



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
PLASTIC SURGEONS®

# Informed Consent

## Breast Reduction

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

This is an informed consent document that has been prepared to help inform you about reduction mammoplasty surgery (breast reduction), its risks, and alternative treatment(s).

It is important that you read this information carefully and completely. Please initial each page, indicating that you have read the page, and sign the consent for surgery as proposed by your plastic surgeon and agreed upon by you.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Women who have large breasts may experience a variety of problems due to the weight and size of their breasts, such as back, neck, and shoulder pain, and skin irritation. Breast reduction is usually performed for relief of these symptoms rather than to enhance the appearance of the breasts. The best candidates for surgery are those who are mature enough to understand the procedure and who have realistic expectations about the results. There is a variety of different surgical techniques used to reduce and reshape the female breast. There are a number of techniques available to perform reduction mammoplasty including pedicle, nipple graft, and liposuction procedures, as well as combination procedures. Discuss which method your surgeon will use. There are both risks and complications associated with reduction mammoplasty surgery.

## **ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS**

Reduction mammoplasty is an elective surgical operation. Alternative treatment would consist of not undergoing the surgical procedure, physical therapy to treat pain complaints, or wearing undergarments to support large breasts. In selected patients, liposuction has been used to reduce the size of large breasts. Risks and potential complications are associated with alternative surgical forms of treatment.

## **INHERENT RISKS OF REDUCTION MAMMAPLASTY SURGERY**

Every surgical procedure involves a certain amount of risk and it is important that you understand these risks and the possible complications associated with them. In addition, every procedure has limitations. 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 discuss each of them with your plastic surgeon to make sure you understand all of the possible consequences of reduction mammoplasty.

## **SPECIFIC RISKS OF REDUCTION MAMMAPLASTY SURGERY**

### **Asymmetry:**

Some breast asymmetry naturally occurs in most women. Differences in terms of breast and nipple shape, size, or symmetry may also occur after surgery. Additional surgery may be necessary to revise asymmetry after a reduction mammoplasty. Additional surgery may not completely correct asymmetry.

### **Change in Nipple and Skin Sensation:**

You may experience a diminished sensitivity, total loss of sensitivity, or hypersensitivity of the nipples and the skin of your breast. With some techniques, and after several months, many patients regain normal sensation. Nipple graft techniques remove the nipple and replace it as a skin graft. With this technique, sensation will be lost, as well as the possibility of breastfeeding. Changes in sensation may affect sexual response or the ability to breastfeed a baby.

### **Breastfeeding:**

Breast milk is the best food for babies. If a woman has undergone a breast reduction using a nipple graft technique (nipple removed and replaced as a graft), it is unlikely that she will be able to breastfeed. Pedicle and liposuction techniques may be able to spare the breast ducts and it may be possible to breastfeed after such breast reductions. It is unknown whether you will be able to produce sufficient milk to nurse a baby, even with use of these techniques.

**Unsatisfactory Results:**

Although good results are expected, there is no guarantee or warranty, expressed or implied, as to the results that may be obtained. You may be disappointed with the results of reduction mammoplasty surgery. Asymmetry in nipple location, unanticipated breast shape and size, loss of function, wound disruption, poor healing, and loss of sensation may occur after surgery. Healing may result in a lost nipple requiring further surgery and reconstruction. There is no way to predict the final breast size (bra cup size) after surgery. It is possible that the breast may be smaller but the bra cup size may not change. Unsatisfactory surgical scar location or visible deformities at the ends of the incisions (dog ears) may occur. Liposuction may be necessary to thin breast tissue that is outside of the normal surgical location for reduction mammoplasty. It may be necessary to perform additional surgery to attempt to improve your results. Some techniques remove the ability to breastfeed. Unsatisfactory results may NOT improve with each additional treatment.

**Breast Disease:**

Breast disease and breast cancer can occur independently of reduction mammoplasty surgery. Individuals with a personal history or family history of breast cancer may be at a higher risk of developing breast cancer than a woman with no family history of this disease. It is recommended that all women perform periodic self-examination of their breasts, undergo routine mammography according to American Cancer Society guidelines, and seek professional care should a breast lump be detected. In the event that suspicious tissue is identified prior to or during breast surgery, additional tests and therapy with corresponding expenses may be warranted.

