CLAIMS

1. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated member having a first proximal end and a first distal end opposite the first proximal end, and a first longitudinal axis that is defined between the first distal end and the first proximal end of the first elongated member;

a second elongated member having a second proximal end and a second distal end opposite the second proximal end, and a second longitudinal axis that is defined between the second distal end and the second proximal end of the second elongated member; and

a bight portion forming a flexible hinge joining the first elongated member at the first proximal end thereof and joining the second elongated member at the second proximal end thereof,

wherein, when the bariatric clamp is in a substantially closed position, at least a first portion of the first elongated member has a first curve that is curved along at least a first portion of the first longitudinal axis away from the second elongated member at a location between the first proximal end and the first distal end of the first elongated member, and at least a second portion of the first elongated member has a second curve that is curved along at least a second portion of the first longitudinal axis toward the second elongated member at a location between the first proximal end and the first distal end of the first elongated member.

2. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein the first elongated member includes a suture portion configured for forming a suture connection using a suture needle for formation of the suture connection.

3. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated member having a first proximal end and a first distal end opposite the first proximal end, and a first longitudinal axis that is defined between the first distal end and the first proximal end of the first elongated member;

a polymer portion at least partly overmolded on the first elongated member,

a second elongated member having a second proximal end and a second distal end opposite the second proximal end, and a second longitudinal axis that is defined between the second distal end and the second proximal end of the second elongated member; and

a bight portion forming a flexible hinge joining the first elongated member at the first proximal end thereof and joining the second elongated member at the second proximal end thereof,

wherein, when the bariatric clamp is in a substantially closed position, at least a portion of the first elongated member has a first curve that is curved along at least a portion of the first longitudinal axis toward the second elongated member at a location between the first proximal end and the first distal end of the first elongated member,

wherein the first elongated member includes a first suture portion that includes one or more suture passageways, and

wherein the polymer portion is at least partially disposed within the one or more suture passageways and is configured to be penetrable by a suture needle for formation of a suture connection.

4. The bariatric clamp of claim 3, wherein at least a portion of the second elongated member is curved along at least a portion of the second longitudinal axis toward the first elongated member at a location between the second proximal end and the second distal end of the second elongated member.

5. The bariatric clamp of claim 3, further comprising a closure mechanism comprising:

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

a fastener portion disposed adjacent the second distal end of the second elongated member comprising one or more openings to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion to retain the bariatric clamp in the closed position.

6. The bariatric clamp of claim 3, further comprising a closure mechanism comprising:

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

a fastener portion disposed adjacent the second proximal end of the second elongated member comprising one or more openings to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion to retain the bariatric clamp in the closed position.

7. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated portion comprising a first substrate member at least partially overmolded with a first polymer portion, the first substrate member including a recess with at least a portion of a first magnetic retaining feature positioned within the recess of the first substrate member;

a second elongated portion comprising a second substrate member and a second magnetic retaining feature associated with the second substrate member; and

a bight portion comprising a flexible hinge joining the first elongated portion and the second elongated portion at respective proximal ends thereof,

wherein the first magnetic retaining feature extends across at least a portion of an inner surface of the first substrate member and the second magnetic retaining feature extends across at least a portion of an inner surface of the second substrate member such that, when the bariatric clamp is positioned around a stomach, the first and second magnetic retaining features are urged toward each other via magnetism to thereby retain the bariatric clamp in a substantially closed position.

8. The bariatric clamp of claim 7, wherein at least one of the first magnetic retaining feature and the second magnetic retaining feature is a magnet, and the other of the first magnetic retaining feature and the second magnetic retaining feature is a metal that is magnetically attracted by the magnet.

9. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated member that includes a first substrate member;

a second elongated member that includes a second substrate member; and

a bight portion forming a flexible hinge joining the first elongated member and the second elongated member;

wherein the first elongated member includes a first plurality of suture portions configured to facilitate formation of a suture connection with a patient's stomach,

wherein a first suture portion of the first plurality of suture portions comprises a first suture passageway, wherein the first suture passageway comprises a first aperture defined through the first substrate member of the first elongated member and at least a portion of the first suture portion is overlaid by a first polymer portion, and

wherein the first polymer portion is penetrable by a suture needle.

