



PCP Readiness to Refer Tool - Bariatric Phase 1  
(The Six-Month Observation Period Prior to Bariatric Surgery)

**No prior authorization is required for initial consult with local Bariatric Surgeon.**

**What to evaluate prior to referring to Bariatric Surgeon:**

- Member is 18 years old or older
- Member has a BMI  $\geq$  40 or  
BMI  $\geq$  35 with Type 2 Diabetes or at least 2 serious obesity-related comorbidities: hypertension, coronary heart disease, mechanical arthropathy in major weight bearing joint, sleep apnea
- Member has stable co-morbidities
  - Example: No recent hospitalizations for heart failure, infections, etc.
  - Example: No wounds requiring regular wound care services
- Member is actively participating in a dietary and exercise program
- Member is medication compliant
- **Educate member about expectations of Bariatric Surgery**
- [Review OHP Guideline Note 8 for complete criteria](#)  
(Please click on Link above to reference Guideline Note 8)

**Prior Authorization is required for Bariatric Phase 1 (after initial consult)**  
**Submitted clinical documentation must show compliance in areas listed above**

**Bariatric Phase 1, when approved, includes:**

- 6-month observation period directed by bariatric surgeon and staff
- 3 visits with Bariatric Surgeon, including consult
- Dietary evaluation
- Psychosocial evaluation
- 3 Month Nicotine Screen (must be negative)
- Illicit Drug Screen initially and one random (must be negative)
- 6 Month Nicotine Screen (must be negative)

**For questions, please contact Advanced Health Customer Service  
541-269-7400**