LAPAROSCOPIC GASTRIC BYPASS AND GASTRIC SLEEVE
Wait time to surgery is 1-2 years

Criteria:
- Body Mass Index (BMI*) > 40 or BMI of 35-40 with 1 medical condition**
- Smoke free for 6 months
- Age of < 70

Mechanism of weight loss:
- Changes hormones in the brain and body that effect hunger and satiety (feeling full)

Risks:
- Death (1 in 500)
- Complications (20 in 200)
- Risk of infections, leakage and ulcers
- Vitamin deficiencies (avoided by taking vitamin supplements)

Benefits:
- Weight loss 30-35% = 100lbs for a 300lb person
- Improvement in medical disorders (especially diabetes)

Risks:
- Increased risk of infections, leakage and ulcers
- Complications (20 in 200), minor complications (26 in 200)

Cost:
- Covered by OHIP (patient does not pay)
- Patient pays $16,000 - 18,000

How to be Referred:
- A medical doctor referral is sent to a central Bariatric Registry.

A surgical centre* will contact you for an orientation and then further assessments to determine if you are a candidate for surgery.

Successful Bariatric Surgery Patients:
- Are educated about the risks and benefits of the surgery
- Are active and following a dietary plan prior to surgery and after surgery
- We encourage continued follow up with a medical team

Recommended Reading:
- Successful Bariatric Surgery Patients
- Blogs on Weight Loss Surgery:
  Dr. Sue Pedersen  http://www.drsuetalks.blogspot.ca/search?q=surgery
  Dr. Arya Sharma  http://www.drsharma.ca/obesity-why-i-support-bariatric-surgery.html

* Toronto, Hamilton, Guelph, Ottawa