

## Lap banding in Thailand

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Laparoscopic Gastric Banding was the first bariatric procedure done in Thailand in 2003. Its preference decreased gradually as Thai surgeons acquired more expertise in other more difficult procedures. The popularity of laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy also seemed to contribute to this trend. However, banding still entertained the benefit of being a relatively easy procedure among all. Surgeons seemed to come across more long-term complication after more years of follow-up, including esophageal dilatation, reflux with or without esophagitis, slippage and band erosion. Some cases of reoperation were experienced. Nowadays, Thai surgeons have different opinions as for the indication of gastric banding.