10. The bariatric clamp of claim 9,

wherein the second substrate member of the second elongated member includes a second plurality of suture portions, and

wherein the first plurality of suture portions are aligned with the second plurality of suture portions when the bariatric clamp is in a substantially closed position.

11. The bariatric clamp of claim 9, wherein the second substrate member of the second elongated member includes a second plurality of suture portions, and

wherein the first plurality of suture portions are not aligned with the second plurality of suture portions when the bariatric clamp is in a substantially closed position.

12. The bariatric clamp of claim 9, wherein the first polymer portion comprises a polymer overmold of at least a portion of the bariatric clamp.

13. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated member having a first proximal end and a first distal end opposite the first proximal end, and a first longitudinal axis that is defined between the first distal end and the first proximal end of the first elongated member;

a second elongated member having a second proximal end and a second distal end opposite the second proximal end, and a second longitudinal axis that is defined between the second distal end and the second proximal end of the second elongated member; and

a bight portion having a flexible hinge joining the first elongated member at the first proximal end thereof and joining the second elongated member at the second proximal end thereof,

wherein, when the bariatric clamp is in a closed position, the bight portion at least partially forms a passage-forming section and the first elongated member and the second elongated member form a partition-forming section,

wherein at least a portion of the first elongated member includes a first curve that is curved and positioned between the distal end and the proximal end along the first longitudinal axis away from the second elongated member, thereby defining a curved separation in the partition-forming section between the first elongated member and the second elongated member, and

wherein at least a portion of the first elongated member includes a second curve that is positioned between the first curve and the proximal end of the first elongated member.

14. A bariatric clamp comprising:

a first elongated member having a first proximal end and a first distal end opposite the first proximal end, and a first longitudinal axis that is defined between the first distal end and the first proximal end of the first elongated member;

a polymer portion that overlays at least a portion of the first elongated member;

a second elongated member having a second proximal end and a second distal end opposite the second proximal end, and a second longitudinal axis that is defined between the second distal end and the second proximal end of the second elongated member; and

a bight portion having a flexible hinge joining the first elongated member at the first proximal end thereof and joining the second elongated member at the second proximal end thereof,

wherein, when the bariatric clamp is in a substantially closed position, the bight portion at least partially forms a passage-forming section and the first elongated member and the second elongated member form a partition-forming section,

wherein, when the bariatric clamp is in the substantially closed position, at least a portion of the first elongated member includes a first curve that is curved and positioned between the distal end and the proximal end along the first longitudinal axis away from the second elongated member, thereby defining a curved separation in the partition-forming section between the first elongated member and the second elongated member,

wherein the first elongated member includes a suture portion configured to facilitate formation of a suture connection with a patient's stomach,

wherein the suture portion comprises an aperture formed through the first elongated member and at least a portion of the aperture of the suture portion is overlaid by the polymer portion that is penetrable by a suture needle.

15. The bariatric clamp of claim 14,

wherein the second elongated member includes a second suture portion, and

wherein the suture portion of the first elongated member is aligned with the second suture portion of the second elongated member when the bariatric clamp is in the substantially closed position.

16. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the second elongated member is curved along at least a portion of the second longitudinal axis toward the first elongated member at a location between the second proximal end and the second distal end of the second elongated member.

17. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, further comprising a closure mechanism comprising:

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

a fastener portion disposed adjacent the second distal end of the second elongated member comprising one or more openings to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion to retain the bariatric clamp in the closed position.

18. The bariatric clamp of claim 1, further comprising a closure mechanism comprising:

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

a fastener portion disposed adjacent the second proximal end of the second elongated member comprising one or more openings to receive at least a portion of the engagement portion to retain the bariatric clamp in the closed position.

19. The bariatric clamp of claim 7, wherein the first elongated portion includes a suture portion configured to facilitate formation of a suture connection with a patient's stomach, the suture portion including an aperture defined through the first substrate member of the first elongated portion.