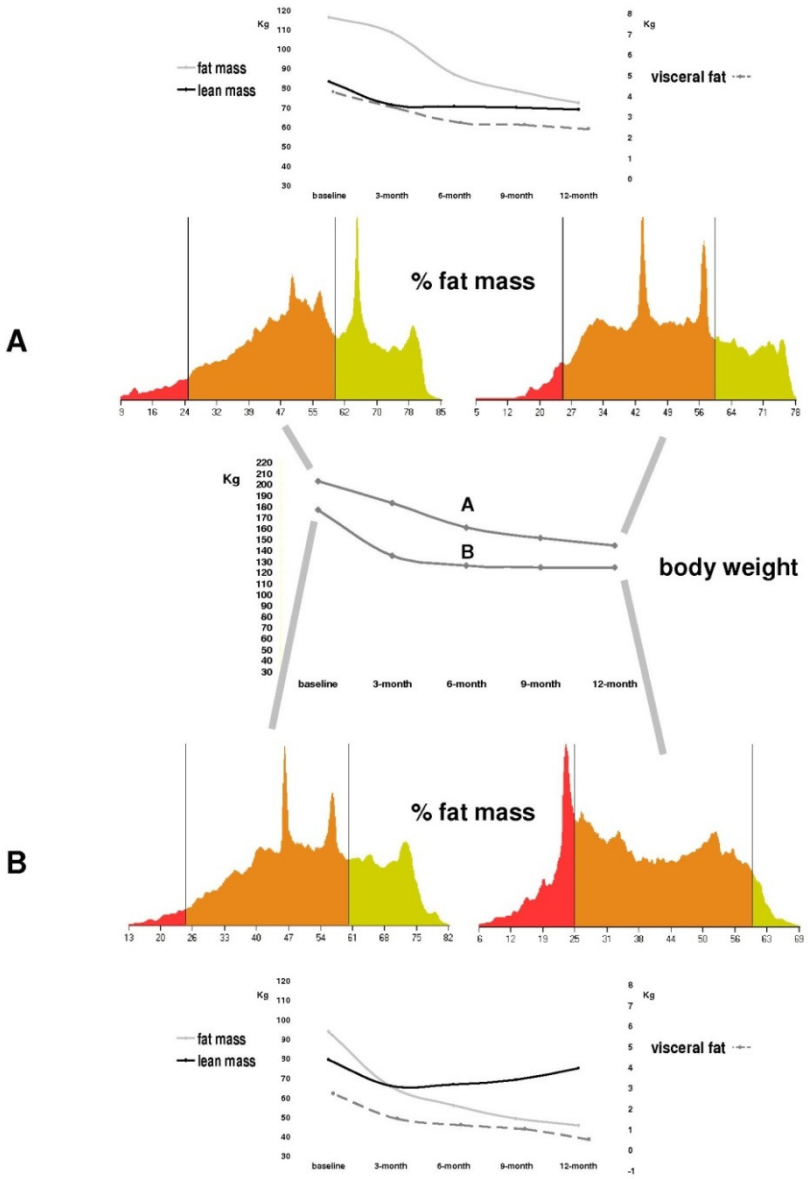

Appendix 1 (as supplied by the authors): Histograms showing the fat composition of a 31-year old man (A) and a 26-year-old woman (B) with grade III obesity from baseline to 12 months after bariatric surgery. The corresponding graphs (upper and lower) show the trends of values of lean mass (black line), fat mass (light grey line), and visceral fat mass (light grey broken line). In contrast to the central graph showing similar changes in body weight, the upper and lower graphs show that there is a rapid and favourable inversion of fat / lean mass ratio in patient B beginning at 3 months.

Notwithstanding limitations because of the projective technique of imaging data acquisition by DXA, a new available software allows an accurate and differential estimate of visceral fat in the android region. The system automatically detects the thickness of the layer of subcutaneous adipose tissue (SAT) at the sides of the android region, allowing the software to map and to estimate the total SAT compartment. Afterwards, the amount of android visceral adipose tissue (VAT) is indirectly derived by subtracting SAT from the total android fat mass (VAT = android fat mass – SAT) [1].

References

1. Kaul S, Rothney MP, Peters DM, et al. Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry for quantification of visceral fat. *Obesity (Silver Springer)* 2012;20(6):1313-8.

Appendix to: Bazzocchi A, Diano D. Dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry in obesity. *CMAJ* 2013.
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