CLAIMS

1. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated portion having a distal end and a proximal end,

wherein at least a portion of the first elongated portion extends along a first longitudinal axis extending from the distal end to the proximal end when viewed from a first direction,

wherein the first longitudinal axis of the first elongated portion lies in a first x-y plane of an x-y-z coordinate system, the proximal end being an outermost first end in a positive-x direction and the distal end being an outermost first end in a negative-x direction;

a second elongated portion having a distal end and a proximal end,

wherein at least a portion of the second elongated portion extends along a second longitudinal axis extending from the distal end to the proximal end when viewed from the first direction,

wherein the second elongated portion is positionable so that the second longitudinal axis of the second elongated portion is in a second x-y plane of the x-y-z coordinate system, the proximal end being an outermost second end in the positive-x direction and the distal end being an outermost second end in the negative-x direction,

the second x-y plane being positionable parallel to the first x-y plane but spaced apart in a positive-z direction;

a bight portion comprising:

a first bend section at the distal end of the first elongated portion and comprising a first member bent outwardly away from the first elongated portion at least partially in a direction composed of negative-z and negative-x vector components;

a second bend section at the distal end of the second elongated portion and comprising a second member bent outwardly away from the second elongated portion at least partially in a direction made composed of positive-z and negative-x vector components;

a third member extending from the first bend section in a negative-x direction and lying in a third x-y plane spaced outwardly from the first x-y plane in a negative-z direction;

a fourth member extending from the second bend section in a negative-x direction and positionable in a fourth x-y plane spaced outwardly from the second x-y plane in a positive-z direction; and

a flexible hinge joining the third and fourth members;

wherein the first and second elongated portions of the bariatric clamp form a partition-forming section located toward a proximal end of the bariatric clamp when the bariatric clamp is in a closed position,

wherein the partition-forming section is configured to apply pressure to a stomach,

wherein the first bend section, the second bend section, the third member, and the fourth member of the bariatric clamp form at least a portion of a passage-forming section located towards a distal end of the bariatric clamp when the bariatric clamp is in the closed position,

wherein the passage-forming section is configured to permit gastric juices to flow from an excluded section of the stomach into a pouch of the stomach, and

wherein the passage-forming section comprises an aperture at least partially defined by the bight portion.

2. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the aperture is larger in the x-axis direction than in the z-axis direction.

3. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the first elongated portion has a first thickness measured perpendicularly to the first longitudinal axis along a first lateral direction in a y-z plane, the first lateral direction being orthogonal to the first longitudinal axis, and

wherein the second elongated portion has a second thickness measured perpendicularly to the second longitudinal axis along a second lateral direction in the y-z plane, the second lateral direction being orthogonal to the second longitudinal axis.

4. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, further comprising:

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

5. The bariatric clamp of claim 4, further comprising:

the fastener portion disposed towards the proximal end of the second elongated portion, wherein the fastener portion includes one or more openings operable to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion.

6. The bariatric clamp of claim 5, 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 closed position.

7. The bariatric clamp of claim 4, wherein the engagement portion is integrated with the first elongated portion.

8. The bariatric clamp of claim 4, wherein the engagement portion includes a hook feature disposed towards the proximal end of the first elongated portion.

9. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the first elongated portion further comprises at least one suture pass-through hole defined through the first elongated portion and configured to receive a suture to suture the bariatric clamp to a stomach.

10. The bariatric clamp according to claim 1, further comprising a guide member comprising a string attached to the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp.

11. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the x-y-z coordinate system is a right-handed Cartesian x-y-z coordinate system.

12. A bariatric clamp, comprising:

a first elongated member comprising:

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

a first portion providing at least a portion of a partition-forming section of the bariatric clamp configured to apply pressure to a stomach when the bariatric clamp is closed;

a second elongated member comprising:

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

a second portion providing at least a portion of the partition-forming section of the bariatric clamp configured to apply pressure to the stomach when the bariatric clamp is closed,

wherein the first elongated member further comprises a first bent portion extending from a second end of the first elongated member,

wherein the second elongated member further comprises a second bent portion, extending from a second end of the second elongated member,

wherein the first bent portion extends cantilevered away from the first portion and join a third portion extending in about a same direction as the first portion,

wherein the second bent portion extends cantilevered at a second angle away from the second portion and joins a fourth portion extending in about a same direction as the second portion; and

a bight member having a flexible hinge connecting the third portion and the fourth portion.

13. The bariatric clamp of claim 12, wherein the passage-forming section comprises an aperture at least partially defined by the bight member of the bariatric clamp, the first bent portion, the third portion, the second bent portion, and the fourth portion, and is configured to permit gastric juices to flow from an excluded section of the stomach to a pouch of the stomach.

14. The bariatric clamp of claim 12, wherein the fastener portion includes one or more openings operable to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion.

15. The bariatric clamp of claim 12, 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.

16. The bariatric clamp of claim 12, wherein the first elongated member further comprises at least one suture pass-through hole defined through the first elongated member in a direction toward the second elongated member and configured to receive a suture to suture the bariatric clamp to a stomach.

17. The bariatric clamp according to claim 12, further comprising a guide member comprising a string attached to the second elongated portion of the bariatric clamp.

18. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated member lying at least partially in a first x-y plane of an x-y-z coordinate system and having a first distal end and a first proximal end providing opposite ends of the first elongated member along an x-axis of the x-y-z coordinate system;

a first bent portion connected to the first distal end of the first elongated member and bending outwardly at least partially along a z-axis of the x-y-z coordinate system;

a second elongated member connected to the first bent portion and lying at least partially in a second x-y plane of the x-y-z coordinate system and having a second distal end and a second proximal end providing opposite ends of the second elongated member along the x-axis of the x-y-z coordinate system, the second proximal end connecting to the first bent portion,

wherein the second x-y plane is spaced from the first x-y plane along the z-axis of the x-y-z coordinate system;

a third elongated member lying at least partially in a third x-y plane of the x-y-z coordinate system and having a third distal end and a third proximal end providing opposite ends of the third elongated member along the x-axis of the x-y-z coordinate system;

a second bent portion connected to the third distal end of the third elongated member and bending outwardly at least partially along a z-axis of the x-y-z coordinate system;

a fourth elongated member connected to the second bent portion and lying at least partially in a fourth x-y plane of the x-y-z coordinate system and having a fourth distal end and a fourth proximal end providing opposite ends of the fourth elongated member along the x-axis, the fourth proximal end connecting to the second bent portion,

wherein the third x-y plane is spaced from the second x-y plane along the z-axis of the x-y-z coordinate system,

wherein the fourth x-y plane is spaced from the third x-y plane along the z-axis of the x-y-z coordinate system; and

a bight member connecting the second distal end of the second elongated member to the fourth distal end of the fourth elongated member.

19. The bariatric clamp of claim 18, wherein the bight member comprises a flexible hinge.

20. The bariatric clamp of claim 18, wherein the first x-y plane and the second x-y plane are parallel and wherein the third x-y plane and the fourth x-y plane are parallel.