FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW, LOWER-COST LAP-BAND® ADJUSTMENTS FOR OKC RESIDENTS Dr. Gornichec Offers Gastric Band Patients, Regardless of Surgeon, Low-Cost Band Fills

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma (February 18, 2011) For the month of February, 2011 the Weight Loss Center of Oklahoma will be offering \$150 band adjustments to all gastric banding (<u>Lap-Band</u>® & Realize® Band) patients regardless of surgeon or procedural center.

This is a significant discount from the national average of \$250 per adjustment.

Gastric banding is the only adjustable weight loss surgery procedure currently available. By connecting the band to an injection port affixed to the abdomen wall, a surgeon can easily adjust the tightness of the band. By adding or removing saline the surgeon increases or decreases restriction respectively. While this flexibility offers many benefits, the downside is that it requires several follow-up visits to determine the correct tightness. Patients that have had their procedure performed out of town may not be able to travel for these adjustments and travel costs can add up. This promotion offers them a compelling alternative.

"Many gastric banding patient have had their surgery out of state or abroad and have later realized that their aftercare needs may not be covered by insurance and travel can be very expensive," says Dr. Russell Gornichec, the medical director of the Weight Loss Center of Oklahoma. "With our new program, affordable care is extended to all those in the OKC Metroplex that may need it."

Adjustments will be performed after a free consultation that may require a simple, plain film x-ray of the abdomen to verify location and accessibility of the injection port. This imaging is performed in the very same building and only if the gastric band's port is impalpable.

"Any band patient is welcome, no matter where the surgery was performed. We look forward to giving our residents yet another convenient adjustment option after surgery." Says Dr. Gornichec.

Gastric band adjustments are performed on Mondays. Those who are interested can make an appointment by calling the Weight Loss Center of Oklahoma at 405-713-4450.

About Dr. Russell Gornichec:

Dr. Gornichec has been practicing <u>weight loss surgery</u> in the Oklahoma Metroplex. He is the Medical Director of the weight loss program at Integris Baptist Medical Center and Medical Director of the Weight Loss Center of Oklahoma. He also leads the weight loss surgery program at Lakeside Women's Hospital.

To learn more information on this topic, to see a bariatric surgery firsthand, or to schedule an interview, please contact Kim at 405-713-4450 or email info@weightlosscenterOK.com.