

## **Dr. Andrew Averbach Sees Success with New Incisionless Surgical Weight Loss Option - StomaphyX™**

*Bariatric surgeon Andrew Averbach, MD, helps patients achieve weight loss goals through a variety of bariatric and advanced laparoscopic surgery procedures in Baltimore, Maryland.*

Baltimore, Maryland – July 6, 2009 – Baltimore bariatric surgeon, Dr. Andrew Averbach, has successfully used StomaphyX™, a new incisionless weight loss surgical option. This revolutionary procedure is now available for patients who have had previous gastric bypass surgery and who are now regaining weight.

While gastric bypass surgery is considered a standard of care for bariatric surgery, approximately 20-30% of patients in subsequent years experience loss of restriction and weight re-gain due to pouch enlargement or stoma dilation. According to Dr. Averbach, “StomaphyX is a new incisionless surgical option to enhance weight loss after failed gastric bypass, duodenal switch or sleeve widening after sleeve gastrectomy. The average reported excess weight loss after undergoing the StomaphyX procedure is 20-30% at six months, but it can be higher with appropriate dietary modification.”

Requiring no incisions and no patient downtime, the StomaphyX revisional procedure involves placing an endoscope through the mouth and into the stomach. Then, the stomach pouch is sutured with fasteners decreasing its size thus improving satiety and facilitating further weight loss. The StomaphyX procedure shrinks the stomach, similar to the outcome of the original gastric bypass procedure, without requiring major surgery.

Compared to traditional revisional bariatric surgery, risks of the StomaphyX procedure are minimal and are generally limited to throat soreness for several days. Patients have a much shorter recovery time and are able to return to work within a few days. “I have recently had the StomaphyX procedure completed and have already lost 38 pounds in nine months,” says Beate Reynolds, a Baltimore bariatric surgery patient of Dr. Averbach. “I experienced little discomfort after my procedure and was back at work seven days later. My weight loss is now back on track, and I have Dr. Averbach to thank for it.”

### **About Dr. Andrew Averbach:**

Andrew Averbach, M.D., FACS is a board-certified general and bariatric surgeon with 30 years of experience, and has been practicing at the St. Agnes Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland since 2002. Dr. Averbach performs Roux-en-Y gastric bypass, vertical sleeve gastrectomy and laparoscopic gastric banding (LAP-BAND and REALIZE Band) as well as revision procedures including the incisionless StomaphyX procedure. The American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) has named Dr. Averbach's program a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence. More information on the practice can be found at [www.mdlapbarisurge.com](http://www.mdlapbarisurge.com).

### **Contact:**

Andrew Averbach, M.D., FACS  
700 Geipe Rd.  
Suite 274  
Catonsville, MD 21228  
Phone: 410-368-8725  
Fax: 410-368-8726  
[www.mdlapbarisurge.com](http://www.mdlapbarisurge.com)