

# Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation

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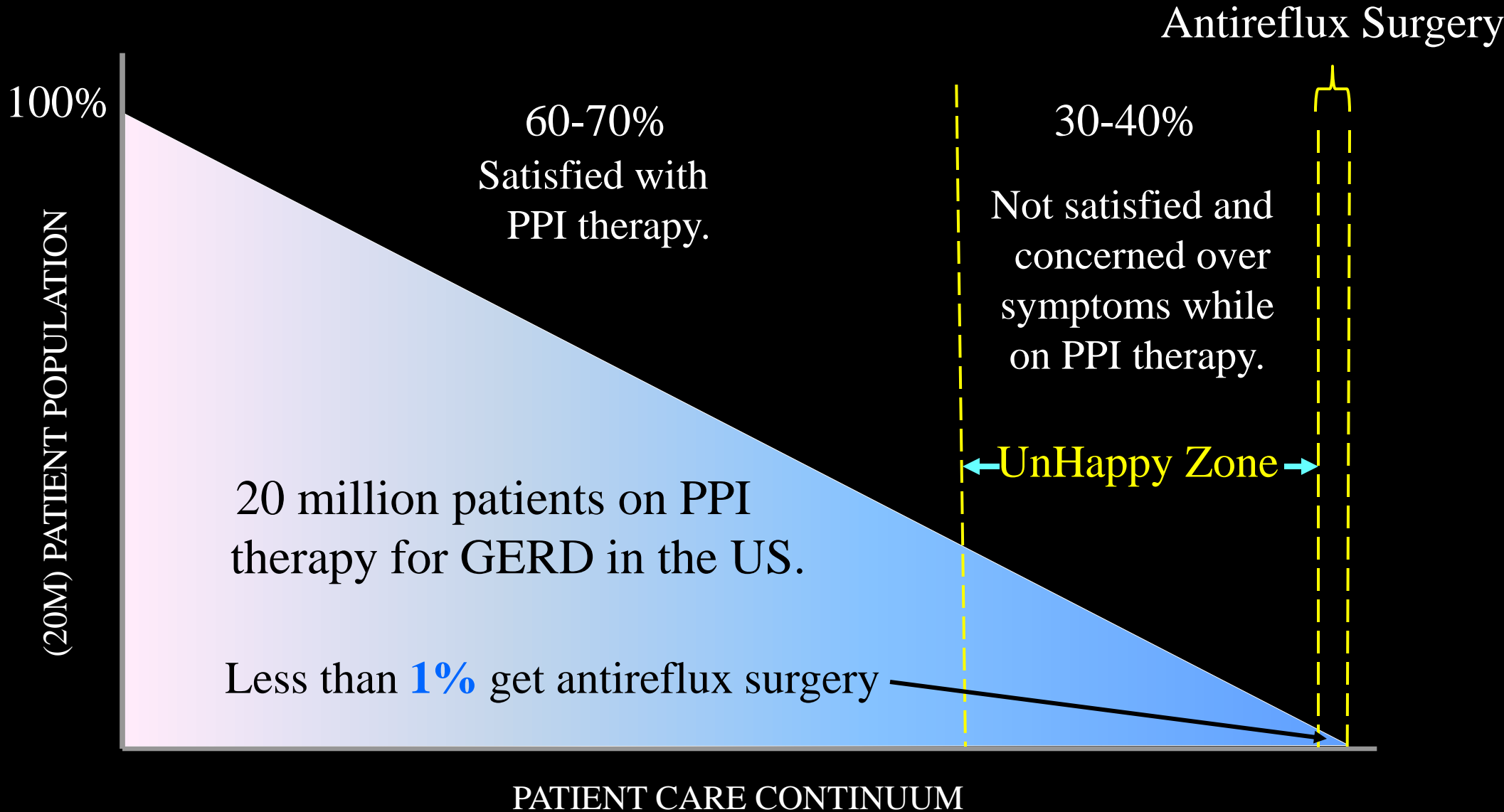
Keck School of Medicine of USC



# Disclosures

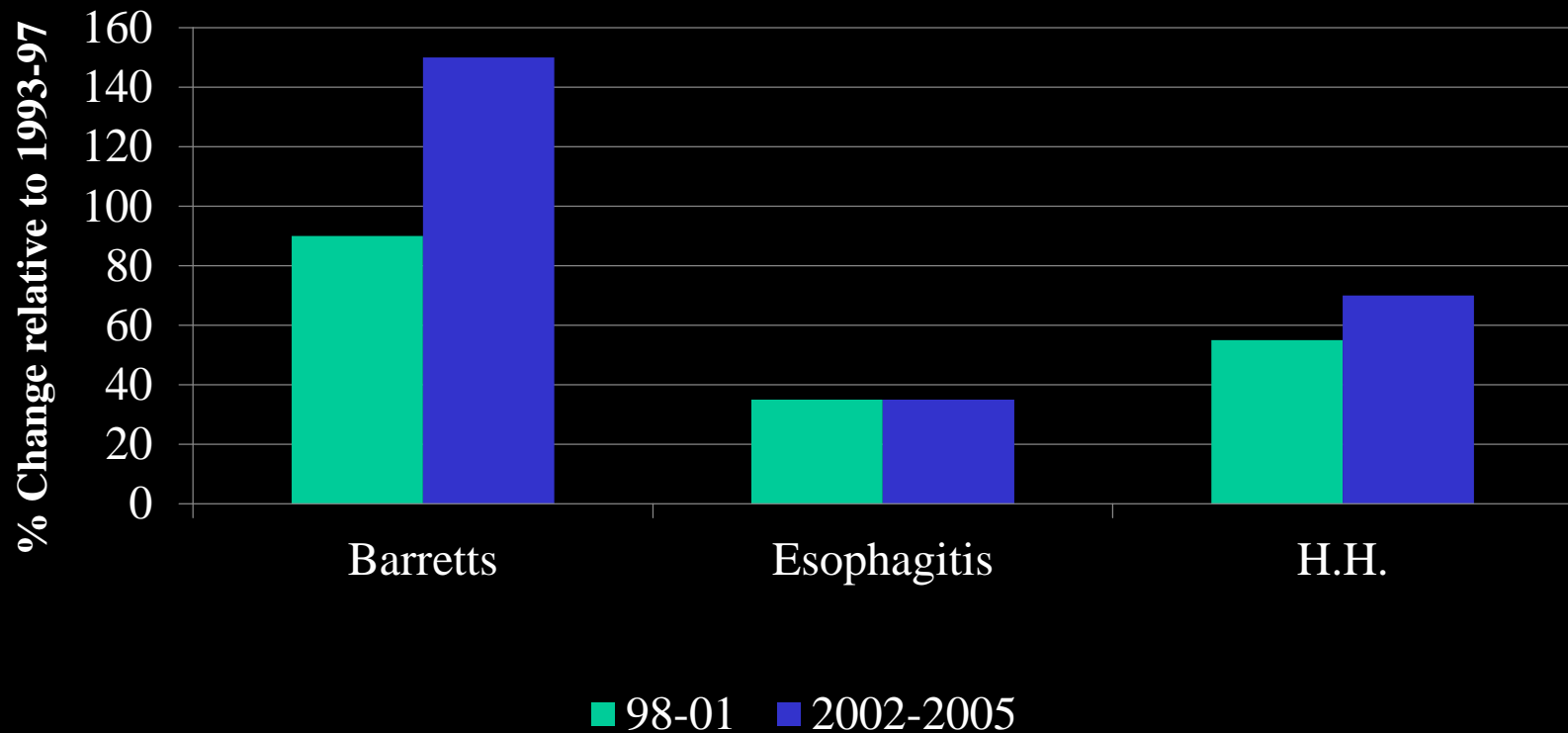
- Consultant for Torax Medical
- Consultant for Medtronic / Covidien

