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Pathway to Surgery

Welcome to Phoebe Bariatrics Americus! The following is a helpful step-by-step guide to assist you in the process of preparing for weight loss surgery.

Date:	Attend educational seminar or schedule an appointment for your individual consultation with a provider at Phoebe Bariatrics Americus.
Date:	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. See helpful handout in packet “ How do I know if I have Insurance Benefits? ”
Date:	Complete the “Patient History Questionnaire” in your folder. BRING YOUR SEMINAR FOLDER TO YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT!
Date:	At your first appointment: Meet with the bariatric program coordinator. Discuss surgical options in a one-on-one consultation.
Date:	Nutritional Counseling from Registered Dietitian – we will schedule these appointments
Date:	Meet with surgeon to discuss surgical options, preoperative testing, etc.
Date:	Psychological Evaluation with licensed psychologist – we will schedule this appointment
Date:	Obtain any documentation from your Primary Care Provider that might be required by your insurance company. For example, weight loss attempts.
Date:	Now is the time for Phoebe Bariatrics Americus 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, together we will proceed to choose your surgery date and schedule your pre-operative appointment with one of the surgeons. An insurance specialist will meet with you about your cost for surgery. All patient responsibility payments must be paid in full before surgery is scheduled.
Date:	Obtain all necessary testing as ordered by surgeons prior to pre-operative appointment.
Date:	Pre-operative appointment: Meet with one of the surgeons within 30 days of your surgery date for a history and physical exam, to follow up on any pre-operative testing, and sign surgery consents.
Date:	At completion of the pre-operative visit you will receive instructions regarding the Pre-admission process for Phoebe Sumter Medical Center.