

Breast Reconstruction: Questions to Ask Your Plastic Surgeon

A plastic surgeon is a part of your healthcare team for breast reconstruction. You should visit with your plastic surgeon before having breast cancer surgery to review the possible breast reconstruction options that would apply to your diagnosis, general health and personal desire.

Here are some helpful questions to ask your plastic surgeon:

- What are your qualifications as a breast reconstruction surgeon?
- What are the different options for breast reconstruction?
- Can I have reconstructive surgery at another time if I am not ready now?
- What are the benefits and risks associated with the different breast reconstruction techniques?
- What are the benefits and risks associated with breast implants?
- Which breast reconstruction approach is recommended for me and why?
- Am I a good candidate for this procedure?
- How will my medical and surgical history, personal habits or medications affect my procedure?
- What can I do to make my surgery as safe as possible?
- How many different procedures and hospitalizations will be needed?
- How long will I be in surgery for each one?
- Should I involve my family or friends in my recovery?
- What type of scars will I have and exactly where will they be?
- What are the expected results of my surgery?
- What are the possible long-term effects of my surgery?
- Will my breast be symmetrical?
- How long will it take for me to recover?
- What are the possible complications from this surgery?
- How are complications handled?
- What are my options if I am dissatisfied with the outcome?
- Where can I find more information?