

Department of Origin:	Effective Date:
Integrated Healthcare Services	12/12/23
Approved by:	Date Approved:
Medical Policy Quality Management Subcommittee	12/05/23
Clinical Policy Document:	Replaces Effective Clinical Policy Dated:
Bariatric Surgery for Obesity	12/06/22
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PURPOSE:

The intent of this clinical policy is to ensure services are medically necessary.

Please refer to the member's benefit document for specific information. To the extent there is any inconsistency between this policy and the terms of the member's benefit plan or certificate of coverage, the terms of the member's benefit plan document will govern.

POLICY:

Benefits must be available for bariatric surgery when used for treatment of obesity. Requests for these same procedures for other diagnoses are out of scope of this policy and the bariatric surgery benefit coverage language. Health care services must be ordered by a provider. Health care services must be medically necessary, applicable conservative treatments must have been tried, and the most cost-effective alternative must be requested for coverage consideration. Plans may have access restrictions for bariatric surgery.

GUIDELINES:

Medical Necessity Criteria - Must satisfy the following: I and II, and III - VII as applicable

- I. Coverage for *bariatric surgery* is available under the member's current health plan.
- II. Request is for the following routine open or laparoscopic *bariatric surgery* procedures must satisfy any of the following: 1 4
 - 1. Biliopancreatic Diversion with Duodenal Switch (BPD/DS)
 - 2. Adjustable Gastric Banding
 - 3. Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass (RYGB)
 - 4. Sleeve Gastrectomy
- III. Initial, revision or reversal surgery is being performed at a designated participating bariatric surgery program accredited through MBSAQIP (see hyperlink, below) no further medical necessity review is required. https://www.facs.org/search/bariatric-surgery-centers.
- IV. Requests for initial *bariatric surgery* at a <u>non-designated</u> participating bariatric surgery program must satisfy the following: A or B

[Note: Not covered for plans which require designated participating bariatric surgery program]

- A. Members aged 18 years or older must satisfy the following: 1 and 2
 - 1. The member has any of the following: a or b
 - a. Class III obesity (BMI equal to or greater than 40kg/m²); or
 - b. Class II obesity (BMI equal to or greater than 35kg/m² and less than 40kg/m²) with any of the following conditions 1) 5)
 - 1) Severe obstructive sleep apnea defined as apnea-hypopnea index (AHI) equal to or greater than 30 events per hour; or
 - 2) Cardiovascular disease (eg, stroke, myocardial infarction, poorly controlled hypertension [systolic blood pressure 140mm/Hg or higher or diastolic blood pressure 90 mm/Hg or higher, despite pharmacotherapy]); or
 - 3) History of coronary artery disease with a surgical intervention such as coronary artery bypass or percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty; or



