



Manhattan Surgical Hospital

Plastic Surgery Q&A

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Why is it important to have a plastic surgeon that is board certified?

The Plastic Surgery Board Certification serves the public. Doctors can claim to be plastic or reconstructive surgeons, but they cannot claim to be Board Certified by The American Board of Plastic Surgeons unless they have met the qualifications and passed the testing required by the Board. This is designed to assure safety and a quality assurance to the public that the surgeon has a sound fundamental knowledge of plastic and reconstructive surgery.

How does a plastic surgeon become Board Certified?

To become Board Certified, a plastic surgeon must complete a training program from a registered plastic surgery program. After successfully completing the program, they take a written examination over plastic and reconstructive surgical principles. One year after passing the, an oral examination is given.

The applicant to partake in the oral exam must submit every case he or she has done in the previous year, with all pictures and documentation to the board. The board then tests you over every aspect of those cases, including other options, outcomes and relative science pertaining to the cases. They even inspect your coding and billing practices. Then the board questions you over several other plastic and reconstructive cases.

The test and certification are then designed to assure the public that anyone who is certified by the board has a sound fundamental knowledge of plastic surgery principles and applies them to his or her clinic in an ethical fashion.

What is the best way to research and ultimately choose a plastic surgeon?

Go to the American Society of Plastic Surgery website to find a Board Certified surgeon in your area.

What are the best questions to ask your plastic surgeon?

1. Are they Board Certified by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons?
2. Do they have experience with this case? How many of these have they done?
3. Do they have photo's you can look at?
4. What are the expected results?
5. Potential complications and how do we address them?

Are there "average" fees for plastic surgery procedures?

These vary from region to region, but are usually available upon request. Like in any other product or service, people use deceptive marketing in advertising. If someone is priced lower than others in an area, they might not be as experienced with that procedure or they may not be certified by The American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Is it possible for a patient to finance a plastic surgery procedure?

Yes, we offer several financing options available in my practice.

Do you perform any pro-bono reconstructive or cosmetic procedures?

Yes, I do several pro-bono cases every month. Many of these come to me via the emergency room and referrals from the Fint Hills Community Clinic, surrounding doctors, or acquaintances. Most of these cases are reconstructive, injury, or cancer related.