

Minimally Invasive Laparoscopic Procedure for GERD: LINX®

New Procedure for Reflux Disease Available at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital

Acid reflux, or gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), is a very common condition that affects millions of people. Symptoms include heartburn (acid indigestion), chest pain, regurgitation, belching, bloating, nausea and pain on swallowing.

Up to one in five U.S. adults suffer from GERD, and often manage their disease through medication and lifestyle changes. However, medications can't prevent or solve reflux. Approximately 40 percent of GERD sufferers continue to have symptoms while taking medications for GERD, according to a study by the AGA Institute.

A Simple Device with Life-Changing Potential.

People suffering from GERD now have a safe and effective treatment at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. The LINX® Reflux Management System, an FDA-approved minimally invasive procedure, relieves the symptoms of acid reflux (GERD) by strengthening the lower esophagus. The LINX device is a small quarter-sized flexible band of magnets that is placed around the esophagus.

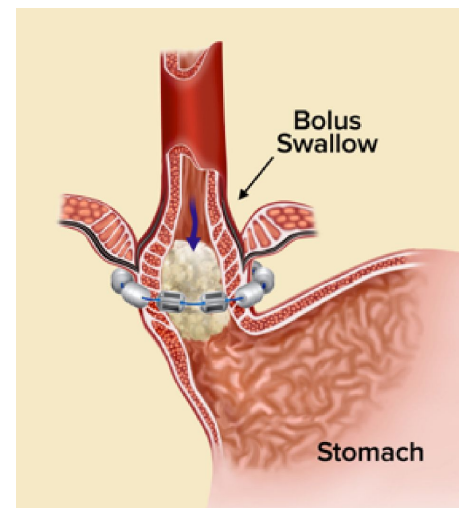
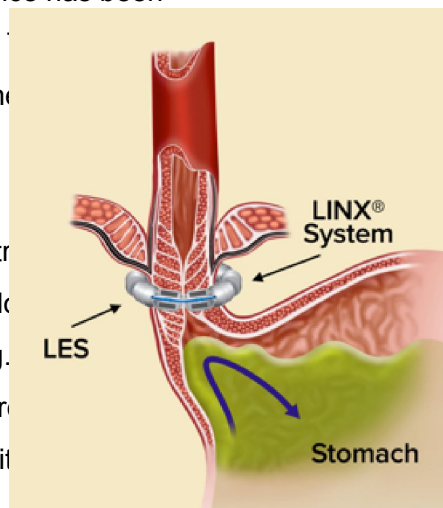


How It Works

Since its FDA approval in 2012, the LINX device has been

implanted in nearly 4,000 patients worldwide. The LINX device is a small quarter-sized flexible band of magnets that is placed around the esophagus.

The contracting magnetic force of the band strengthens the natural barrier against acid reflux while still allowing food and liquid to easily pass through when swallowing. The band contracts to allow food and liquid down, then closes to prevent stomach contents from moving up – stopping reflux at its source.



Unlike fundoplication surgery, the LINX System does not require major changes to

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Key features of LINX surgery for heartburn:

- No alteration to gastric fundus
- Precise procedure that restores reflux barrier to prevent reflux
- Preserves the ability to belch and vomit
- Reduces or eliminates dependence on medication
- Reduces gas and bloating
- Removable
- Does not limit future treatment options

Proven long-term success

After treatment with LINX*:

- 85% of patients were free from dependence on daily reflux medication.
- 88% of patients reported that heartburn had been eliminated.
- 99% of patients eliminated regurgitation.
- Patients reported significant improvement in gassiness and bloating.

* Authors of a 5-year study confirming the long-term results of the LINX® Reflux Management System in controlling reflux-related symptoms concluded LINX should now be considered a first-line anti-reflux therapy for appropriate patients. Findings were published in the peer-reviewed medical journal Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

Is Your Patient a Candidate for LINX?



...suffering from GERD, and are not adequately treated with medications or are concerned
...s, they may be a candidate for anti-reflux surgery. An evaluation can determine whether
...plication surgery would be more appropriate.

...ment of acid reflux is based on your medical history and the symptoms described. If it is
...procedure may be of benefit, a recent endoscopy report, PH test and manometry test
...reflux tests will help us to confidently determine the potential for success with LINX.

The Surgeon

Gary Chmielewski, MD, FACS

Advocate Medical Group – Thoracic Surgery

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital