

Cigna – State of Tennessee employees only

<http://www.cigna.com/> (Link to site only)

- 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 (BP >140 mmHg systolic and/or 90mmHg diastolic), high density lipoprotein less than 40mg/dL, low density lipoprotein greater than 100mg/dL, current cigarette smoking or impaired glucose tolerance (2-hour blood glucose >140 mg/dL on an oral glucose tolerance test) 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) OR More than 100 pounds over one's ideal body weight
- Must be diagnosed as morbidly obese for the past 5 years
- Documentation of a medical evaluation for morbid obesity and recommendation of bariatric surgery by a physician other than the operating physician or his/her associates
- History of failure of medical/dietary therapies (including low calorie diet, increased physical activity, and behavioral reinforcement). This attempt at conservative management must be within two years prior to surgery, and must be documented by an attending physician who does not perform bariatric surgery. (Failure of conservative therapy is defined as an inability to lose more than ten percent of body weight over a six-month period and maintain weight loss)
- VBG accompanied by gastric stapling is covered, also Gastric Bypass, LapBand and DS/biliopancreatic bypass with persons with a BMI in excess of 60
- Revision of a previous bariatric surgical procedure of conversion to another procedure due to inadequate weight loss when all of the following are met: evidence of full compliance with the previously prescribed post-operative dietary and exercise program, due to a technical failure of the original surgery (e.g., pouch dilatation) documented on either UGI series or EGD, the patient has failed to achieve adequate weight loss which is defined as failure to lose at least 50% of excess body weight or failure to achieve body weight to within 30% of ideal body weight at least two years following the original surgery. Surgical reversal is covered when the individual develops complications from the original surgery such as stricture or obstruction