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## BETH ISRAEL KINGS HIGHWAY WELCOMES WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY SPECIALIST

Beth Israel Medical Center-Kings Highway Division (KHD) has announced that Elliot R. Goodman, MD, a surgeon who performs bariatric and general surgery, is opening a Brooklyn office and will be working with KHD Chief of Surgery Merab Krikhely, MD.

“Dr. Goodman’s opening a practice at Beth Israel’s Brooklyn division comes at a time when the NYC Department of Health’s latest report on the health status of New Yorkers shows alarming rates of obesity in the Borough, particularly in the neighborhoods of Flatbush, Midwood, Canarsie and Flatlands, where 24 percent of adults are obese,” cited Dr. Krikhely.

“Obesity is more than just being overweight,” said Dr. Goodman, who is a member of the American Society for Bariatric Surgery. “It is a condition that many people find extremely hard to overcome on their own. By the time people seriously consider surgery, most have already tried and failed all sorts of weight control programs, including diets, exercise and even some potentially dangerous drugs that promise miraculous weight loss.”

A graduate of the University of Cambridge’s School of Clinical Medicine in England, Dr. Goodman completed his postgraduate training in surgery at Maimonides Medical Center and did two years of research fellowship at Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and was on the staff of Montefiore Medical Center before joining Beth Israel in 2003. He also is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Obesity is a risk factor for diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, cancer, arthritis and asthma, among others. In New York City, where obesity is a major health problem, health officials and Mayor Bloomberg are taking steps to help reduce the incidence of obesity. Bariatric surgery is a solution of last resort.

According to Dr. Goodman, bariatric surgery patients at Beth Israel will benefit from a computerized stapling device that senses the thickness of tissues and applies the precise amount of pressure to the stomach and intestine that results in less trauma and better healing. Last year, Dr Goodman presented his results with this device at the annual meeting of the American Society for Bariatric Surgery in Orlando, Florida.

“This state-of-the-art technology, SurgASSIST® . has only been available in a very few hospitals and Beth Israel is the first in New York City to use it in bariatric surgery,” Dr. Goodman added.

“Dr. Goodman is a welcome addition to the excellent staff at the Kings Highway Division,” said Rhona Hetsrony, Vice President for Administration. “His expertise in bariatric and general surgery brings a very important and much-needed service to our community.”

Dr. Goodman’s Brooklyn office is located at 1366 East 32nd Street, across the street from the hospital. For an appointment, please call 718-677-6680.