

Battling Obesity

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SPECIALTIES: SURGERY, BARIATRIC SURGERY, OBESITY, MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

PRACTICE AND HOSPITAL AFFILIATIONS:

Northwest Obesity Surgery; Evergreen Hospital Medical Center, Northwest Hospital Medical Center **OF NOTE:** Dr. Chebli is the medical director of the bariatric surgery programs at Northwest Hospital and Evergreen Hospital. He was named a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons in 2004. In 2010, he was designated as an American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence Surgeon.

WHY BARIATRIC (WEIGHT LOSS) SURGERY?

As a resident, I was hooked on mastering the technical challenges of bariatric surgery, which is like reaching the top of the surgical mountain. When I started my own practice, Dr. William Roll, a pioneer in the field, taught me that surgery is only half the equation; caring for patients is just as important. He showed me that advance preparation and a high quality of care before, during and after surgery result in minimal complication and excellent recovery. My practice exploded after I learned this. It's my life's work.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BEST OUTCOME?

Each patient achieves a personal best. Prior to surgery, obesity is only one of the conditions they battle. Many have type 2 diabetes, apnea, reflux, joint issues and high blood pressure. They may be taking lots of meds to control these conditions. They suffer from social stigma, and the simplest tasks we take for granted, like climbing stairs, may be beyond them. Bariatric surgery transforms their lives; there is no other single intervention that cures or improves their medical conditions so significantly. Moms will see their children grow up. Dads will walk their daughters down the aisle. Some patients even become marathon runners or glacier trekkers. Seeing patients succeed—it doesn't get any better than that. *S.M.*



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prepares to
battle obesity via
bariatric surgery

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