

From the Aspect of Mental health

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Morbid obesity is a not only physically but also psycho-socially complicated disease. It is important to focus on the environment of the patients. For example, familial relationships, friendships, work relationships and other relationship.

Surgical treatments for morbid obesity have started in our institution since June 2006. The objective of the treatment is to improve quality of life (QOL). For improvement of QOL, physical, psychological, and social supports are important through pre- and post-treatment. Our multidisciplinary team consists of doctors, nurses, nutritionist, and social worker. This multidisciplinary approach is necessary to achieve highly effective treatment for obesity. To defeat the complexity of obesity, approach from different aspects is important. The key to success lies in a multidisciplinary team to empower the patients.

As the profession of social worker is to establish interaction between patients and their environments, The roles of the social worker in bariatric surgical team start from the first intake of all clients, conducting support groups, making an assessment of psycho-social problems and counseling.

The term "Mental illness" encompasses a wide variety of problems. The presence of psychiatric disorders is not an absolute contraindication to weight loss surgery.

The lecture will be regarding behavioral and psychological factors in the assessment and the treatment of bariatric surgery patients.