

Heritage Valley Sewickley Achieves National Accreditation from 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. Heritage Valley Sewickley meets the highest standards for patient safety and quality of care for metabolic and bariatric surgery according to the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP).

Heritage Valley Sewickley and the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Director, Geoffrey Wilcox, M.D., FACS, are proud to announce that its bariatric surgical center has been accredited as a Comprehensive Center under the MBSAQIP, a joint program of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS). The designation recognizes surgical programs with a demonstrated track record of favorable outcomes in bariatric surgery and a long term post-surgery follow up program.



“This accreditation is an indicator of the excellent level of care we provide to our patients, beginning with the pre-operative information seminar and office visits, to the surgery and hospital stay, and through the extensive post-operative follow-up process,” said Dr. Wilcox.

To earn the MBSAQIP designation, Heritage Valley Sewickley met essential criteria for staffing, training and facility infrastructure and protocols for care, ensuring its ability to support patients with severe obesity. The center 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 2016, published by the ACS and ASMBS.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates about 93 million adults in the United States are affected by obesity and that number continues to increase. The disease of 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, cardiovascular disease, and cancer, among other health risks. Metabolic and bariatric surgery has proven to be effective in the reduction of comorbid conditions related to obesity.* Working together, the ACS and the ASMBS have developed accreditation standards for metabolic and bariatric surgery to assist patients with obesity in identifying centers that provide optimal patient 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.