

BroadcastMed | Why should patients choose UHealth for weight loss surgery?

NESTOR F. DE LA CRUZ-MUNOZ: I think they should come here because we ha-- we offer, at the university, a very distinct program. We have a program that's truly interdisciplinary. I have, at my disposal, about 1,200 physicians, of all different specialties, that I can get to help on my patients and no matter what their needs may be.

We work directly with the Department of Pediatrics in having developed our Pediatric and Adolescent Program, so we can offer that special population even more specialized care. In addition, I've been doing bariatric since 2000. We're coming up on 14 years of bariatrics and over 4,000 cases. I know there's no one in the area that is doing more cases than we are and, especially in one hospital, doing over 400 450 cases in a year. So we know that the surgical team is as specialized and as up-to-date as it can be.

The nursing staff is the same way. We have nurses that I've been working with since 2004 seeing these patients. So they really know what's expected, and they know how to keep these patients safer. In addition, we offer the most comprehensive postoperative program that's out there. We have three different support groups in three different parts of town at different times to allow the patients to try to get to some of these support groups.

We have an in-house nutritionist who is actually here in our office and available five days a week for our patients whenever they have nutritional questions or nutritional problems. We have a full-time nurse practitioner that works with us. We have a teaching program that kind of helps keep us up-to-date. And even if I didn't want to read the latest things that are going on out there, I have to so that I can keep teaching these guys the newest things.

But the patients need to know that they really are-- my patient, as I'm the only surgeon, right now, who's doing this, and we take good care of them as we possibly can here.