

Health & Medicine

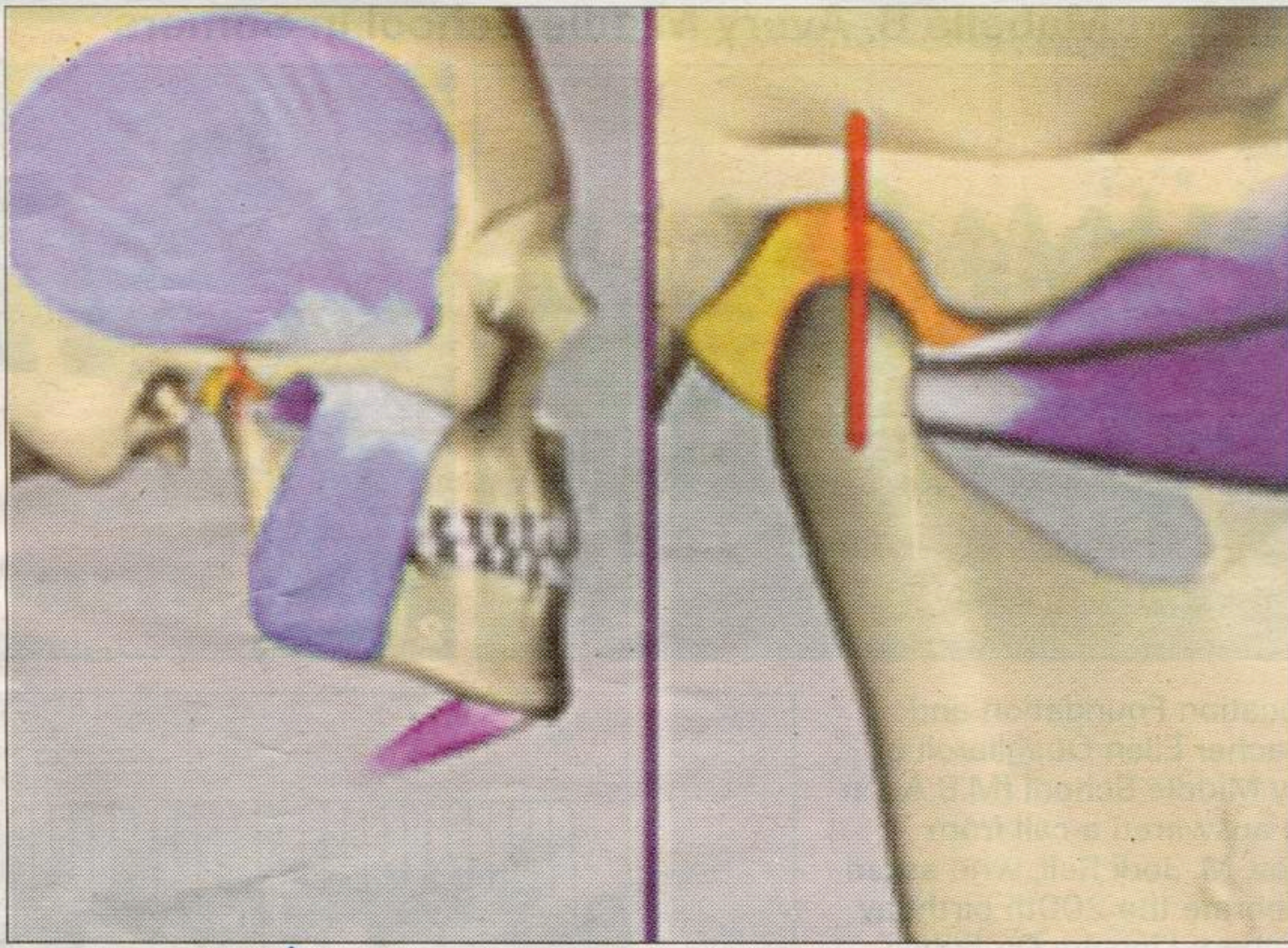
Are the skinny people fat

GUT HORMONES MAKE FOOD LOOK BETTER Canadian researchers last fall reported brain imaging studies on humans that showed reward centers in their brains responded more strongly to pictures of food when the subjects have received an infusion of the appetite hormone ghrelin. Other studies had shown that it activated eating through the brain's command center. But the new research found the hormone affects many brain regions related to reward, motivation, even visual processing and memory of what foods were displayed.

