

BlueCross Tennessee (4/13/06)

http://www.bcbst.com/mpmanual/WEBHelp/Bariatric_Surgery_for_Morbid_Obesity.htm

- BMI of 40 or greater OR BMI 35-39 with any of the following: coronary artery disease, Type 2 diabetes, obstructive sleep apnea or three or more of the following cardiac risk factors: hypertension, high density lipoprotein less than 40mg/dL, low density lipoprotein greater than 100mg/dL or impaired glucose tolerance or a family history of early cardiovascular disease in first degree relative (MI at 50 years of age or younger in a male relative or at 65 or younger in a female relative)
- The attending physician must submit records that the individual has successfully lost 10% of their initial body weight prior to the date authorization is requested. The attending physician must be someone other than the surgeon and the attempt must be within the prior 2 years
- Diagnosed as morbidly obese for at least 5 years
- PCP Letter
- 18 years of age
- Psychological evaluation to include results, Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI2), and the Eating Disorder Inventory (EDI-2) or the Eating Attitudes Test (EAT-26). If any of these provide a suggestion of cognitive slippage or psychosis, a predictive test (e.g. Thematic Apperception Test (TAT) or the Rorschach test) is required.
- Gastric bypass and Lap-band procedures are covered