

## CENTER OF SURGICAL SPECIALISTS

### Patient Flow Worksheet

This patient flow worksheet is designed to guide you through the steps you will need to take prior to having Bariatric Surgery with the **Center of Surgical Specialists, PC**.

#### ➤ **Begin Your Education**

- Attend the *Introduction to Weight Loss Surgery Class*.
- Contact your insurance company to find out if your policy provides a benefit for weight loss surgery. Be sure to find out if they cover Gastric Bypass, Sleeve Gastrectomy, and Lap Band. Ask them what the criteria is for surgery and if they will send a copy to you in writing.

#### ➤ **Determine Your Candidacy**

- What is your BMI (body mass index)?
- Do you have any obesity related health issues such as diabetes, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, acid reflux, joint problems, depression, etc?
- Do you have any health risks that may exclude you from surgery?
- Have you attempted to lose weight and failed to maintain weight loss?

#### ➤ **Submit Your Paperwork**

- Read the materials that you received carefully. Complete all of the paperwork and have your required testing done. Once completed, submit all paperwork 15 minutes prior to your appointment time.

#### ➤ **Initial Consultation Appointment**

- At this appointment, you will meet with your surgeon and his office staff.
- A medical history review, examination, review of the surgical procedures and your candidacy for surgery will be discussed.
- The type of bariatric surgery you wish to have will be determined.
- You will also receive information regarding your pre-operative and post-operative instructions.
- Specific insurance authorization procedures will be explained to you.
- You will receive the Bariatric Surgery Guide for your procedure.

#### ➤ **Financial Requirements**

- As of now, there is no fee for your education or the materials provided to you by our office.
- Your insurance copayment will be due at each appointment.
- If you are financing your surgery, our office will discuss with you the specific details of payment for services.
- A dietitian program fee of **\$225** will be payable to Center of Surgical Specialists on or before your first dietitian visit. This fee includes your pre-operative evaluation and your two post-operative follow up appointments.

- An insurance claim form will be provided to you at each dietitian visit. You may submit this form to your insurance company for possible reimbursement.
- If you do not proceed with surgery, \$110 will be refunded to you.
- Be advised that the psychologist may not take your insurance and you will be required to pay their fees in cash.

➤ **Pre-operative Specialist Appointments**

- You will begin, if you haven't already started, your required pre-operative appointments with specialists and additional tests as necessary in order to clear you for surgery.
- Some or all of these appointments *may not* be covered by your insurance.
- This is also the time to attend support group meetings.

➤ **Insurance Authorization**

- The process of obtaining insurance approval will begin.
- Some insurance companies require submission of the reports of your specialist appointments in order to obtain approval.
- Every insurance company has different requirements for approval of Bariatric Surgery.
- Your assistance may be required in order to receive approval.

➤ **Scheduling for Surgery**

- Once we obtain approval from your insurance company, our office will contact you to schedule a surgery date.
- Your Consent appointment will also be scheduled with your surgeon approximately 1-2 weeks prior to your surgery date.

➤ **Pre-operative Class**

- You will register for the *required* Pre-operative Class held at North Suburban Medical Center.
- Pre-op class covers nutrition, behavior change requirements, exercise, as well as what to expect during your hospital stay.

➤ **Consent Appointment**

- You will meet with your surgeon and his staff for a brief examination and review of the informed consent for surgery.
- When you feel you fully understand everything about your surgery, you will be asked to sign your consent forms.
- The pre-op and post-op instructions will be reviewed with you.

➤ **Pre-operative Testing**

- This appointment will pre-register you at North Suburban Medical Center and complete any required lab work and testing needed to have surgery.
- You will meet with the Pre-Admission Nurse and the Anesthesiologist.

➤ **Surgery!**