# GERD Therapy in 2014

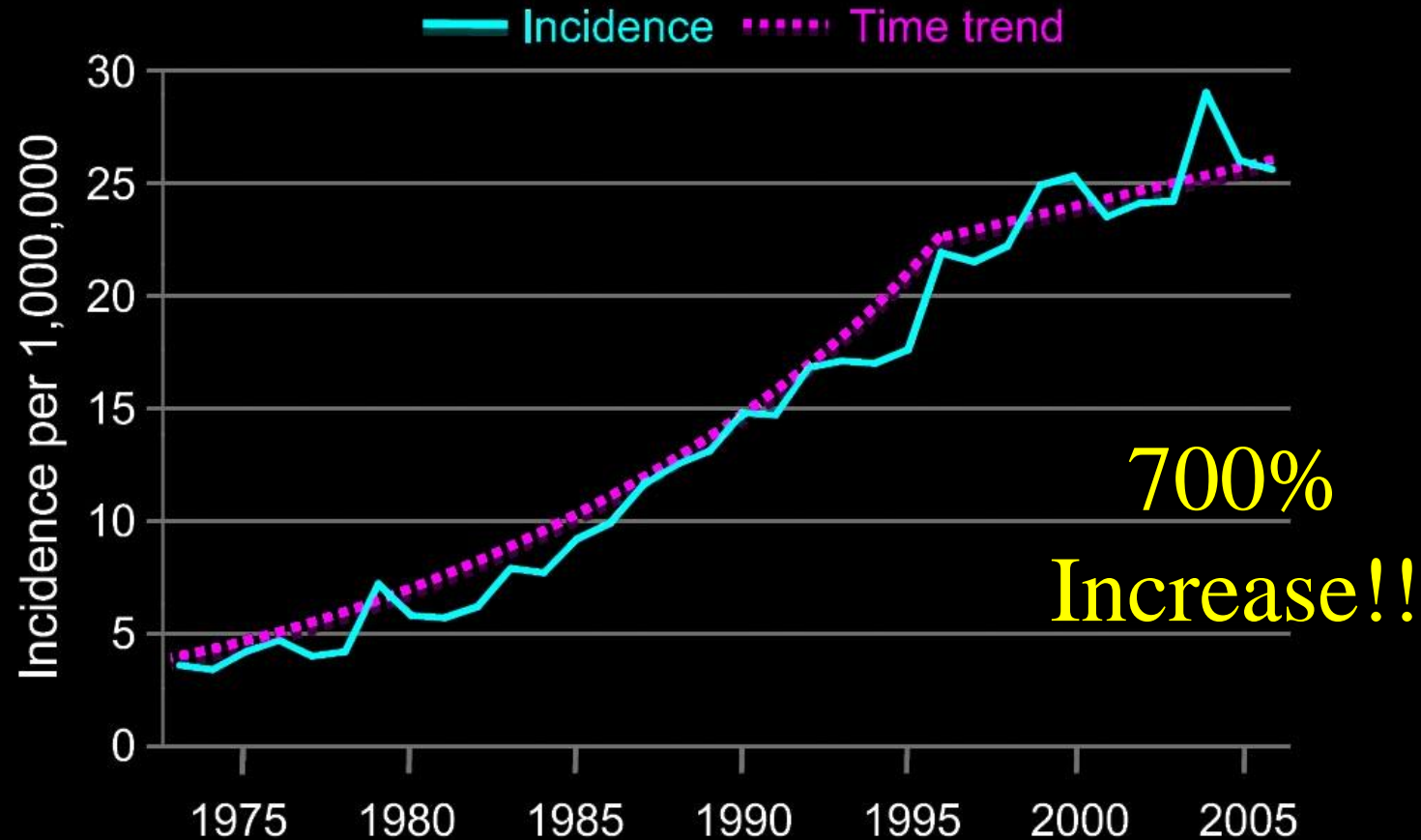


## Increasing incidence of Barrett's oesophagus: a population-based study

Helen G. Coleman · Shivaram Bhat ·  
Liam J. Murray · Damian McManus ·  
Anna T. Gavin · Brian T. Johnston



# Overall Incidence Trend in Esophageal Adenocarcinoma (1973-2006)



# Tough Choices for Patients

## **NEED A GERD TREATMENT OPTION THAT...**

Targets reflux and the anti-reflux barrier

Preserves normal anatomy

Maintains normal functions of LES (belch, vomit)

Highly reproducible

Safe and Reversible

What About.....

“Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation  
to Address this Therapy Gap???”



What About.....



THE APORKALYPSE?

Pssshh...  
When pigs fly!