**Wound Healing Issues:**

Even in excellent surgical candidates, the surgical incisions may not heal appropriately, leading to poor scarring, asymmetry, unsatisfactory results, and/or the need for further surgery. The skin, the nipple, or the fat inside the breast may die (skin, nipple, and/or fat necrosis). This may leave an unsatisfactory result and may require further surgery. If fat inside the breast dies (fat necrosis), this may leave a hard lump in the breast. You and your surgeon may opt to remove this hard lump. Additional surgery may not restore the breast to “normal.”

**Nipple and Areolar Necrosis:**

While very rare, it is possible for the areola (area around the nipple) and nipple to have poor blood flow after surgery that may result in the death of the tissue. This will result in a wound and delayed healing. The nipple and areola may be reconstructed if necessary.

**Long Term Results:**

It is not possible to predict how pregnancy, weight change, and aging will affect the results of a breast reduction. If you are considering significant weight reduction or pregnancy in the near future, breast reduction surgery may be postponed to avoid possible undesirable effects and late unsatisfactory results.

**GENERAL RISKS OF SURGERY**

**Healing Issues:**

Certain medical conditions, dietary supplements, and medications may delay and interfere with healing. Patients with massive weight loss may have a healing delay that could result in the incisions coming apart, infection, and tissue changes requiring additional medical care, surgery, and prolonged hospitalizations. Patients with diabetes or those taking medications such as steroids on an extended basis may have prolonged healing issues. Smoking will cause a delay in the healing process, often resulting in the need for additional surgery. There are general risks associated with healing such as swelling, bleeding, possibility of additional surgery, prolonged recovery, color changes, shape changes, infection, unmet patient goals and expectations, and added expense to the patient. There may also be a longer recovery owing to the length of surgery and anesthesia. Patients with significant skin laxity

(patients seeking facelifts, breast lifts, abdominoplasty, and body lifts) will continue to have the same lax skin after surgery. The quality or elasticity of skin will not change and recurrence of skin looseness will occur at some time in the future, more quickly for some than for others. There are nerve endings that may be affected by healing scars from procedures such as suction-assisted lipectomy, abdominoplasty, facelifts, body lifts, and extremity surgery. While there may not be a major nerve injury, small nerve endings may become too active during the healing period, producing a painful or oversensitive area due to the small sensory nerves involved with scar tissue. Often, massage and early non-surgical interventions resolve this. It is important to discuss postsurgical pain with your surgeon.

**Bleeding:**

It is possible, though unusual, to experience a bleeding episode during or after surgery. Should postoperative bleeding occur, it may require emergency treatment to drain accumulated blood or you may require a blood transfusion, though such occurrences are rare. The collection of blood that can occur under your skin following surgery is referred to as a hematoma. Increased activity too soon after surgery can lead to an increased chance of bleeding and additional surgery. It is important to follow postoperative instructions and to limit exercise and strenuous activity for the instructed time period. Non-prescription “herbs” and dietary supplements can increase the risk of surgical bleeding. Hematoma can occur at any time, usually in the first three weeks following injury to the operated area. If blood transfusions are necessary to treat blood loss, there is the risk of blood-related infections such as hepatitis and HIV (AIDS). Your surgeon may provide medications after your surgery to prevent blood clots. Medications that are used to prevent blood clots in veins can result in bleeding and decreased blood platelets.

**Infection:**

Infection, although uncommon, can occur after surgery. Should an infection occur, additional treatment including antibiotics, hospitalization, or additional surgery may be necessary. It is important to tell your surgeon of any other infections, such as a history of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) infections, an open wound, recent upper respiratory infection/pneumonia, ingrown toenail, insect bite, tooth abscess, or urinary tract infection. Infections in other parts of the body may lead to an infection in the operated area. Postoperative infections often result in more extensive scarring and predispose to revision surgery.

