Severe Obesity Program
Program Criteria for Potential Options

Exhibit IV: Narrow Center of Excellence (COE) Network with surgery limited to BMI >50

1) Must be 18 years or older

2) Pre-Surgery Eligibility Requirements Completed in the Last 6 Months

a) Medical and Psychological Evaluation
b) A modest weight loss of 5% over 6 months
c) Dietary Counseling and Evaluation
d) Documented participation in one of the following programs:

- Minimum of 6 month participation in OEBB Weight Watchers Program or a recognized commercial behavioral weight management program. The treatment program must include hypocaloric diet changes, nutrition education, and physical activity and behavior change strategies.
- Minimum 6 month participation in a Physician, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, Registered Dietician or Licensed Behavioral Therapist supervised weight loss program, with or without obesity pharmacotherapy.
- Three or more primary care visits over a minimum of 6 months with a weight management treatment plan in the medical record.
- Participation and completion of a 12 week health education weight management program.

e) Medical record documentation that none of the previous weight loss efforts have been sustained and sufficient to address the co-existing medical condition(s) and/or co-morbidity conditions applicable to the patient.

3) Surgery Requirements

a) Surgeries must be performed at a Centers of Excellence (COE)
b) Patient must meet the following requirements:

1. BMI > 50 Kg/m2 (no co-morbid condition required)

2. BMI>60

- BMI>60 and/or members 60 years of age or higher surgical risks decisions regarding the appropriateness of surgery will be made individually based on rehabilitation potential and the physician and surgeon's judgment regarding surgical risk and likelihood of benefit.
- For members with a body mass index between 60 and 70, decisions regarding surgical timing will be made individually based on rehabilitation potential and the physician and surgeon's judgment regarding surgical risk and benefit.

- Surgery is not felt to be appropriate for extreme levels of obesity (BMI >70) and non-surgical strategies for weight loss will be recommended.