & Johnson GatewaysSM Endopath 3mm, 5mm and 10 mm Diameter Endoscopic Instruments, Internet Website—www.inigateway.com/home.ihml?loc=USENG&page=viewContent&parentId=0900 . . . , 3 pages, visited May 29, 2003.

Kirby, Donald F., Incomplete Small Bowel Obstruction by the Garren-Edwards Gastric Bubble Necessitating Surgical Intervention, *The American Journal of Gastroenterology*, vol. 82, No. 3, pp. 251-253, 1987.

Nieben, Ole Gyting, et al., Intragastric Balloon as an Artificial Bezoar for Treatment of Obesity, *The Lancet*, pp. 198-199, Jan. 23, 1982.

Percival, Walter L., M.D., "The Balloon Diet": A Noninvasive Treatment for Morbid Obesity. Preliminary Report of 1908 Patients, *The Canadian Journal of Surgery*, vol. 27, No. 2, pp. 135-136, 1984.

Power Medical Interventions Digital and Wireless Medical Technology, Product Innovation: SurgASSIST™, Internet Website—www/pmi2.com/access_flexibility.asp, 6 pages, visited May 29, 2003.

Stoltenberg, P.H., et al., *Intragastric Balloon Therapy of Obesity: A Randomized Double-Blind Trial*, Abstracts of Papers 1985, Scott & White Clinic, Texas A&M College of Medicine, Temple, Texas.

Swain, C. Paul, M.D. et al., An Endoscopic Sewing Machine, *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, vol. 32, No. 1 pp. 36-38 1986.

Swain, C. Paul, M.D., Endoscopic Sewing and Stapling Machines, *Endoscopy* pp. 205-210, © Georg Thieme Verlag Stuttgart, New York, 1997.

Swain, C. Paul, M.D. et al., An Endoscopic Stapling Device: The Development of a New Flexible Endoscopically Controlled Device for Placing Multiple Transmural Staples in Gastrointestinal Tissue, *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, vol. 35, No. 4, pp. 338-339, 1989.

Swain, C. Paul, M.D., Endoscopic Suturing, *Bailliere's Clinical Gastroenterology*, Bailliere's Tindall, vol. 13 No. 1, pp. 97-108, 1999.

Taylor, T. Vincent, et al., Gastric Balloons for Obesity, *The Lancet*, Abstract, Mar. 27, 1982.

Vandenplas, Y., et al., Intragastric Balloons in Adolescents With Morbid Obesity, *European Journal of Gastroenterology & Hepatology*, vol. 11, No. 3, pp. 243-245, 1999.

Villar, Hugo V., M.D., et al., Mechanisms of Satiety and Gastric Emptying After Gastric Partitioning and Bypass, *Surgery*, pp. 229-236, Aug. 1981.

Wullstein, C., et al., Compression Anastomosis (AKA-2) in Colorectal Surgery: Results in 442 Consecutive Patients, *British Journal of Surgery* 2000, pp. 1071-1075.

International Search Report mailed on May 28, 2004, for PCT/US03/27296 filed on Aug. 29, 2003, 4 pgs.

