Aetna Institutes of Quality® Bariatric Surgery
Summary of Criteria
Facility Requirements for Consideration

To be considered for designation in the Aetna Institutes of Quality (IOQ) Bariatric Surgery network (the network), a facility must submit a current year request for information (RFI). We'll review the facility's answers to the RFI. We'll also review other data, including our own. We evaluate continued participation when the network is refreshed every three years — all facilities must reapply.

We may select a facility to participate in the network if it meets certain measures of:

- Clinical quality
- Cost efficiency
- Access for bariatric surgery services

Designation process

1. We invite the facility to complete and submit an RFI. The RFI applies only to adult patients age 18 and over.
2. We review the facility's response to determine clinical eligibility. If the facility does not meet all applicable criteria, the facility is not eligible for designation. We evaluate no further.
3. If the facility meets all applicable criteria, we determine if the facility meets our cost efficiency and network access criteria. If the facility meets all three of these requirements, we'll designate the facility into the network.
4. We'll let the facility know if it's designated into the network.
5. We'll list the designated facility in our DocFind® online provider directory.

Designation is valid for three years and is dependent upon ongoing compliance with program requirements.

Program requirements

To be considered for designation, an inpatient facility and a freestanding ambulatory surgery center (ASC) must meet program requirements listed below.

Business requirements

1. The inpatient facility or ASC must be credentialed by Aetna, and they must participate in Aetna's provider network for all benefit plans and products available in their geographic area.

2. All of the inpatient facility's or ASC's bariatric surgeons must be credentialed by Aetna, and they must participate in Aetna's provider network for all benefit plans and products available in the facility's geographic area.
3. The inpatient facility or ASC must have been performing bariatric surgery continuously for the most recent rolling 12 months.
4. All bariatric surgeons who operate at the inpatient facility or ASC must be Board Certified or Board Eligible by one or more of the following:
    - American Board of Surgery
    - American Osteopathic Board of Surgery
    - Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
5. The inpatient facility or ASC must be approved as a Comprehensive Center by the American College of Surgeon's Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program and/or as a Center of Excellence in Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery by the Surgical Review Corporation.
6. The inpatient facility must be accredited by one or more of the following organizations:
    - The Joint Commission
    - Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program
    - American Osteopathic Association
    - National Integrated Accreditation for Healthcare Organizations
7. The ASC must either:
    - Be licensed as an ASC by the state in which it operates, **or**
    - Give evidence of Medicare eligibility or certification as an ASC under 42 CFR 416
8. The ASC must be accredited by one or more of the following organizations:
    - Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Healthcare
    - American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities
    - American Osteopathic Association's Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program
    - The Joint Commission

Patient care requirements

9. The inpatient facility's or ASC's bariatric program must provide post-operative patients with an organized program of aftercare and follow-up for at least 12 months following surgery.
10. At least 90 percent of all the inpatient facility's or ASC's bariatric surgery cases must be followed for 30-days post-operatively.
11. At least 75 percent of all inpatient facility's or ASC's bariatric surgery cases must be followed for one year post-operatively.

12. The inpatient facility or ASC must have a specific bariatric surgery quality improvement program in place. This includes data collection systems and/or personnel to collect, analyze, and retain program-related data.
13. The ASC must have a written plan and a transfer agreement for transferring a patient who develops complications. The transfer must be to an Aetna-participating inpatient facility within 50 miles of the ASC.

Volume requirements

14. The inpatient facility or ASC must have at least one bariatric surgeon who has performed at least 100 bariatric surgeries in the most recent rolling 24 months. These procedures may have been performed in multiple facilities.
15. The inpatient facility must have performed at least 125 total bariatric surgeries in the most recent rolling 12 months.
16. The ASC must have performed at least 75 total bariatric surgeries in the most recent rolling 12 months.

Outcomes requirements

17. In the most recently available rolling 12 months, the inpatient facility's or ASC's mortality rate within 30 days of bariatric surgery must be less than or equal to one percent.
18. In the most recently available rolling 12 months, the inpatient facility's or ASC's re-operation rate within 30 days of bariatric surgery must be less than or equal to five percent.
19. In the most recently available rolling 12 months, the inpatient facility's or ASC's major complication rate within 30 days of the initial bariatric surgery must be less than or equal to eight percent.
20. In the most recently available rolling 12 months, the inpatient facility's or ASC's revision of bariatric surgeries within 30 days of the initial bariatric surgery must be less than or equal to five percent.
21. In the most recently available rolling 12 months, the inpatient facility's or ASC's all-cause re-admission rate within 30 days of the initial bariatric surgery must be less than or equal to ten percent.

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