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- 4) History of cardiomyopathy; or
- 5) Type 2 diabetes mellitus.
- 2. The member meets either of the following: a or b
 - a. Documentation supports both of the following: 1) and 2)
 - 1) Completion of a preoperative evaluation that includes a detailed weight history along with dietary and physical activity patterns; and
 - 2) Psychosocial-behavioral evaluation by an individual who is professionally recognized as part of a behavioral health discipline to provide screening and identification of risk factors or potential postoperative challenges that may contribute to a poor postoperative outcome; or
 - b. Participation in a *multidisciplinary* surgical preparatory regimen.
- B. Members aged 17 years or less must satisfy the following: 1 3
 - 1. Have attained Tanner 4 or 5 pubertal development (see Attachment B) or have a bone age of greater than or equal to 13 years in girls or 15 years in boys; and
 - 2. The member has any of the following: a or b
 - a. Class III obesity (140% of the 95th percentile height, or an absolute BMI equal to or greater than 40kg/m², whichever is lower); or
 - b. Class II obesity (120% of the 95th percentile height, or an absolute BMI equal to or greater than 35kg/m^2 and less than 40kg/m^2 , whichever is lower) with any of the following conditions: 1) 3
 - 1) Poorly controlled hypertension (systolic blood pressure 140mm/Hg or higher or diastolic blood pressure 90 mm/Hg or higher, despite pharmacotherapy); or
 - 2) Type 2 diabetes mellitus; or
 - 3) Severe obstructive sleep apnea (apnea-hypopnea index [AHI] equal to or greater than 30 events per hour).
 - 3. The member has undergone an evaluation at, or in consultation with, a *multidisciplinary* center focused on the surgical treatment of severe childhood obesity.
- V. Conversion of bariatric surgery to another bariatric surgery to treat complications from a prior bariatric surgery must satisfy the following: A and B
 - A. If required by plan language, surgery for complications is performed no later than 1 year after the first *bariatric surgery*; and
 - B. Documentation of complication(s) (see Attachment C)
- VI. Revision of bariatric surgery must satisfy the following: A and B, or C
 - A. If required by plan language, surgery for complications is performed no later than 1 year after the first *bariatric surgery*.
 - B. Revision of an initial *bariatric surgery* and/or replacement of an implanted device to treat complications from a prior *bariatric surgery* (see Attachment C); or
 - C. Revision of an initial *bariatric surgery* to treat severe side effects, such as but not limited to, persistent nausea and vomiting, intolerance to solid food, or severe dumping syndrome.



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- VII. Reversal (takedown) of bariatric surgery must satisfy the following: A and B, or C
 - A. If required by plan language, surgery for complications is performed no later than 1 year after the first bariatric surgery.
 - B. Must have documented complications from the initial bariatric surgery (see Attachment C)
 - C. Reversal of an initial *bariatric surgery* to treat severe side effects, such as but not limited to, persistent nausea and vomiting, intolerance to solid food, or severe dumping syndrome.

DEFINITIONS:

Bariatric Surgery:

Surgery and related services for the treatment of obesity

Body Mass Index (BMI):

Determined by weight (kilograms)/height (meters)²

Conversion of bariatric surgery:

Change from one type of bariatric procedure to a different bariatric procedure (eg, conversion from a vertical gastric band to a Roux-en-Y).

Designated participating bariatric surgery program:

Accredited as a Comprehensive Center, a Comprehensive Center with Adolescent Complications, a Comprehensive Center with Obesity Medicine Qualifications, a Comprehensive Center with Adolescent and Obesity Medicine Qualifications, a Low Acuity Center, an Adolescent Center, or an Ambulatory Surgery Center through the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP)), a joint program of the American College of Surgeons and the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgeons

Multidisciplinary:

Combining or involving several academic disciplines or professional specializations in an approach to create a well-trained, safe and effective environment for the complex bariatric patient. Building the multidisciplinary team includes staff such as the bariatric surgeon, obesity medicine specialist, registered dietician, specialized nursing, behavioral health specialist, exercise specialist and support groups (American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) textbook of bariatric surgery)

Revision of bariatric surgery:

To restore the effectiveness of the original bariatric surgery

Reversal (Takedown) of bariatric surgery:

Reverse the anatomic changes from the initial bariatric surgery

BACKGROUND:

Coverage of bariatric surgery is driven by benefit plan language. Some Plans require bariatric surgery (includes initial surgery and revision or conversion) to be performed by a designated participating bariatric surgery program.

Programs that are in network (both facility and provider) for the member *and* accredited as a Comprehensive Center, a Comprehensive Center with Adolescent Complications, a Comprehensive Center with Obesity Medicine Qualifications, a Comprehensive Center with Adolescent and Obesity Medicine Qualifications, a Low Acuity Center, an Adolescent Center, or an Ambulatory Surgery Center through the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery



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Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP), a joint program of the American College of Surgeons and the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgeons, are considered designated participating bariatric surgery programs. For the most current list of designated participating bariatric surgery programs, please visit: https://www.facs.org/search/bariatric-surgery-centers.

