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Obesity is a major public health problem. At present, the only available treatment offering sufficient weight-loss and metabolic benefits over time is surgery. Although bariatric surgery is considered to be safe, serious post-operative complications still occur. Given the large numbers of procedures performed, even low complication rates will result in serious morbidity to a large number of patients. It is thus important to reduce postoperative complications to a minimum. The focus of this thesis has been to identify factors associated with an increased risk for early postoperative complications after laparoscopic gastric bypass surgery and in a randomised clinical trial to evaluate mesenteric defects closure as a method to reduce the occurrence of small bowel obstruction.

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