

Chin Augmentation

What is Chin Augmentation?

A chin augmentation is a surgical procedure to enhance or reshape the size of the chin by reshaping existing bone or inserting a prosthetic chin implant.

How is it done?

Chin augmentation surgery may take anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. It is performed either under general anesthetic or under a local anesthetic with sedation. Most chin augmentation procedures involve an incision inside the mouth inside the lower lip, or in the skin just under the chin. The surgeon inserts the chin implant via the incision and maneuvers it into place and the incision is closed with sutures. The skin may be taped with a pressure dressing for about one week after surgery.

Why is it done?

Chin augmentation seek to increase or reduce the size of the chin by altering the underlying structure of the face providing better balance to the facial features. It may seek to correct a birth defect or injury.

Risks & complications

The outcome of a Chin augmentation is never completely predictable. Complications are infrequent and usually minor. However, as with any surgery, there are risks, including the possibility of

- Infection requiring antibiotics and in some cases hospitalization
- Blood clots
- Extended swelling and bruising
- Movement or displacement of the implant
- Reaction to anesthesia

Normally, swelling and bruising should be expected for up to two weeks, however, in some cases bruising and swelling may be evident for up to two months. Risks can be reduced by following the surgeon's instructions before and after surgery.

Alternatives

The surgeon may discuss alternative approaches to the chin augmentation procedure. Liposuction of the neck and chin may remove enough excess fat to redefine the chin or neckline. Orthodontics can treat misaligned teeth which are often the root cause of a recessed jaw.

Candidate eligibility

The best candidates for chin augmentation surgery are patients with weak chins, but with a normal dental bite. The surgeon will make the final determination of each patient's eligibility for the procedure after an examination and consultation with the patient

Your Consultation

Your physician consultation is very important, because it is the moment when you can discuss your medical issues face-to-face with your doctor. If you are traveling from overseas, this will be the first time you meet with your doctor so it critical that he/she understands:

- Your medical needs
- Your expectations
- Your medical history

Most people have a good idea of what the procedure or outcome they want ("I want smaller breasts"), and the physician's responsibility is to listen and then explain what can be done, the procedures or techniques to achieve your objectives, and the risks and costs involved.

You will have a lot of questions to ask, so preparation is key to make the most of your consultation. We suggest that you:

- Write your questions down to make sure you remember them
- Come with your medical history/survey already completed
- Bring any photos or visuals aids that will help explain what it is you want or expect from treatment

Please note that this information should be used only as a guide to your treatment. All specifics will be discussed with your Physician at your consultation.