* cited by examiner

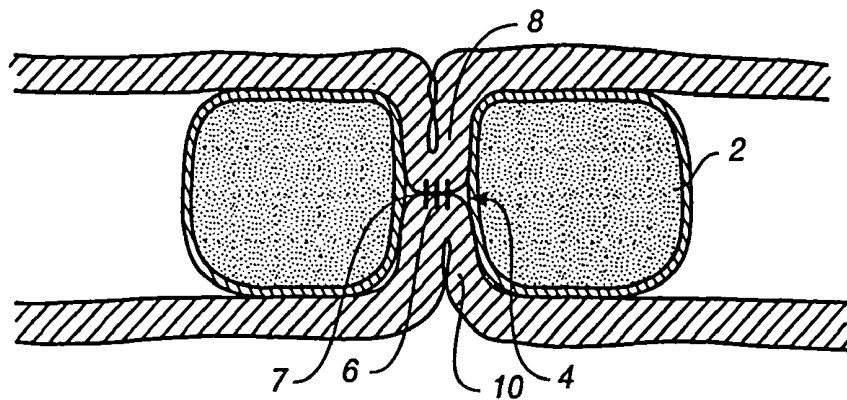


FIG._1

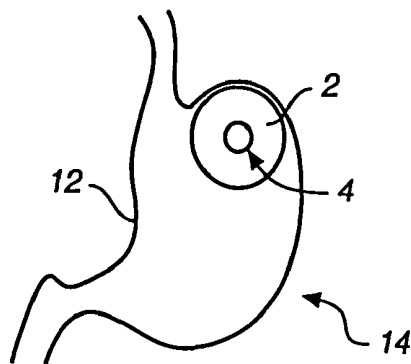


FIG._2

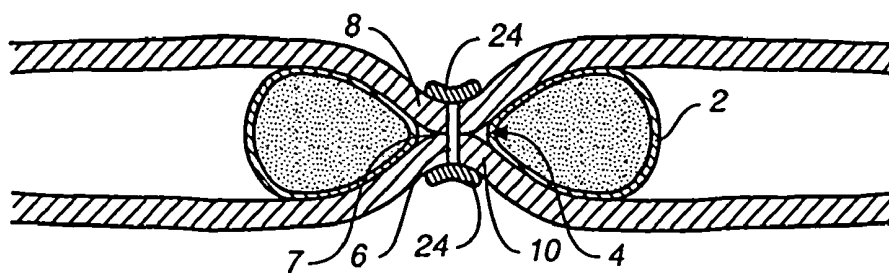


FIG._3

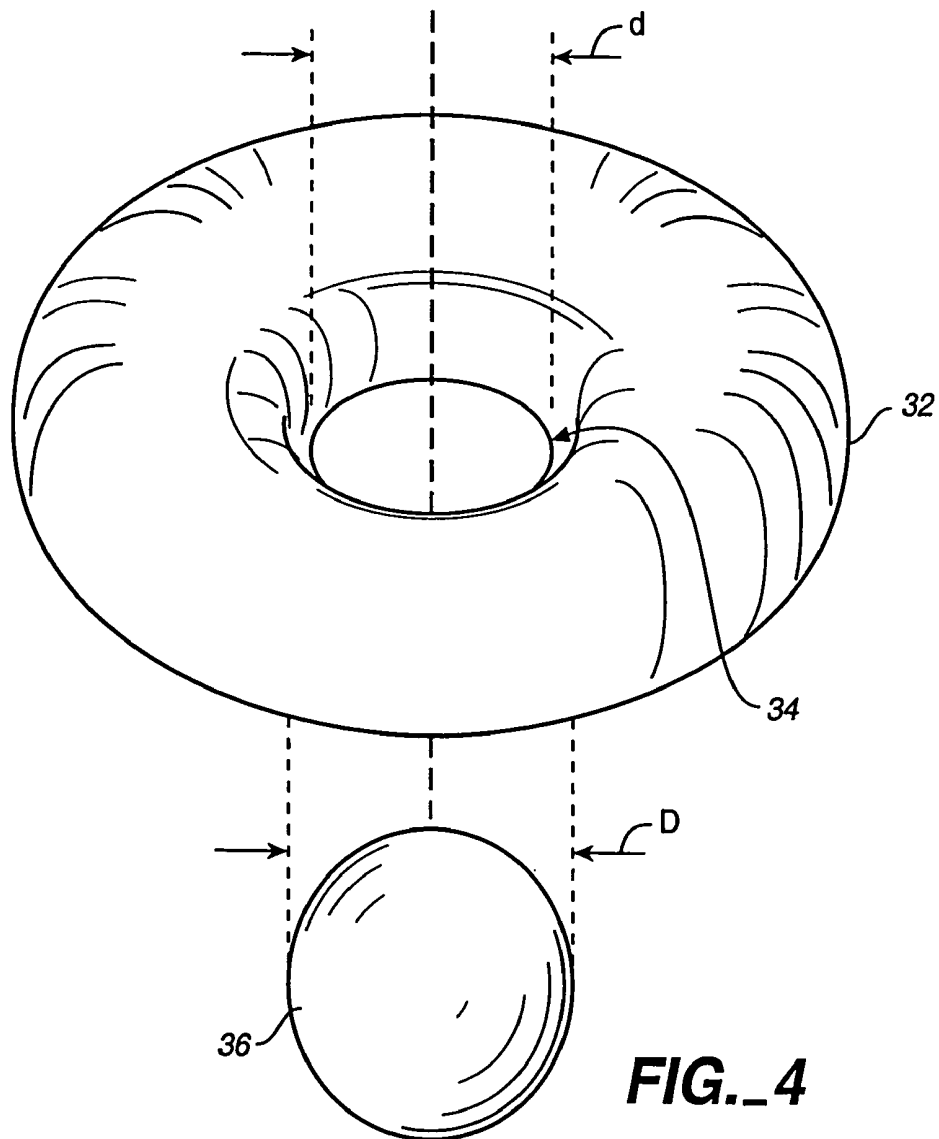


FIG. 4

