

HealthAware (REV. 1/28/08)  
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### **HealthAware Introduces Its WeightAware Cardiovascular Disease Module**

DENVER, Colorado—January X, 2008—HealthAware, a leading supplier of innovative services to healthcare providers, announced today the launch of WeightAware, the newest disease module in its Cardiovascular Program. WeightAware is designed to benefit people struggling with obesity and arthritis. The program targets only those who are likely to be admitted to a hospital within 12 months.

WeightAware is an extension of HealthAware’s industry-leading Cardiovascular Program, and furthers the Company’s mission of promoting early detection and prevention of disease.

“Greg Gossett, HealthAware President, believes the program offers participating hospitals the chance to tap into a growing market. “Weight loss procedures have exploded over the last 10 years, with bariatric procedures increasing almost ten fold between 1998 and 2004.”

Mr. Gossett goes on to say, “Through WeightAware, hospitals can not only realize their goals for growth, but they can also increase their visibility and enhance their community reputation.”

During the past 20 years there has been a dramatic increase in obesity throughout the U.S. Only four states have a prevalence of obesity of less than 20%. Twenty-two states have prevalence equal or greater than 25%. Two of these states, Mississippi and West Virginia, have an obesity prevalence equal to or greater than 30%.

Bariatric surgery, often called *weight loss surgery*, is a treatment option for those who are considered morbidly obese and who have had little or no success losing weight through other means.

Nearly 12 million Americans are eligible for bariatric procedures, which includes a growing number of young adults and teens who are opting for the procedure as U.S. obesity rates continue to rise at epidemic proportions.

**(MORE)**

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With the aging U.S. population, arthritis and other weight-related conditions are expected to affect 20% of all Americans by 2010. Because hospitals recognize this epidemic, hospital demand for the WeightAware program is increasing.

When patients use WeightAware, the program considers the following risk factors:

- Obesity
- High blood pressure
- Diabetes
- Risk of blood clotting
- Age

For more information about WeightAware and HealthAware's mission of promoting early detection and prevention of disease, please contact Cynthia Zeigler, Director, Marketing & PR, at (303) 758-8400, ext. 203.

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About HealthAware

HealthAware, a division of Byrne HealthCare, is a respected market leader offering innovative services to healthcare providers that drive more at-risk patients through their door. HealthAware is dedicated to halting the progress of major diseases in the U.S. Our mission is to provide services and systems that save patients, while enabling select healthcare organizations to thrive and grow their market share. The end result being longer, healthier lives for consumers and healthcare organizations that are more vital and productive.

SOURCE: Byrne HealthCare