**Ileus:**

The return of bowel function following surgery is important. An ileus is a disruption in bowel function caused by the failure of peristalsis or the hypomobility of your bowels/gut resulting in a lack of defecation and possibly repeated vomiting. Anesthetics and medications such as the pain medications given to you at the time of surgery can contribute to the development of an ileus in the postoperative period. An ileus can result in abdominal distention, vomiting, inability to absorb oral medications, and possibly hospitalization. Repeated vomiting could result in aspiration pneumonia and respiratory failure. It is essential to regain regular bowel function after your surgery.

**Scarring:**

All surgery leaves scars, some more visible than others. Although good wound healing after a surgical procedure is expected, this surgery will result in long, prominent scars that are permanent. Abnormal scars may occur within the skin and deeper tissues. Scars may be unattractive and of a different color than the surrounding skin tone. Scar appearance may also vary within the same scar. Scars may be asymmetrical (appear different on the right and left sides of the body). There is the possibility of visible marks in the skin from sutures. These scars may become raised, red, or discolored in the first few weeks/months, but usually settle down over time. However, some patients are prone to “hypertrophic” or “keloid” scars i.e., prominent, raised, red scars that do not settle. Further treatments with medications and/or surgery may be required.

**Firmness:**

Excessive firmness can occur after surgery due to internal scarring. The occurrence of this is not

predictable. Additional treatment including surgery may be necessary.

**Skin Sensitivity:**

Itching, tenderness, or exaggerated responses to hot or cold temperatures may occur after surgery. Usually this resolves during healing, but in rare situations it may be chronic.

**Major Wound Separation:**

Wounds may separate after surgery. Should this occur, additional treatment, including surgery, may be necessary.

**Sutures:**

Most surgical techniques use deep sutures. You may notice these sutures after your surgery. Sutures may spontaneously poke through the skin, become visible, or produce irritation that requires suture removal.

**Damage to Deeper Structures:**

There is the potential for injury to deeper structures including nerves, blood vessels, lymphatics, muscles, and lungs (pneumothorax) during any surgical procedure. The potential for this to occur varies according to the type of procedure being performed. Injury to deeper structures may be temporary or permanent.

**Fat Necrosis:**

Fatty tissue found deep in the skin might die. This may produce areas of firmness within the skin. Additional surgery to remove areas of fat necrosis may be necessary. There is the possibility that contour irregularities in the skin may result from fat necrosis.

**Surgical Anesthesia:**

Both local and general anesthesia involves risk. There is the possibility of complications, injury, and even death from all forms of surgical anesthesia or sedation.

**Shock:**

In rare circumstances, your surgical procedure may cause severe trauma, particularly when multiple or extensive procedures are performed. Although serious complications are infrequent, infections or excessive fluid loss can lead to severe illness and even death. If surgical shock occurs, hospitalization and additional treatment will be necessary.

**Pain:**

You will experience pain after your surgery. Pain of varying intensity and duration may occur and persist after surgery. If you are a chronic pain patient followed by a Pain Therapy Practitioner, you may be asked to see this practitioner preoperatively to assist you in the management of your pain disorder in the postoperative period. Chronic pain may occur very infrequently due to nerves becoming trapped in scar tissue or tissue stretching.

There are nerve endings that may be affected by healing scars from surgery. While there may not be a major nerve injury, small nerve endings may become too active during the healing period, producing a painful or oversensitive area due to the small sensory nerves involved with scar tissue. Often, massage and early non-surgical interventions resolve this. It is important to discuss postsurgical pain with your surgeon.

**Cardiac and Pulmonary Complications:**

Pulmonary complications may occur secondarily to blood clots (pulmonary emboli), fat deposits (fat emboli), pneumonia, or partial collapse of the lungs after general anesthesia. Pulmonary emboli can be life threatening or fatal in some circumstances. Inactivity and other conditions may increase the incidence

of blood clots traveling to the lungs and causing a major blood clot that may result in death. It is important to discuss any past history of swelling in your legs or blood clots that may contribute to this condition with your physician. Cardiac complications are a risk with any surgery and anesthesia, even in patients without symptoms. If you experience shortness of breath, chest pains, or unusual heartbeats, seek immediate medical attention. Should any of these complications occur, hospitalization and additional treatment may be required.

