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Singapore scientists develop swallowable self-inflating capsule to help tackle obesity

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A team from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) and the National University Health System (NUHS) has developed a self-inflating weight management capsule that could be used to treat obese patients.

Its magnetically-activated inflation mechanism causes a reaction between a harmless acid and a salt stored in the capsule, which produces carbon dioxide to fill up the balloon.

The concept behind the capsule is for it to be ingested orally, though trials using this route for administration have not yet begun.

Designed by a team led by Professor Louis Phee, NTU Dean of Engineering, and Professor Lawrence Ho, a clinician-innovator at NUHS, such an orally-administered self-inflating weight loss capsule could represent a non-invasive alternative to tackle the growing global obesity epidemic.

Today, moderately obese patients and those who are too ill to undergo surgery can opt for the intragastric balloon, an established weight loss intervention that has to be inserted into the stomach via endoscopy under sedation.

It is removed six months later via the same procedure.

The text above is a summary, you can read full article [here](#).



[gastrointestinal system disease, Lawrence Ho, Singapore, capsule, National University Health System](#)