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Western Missouri Medical Center Achieves National Accreditation from the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program



Celebrating a National Accreditation...members of the Surgical Services of Warrensburg clinic, WMMC Administration and Board of Trustees celebrate this significant distinction at a recent event.

Warrensburg, MO (March 23, 2015)—The Western Missouri Medical Center (WMMC) Bariatrics Program at Surgical Services of Warrensburg has recently received accreditation under the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program.

Patients seeking surgical treatment for severe obesity and its related conditions have a high-quality choice for receiving treatment at a nationally accredited program that meets the highest standards for patient safety and quality of care, closer to home.

The Bariatrics Program at Surgical Services of Warrensburg has been accredited under the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP), a joint program of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS).

The MBSAQIP Standards, outlined in the *Resources for Optimal Care of the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Patient 2014* ensure that bariatric surgical patients receive a multidisciplinary program, not just a surgical procedure, which improves patient outcomes and long-term success.

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The accredited center offers preoperative and postoperative care designed specifically for their severely obese patients. Robert Kenney, DO, Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Director at Surgical Services of Warrensburg, specializes in minimally invasive surgical approaches for the following procedures: adjustable gastric band, gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy. Western Missouri Medical Center's commitment to quality care begins with appropriately trained staff and the leadership surgeons who participate in meetings throughout the year to review its outcomes. They seek continuous improvement to enhance the structure, process and outcomes of the center.

"We're thrilled to have reached this milestone," says Susan M. Stiles, RN, BSN, MHA, MBA, President and Chief Executive Officer. "This accreditation demonstrates our commitment to delivering the highest quality care for bariatric surgery patients."

To earn the MBSAQIP designation, WMMC met essential criteria for staffing, training and facility infrastructure and protocols for care, ensuring its ability to support patients with severe obesity. The clinic also participates in a national data registry that yields semiannual reports on the quality of its processes and outcomes, identifying opportunities for continuous quality improvement. The standards are specified in the MBSAQIP *Resources for Optimal Care of the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Patient 2014*, published by the ACS and ASMBS. After submitting an application, centers seeking MBSAQIP Accreditation undergo an extensive site visit by an experienced bariatric surgeon, who reviews the center's structure, process, and clinical outcomes data.

In the United States, around 15.5 million people suffer from severe obesity, according to the National Institutes of Health, and the numbers continue to increase. Obesity increases the risks of morbidity and mortality because of the diseases and conditions that are commonly associated with it, such as type II diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease, among other health risks. Metabolic and bariatric surgical procedures have proven to be effective in the reduction of comorbid conditions related to severe obesity.* Working with ASMBS, the ACS expanded this quality program for bariatric surgery centers so that it can assist bariatric patients in identifying those centers that provide optimal surgical care.

*Buchwald H, Avidor Y, Braunwald E, et al. Bariatric Surgery: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. *JAMA*. 2004;292(14):1724-1737. DOI:10.1001/jama.292.14.1724.

About Western Missouri Medical Center

Western Missouri Medical Center (WMMC) is a fully-accredited acute care county medical center located in Warrensburg, MO. WMMC prides itself in emergency care, obstetrics, orthopedic and general surgery, family healthcare, internal medicine, outpatient clinics, ambulatory care, rehabilitation services and more. Inpatient services include medical, surgical, intensive, obstetrical, orthopedic, pediatric and skilled nursing care, as well as a wide range of therapeutic and diagnostic outpatient services. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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About the American College of Surgeons

The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational association of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical education and practice and to improve the quality of care for the surgical patient. Its achievements have placed it at the forefront of American surgery and have made the College an important advocate for all surgical patients. The College has more than 80,000 members and is the largest organization of surgeons in the world.

About the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery

The American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, founded in 1983, was formed to advance the art and science of metabolic and bariatric surgery by continually improving the quality and safety of care and treatment of people with obesity and related diseases through educational and support programs for surgeons and integrated health professionals.

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