

NewHope Bariatrics Opens New Weight Loss Surgery Center in Kansas City

Bariatric Surgery Centers Will Focus on LAP-BAND Surgery in an Outpatient Setting

Charlotte, N.C., Sept 25, 2007 – NewHope Bariatrics announced today the opening of its second Ambulatory Surgery Center focused on the treatment of obesity through adjustable gastric banding. The center is based in Overland Park, Kan. The Medical Director of the NewHope Bariatrics Center is Stephen Malley, M.D., a leading bariatric surgeon who has performed more than 750 LAP-BAND® System procedures and serves as a LAP-BAND surgical proctor for Allergan, Inc, (NYSE: AGN), the product's manufacturer.

“Dr. Malley has a proven track record with clinical outcomes and a comprehensive weight loss program for long-term success and patient satisfaction,” said David Crane, President and Chief Executive Officer of NewHope Bariatrics. “NewHope Bariatrics is pleased to formalize this partnership and expand the positive impact of this program in the Kansas City market,” added Mr. Crane.

“Our shared goal is to expand the awareness locally that a safe and minimally invasive option is available, and a team of committed, compassionate individuals are standing by to help patients set and achieve their health goals,” Dr. Malley commented. “We want the people suffering from obesity to realize that there is new hope today. They don't have to have their stomach stapled. They don't have to be out of work for weeks, and they can take off the weight and keep it off.”

The NewHope Bariatrics Surgery Center offers a comprehensive program beginning with extensive education, pre-surgical consultation and financial counseling, and continuing through aftercare programs focused on long-term clinical support and access to a community of patients and health-care professionals. The entire program is designed to help people achieve their weight loss goals and improve their quality of life.

The NewHope Bariatrics Weight Loss Center of Kansas City will begin performing LAP-BAND® System procedures in October. It is located at 10787 Nall Ave., Suite 100, Overland Park, Kan. Free educational seminars are offered to the public. To register, please call 1-877-NEW-HOPE (1-877-639-4673) or visit www.newhopetoday.com.

NewHope Bariatrics (Charlotte, N.C.) develops and operates ambulatory surgery centers and short-stay surgical hospitals in partnership with highly regarded bariatric surgeons that serve the needs of the seriously overweight. The NewHope Bariatric Centers focus on adjustable gastric banding procedures (primarily the LAP-BAND® System), delivering compassionate care, excellent clinical results, and superior patient satisfaction ratings. For more information, visit www.newhopebariatrics.com.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

David Crane
President & CEO
704-246-0700

Dennis Kelly
Chief Operating Officer
704-246-0700