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Thank you for your interest in our Bariatric Surgery Program at Tampa General Hospital. Enclosed please find our informational booklet and program requirements. This information should answer most, if not all, of your questions about the process, the operation and our program requirements. Additional information about obesity surgery is available in public libraries, the internet and from the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery by accessing their website at www.asmb.org and other websites including www.tgh.org and www.zbmi.com.

Prior to scheduling an appointment for your initial consultation you will be required to attend a **New Patient Orientation Session** and a **New Patient Weight Loss Surgery Support Group Meeting**. The orientation session will provide you with more detailed information about the surgery and program requirements and will help you decide if this surgery is right for you. The support group meeting will allow you to meet many of our post-op patients who will share their life changing experience with you. Dates and times for these meetings are included in this packet.

It is important that you check with your insurance company to ensure that bariatric surgery/weight loss surgery (WLS) is a **covered benefit** of your plan. Not all plans include this type of surgery as a covered benefit.

Our comprehensive Bariatric Team is dedicated to providing you with the highest level of compassionate care. We look forward to seeing you soon!

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "M MURR MD".

Michel M. Murr, M.D.
Director of Bariatric Surgery

