

Baptist Bariatric Center Receives LAP-BAND® Total Care Program Accreditation

PENSACOLA, Fla. (July 14, 2009) – The Baptist Bariatric Center continues to add national recognitions to its repertoire with the recent accreditation in the LAP-BAND® Total Care Program - a comprehensive set of clinical and operational best practices designed to optimize outcomes prior to and following LAP-BAND® procedures.

A total care program accreditation recognizes the patient-centered and comprehensive team approach the Baptist Bariatric Center has taken to bariatric care. This includes patient education; medical assessments; financial requirements; surgery services; and post-procedure follow-up and lifestyle management.

“Our bariatric team understands that the actual surgery is just one part of the weight loss process,” said Amanda Hardy, clinical coordinator, Baptist Bariatric Center. “It’s equally important that our team establishes and helps maintain healthy living, education and support services for our patients. Caring for the patient before and after the procedure is what increases their chance of success.”

The Baptist Bariatric Center is the only facility in the area to have been awarded the Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval as a certified bariatric center. In addition, The Baptist Bariatric Center was recognized by the American Society of Bariatric Surgery as a Center of Excellence. This designation is recognized by many insurance companies for weight loss surgery as it meets the highest standards of quality and safety.

The Bariatric Center at Baptist Hospital provides a variety of weight-loss options for people seeking a healthier, more active lifestyle including LAP-BAND® and gastric bypass as well as non-surgical programs.

For more information on bariatric services at Baptist Hospital or to find out if you are a candidate for weight-loss surgery, call (850)434-4080.

Baptist Health Care is a community-owned, not-for-profit health care organization committed to improving the quality of life for people and communities in Northwest Florida and South Alabama. Nationally recognized for performance excellence and quality achievement, Baptist has consistently ranked in the 99th percentile for patient satisfaction as recognized by Press Ganey. Baptist Health Care includes four hospitals, two medical parks, Baptist Manor, Baptist Home Health Care and Durable Medical Equipment, Baptist Leadership Group, Andrews Institute for Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine and Lakeview Center. With more than 5,500 employees, Baptist Health Care is the largest non-governmental employer in northwest Florida.