



THE PLASTIC SURGERY CENTRE

Informed Consent – Gynecomastia

The best candidates for gynecomastia are individuals of relatively normal weight who have excess fat in the chest area. Hanging/loose skin will not reshape itself to the post-surgical contours and may require additional surgery to remove and/or tighten excess skin

Risks of Gynecomastia

Every surgical procedure involves a certain amount of risk. It is important that you understand the risks involved. An individual's choice to undergo a surgical procedure is based on the comparison of the risk to potential benefit. Although the majority of patients do not experience these complications, you should understand the potential complications.

Patient Selection – Individuals with poor skin tone, medical concerns, obesity or unrealistic expectations may not be candidates.

Bleeding – Do not take aspirin, anti-inflammatory medications or vitamin E capsules for 2 weeks prior to surgery. These products may increase the risk of bleeding.

Infection – An infection is unusual following this type of surgery. Should an infection occur, treatment including antibiotics or additional surgery may be necessary.

Change in Skin Sensation – Temporary changes in skin sensation can occur but usually resolve. Diminished or complete loss of skin sensation infrequently occurs and may not totally resolve.

Scarring – In rare cases, abnormal scars may result. Scars may be unattractive and of a different color than the surrounding skin. Additional treatments including surgery may be necessary to treat abnormal scarring.

Skin Contour Irregularities – Contour irregularities and depressions in the skin may occur following this surgery. Visible and palpable wrinkling of skin can occur. Additional treatments including surgery may be necessary to treat skin contour irregularities.

Asymmetry – Symmetrical body appearance may not result. Factors such as skin tone, bony prominences and muscle tone may contribute to normal asymmetry in body features.

Surgical Shock – In rare circumstances, this procedure can cause severe trauma. Although serious complications are infrequent, infections or excessive fluid loss can lead to severe illness and even death. Should surgical shock occur, hospitalization and additional treatment would be necessary.

Surgical Anesthesia – Both local and general anesthesia involve risk. There is the possibility of complications, injury and death from all forms of surgical anesthesia or sedation.

Pulmonary Complications – Fat embolism syndrome occurs when fat droplets become trapped in the lungs. This is a very rare and possibly fatal complication. Should a fat embolism or other pulmonary complications occur following liposuction, additional treatment including hospitalization may be necessary.

Skin Loss –Skin loss is rare.

Seroma – Fluid accumulations infrequently occur in areas where liposuction has been performed.

Long Term Effects – Subsequent alterations in body contour may occur as the result of aging, weight loss or gain, or other circumstances unrelated to surgery.

Health Insurance

Most health insurance agencies exclude coverage for cosmetic operations such as gynecomastia or any complication that might occur following surgery. Please review your health insurance information carefully.

Financial Responsibilities

The cost of surgery involves several charges for the services provided. The total amount includes fees charged by the doctor, the cost of surgical supplies, anesthesia, laboratory tests and possible outpatient hospital charges depending on whether the cost of surgery is covered by an insurance plan, you will be responsible for necessary co-payments, deductibles and charges not covered. Additional costs may occur should complications develop from the surgery. Secondary surgery or hospital day surgery charges involved with revisionary surgery would also be your responsibility.