

# Could drugs replace gastric bypass surgery?

February 8 2017

---

Gastric bypass surgery is one of the most successful treatments for obesity and related disorders; however, some patients may not want to undergo surgery.

In an attempt to reduce [nutrient absorption](#) and replicate the effects of [gastric bypass surgery](#), researchers screened for inhibitors of an amino acid transporter, called B0AT1, and discovered a number of agents—including benztropine, a drug that is already in clinical use—as promising candidates.

"These compounds are just a start and need to be developed further, but they could potentially replace surgical procedures and be used together with other drugs to treat type 2 diabetes," said Dr. Stefan Bröer, senior author of the *British Journal of Pharmacology* study.

**More information:** Qi Cheng et al, Identification of novel inhibitors of the amino acid transporter BAT1 (SLC6A19), a potential target to induce protein restriction and to treat type 2 diabetes, *British Journal of Pharmacology* (2017). [DOI: 10.1111/bph.13711](https://doi.org/10.1111/bph.13711)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Could drugs replace gastric bypass surgery? (2017, February 8) retrieved 28 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-02-drugs-gastric-bypass-surgery.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.