To view the full Standards outlining Optimal Resources for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, please access the most recent <u>MBSAQIP Standards Manual</u>.



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Prior Authorization: Yes, per network provider agreement

Precertification: Yes

CODING:

CPT® or HCPCS

43644 Laparoscopy, surgical, gastric restrictive procedure; with gastric bypass and Roux-en-Y gastroenterostomy (roux limb 150cm or less)

43645 Laparoscopy, surgical, gastric restrictive procedure; with gastric bypass and small intestine reconstruction to limit absorption

43770 Laparoscopy, surgical, gastric restrictive procedure; placement of adjustable gastric restrictive device (eg, gastric band or subcutaneous port components)

43771 Laparoscopy, surgical, gastric restrictive procedure; revision of adjustable gastric restrictive device component only

43772 Laparoscopy, surgical, gastric restrictive procedure; removal of adjustable gastric restrictive device component only

43773 Laparoscopy, surgical, gastric restrictive procedure; removal and replacement of adjustable gastric restrictive device component only

43774 Laparoscopy, surgical, gastric restrictive procedure; removal of adjustable gastric restrictive device and subcutaneous port components

43775 Laparoscopy, surgical, gastric restrictive procedure; longitudinal gastrectomy (ie, sleeve gastrectomy)

43842 Gastric restrictive procedure, without gastric bypass, for morbid obesity; vertical banded gastroplasty

43843 Gastric restrictive procedure, without gastric bypass, for morbid obesity; other than vertical-banded gastroplasty

43845 Gastric restrictive procedure with partial gastrectomy, pylorus-preserving duodenoileostomy and ileoileostomy (50 to 100cm common channel) to limit absorption (biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch) 43846 Gastric restrictive procedure, with gastric bypass for morbid obesity; with short limb (150cm or less) Rouxen-Y gastroenterostomy

43847 Gastric restrictive procedure, with gastric bypass for morbid obesity; with small intestine reconstruction to limit absorption

43848 Revision, open, of gastric restrictive procedure for morbid obesity, other than adjustable gastric restrictive device

43860 Revision of gastrojejunal anastomosis (gastrojejunostomy) with reconstruction, with or without partial gastrectomy or intestine resection; without vagotomy

43865 Revision of gastrojejunal anastomosis (gastrojejunostomy) with reconstruction, with or without partial gastrectomy or intestine resection; with vagotomy

43886 Gastric restrictive procedure, open; revision of subcutaneous port component only

43887 Gastric restrictive procedure, open; removal of subcutaneous port component only

43888 Gastric restrictive procedure, open; removal and replacement of subcutaneous port component only

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REFERENCES:

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Attachment A - Body Mass Index Conversion Table



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Attachment B - Sexual maturity rating (Tanner stages) of secondary sexual characteristics

Boys - Development of external genitalia	
Stage 1: Prepubertal	
Stage 2: Enlargement of scrotum and testes; scrotal skin reddens and changes in	texture
Stage 3: Enlargement of penis (length at first); further growth of testes	
Stage 4: Increased size of penis with growth in breadth and development of glans scrotum larger, scrotal skin darker	; testes and
Stage 5: Adult genitalia	
Girls - Breast development	
Stage 1: Prepubertal	
Stage 2: Breast bud stage with elevation of breast and papilla; enlargement of are	:ola
Stage 3: Further enlargement of breast and areola; no separation of their contour	
Stage 4: Areola and papilla form a secondary mound above level of breast	
Stage 5: Mature stage: projection of papilla only, related to recession of areola	
Boys and girls - Pubic hair	
Stage 1: Prepubertal (the pubic area may have vellus hair, similar to that of forear	ms)
Stage 2: Sparse growth of long, slightly pigmented hair, straight or curled, at base labia	of penis or along
Stage 3: Darker, coarser and more curled hair, spreading sparsely over junction o	f pubes
Stage 4: Hair adult in type, but covering smaller area than in adult; no spread to m thighs	nedial surface of
Stage 5: Adult in type and quantity, with horizontal upper border	
rioved from: Riro EM, Chan VM, Normal pubarty /Topic 5940, Version 50 0: lest undeted 02/02/23). In: Happi	A O (1)