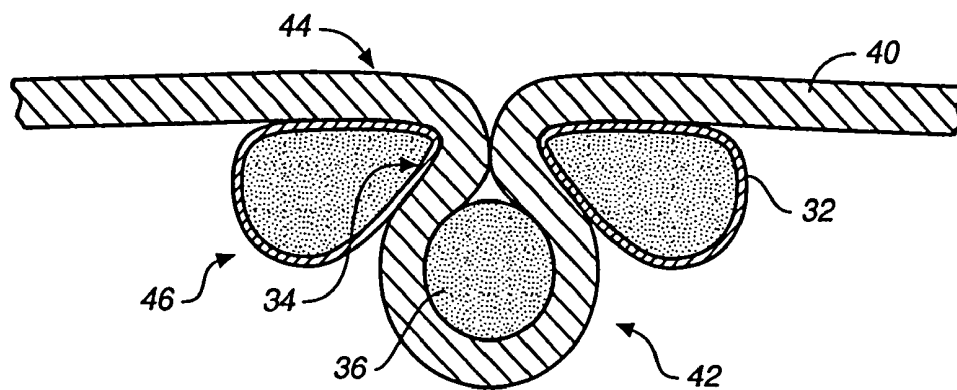


FIG. 5

FIG._6

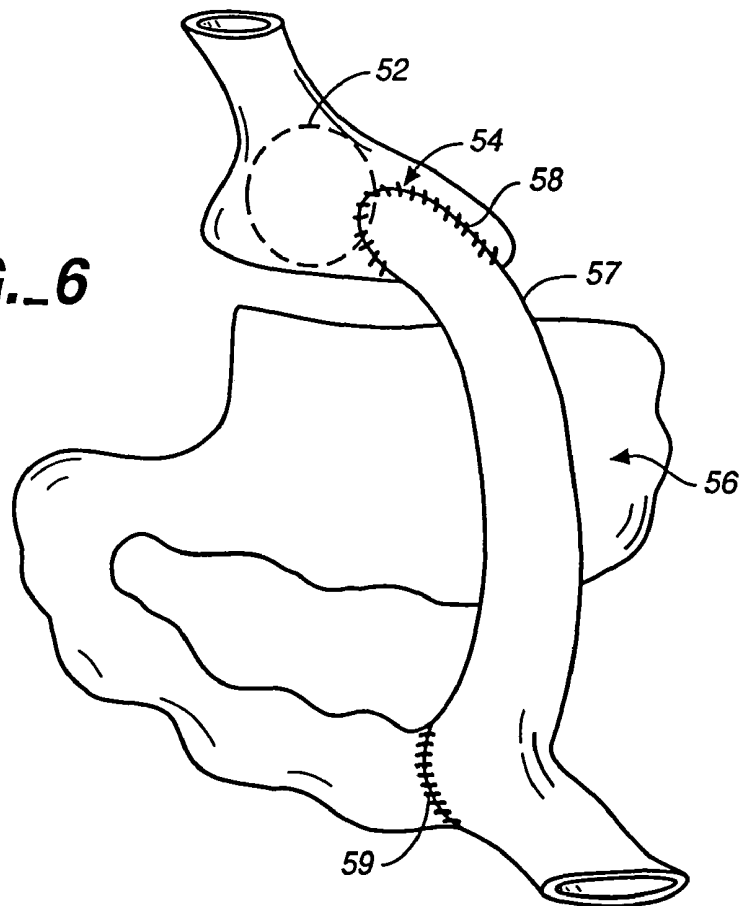
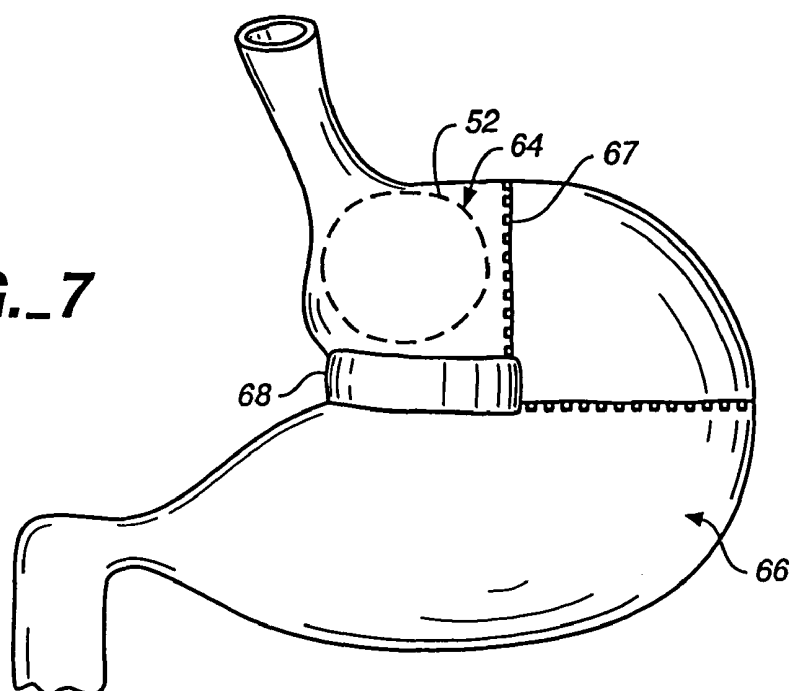
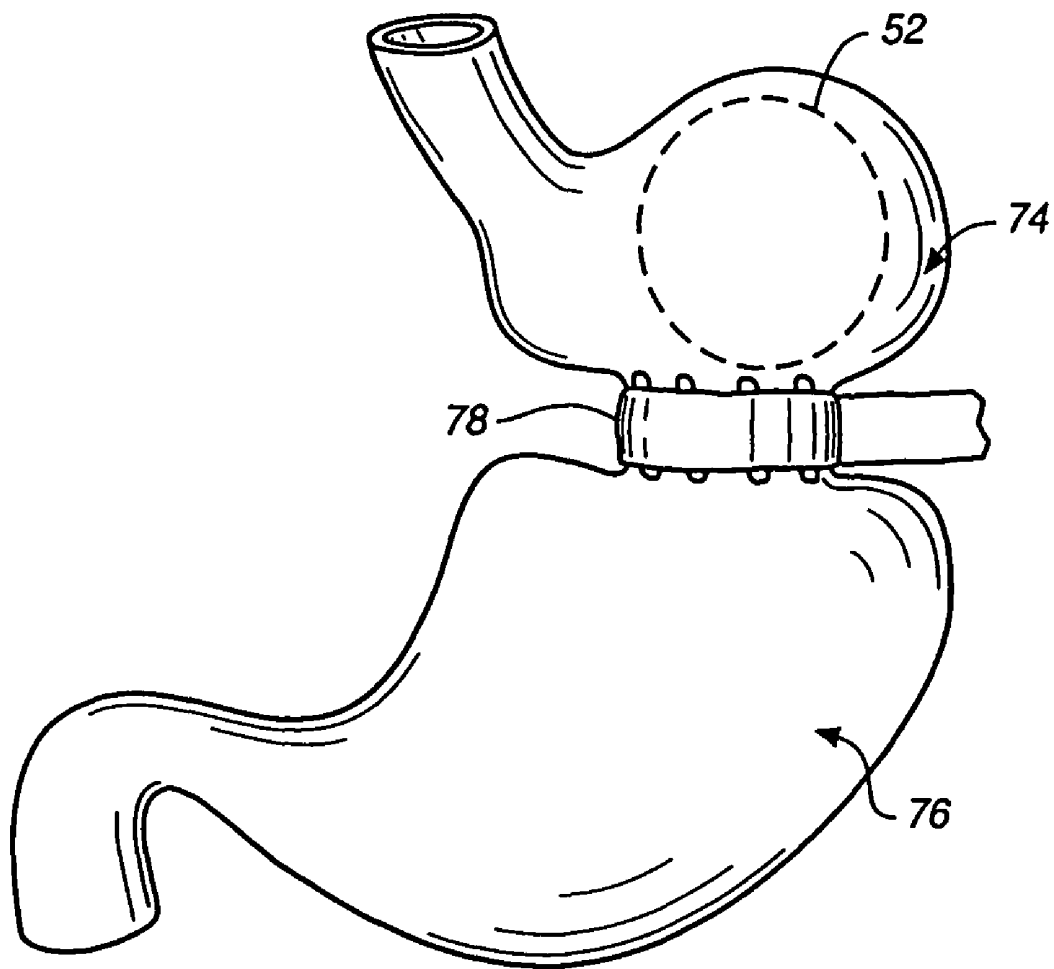
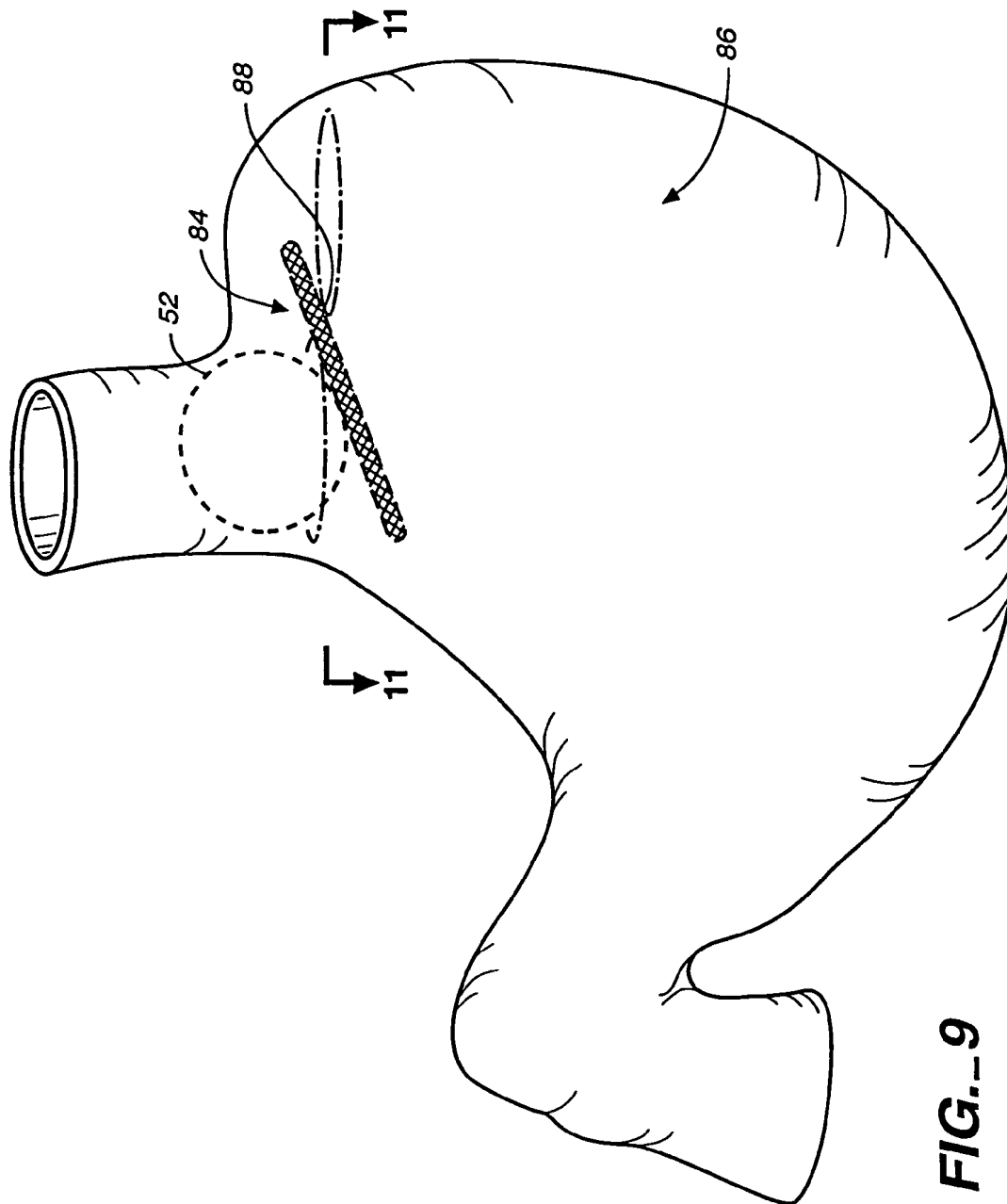


FIG._7



**FIG._8**



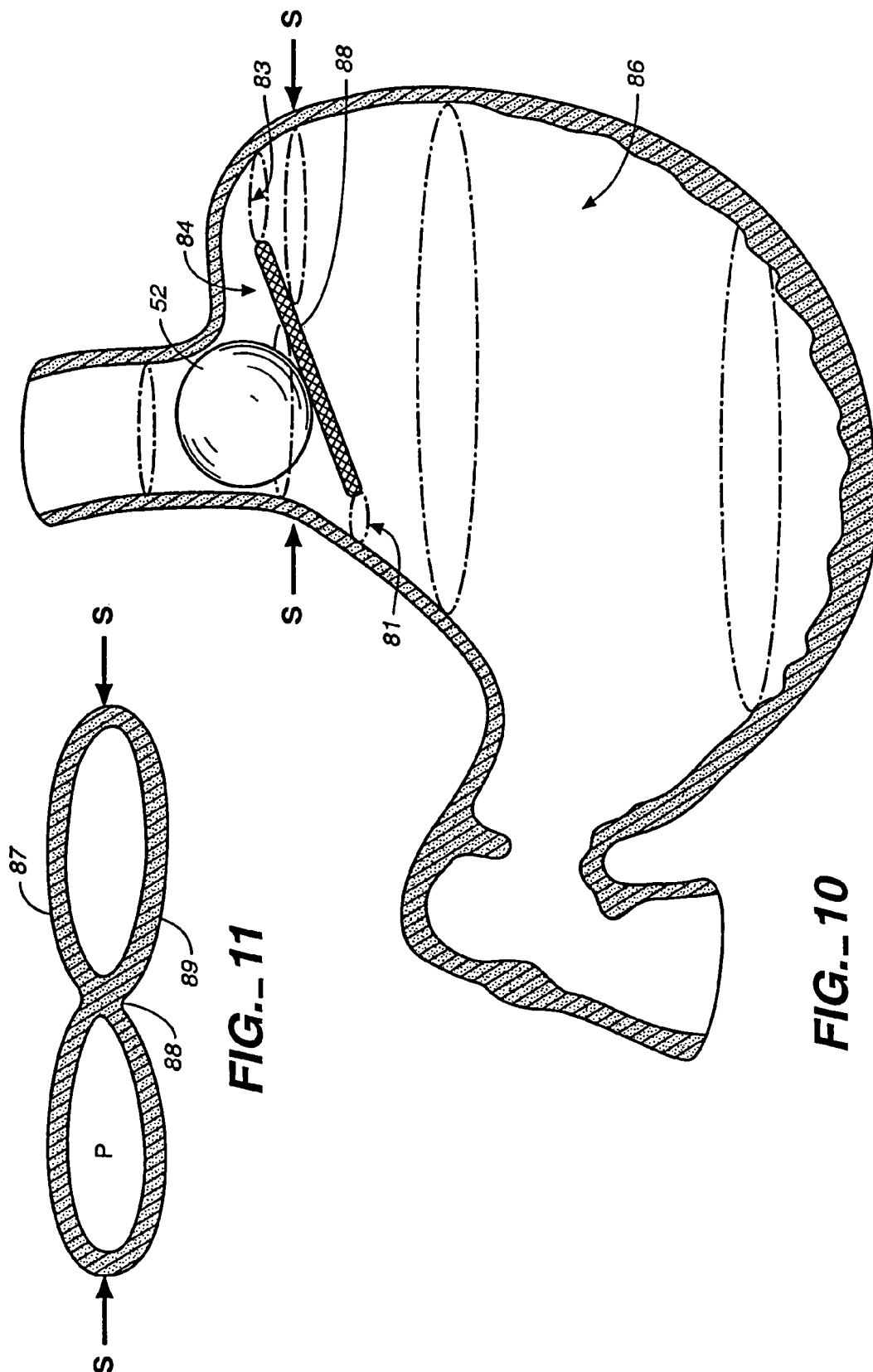
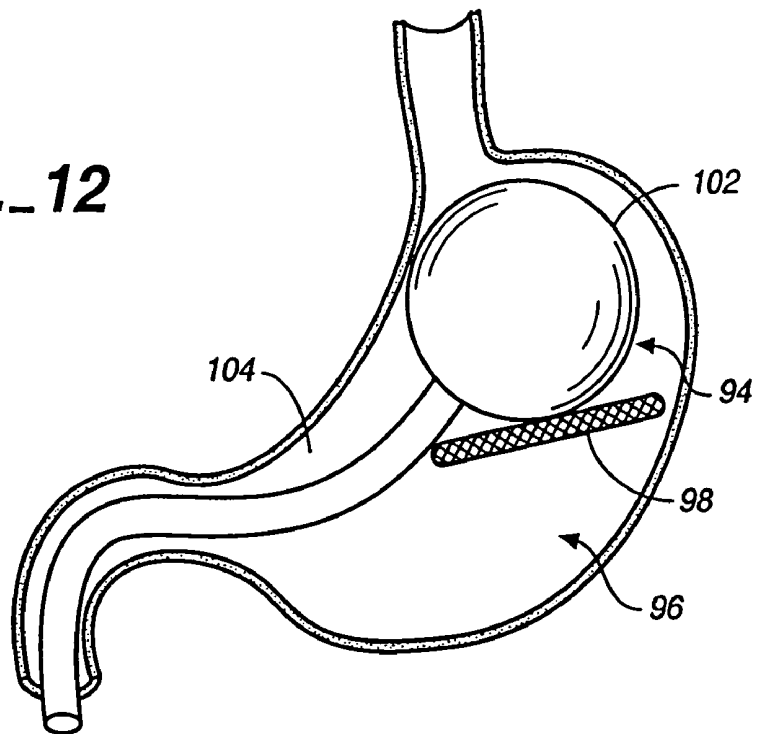
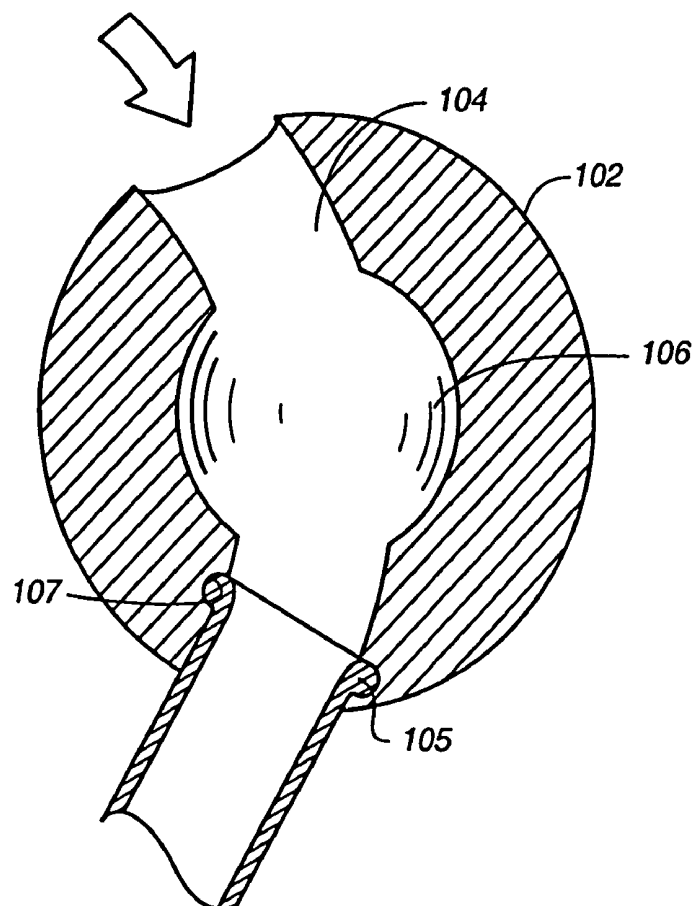


FIG._12**FIG._13**

1

METHODS AND DEVICES FOR MAINTAINING A SPACE OCCUPYING DEVICE IN A RELATIVELY FIXED LOCATION WITHIN A STOMACH

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. Ser. No. 10/366, 818 filed Feb. 13, 2003, now U. S. Pat. No. 7,214,233, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Ser. No. 10/232, 505, filed on Aug. 30, 2002, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,981,978, both of which are herein incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to methods and medical apparatus, more particularly to methods and devices for securing the a space-occupying devices in a patient's stomach through the manipulation of the inner wall of the stomach for purposes of taking up a defined volume in the stomach to provide the patient with a feeling of satiety or fullness. These devices may also be removed once they have served their purpose, e.g., the patient has lost the directed or desired amount of weight.

Currently, in cases of severe obesity, patients may undergo several types of surgery either to tie off or staple portions of the large or small intestine or stomach, and/or to bypass portions of the same to reduce the amount of food desired by the patient, and the amount absorbed by the intestinal track. Procedures such as laparoscopic banding, where a device is used to "tie off" or constrict a portion of the stomach, or the placement of intragastric balloons can also achieve these results.

Endoscopic procedures that have been used to assist weight loss have been primarily focused on the placement of a balloon or other space occupying device in the patient's stomach to fill portions of the stomach and provide the patient with the feeling of fullness, thereby reducing food intake. To accomplish these procedures, an endoscope is utilized to guide the balloon through the patient's mouth and down the esophagus to the stomach. Usually these procedures have allowed placement of the device for 6-12 months, and are coupled with counseling and other types of psychological support.

In the case of laparoscopic banding and other invasive surgical procedures, several complications can arise that make these procedures clinically suboptimal. The surgical interventions require the patient to submit to an intervention under general anesthesia, and can require large incisions and lengthy recovery time. In addition, most of these surgical procedures are irreversible.

Intragastric balloons, on the other hand, provide a minimally invasive approach for treating obesity. Intragastric balloons have been developed and used in patients for over twenty years. Prior to the present invention, various intragastric balloons have been devised for treating obesity. Examples of such intragastric balloons are disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,133,315, issued Jan. 9, 1979 to Berman et al.; U.S. Pat. No. 4,485,805, issued Dec. 4, 1984 to Foster, Jr.; U.S. Pat. No. 4,899,747, issued Feb. 13, 1990 to Garren et al.; U.S. Pat. No. 5,112,310, issued May 12, 1992 to Grobe; and U.S. Pat. No. 6,030,364, issued Feb. 29, 2000 to Durgin et al. each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. However, many problems are associated with laparoscopic balloons and a significant number of these problems arose due to the fact that the space occupying devices were implanted in such a manner as to remain unattached or free-floating within the

2

stomach. An unsecured balloon could cause abrasion to the wall of the stomach, induce mucosal damage, or stimulate abnormal amounts of acid production. Furthermore, in the event that the balloon deflates due to the caustic nature of stomach acids and other factors, migration of the deflated balloon into the intestine becomes inevitable. The migration of the balloon into the intestine could lead to bowel obstructions and in some case death.

In order to safely and effectively deploy balloons and other space-occupying devices in a patient's stomach to induce weight loss, improved methods and devices for effectively maintaining a space-occupying device in a fixed relationship relative to the patient's stomach are desirable.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention meets these and other needs by providing for improved methods and apparatuses for securing a space-occupying device within a patient's stomach by manipulating the wall of the stomach. Methods and apparatuses of the present invention may also be useful when used in conjunction with existing procedures that result in manipulation of the stomach wall.

