Rerouting to reduce weight

A surgery called roux-en-Y gastric bypass surgery creates a tiny stomach and bypasses a section of small intestine where a lot of food is absorbed. The surgery is recommended only for the critically obese.

1. A new, smaller version of the stomach is created by cutting and stapling.

2. The small intestine is cut and spliced into the new little stomach.

3. The section of small intestine leading from the original stomach is connected to the rerouted small intestine. This allows essential fluids from the pancreas and stomach to flow into the digestive tract.

- There can be complications from the surgery.
- A new diet must be adhered to for the rest of the patient’s life.

SOURCES: AMA Encyclopedia of Medicine, University of Wisconsin Department of Surgery

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