



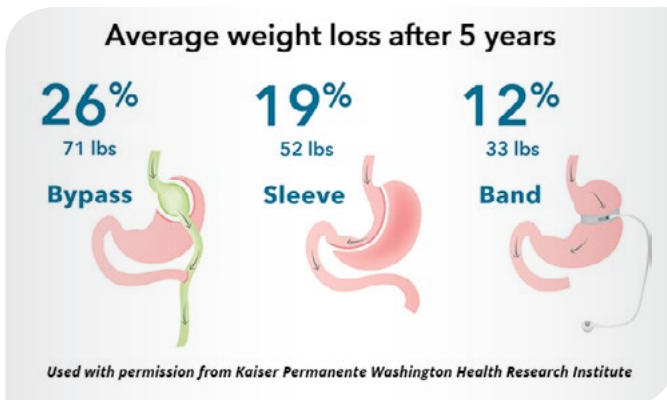
FIRST OBSERVATIONAL STUDIES FROM PCORNET

# Improving Obesity Prevention and Treatment

More than one-third of adults in the United States and roughly one in five children are considered obese, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Because obesity is such a common condition and is associated with other health problems, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) made obesity the focus of the first two observational studies to be conducted using **PCORnet®**, the **National Patient-Centered Clinical Research Network**.

Results from these studies are now available to help patients, families, clinicians, and other healthcare decision makers to make better-informed choices about treatment and prevention.

## THE PCORNET BARIATRIC STUDY



This study compared the effectiveness and risks of the three main methods of weight-loss surgery. It found that adults with severe obesity had greater initial and sustained weight loss with gastric bypass surgery, a long-used approach, than with sleeve gastrectomy, the newest procedure, or adjustable gastric banding. However, while rates of major problems occurring within 30 days of surgery were small for all three procedures, they were highest for bypass. Results were published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* in October 2018.

## SHORT- AND LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF ANTIBIOTICS ON CHILDHOOD GROWTH

This study looked at the effects of the types, amounts, and timing of antibiotics given to infants and young children on their weight in later childhood. Use of such drugs to promote growth in livestock and other factors have led to questions about whether the drugs promote weight gain in people. The study found that antibiotic use in children less than 2 years of age was associated with only a slightly higher body weight at age 5. The journal *Pediatrics* published the results in October 2018.



## USING HEALTH DATA TO TACKLE OBESITY

These two studies are the largest to date to explore their respective questions thanks, to PCORnet's resources.

PCORnet® is a PCORI-funded initiative to enable patient-centered clinical research to be conducted **faster, more easily, and more efficiently**. It does so by offering reusable resources and tapping into rich sources of **real-world data**, which is collected during routine care through electronic health records (EHRs), patient-reported outcomes, health claims, and other sources.

By leveraging health information collected in everyday healthcare situations and settings, PCORnet generates **real-world evidence** about the comparative clinical effectiveness of therapies, diagnostics, and prevention strategies. This evidence also is important for understanding particular patient populations, measuring healthcare use and outcomes, and ongoing evaluation of the safety of drugs after they're approved.

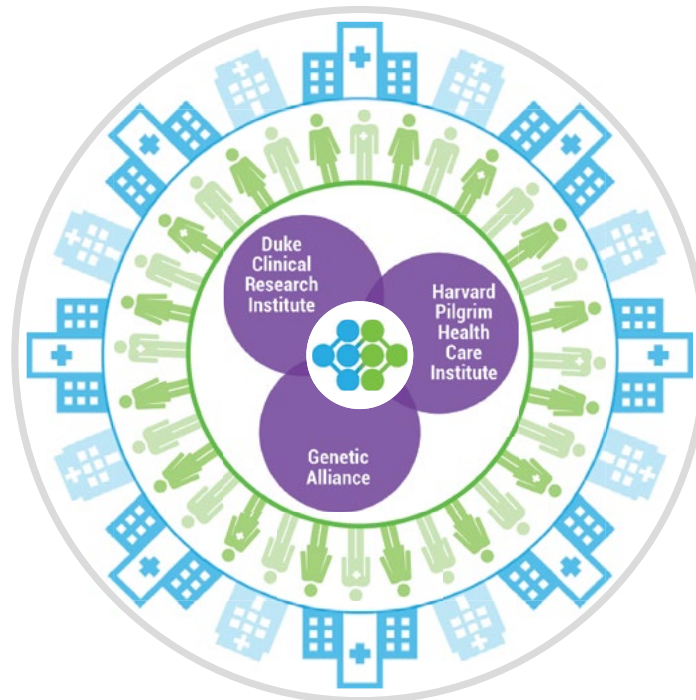
### BARIATRIC STUDY

Data on more than  
**46,000 patients**  
from **41 health systems** nationwide

### ANTIBIOTICS AND CHILDHOOD OBESITY STUDY

Medical records of  
**360,000-plus children**  
from **35 health systems** nationwide

Operating as a "network of networks," PCORnet combines the resources of dozens of organizations and unites patients, clinicians, health systems, and health plans to expedite research that can improve health care and patient outcome.



**9**  
Clinical Research  
Networks (CRNs)

+

**2**  
Health Plan  
Research  
Networks (HPRNs)

+

Patient Partners

+

**1**  
Coordinating  
Center

=

A National  
Infrastructure for  
People-centered  
Clinical Research



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