

National Report from Taiwan (Republic of China)

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In the past decade, the incidence of obesity (BMI > 27) increased from 10.5% to 19% in male Taiwanese. Among them, those with moderate or severe obesity increases more rapidly, from 2.4% to 6%. This alarming phenomenon is more common in rural than in urban area. Although the incidence of overweight remained stationary (20.3% to 19.3%) in female Taiwanese, the incidence of mild obesity still increased from 7.6% to 10.5%. More importantly, diabetes (Glucose > 126 mg/dl) incidence increased from 4.6% to 9.3% of adult male in the past decade.

Bariatric surgeries steadily increased in the past 5 years in Taiwan. IFSO Taiwan chapter was founded in 2009. There are more than 5 comprehensive bariatric centers now in Taiwan. In a survey from IFSO Taiwan chapter, the total registered number of bariatric surgeries increased from 255 cases in 2005 to 726 cases in 2009. Laparoscopic gastric bypass is the most commonly performed procedure, followed by sleeve gastrectomy and gastric banding. The results of bariatric surgery in Taiwan are comparative to international standard.