What is claimed is:

1. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated portion having a distal end, a proximal end, a first substrate member, and a first polymer portion;

a second elongated portion having a distal end, a proximal end, a second substrate member, and a second polymer portion;

a bight portion having a flexible hinge formed at least partially from a third polymer portion, the bight portion joining the first and second elongated portions at the proximal end of the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp and the proximal end of the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp;

a fastener portion disposed towards the distal end of the second elongated portion; and

an engagement portion disposed adjacent the first elongated portion, the engagement portion operable to engage the fastener portion to retain the bariatric clamp in a substantially closed position.

2. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first substrate member or second substrate member is partially disposed within the bight portion.

3. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second substrate members are comprised of titanium.

4. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the fastener portion includes one or more openings operable to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion.

5. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the first polymer portion, second polymer portion, and third polymer portion comprise a polymer overmold of the bariatric clamp.

6. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the first and second elongated portions of the bariatric clamp form a partition-forming section located towards the distal end of the bariatric clamp when the bariatric clamp is in the substantially closed position, and the bight portion of the bariatric clamp forms a passage-forming section located towards the proximal end of the bariatric clamp when the bariatric clamp is in the substantially closed position.

7. The bariatric clamp of claim 6, wherein the flexible hinge allows for fluctuation of the passage-forming section.

8. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein a spacing between interior surfaces of the first and second elongated portions may be adjusted by disengaging the engagement portion from the fastener portion, and reengaging the engagement portion with the fastener portion to retain the bariatric clamp in a second substantially closed position.

9. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the engagement portion is integrated with the first elongated portion.

10. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the engagement portion includes a hook feature disposed towards the distal end of the first elongated portion.

11. The bariatric clamp of claim 10, wherein the first substrate member comprises at least a portion of the hook feature.

12. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the engagement portion includes at least one raised member disposed on an outer surface of the first elongated portion.

13. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the engagement portion includes at least one retaining loop operable to retain at least a portion of the fastener portion.

14. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first polymer portion and the second polymer portion fully encloses the respective one of the first substrate member and second substrate member.

15. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first polymer portion and the second polymer portion at least partially encloses the respective one of the first substrate member and second substrate member.

16. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the bight portion further includes at least one of at least a portion of the first substrate member and at least a portion of the second substrate member.

17. A method for installing a bariatric clamp having at least a first elongated portion, a second elongated portion, and a flexible hinge, the method comprising:

creating an opening in an abdominal cavity of a patient to access a stomach of the patient;

removing tissue connected to an exterior surface of the stomach adjacent areas where the bariatric clamp is to be positioned;

positioning the bariatric clamp in an open position such that a first end of the first elongated portion and a first end of the second elongated portion are open relative to one another, and a second end of the first elongated portion and the second end of the second elongated portion are linked through one or more members that include the flexible hinge;

inserting the bariatric clamp into the abdominal cavity through the opening while the clamp is positioned in the open position, and wherein the first elongated portion and the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp separately pass through the opening in the abdominal cavity;

positioning the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp adjacent a portion of the exterior surface of a second side of the stomach;

positioning the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp adjacent a portion of the exterior surface of a first side of the stomach; and

closing the bariatric clamp to apply pressure to the portions of the exterior surfaces of the stomach to at least partially partition a cavity inside the stomach.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein creating the opening in the abdominal cavity of the patient comprises inserting one or more trocars into the abdominal cavity of the patient.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein positioning the bariatric clamp in an opened position includes positioning the bariatric clamp in an expanded position by placing the bariatric clamp in the opened position such that a length of the first elongated portion is substantially collinear with a length of the second elongated portion.

20. The method of claim 17, wherein positioning the bariatric clamp in an opened position includes positioning the bariatric clamp such that the bariatric clamp is capable of fitting into the opening of the abdominal cavity of the patient in the opened position.