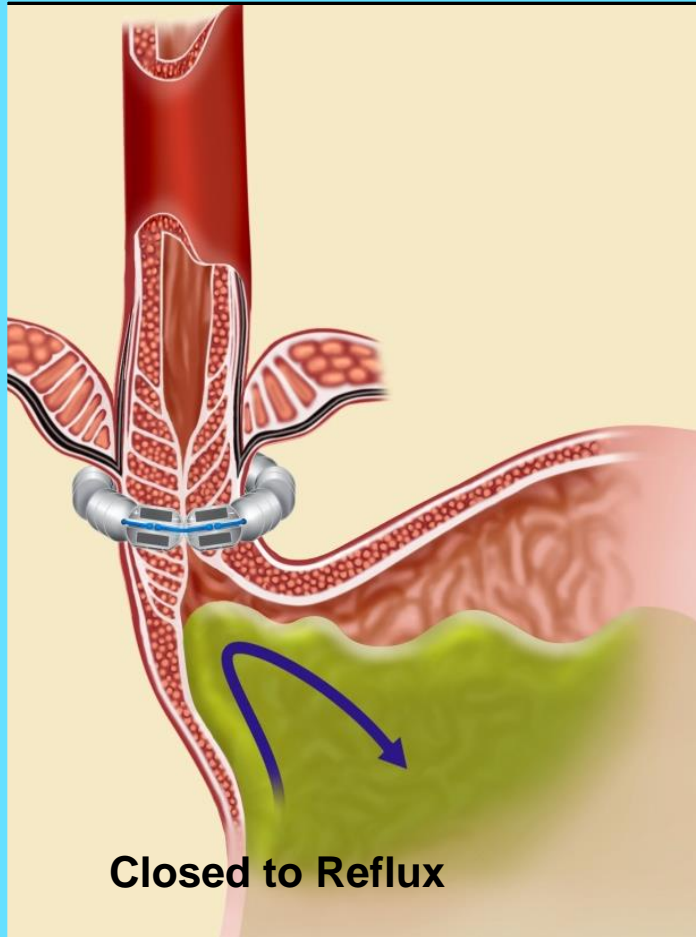
# Why Magnets?



# Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation



# LINX System Allows Physiologic Function

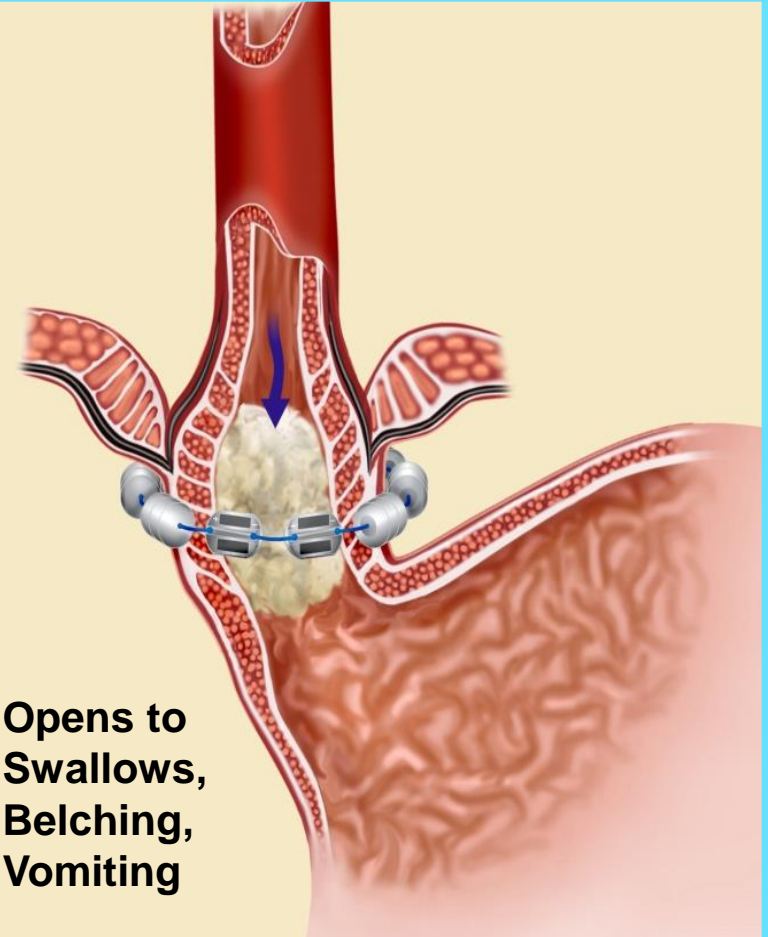


**Closed to Reflux**

Normal  
Peristaltic  
Pressures  
**35-80 mmHg**

LINX System  
Dynamic  
Barrier of  
**~20 mmHg**

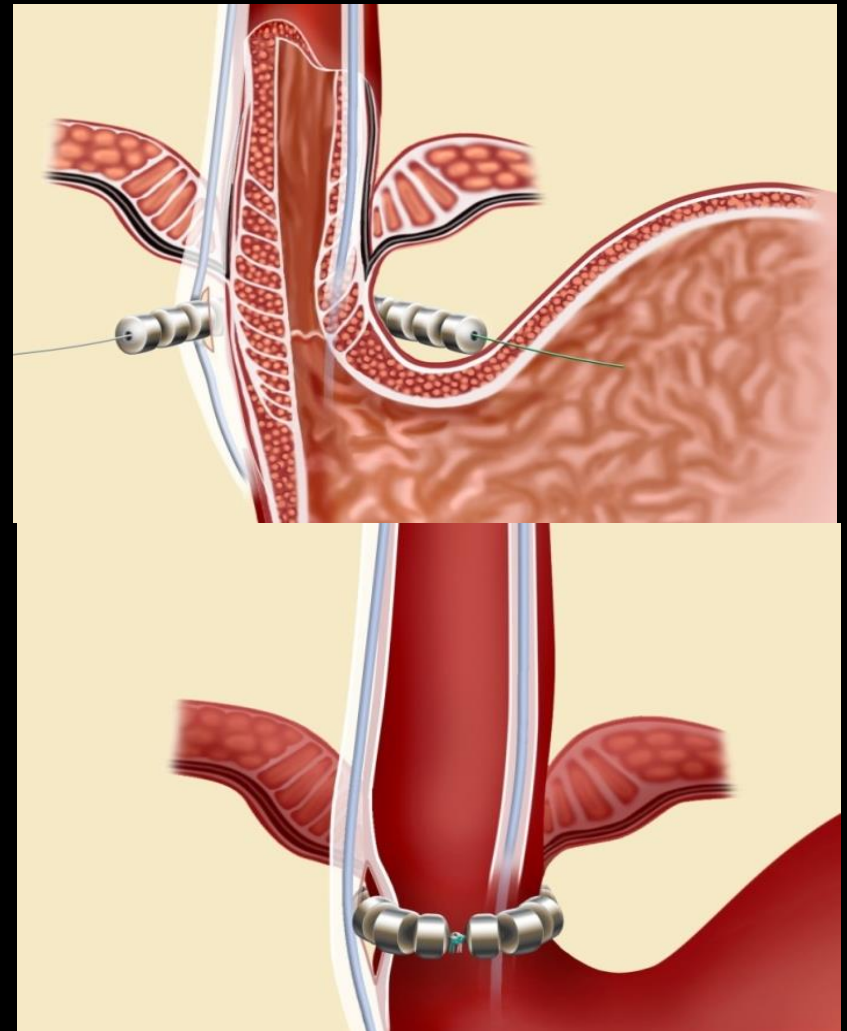
Intragastric  
pressure  
**5-10 mmHg**



**Opens to Swallows,  
Belching,  
Vomiting**

# LINX Sphincter Augmentation

- Laparoscopic Placement
- 20-30 min Procedure
- Limited Dissection
- No Alteration in the Normal Anatomy
- Outpatient

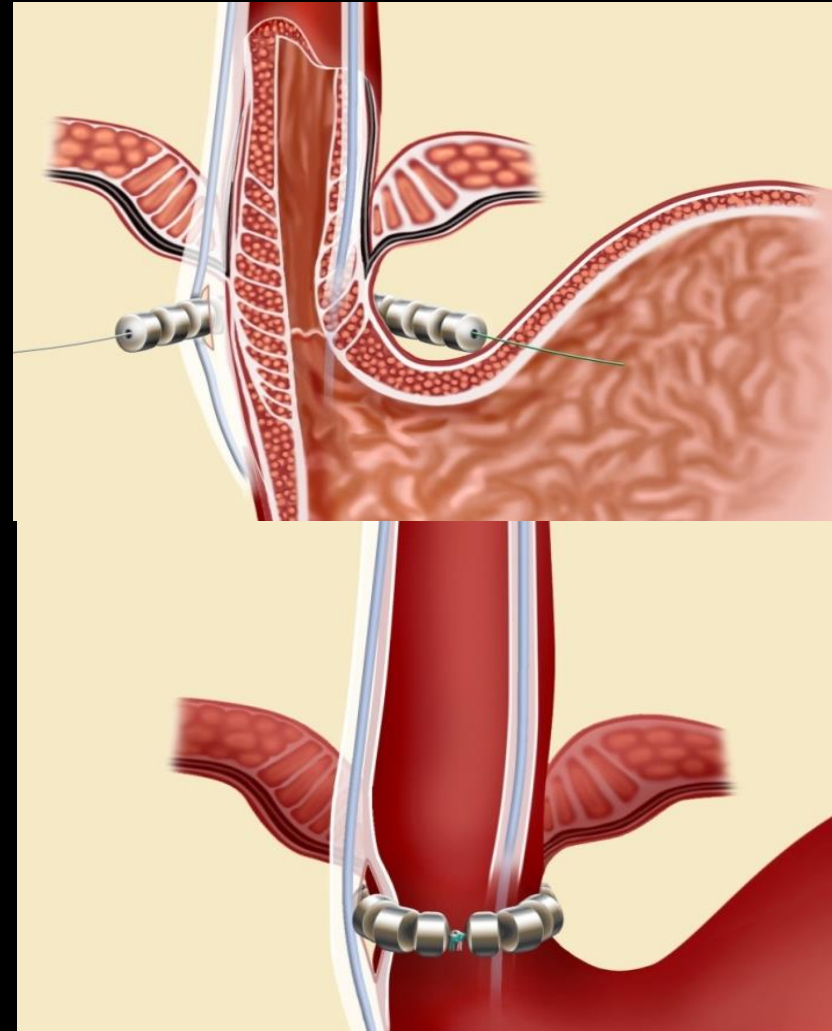


# **LINX Sphincter Augmentation**

Laparoscopic  
Placement  
of the LINX Device

# LINX Sphincter Augmentation

- Regular diet immediately post-op
- Allow patients to **belch**
- Allow patients to **vomit**
- Eliminate/decrease **gas & bloating** Associated with the Nissen



# Torax Medical – The Pathway

- **The LINX<sup>®</sup> Reflux Management System**
  - Two FDA PMA/IDE trials
    - Feasibility Trial 44 pts
    - Pivotal Trial 100 pts
  - 1<sup>st</sup> implant (IDE Trial) Feb. 2007
  - Five years later:
    - Unanimous FDA Panel recommendation and subsequent FDA Approval (PMA)

# Pivotal Trial

- 100 Patients
- 16 Centers
- First Implant Jan 2009
- 3 year results published





# Trial Design

## Inclusion

- Age 18-75 years
- Typical GERD symptoms >6 months
- Pathologic GERD – (esophageal pH<4 for >4.5% of time)
- Daily PPI use
- Symptomatic improvement on PPIs

## Exclusion

- Hiatal hernia (>3cm)
- Esophagitis Grade C or D (LA classification)
- Barrett's esophagus
- Esophageal motility disorder