Minimally invasive surgical techniques, including but not limited to technique used during a percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG), may be combined with methods discussed here for placement of space-occupying devices and at the same time minimize injury to the body. This invention allows placement of space-occupying devices in a patient's stomach in a stable and secured manner.

The space-occupying device may have a fixed volume and may be inserted into the stomach through surgical procedures. However, it is preferable that the space-occupying device is an inflatable or otherwise expandable device, and deliverable or otherwise deployable through the patient's mouth in a transesophageal procedure into the patient's stomach. The expandable space-occupying device may be constructed of a composite material to achieve desirable surface characteristics and may also be visible under x-ray. In addition, the space-occupying device may have surface features, such as a flange, beads, loops, and/or tabs to facilitate manipulation, deflation and/or removal of the device. The volume of the space-occupying device may be adjustable while it is maintained in the deployed condition.

In one aspect of the invention, an expandable device is provided that can be inserted into the stomach of a patient. Its position is maintained within the stomach by manipulating the stomach wall about the device. The expandable device is secured on the wall of the stomach by wrapping a section of the stomach wall around a part of the device. The method may be achieved by securing one region of the stomach wall to another region and at the same time partially encircling a section of the space-occupying device there by holding the space-occupying device to the wall of the stomach. The two regions of the stomach may be secured together with e.g. suture, or other like fasteners. However, more elaborate fastening devices may also be implemented for securing the two regions of the stomach. It is preferable that the two regions of the stomach be brought into physical contact with one another, such that the approximated regions are able to fuse to one another and create a tissue bridge along the length of the fastened tissue. The tissue bridge may be formed of various layers of the stomach and may include scar tissue and other elements of effective wound healing. An advantage of such a method is that integrity of the stomach wall, especially the mucosal layer, remains uncompromised, and exposure of the fastener to the acidic conditions of the stomach is minimized.

This is in contrast to other means of fastening a device to the stomach wall where the fastening means present a continuing potential trauma to the stomach wall and wherein such fastening means remain continually exposed to stomach acid.

In a variation of the method described above, the two regions of the stomach used to secure the space-occupying device are opposite each other. A space-occupying device with an opening through its body may be anchored according to this method. The first region of the stomach is brought through the opening on the device and into contact with the second region. A suture or other fastening device may be used to secure the two regions together. The space-occupying device implemented in this method may be e.g. toroidal or any other shape suitable for placement inside the stomach, provided the device contains an opening through the center of the device that provides a passageway from one side of the device to the other.

In another variation, multiple stomach regions may be approximated to secure a space-occupying device. For example, three regions may be used, e.g. region one and two are secured onto region three or are otherwise brought into approximation with each other. In an alternative variation, after the first set of surface areas are brought into approximation with each other, additional surface areas on the inner wall of the stomach may be brought into approximation of each other. For example, the space-occupying device may be secured by two sets of approximated surface areas that secure the device at two different locations on the device.

In another aspect, the invention provides a space-occupying system or kit that consists of two portions, a sphere and a toroid. The sphere when properly deployed acts as a "locking member" and in connection with the toroid itself is able to maintain the toroid against the inner wall of the stomach. Procedures and methods for implementing such a system in the stomach are also within the contemplation of this invention. In one variation, a deflated toroidal shaped balloon is first deployed inside the patient's stomach, and a region of the stomach wall is then forced through the center opening of the toroidal balloon. A sphere is then deployed from the external side of the stomach, passed through the center opening of the toroidal balloon and inserted within the same region of stomach tissue. The sphere has a diameter that is greater than that of the toroidal balloon center opening when the toroidal balloon itself is inflated. Thus, upon inflation of the toroidal balloon the sphere and associated region of stomach tissue is trapped against the toroidal balloon, and cannot pass back through the center opening of the balloon, thus anchoring the toroid on the inner surface of the stomach wall. In the above procedure, it may also be possible to concurrently pass the regions of stomach wall through the toroid along with the spherical locking member. Preferably, the regions of the stomach that are trapped within the opening of the toroidal balloon are held in physical contact with one another, such that the regions are able to fuse to one another and create a tissue bridge along the length of the approximated regions. Such a tissue bridge has the advantages previously described.

In other variation of the dual-member-interlocking system for securing a space-occupying device on the wall of the stomach, the space-occupying device may be of various shapes suitable for placement inside a patient's stomach, and include an opening passing through the body of the space-occupying device. The corresponding locking member may be expandable or of a fixed shape. The space-occupying device in its deflated state may allow the corresponding member to pass through its opening. The space-occupying device is placed inside the patient's stomach and the corresponding locking member is placed inside the patient's body, and outside

the stomach. Through e.g. vacuum pull, physical pushing/pulling, or a combination of both, the locking member is put through the opening of the space-occupying device. If necessary, the locking member may be expanded at this stage. The space-occupying device is then inflated holding the locking member in its place.

In yet another aspect of the invention, methods are provided wherein a pouch is created within the stomach that is able to receive and retain a space-occupying device within the pouch. Such pouches can be created according to known methods currently used to reduce stomach volume, including gastric bypasses, such as the Roux-En-Y gastric bypass, vertical banded gastroplasty (VBG), or laproscopic banding. Methods of creating a pouch capable of receiving and retaining a space occupying device also include those methods of plicating the stomach described in U.S. application Ser. No. 09/871,297, filed May 30, 2001, which is commonly owned and incorporated herein by reference. Such plication methods include methods where transorally advanced tools are used to form a pouch or partition in the stomach by the approximation and fixation of folds of the stomach wall from inside the stomach. In one such exemplary procedure, folds in the posterior and anterior walls of the stomach are created using a tissue acquisition device inserted into the stomach transorally, and then the two folds of tissue are fixed together thereby reducing stomach volume. The tissue folds may be fixed together in a variety of configurations. Space-occupying devices can be deployed in the created pouches either initially to aid in the efficacy of the procedures, or post-procedure as a means, e.g., of enhancing the efficacy of such procedures.

In a further aspect of the invention, methods are provided wherein a pouch is created within the stomach that is able to receive and retain a space-occupying device within the pouch, and wherein the device is further designed to include a passageway extending through the device and a cavity within the device in communication with the passageway, the cavity further having a predefined volume. The device is introduced into the pouch with the passageway in alignment with the esophagus so as to receive and pass food. The cavity thus creates, in essence, a smaller artificial pouch within the originally created stomach pouch. This allows for convenient manipulation to optimize weight loss in a patient without the need of further interventional procedures, by simply adjusting the cavity volume of the deployed device. This can be done, for example, by initially starting with a larger volume cavity device, monitoring the patient's progress, and transorally exchanging the device for one of sequentially smaller cavity volumes, until the desired weight loss parameters are achieved. Alternatively, the device can be provided with a cavity volume that is adjustable. In particular, inflation or filling ports are provided on the device that can be accessed transorally, and the cavity volume can be adjusted by inflation or deflation. In a further variation, the passageway and cavity of the device are relatively rigid as compared to the rest of the device, allowing for a slow, constant release of food unaffected by the peristaltic action of the stomach. In a further variation, the device includes a sleeve extending from the passageway for the passage of food directly through the pylorus and into the duodenum.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the accompanying drawings, reference characters refer to the same parts through out the different views. The drawings are intended for illustrating some of the principles of the invention and are not intended to limit the description in any

5

way. Furthermore, the drawings are not necessarily to scale, emphasis instead being placed upon illustrating the depicted principles in a clear manner.

FIG. 1 shows one variation of the method to anchor a space-occupying device in the stomach according to the invention. Two regions of the stomach that are located across from each other in the stomach are brought together at the opening in the center of the space-occupying device and fastened to each other.

FIG. 2 illustrates an example of applying the method described in FIG. 1 to maintain a toroidal space-occupying device at the upper portion of a patient's stomach.

FIG. 3 shows another embodiment of the inventive method wherein a space-occupying device is secured in the stomach by a fastener that secures two separate regions of stomach wall together.

FIG. 4 illustrates an embodiment of a space-occupying device locking system according to the invention. In this variation, the system includes an inflatable toroidal space-occupying device and an inflatable spherical locking member.

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view of a space-occupying device locking system according to FIG. 4 deployed on the wall of a patient's stomach. The extragastric balloon is surrounded by a region of stomach wall that interacts with the toroidal intragastric balloon and prevents the two balloons from moving.

