

## **Kenneth Warnock Named to List of Top 25 Bariatric Surgeons**

OBESITY MAGAZINE RANKS UNITED REGIONAL DOCTOR ON PATIENT EXPERIENCE -Wichita Falls, Texas (September 15, 2003) – Kenneth Warnock, MD, a physician at United Regional Health Care System, has been ranked 24th on a list of the 100 best bariatric surgeons in the U.S., according to the Association for Morbid Obesity Support. The association announced the list in the July 2003 inaugural issue of its quarterly publication, ObesityHelp magazine.

More than 150,000 patient members of the association posted their votes on the obesityhelp.com web site. The ranking was based on patient member profiles registered with the association, which include an evaluation of the patient experience of the entire bariatric process – surgery, physician, education, after care, etc. These scores were reported as they stood in May.

"This ranking is really a recognition of the outstanding experience and outcome that bariatric surgery patients receive as the result of the partnership between United Regional and Bariatrics of Texas," said Dr. Kenneth Warnock. "I'm delighted by the ranking, but more importantly I appreciate the confirmation of the positive difference we are making in our patient's lives."

"Dr. Warnock is an excellent doctor and we are fortunate to have him practicing at our hospital. His Top 25 ranking is a testimony to the high level of medical service that United Regional provides to the greater Wichita Falls community," said Kevin Gross, President and CEO of United Regional Health Care System. Since January of 2000, Dr. Warnock has performed 743 gastric bypass surgeries at United Regional Health Care System.

In addition to offering expertise in gastric bypass surgeries, United Regional offers a complete continuum of care surrounding this treatment. A pre-education class and a monthly support group following surgery help patients manage lifestyle changes made in exercise, eating and other resulting needs surrounding this surgery.

The Association for Morbid Obesity Support is a nonprofit, voluntary, patient support organization that provides resources and peer support for morbid obesity and weight loss surgery.