

Imperial College London

Describing the Behaviours, Perception and Awareness of Bariatric Surgery Among Primary Care Physicians in Kuwait

Shaimaa Alasfour1*, Nouf Almughamis 2, Ahmed Ahmed 3

1-Consultant family practitioner specialised in weight management, Alnuzha health centre, Ministry of Health Kuwait, 2-Clinical Nutrition, Ministry of Health Kuwait, 3-Consultant Upper GI and Bariatric, St. Mary Hospital Imperial college Healthcare, UK

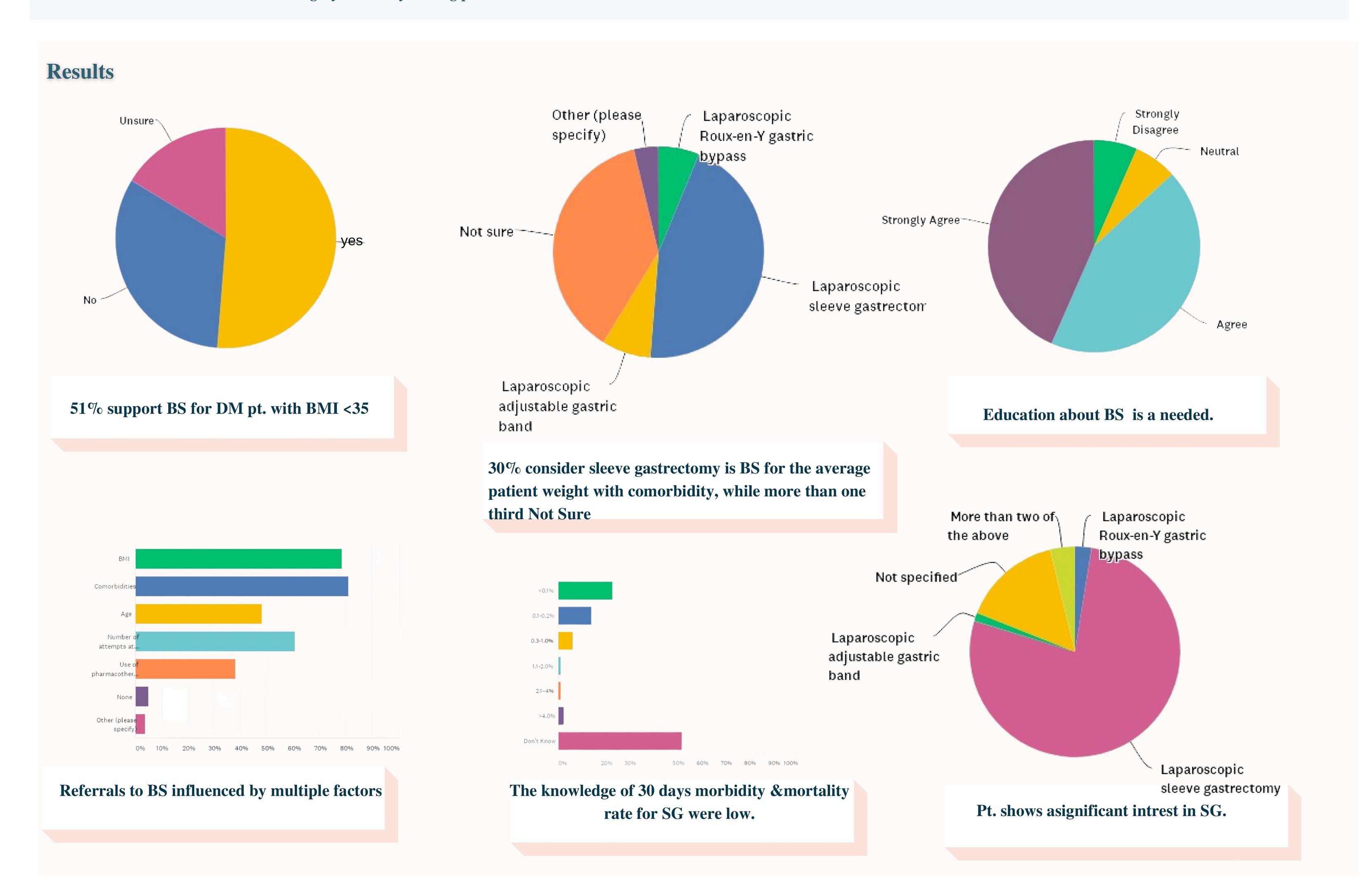
Background

- Obesity is a growing issue globally, and bariatric surgery is increasingly being utilized to treat it.
- The prevalence of obesity in ____ is already high compared with global rates and increasing.
- Aims:
- 1. Describe the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of physicians in Kuwait towards obesity.
- 2. Knowledge of bariatric surgery (BS).



Methods

- Ontario Questionnaires were adopted, modified & distributed to physicians across Kuwait.
- Responses were recorded online via
- A self-administered questionnaire collected data about:
- 1. Demographic factors
- 2.knowledge of bariatric surgery.
- 3. Practices related to the collection of measurements related to weight and height,
- 4. Attitudes towards bariatric surgery & obesity among patients.



Conclusion

Among our sample of physicians, we report a low level of support for bariatric surgery and low levels of knowledge of the risks and consequences of the procedures. Simultaneously, while we found low levels of support for this type of surgery, over half had referred a patient for it. As obesity continues to be a vital issue of public health concern, globally and within Kuwait, physician and patient education and awareness of the appropriate treatment options become increasingly important.