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Attachment C

Complications from Bariatric Surgery⁶, such as but not limited to:

Bariatric Surgery	Early Complications	Late Complications
BPD/DS	Anastomotic leak Anastomotic stenosis/small bowel obstruction GI abdominal hemorrhage	Incisional hernia Small bowel obstruction
LABG	Gastroesophageal perforation Band slippage Acute stomal obstruction Band infection Bleeding Intractable vomiting Gastric prolapse Excessive incorporation of fat into the band device	Band slippage with or without gastric pouch dilation Band erosion Esophageal dilation (resulting in delayed esophageal emptying, dysphagia, vomiting and reflux/esophagitis) Obstruction Device-related complications including failure to lose weight or maintain weight loss Gastric necrosis
RNYGBP	Anastomotic leak Small bowel obstruction/ileus GI hemorrhage	Anastomotic stricture Small bowel obstruction/ileus
VSG	Proximal leaks Bleeding along staple line	Gastroesophageal reflux Vomiting Gastric tube stricture Stenosis Leak Incisional hernia Gastrocutaneous fistula Weight regain Gastric tube dilation Proximal stomach dilation (neofundus)

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- · Qualified sign language interpreters
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)

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- Qualified interpreters
- · Information written in other languages

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Grievance Specialist
PreferredOne Community Health Plan
PO Box 59052
Minneapolis, MN 55459-0052
Phone: 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013)
Fax: 763.847.4010
customerservice@preferredone.com

You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, a Grievance Specialist is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, SW Room 509F, HHH Building Washington, D.C. 20201 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html.

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1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).
ማስታወሻ: የሚናንሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጀተዋል፡ ወይ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ 1.800.940.5049
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ဟ်သူ၌ဟ်သး– နမ့်ကတိ၊ ကညီ ကျို်အယိ, နမၤန္ရ၊ ကျို်အတါမၤစၤလ၊ တလက်ဘူဉ်လက်စ္၊ နီတမံးဘဉ်သုန္၌လီ၊. ကိႏ 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).
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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, SW Room 509F, HHH Building Washington, D.C. 20201 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

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LUS CEEV: Yog tias koj hais lus Hmoob, cov kev pab txog lus, muaj kev pab dawb rau koj. Hu rau 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).
XIYYEEFFANNAA: Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).
CHÚ Ý: Nếu ban nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho ban. Goi số 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).
注意:如果您使用繁體中文,您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013)。
ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1.800.940.5049 (телетайп: 763.847.4013).
ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັຽຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທຣ
1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).
ማስታወሻ: የሚናንሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጀተዋል፡ ወይ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ 1.800.940.5049
(መስጣት ለተሳናቸው: 763.847.4013 ).
ဟ်သူ၌ဟ်သး– နမ့်ကတိ၊ ကညီ ကျို်အယိ, နမၤန္ရ၊ ကျို်အတါမၤစၤလ၊ တလက်ဘူဉ်လက်စ္၊ နီတမံးဘဉ်သုန္၌လီ၊. ကိႏ 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).
ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1.800.940.5049 (TTY:
ប្រយ័ត្ន៖ បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយ ភាសាខ្មែរ, សេវាជំនួយផ្នែកភាសា ដោយមិនគិតឈ្នល គឺអាចមានសំរាប់បំរើអ្នក។ ចូរ ទូរស័ព្ទ 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).។
         ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1.800.940.5049 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 763.847.4013).
ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).
주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1,800,940,5049 (TTY: 763,847,4013), 번으로 전화해 주십시오.
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PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa

1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).