

# Bariatric Surgery

CHI Formulary Treatment algorithm

## Treatment algorithm

Supporting treatment algorithms  
for the clinical management of  
bariatric surgery

The tables outline a comprehensive treatment algorithm on **the management of bariatric surgery** aimed at addressing the different lines of treatment after thorough review of medical and economic evidence by CHI committees.

For further evidence, please refer to CHI **Bariatric surgery** full report. You can stay updated on the upcoming changes to our formulary by visiting our website at <https://chi.gov.sa/AboutCCHI/CCHIprograms/Pages/IDF.aspx>

Our treatment algorithm offers a robust framework for enhancing patient care and optimizing treatment outcomes across a range of treatment options, holding great promise for improving healthcare delivery.

**A- Pre- Operative Medications:**

Medication	Dosing	Notes
<b><u>Unfractionated Heparin (UFH)</u></b>	UFH 5000 U prior to surgery (12 h before the surgery) <b>OR</b> upon induction of anesthesia on the day of admission	
<b>Enoxaparin</b>	40 mg S/C prior to surgery (12 hours before surgery),  <b>OR</b> upon induction of anesthesia on the day of admission	
<b>Dalteparin</b>		
<b>Fondaparinux</b>	5mg S/C q 24 hours	
<b>levofloxacin</b>	20 mg	<p>- May be suggested to be prescribed preoperatively based on treating physician own opinion or experience</p> <p>No information obtained but Saudi guideline recommended on admission day</p>

<b>Liraglutide</b>	SUBQ: Initial: 0.6 mg once daily for 1 week; increase by 0.6 mg daily at weekly intervals to a target dose of 3 mg once daily.	Can be used for the management of Class I and Class II obesity and is also effective in downgrading morbidly obese patients preoperatively and weight regain in post-bariatric surgeries. If the patient cannot tolerate an increased dose during dose escalation, consider delaying dose escalation for 1 additional week

**B- Post- Operative Medications:**

1- Antibiotics

Medication	Dosing	Notes
<b>Cefazolin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 g IM 30 minutes to 1 hour prior to the start of surgery followed by 500 mg to 1 g IM every 6 to 8 hours for 24 hours postoperatively.</li> <li>- For BMI <math>\geq 30</math> to <math>\leq 50</math> kg/m<sup>2</sup>: 2 g</li> <li>- For BMI <math>&gt; 50</math> kg/m<sup>2</sup>: 3 g</li> </ul>	<p>For bariatric surgeries above or including the duodenum, cefazolin is the drug of choice,</p> <p>For bariatric procedures below the duodenum, cefazolin in combination with metronidazole can be used.</p>

<b>Clindamycin ( off label )</b>	900 mg IV, Re-dosing Interval (time from initiation of preoperative dose) every 6 hours	Alternative Agents in Patients with B-Lactam Allergy
<b>Vancomycin ( off label )</b>	Standard 15 mg/kg (1g IV)  OR 25 mg/kg (total body weight) Maximum initial dose: 2.5 Maximum re-dose: 1.5 g	Alternative Agents in Patients with B-Lactam Allergy and high susceptibility of MRSA
<b>Gentamycin ( off label )</b>	5 mg/kg/day- in equally divided doses every 8 hours  <b>OR</b> - 1.5 mg/kg/dose every 8 hours - Redosing 3-6 hours	- If the patient's weight is 30% above their ideal body weight, dosing weight can be determined as follows: DW = IBW + 0.4 (TBW - IBW) - Aminoglycosides are not recommended for patients with renal insufficiency as less toxic alternative prophylactic agents exist.
<b>Tobramycin ( off label )</b>	1.5 mg/kg redosing 3-6 hours	an aminoglycoside (such as gentamicin, tobramycin or amikacin can be chosen depending on local Gram-negative susceptibility
<b>ciprofloxacin ( off label )</b>	400 mg IV redosing 4-10 hours	For patients with IgE-mediated hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporin.
<b>levofloxacin ( off label )</b>	500 mg IV no need for redosing	For patients with IgE-mediated hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporin.

<b>moxifloxacin ( off label )</b>	400 mg IV redosing for 24 hours	For patients with IgE-mediated hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporin,
<b>cefoxitin</b>	2 g IV 60 minutes prior to surgery; may repeat after 2 hours during surgery, then every 6 to 8 hours  for BMI ≥30 to ≤50 kg/m <sup>2</sup> : 2 g  for BMI >50 kg/m <sup>2</sup> : 3 g	- For bariatric procedures below the duodenum, agent(s) with anaerobic activity are preferred. - Cefoxitin is the preferred drug.
<b>metronidazole ( off label )</b>	500 mg IV no need for redosing	For bariatric procedures below the duodenum cefazolin in combination with metronidazole is preferred.

