

# Weight loss surgery may reduce the risk of colorectal cancer

January 27 2020

---



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

Weight loss surgery may reduce the risk of developing colorectal cancer by one-third, according to an analysis of all relevant published studies. The findings are published in *BJS (British Journal of Surgery)*.

Obesity increases the risk of many conditions, including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and most cancers, including [colorectal cancer](#). The *BJS* analysis, which included seven studies with a total of 1,213,727 patients and an average follow-up of seven years, was conducted because individual studies have presented conflicting results.

The overall risk of developing colorectal cancer was 3 in 1,000 in patients with obesity who underwent weight loss surgery, compared with 4 in 1,000 in those who did not.

"Day by day, the [scientific community](#) is continuing to uncover the benefits of weight loss surgery, and this paper affirms this," said lead author Sulaiman Almazeedi, MD, of Jaber Al-Ahmed Hospital, in Kuwait. "Obesity today remains one of the most preventable causes of morbid disease and early death, and despite the controversy, we believe [weight loss surgery](#) can be an important tool in tackling this epidemic."

**More information:** S. Almazeedi et al, Role of bariatric surgery in reducing the risk of colorectal cancer: a meta-analysis, *British Journal of Surgery* (2020). [DOI: 10.1002/bjs.11494](https://doi.org/10.1002/bjs.11494)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Weight loss surgery may reduce the risk of colorectal cancer (2020, January 27) retrieved 7 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-01-weight-loss-surgery-colorectal-cancer.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.
---