

## Bartels Medical Associates, PLLC

Medical Weight Control  
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Welcome to our practice!

Thank you for calling Dr. Bartels' office and taking that first, all important, step in addressing your weight control needs. You have already started a process that will improve the way you feel and the way you feel about yourself. Obesity is a medical problem affecting millions of Americans. While unfortunately many make the decision to "live with it", more and more are seeking the medical treatment that will improve their quality of life.

Bariatrics is the medical specialty related to the understanding and treatment of obesity. Dr. George Bartels is a bariatric physician and board member of the American Society of Bariatric Physicians. He has specialized in the treatment of obesity for nearly 20 years and has successfully helped patients not only lose weight, but also modify their lifestyles so that the undesirable weight did not return.

As we explained earlier, there is no charge for your initial diet consultation. During this consultation, one of our nurses trained in bariatric medicine will explain in detail the various weight control programs offered at this office. Working with this professional, you can decide on the program that best suits your long term health needs. We will also review with you the cost of the various weight control programs. Unfortunately, our diet programs are not covered services under the Medicare or Medicaid programs. Of course, you are under no obligation should you decide that our program is not what you desire.

For those patients who proceed with a medically directed weight loss program, the first step is to ascertain your current medical condition. This is critically important. Dr. Bartels will carefully monitor your health throughout your program, and this initial laboratory testing will give him a great deal of insight into your current medical condition. These initial tests include an electrocardiogram, a body composition analysis and a total of 47 blood tests, which include chemistry tests, hematology tests and thyroid function tests.

There are a number of weight reduction and maintenance programs offered by this office. These programs include, but are not limited to, a fasting program, a modified fasting program, and several 28-day programs. All of these programs are compatible with the use of appetite suppressant medications, which may be considered if medically appropriate.

We look forward to seeing you and working with you as a patient to achieve your weight goals. Please give us a call should you need additional information. If you are unable to make your appointment for your consultation, please give us a call to reschedule so that we can use your time slot for another patient.