



Australian Government

Department of Health
and Aged Care

KNOW THE RISKS

Questions to ask before cosmetic surgery

Prepare for your cosmetic surgery consultation by making a list of questions.

It's important to understand as much as you can about:

- your procedure
- your medical practitioner
- the facility or clinic where your procedure will take place
- your recovery and aftercare
- who to call if you have concerns with your procedure.

Don't be afraid to ask questions.

This list can help guide the conversation with your medical practitioner.

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Questions about your practitioner

- What are your qualifications?
- How many times have you performed this procedure, and how often do you do it?
- What procedures do you regularly perform?
- Can I see photos of your work?
- Will anyone help you perform my procedure? What are their qualifications?
- Who will give my anaesthetic? What qualifications do they have?
What kind of anaesthetic will I receive?

Questions about your surgery

- Where will the procedure be performed? Is it licenced for my procedure?
- What are the risks of this procedure? And are there any risks unique to my health history?
- What are the side effects?
- How many people have experienced complications when you have performed this procedure and what were they?
- Are there any alternative options to this procedure?
- What will it cost and what do those costs cover?
- Will it cost extra to have further treatment if something goes wrong?
- How long do the results last? Will I need further procedures?
- What will the scarring be like?
- What if I'm not pleased with the result?

Questions about your recovery and aftercare

- What care will I need and receive after the procedure and who will give it?
- What kind of discomfort or pain should I expect following the procedure and how will it be managed?
- How long will I need to be home/off work for recovery?
- What activities can I do during recovery time?
- When can I start showering, exercising, driving, grocery shopping, etc.?
- What do I do if something goes wrong? Who should I call?

For more information on preparing for cosmetic surgery visit health.gov.au/cosmeticsurgery.

To report any concerns go to Ahpra.gov.au or call 1300 361 041.