# FeedRite Feeding Tube

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# Problem

Gastric bypass is an invasive procedure that requires up to 5 days of hospitalization and has a narrow patient population (those with a BMI greater than 40 or greater than 35 with obesity-related conditions; roughly 18 million Americans) in comparison with the rate of obesity in America (78.6 million Americans; defined as BMI > 30). In addition, gastric bypass can cost ~\$25,000 (depending on state of residence), reducing the number of patients who receive the procedure to 1% of those who qualify. Current analogs to gastric bypass use naso-duodenal feeding tubes that rely on repeated fluoroscopic procedures and several hours for proper tube placement.



# Background

- Problems: Obesity, Type II Diabetes
- Solution: Gastric Bypass Surgery
  - Lose weight, may reverse diabetes
  - Expensive
  - Invasive and risky



# Background

Alternative Solution: Naso-duodenal Feeding Tube

- Confirmation of placement X-ray
- **Existing device Cortrak EAS**
- Our design less expensive, confident placement







# **Potential Market**

- Obesity and Type II Diabetes 9 % of American adults
- Gastric Bypass Procedures 180,000 per year
- □ Marketing:
  - Medical professionals at hospitals
  - Individual patients at home

### **Needs Assessment**

- Device must be radiation-free
- Device must integrate a second method that ensures proper tube positioning
- Feeding tube must require 1 outpatient appointment for placement
- Tubing must be biocompatible
- Must be portable such that it can be used throughout a hospital
- Primary placement tool must be detachable from tube after placement
- Device must verify differences between duodenum and jejunum
- Device must provide real-time updates of tube position

# **Original Design Components**

#### Confirming Position

- pH sensors
- Gastrointestinal motility sensors
- Imaging
  - Ultrasound
  - Camera
- Aim
  - Minimize cost and equipment
  - Maximum return for money invested

# **Design Components**



- Mimic endoscope surrounded by feeding tube
- Camera
  - □ Visualize current position
  - Measure gastrointestinal motility
- Strain Gages
  - Track path
- Removable insert

### Future Design Considerations

- Measure motility using electromyography
- Handle and camera/light controls
- Attachment and detachment of tube for smooth insertion and removal
- Specific materials

# Conclusions

- Effective alternative to gastric bypass surgery
- Very open market
  - Only one competitor
  - □ Significant differences between the two devices
- Many options for placement assessment
  - Imaging
  - Physiological Sensors
  - Electromyography

### **Next Steps**

#### Advisor Meetings

- Dr. Naji Abumrad Thursday, November 19
- Dr. Pietro Valdastri, Dr. William Grissom, Dr. Cynthia Paschal
- Narrowing down features
- Locating facility to test device
- Initial prototyping