Key Questions

**Pediatric Bariatric Surgery (PBS)**

**Background:**

**Key Questions:**

1. Does pediatric bariatric surgery lead to sustained and clinically significant weight loss compared to non-operative approaches?
   a. In patients aged 21 or less
   b. Specifically in patients aged 18-21
   c. Specifically in patients aged 13-17
   d. Specifically in patients aged 12 or less

2. Does bariatric surgery for patients’ a-d (as above) improve comorbid conditions linked to obesity (e.g., diabetes, hypertension, obstructive sleep apnea, musculoskeletal disorders), quality of life, or survival, as compared to non-operative approaches?

3. What are the relative safety profiles of bariatric surgery and non-operative approaches for patients’ a-d (as above)?

4. What are the relative cost profiles of bariatric surgery and non-operative approaches for patients’ a-d (as above)?

5. Do the effectiveness, safety and cost of bariatric surgery for patients a-d (as above) vary based on patients’ characteristics, including:
   a. Chronological age
   b. Physiologic/skeletal age
   c. Pre-surgical BMI
   d. Pre-surgical BMI categories (35-40, 40-50, 50+)
   e. Sex
   f. Race
   g. Comorbid conditions (e.g., hypertension)
   h. Other factors (e.g., psychosocial or socioeconomic factors)