

# PATHWAY TO SURGERY

Welcome to Georgia Coast Surgical! The following is a helpful step-by-step guide to assist you in the process of preparing for Lap Band surgery.

Date	What to Do?
	Attend "The Truth About Weight Loss Surgery" Information Seminar or schedule an appointment for your individual consultation with Dr. Kent.
	Contact your insurance company to verify your coverage for Weight Loss Surgery. Every plan is different. Many exclude this surgery as a covered benefit. Ask what your deductible is and ask about your co-insurance. <b>See helpful handout in packet "How Do I Know If I Have Insurance Benefits?"</b>
	1. Return the completed forms: <input type="checkbox"/> Patient Information Profile <input type="checkbox"/> Patient History Questionnaire <input type="checkbox"/> O2B Questionnaire to Georgia Coast Surgical.  2. Photocopy the front and back of your insurance card: <input type="checkbox"/> Include the copies in the packet  <b>3. Mail, fax, or bring the packet by the office. The fax number is 912-264-4071.</b>
	Wait for our office to contact you for a comprehensive consultation with Dr. Kent.
	At your first appointment: Meet with Dr. Kent for a comprehensive exam and evaluation. Meet with our Insurance Specialist for a Financial Consultation to review cash fees or any out-of-pocket expenses such as your deductible and co-insurance related to your specific benefits.
	Schedule the Psychological Evaluation with Betsy Ryland, Ph.D. Call: (912) 264-1096.
	Complete MMPI psychological exam. This is a personality type test that is taken on a computer in our office that is part of your Psychological Evaluation.
	Schedule an appointment with our Dietitian for your Nutrition Evaluation and Education class. The class is held every Wednesday.



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## PATHWAY TO SURGERY *(Continues)*

Date	What to Do?
	Obtain any documentation from your Primary Care Doctor that might be required by your insurance company.
	Complete EMMI. This can be completed on your home computer. You will log in to the EMMI website with a password that will be provided to you. The EMMI is part of your informed consent. You will see an animated video of the Lapband surgery and be able to type in questions you may have. The questions are emailed to us to be addressed at your pre-operative visit.
	Attend at least one Brunswick Support Group Meeting. The group meets at the Southeast GA Health System, Brunswick Campus the second Monday of each month from 7 to 9 pm.
	Now is the time for Georgia Coast Surgical to work with your insurance company to get the approval for you to have surgery. Once we have the approval, you will be notified immediately. If no insurance is involved, you may proceed to choose your surgery date and schedule your pre-operative appointment with Dr. Kent.
	<p><b>Pre-operative appointment:</b></p> <p>1. Meet with Dr. Kent approximately 2 weeks prior to surgery for a history and physical exam, to follow up on any lab work and sign consents for surgery. At this time, you will begin your two week pre-surgical diet.</p> <p>2. Meet with our Insurance Specialist to make payment of any cash fees that are due. Payment of out-of-pocket expenses such as deductible and co-insurance for patients with insurance are due at this visit. All fees were reviewed at first appointment, please be prepared to pay.</p>
	<p>At completion of the pre-operative visit, proceed to Southeast Georgia Health System for the Pre-admission process and obtain any required laboratory and diagnostic studies.</p> <p>If your surgery will be done at Premier Surgery Center, you will receive a phone call to pre-register a few days before your surgery. You may obtain your labs at the facility of your choice 2 weeks before your surgery and have the results faxed to our office.</p>
	Follow guidelines toward a healthier lifestyle and schedule tri-monthly visits.



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