To whom it may concern:

Please find below the Centre for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery program guidelines.

**Current Inclusion Criteria:**

* Age 18-60 years
* BMI between 40-55
* BMI greater than 35 with obesity-related complications
* Failure of diet and exercise
* Compliant patient with regards to: follow-up, diet, exercise and behavior modification
* Resident of Manitoba

We are still accepting referrals for BMI greater than 55. These candidates will be placed on our wait list for when our criteria expands.

**Contraindications include:**

* Noncompliance with follow-up, diet, exercise and behavior modifications
* Immobility
* Untreated or unmanaged psychiatric/eating disorder
* Untreated or unmanaged substance abuse
* Severe medical problems (e.g.- ischemic heart disease or pulmonary hypertension)
* Age greater than 60
* Smoking (must be smoke free for 6 months before being considered for program)

Please find attached a copy of our referral form. This form can also be found at http://www.wrha.mb.ca/professionals/familyphysicians/files/Bariatric\_Referral\_Form\_2013.pdf

Patients who meet the inclusion criteria are notified by our office and invited to attend a mandatory information session. The referring physician will also receive a letter of correspondence regarding the referral.

Please note, our program offers the Laparoscopic Roux-en Y Gastric Bypass and in some instances (for medical reasons) the Laparoscopic Vertical Sleeve Gastrectomy may be indicated. We do not offer the Adjustable Gastric Banding procedure.

If you have any further questions please call (204) 477-3540.

Thank-you for your cooperation,

The Centre for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Team