

INSURANCE CRITERIA

*This is a summary of the requirements from your insurance company that must be met to obtain approval for surgery. For a detailed list, please contact your insurance company. This list is subject to change without notice from your insurance company. **These requirements only apply if surgery is a covered benefit under your policy.** Some policies will have an exclusion, meaning they do not cover bariatric surgery. If your insurance plan does not cover bariatric surgery or you choose not to meet their criteria, we do have a comprehensive self pay option available. Please speak to one of our staff for details.*

The criteria below are for gastric bypass and gastric banding procedures only unless otherwise noted (we must check with your insurance for coverage of sleeve gastrectomy or duodenal switch. Criteria for revisional procedures, if covered, vary plan by plan and may include additional criteria not listed). Please do not schedule any appointments until advised by our office.

BlueCross New Jersey Horizon

BMI 40 or greater OR BMI 35-39 with certain co morbidities (18 years old or has reached full skeletal growth)

1. Medical records for past 5 years
2. Diet requirement-Within the 12 months prior to the time of surgery, the member must meet all of the following requirements: documentation of successful completion of 6 consecutive months of supervised conservative weight loss program, diet program/plans (e.g., Weight Watchers, Jenny Craig), or the Horizon Obesity Disease Management Program. Successful completion means formal documentation or photocopies/print-outs of progress notes of at least monthly follow-up by the supervising physician, other health care provider, or program coordinator including the patient's weight, and progress relative to the goals set at the start of program. Documentation of participation in an organized multidisciplinary surgical preparatory regimen in order to improve surgical outcomes, reduce the potential for surgical complications, and establish the member's ability to comply with post-operative medical care and dietary restrictions. The regimen should provide guidance on diet, physical activity, & behavioral and social support prior to and after the surgery. Documentation should include physician's initial assessment of the member, & the physician's assessment of the pt's progress at the end of the multidisciplinary surgical preparatory regimen.
3. Letter from Primary Care Physician
4. Psychological evaluation - Athena Consulting 615-320-1155 or Evelyn Frye Center 615-385-4090

 **Centennial Center for the
Treatment of Obesity**

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