

PLASTIC SURGERY

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Plastic surgery is a medical specialty concerned with the correction or restoration of form and function. Though cosmetic or aesthetic surgery is the best-known kind of plastic surgery, most plastic surgery is not cosmetic: plastic surgery includes many types of reconstructive surgery, hand surgery, microsurgery, and the treatment of burns.

In plastic surgery, the transfer of skin tissue (skin grafting) is a very common procedure. Skin grafts can be taken from the recipient or donors:

- Autografts are taken from the recipient. If absent or deficient of natural tissue, alternatives can be cultured sheets of epithelial cells in vitro or synthetic compounds, such as integra, which consists of silicone and bovine tendon collagen with glycosaminoglycans.

- Allografts are taken from a donor of the same species.
- Xenografts are taken from a donor of a different species.

Usually, good results are expected from plastic surgery that emphasizes careful planning of incisions so that they fall in the line of natural skin folds or lines, appropriate choice of wound closure, use of best available suture materials, and early removal of exposed sutures so that the wound is held closed by buried sutures.

Plastic surgery can be reconstructive or cosmetic.

Reconstructive plastic surgery is performed to correct functional impairments caused by burns; traumatic injuries, such as facial bone fractures and breaks; congenital abnormalities, such as cleft palates or cleft lips; developmental abnormalities; infection and disease; and cancer or tumors. Reconstructive plastic surgery is usually performed to improve function, but it may be done to approximate a normal appearance.

The most common reconstructive procedures are tumor removal, laceration repair, scar repair, hand surgery, and breast reduction.

Aesthetic plastic surgery can also be called as Medical aesthetics involves techniques intended for the "enhancement" of appearance through surgical and medical techniques, and is specifically concerned with maintaining normal appearance, restoring it, or enhancing it beyond the average level toward some aesthetic ideal.

The most prevalent aesthetic/cosmetic procedures include:

- abdominoplasty ("tummy tuck"): reshaping and firming of the abdomen.

- blepharoplasty ("eyelid surgery"): reshaping of the eyelids or the application of permanent eyeliner

- breast augmentations ("breast implant" or "boob job"): augmentation of the breasts by means of fat grafting, saline, or silicone gel prosthetics, which was initially performed to women with micromastia.

Labiaplasty: surgical reduction and reshaping of the lips (a lip enhancement): surgical improvement of lips' fullness through enlargement.

Rhinoplasty ("nose job"): reshaping of the nose. Rhinoplasty can change the size, shape, and angle of your nose and bring it into better proportion with the rest of your face. Rhinoplasty may also correct structural problems with the nose that cause chronic congestion and breathing problems.

Rhytidectomy ("face lift"): removal of wrinkles and signs of aging from the face. An incision is made near the hair line and skin is pulled back and excess tissue is excised; "some actresses have more than one face lift"

Liposuction ("suction lipectomy"): removal of fat deposits by traditional suction technique or ultrasonic energy to aid fat removal. With increased media attention on beauty and perfection, celebrities and those alike are turning to plastic surgery more and more. Though media and advertising do play a large role in influencing many people's lives, researchers believe that plastic surgery obsession is linked to psychological disorders. Body dysmorphic disorder is seen as playing a large role in the lives of those who are obsessed with going under the knife in order to achieve physical perfection.

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