**Note:**

**Antimicrobial prophylaxis: agent selection for bariatric surgery**

Antimicrobial prophylaxis is delivered by the intravenous route

**Antimicrobial prophylaxis: timing of administration**

Infusion of the first dose of most prophylactic antimicrobials should begin within 30 min to 1 h before incision.

for fluoroquinolones, the infusion should begin within 1–2 h prior to incision.

For vancomycin, the infusion time should generally be 1 h per gram of drug prior to the operation. Re-dosing of antimicrobials during surgery should occur if the procedure exceeds two half-lives of the drug.

**Antimicrobial prophylaxis: duration**

As is the case for most procedures, the duration of antimicrobial prophylaxis for bariatric surgery should not exceed 24 h after surgery is completed, but Antibiotics may be continued until discharge.

2- VTE Prophylaxis		
<b><u>Unfractionated Heparin (UFH)</u></b>	UFH 5000 TID after 8 hours of surgery.	
<b><u>Enoxaparin ( off-label)</u></b>		

	<p><b>BMI 30 to 39 kg/m<sup>2</sup>:</b> Use standard prophylaxis dosing (ie, 30 mg every 12 hours or 40 mg once daily). for obese patients with a lower risk of VTE</p> <p><b>BMI ≥40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>:</b> increase standard prophylaxis dose by 30% (ie, to 40 mg every 12 hours)</p> <p><b>High VTE-risk bariatric surgery with BMI ≤50 kg/m<sup>2</sup>:</b> 40 mg every 12 hours.</p> <p><b>High VTE-risk bariatric surgery with BMI &gt;50 kg/m<sup>2</sup>:</b> 60 mg every 12 hours.</p>	<p>Recommended extended prophylaxis for patients with a high risk of VTE during the post-discharge period for 10 to 15 days</p>
<p><b>Fondaparinux</b></p>	<p>2.5 mg SUBQ once daily after hemostasis has been established (give initial dose 6 to 8 hours post-op); usual duration, 5 to 9 days;</p>	
<p><b><u>Dalteparin ( not registered in KSA)</u></b></p>	<p><b>BMI 30 to 39 kg/m<sup>2</sup>:</b></p> <p>Use standard prophylaxis dosing (ie, 2500 or 5000 units once daily, for 5 to 10 days</p> <p><b>BMI ≥40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>:</b> Empirically increase standard prophylaxis dose by 30% (ie, increase to 3250 or 6500 units once daily for 5 to 10 days</p>	

<b><u>BEMIPARIN</u></b>	<b>2,500 IU daily</b>	
<b><u>Tinzaparin</u></b>	SUBQ: Initial: 75 anti-Xa units/kg once daily starting on postoperative day 1 (minimum dose: 4,500 anti-Xa units once daily and maximum dose: 14,000 anti-Xa units once daily) round dose to the closest possible syringe size	duration of therapy is typically 10 days postoperatively Note: Optimal duration of prophylaxis is unknown, but is usually continued until hospital discharge and may be extended for up to 6 weeks postoperatively depending upon venous thromboembolism (VTE) risk.

3- Other medications

<b><u>Calcium</u></b>	1200 to 1500 mg daily	
<b><u>Vitamin D</u></b>	D3 3000 - 6000 IU/day or D2 50,000 IU 1-3 times per week, or more if needed to achieve and maintain 25-hydroxyvitamin D >30 ng/mL	
<b><u>Ferrous sulfate daily</u></b>	150-200 mg elemental iron/day, up to 300 mg 2-3 times daily	
<b><u>Multivitamin tab daily</u></b>	Multivitamin with minerals 1 to 2 tablets daily (minimal requirement)	
<b><u>Omeprazole</u></b>	20 mg orally once daily	Typically, sleeve gastrectomy patients

		use a PPI for 6 weeks and gastric bypass patients use a PPI for 6 months
<b>Esomeprazole</b>	20 to 40 mg orally once daily	Typically, sleeve gastrectomy patients use a PPI for 6 weeks and gastric bypass patients use a PPI for 6 months
<b>Pantoprazole</b>	20 mg once daily orally, can increase to 40 mg once daily.	Typically, sleeve gastrectomy patients use a PPI for 6 weeks and gastric bypass patients use a PPI for 6 months
<b>Thiamine</b>	Oral: 100 mg 2-3 times daily IM: 250 mg daily for 3-5 days or 100-250 mg monthly IV: 200 mg 2-3 times daily to 500 mg 1-2 times daily for 3-5 days, followed by 250 mg/day for 3-5 days	
<b>Vitamin B12 (cobalamin)</b>	Oral: 1000 mcg/day IM: 1000 mcg/month to 1000-3000 mcg/6-12 months	
<b>Ursodeoxycholic acid</b>	300 mg twice daily for the 6 months following surgery.	