

The Ultimate Guide to Choosing the Right Plastic Surgeon for YOU

CHECKLIST

YES

NO

SAFETY

Does the surgeon have a valid, unrestricted license to practice medicine in the state where they work?		
Has the surgeon been disciplined for malpractice, abuse, improper record keeping, or unprofessional conduct?		
Did the surgeon complete a plastic surgery residency?		
Is the surgeon board certified in plastic surgery?		
If the surgeon is not board certified in plastic surgery, are they working towards board certification?		
Is the facility where the surgeon works and operates an accredited facility (extra measures taken to keep patients safe)?		
If the facility where the surgeon works and operates is not accredited, how does the surgeon ensure patient safety?		
Has the facility where the surgeon works and operates dealt with a medical emergency in the last year? How many? Did the patient(s) survive?		
Who is the person that will give the anesthesia (name and title)?		
Is the person who will give the anesthesia licensed by the board of medicine in the state?		
Has the person who will give the anesthesia been disciplined for malpractice, abuse, improper record keeping, or unprofessional conduct?		
What type of anesthesia is required for the surgery? Allergies to anesthesia?		

YES

NO

QUESTIONS THAT GET RESULTS

How many years has the doctor worked as a plastic surgeon?		
How often does the surgeon perform the surgery of your choice?		
Does the surgeon have a photo gallery of past patients pre- and post-op?		
Does the surgeon use drawings or diagrams to show patients how he plans to contour their bodies?		
Do any of the patients in the surgeon's photo gallery have your body type and weight?		
Do the patients in the surgeon's photo gallery that have your body type and weight have results that would satisfy you?		

In the photos, do you see straight lines, smooth curves, depressions at the incision (cut) site, scar tissue (expected and unexpected), extra skin, or patches of skin that are darker than the skin surrounding it?		
Does the surgeon have mostly positive reviews on results?		
In reviews, do the surgeon's patients say they would have surgery with the surgeon again?		
In reviews, do patients talk about revisions due to dimples, grooves, wrinkles, folds, or lumps?		
Does the surgeon provide compression garments?		

YES

NO

QUESTIONS THAT SIGNAL CARE

Does the surgeon discuss patient requirements and expectations in consultations?		
Does the surgeon discuss the risks of cosmetic surgery?		
Does the surgeon evaluate the body and point out areas where there are existing contour irregularities and skin depressions, and poor skin elasticity?		
Does the surgeon discuss lifestyle modifications, like exercise, a healthy diet, and smoking cessation?		
Does the surgeon discuss options to cosmetic surgery?		
Does the surgeon discuss medications that can contribute to complications?		
Does the surgeon explain the phases of recovery and what to expect in each phase?		
Does the surgeon provide compression garments and recommendations for lymphatic massages?		
Does the surgeon provide reading materials to further explain the cosmetic surgery procedure?		
Are the surgeon and staff friendly and open to questions?		
Was the consultation wait time reasonable?		
When attempting to contact the surgeon, is there a reasonable response time?		
Does the surgeon discuss how patient progress is monitored after surgery?		
Is there a follow-up appointment 6 months after surgery when the swelling has resolved?		
How often does the surgeon perform revisions on patients? What are the most common reasons?		

YES**NO****QUESTIONS THAT TAKE THE MYSTERY OUT OF COST**

	YES	NO
What is the cost range of the surgery of your choice? What is your budget?		
Is the surgeon you are considering open about pricing?		
What are the costs that are not included in the surgery cost, if the cost is not all-inclusive?		
In past reviews, have past patients complained of unexpected costs?		
What is the refund policy for your surgeon of choice?		
Is there a security deposit? Are security deposits refundable?		
If you must reschedule, what is the allowable time period after the initial date?		
If a revision is necessary, is it at a discounted cost?		