

# Psychiatric Provider Letter of Support

## **A guide for your provider**

If you have an established relationship with a Psychologist or Psychiatrist, please obtain your psychological evaluation from your provider. It must indicate that there are no psychological contraindications for surgery.

For patients that do not have an established relationship with a psychiatric provider, you must see a psychologist/psychiatrist to obtain a formal psychological evaluation and clearance. You are being referred as a part of the preoperative screening and planning process necessary for all patients entering the bariatric surgery program. By way of this evaluation, we are requesting an assessment in a written format to determine your ability to understand directions and your willingness to adhere to long term follow up care. In addition, knowledge of any major axis disorders or bulimia is necessary. To assess these requirements, standardized psychological testing may be needed. To assist the psychiatric provider, the following points should be addressed:

- Does the patient appear to understand the commitment he/she is making by undergoing weight reduction surgery?
- Does the patient appear to have any disabilities that would prevent understanding and following directions?
- Does the patient currently have an addictive disorder such as alcoholism or drug abuse?
- Does the patient have a major axis disorder? If so, what?
- Does the patient appear to have the ability to undergo major behavior modification?
- Does the patient appear willing to forgo foods as a main comfort source?
- Are mechanisms present to foster development of suitable coping mechanisms?
- Is the patient suicidal?
- Does the patient appear to be sincere in his/her ability to take part in a long-term follow up and group support meetings?
- In your opinion, is the patient willing to comply with long-term lifestyle changes?
- In your opinion, is there any reason why this patient should not undergo procedure to limit his/her capacity for food and forced food aversion? If you feel the patient is not ready to proceed with surgery, please list your recommendations instructed to the patient and forward to us in writing.

We have a comprehensive program including support groups and available dietitians to help patients in meeting their weight loss goals.

Please mail or fax your psychological evaluation to Tulane Surgery Clinic HC20, 1415 Tulane Ave, N.O., LA 70112 or secured fax: 504-988-1936 ATTN: Bariatric Nurse (fax preferred). If you have any questions or concerns please contact our office for assistance at 504-988-5110.

## Bariatric Evaluation: Recommended Psychologist

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office Address</u>	<u>Office Contact</u>	<u>Types of Insurance Accepted</u>
<b>ONLINE</b>			
Rolf Gordhamer, Ph.D	<a href="https://bariatricpsychassessment.com/">https://bariatricpsychassessment.com/</a>		Out of Pocket Only \$130; No Insurance
Dr. James Glynn	<a href="https://www.onlinebariatricpsychevals.com/index.html">https://www.onlinebariatricpsychevals.com/index.html</a>	973-696-0800	Out of Pocket Cost \$175; Accepts insurance
<b>SOUTHSHORE</b>			
Catherine MacGregor, PhD	3350 Ridgelake Drive Metairie, LA 70002	504-723-9133	Private Ins and Medicare Only For Medicaid Patients; Reduced Fee
Jefferson Neurobehavioral Group; Aaron Wolfson, MD	2901 N I-10 Service Rd East Suite 300 Metairie, LA 70002	504-780-1702	Medicare & Private Insurance; Payment plans
Intergrated Behavioral Health	400 Poydras Suite 1950, New Orleans, LA 70130	504-322-3837	Tricare/ Humana; Self pay \$400
Jefferson Psychiatric Associates	3340 Severn Avenue Metairie, LA 70002	504-899-1448	Medicare/Medicaid UHC only. No payment plan
NO Psychotherapy Associates	3520 General DeGaulle Drive Suite 4098 New Orleans, LA 70114	504-362-8046	Medicare - may have a report fee (\$85). Payment at time of visit
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	4904 Magazine Street New Orleans, LA 70118	504-383-3815	No Medicare/Medicaid - Flat Fee Upfront
St. Bernard Mental Health Clinic	2221 Philip Street New Orleans, LA 70118	504278-7401	Medicaid - New Orleans Parish Residents Only
<b>NORTHSHORE</b>			
David Clark, PhD	301 Girod Street Mandeville, LA 70448	985-626-9550	No Insurance – Cash Only
Slidell Behavioral Health Clinic	2331 Carey Street Slidell, LA 70458	985-646-6406	
Pamela Deters, PhD	42334 Delux Plaza, Suite 2 Hammond, LA 70403	985-662-5520	Blue Cross-Shield Only – Private insurance accepted; Payment due at
<b>BATON ROUGE</b>			
RD Psychological Associates	740 Colonial Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70806	225-216-9422	Does not accept Insurance - Flat Fee Upfront
Pamela J. Parsons, MD	3837 Plaza Tower Dr., Suite B Baton Rouge, LA 70816	225-810-3836	Does not accept Insurance - Flat Fee Upfront
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>			
Lynwood Wheeler, MD	415 S 28th Avenue Hattiesburg, MS 39401	601-264-6000	Medicare-Medicaid (No Out side Referrals)
Applied Psychology Center	904 Desoto Street Ocean Springs, MS 39564	228-872-8429	

You may also reach out to your insurance company for a list of covered providers.