

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Harbin Clinic/Floyd Medical Center Bariatric Center Surpasses 1000 Patients**

### **For Immediate Release**

ROME, Ga., April 11, 2011 – More than 1000 people have now received laparoscopic weight loss (bariatric) surgery through the Harbin Clinic/Floyd Medical Center Bariatric Center, announced Medical Director and surgeon J. Ryland Scott, MD, FACS.

The bariatric program is a Center of Excellence through the American Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery and the Surgical Review Corporation. According to Dr. Scott, Center of Excellence designation is based on quality measures. The 159 patients who underwent weight loss surgery in 2010 through the Harbin Clinic/Floyd Medical Center program showed no mortalities, no readmission, no conversions to open surgery, no admissions to the Intensive Care Unit, no leaks or perforations, and no wound infections. “We have an excellent team that is dedicated to quality” Dr. Scott said.

Laparoscopic surgery is performed using long instruments through very small incisions. Average weight loss for patients is often greater than 100 pounds and patients are generally able to return home from the hospital somewhere between the day of surgery and two days post-operatively.

In addition to losing weight, many bariatric patients experience dramatic improvements in diabetes, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, joint disease, gastroesophageal reflux disease, stress urinary incontinence, and lower back pain. These conditions often disappear in patients who have bariatric procedures.

According to Dr. Scott, “Surgery alone is not a reliable solution for obesity.” Patients in the Harbin Clinic/Floyd Hospital Bariatric Center receive comprehensive care including: support from certified bariatric nurses who help in the coordination of care, counseling from an experienced bariatric dietitian who sees patients preoperatively and at every follow-up visit, consultations when necessary through a network of Harbin Clinic specialists linked together via an electronic medical record, and the advantages of dedicated hospital facilities including experienced bariatric surgical nurses, high definition laparoscopy equipment, and hospital rooms designed for and dedicated to bariatric patients. The bariatric program also has an outcomes management program to assure ongoing quality improvement.

“For my patients who have struggled throughout their lives to control their weight, surgery is a life-changing event,” according to Dr. Scott. “Women who have had surgery often tell me that for the first time in their lives shopping for clothes is fun. Men often



talk about their new level of energy and their ability to participate more fully in activities.”

For additional information on the program, visit [www.harbinclinic.com](http://www.harbinclinic.com) and select bariatric center, or call 706-378-8140 (Toll Free: 1-800-803-2065).