

Surgery gives long-term help for obese diabetics

March 31 2014, by Marilyn Marchione



In this Wednesday, March 26, 2014 photo, Heather Britton poses for a photo at her home in Bay Village, Ohio. New research is boosting hopes that weight-loss surgery can put some patients' diabetes into remission for years and perhaps in some cases, for good. Some patients, like Britton, have passed the five-year mark when some experts consider cure or prolonged remission a possibility. Before the study, she was taking drugs for diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol; she takes none now. (AP Photo/Tony Dejak)

New research is boosting hopes that weight-loss surgery can put some

patients' diabetes into remission for years and perhaps in some cases, for good.

Longer follow-up from a major study shows that stomach-reducing operations are better than medications for treating "diabesity," the deadly duo of obesity and Type 2 diabetes. Millions of Americans have this and can't make enough insulin or use what they do make to process food.

After three years, blood-sugar levels were normal in 38 percent and 25 percent of two groups given [surgery](#), but in only 5 percent of those treated with medications.

Doctors won't call it a cure because they can't guarantee [diabetes](#) will never return, but they hope for long-term remission.

The study was discussed Monday at a cardiology conference in Washington.

© 2014 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: Surgery gives long-term help for obese diabetics (2014, March 31) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-03-surgery-long-term-obese-diabetics.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.