How Does Bariatric Surgery Work?

There are two types of weight loss surgery: restrictive and malabsorptive.

**Restrictive Operations:**
This type of surgery reduces the size of the stomach. After surgery, your stomach can only hold a small amount of food. You will feel full much sooner and eat less than before. This results in a big decrease in food intake.

**Malabsorptive + Restrictive Operations:**
This type of surgery changes the body's ability to absorb calories and nutrients from food. The surgeon makes the working part of the stomach much smaller, and also creates a "reroute" so food will not come in contact with the upper part of the small intestine.

For weight loss surgery to be a success, you will need to eat healthy foods in very small portions, avoid alcoholic beverages, exercise on a regular basis, and take vitamin and mineral supplements for the rest of your life.