FIG. 6 illustrates another aspect of the invention wherein a space-occupying device is retained within a pouch created in the stomach through manipulation of the stomach wall. In the variation depicted, the stomach pouch has been created by performing a Roux-En-Y gastroplasty.

FIG. 7 illustrates a variation of the method shown in FIG. 6, where the pouch has been created by a vertical band gastroplasty.

FIG. 8 illustrates a variation of the method shown in FIG. 6, where the pouch has been created by laproscopic banding.

FIG. 9 illustrates a variation of the method shown in FIG. 6, where the pouch has been created by plication of the stomach.

FIG. 10 is a cross-sectional view of the stomach and space-occupying device depicted in FIG. 9, showing the created pouch, stomach plication line and the retained space-occupying device.

FIG. 11 is a sectional view of the stomach depicted in FIG. 9 taken along the plane designated by lines 11-11 showing the plication of the stomach.

FIG. 12 illustrates yet another aspect of the invention wherein a space-occupying device is retained within a pouch created in the stomach, the space-occupying device having a passageway and extending sleeve configured to pass food from the patient's esophagus to the pylorus.

FIG. 13 illustrates a cross-sectional view the deployed space-occupying device of FIG. 12 with parts broken away, showing a cavity within the device in communication with the passageway.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is focused on methods and devices for maintaining a space-occupying device in a relatively fixed position within a patient's stomach. Various methods and devices for deployment of a space-occupying device in a human stomach that are well known to one skilled in the art may be incorporated with the present methods and devices in executing the procedure for deploying a space-occupying device inside a patient's stomach and securing its location within the stomach. International Application No. PCT/US01/43868 (International Publication No. WO 02/35980

6

A2) describes various tools, devices and methods for deployment of expandable devices inside a patient's body cavity. It is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Referring to FIG. 1, one variation of the method according to the present invention of maintaining a space-occupying device 2 in a fixed relationship to a patient's stomach is illustrated in detail. The space-occupying device 2 is adapted for occupying a defined amount of space within the stomach to provide the patient with a feeling of fullness. The space-occupying device 2 is delivered into the patient's stomach in the deflated state through a transesophageal procedure. The space-occupying device 2 is then inflated inside the patient's stomach. With the assistance of an endoscope, catheters and other surgical tools well known to one skilled in the art, a surgeon may place the space-occupying device on the inner wall of the stomach. As shown in FIG. 1, the surgeon brings together two regions 8, 10 of the stomach within an opening 4 on the space-occupying device and secures the two regions 8, 10 to each other. The two regions 8, 10 of the stomach to be brought together may be located opposite one another. Although it is preferable that the two regions 8, 10 be directly opposite each other, this not a necessary requirement in the application of this method and one skilled in the art will appreciate that a variety of different region locations can be used to achieve the desired result.

In the example illustrated in FIG. 1, the toroidal space-occupying device 2 is secured in the stomach by fastening two regions 8, 10 of the stomach that are located on the opposite side of the stomach within the center passage way of the toroidal device. This may be achieved e.g. by first passing an elongated surgical instrument through the opening on the toroid and then securing an area on the inner wall of the stomach. This first area of the stomach is then pulled through the toroidal opening. The first area of the stomach is then brought in contact with a second area. At least one fastener 6 is then deployed to connect the two areas 8, 10 of the stomach. FIG. 2 illustrates a toroidal space-occupying device 2 secured at the upper portion of a patient's stomach 14 with the method described above. The posterior and anterior regions of the stomach that corresponds to the opening on the toroid are brought together in the opening and fastened to each other. Alternatively, a space-occupying device 2 may also be placed in other locations within the stomach. For example, the space-occupying device 2 may be positioned more towards the center of the stomach.

It is preferable, that the two regions 8, 10 of the stomach come in contact with each other. As illustrated in FIG. 3, the two regions 8, 10 of the stomach may be brought into approximation and fastened to each other with a fastener 6.

Furthermore, various fasteners 6 may be used to secure the two areas 8, 10 of the stomach. It is preferable that the space-occupying device deployed in this manner has an opening 4 allowing the stomach tissue to pass through it. However, the space-occupying device 2 may be of various shapes one skilled in the arts considers suitable for deployment inside a patient's stomach.

Although it is preferable that the two regions 8, 10 of the stomach tissue that are brought together within the opening of the space-occupying device be translated approximately the same distance, it is also within the contemplation of this invention that one region of tissue may be translated more than the other, resulting in the meeting point 7 or the gap 26 being shifted away from the center of the space occupying device toward one side or the other.

Alternatively, the space-occupying device 2 may be deflated or only partially inflated when it is being secured

with the wall of the stomach. Once the space-occupying device is secured at the desired position, it is then fully inflated.

The two regions **8**, **10** of the stomach may be fastened to each other with the assistance of endoscopic instruments through the esophagus. The fastener **6** may only partially penetrate the stomach wall without penetrating the outer wall of the stomach.

Alternatively, sutures may also be used to secure the space-occupying device that extend through the external wall of the stomach. For example, the space-occupying device is positioned in the stomach, a needle with a suture is inserted from the outside of the stomach through the wall of the stomach into the stomach. The surgeon then passes the needle through the opening on the space-occupying device and exits the stomach through the wall on the opposite side. The surgeon then brings the needle along with the connected suture back into the stomach at approximately the same region and passing the opening again, and exits the stomach at a location near the first entry point. The two ends of the suture are then secure to each other. As pressure is applied due to the tightening of the suture, the two regions **8**, **10** of the stomach collapse toward each other and meet inside the opening within the space-occupying device.

In another variation, a laproscopic instrument can be used to deliver a fastener through the stomach from extragastric space. The fastener is inserted into the abdomen and then through the anterior of the stomach. The fastener is then pushed through the opening of the space-occupying device and through the stomach wall on the posterior side. An anchor is then deployed, followed by application of pressure to force the two side of the stomach to collapse toward each other. A second anchor is then deployed on the opposite side of the stomach. The laproscopic instrument is then withdrawn from the body of the patient leaving the fastener to securing the two region of the stomach. The result is similar to the situation shown in FIG. **3**, where anchors **24** are located outside the stomach, which have a large surface area relative to the entry and exit points of the fastener **6**, and allow distribution of pressure from the fastener **6** over a larger area of the stomach tissue thus minimizing potential damage to the tissue due to tearing or abrasion of the tissue.

In another variation, the stomach wall is wrapped around the space-occupying device to maintain its position within the stomach. The surgeon may secure one region of the stomach wall and places it over the space-occupying device. The surgeon then secures a second region of the stomach wall and places it over the space-occupying device. A fastener is then used to secure the two regions of the stomach over the space-occupying device. The fastener may be a suture, a surgical staple, a surgical clip, an implantable loop, or other devices commonly used in surgery for securing two sections of tissues together. As discussed earlier, the two regions of the stomach do not have to come in contact with each other. It is sufficient that they are in approximation of each other.

Although it is preferable that the two regions of the stomach tissue wrapping over the space-occupying device be approximately the same amount, it is also within the contemplation of this invention that one region of tissue may be more than the other, resulting in the meeting point or the gap be shifted away from the center of the space occupying device toward one side or the other.

Alternatively, the space-occupying device may be deflated or only partially inflated when it is being anchored to the wall of the stomach. After the space-occupying device is secured at the desired location then it is fully inflated.

In the above method, other minimal invasive surgical techniques that are well know to one skilled in the art may also be incorporated to assist the positioning of the space-occupying device with the inner wall of the stomach. The surgeon may make incisions on the abdomen and introduce catheters and other laproscopic instruments into the stomach through the extra-gastric space. For example, the surgeon may insert an elongated laproscopic fastener instrument through the abdomen into the stomach. The fastener is then used to secure one region of the stomach wall, place it over an intragastric balloon, then position this first region of the stomach wall over a second region of the stomach wall, and then deploy a fastener to fasten the two regions of the stomach together.

Alternatively, the surgeon may introduce a needle connected to a suture into the abdomen of the patient and then penetrate the wall of the stomach with the needle at a first region and bring a section of the suture into the stomach. The suture is brought over the space-occupying device and exits the stomach at a second region. The needle then penetrates the stomach around the second region and enters the stomach again. The needle and a section of the suture are then brought over the space-occupying device and exit the stomach adjacent the first entry point. The suture is tightened and as the result forcing the two regions of stomach tissue to collapse inward and wrapping around the space occupying device.

