

# Bariatric Surgery Vocabulary List

1. **Absorption**: the process in which digested food is absorbed by the lower part of the small intestine into the bloodstream
2. **Adipose**: tissue made up of mainly fat cells
3. **Bariatric**: a term having to do with weight or weight reduction
4. **Bariatric surgery**: a type of surgery that is performed to treat morbidly obese people. The surgery aims to restrict or reduce the size of the stomach, allowing the patient to feel “full” after eating much less food than would usually be consumed.
5. **Body Mass Index (BMI)**: a method of figuring out the degree of excess weight, based on weight & height
6. **Cardiovascular**: a term referring to the heart & blood vessels
7. **Center of Excellence**: bariatric program that has been designated a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence (COE) by the Surgical Review Corporation
  - a. Establishes guidelines for assessing bariatric programs
  - b. Evaluates bariatric programs to ensure they meet certain standards for recognition as a COE
8. **Certificate of Coverage**: a document provided by a health insurance company that describes the details of the plan’s policy, including requirements for eligibility, benefits, deductibles, maximums, & exclusions of coverage
9. **Comorbid Condition**: a disease or disorder related to a primary condition
10. **Colon**: the part of the large intestine that starts at the end of the small intestine & ends at the rectum
11. **Contraindications**: any symptom or circumstance, such as substance abuse, emotional health issues, or other health issues, that causes a healthcare professional to not recommend a treatment
12. **Criteria**: a standard on which a judgement or decision may be based

13. **Digestion**: a process in which food is broken down into absorbable forms by the stomach and upper small intestine
14. **Dilation**: The process of enlarging or further opening a passage or anastomosis
15. **Disease**: a process that is a hazard to health and/or longevity
16. **Divided Gastric Bypass Surgery**: a surgical operation that provides a way to manage clinically severe obesity
17. **Dumping syndrome**: an uncomfortable episode of nausea, lightheadedness, upset stomach, vomiting, and/or diarrhea, related to ingestion of high sugar, high fat foods or liquids that can occur after certain bariatric surgeries, such as gastric bypass
18. **Duodenum**: the first 12 inches of small intestine immediately below the stomach. Bile and pancreatic fluids flow into the duodenum from the liver and pancreas
19. **Excess Weight**: the difference between the patient's actual weight and healthy weight
20. **Fully Insured Plan**: a type of health insurance plan in which the employer pays a months premium for a standardized health plan from an insurance company that assumes all risk and cost involved
21. **Gastric** : a term having to do with the stomach
22. **Gastric Banding Surgery**: restrictive surgical procedure during which a silicone band is placed around the stomach, creating a small pouch. The band includes a balloon that is filled with a non toxic fluid, most commonly as saline solution; adjustments are performed by a healthcare professional who accesses the balloon via a subcutaneous port
23. **Gastric Bypass Surgery**: this surgical procedure uses both malabsorption and restriction. During gastric bypass, the operating surgeon uses part of the stomach to form a small stomach pouch and reroutes a part of the small intestine.
24. **Gastric Sleeve**: a relatively new and irreversible operation that surgically removes more than 80% of the stomach. The remaining stomach has the appearance of a sleeve.

25. **Gastrointestinal**: term describes the entire digestive tract
26. **Gastroplasty**: a surgical procedure for morbid obesity that changes the shape of the stomach
27. **Genetic**: pertains to inherited characteristics
28. **Hernia**: a weakness in the tissue of the abdominal wall that results in a detectable bulge
29. **Herniation**: a process in which a hernia is formed
30. **Hypertension**: term for high blood pressure
31. **Ideal Weight**: a concept that treated body weight to health and longevity developed from life insurance statistics
32. **Ileum**: the 10 feet of small intestine responsible for absorption
33. **Improvement**: term used to describe limited relief of symptoms
34. **Ileum**: the 10 feet of small intestine responsible for digestion
35. **Laparoscopy**: a method that allows a doctor to see and treat intra-abdominal problems with long fiber-optic instruments
36. **Morbid**: term refers to disease or illness
37. **Morbid obesity**: a BMI of 40+ or a body weight that is 100 pounds greater than normal can pose as life threatening
38. **Mortality**: term having to do with death
39. **Multidisciplinary Bariatric Program**: A team approach to testing and treatment of clinically severe obesity. It includes surgical, internal medicine, nutrition, psychiatric, exercise, physiology, assessment, and treatment
40. **NIH**: The National Institutes of Health, a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting medical research
41. **NIH Consensus Report**: summaries of meetings about clinically severe obesity and the assessment and treatment of obesity issued periodically by NIH
42. **NIH Surgical Criteria**: The National Institutes of Health has established minimum requirement for deciding whether bariatric surgery is the right treatment option:

- a. 100 pounds or more above ideal body weight or a BMI of 40 or greater
  - b. BMI of 35 greater with one or more obesity-related health condition
43. **Obesity**: A term having to do with the excessive weight or adipose tissue
44. **Obstruction**: The narrowing of an anastomosis or a part of the gastrointestinal tract that slows down the normal passage of food or waste
45. **Psychotherapy**: the testing and treatment of emotional disorders
46. **Pulmonary**: a term having to do with the lungs
47. **Resolution**: the complete relief from symptoms of a disease or disorder, such that medical tests do not detect its existence
48. **Relative Risk**: the comparison of how likely an event is to occur to a person versus another person
49. **Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass Surgery**: a surgical method of reconnecting the stomach and upper small intestine in a Y-shape
50. **Self-Funded Plan**: a type of health insurance plan in which the employer assumes all risks and costs in providing healthcare to employees and, therefore, decides what is and what is not covered, such as bariatric surgery
51. **Staples**: Surgically sterile staples, similar in look and function to those used to fasten paper, for connecting tissue. Staples are usually permanent and made of stainless steel or titanium
52. **Strictures**: the narrowing of anastomosis or a section of intestine that is often related to scarring or ulcers
53. **Therapy**: the treatment of a disorder
54. **Type 2 Diabetes**: a disorder of glucose and insulin metabolism
55. **Vertical Banded Gastroplasty**: a type of surgical procedure to treat morbid obesity that changes the shape and restricts the stomach. This procedure is not performed very often.
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Sources:

<https://www.rsfh.com/bariatrics/patient-resources/common-terms/>

<https://www.princetonhcs.org/care-services/institute-for-surgical-care/the-center-for-bariatric-surgery-and-metabolic-medicine/resources/key-bariatric-terms>