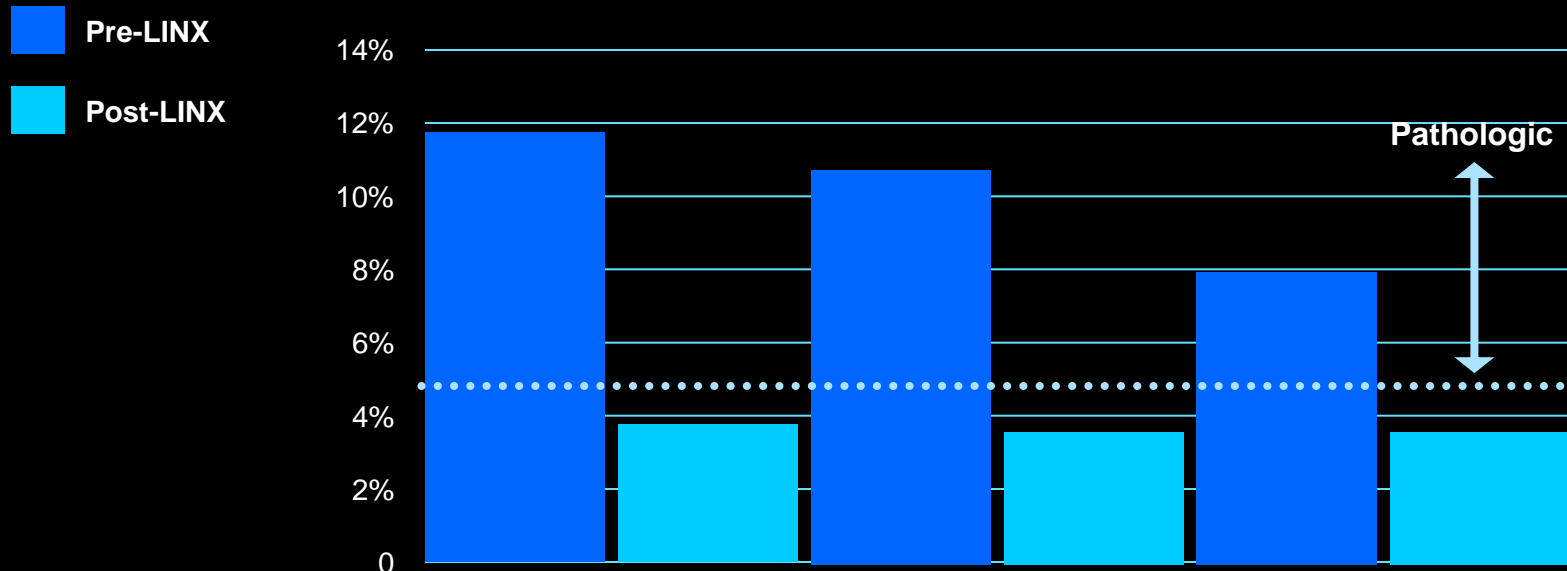
## • Endpoints

- Primary: **Acid Exposure**
- Secondary: **GERD HRQL and PPI Use**

*Efficacy*

# Reduction in Esophageal Acid Exposure

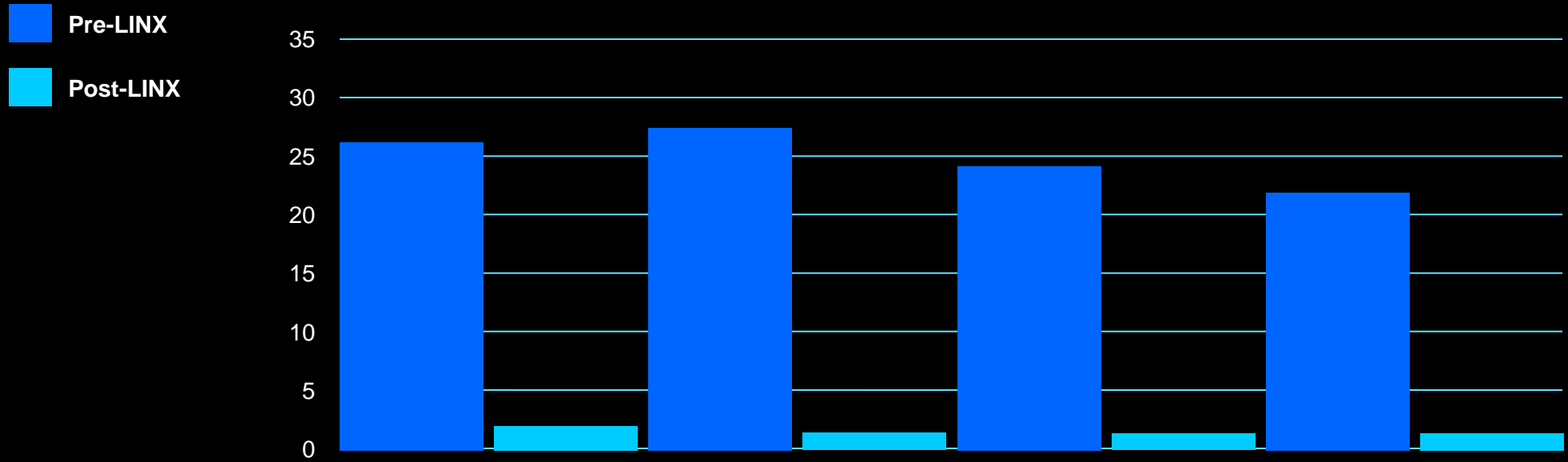
% TIME pH < 4



STUDY	FDA PILOT	FDA PIVOTAL	MILAN EXPERIENCE
Centers/Patients:	4/44	14/100	1/100
F/U Range:	4 Years	1-3 Years	1-6 Years
Published Studies:	Surgical Endoscopy	New England Journal Of Medicine	Journal American College Of Surgery

