

Weight loss surgery gives patients a new lease on life

Andras Sandor, MD

WHETHER WEIGHT LOSS has been a lifelong struggle or something that only recently became an issue, the Hallmark Health Center for Weight Management and Weight Loss Surgery has the expert team in place to help you. Led by Andras Sandor, MD, the Center's surgeons, specially-trained nurses, psychologists, dietitians and respiratory therapists work with patients every step of the way.

The Center, which is located at Lawrence Memorial Hospital of Medford (LMH), offers the entire spectrum of weight-loss surgical procedures including adjustable gastric banding, sleeve gastrectomy and gastric bypass. Patients' care continues long after surgery with ongoing support groups, consultations with experienced, caring dietitians and follow-up appointments with Dr. Sandor or another surgeon with the Center.

The Center is nationally recognized and has been designated a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, an honor held by fewer than 375 hospitals throughout the country. The Center has also been recognized as a Blue Distinction Center for Bariatric Surgery by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. Approximately 2,000 procedures have been performed since the Center opened a decade ago.

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— Andras Sandor, MD

Dr. Sandor said the benefits of weight loss surgery are immeasurable. Patients look and feel better about themselves, their quality of life improves and many medical problems they struggled with such as diabetes, cardiac issues and sleep apnea are significantly improved, if not cured, after surgery.

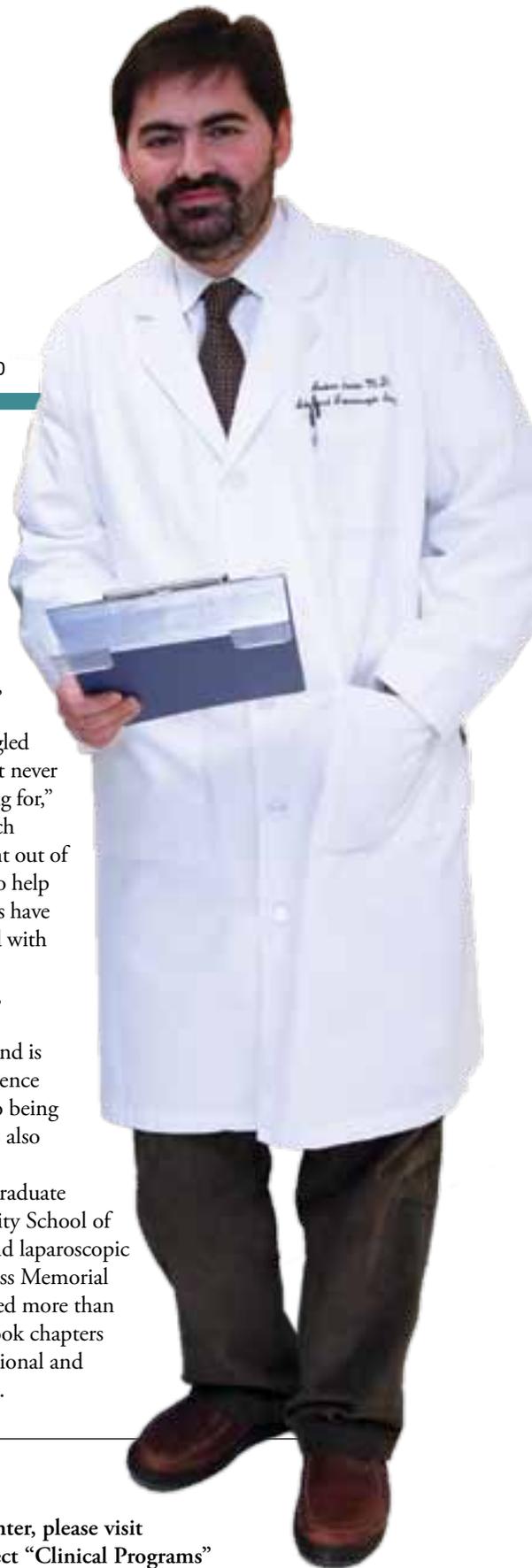
“Some of our patients have struggled for years, dieting and exercising, but never seeing the weight loss they're looking for,” said Dr. Sandor. “We work with each patient to determine what they want out of surgery and do everything we can to help them reach their goals. Our patients have great outcomes and are very pleased with their surgery.”

Board-certified in general surgery, Dr. Sandor has a special interest in advanced laparoscopic procedures and is a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence (BSCOE) Designee. In addition to being the Center's director, Dr. Sandor is also chief of surgery at LMH.

Dr. Sandor completed his post-graduate research fellowship at Yale University School of Medicine, subsequent residency and laparoscopic surgical clinical fellowship at UMass Memorial Medical Center. He has co-authored more than 30 scientific publications, seven book chapters and has presented his results at national and international scientific conferences.

i For more information

For more information on the Center, please visit www.hallmarkhealth.org and select “Clinical Programs” or call (781) 306-6166.



Patient Profile

Ellen Benson

Saugus resident Ellen Benson has struggled with her weight for more than 20 years. She went on crash diets and lost weight only to gain it back. It was a roller coaster ride that left Benson disgusted and angry until she made the decision that changed her life.

Benson, 48, scheduled an appointment with Andras Sandor, MD, director of the Hallmark Health Center for Weight Management and Weight Loss Surgery. Her surgery was done this past January and since then she has lost approximately 80 pounds.

“I feel like I got my life back again,” said Benson. “Having surgery with Dr. Sandor is the best thing I could have done. I have so much energy now and it’s from my surgery, eating good, healthy food and exercising.”

She now runs three-plus miles per day and has been cured of sleep apnea and the many aches and pains that plagued her for so long. Benson said throughout the whole process Dr. Sandor made her feel like she was his only patient, always took the time to answer her questions and address any concerns she had and even visited her in the hospital during a snowstorm.

“Dr. Sandor treats his patients like family,” she said. “I encourage anyone that is considering this surgery to schedule an appointment at Hallmark Health’s Center. Dr. Sandor is amazing.”



HEAR DIRECTLY from the patient and her surgeon.



Ellen Benson, before surgery and recently at her home in Saugus.