The inflatable space-occupying device may be fabricated from medical grade rubber or synthetic rubber-like material, one criteria being that such material be impervious so that the insert is capable of holding a charge of air or other fluid. Moreover, the material may be soft and flexible having significant dynamic strength to resist over-inflation. In one variation of the design, the finished product will inflate to the manufactured shape and not further. Polyester base thermoplastic polyurethane film is one material that may be used to achieve such functionality. In an alternative design, the inflatable space-occupying device may be produced of flexible synthetic materials such as polyethylene, polypropylene, PVC, PVCD, PET, teflon, polyolefin or any other appropriate type of materials well known to one skilled in the art.

When the intragastric balloon is inflated, it may be desirable to carefully control the inflation pressure so that when the balloon is deployed the internal pressure is higher than average intragastric pressure during digestion to maintain shape, but less than maximal pressure generated by the stomach contractions, to minimize mucosal damage.

The space-occupying device may be of various shapes that one skilled in the art would consider suitable for placement inside the stomach of a patient. For example, in one variation, the space-occupying device may have an elongated bar shaped body with distal ends having larger diameters than the mid-section of the device. This narrow mid-section allows easier wrapping of stomach tissue over the device and the expanded ends prevent the device from shifting its position after it is secured with the stomach wall. Radio opaque markers may be incorporated on the space-occupying device to assist physician in monitoring the position and status of the space-occupying device while it is inside a patient's body. Alternatively, it may be desirable to coat the space-occupying device with radio-opaque materials or other substances that may enhance the detection of the space-occupying device by electronic monitors, e.g. x-ray monitor or ultrasound monitor, while the space-occupying device is in the patient's stomach.

In another variation, the space-occupying device is secured with the wall of the stomach at two or more locations. For example, a toroidal shaped space-occupying device can be secured against the wall of the stomach at two separated positions on the toroid.

FIG. 4 shows yet another embodiment of the invention having a space-occupying device **32** with an opening **34**, in this case a toroidal intragastric balloon, and a locking member **36**, in this case spherical extragastric balloon. The toroid **32** has a center opening with a diameter "d" when it is fully inflated. The sphere **36** has a diameter "D" when it is fully inflated. D is larger than d. Thus, when both the toroid **32** and the sphere **36** are inflated the sphere **36** cannot pass through the opening **34** of the toroid.

FIG. 5 illustrates the toroidal intragastric balloon **32** and the spherical extragastric balloon **36** being deployed on the wall of stomach **40**. A deflated toroidal (or doughnut shaped) intragastric balloon **32** is inserted into the stomach through the esophagus. A region **42** of the stomach wall is pulled into a fold or bag inside the stomach using e.g. a vacuum acquisition tool. The deflated toroidal intragastric balloon **32** is positioned around the fold (or uvula). The spherical extragastric balloon **36** is then placed either laproscopically or gastroscopically (using transgastric deployment) inside the fold in the extragastric space **44**, and then inflated. The intragastric balloon **32** is then inflated and the two balloons become locked together across the gastric wall **40**. Because the diameter of the inflated sphere **36** is larger than the diameter of the opening of the inflated toroid **32**, there is a mechanical interference between the two balloons that prevents the two balloons from moving relative to one another or the stomach.

The balloons may be constructed of various materials that one skilled in the art would consider suitable for fabrication of a balloon for implantation inside a human body. For example, the intragastric and extragastric balloons may be fabricated from medical grade rubber or synthetic polymeric materials. Flexible synthetic materials such as polyurethane, polyethylene, polypropylene, PVC, PVCD, PET, teflon, their mixtures and blocks or random copolymers may also be used.

Radio opaque makers may be incorporated in the space-occupying device **32** and/or the locking member **36**. The surface of the space-occupying device and/or the locking member may be coated with radio-opaque materials to enhance detection of the device while it is positioned in a patient's stomach.

In an alternative design, the extragastric balloon **36** may be substituted with a viscous, curable bolus of a material such as collagen or other biocompatible polymer. The locking member may also be a solid component such as delrin, silicon or titanium alloy ball. Other polymers or metal alloys may also be used to construct the locking member.

Although it is preferable that the intragastric balloon **32** be toroidal or doughnut shape, the intragastric balloon **32** may also have other shapes suitable for implantation inside a patient's stomach. In an alternative design, the space-occupying device **32** is a non-inflatable object with a relatively constant volume that is insert into a patient's stomach through the esophagus or with surgical procedures. After the insertion of the fixed-shape space-occupying device, an expandable locking member **36** is used to anchor the space-occupying device on the wall of the stomach as described above.

Referring now to FIGS. 6-11, the present invention also contemplates methods of retaining space-occupying devices that rely on the creation of retaining pouches within the stomach through manipulation of the stomach or stomach wall. In current obesity treatments, the creation of such pouches is the desired result of a variety of gastroplasty procedures. The purpose of most of these procedures is to create a smaller, upper gastric pouch within the stomach, through manipulation of the stomach walls. As the smaller, upper gastric pouch expands or stretches upon intake of food, a feeling of early fullness is triggered in the patient, which

ideally results in reduced overall caloric intake by the patient. According to methods of the present invention, these pouches can also serve to receive and retain space occupying devices of the appropriate corresponding configurations. Due to the physical constraints of the pouches themselves, these space occupying devices are maintained in place relative to the stomach as a whole and restricted from migrating out of the pouch. The provision of a space occupying device within a formed gastric pouch further lessens the amount of food intake that will trigger a feeling of fullness in the patient. The space occupying devices can be deployed at the time of the gastroplasty procedure itself to enhance the efficacy of the gastroplasty. In other scenarios, such as where a formed gastric pouch has become stretched out over time or has otherwise failed to provide the desired clinical effect, a space occupying device can be inserted at such later time to increase or enhance the desired effect.

FIG. 6 in particular shows an upper, gastric pouch **54** formed from a gastric bypass procedure commonly known as a Roux-en-Y gastric bypass (RYGB) procedure. In this procedure, the stomach is completely divided into two unequal portions, the smaller upper, gastric pouch **54** and a larger, lower gastric pouch **56**, using e.g. an automatic stapling device with the raw surface being reinforced with additional sutures. The upper pouch typically measures less than about 1 ounce or 20 cc, while the lower larger pouch remains generally intact and continues to secrete stomach juices flowing through the intestinal tract. Segment **57** of the small intestine (located just distal of the duodenum or proximal of the jejunum) is then brought from the lower abdomen and joined with the upper pouch **54** to form an end-to-end anastomosis **58** created through an opening or stoma of approximately one-half inch in upper pouch **54**. This segment of the small intestine is called the "Roux loop" and carries food from the upper pouch to the remainder of the intestines, where the food is digested. The remaining lower pouch **56** and the attached segment of duodenum are then reconnected to form another anastomotic connection **59** to the Roux loop at a location approximately 50-150 cm (1.6-4.9 ft) from the stoma, typically using a stapling instrument. At this connection, the digestive juices from the bypassed stomach, pancreas, and liver enter the jejunum or ileum to aid in the digesting of food. As with other similar gastroplasty procedures, due to the small size of the upper pouch, patients are forced to eat at a slower rate and are satiated much more quickly, thereby reducing the caloric intake.

Space-occupying device **52** is placed and maintained within upper gastric pouch **54** and further lessens the volume of pouch **54**. Space-occupying device **52** as depicted is spherical in shape but other configurations may be used that generally conform to the shape of the formed pouch. The space-occupying device can be formed of materials and deployed according to ways previously described herein.

FIG. 7 shows an upper, gastric pouch **64** formed from a vertical banded gastroplasty (VBG) procedure. In this type of a procedure, upper gastric pouch **64** can be typically formed using a vertical staple line **67**, with band **68** applied to prevent dilation of the outlet from upper pouch **64** into the remaining portion of the stomach which forms lower pouch **66**. Again, space occupying device **52** is placed and retained within upper pouch **64**. Alternative methods of performing vertical banded gastroplasty may also be used, including those methods described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,549,621, incorporated herein by reference.