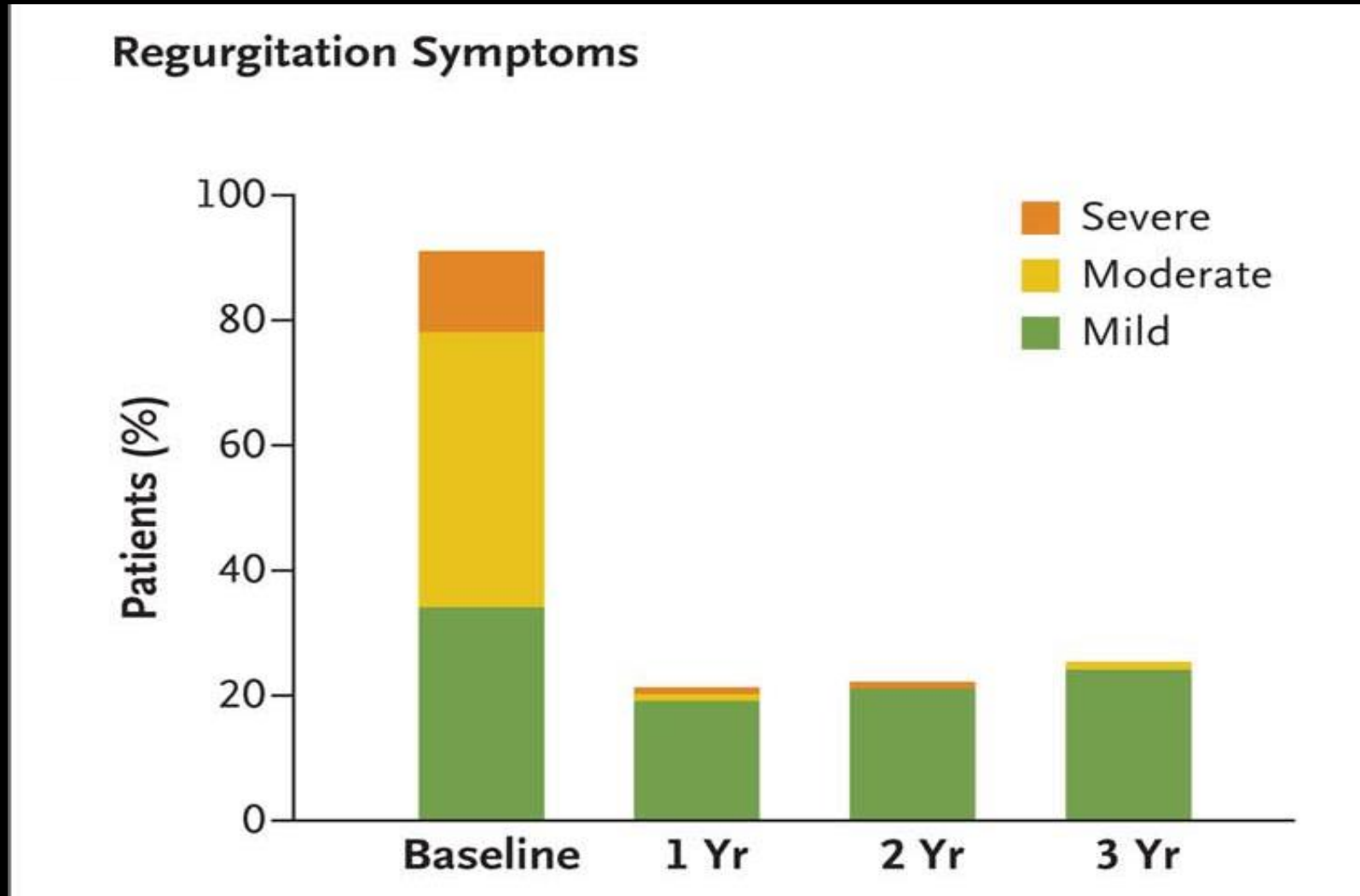
# Control of Heartburn Symptoms

## GERD-HRQL SCORE



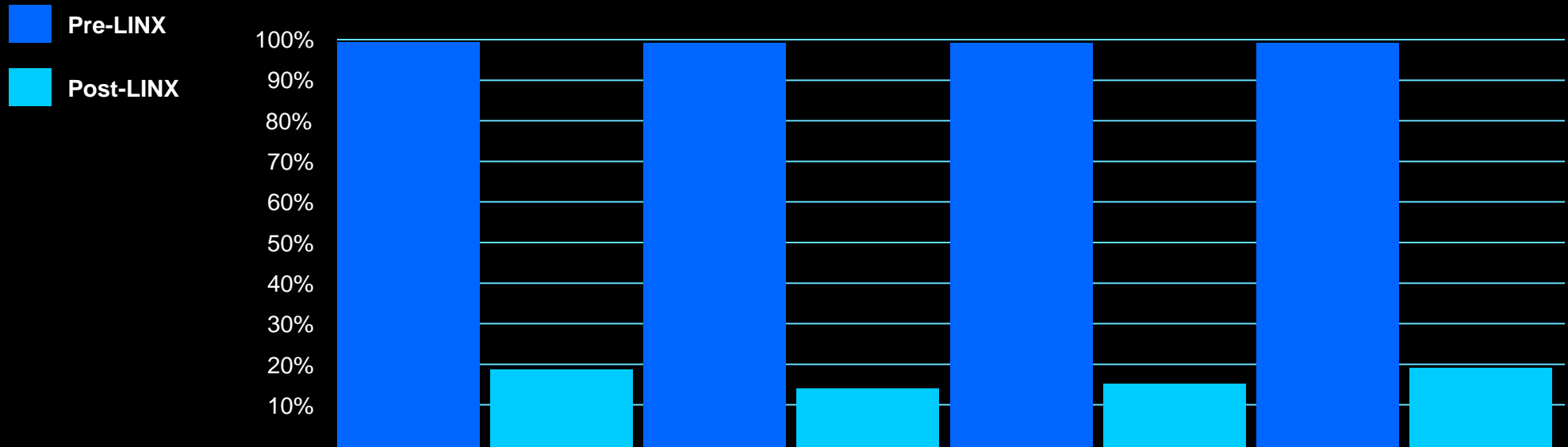
STUDY	FDA PILOT	FDA PIVOTAL	MILAN EXPERIENCE	EU REGISTRY
Centers/Patients:	4/44	14/100	1/100	19/249
F/U Range:	4 Years	1-3 Years	1-6 Years	1 Year
Published Studies:	Surgical Endoscopy	New England Journal Of Medicine	Journal American College Of Surgery	Pending Publication <sup>(1)</sup>

# Improvement in Regurgitation



# Freedom of PPI Dependence

## PERCENT OF PATIENTS TAKING ANY PPIs

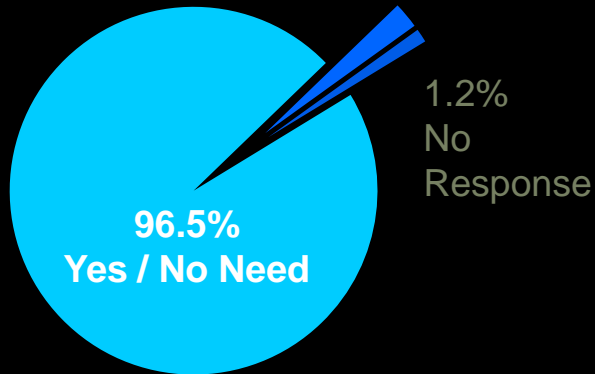


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# Ability to Belch & Vomit

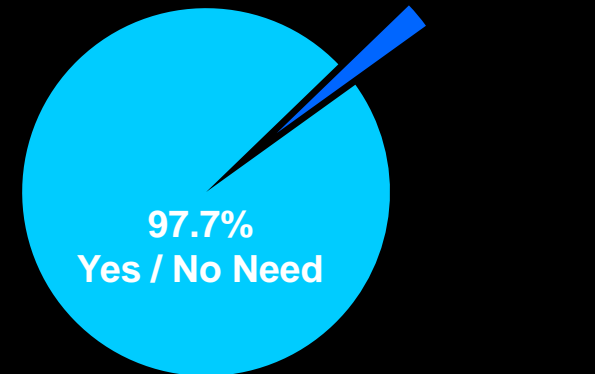
## ABILITY TO VOMIT AT 4 YEARS

(% patients reporting)



