THE EFFECT OF MARITAL STATUS ON BARIATRIC SURGERY OUTCOMES

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BACKGROUND

Patients who undergo bariatric surgery benefit from strong social support.

Marital status has been well documented to have effects on cancer survival, but the effects on bariatric surgery outcomes are largely unknown.

We aimed to examine the effects of marital status on outcomes after bariatric surgery.

METHODS

Study Population

Adult patients who underwent bariatric surgery between 2018-2022 at a single US academic hospital

Self-reported Marital Status

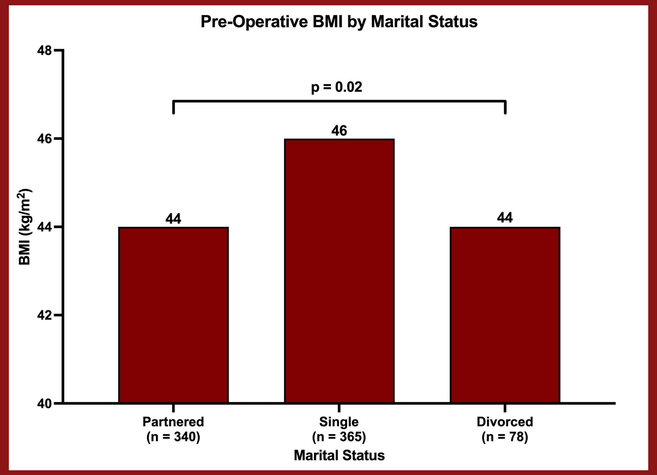
- Life partner (partnered)
- Single
- Divorced

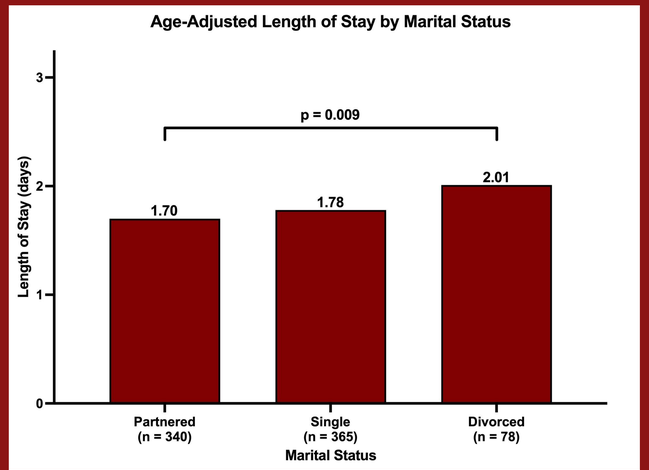
Outcomes

Pre-operative BMI, % total body weight loss, length of stay (LOS), ED visits within 30 days, readmission within 30 days, and first-year follow-up duration

Demographics

	No. (%) of Patients		
	Partnered	Single	Divorced
Characteristics	N = 340	N = 365	N = 78
Sex			
Female	277 (81.5)	307 (84.1)	73 (93.6)
Male	63 (18.5)	58 (15.9)	5 (6.4)
Race/Ethnicity			
White	137 (40.3)	117 (32.1)	39 (50.0)
Black	24 (7.1)	40 (11.0)	6 (7.7)
Asian	16 (4.7)	14 (3.8)	2 (2.6)
Hispanic origin	143 (42.1)	185 (50.7)	30 (38.5)
Age, y			
Mean (SD)	45 (10.0)	41 (12.0)	54 (69.2)
Preexisting comorbidities			
Diabetes	157 (46.2)	166 (45.5)	47 (60.3)
Pre-Diabetes	95 (27.9)	96 (26.3)	16 (20.5)
HTN	215 (63.2)	216 (59.2)	60 (76.9)
NAFLD	95 (27.9)	96 (26.3)	26 (33.3)
GERD	249 (73.2)	247 (67.7)	65 (83.3)
Anemia	59 (17.4)	67 (18.4)	17 (21.8)
OSA	241 (70.9)	230 (63.0)	58 (74.4)
Depression	137 (40.3)	153 (41.9)	49 (62.8)
Anxiety	170 (50.0)	176 (48.2)	45 (57.7)





RESULTS

783 patients total -> partnered (n=340), single (n=365), divorced (n=78)

Pre-operative BMI: was ***significantly higher*** in the single group

LOS: was ***significantly longer*** in the divorced group even when adjusted for difference in age

% total body weight loss, **ED visits**, **readmissions rates**, and **first-year follow-up duration** were not significantly different

CONCLUSIONS

While divorced patients experienced a slightly longer LOS, marital status did not significantly impact overall weight loss, emergency department visits, readmissions, or follow-up adherence

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