THE BARIATRIC SURGERY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

A DESIGNATED CENTER OF EXCELLENCE BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR METABOLIC AND BARIATRIC SURGERY

CALL (877) 336-1177
www.bariatricexcellence.com
Why choose Faxton St. Luke's and The Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence?

We are a team of surgeons and healthcare professionals dedicated to helping you achieve your weight loss goals. Faxton St. Luke's Healthcare is located in the Mohawk Valley region of upstate New York, just south-east of the Adirondack State Park.

Nationally recognized as a Center of Excellence by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, we've performed more than 3,000 surgeries for patients from New York State, the Northeast and even for hundreds of patients who've come for surgery at our program from outside the country.

Our team of nationally recognized surgeons and healthcare professionals is dedicated to helping you understand all the options for weight loss surgery to achieve your weight loss goals. If you're overweight or struggle from weight-related conditions, you're not alone. Our award-winning team has helped many to achieve significant weight loss, often times, equivalent to one-third or more of the patient's body weight.

Patients see improvements in their overall health and quality of life. We invite you to determine if weight loss surgery is right for you and why Faxton St. Luke's Healthcare should be your choice for success.

Our State-of-the-Art Bariatric Surgery Wing

Our valued guests and their families will feel at home in our newly renovated bariatric surgery wing. Featuring a comforting Adirondack theme, the floor has 40 patient beds including 16 private rooms. Patient rooms provide a soothing environment for recovery, as well as the latest technology in care. From expedited lab results to advanced imagery systems, the high quality of patient care helps decrease the patients' length of stay. At Faxton St. Luke's Healthcare, your caregivers are always nearby. PODs, decentralized work stations, allow nurses and physicians to be in close proximity to their patients at all times.

Quick Facts

- A designated Center of Excellence by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
- More than 3,000 patients have undergone weight-loss surgery at our Center
- Our Center performs more than 60 weight-loss surgeries a month
- A designated Center of Excellence by the Ontario Ministry of Health, Canada
- Offering laparoscopic Gastric Bypass, Adjustable Band, and Vertical Sleeve procedures

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Are You a Candidate for Weight Loss Surgery?

If you are overweight or suffer from weight-related conditions, bariatric surgery may be right for you.

Weight loss surgery candidates include:

- Men who are at least 100 pounds overweight
- Women who are at least 80 pounds overweight
- People with a BMI of 40 or higher
- People with a BMI between 35 and 40 with weight-related medical conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, sleep apnea or arthritis

Candidates are medically evaluated on an individual basis. Schedule a consultation with a bariatric surgeon at Faxton St. Luke’s Healthcare to learn more.

Payment Options & Insurance Eligibility for Weight Loss Surgery

Insurance coverage is an important consideration for patients interested in bariatric surgery. We accept most private insurance plans and will arrange out-of-network benefits if necessary.

Prior to your initial visit, please contact your insurance company to find out if weight loss surgery is a covered benefit under your policy. Authorization from your insurance company is necessary before surgery. Our insurance specialist will assist you in obtaining approval. You may be asked to provide:

- Documentation regarding your attempts to diet, especially medically supervised diet plans
- Current weight and height
- Documentation of weight-related conditions
- Letters from specialists in support of the benefits of weight loss surgery

It may take several weeks to obtain approval. On occasion, insurance companies will deny an initial request for the surgery despite our best efforts. Appeals can be filed by the policyholder and insurance companies often approve the procedure when faced with a determined patient. For patients who wish to pay with cash, a discounted package rate is available. Financing is also available.

Different Types of Weight Loss Surgery Procedures

Faxton St. Luke’s Healthcare offers three weight loss surgery procedures. We have performed more than 3,000 surgeries at our Center of Excellence.

Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass
During a gastric bypass, the stomach is stapled in two sections, creating a small pouch that serves as the “new” stomach. The new stomach limits the amount of food intake and provides patients with the familiar feeling of fullness.

Vertical Sleeve Gastrectomy
During a vertical sleeve gastrectomy, most of the stomach is removed, leaving only a thin “tube” of stomach. This tube holds the food eaten at a meal, allowing patients to feel satisfied after eating a smaller amount of food.

Adjustable Gastric Band
A silicone band is placed around the upper part of the stomach, creating a small pouch. This pouch fills after consuming only a few small bites of food.
Your Weight Loss Journey

At Faxton St. Luke's Healthcare, our dedicated team is here to assist you throughout your weight loss journey. Use the checklist below to see how your weight loss journey will progress.

**Determining Candidacy**

Please contact our team if we can help you.

- [ ] Contact our office or attend an informational seminar
- [ ] Contact your insurance company
- [ ] Schedule a consultation with a surgeon
- [ ] Schedule a consultation with a registered dietitian
- [ ] Schedule a consultation with a psychiatrist
- [ ] Obtain medical clearance from primary care physician
- [ ] Receive further evaluation by a specialist (if indicated)

**Before Surgery**

- [ ] Have exercise evaluation (optional)
- [ ] Schedule pre-admission testing
- [ ] Have pre-operative evaluation by anesthesiologist
- [ ] Attend support group

**After Surgery**

- [ ] Attend post-operative appointments for lifelong support by our interdisciplinary bariatric team
- [ ] Continue attending support groups

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**Dr. William Graber M.D.**

Founded in 2002 by medical director Dr. William Graber, our Bariatric Surgery Program now performs more than 60 procedures a month and is a designated Center of Excellence with the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS).

Dr. Graber holds a bachelor's degree from Haverford College in Pennsylvania and a medical doctorate from SUNY Downstate Medical Center. He completed his residency at Boston University.