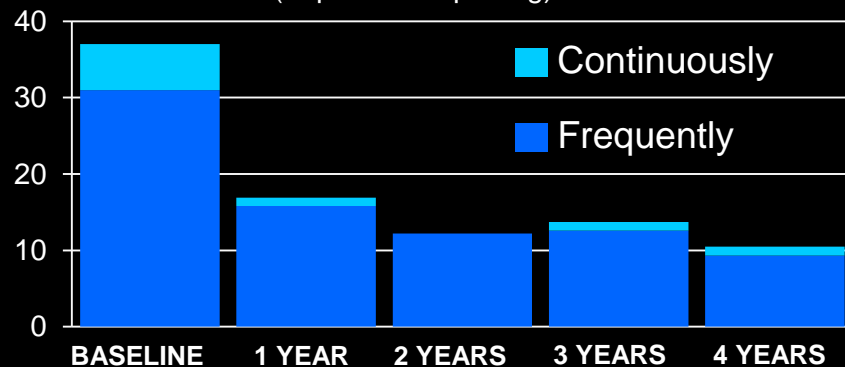
## ABILITY TO BELCH AT 4 YEARS

(% patients reporting)



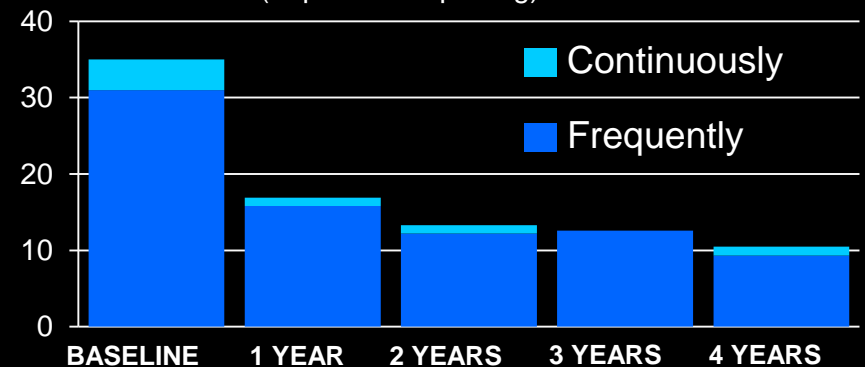
## BLOATING FREQUENCY

(% patients reporting)



## GAS FREQUENCY

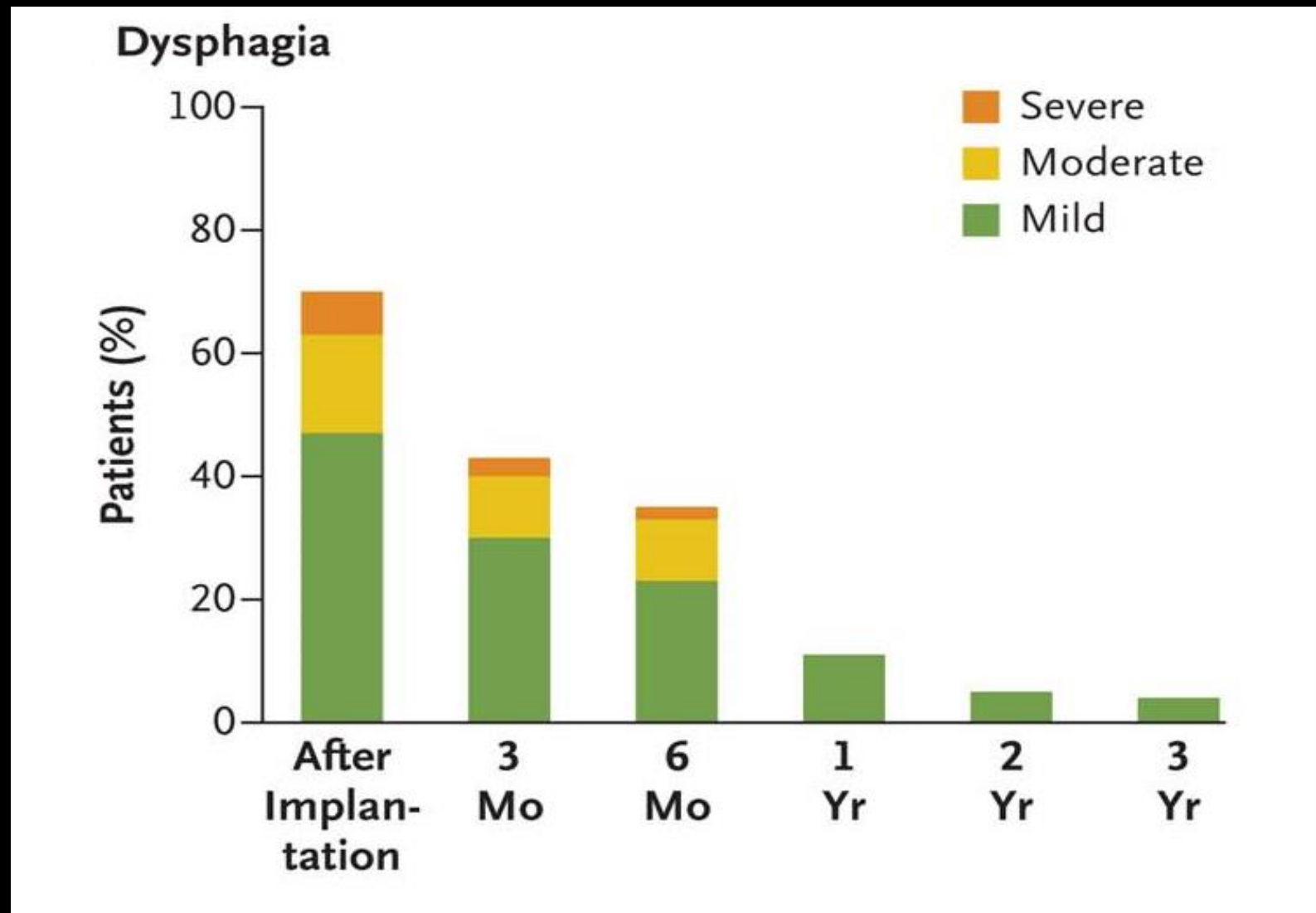
(% patients reporting)



# Side Effects



# Dysphagia



# Summary of LINX Safety

N=1048

	Pre-Approval Occurrence Rate	Post- Approval Occurrence Rate	Overall Occurrence Rate
Esophageal Dilation	13.9%	4.3%	5.6%
Device Removal	6.2%	3.0%	3.4%
Readmission Rate	2.1%	1.2%	1.3%
Perioperative Complication	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Device Erosion/Migration	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Device Malfunction	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Lipham et al, Safety Analysis of the First 1000 Patients Treated with Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation for GERD. *Diseases of the Esophagus* Apr 2014

