

Bariatric (Obesity Surgery) Benefits - FAQ

1. What hospital programs are covered under the bariatric surgical benefits?
 - a. Any provider in the United Healthcare nationwide Center of Excellence (COE) network.
2. How can I learn more about each program?
 - a. Contact United Healthcare (UHC) at 1-877-440-5983.
 - b. Contact the Bariatric Resource Services (BRS) at 1-888-936-7246.
3. What is the typical cost to the member?
 - a. Annual deductible is applied to the surgery. (See the Obesity section in your Summary Plan Description (SPD) for more information.
 - b. Additionally, each program charges an administrative fee and requires patients to enroll in dietary counseling under a series of preoperative non-medical activities. Costs for these services vary by program and are typically not covered by your benefit plan.
 - c. Each program requires patients to have several pre-operative and post-operative office visits, laboratory screenings, and other medically based examinations. Your benefit plan will typically cover these services; standard deductible and copays apply.
 - d. Nutrition/dietician group or individual counseling is a covered expense only if it is provided by a registered dietician, nutritionist, practitioner, or appropriately licensed health care provider. (See the Nutritional Counseling of your Summary Plan Description for more information.)
4. What bariatric procedures are covered?
 - a. Bariatric surgery for morbid obesity includes but is not limited to gastric bypass, gastric banding, and gastric reduction. (See the Obesity Surgery section of your Summary Plan description for more information.)
 - b. Skin Excision is covered post-bariatric surgery. (See the Skin Excision section of your Summary Plan Description for more information.)
 - c. Liposuction, program fees, exercise program, and other services are not covered. (See the Obesity Surgery section of your Summary Plan Description for a complete list of procedures that are not covered.)
5. What are the specific eligibility, health, or past weight loss requirements?
 - a. Limited to 1 (one) surgery per lifetime
 - b. Please refer to the Obesity Surgery section in the Summary Plan Description or call United Health Care at 1-877-440-5983 for more specific requirements.
6. What is Bariatric Resource Services (BRS)?
 - a. You will have access to a team of clinical experts specializing in weight loss and bariatric surgery.
 - b. You will receive complete care before, during and post-operative surgery.
7. Is the Bariatric Resource Services (BRS) mandatory?
 - a. No, it is voluntary but highly recommended.
8. Is there an additional cost to use BRS?

- a. No, the BRS program is already a part of your benefits.

If the above information does not answer all of your questions or concerns about this procedure, please get in touch with the Benefits office at (614.525.5750)

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