JUNK FOOD MAKES KIDS HAPPY Taiwanese and U.S. scientists reported earlier this month on a study of more than 2,300 kids in Taiwan between 2 and 12 years of age. While those who ate more burgers, pizza and fries and soft drinks were more likely to be overweight, they were less likely to feel unhappy, sad or depressed. So, scientists argue, programs aimed at reducing childhood obesity have to find not only alternative foods, but also alternative ways to promote positive feelings in the kids.

FAST FOOD MAY NOT BE WORSE THAN SIT-DOWN-RESTAURANT FOOD. Purdue University scientists analyzed data from an Agriculture Department survey and found that any meal eaten out is likely to be bigger and have more calories than a home-cooked meal, but that fast food meals tend to be smaller, and thus have fewer calories, than the average meal from a table-service restaurant. Trouble is, people eating sit-down tend to cut back on food consumption the rest of the day, while those dining from the counter or drive-through do not. Total intake may be the same either way.

SEE THE GOOD, PICK THE BAD Researchers from the City University of New York and several other institutions presented several studies that show when people are given choices that include a healthy option, like a salad, they're actually more likely to go for a less healthy alternative, like fries. The selection



The temporomandibular joint replacement surgery the two doctors completed took less than 3½ hours. They replaced the patient's existing joint with a chrome, cobalt, and titanium-coated stock joint, produced by the company Biomet. Two incisions were made during surgery — one in front of the ear and the second on the neck, just below the lower jaw.

ORAL HISTORY

Manchester surgeons perform New England's first TMJ replacement

By Amy Lachapelle
For the Journal Inquirer

MANCHESTER — Oral and maxillofacial surgeons Joel Rosenlicht and Ryaz Ansari are giving their patients more to smile about.

The surgical partners are the first in New England to complete a temporomandibular joint, more commonly known as TMJ, replacement with a newly FDA-approved stock joint.

TMJ problems can be caused by a multitude of elements, including arthritis in the joint, stress that leads to grinding or clenching of the jaw, or heterotrophic, overgrown, bone. Symptoms of TMJ also can vary — ear or headaches, grinding or clicking, and pain are the most common.

Rosenlicht says that problems with TMJ are often the most challenging for an oral surgeon to treat.

Prescriptions for treating TMJ problems range from changes in lifestyle, such as adding exercise or stress-management, to a variety of surgeries.

"Most patients we see have a problem that sometimes needs other things besides braces, exercise, or splints," Rosenlicht says.

That is when the doctor turns to joint surgery. Procedures can range from arthrocentesis, or the flushing of fluid and stretching of the jaw joint; arthroscopy, when the surgeon inspects the joint with a scoped, pin-sized

camera; or arthrotomy, complete open-joint surgery.

Technology-wise, "dentistry tends to be a leader in what we do," Rosenlicht says.

The surgeons' Manchester office has one of the first in-office arthroscopes, which allows the doctors to inspect the inside of a patient's jaw by camera. This eliminates the need for X-rays, which are more difficult to interpret.

"With technology, we can do much better diagnose," Rosenlicht says.

The patient is put under local anesthesia and is sedated for approximately 15 to 20 minutes. Doctors can then make a pin-hole-sized incision in front of the ear, and have direct access to the temporomandibular joint.

The joint replacement surgery the two doctors completed took less than 3½ hours. They replaced the patient's existing joint with a chrome, cobalt, and titanium-coated stock joint, produced by the company Biomet. Two incisions were made during surgery — one in front of the ear and the second on the neck, just below the lower jaw.

"We're within millimeters of the cranial base. We're actually working at the base of the skull," Rosenlicht says.

With this procedure, patients are allowed to return home the following day, are put on a soft diet, and encouraged to use their jaws right away. The success rate for these surgeries is more than 90 percent, Rosenlicht

says.

Both doctors participated in a total of three clinical studies for the new joints before FDA approval was granted. Together they have been involved with this procedure for more than five years and have observed multiple surgeries and surgeons in Pennsylvania and Florida.

Rosenlicht earned his doctor of dental medicine degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey. He also graduated from Boston University's Graduate School of Dentistry and Tufts University's School of Medicine for his degree in oral and maxillofacial surgery.

A Glastonbury resident, Rosenlicht has been in practice for more than 30 years. His practice with Ansari also offers dental procedures for wisdom teeth extraction, dental implants, oral cancer screening and treatment, snoring treatment, and cosmetic facial surgery.

Their Manchester office is also one of the only locations, outside of hospitals, that is able to conduct computerized axial tomography scans, more commonly known as CAT scans, which are used to create a three-dimensional view of a patient's jaw. The doctors can then create a physical model to replicate the jaw exactly.

For more information on TMJ surgery and other procedures, contact the office of Rosenlicht & Ansari at 860-649-2272 or visit them online at

www.JawFixers.com