21. The method of claim 17, wherein positioning the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp adjacent a portion of the exterior surface of the second side of the stomach comprises:

attaching a first end of a guide member to an alignment device;

positioning the alignment device along the second side of the stomach, and

positioning a portion of the alignment device adjacent the first side of the stomach with the first end of the guide member attached;

positioning at least a portion of the guide member on the first side of the stomach;

using the alignment device to position a first portion of the guide member along the second side of the stomach while a second portion of the guide member is positioned on the first side of the stomach;

attaching the first end of the guide member to the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp; and

engaging the second portion of the guide member to position the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp adjacent the second side of the stomach.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the first side of the stomach is primarily the anterior side of the stomach, and the second side of the stomach is primarily the posterior side of the stomach.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the first side of the stomach is primarily the posterior side of the stomach, and the second side of the stomach is primarily the anterior side of the stomach.

24. The method of claim 21, wherein the guide member comprises at least one from the group that includes a string, a thread, a twine, a wire, and a suture.

25. The method of claim 17, wherein closing the bariatric clamp comprises securing the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp to the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein securing the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp to the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp comprises engaging a first end of the second elongated portion with a fastener portion disposed at a first end of the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp to apply a desired pressure to

the portions of the exterior surfaces stomach to at least partially partition the cavity inside the stomach.

27. The method of claim 17, further comprising adjusting a length of the bariatric clamp.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein adjusting a length of the bariatric clamp includes at least one of adjusting a length of the first elongated portion and adjusting a length of the second elongated portion.

29. The method of claim 17, further comprising:

affixing at least a portion of the first elongated portion to the first side of the stomach, and

affixing at least a portion of the second elongated portion to the second side of the stomach.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein affixing at least a portion of the first elongated portion to the first side of the stomach includes suturing through an overmolded portion of the first elongated portion, and affixing at least a portion of the second elongated portion to the second side of the stomach includes suturing through an overmolded portion of the second elongated portion.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein affixing at least a portion of the first elongated portion to the first side of the stomach or at least a portion of the second elongated portion to the second side of the stomach includes at least one from the group

that includes: using suturing, using a toggle suture, using a suture attached to the bariatric clamp, using a needle attached to the bariatric clamp, using a curved needle attached to a portion of the bariatric clamp, and using a curved needle that is covered and attached to a portion of the bariatric clamp.

32. The method of claim 29, wherein at least one of the first and second elongated portions includes suturing needles at least partially embedded within the overmolded portions of the respective first and second elongated portions for suturing through the overmolded portions of the respective first and second elongated portions.

33. The method of claim 17, wherein closing the bariatric clamp to at least partially partition a cavity inside the stomach includes partitioning the stomach to create at least a partial stomach pouch to receive food adjacent the esophagus, and to create an excluded portion of the stomach, wherein a passage-forming section of the bariatric clamp positioned towards a bottom of the stomach allows gastric juices to flow between the excluded portion of the stomach and the stomach pouch.

34. The method of claim 17, further comprising adjusting the at least partially partitioned cavity inside the stomach.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein adjusting the at least partially partitioned cavity inside the stomach comprises adjusting a spacing between interior surfaces of the first and second elongated portions.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein adjusting the spacing between the interior surfaces of the first and second elongated portions comprises disengaging the first end of the second elongated portion from the fastener portion disposed at the first end of the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp, and reengaging the first end of the second elongated portion with a different portion of the fastener portion disposed at the first end of the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp to provide a desired pressure on the stomach by the bariatric clamp.

37. The method of claim 17, wherein at least one of the first elongated portion and second elongated portion comprises a substrate member at least partially enclosed within a polymer material.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the substrate member comprises titanium.

39. The method of claim 37, wherein the polymer material comprises silicone.

40. The method of claim 17, wherein a first section of the first elongated portion and a first section of the second elongated portion comprise a partition-forming section.

41. The method of claim 17, wherein a second section of the first elongated portion and a second section of the second elongated portion comprise a passage-forming section.

42. The method of claim 17, wherein the flexible hinge is stretchable and may twist to provide the first elongated member at a desired position in any of three orthogonal planes relative to the second elongated member, and further comprising:

positioning the first and the second elongated members of the bariatric clamp relative to one another within the abdominal cavity through, at least partially, twisting the flexible hinge.