**Venous Thrombosis (Clot) and Sequelae:**

Thrombosed veins, which resemble cords, occasionally develop in the area of the breast or around IV sites, and usually resolve without medical or surgical treatment. It is important to discuss any birth control pills you are taking with your surgeon. Certain high estrogen pills may increase your risk of thrombosed veins. A personal history of bleeding and clotting problems may also increase this risk.

**Allergic Reactions:**

In rare cases, local allergies to tape, suture material and glues, blood products, topical preparations, or injected agents have been reported. Serious systemic reactions including shock (anaphylaxis) may occur in response to drugs used during surgery and prescription medications. Allergic reactions may require additional treatment. It is important to notify your physician of any previous allergic reactions.

**Drug Reactions:**

Unexpected drug allergies, lack of proper response to medication, or illness caused by the prescribed drug are possibilities. It is important for you to inform your physician of any problems you have had with any medication or allergies to medication, prescribed or over-the-counter, as well as the medications you now regularly take. Provide your surgeon with a list of the medications and supplements you are currently taking.

**Surgical Wetting Solutions:**

There is the possibility that large volumes of fluid containing dilute local anesthetic drugs and epinephrine that is injected into fatty deposits during surgery may contribute to fluid overload or a systemic reaction to these medications. Additional treatment including hospitalization may be necessary.

**Fat/Air Embolism:**

In rare cases, fat particles or air can enter the vascular system and can travel to the heart, lungs, or brain. This can result in significant complications including death.

**Persistent Swelling (Lymphedema):**

Persistent swelling can occur following surgery.

**Unsatisfactory Result:**

Although good results are expected, there is no guarantee or warranty, expressed or implied, as to the results that may be obtained. The body is not symmetric and almost everyone has some degree of unevenness, which may not be recognized in advance. One side of the face may be slightly larger, while one side of the face may be droopier. The breast and trunk area exhibits the same possibilities. Many of these issues cannot be fully corrected with surgery. The more realistic your expectations are as to the results, the better your results will appear to you. Some patients never achieve their desired goals or results, at no fault of the surgeon or surgery. You may be disappointed with the results of surgery. Asymmetry, unanticipated shape and size, loss of function, wound disruption, poor healing, and loss of sensation may occur after surgery. Size may be incorrect. Unsatisfactory surgical scar location or appearance may occur. It may be necessary to perform additional surgery to improve your results. Unsatisfactory results may NOT improve with each additional treatment.

## **ADDITIONAL ADVISORIES**

### **Medications and Herbal Dietary Supplements:**

There are potential adverse reactions that occur as the result of taking over-the-counter, herbal, and/or prescription medications. Aspirin and medications that contain aspirin interfere with the formation of blood clots, and therefore may contribute to bleeding issues. If you have a medical condition (such as heart arrhythmia, heart stent, blood vessels with blockages, or blood clots) and are taking medications to thin your blood and prevent clotting such as Plavix<sup>®</sup>, Coumadin<sup>®</sup>, Xarelto<sup>®</sup>, Effient<sup>®</sup>, or Pradaxa<sup>®</sup>, discuss management of these medications around the time of the surgery with your plastic surgeon. Your plastic surgeon may opt to coordinate a plan for these medications with the doctor that prescribed them for your medical condition. If you have been prescribed drugs for a medical condition, do not stop taking them without discussing it first with your plastic surgeon. Stopping these medications abruptly may result in a heart attack, stroke, or death. Be sure to check with your physician about any drug interactions that may exist with the medications that you are already taking. If you have an adverse reaction, stop the drugs immediately and call your plastic surgeon for further instructions. If the reaction is severe, go immediately to the nearest emergency room.

When taking the prescribed pain medications after surgery, be aware that they can affect your thought processes and coordination. Do not drive, do not operate complex equipment, do not make any important decisions, and do not drink any alcohol while taking these medications. Be sure to take your prescribed medication only as directed.

### **Sun Exposure – Direct or Tanning Salon:**

The effects of the sun are damaging to the skin. Exposing the incision areas to sunlight may result in increased scarring, color changes, and poor healing. Patients who tan, either outdoors or in a salon, should inform their surgeon and either delay treatment, or avoid tanning until the surgeon says it is safe to resume. The damaging effect of sun exposure occurs even with the use of sun block or clothing coverage.