# LINX Device Can Be Removed

- Laparoscopic procedure
- No complications related to removal
- Anatomy not significantly altered
- Nissen fundoplication an option after removal

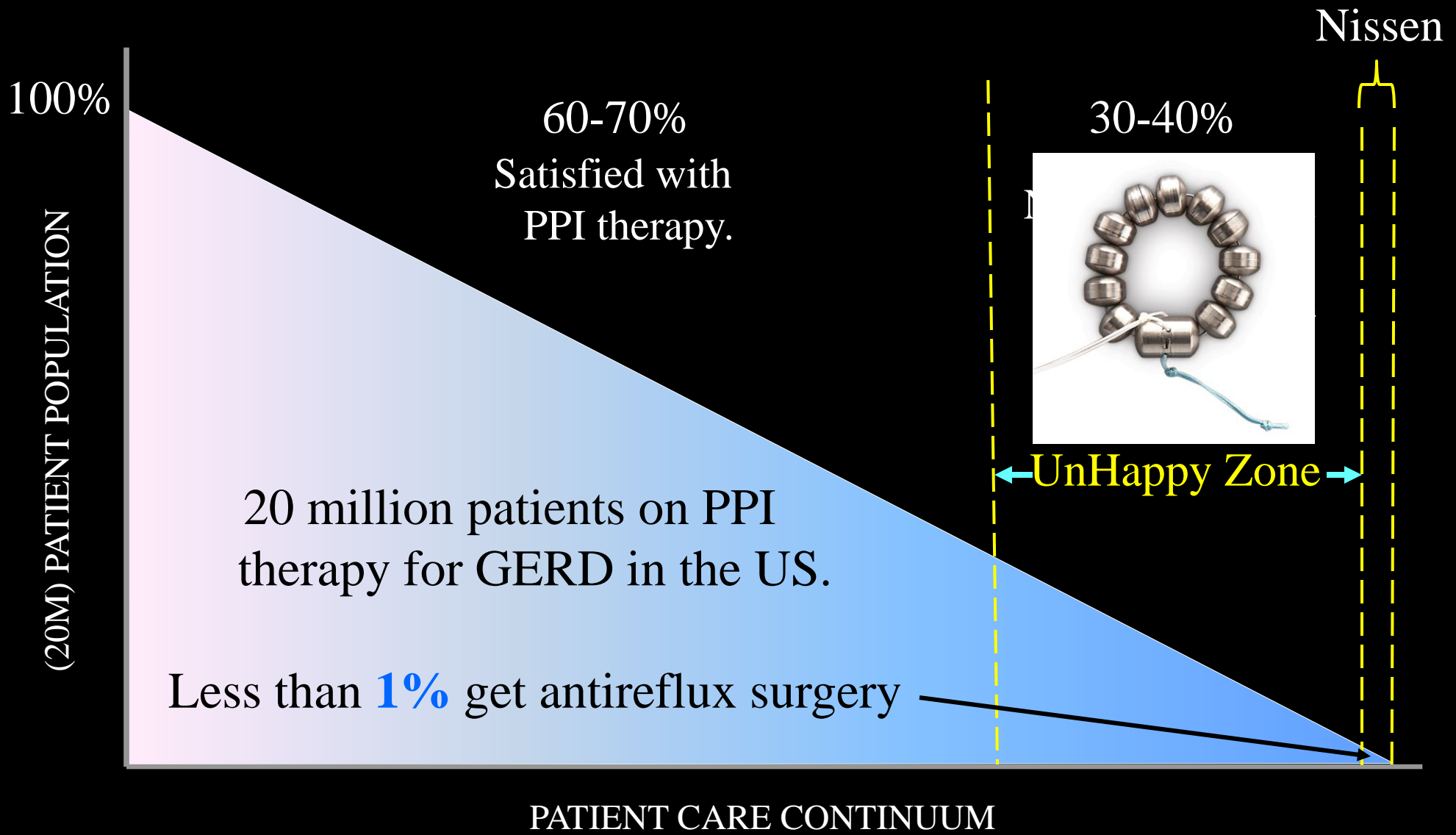
# World Wide Experience

- Total implants >2,000
- Follow-up >7 years
- No procedural complications
- Procedure Reversal Rate ~2-3%
  - ½ Persistent Dysphagia
  - ½ Continued GERD
- Safety:
  - No Migrations
  - 3 Erosion (0.2%)

# Who is the LINX Patient??

- Younger Patients
- Internet Savvy
  - Know more about the Linx than I do
  - Know more about Me than my Wife does
- Mild to Moderate GERD Patient
  - Smaller H.H
  - NERD or Mild Esophagitis (LA Grade A or B)
  - Normal Motility
  - Moderately Well Controlled on PPI's

# Who is the LINX Patient??



# A Better GERD Treatment Continuum

## PPI Responders

- Intermittent HB
- Food intolerance

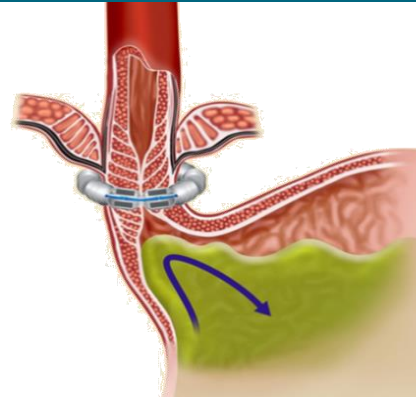
Medical Therapy: Transient  
Sphincter Failure



## Progressing Disease

- Escalating dosage
- Uncontrolled regurgitation
- New or worsening extra-esophageal symptoms
- Persistent esophagitis

LINX System: Partial  
Sphincter Failure



## End Stage Disease

- Barrett's esophagus
- Large hiatal hernia
- Esophageal dysmotility

Fundoplication: Advanced  
Sphincter Failure



# Conclusions

- LINX provides an option for patients not fully responsive PPIs and not pursuing Nissen fundoplication
- Valid scientific data that supports safety and effectiveness:
  - Reduced acid exposure (Normalization 80%)
  - Improved symptoms (>90% Satisfied)
  - Elimination of PPI Use (85%)
- Benefits outweigh risks
- Stop the Progression of GERD