43. The method of claim 17, wherein the flexible hinge may twist to provide the first elongated member at a desired position relative to the second elongated member, and further comprising:

positioning the first and the second elongated members of the bariatric clamp relative to one another within the abdominal cavity through, at least partially, twisting the flexible hinge.

44. A bariatric clamp, comprising:

a first elongated member having an engagement portion disposed towards a first end of the first elongated member;

a second elongated member having a fastener portion disposed adjacent a first end of the second elongated member; and

a bight member having a flexible hinge positioned adjacent a second end of the first elongated member, and a second end of the second elongated member;

wherein the first elongated member and second elongated member comprise a partition-forming section of the bariatric clamp when the bariatric clamp is closed through the engagement portion disposed towards the first end of the first elongated member and the fastener portion disposed adjacent the first end of the second elongated member, and wherein a passage-forming section is formed adjacent the bight member of the bariatric clamp.

45. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein at least one of the first elongated member and second elongated member comprises a substrate member at least partially enclosed within a polymer material.

46. The bariatric clamp of claim 45, wherein the substrate member comprises titanium.

47. The bariatric clamp of claim 45, wherein the polymer material comprises silicone.

48. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein the fastener portion includes one or more openings operable to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion.

49. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein the flexible hinge of the bight member permits fluctuation of the passage-forming section.

50. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein a spacing between interior surfaces of the first and second elongated members may be adjusted by disengaging the engagement portion from the fastener portion, and reengaging the engagement portion with the fastener portion to retain the bariatric clamp in a second closed position or state.

51. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein at least one of the first elongated member, the second elongated member and the bight member includes one or more suture needles at least partially embedded within a polymer overmold at least partially encapsulating the respective first elongated member, second elongated member or bight member.

52. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein at least one of the first elongated member, the second elongated member and the bight member includes one or more sections operable to receive a toggle suture assembly.

What is claimed is:

1. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated portion having a distal end, a proximal end, a first substrate member, and a first polymer portion surrounding at least the proximal end of the first elongated portion;

a second elongated portion having a distal end, a proximal end, a second substrate member, and a second polymer portion surrounding at least the proximal end of the second elongated portion;

a bight portion having a flexible hinge formed from a third polymer portion, the bight portion joining the first and second elongated portions at the proximal end of the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp and the proximal end of the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp via the third polymer portion, second polymer portion, and first polymer portion being integrally formed as a single unit;

a fastener portion disposed towards the distal end of the second elongated portion; and

an engagement portion disposed adjacent the first elongated portion, the engagement portion operable to engage the fastener portion to retain the bariatric clamp in a substantially closed position.

2. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first substrate member or second substrate member is partially disposed within the bight portion.

3. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second substrate members are comprised of titanium.

4. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the fastener portion includes one or more openings operable to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion.

5. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the first polymer portion, second polymer portion, and third polymer portion comprise a polymer overmold of the bariatric clamp.

6. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the first and second elongated portions of the bariatric clamp form a partition-forming section located towards the distal end of the bariatric clamp when the bariatric clamp is in the substantially closed position, and the bight portion of the bariatric clamp forms a passage-forming section located towards the proximal end of the bariatric clamp when the bariatric clamp is in the substantially closed position.

7. The bariatric clamp of claim 6, wherein the flexible hinge allows for fluctuation of the passage-forming section.

8. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein a spacing between interior surfaces of the first and second elongated portions may be adjusted by disengaging the engagement portion from the fastener portion, and reengaging the engagement portion with the fastener portion to retain the bariatric clamp in a second substantially closed position.

9. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the engagement portion is integrated with the first elongated portion.

10. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the engagement portion includes a hook feature disposed towards the distal end of the first elongated portion.

11. The bariatric clamp of claim 10, wherein the first substrate member comprises at least a portion of the hook feature.

12. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the engagement portion includes at least one raised member disposed on an outer surface of the first elongated portion.

13. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the engagement portion includes at least one retaining loop operable to retain at least a portion of the fastener portion.

14. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first polymer portion and the second polymer portion fully encloses the respective one of the first substrate member and second substrate member.

15. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first polymer portion and the second polymer portion at least partially encloses the respective one of the first substrate member and second substrate member.

16. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the bight portion further includes at least one of at least a portion of the first substrate member and at least a portion of the second substrate member.

17. A method for installing a bariatric clamp having at least a first elongated portion, a second elongated portion, and a flexible hinge, the method comprising:

creating an opening in an abdominal cavity of a patient to access a stomach of the patient;

removing tissue connected to an exterior surface of the stomach adjacent areas where the bariatric clamp is to be positioned;

positioning the bariatric clamp in an open position such that a first end of the first elongated portion and a first end of the second elongated portion are open relative to one another such that the first end of the first elongated portion and the first end of the second elongated portion are not opposite one another, and a second end of the first elongated portion and the second end of the second elongated portion are linked through one or more members that include the flexible hinge;

inserting the bariatric clamp into the abdominal cavity through the opening while the clamp is positioned in the open position, and wherein the first elongated portion and the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp separately pass through the opening in the abdominal cavity at different times; positioning the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp adjacent a portion of the exterior surface of a second side of the stomach;

positioning the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp adjacent a portion of the exterior surface of a first side of the stomach; and

closing the bariatric clamp to apply pressure to the portions of the exterior

surfaces of the stomach to at least partially partition a cavity inside the stomach.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein creating the opening in the abdominal cavity of the patient comprises inserting one or more trocars into the abdominal cavity of the patient.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein positioning the bariatric clamp in an opened position includes positioning the bariatric clamp in an expanded position by placing the bariatric clamp in the opened position such that a length of the first elongated portion is substantially collinear with a length of the second elongated portion.

20. The method of claim 17, wherein positioning the bariatric clamp in an opened position includes positioning the bariatric clamp such that the bariatric clamp is capable of fitting into the opening of the abdominal cavity of the patient in the opened position.

21. The method of claim 17, wherein positioning the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp adjacent a portion of the exterior surface of the second side of the stomach comprises:

attaching a first end of a guide member to an alignment device;

positioning the alignment device along the second side of the stomach, and

positioning a portion of the alignment device adjacent the first side of the stomach with the first end of the guide member attached; positioning at least a portion of the guide member on the first side of the stomach; using the alignment device to position a first portion of the guide member along the second side of the stomach while a second portion of the guide member is positioned on the first side of the stomach;

attaching the first end of the guide member to the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp; and

engaging the second portion of the guide member to position the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp adjacent the second side of the stomach.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the first side of the stomach is primarily the anterior side of the stomach, and the second side of the stomach is primarily the posterior side of the stomach.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the first side of the stomach is primarily the posterior side of the stomach, and the second side of the stomach is primarily the anterior side of the stomach.

24. The method of claim 21, wherein the guide member comprises at least one from the group that includes a string, a thread, a twine, a wire, and a suture.

25. The method of claim 17, wherein closing the bariatric clamp comprises securing the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp to the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein securing the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp to the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp comprises engaging a first end of the second elongated portion with a fastener portion disposed at a first end of the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp to apply a desired pressure to the portions of the exterior surfaces stomach to at least partially partition the cavity inside the stomach.

27. The method of claim 17, further comprising adjusting a length of the bariatric clamp.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein adjusting a length of the bariatric clamp includes at least one of adjusting a length of the first elongated portion and adjusting a length of the second elongated portion.

29. The method of claim 17, further comprising:

affixing at least a portion of the first elongated portion to the first side of the stomach, and

affixing at least a portion of the second elongated portion to the second side of the stomach.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein affixing at least a portion of the first elongated portion to the first side of the stomach includes suturing through an overmolded portion of the first elongated portion, and affixing at least a portion of the second elongated portion to the second side of the stomach includes suturing through an overmolded portion of the second elongated portion.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein affixing at least a portion of the first elongated portion to the first side of the stomach or at least a portion of the second elongated portion to the second side of the stomach includes at least one from the group

that includes: using suturing, using a toggle suture, using a suture attached to the bariatric clamp, using a needle attached to the bariatric clamp, using a curved needle attached to a portion of the bariatric clamp, and using a curved needle that is covered and attached to a portion of the bariatric clamp.

