

## **Medicaid – Bariatric Surgery Benefits Now Available**

On July 1, 2008, Texas Medicaid finally approved bariatric surgery (Lap Band and Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass) for their patients, as long as it is provided by a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence surgeon and facility as approved by the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. Patients must have a BMI of 35 or greater along with comorbidities. Also, patients must participate in a 6-month physician-directed weight-loss program within 12 months of request for bariatric surgery.

“This is a great blessing for Medicaid patients who will now have access to the care and service they need. We look forward to being able to help Medicaid patients with the burden of obesity,” says Dr. Kenneth Warnock, an approved Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence surgeon. For more information, please contact our office.



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