FIG. 8 shows an upper gastric pouch **74** formed by a laproscopic banding procedure. In this type of a procedure, laproscopic methods and tools are used to insert a banding device

78 that constricts the stomach wall, creating upper and lower gastric pouchs 74 and 76, respectively. Space occupying device 52 is deployed and retained within upper pouch 74. Variations on such laposcopic banding methods may also be used, including those methods described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,345,949, incorporated herein by reference.

FIGS. 9-11 show an upper gastric pouch 84 created by methods of plication of the stomach wall. Preferred methods include those described in U.S. application Ser. No. 09/871, 297, filed May 30, 2001, which is commonly owned and incorporated herein by reference. Such described methods include application methods wherein transorally advanced tools are used to form a pouch or partition in the stomach by the approximation and fixation of folds of stomach. Referring to FIGS. 9-11, folds in the posterior wall 87 and anterior wall 89 of the stomach may be created using a tissue acquisition device inserted into the stomach transorally, and then the two folds of tissue may be fixed together using staples or other fastening means to create a linear segment or line of plicated tissue 88. The plicated tissue runs at an angle relative to the esophageal lumen, resulting in the formation of upper gastric pouch 84. Space occupying device 52 is received and retained with gastric pouch 84. As can be seen, the plication of the anterior and posterior walls does not extend across the entirety of the stomach, thereby leaving small openings 81 and 83 at either end of the plication for food to pass into the lower gastric pouch 86.

The above methods of retaining space-occupying devices in created pouches can also be adapted for situations where it is difficult to perform a gastropasty procedure, either by transoral stapling or other methods previously described, at a more optimal location such as in close proximity to the cardiac notch (or GE junction) of the stomach. In such situations, it may be advantageous to perform the stapling at a more accessible location, i.e., lower in the stomach from the cardiac notch. In this scenario, the resultant pouch may have a volume on the order of 150-200 ccs, as compared to more desirable volumes for optimal weight loss conditions of from 20-50 ccs. However, in such a situation, whether the larger pouch was created either purposefully or inadvertently, a larger space-occupying device commensurate in size with the larger pouch can be selected and deployed according to the methods described herein.

FIGS. 12-13 illustrate one such application, where staple line 98 has been placed at a lower position relative to the cardiac notch, thereby creating upper and lower pouches 94 and 96, respectively. Upper pouch 94 has a larger relative volume as compared to upper pouches depicted in FIGS. 6-11. A space-occupying device, here depicted as intragastric balloon 102, is selected to have shape and commensurate volume proportionate to that of upper pouch.

Referring now to FIG. 13, it can be seen that intragastric balloon 102 is further provided with a passageway 104 extending through the balloon and a cavity 106 in communication with the passageway. The passageway is oriented such that it is aligned with the patient's esophagus. In this manner, food can be received and travel through the passageway. In the interior of the device, passageway 104 opens up into cavity 106 which has a defined volume. Cavity 106, in essence, defines an artificial pouch, that is smaller in volume than the originally created upper stomach pouch 94.

This system can be readily and conveniently manipulated by a physician to adjust a patient's weight-loss treatment program without the need for additional surgery. For example, a treating physician can initially place a space-occupying device, such as intragastric balloon 102, that has a relatively larger cavity volume. As the patient's weight loss

progress is monitored, the physician can as warranted, transorally exchange the device with one having sequentially smaller cavity volumes, until the desired weight loss conditions, rate of loss, or other parameters, are achieved. In this manner, the degree and pace of weight loss can be finely tuned, without need for additional invasive procedures.

Alternatively, intragastric balloon 102 can be constructed such that the volume of cavity 106 is adjustable. For example, the device can be inflatable and further provided with an inflation or filling port or ports (not shown) that are accessible to a transorally-advanced endoscope. Inflation media can then be introduced into or released from the balloon to alter the size of the cavity. Such adjustments could also affect the overall volume of the balloon which can increase stretching of the gastric pouch itself, further affecting weight loss.

In a further variation, passageway 104 and cavity 106 can be made to be somewhat rigid relative to the remaining components of the balloon. In such a variation, the exterior portions of the balloon will flex and expand or contract to a much greater degree than the passageway. As a result, the dimensions of the passageway and cavity remain fairly constant, and food that enters and fills the cavity will empty at a constant rate and not be impacted by stretching and contraction of the stomach. In other words, the normal peristaltic effect of the stomach on food contained in the passageway or cavity will be diminished. This may slow the overall release of food from the device and further contribute to a more desired and controllable weight loss pattern in the patient.

As also shown in FIG. 12, intragastric balloon 102 further includes a sleeve that extends from passageway 104. This sleeve can be positioned as shown to extend through pylorus and pyloric valve of the stomach and into the duodenum of the small intestine. As shown in FIG. 13, the sleeve can be attached to the balloon by the provision of rim 105 which is securable to corresponding recess 107 in passageway 104, although one of ordinary skill in the art will recognize other known methods of attachment. The provision of the sleeve allows food to pass directly into the small intestine and, depending on the overall length of the sleeve, can operate to avoid absorption of nutrients by the duodenum altogether. Depending on the clinical situation, the inclusion of the bypass sleeve may be of further advantage.

This invention has been described and specific examples of the invention have been portrayed. The use of those specifics is not intended to limit the invention in anyway. Additionally, to the extent there are variations of the invention, which are within the spirit of the disclosure or equivalent to the inventions found in the claims, it is our intent that this patent will cover those variations as well.

We claim the following:

1. A method of maintaining an expandable space-occupying device within a patient's stomach comprising the steps of: creating a food-receiving pouch within the stomach; and implanting an expandable intragastric balloon into the food-receiving pouch such that food can pass around the expandable intragastric balloon and out of the food-receiving pouch,

wherein the food-receiving pouch is dimensioned to receive the expandable intragastric balloon and maintain the expandable intragastric balloon within the food-receiving pouch.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the pouch is created by laparoscopic banding.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the pouch is created by plication of the stomach wall.

4. A method of maintaining an expandable space-occupying device within a patient's stomach comprising the steps of:

13

creating a pouch within the stomach; and
introducing an expandable intragastric balloon into the
pouch,
wherein the pouch is dimensioned to receive the expand-
able intragastric balloon and maintain the expandable 5
intragastric balloon within the pouch, and wherein the
pouch is created by a gastric bypass procedure.
5. A method of maintaining an expandable space-occupy-
ing device within a patient's stomach comprising the steps of:

14

creating a pouch within the stomach; and
introducing an expandable intragastric balloon into the
pouch,
wherein the pouch is dimensioned to receive the expand-
able intragastric balloon and maintain the expandable
intragastric balloon within the pouch, and wherein the
pouch is created by a vertical banded gastroplasty.

* * * * *

专利名称(译)	用于将空间占用装置维持在胃内相对固定位置的方法和装置		
公开(公告)号	US8083756	公开(公告)日	2011-12-27
申请号	US11/656625	申请日	2007-01-23
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	GANNOE JAMES GERBI CRAIG		
申请(专利权)人(译)	GANNOE JAMES GERBI CRAIG		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	爱惜康内镜手术，INC.		
[标]发明人	GANNOE JAMES GERBI CRAIG		
发明人	GANNOE, JAMES GERBI, CRAIG		
IPC分类号	A61B17/08 A61M29/00 A61B17/00 A61B17/02 A61B17/064 A61B17/12 A61B17/22 A61F5/00		
CPC分类号	A61B17/00234 A61B17/12 A61F5/003 A61F5/0036 A61F5/0076 A61B17/0293 A61B17/064 A61B2017/0647 A61B2017/22051		
其他公开文献	US20070118160A1		
外部链接	Espacenet USPTO		

摘要(译)

用于通过操纵胃将空间占用装置相对于患者的胃保持固定关系的方法和装置。在一个变型中，胃壁的两个或更多个区域彼此接近并以将空间占据装置固定在患者胃内的方式固定在一起。在另一个变型中，胃壁的两个或更多个区域缠绕在占据空间的装置周围，以保持占据空间的装置相对于胃壁的位置。在另一个变型中，提供了一种系统，该系统具有占据空间的构件和能够将占据空间的构件保持在胃的内壁上的锁定构件。在进一步的变型中，在胃内形成小袋，其接收并保持占据空间的装置。