### **Travel Plans:**

Any surgery holds the risk of complications that may delay healing and your return to normal life. Please let the surgeon know of any travel plans, important commitments already scheduled or planned, or time demands that are important to you, so that the appropriate timing of surgery can occur. There are no guarantees that you will be able to resume all activities in the desired timeframe. Allow at least 10-14 days to travel via airplane. Medications may be required should you have a long flight/trip in order to prevent DVT/PE in the immediate postoperative period.

### **Long-term Results:**

Subsequent alterations in the appearance of your body may occur as the result of aging, sun exposure, weight loss, weight gain, pregnancy, menopause, or other circumstances not related to your surgery.

### **Interference with Sentinel Lymph Node Mapping Procedures:**

Breast surgery procedures that involve cutting through breast tissue, similar to a breast biopsy, can potentially interfere with diagnostic procedures to determine the lymph node drainage of the breast tissue in the staging of breast cancer.

### **Body-Piercing:**

Individuals who currently wear body-piercing jewelry in the surgical region are advised that an infection could develop from this activity. Body-piercing jewelry should be removed prior to your surgical procedure.

**Nails:**

To monitor your vitals status during surgery, your anesthesia provider may require access to your fingernails. Be sure to have at least two fingernails free of nail polish or acrylic nails on the date of your surgery.

**Jewelry:**

Jewelry should not be brought with you at the time of your surgical procedure. Items, such as earrings, wedding rings, necklaces, should be removed and placed in a safe place.

**Future Pregnancy and Breastfeeding:**

This surgery is not known to interfere with pregnancy. If you are planning a pregnancy, your breast skin may stretch and undermine the results of surgery. You may have more difficulty breastfeeding after this operation.

**Female Patient Information:**

It is important to inform your plastic surgeon if you use birth control pills, estrogen replacement, or if you suspect you may be pregnant. Many medications including antibiotics may neutralize the preventive effect of birth control pills, allowing for conception and pregnancy.

**Intimate Relations after Surgery:**

Since surgery involves the coagulation of blood vessels, increased activity of any kind may open these vessels leading to bleeding or hematoma. Activities that increase your pulse or heart rate may cause additional bruising, swelling, and the need for additional surgery to control bleeding. It is wise to refrain from intimate physical activities until your physician states it is safe.

**Mental Health Disorders and Elective Surgery:**

It is important that all patients seeking to undergo elective surgery have realistic expectations that focus on improvement rather than perfection. Complications or less than satisfactory results are sometimes unavoidable, may require additional surgery, and often are stressful. Prior to surgery, please openly discuss any history that you may have of significant emotional depression or mental health disorders with your surgeon. Although many individuals may benefit psychologically from the results of elective surgery, its effects on mental health cannot be accurately predicted.

**ADDITIONAL SURGERY NECESSARY (Re-Operations)**

There are many variable conditions that may influence the long-term results of surgery. It is unknown how your tissue may respond or how wound healing will occur after surgery. Secondary surgery may be necessary to perform additional tightening or repositioning of body structures. Should complications occur, additional surgery or other treatments may be necessary. Even though risks and complications occur infrequently, the risks cited are associated with this surgery. Other complications and risks can occur but are less common. The practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science. Although good results are expected, there is no guarantee or warranty, expressed or implied, as to the results that may be obtained. In some situations, it may not be possible to achieve optimal results with a single surgical procedure. You and your surgeon will discuss the available options should additional surgery be advised. There may be additional costs and expenses for such additional procedures, including surgical fees, facility and anesthesia fees, pathology, and lab testing.

**PATIENT COMPLIANCE**

Follow all physician instructions carefully; this is essential for the success of your outcome. It is important that the surgical incisions are not subjected to excessive force, swelling, abrasion, or motion during the time of healing. Personal and vocational activities need to be restricted. Protective dressings and drains should not be removed unless instructed by your plastic surgeon. Successful postoperative function depends on both the surgery and subsequent care. Physical activity that increases your pulse or heart



rate may cause bruising, swelling, fluid accumulation, and the need for additional surgery. It is important that you participate in follow-up care, return for aftercare, and promote your recovery after surgery.