32. The method of claim 29, wherein at least one of the first and second elongated portions includes suturing needles at least partially embedded within the overmolded portions of the respective first and second elongated portions for suturing through the overmolded portions of the respective first and second elongated portions.

33. The method of claim 17, wherein closing the bariatric clamp to at least partially partition a cavity inside the stomach includes partitioning the stomach to create at least a partial stomach pouch to receive food adjacent the esophagus, and to create an excluded portion of the stomach, wherein a passage-forming section of the bariatric clamp positioned towards a bottom of the stomach allows gastric juices to flow between the excluded portion of the stomach and the stomach pouch.

34. The method of claim 17, further comprising adjusting the at least partially partitioned cavity inside the stomach.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein adjusting the at least partially partitioned cavity inside the stomach comprises adjusting a spacing between interior surfaces of the first and second elongated portions.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein adjusting the spacing between the interior surfaces of the first and second elongated portions comprises disengaging the first end of the second elongated portion from the fastener portion disposed at the first end of the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp, and reengaging the first end of the second elongated portion with a different portion of the fastener portion disposed at the first end of the first elongated portion of the bariatric clamp to provide a desired pressure on the stomach by the bariatric clamp.

37. The method of claim 17, wherein at least one of the first elongated portion and second elongated portion comprises a substrate member at least partially enclosed within a polymer material.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the substrate member comprises titanium.

39. The method of claim 37, wherein the polymer material comprises silicone.

40. The method of claim 17, wherein a first section of the first elongated portion and a first section of the second elongated portion comprise a partition-forming section.

41. The method of claim 17, wherein a second section of the first elongated portion and a second section of the second elongated portion comprise a passage-forming section.

42. The method of claim 17, wherein the flexible hinge is stretchable and may twist to provide the first elongated member at a desired position in any of three orthogonal planes relative to the second elongated member, and further comprising: positioning the first and the second elongated members of the bariatric clamp relative to one another within the abdominal cavity through, at least partially, twisting the flexible hinge.

43. The method of claim 17, wherein the flexible hinge may twist to provide the first elongated member at a desired position relative to the second elongated member, and further comprising:

positioning the first and the second elongated members of the bariatric clamp relative to one another within the abdominal cavity through, at least partially, twisting the flexible hinge.

44. A bariatric clamp, comprising:

a first elongated member having an engagement portion disposed towards a first end of the first elongated member;

a second elongated member having a fastener portion disposed adjacent a first end of the second elongated member; and

a bight member having a flexible hinge formed of a polymer material and positioned adjacent a second end of the first elongated member, and a second end of the second elongated member;

wherein the first elongated member and second elongated member comprise a partition-forming section of the bariatric clamp when the bariatric clamp is closed through the engagement portion disposed towards the first end of the first elongated member and the fastener portion disposed adjacent the first end of the second elongated member, and wherein a passage-forming section is formed adjacent the bight member of the bariatric clamp.

45. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein at least one of the first elongated member and second elongated member comprises a substrate member at least partially enclosed within a polymer material.

46. The bariatric clamp of claim 45, wherein the substrate member comprises titanium.

47. The bariatric clamp of claim 45, wherein the polymer material comprises silicone.

48. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein the fastener portion includes one or more openings operable to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion.

49. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein the flexible hinge of the bight member permits fluctuation of the passage-forming section.

50. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein a spacing between interior surfaces of the first and second elongated members may be adjusted by disengaging the engagement

portion from the fastener portion, and reengaging the engagement portion with the fastener portion to retain the bariatric clamp in a second closed position or state.

51. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein at least one of the first elongated member, the second elongated member and the bight member includes one or more suture needles at least partially embedded within a polymer overmold at least partially encapsulating the respective first elongated member, second elongated member or bight member.

52. The bariatric clamp of claim 44, wherein at least one of the first elongated member, the second elongated member and the bight member includes one or more sections operable to receive a toggle suture assembly.