

# Obesity **Action** **ALERT**

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**May 2012**



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- [Surgery Wins Again for Diabetics Affected by Obesity](#)
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OAC Releases New Details on Our Inaugural *Your Weight Matters* National Convention

News from  
the 

**Spring 2012 Issue of Your Weight Matters Magazine Now Available** - The Spring 2012 issue of *Your Weight Matters Magazine* is now available online! The theme for this issue is complex and controversial issues regarding obesity, so you will find some very interesting articles inside!

You can view the Spring 2012 issue of *Your Weight Matters Magazine* online by [clicking here.>>>](#)

**Texas-based Hospital Citizens Medical Center Suspends Body Mass Index Employment Requirement** - On April 12, David Brown, CEO of Citizens Medical Center, contacted OAC



The OAC is excited to release new information on our Inaugural *Your Weight Matters* National Convention, "Explore. Discover. Empower.!" The complete OAC National Convention structure and program agenda are now available online! Some of the session topics you'll see on the agenda are:

- Loosing, Gaining, Maintaining - Is it a Science?
- Bariatric Surgery 101 - Exploring Your Surgical Options
- Medical Weight Management 101 - Drugs, Behavior Modification and beyond
- Leading an Active Lifestyle in a Sedentary World
- And so much more!

You can view the complete Convention Program Agenda online now by [clicking here.>>>](#)

### **Registration Now Open!**

Registration for the OAC's Inaugural *Your Weight Matters* National Convention is now open! Until August 31, registration is only \$95 for OAC members! The first 100 people who register for the OAC's National Convention will be entered into a drawing for a FREE 3-night stay at the Hilton Anatole! You don't want to miss out on this great offer, so make sure you register soon! You can register to attend this ground-breaking educational Convention now by [clicking here.>>>](#)

### **Convention Room Block Now Open!**

The OAC's Inaugural *Your Weight Matters* National Convention will be held at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas, Texas. The OAC's room block at the Hilton Anatole is now open! With an incredible room rate of \$129/night, you definitely want to be sure to make your hotel reservations early, as we expect the room block to fill quickly. You can find all the information on travel and lodging for the OAC's Inaugural *Your Weight Matters* National Convention online by [clicking here.>>>](#)

President and CEO, Joe Nadglowski, with the news that Citizens' weight-based hiring policy had been suspended.

The OAC was alerted that the hospital enacted this policy toward the end of March, and we immediately reached out to Mr. Brown expressing our concern. You can read the full story on this issue by [clicking here.>>>](#)

### **OAC Asks Membership to Submit Comments to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Regarding Sleeve**

**Gastectomy** - The week of April 23, the OAC alerted our membership and followers to a call of action! We asked them to submit comments to CMS in favor of full coverage of the sleeve gastrectomy procedure that CMS is proposing to limit. The comment period ended on April 28. There were more than 400 comments submitted to CMS. Thank you to everyone who sent in comments.

### Sign-up for OAC Convention E-news Alerts!

More information regarding the Convention will be released in the coming weeks. Be the first to hear all the breaking news by signing-up to receive OAC Convention E-news Alerts! You can sign-up for OAC Convention E-news Alerts now by [clicking here.>>>](#)

You can read all about the OAC's Inaugural *Your Weight Matters* National Convention on our Web site by [clicking here.>>>](#)

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- Currently, 47 states have passed school-based anti-bullying laws. Of these, 21 laws list characteristics of students that are vulnerable to bullying such as race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, academic status, mental, physical, developmental or sensory disability, or other aspects of physical appearance. Only two existing laws include body weight as a characteristic vulnerable to bullying.
- The HCG diet is a low-calorie diet combined with the use of HCG; however, a combined analysis of 24 studies in 1994 concluded that there is no scientific evidence that HCG causes weight-loss, redistributes fat, reduces hunger or creates a feeling of well-being.
- According to the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, more than half of the “added” sugars in our diet come from drinking sodas, fruit drinks, sports drinks and other sugary beverages.
- The ghrelin hormone, discovered in 1999, is released primarily from cells in the stomach and travels to the brain. In experiments, people who got injections of ghrelin before a buffet meal ate 30 percent more than a group of eaters not given extra ghrelin.
- You could easily take in 1,500 calories from just one fast-food meal alone. Keep in mind that a general caloric recommendation for Americans is 1,500-1,800 calories per-day and around 50-60 grams of total fat.

**OAC and Obesity PPM Announce Webinar #3 in Webinar Series** - The third webinar in the webinar series on the understanding of obesity will be "Obesity & Health Policy." This webinar, set to take place on May 24 at 8PM EST, will feature OAC President and CEO Joe Nadglowski and Morgan Downey, JD, Chief Health Policy Officer at Obesity PPM.

You can register for this free webinar now by [clicking here.>>>](#)

**OAC Exhibits at American Society of Bariatric Physicians (ASBP) Spring Obesity Conference** - OAC Chairman of the Board, Pam Davis, RN, BSN, CBN, exhibited on behalf of the OAC at the ASBP Spring Obesity Conference, April 26-28 in Denver, CO. Pam also had the opportunity to speak to the attendees about the OAC and our mission.

ASBP is a medical professional association for

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### Connect with the OAC



### Thank You!

Thank you for subscribing to the *Obesity Action Alert*, the OAC's FREE monthly e-newsletter. To learn more about the OAC or to join the Coalition as a member, please visit [www.obesityaction.org](http://www.obesityaction.org).

Thank you,

Obesity Action Coalition

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physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants focused on the treatment and management of those affected by obesity. Recently, ASBP entered into a membership partnership with the OAC, purchasing OAC memberships for all members of ASBP.

**OAC Welcomes Two New Members to the OAC Chairman's Council through the OAC Sponsored Membership Program** - This past month, the OAC has added two new practices to the Chairman's Council Membership level who have signed-on to participate in the OAC Sponsored Membership Program – Minimally Invasive Surgery Center in Shreveport, LA and Surgical Weight Loss Solutions at Tempe St. Luke's in Tempe, AZ.

Minimally Invasive Surgery Center is led by Drs. Stephanie and James Barnes, who recently signed-up to give OAC memberships to each of their patients. Minimally

Invasive Surgery Center specializes in bariatric surgery as a solution to help individuals affected by obesity and severe obesity. They have shown a true commitment to make a difference in advocacy, and joining their patients in the OAC is a great first-step toward making their footprint.

Surgical Weight Loss Solutions at Tempe St. Luke's also joined in the OAC Sponsored Membership Program recently. This practice, led by Eric Schlesinger, MD, and Kurt Sprunger, MD, also treats those affected by obesity through bariatric surgery and their eagerness to sign-on to this important program is helping to directly grow the patient voice in obesity. Surgical Weight Loss Solutions at Tempe St. Luke's has shown their willingness to engage their patients in the OAC and we are excited to have them as part of this valuable program.

The OAC Sponsored Membership Program has added several new practices in the past few

months, which demonstrates the strong message of growing the patient voice in obesity is being heard more and more each day. Practices who sign-up to participate in this program not only receive a 50 percent discount off each Individual Membership, but they also will automatically qualify as part of the OAC Chairman's Council – the highest membership level of the OAC.

To learn more about this program and to sign-up, please contact Kristy Kuna, OAC Director of Programs and Membership, at [kkuna@obesityaction.org](mailto:kkuna@obesityaction.org) or [click here.>>>](#)