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Cosmetic Surgery

Cosmetic surgery is one of the fastest growing areas of the medical field today but it is still something of a taboo in our society. While thousands of people undergo some of these simple surgical procedures every year, most would prefer if no one ever found out about it. This report will highlight three main procedures: wrinkle reduction, collagen injection, and liposuction.

There are several options for people who wish to lose the lines that become etched on their faces as years pass. The first option is the face lift. In this procedure, the outer layer of skin is cut in inconspicuous places such as right above the hairline or right below the jawline and the skin is physically pulled taut over the face. Small stitches hold the skin in place while it adjusts to its new stretched area. This technique has become less popular with the advent of more invasive techniques.

Another technique that is gaining popularity throughout the U.S. is the use of Botox®. Botox is a compound that works by invading the nerve endings in the area where it is injected and blocking the release of acetylcholine. This prevents muscles at the injection site from receiving the message to contract from the nerve ending resulting in a reduction in the amount of creases and wrinkles in the injection area. The effects of Botox are not permanent however and they only last for about three months at which point another treatment would be required.

The last technique for wrinkle reduction is collagen injection. Collagen also has a number of other uses in the cosmetic surgery field that will be discussed later. Collagen replacement therapy (CRT) is probably the most popular form of wrinkle reduction in the U.S. The second layer of skin, called the dermis, is made up mostly of collagen fibers that support and nourish the outer layer of skin, the epidermis. As time passes, these fibers tend to deplete causing age lines and sagging areas on the face. CRT fills

these areas of depletion and helps to reduce the lines and wrinkles that occur as a result of such losses.

Collagen injection is used in other parts of the body as well, mainly the lips and cheeks. For people who want bigger, poutier lips a simple injection is all it takes. More prominent jawlines and cheekbones can also be obtained through collagen injections.

The last cosmetic technique that I am going to highlight is liposuction. There are a variety of techniques that are used but they are all built on the same principles. Inject a solution that contains an anesthetic, saline, and a compound that helps to break down fat molecules, and then suck out the fat. The science of the technique comes in knowing where the fat should be taken from and also how much can be taken.

Liposuction IS NOT a panacea for obese people. It can simply reduce the amount of fatty tissue in areas where it is traditionally hard to lose it. Exercise and dieting is discussed at great lengths with people undergoing the procedure.

The cosmetic surgery industry is going to continue to grow so long as our society keeps heading in the direction it is. We have become very superficial and the boom in the cosmetic surgery and implantation industry has happened as a result. As more techniques and equipment are developed, the harder it will be to notice those who have had procedures done at all. This is good news for anyone thinking of having such surgeries.

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