**ATTESTATIONS**

**Smoking, Second-hand Smoke Exposure, Nicotine Products (Patch, Gum, Nasal Spray):**

Patients who are currently smoking or using tobacco or nicotine products (patch, gum, or nasal spray) are at greater risk for significant surgical complications, such as skin loss, delayed healing, and additional scarring. Individuals exposed to secondhand smoke are also at potential risk for similar complications attributable to nicotine exposure. Additionally, smoking may have a significant negative effect on anesthesia and recovery from anesthesia, with coughing and possibly increased bleeding. Individuals who are not exposed to tobacco smoke or nicotine-containing products have a significantly lower risk of these types of complications. Please indicate your current status regarding these items below:

I am a non-smoker and do not use nicotine products. I understand the potential risk of secondhand smoke exposure causing surgical complications.

I am a smoker or use tobacco/nicotine products. I understand the risk of surgical complications due to smoking or the use of nicotine products.

I have smoked and stopped approximately \_\_\_\_\_ ago. I understand I may still have the effects and therefore the risks of smoking in my system, if not enough time has elapsed.

I have been advised to stop smoking immediately and have been informed of the risks, benefits, expectations, and alternatives to my surgery if I continue smoking.

It is important to refrain from smoking at least six weeks before surgery and until your physician states it is safe to resume, if desired. I acknowledge that I will inform my physician if I continue to smoke within this timeframe, and I understand that for my safety, the surgery, if possible, may be delayed.

Smoking may have such a negative effect on your surgery that a urine or blood test just before surgery may be done to determine the presence of nicotine. If positive, your surgery may be cancelled and your surgery fee, scheduling fee, and other prepaid amounts may be forfeited. Be sure to honestly disclose your smoking status to your surgeon.

**Sleep Apnea/CPAP:**

Individuals who have breathing disorders such as “obstructive sleep apnea” and who may rely upon CPAP devices (continuous positive airway pressure) or utilize nighttime oxygen are advised that they are at a substantive risk for respiratory arrest and death when they take narcotic pain medications following surgery. This is an important consideration when evaluating the safety of surgical procedures in terms of very serious complications, including death, that relate to pre-existing medical conditions. Surgery may be considered only with monitoring afterwards in a hospital setting in order to reduce risk of potential respiratory complications and to safely manage pain following surgery.

Please consider the following symptoms of sleep apnea:

I am frequently tired upon waking and throughout the day

I have trouble staying asleep at night

I have been told that I snore or stop breathing during sleep

I wake up throughout the night or constantly turn from side to side

I have been told that my legs or arms jerk while I am sleeping

- I make abrupt snorting noises during sleep
- I feel tired or fall asleep during the day

It is important for you to inform and discuss any of the above symptoms that you have experienced with your surgeon.

**DVT/PE Risks and Advisory:**

There is a risk of blood clots, deep vein thrombosis (DVT), and pulmonary embolus (PE) with every surgical procedure. It varies with the risk factors listed below. The higher the number of risk factors, the greater the risk and the more involved you must be in both understanding these risks and, when permitted by your physician, walking and moving your legs. There may also be leg stockings, squeezing active leg devices, and possibly medications to help lower your risk.

Many conditions may increase or affect the risks of clotting. Inform your doctor about any past or present history of any of the following:

- History of Blood Clots
- Family History of Blood Clots
- Birth Control Pills
- Hormone Stimulating Drugs
- Swollen Legs
- History of Cancer
- Large Dose Vitamins
- Varicose Veins
- Past Illnesses of the Heart, Liver, Lung, or Gastrointestinal Tract
- History of Multiple Spontaneous Abortions or Miscarriages

I understand the risks relating to DVT/PE and how important it is to comply with therapy as discussed with my surgeon. The methods of preventative therapy include:

- Early ambulation when allowed
- Compression devices (SCD/ICD)
- Anticoagulation protocols when allowed

For high-risk patients, the risks of VTE are still high, even in the setting of appropriate chemoprophylaxis. If your surgery is elective and you are a high-risk patient, it is best to consider not proceeding with the elective surgery.

**COMMUNICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – CONSENT**

There are many ways to communicate with you. It is important to keep appointments and to let us know if problems or issues arise. Methods of communication include by telephone, text, pager, answering service (if available), email, and regular mail. If an emergency arises, keep us alerted to your progress so we may aid in any necessary treatments. Please do not leave a message after hours or over the weekend on the office answering machine in the event of an urgent or emergency situation, as there is a delay in retrieving such messages. All attempts will be made to preserve your privacy in accordance with HIPAA rules.

Please confirm below all acceptable ways of communicating with you:

- Telephone
  - Home (            -            -            )
  - Work (            -            -            )
  - Cell (            -            -            )

\_\_\_\_ Text  
\_\_\_\_ Pager – answering service if available  
\_\_\_\_ Email – with up-to-date email address ( \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ )  
\_\_\_\_ Regular mail and delivery

**DISCLAIMER**

Informed consent documents are used to communicate information about the proposed surgical treatment of a disease or condition along with the disclosure of risks and alternative forms of treatment(s), including no surgery. The informed consent process attempts to define the principles of risk disclosure that should meet the needs of most patients in most circumstances.

However, informed consent documents should not be considered all-inclusive in defining other methods of care and risks encountered. Your plastic surgeon may provide you with additional or different information that is based on all the facts of your particular case and the current state of medical knowledge.

Informed consent documents are not intended to define or serve as the standard of medical care. Standards of medical care are determined on the basis of all of the facts involved in an individual case and are subject to change as scientific knowledge and technology advance, and as practice patterns evolve.

**It is important that you read the above information carefully and have all of your questions answered before signing the consent on the next page.**



## CONSENT for SURGERY/PROCEDURE or TREATMENT

1. I hereby authorize Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ and such assistants as may be selected to perform **Reduction Mammoplasty Surgery.**

I have received the following information sheet: **Reduction Mammoplasty Surgery.**

2. I recognize that during the course of the operation and medical treatment or anesthesia, unforeseen conditions may necessitate different procedures than those above. I therefore authorize the above physician and assistants or designees to perform such other procedures that are necessary and desirable in the exercise of his or her professional judgment. The authority granted under this paragraph shall include all conditions that require treatment and are not known to my physician at the time the procedure is begun.
3. I consent to the administration of such anesthetics considered necessary or advisable. I understand that all forms of anesthesia involve risk and the possibility of complications, injury, and sometimes death.
4. I understand what my surgeon can and cannot do, and understand there are no warranties or guarantees, implied or specific, as to my outcome. I have had the opportunity to explain my goals and understand which desired outcomes are realistic and which are not. All of my questions have been answered, and I understand the inherent (specific) risks to the procedures I seek, as well as those additional risks and complications, benefits, and alternatives. Understanding all of this, I elect to proceed.
5. I consent to be photographed or televised before, during, and after the operation(s) or procedure(s) to be performed, including appropriate portions of my body, for medical, scientific, or educational purposes, provided my identity is not revealed by the pictures.
6. For purposes of advancing medical education, I consent to the admittance of observers to the operating room.
7. I consent to the disposal of any tissue, medical devices, or body parts that may be removed.
8. I am aware that there are potential significant risks to my health with the utilization of blood products, and I consent to their utilization should they be deemed necessary by my surgeon and/or his/her appointees.
9. I authorize the release of my Social Security number to appropriate agencies for legal reporting and medical device registration, if applicable.
10. I understand that the surgeons' fees are separate from the anesthesia and hospital charges, and the fees are agreeable to me. If a secondary procedure is necessary, further expenditure will be required.
11. I realize that not having the operation is an option. I opt out of having this procedure \_\_\_\_\_.
12. IT HAS BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME IN A WAY THAT I UNDERSTAND:
  - a. THE ABOVE TREATMENT OR PROCEDURE TO BE UNDERTAKEN
  - b. THERE MAY BE ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES OR METHODS OF TREATMENT
  - c. THERE ARE RISKS TO THE PROCEDURE OR TREATMENT PROPOSED

I CONSENT TO THE TREATMENT OR PROCEDURE AND THE ABOVE LISTED ITEMS (1-12).  
I AM SATISFIED WITH THE EXPLANATION.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient or Person Authorized to Sign for Patient

Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_ Witness \_\_\_\_\_