

Statistical analysis

Continuous variables were compared using a Student *t*-test or a nonparametric test, as appropriate. Categorical variables were compared using the Chi square or Fisher's exact test. A two-tailed *P* value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant. All data are expressed as mean (SD). Statistical analysis was performed using a commercially available software package (SPSS version 11.5 for Windows; SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL). **Logestic regression analysis was used to identify preoperative predictors that might be associated with abnormal endoscopic findings.**

The primary outcome of this study was to compare prevalence of clinically significant lesions found on upper endoscopy before bariatric surgery in patients who have (Group A) or do not have (Group B) upper digestive symptoms. Secondary outcome was to evaluate the safety and efficacy of upper endoscopy to diagnose and treat post-bariatric surgery complications such as bleeding, leakage and stenosis.

The statistical methods of this study were reviewed by [Dr Ayman

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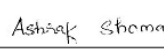
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