

## **IMPORTANT CHANGE IN REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR BARIATRIC PROGRAMS**

### **ATTENTION: PHYSICIANS AND NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

As of **APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015**, all referrals for surgical and medical programs must go through the new online referral system at the Bariatric Registry. Until Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at midnight, please continue to use our current paper based referral to fax referrals to us at 613-761-5343.

### **How the NEW online referral system will work:**

- The primary care physician or NP will need to register only once
- The system has built in logic which utilizes key eligibility questions to route patients immediately to the appropriate OHIP funded bariatric program (surgical or medical)

### **Why the NEW online referral system is being implemented:**

- The demand for programs is growing and referrals need to be centralized and processed within 24 hours
- Our current fax based system is no longer effective at meeting the needs of patients across the province

### **The NEW online referral system has enhanced user capability:**

- Program eligibility and bariatric centre location is confirmed at time of referral
- Physicians and NPs will be able to:
  - Track patient status and receive timely updates
  - Sort and filter their patient referral list
  - Set email notification preferences to receive timely updates
  - Print the referral forms for office records

**Because the NEW online referral system will go live as of April 1, 2015, any paper referrals after this date will be faxed back to the referring physician or NP and will not be processed**