

Beaumont

BARIATRIC SURGERY PROGRAM with Kerry Kole, D.O. Patient Information & Appointment Scheduling Information

Dr. Kerry Kole and the staff would like to extend a warm welcome to you and your family and congratulate you on your decision to learn more about Bariatric weight loss surgery. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share with you some vital information regarding our process. We believe weight loss surgery is a major step, which requires a life-long commitment towards a more healthful lifestyle.

**TO MAKE THE SURGICAL PROCESS SMOOTH AND EASY,
STEPS 1-6 ARE NECESSARY STEPS TOWARDS SURGERY.**

Step 1 **Call your Insurance Company** and ask them the questions stated on the **Bariatric Insurance Worksheet** attached to this packet to confirm your insurance coverage information and obtain any required criteria that needs to be met prior to your Consultation Appointment at our office.

***Please note:** Because there are numerous insurance companies and policies, it is the **responsibility of the patient** to contact their insurance company to inquire if they have Bariatric Surgery coverage and what the requirements are.*

**If you confirmed with your insurance company that bariatric surgery is a covered benefit under your plan and received answers to the Insurance worksheet questionnaire, please contact our office and speak with our bariatric surgical scheduler for further assistance.*

If you confirmed with your insurance company that your policy **DOES NOT cover bariatric surgery, please contact Dr. Kole's office to cancel your Surgical Consultation appointment. We will give you information to a weight loss program that can assist with weight control/ help.*

Please have Step 1 complete before your scheduled consultation with Dr. Kole.

Step 2 **Bariatric Surgical Consultation Appointment**

At this first visit, the physician will do a complete assessment and discuss surgery options with you. You will have time to ask questions. If needed, you will be given orders for other testing (i.e. stress test and/or sleep study). You will also meet with our bariatric coordinator/scheduler to further discuss the bariatric process.

Please bring the following items to your appointment:

-) Insurance card(s), Referral if your insurance requires one and a photo ID*
-) A complete written list of your medications*
-) Name, addresses and phone numbers of your medical providers*
-) Any recent diagnostic testing you may have had done, or any documentation pertaining to weight loss.*

Dr. Kerry Kole

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Step 3 Insurance work up

After your consultation appointment, you will start your requirement process. You will be given a checklist at the time of your consult with all the criteria that your insurance company requires (Bariatric Psychological Evaluation, Stress Test etc.), you are to complete them before surgery can be scheduled. Please understand that your process completion does not happen overnight. In some cases, depending on your insurance policy, it could take 6 months up to a year to reach your surgery date. We are dedicated to your weight loss success and will be there every step of the way to guide you through the process.

Step 4 Insurance Authorization

When you complete your insurance requirements and bariatric checklist, our bariatric coordinator/scheduler will review your chart and make sure that all criteria has been met. If deemed necessary, a prior authorization form will be filed out and sent to your insurance company. After receiving an approval, our office will call you with a surgery date. Keep in mind, most insurances have 14 days to respond. We will also schedule your first Post-Op appointment at that time as well.

Step 5 Final Preparations

a) STTAR Clinic

Once scheduled for surgery, The STTAR clinic will contact you to set up an appointment to be seen by a RN for pre-operative counseling and testing (Labs, Chest x-ray, and EKG). After this appointment, please come directly to our office for further instructions.

b) Liquid Diet

This will be the final step to take. You will begin a 7-day liquid diet prior to your scheduled surgery. You will receive a booklet to follow with information regarding a feeding transition schedule, meal plans, recommended liquids, vitamin/mineral supplementation, recipes and protein supplementation.

Step 6 Surgery

The surgery will take between 1-3 hours, and your hospital stay will be between 1-2 nights, depending on the procedure. Please make sure you come to your first Post-Op appointment which was scheduled earlier. If you have any surgical complications after surgery, we urge you to contact Dr. Kole prior to going to the Emergency Room. You will be provided with his contact information after surgery.

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